

Comings & Goings

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DEAN FOR EXTENSION

Dean's Notes and Quotes

Directions for UF/IFAS Extension

I want to remind everyone about the video update that I provided as part last month's issue of Comings and Goings. If you have not taken the opportunity to listen, I'd highly encourage you to do so. In this video, I describe a number of the issues and opportunities that we face in UF/IFAS Extension, including comments about our Extension Roadmap, Extension staffing, branding and marketing as well as balancing work and family. The video is available on YouTube via this direct link: [HERE](#)

Partnerships with County Government

As I am writing this piece for Comings and Goings, I happen to be at the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) Annual Conference. UF/IFAS Extension has a very strong relationship and partnership with FAC, and this has been growing over the past seven years.

We are the primary sponsor of the educational programs offered through FAC which includes baseline training for newly elected County Commissioners, advanced training for those who have completed the baseline training, and other general education offered to FAC members. This program provides critical training on leadership, ethics, communication, public policy, and multiple other topics that are essential to help County

Commissioners be the most effective as they carry-out their major responsibility in local leadership. At the conference, we have a number of our faculty who are here manning a booth on behalf of UF/IFAS Extension. This provides a great opportunity for our faculty to interact with the County Commissioners and Administrators about our organization and the partnership we have with local government in each county. I want to thank each of our faculty who are investing time and effort to help strengthen these connections. Here in Florida, we are very fortunate to have very strong relationships with local government. We happen to be one of the states that has the highest investment of local government into our Extension program. This not only comes about through our strong statewide collaboration with FAC, but also via the strong programming that takes place in each of our 67 counties. For this strong support, I am very grateful, and I thank you for the role each of you play to help make this happen. Know also that I am always looking for ways to grow these partnerships across the state, so let me know....

EPAF Conference

I am truly looking forward to the upcoming EPAF Conference which will be taking place in August at the Sawgrass Marriott Hotel in Ponte Vedra Beach. There will be several programming and networking

June 2013

Table of Contents

Dean's Notes and Quotes	1
Meet Your Specialist	2
Professional Development Mini Grant Highlights!	2
From Computer to Kitchen	5
Stitches that Serve!	6
AIAEE 2013 Conference	6
Kudzu Bugs	8
NE FL Master FNVP	9
Miami-Dade Youth	10
Easy as PIE	11
New Hires/Resignations/Special Mentions/Retirement	11

opportunities for our entire Extension faculty including campus, RECs and Counties. So, if you have not yet registered, I'd highly encourage you to do so. Further information and registration for EPAF is available [HERE](#). I'll have further information about the EPAF Conference in the next Comings and Goings newsletter....

Quote to live by:

"We are at our very best, and we are happiest, when we are fully engaged in work we enjoy on the journey toward the goal we've established for ourselves. It gives meaning to our time off and comfort to our sleep. It makes everything else in life so wonderful, so worthwhile." *Earl Nightingale*

Dr. Nick Place

Meet Your Specialist



Lex Lamm

Agricultural Education and Communication

Ph.D., Agricultural Education and Communication, Univ. of Florida

Email: alamm@ufl.edu

Tel: 352-392-0502

I came to the University of Florida from Colorado State University where I was an Agriculture/4-H Extension Agent. My specialties are public issues education and public opinion analysis around food and water systems. I also take special interest in evaluation.

After working in Colorado for eight years, I came to the Univ. of Florida in 2008 to work on my Ph.D. in Agricultural Education and Communication. Upon graduation in May 2011, I was lucky enough to get to stay in Gainesville and take a position within UF/IFAS developing a National Public Policy Evaluation Center (NPPEC) that is now a subsidiary of the UF/IFAS Center for Public Issues Education (PIE Center).

In November of 2012, I switched roles and I am now an Assistant Professor in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communication working with the PIE Center and serving as the Director of NPPEC. My research focuses on public opinion analysis of critical agricultural and natural re-

source issues, specifically looking at food and water systems, but I also have a strong interest in conducting evaluations on extension activities and programs. I look forward to working closely with agents and specialists on the water initiative and am here to assist any of you as you strive to improve your extension programs, especially as you work with stakeholders, decision makers, and legislators.

