EPAF

Extension Professional Associations of Florida

2015 Professional Improvement &
Administrative Conference
Naples, Florida

August 31st – September 4th, 2015

Presentation of Extension Programs
Twenty–ninth Annual Proceedings

EPSILON SIGMA PHI- Alpha Delta Chapter
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF EXTENSION 4-H AGENTS
FLORIDA EXTENSION ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS

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Extension Professional Associations of Florida
"Eyes on the Future, beyond the first 100 years"

Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club, Naples, Florida

29th PRESENTATION OF ABSTRACTS

Oral Abstract presentation session:
Tuesday September 1st, 2015 10:15 am - 2 pm
Wednesday September 2nd, 2015 9 am - 11:45 am

EPAF Abstract Committee

- Wendy Wilber, UF/IFAS Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology
- Melanie Thomas, Duval County Extension
- Alex Bolques, FAMU

EPSILON SIGMA PHI - ESP
Geogene Bender …… **Immokalee Room**
Gulfbreeze S&N

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AGRICULTURE AGENTS - FACAA
Matt Lollar, Laurie Hurner, Yvette Goodiel…… **Sunset Terrace**

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF EXTENSION 4-H AGENTS - FAE4-HA
Sarah Whitfield…….. **Mangrove Room**

FLORIDA EXTENSION ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES - FEAFCS
Wendy Lynch……. **Gulfbreeze S&N**
Immokalee Room

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS - FANREP
Ramona Madhosingh-Hector…… **Chokoloskee Room**

The EPAF Board offers special thanks to:

- The chairs and members of ESP, FACAA, FAE4-HA, FEAFCS and FANREP abstract committees who have the honorable task of reviewing and selecting the abstracts for this meeting.
- All Extension Faculty who submitted abstracts!
- UF/IFAS Administration for their continued support of this EPAF Conference!

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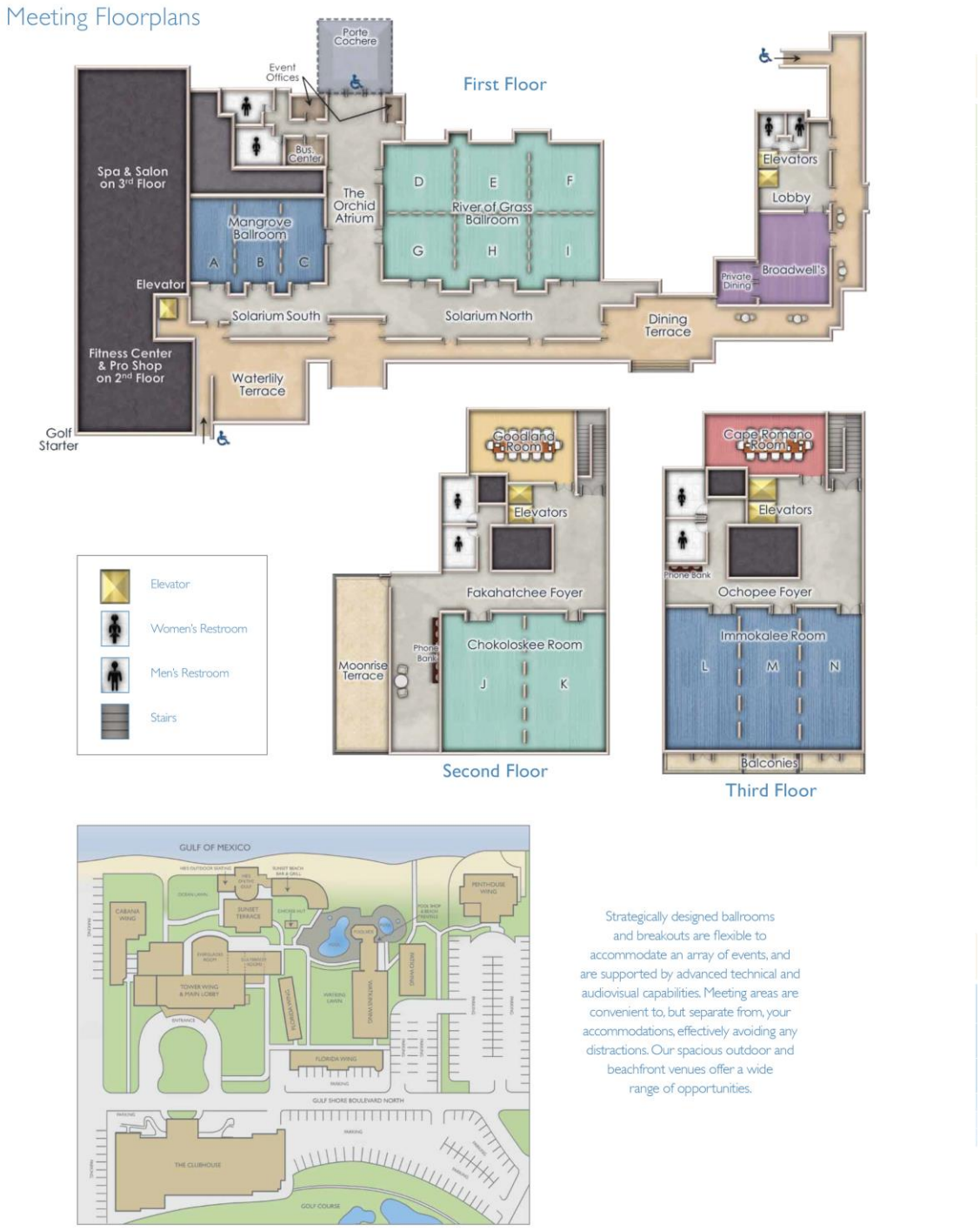
Visit the EPAF website at http://epaf.ifas.ufl.edu/ for an online version of this abstract book. Conference archives