Outside of work I enjoy spending time with my family, traveling, riding my horse, and cheering for the Gators. My husband Kevan and I just had a little girl, Charlotte, in March, so we love our new life as parents.

Professional Development Mini Grant Highlights!

#1 *Dr. Bob Swett, UF/IFAS School of Forest Resources and Conservation*

Introduction

Florida Cooperative Extension Service Professional Development mini-grant funds were received in July 2012 to help implement a Florida-focused training on the use and application of Coastal CHARM (Community Health and Resource Management): a software/hardware tool that facilitates highly interactive, participatory planning processes in local communities. The applicants for the mini-grant funds were:

1. Robert Swett, Associate Professor, SFRC
2. Evangeline ("Van") Linkous, County Extension Director, Sarasota County
3. Jeffrey ("JP") Gellerman, Extension Agent II, Sarasota County

In addition to the mini-grant applicants, the following persons who also attended the CHARM training event have assisted in the implementation of programmatic activities that resulted from the mini-grant:

4. Thomas Ruppert, Coastal Community Outreach Coordinator, Florida Sea Grant
5. Garin Davidson, Senior GIS Analyst, Florida Sea Grant

Initial Training Event

The training partially paid by mini-grant funds was held in Sarasota County on August 15, 2012. In addition to the participants listed in the introduction above, the following attended the training as well:

1. Laird Wreford, Sarasota County Coastal Manager
2. Kathy Solie, Sarasota County Planning
3. Corina Guevara, University of Florida Sea Grant Boating and Waterways Planning Program
4. Sharon Schulte, Sarasota County GIS Department

Trevor Melderis, Sarasota County GIS Department



Garin Davidson demonstrating Coastal CHARM and CommunityViz software to Congressional staff at UF, 9/17/12

Synopsis of Resulting Benefits to Date

The following synopsis describes the knowledge and skills developed and how we have used this experience in our programming efforts to date. Project personnel are partnered with Sarasota County to assist in the development of a Post-Disaster Recovery Plan (PDRP). The project incorporates the use of Coastal CHARM as a public engagement tool to aid in the process of facilitating meetings. The project will help to improve working relationships between participating stakeholders and increase regional knowledge of Coastal CHARM as a valuable tool for engaging the public. Coastal hazards pose a constant threat to coastal communities' safety and financial well-being. A PDRP can aid a local government in getting back

on its feet quickly, preventing the out-migration of jobs and industry, and renewing local government tax revenue.

Project personnel have given interactive demonstrations of the Coastal CHARM software/hardware tool at venues in Florida. The first demonstration was on September 13, 2012 for 60 planners and local government staff at the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association in Naples, Florida. On September 17, 2012, a demonstration was given to congressional staff who were touring UF/IFAS. A third demonstration was for staff from the Program for Resource Efficient Communities.

The first U.S. weTable (CHARM) Users' Conference occurred in February 2013 in Galveston, Texas. The event was sponsored by Sea Grant and Thomas Ruppert served on the steering committee. Garin Davidson attended the event as our Florida representative.

Finally, a great result of the mini-grant-funded training in Sarasota County is that the GIS and planning departments in the county were so enthusiastic about CommunityViz and Coastal CHARM that they decided to purchase a CommunityViz license for the County and fund a longer training on the software for County staff.

#2 Townsville, Queensland, Australia (September 9-14, 2012)

Dr. Ron Rice, Sugarcane/Rice & Sod EA IV, Palm Beach Cty

During September 9-14, 2012, Ron Rice (Palm Beach County Sugarcane Extension) was in Queensland Australia participating in the Agronomy and Agricultural Engineering Workshop hosted by the International Society of Sugar Cane Technologists (ISSCT). The event included two and a half days of presentations by international participants and two days of field trips to visit farms and ag industry venues that highlighted current Australian sugarcane technologies. The \$2,500 mini grant awarded by UF/IFAS Extension Dean's office supported a significant portion of this professional development experience.