Map of Facility



Strategically designed ballrooms and breakouts are flexible to accommodate an array of events, and are supported by advanced technical and audiovisual capabilities. Meeting areas are convenient to, but separate from, your accommodations, effectively avoiding any distractions. Our spacious outdoor and beachfront venues offer a wide range of opportunities.

EPAF Abstract Schedule
Tuesday, September 1, 2015 • 10:15 am–2 pm

Association	**ESP**	**FACAA**	**FAE4-HA**	**FANREP**	**FEAFCS**
Location	***Immokalee***	***Sunset Terrace***	***Mangrove Room***	***Chokoloskee Room***	***Gulfbreeze South & North***
10:15-10:30 am	Fighting Hunger in Socially Disadvantaged Communities: A Case Analysis of the FAMU Community Gardens **T. Hylton*, G. Queeley, L. Sapp, L. Harrison**	Grill It Up! Beef **M. Mauldin*, J. Corbus***	Around the World with 4-H **P. Phillippe***	Climate Conservations: Assessing Public Concerns of Regional Climate Change **L. Carnahan, R. Madhosingh-Hector, L. Milligan, R. Zarger**	Fostering Smart and Savvy Shoppers: A MyPlate and Money Management Activity for Youth **W. Fung*, A. Squitieri***
10:30-10:45 am	Put a Little Ag in Your Water School: An Integrative Approach to Water Resource Education **S. Kennedy*, C. Kirby, C. Snodgrass, M. Atkinson, M. Glenn**	Teaching Cattle Pregnancy Diagnosis: A Hands-On Approach **M. Mauldin*, D. Mayo, G. Lamb, D. Henry, M. Goodchild, H. Grant**	Connecting Urban Youth to the Environment through 4-H Eco-Explorers Camp **L. Valencia*, E. Foereste*, K. Miliffe*, E. Pardo***	Water Watch: Citizen Science Water Monitoring Programs for South Florida **S. Krueger, L. Krimsky**	Strengthening Extension and Teaching: Practical and Time Saving Approaches to Utilize Community Interns **W. Fung*, N. Jensen*, B. Crisp*, S. Carnevale**
10:45-11 am	Demonstrating Economic Impact by Implementing SNAP/EBT at Your Farmers Market **M. Maddox*, J.S. Strickland***	Making Dollars and Sense of Pasture Weed Control **J. Whorter*, L. Wiggins*, C. Prevatt**	Exploring Florida Agriculture through Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) **N. Samuel, A. Stewart*, J. Bosquez J. Cohen*, Y. Zhuang*, M. Carden*, W. Lester*, K. Condurso, D. Johnston, W. Lusher, L. Staudt**	Soil pH Fertility Test Interpretation on Homeowner Landscape Practices **N. Pinson**	The Peanut Butter Challenge Creates Ag Awareness in the Panhandle **M. Derrick, C. Verlinde**
11–11:15 am	**Break**				
11:15-11:30 am	A Multi-Year Evaluation of Agriculture Awareness **M. Maddox*, J. S. Strickland*, C. McAvoy*, K. Taylor*, J. Davis, L. Singleton, E. Jennings**	Peanut Production Education in Hamilton County, Florida **K. Wynn, B. Tillman, N. Dufault**	Green & Growing Field Day Helps Youth Explore Careers in Agriculture **M. Glenn*, C. Snodgrass, D. Smith*, N. Boyd, Z. Deng, H. Smith, V. Whitaker, J. Mangandi, G. Vallad**	Growing a Church's Outreach Program with a Community Garden **L. Singleton*, J. Davis***	Exploring Quality of Life of EFNEP Participants **A. Hinkle*, J. Walsh***

EPAF Abstract Schedule
Tuesday, September 1, 2015 • 10:15 am–2 pm

Association	**ESP**	**FACAA**	**FAE4-HA**	**FANREP**	**FEAFCS**
Location	***Immokalee***	***Sunset Terrace***	***Mangrove Room***	***Chokoloskee Room***	***Gulfbreeze South & North***
11:30–11:45 am	Next Stop: Job **V. Spero-Swingle*, L. Cash*, L. Valencia*, K. Miliffe*, B. Alfonso*, S. Michael*, G. Whitworth*, A. Thompson***	Advanced Help Desk Master Gardener Training Program **T. Badurek***	4-H Chick Chain: Spreading Your Wings and Learning Life Skills **N. Crawson*, A. Granger*, S. Prevatt*, M. Brinkley, J. Brooks*, J. P. Dillard, H. Kent**	Reducing Coyotes Encounters Through Community Awareness Programs **L. Hickey**	Save Money: Be a Savvy Consumer of Energy **H. Copeland W. Sheftall**
11:45 am-1 pm			**Lunch**		
1–1:15 pm	E-commerce: How to Start or Grow a Small Business Online **K. Jackson*, R. McWilliams*, J. Dillard, J. P. Dillard, J. Wells, L. S. Jackson, P. Vergot III, M. Gutter**	Ornamental Container Weeds and Preemergent Demonstration Plot Workshops **S. Steed*, C. McAvoy**	All About Animals Camp: An Exploratory Experience for Cloverbuds **M. Benge*, J. Altum Cooper, S. Conner**	Making Changes in Home Vegetable Gardening **L.Hickey**	Targeting the Needs of Older Adults in Lake County **J. England**
1:15–1:30 pm	Partnering with Community Business for Sustainable Extension Program **G. Ricketts**	Spring in to Vegetable Gardening: Interactive Video Series for Novice Gardeners **J. McConnell*, T. Vandiver*, B. Bolles, B. Thaxton, M. Derrick, M. Orwat, L. S. Jackson, E. Powell, L. Williams**	Minute-to-Win-It Challenges: Putting the Fun Back into 4-H by Using New Delivery Methods **J. Altum Cooper*, S. Sachs, A. Toelle**	Alabama and Florida Extension Agents Partner to Offer the Beaches and Woodlands Pre-Tour at the Mobile AM/PIC **S. Dunning L. Johnson C. Stevenson C. Verlinde, R. O'Conner**	eXtension CoP: Healthy Food Choices in Schools **E. Shephard, V. Spero-Swingle***
1:30-1:45 pm	Utilizing Banker Plants in the Greenhouse and Field In-Service Training **J. Popenoe*, M. Lollar*, E. Felter*, R. Hochmuth*, L. Osborne**	Using Smart Irrigation Apps to Show the Value of Extension to Local Government **M. Atkinson*, K. Migliaccio, M. Dukes**	Meeting the Demands of an Urbanizing Community with Small Animal Projects **V. Spero-Swingle*, J.Walter***	Expert Bee Contact as Local Extension Appointment **N. Pinson*, N. Ham**	Garden to Plate **P. Allen*, E. Bolles, A. Hinkle*, D. C. Lee***