Ron's official involvement at this international

workshop was on two levels: 1) he delivered his presentation titled *“Applying the Extension Model to Address Sugarcane Orange Rust: A New Disease in the Western Hemisphere”* and 2) he participated in ISSCT committee meetings, lobbying for administrative changes that would ultimately provide International Extension an improved venue for professional involvement and development within the ISSCT.



Major workshop sessions included sugarcane agronomy, nutrient management, water quality, precision agriculture, harvesting and

mechanization, and climate change impacts. Several topics were directly relevant to our south Florida sugarcane industry, as follows. Controlling sugarcane losses during harvest operations, particularly with the high biomass harvests that occur during non-burned green cane harvesting, is a growing interest for Florida sugarcane. The use of electroconductivity soil mapping “layered” on top of other field data maps (soil moisture, soil organic matter, soil testing data) are precision agriculture technologies that can be adapted by our sugarcane growers to improve management input efficiencies. Best management practices and modeling efforts for improved nutrient management, sediment control, irrigation/drainage, and water quality technologies were highlighted throughout the week since the Queensland sugarcane region is located close to the Great Barrier Reef, reminis-

cent of our sugarcane industry located near the Everglades wetland ecosystem. The



Australians also reported on different row spacing configurations, use of raised beds with drip irrigation options, and controlled traffic technologies in the quest to improve yields and economic returns via reduced management investments. These topics are all relevant to the south Florida sugarcane industry.

Ron gave a brief overview of these topics to our Florida sugarcane growers at the annual ASSCT Florida Division meeting (September 21, 2012) in Belle Glade, which was attended by over 100 sugarcane farmers, industry research leaders, local agribusiness representatives, and UF/IFAS and USDA sugarcane research scientists.

#3 A Participatory Co-Management Strategy for the use of Fish Aggregation Devices in Dominica and St. Vincent to Sustain the Caribbean Pelagic Fishery and Communities that Depend on it.

Joy Hazell, Sea Grant/Marine Science EA II, Lee Cty
(all photos by Joy Hazell, FSG)

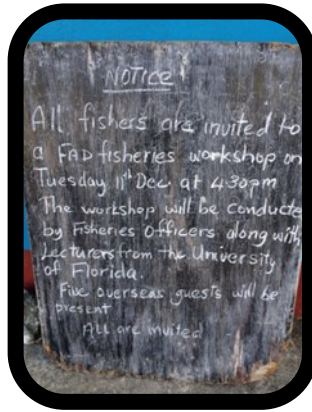
As a recipient of a professional development mini grant award I was given the opportunity to travel to Dominica and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. I was there to learn from and assist with an established and funded Florida Sea Grant project looking at co-management of a fish aggregation device (FAD) fishery. The project includes a series of steps. The first step was one year of data collection prior to my involvement on fish weight and species caught on FADs by fishers at three sites in Dominica. The second step was to implement a consensus building process of stakeholders on Dominica to identify best management practices for FADs. The next step which is underway is promoting stakeholder buy-in to implement the BMPs for the use of FADS on a trial basis. In December 2012 the University of Florida/Florida Sea Grant project team traveled to Dominica to meet with our partners, the Dominica Fisheries Division, St. Vincent and Grenadines Fisheries Division and the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism and to hold stakeholder meetings at each data collection site. The stakeholder meeting objectives were



At St. Vincent FAD fisher returns with his catch.

to (1) thank fishers for providing catch information, (2) share the results of the data collection, and (3) solicit input from FAD fishers about options to improve fishing success. Over 100 stakeholders attended the meetings which included a presentation of the analyzed catch data and small group discussions aimed at soliciting fisher input on FAD

options, management challenges, and co-management opportunities. Two common subjects discussed were (1) the need for more FADs, and (2) the need to for better communication and cooperation among fishers. Two new FADs have recently been deployed in the vicinity of one study site. Data collection efforts at that site will be expanded to include the new FADS, allowing the project team to test the effect of these additional FADs on catch success and profitability. In addition, the project team has developed a Daily Activity Planner to foster greater communication amongst fishers at a second study site. Follow-up meetings will be held at both sites.