EPAF Abstract Schedule
Tuesday, September 1, 2015 • 10:15 am–2 pm

Association	**ESP**	**FACAA**	**FAE4-HA**	**FANREP**	**FEAFCS**
Location	***Immokalee***	***Sunset Terrace***	***Mangrove Room***	***Chokoloskee Room***	***Gulfbreeze South & North***
1:45–2 pm	Assisting Beginning Farmers by Helping Them Acquire Basic Knowledge Necessary to Succeed in Farming **C. Kelly-Begazo*, Y. Goodiel, E. Skvarch, K. Monaghan, M. Swisher**	IPM Scouting Workshops Improve Skills and Provides Economic Growth for Employees and Increases Low Impact Growing Practices **L. Felter*, M. Lollar, J. Popenoe**	More Than Just Dirt **K. Jackson*, J. Dillard*, J. Lilly***	Sponge Restoration in Florida Bay Through a Successful Research-Outreach Partnership with Florida Sea Grant and Old Dominion University **S. Krueger***	Early Childhood Nutrition Program **J. Schrader**

EPAF Abstract Schedule
Wednesday, September 2, 2015 • 9–11:45 am

Association	**ESP**	**FACAA**	**FAE4-HA**	**FANREP**	**FEAFCS**
Location	*Gulfbreeze North & South*	*Sunset Terrace*	*Mangrove Room*	*Chokoloskee Room*	*Immokalee*
9-9:15 am	Florida 4-H Environmental Science Update: Connecting Kids, STEM, and Natural Resources **J. Mayer*, L. Cash, P. Roland, M. Johnson, K. Blyler**	Extension and Industry: Spreading Roots and Branching Out with Tree Installation Training **E. Bolles, S. Dunning*, B. Thaxton**	Fostering Etiquette **S. Michael*, B. Hughes***	Motivated Mentors for the Florida Master Gardener Program **L. Hickey**	Healthy Hands **A. Likens**

	Gulfbreeze N&S	*Sunset Terrace*	*Mangrove Room*	*Chokoloskee Room*	*Immokalee*
9:15- 9:30 am	2015 4-H State Marine Ecology Event: Integrating Service Learning for Environmental Literacy and Youth Leadership **K. Blyler**	Gardening in the Panhandle Gets an Extreme Makeover! **J. McConnell, B. Thaxton, T. Vandiver, J. Xin, B. Bolles, M. Derrick, M. Orwat, L. S. Jackson, E. Powell, L. Williams, R. Trawick, A. Bolques, R. Carter, S. Dunning, L. Harrison, G. Knox, C. Stevenson**	The Volunteer Ambassador: Leveraging Local University and College Campuses to Your Benefit **S. Prevatt*, M. Boston***	Title Targeting Invasive Plant Removal in Residential Properties **T. Sudol**	Volunteers Expand FCS in Orange County: Increasing Extension's Ability to Respond and Deliver **L. Duncan, M. Kennington**
9:30- 9:45 am	Increasing Local Agricultural Awareness through Agritourism **L. Hurner, J. McWhorter, K. Whiddon, D. Austin, L. Baucum**	Retail Garden Center Employees Introduction to Extension Resources and How to Handle Fertilizer Questions from Costumers **J. McConnell**	Growing the Volusia County 4-H Volunteer Program **L. Cash***	Empowering Local Communities to Engage in Fisheries Governance in Meaningful Ways **E. A. Staugler, J. Hazell, K. Lorenzen, C. Crandall, J. Dutka-Gianelli**	Working Your Way Through the Personal Aspects of End of Life Concerns **L. Spence**
9:45-10 am	Preparing for a Federal Affirmative Action Audit **A. Toelle*, J. Altum*, S. Amolsch***	Tips for Hiring Landscape Contractors for Communities **M. Atkinson*, P. Monaghan, E. Ott**	ATV Safety for Marion County Youth **A. Stewart**	Growing Extension Impact with Synchronized Wildlife Food Plot Demonstrations **D. Barber*, B. Bactawar, A. Blount, A. Burnett, J. DeValerio, S. Hayter, C. Mackowiak, A. Shaw, B. Wilder, T. Wilson**	First Time Home Buyers Seminar **S. Taylor, M. Maddox, L. Spence**
10- 10:15 am	Who in the World Is Watching Us? YouTube Analytics **K. Stauderman**	Florida Invasive Plant Education Initiative's Newest Program: Lakeville, a Natural Resource Management Activity for the Classroom and Beyond **J. Ludlow**	Growing Agriculture Awareness: Tri County 4-H Potato Project **A. Hedstrom*, D. Dinkins*, C. McCazzio*, G. Sachs*, S. Taylor, M. Warren***	Turfgrass Diagnostics Training to Reduce Potential Negative Environmental Impacts **S. Haddock**	Your Money, Your Goals: Multi- State Extension Collaboration with the Consumer Federal Protection Bureau **L. Leslie**