Meeting announcement.
Fond St. Jean, Dominica.



Small groups break out to discuss FAD management. Marigot, Dominica.

Working on this project was a unique and enriching professional opportunity. I increased my knowledge and experience in effectively engaging small scale fishers

through data collection and consensus building. I worked with the project team to help develop the stakeholder meeting agenda (s) and facilitate the consensus



Fishing fleet. Fond St. Jean, Dominica.

building process. This activity substantially contributed to two of my extension programs; 1. Achieving a Sustainable Marine Fisheries Population and Economy and 2. Addressing Contentious Natural Resources Issues in Florida through a Public Issues and Conflict Management Training Program. I was able to expand my knowledge of fisheries governance techniques at a local level and better understand similarities and differences between small scale Caribbean fishers and U.S. fishers. I have already applied skills learned working on the Dominica project in Florida by facilitating a stakeholder workshop on goliath grouper management and continue to expand my work with local fisheries stakeholders and agency partners.

From Computer to Kitchen: Healthy Meals are a Click Away

Lack of knowledge in food choices and preparation can result in an unhealthy diet and increased risk for chronic diseases. Lake and Seminole County FCS agents partnered to provide lunchtime education on preparation of seasonal Florida foods and healthy cooking techniques using web conferences (webinars). Webinar software was purchased with a 2011 program enhancement grant. Topics included stir-fry cooking, food preservation, Florida seafood, healthy holiday meals, fall produce, and herbs. Guest presenters from additional counties provided added interest. The sessions were archived on the Lake County website for those unable to attend the live sessions. Seven webinars reached 139 participants, includ-

ing agents who requested the materials for use in their counties. Untracked participants included group viewings by nutrition paraprofessionals and Lake County Master Gardener trainees.

Results from the follow-up survey conducted 1 to 5 months after the program delivery (n=16) at a 23% response rate showed that:

- 53% (8 of 15) improved nutrition in the meals they prepare
- 47% (7 of 15) increased use of local/seasonal foods.
- 25% (4 of 16) increased use of seafood in their diet.
- 27% (4 of 15) changed food preservation methods to improve food safety.

Additionally:

- 60% (9 of 15) were more confident in their ability to prepare healthy meals.
- 63% (10 of 16) were more confident of their ability to prepare foods safely.

Using new technology increases collaboration between agents, extends the reach of Extension education to new audiences, and enhances the information delivery to existing clientele.

Julie England, FCS EA II, Lake Cty

Stitches that Serve!

What does recycling placemats, hand towels, draperies or tablecloths have to do with 4-H members and senior adults? Lake County 4-H Club clothing project members have been busy transforming these items into neck-naps (neck napkins). Anyone who has ever eaten spaghetti knows that having a napkin higher than the lap is a great way to prevent garment stains that may ruin the item. The 4-H clothing curriculum covers proper care of clothing and understanding fibers and fabric types.

With some sturdy ribbon and a couple of plastic rings, 31 4-H members from ages 8 to 14 machine-stitched more than 100 neck-naps with the guidance of project leader Doris Taylor. These neck-naps were delivered to three senior community



Lake Cty 4-H Members

centers. The Howey Do Its 4-H Club members delivered their neck-naps to Tavares Heritage Assisted Living Center, while the Southside 4-H Club shared their supply with Lakeview Terrace Retirement Center and the senior center in Umatilla. This service learning project combined service to the senior community with student learning. Participating 4-H members learned life skills including *Civic domains* (connection to society and community acquiring a sense of civic responsibility), *Personal/social domains* (personal and interpersonal development in areas such as youth empowerment, respect for the elder, self-confidence), and *Project or cognitive domains* (what members were learning in terms of content or higher order thinking skills as a result of their participation in the project).

Laura Valencia, 4-H EA I, Lake Cty

AIAEE 2013 Annual Conference

This year the 29th Annual Conference of the Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education (AIAEE) was held in Fort Worth, Texas, May 19-23, 2013. UF/IFAS Extension was well represented and actively involved in the conference. This year's theme was "*Building Capacity through International Agricultural Extension and Education*." Participants came from more than 25 countries and comprised 103 professionals and 50 graduate students.

In addition to participating in abstract presentations, professional development and poster sessions, Northwest Extension District faculty had an opportunity to teach a 3-hour workshop on *The Land Grant Model of Extension* with a group of 15 individuals representing eight countries involved in a special training of the International Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services ([MEAS](#)) project. **Dr. Pete Vergot** taught this workshop with assistance from **Pam Allen, Judy Ludlow, Doug Mayo, and Marjorie Moore**. One of the main goals of the MEAS group is “to respond to expressions of interest from developing country officials and USAID Missions to transform the provision of extension and advisory services in these countries by conducting assessments of the pluralistic extension system, carrying out training programs, and conducting evaluations, case studies, or pilot project and action research.”

Attending an international conference like AIAEE provides not only new knowledge for our own extension professions but also a window on the face of Extension worldwide. It was a valuable to look beyond where we currently live and learn.



The UF/IFAS Extension Group at AIAEE in Fort Worth, TX in May 2013

Below is a list of UF/IFAS Extension Faculty participation in the conference:

Awards Received

Poster Presentation: 1st place runner-up

Enhancing Digital Extension Information Using WordPress and Social Media
(**Pete Vergot, Judy Ludlow, & Doug Mayo**)

Poster Presentation: 2nd place runner-up
Free Fuel for Remote Locations: Construction of a Biodigester

(**Susan R. Haddock**, Daniel F. Culbert, Terry B. DelValle, **Sheila O. Dunning**, Eleanor C. Foerste, Rebecca L. Jordi, Teresa Olczyk, & Kathleen C. Ruppert)

AIAEE Senior Fellow - Dr. Pete Vergot

Criteria for Senior Fellow for AIAEE: have provided noteworthy service to AIAEE and the profession; have provided significant leadership to AIAEE and/or international agricultural and extension education; have substantial academic and/or outreach achievements; and be widely regarded and recognized in the field of study and its application.

Presentations Given

Professional Development Session:

Integrating Home Economics and 4-H Youth Programs into International Extension

(**Pamela Allen, Marjorie Moore, and Pete Vergot**)

Abstract Presentations:

Implementing New Technologies to Deliver Extension Information: A Content Management System Approach, (**Pete Vergot III, Doug Mayo & Judy Ludlow**)

Perceptions of Public Extension in a Pluralistic Extension System in

Trinidad and Tobago, (Norma Samuel, Amy Harder, Austen Moore, & Angela Valadez)

A Snapshot of the Membership: Examining AIAEE Members' Agricultural Paradigms

(**Laura A. Sanagorski & Theresa P. Murphrey**)

Defining Sustainable Agriculture Based on Input from Individuals Involved in International Agricultural Extension Education, (**Laura A. Sanagorski & Theresa Pesl Murphrey**)

Challenges Facing the Agricultural Sector in Trinidad and Tobago: A Comparison of Stakeholder Perspectives, (Austen Moore, **Amy Harder**, **Angela Valadez**, & **Norma Samuel**)

Evaluating Community Impacts of an Extension Program in Targeting Limited Resources Farmers in Dominican Republic, (**Cesar R. Asuaje** & Miguel Savioff)



Doug Mayo, Judy Ludlow and Pete Vergot in front of their Poster at AIAEE in Fort Worth, TX

Below is a list of the [MEAS](#) Workshop participants: (name, organization/project, position, country of residence)

John Munene Mwaniki, Head: Extension Services Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Kenya

Richard Githaiga, Head: Extension Management Sub Division—Ministry of Agriculture, Senior Assistant Director of Agriculture, Kenya

Layal Dandache, Knowledge Access for Rural interconnected Areas Network, Research Officer, Egypt/Lebanon

Fabian Suba Muya, Head: Technical Training Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Kenya

Gertrude Dumeh, Ministry of Food and Agriculture as an extension practitioner, Ghana

Hawa Musah, District Extension office, Director, Ghana

Paul Fatch, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Department of Agriculture Extension Services, Principal Ag Extension Methodology Officer, responsible for Training, Malawi

Maria Isabel Paredes, RELASER/RIMISP, Asso Reasearcher, Deputy Coordinator of RELASER/RIMISP, Ecuador

Diaa El Ansary, University of Alexandria faculty, University of Alexandria, Egypt

Victor Lolig, University of Development Studies at Nyankpala, Faculty/Ph.D student, Ghana

Mina Adoma Sowah, Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association of Ghana, Ghana

Randa Massad, Department of Irrigation & Agro-meteorology of the Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute (LARI), Department of Irrigation & Agro-meteorology Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute, Lebanon

Thomas Gbokie Jr., Department of Regional Development, Research & Extension, Deputy Minister, Liberia

Suraj Pokharel, Crop Development Directorate, Department of Agriculture, Program Director, Nepal

Kudzu Bugs Found Throughout the Eastern Portion of the Northwest Extension District

Washington County achieved a new record this month when Matthew Orwat, a UF/IFAS Horticulture Agent, collected a Kudzu Bug specimen, identified it and submitted it through the Digital Diagnostic Information System for confirma-

tion. Extension Entomologist Lyle Buss confirmed that the Kudzu Bug, *Megacopta cribraria*, was present in Washington County making it the first documented sighting of the pest.

Samples were collected near the communities of Greenhead, Sunny Hills, Quail Hollow and Vernon. After a picture of the pest was posted on the Washington County 4-H page, there were immediate hits and comments that Orwat responded to with control recommendations. Kudzu bugs have been found in several other counties in the Northwest Extension District including Jackson, Jefferson, and Wakulla and have never been as numerous as this year.



The Kudzu Bug, also known as the bean plataspid, globular stink bug, and lablab bug are a non-native invasive species and primarily a pest of legumes. They were discovered in the USA in 2009 as a home pest, though now they are frequently found in gardens and crop fields.

Spring and fall seem to be the time of year that crop impacts are the greatest since the preferred source of food is Kudzu that grows fastest during summer months. Besides Kudzu, the other major host of the pest is soybean, which poses a threat to Florida producers. Kudzu Bugs can also disturb bean crops in both home gardening and field pro-



duction situations. Several different active ingredients of insecticide are effective on Kudzu bug, including pyrethrin, carbaryl, or acephate.

Pictures courtesy of Lyle Buss, UF IFAS Extension Entomologist, show the Kudzu Bug on white clover.

Matthew Orwat, Hort EA I, Washington Cty

Northeast Florida Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer Program

The Northeast Florida Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer program is a volunteer recruitment program that emphasizes nutrition, food safety, food preservation, and food preparation education. Class graduates are required to provide 25 hours of volunteer work in their respective counties and participate in 10 hours of update training each year.

The 2012 training involved a 9-week series of classes with participants from six neighboring counties (Duval, Nassau, Clay, St. Johns, Baker and Bradford). Each class was approximately 6 hours in length and consisted of lecture, demonstrations, and experiential activities.

Participants were trained in basic nutrition and food preparation along with the latest USDA techniques in food safety and preservation. This training program is the collaboration of six NE Florida FCS agents (Melanie Thomas, Jackie



2012 Graduates of the NE Florida Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer Program

Schrader, Natasha Parks, Meg McApline, Joanne Cooper, and Jane Corless).

Univ. of Florida Faculty Specialists provided program support in their specific areas of expertise. Dr. Karla Shelnett, Nutrition Specialist, Dr. Amy Simonne, Food Safety and Quality Specialist and Dr. Linda Bobroff, Nutrition Specialist provided oral presentations, support materials, and educational curriculum. A CD with appropriate fact sheets and information was prepared by Dr. Simonne and was provided to each class member.

The program and participants were evaluated with several different tools. Participants showed a 22-point increase between pre (71%) and post (93%) test scores that assessed nutrition and food safety knowledge. Ninety-six percent (24 of 25 participants) successfully completed the course and currently assist FCS Agents in local programming. All class members received a passing score on the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association *SafeStaff*® evaluation and subsequently received their certification.

Graduates of the 2012 Northeast Florida Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer program are used in various ways depending on the needs and subject matter programming in their respective counties. The six counties vary widely in population, demographics, and agent plans of work. Volunteers are used as county fair and event judges, for 4-H/FCS summer culinary camp

support, to answer phone questions, and to prepare and “man” exhibits at school and community health fairs. These volunteers publicize the Northeast Florida Master Food and Nutrition program in all that they do and work on behalf of county extension agents and the Univ. of Florida.

Melanie Thomas, FCS EA I, Duval Cty

Miami-Dade Youth Participate in Teen Health Summit

Childhood obesity is a growing concern across the United States. To help combat obesity, Florida 4-H has teamed up with United Healthcare to provide resources to youth and adults across Florida. Recently, 18 Miami-Dade County youth joined more than 200 other youth from across the state during the 4-H Teen Health Summit. During the summit, youth participated in various group discussions to determine ways to help youth live a healthier lifestyle. Workshops were conducted by youth to give other participants ideas to use when returning home. Counties were challenged to develop an action plan for the year. The UF/IFAS 4-H Youth Development program in Miami-Dade County is extremely focused on providing youth the information and guidance needed to make healthier choices. Youth will teach various health related topics at upcoming events. Healthy tips are also regularly posted on the Miami-Dade County 4-H Facebook page. Health is very important and Miami-Dade County 4-H is working hard to help lower childhood obesity rates.

Cassandra Weston, 4-H EA I, Miami-Dade Cty



Easy as PIE

Save the Date! Easy as PIE Webinar Series



Date: July 17

Time: 2-3 pm

Topic: Communicating with the News Media:

How to Work with the Industry
Everybody Loves to Hate

Speaker: Dr. Ricky Telg, UF De-

partment of Agricultural Education and Communi-
cation Professor

Summary:

Media relations is a strategy of working with the news media in order to get out information about an organization's events and activities in news outlets, local, regional, or national. Developing an effective news media relations plan for your organization can be very beneficial in many ways.

In this webinar, University of Florida professor Ricky Telg will detail how to develop a media relations strategy, prepare for news media interviews, evaluate yourself as a spokesperson, and integrate social media in your media relations strategy, all with the overall goal of helping you become a credible and trustworthy source of information for the news media. For more information about media relations, please see Telg's publication series on media relations at edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_media_relations.

Registration is required, visit our website to register and to learn more about the Easy as PIE Webinar Series: <http://www.centerpie.com/easy-as-pie/>.

Contact Nicole Dodds for more information: ndodds@ufl.edu or 352-273-3139.

New Hires

Please welcome the following new faculty:

Taylor Vandiver, Res./Comm. Hort EA I, Leon Cty
Jessica Altum, 4-H EA I, Duval Cty

Resignation

We would like to wish the following faculty the best of luck in their future endeavors:

Alfred Washington, 4-H EA I, Jefferson Cty

Timothy Gaver, Fruit Crops EA II, ST. Lucie Cty

Ben Knowles, 4-H EA I, Jackson Cty

Amy Duncan, 4-H EA I, Citrus Cty

Special Mention

The following agents have recently complete advanced degrees. We would like to congratulate them on this great accomplishment:

Karen Miliffe, 4-H EA II, Osceola Cty, Master of Non Profit Management from the Univ. of Central Florida.

Retirement

We would like to give our best wishes for an enjoyable retirement after many years of service and dedication:



Doug Gregory, Marine Science CED EA IV, Monroe Cty

Extension Comings and Goings is a monthly newsletter distributed by the Office of the Dean for Extension via e-mail and on the Extension web site at <http://extadmin.ifas.ufl.edu>.

If you have any suggestions or would like to submit your own recognition or short article of interest, please send them to Valkyrie Shah.

Please feel free to also forward any questions or comments about this periodical to Valkyrie Shah at valkyrieshah@ufl.edu.