	Gulfbreeze N&S	*Sunset Terrace*	*Mangrove Room*	*Chokoloskee Room*	*Immokalee*
10:15-10:30 am	What Are They Watching? YouTube Analytics **K. Stauderman**	Attracting Golf Course Superintendents and Sports Turf Managers to UF/IFAS Extension Programs **M. Lenhardt**	4-H Cloverbud Animal Science "Cloverbud Explorations: The World of Rabbits and Poultry" **A. Granger***	Sustainability Connections: A Community Film Series **R. Madhosingh-Hector***	Low-Income Citizens Across North Florida Receive Tax Preparation Assistance and Financial Management Education through an IFAS/IRS Partnership **H. Copeland*, H. Janney*, M. Brinkley, D. Douglas, E. Gorimani, M. Gutter, K. Jackson, S. Swenson, M. Taylor, K. Vasquez, L. Wiggins, K. Zamojski**
10:30–10:45 am	Extension Marketing Efforts **R. Jordi, A. Thien**	Plant Diagnostic Clinics Provides Educational Opportunity to the Nursery Industry **L. Felter**	Fostering Youth Development through a County Initiative **R. Madhosingh-Hector***	2014 Gulf Coast Agritourism/Ecotourism Business Development Conference **C. Stevenson*, C. Verlinde*, L. Johnson, R. O'Connor, B. Thaxton**	Culinary Students Agriculture Experience **C. L. Kirby*, M. Atkinson, M. Glenn, S. Kennedy, E. Landauer*, C. Snodgrass**
10:45-11 am	Facilitating a Regional Approach to Sea Level Rise Planning **L. Carnahan**	Timely Responses and Approaches to Meet Growers' Urgent Needs **Q. Wang*, S. Zhang, D. Seal, U. McAvoy**	Teaching Youth Financial Responsibility by Using *On My Own* Simulation **P. Caskey*, M. Gutter**	Retrofitting Landscaping at an Existing Planned Community: A Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Demonstration Project **J. Sewards*, C. Lewis*, J. Bossart J. Marvin G. DeChapman Hansen**	Small Steps to Health and Wealth is Making a Big Difference for Osceola County **G. Murza*, D. Rodriguez**
11-11:15 am	Pinellas Green Local Government Certification **M. Campbell, R. Madhosingh-Hector**	Florida-Friendly Talk and Tour **D. Austin**	Eat 4-Health Program **L. Cash*, S. Hensley*, J. Taufer***	Beekeepers, UF/IFAS and FDACS Apiary Inspectors Join Forces to Respond to Florida's Booming Beekeeping Industry by Providing Educational Outreach **J. Ludlow*, R. L. Carter*, J. Ellis, E. Anderson J.D. Atkins, J. Bearden, J. D. Dillard, M. C. Donahoe, S. Eubanks, M. Goodchild, H. G. Grant, G. L. Harrison, L. S. Jackson, L. Johnson, D. E. Mayo, J. McConnell**	Fashion Revue? Clothing and Textile Sciences? What is it All About? What's New? **H. Janney*, S. Amolsch*, S. Crawford*, P. Phillippe, M. Ward, M. Turner, M. Brinkley, B. V. Bennett, S. Ellison**

	Gulfbreeze N&S	*Sunset Terrace*	*Mangrove Room*	*Chokoloskee Room*	*Immokalee*
11:15-11:30 am	Get "Em" Done: CEU Day Meets Clientele's Needs for Continuing Education Units **M. Glenn*, M. Atkinson*, C. Snodgrass*, N. Boyd, Z. Deng, H. Smith**	Livestock Education and Certification for Agricultural Law Enforcement (LECALE) **B. Carlisle*, R. Easterly, M. Hersom, E. Jennings, B. Myers, C. Wickens**	Highlands Youth Citrus Project **L. A. Hurner***	Naturally EscaRosa: Promoting Agritourism/Ecotourism **L. Johnson*, R. O'Connor*, C. Stevenson, B. Thaxton, C. Verlinde**	The Peanut Butter Challenge Takes a Bite Out of Hunger **A. Hinkle*, L. Johnson***
11:30-11:45 am	Connecting with Novice Grazers: The Jefferson Grazing Series **J. E. Dillard**	Providing Beef Cattle Educational Programs through Partnership with North Florida Cattlemen's Association **D. Barber*, B. Bactawar, M. Davis, D. Fenneman, S. Hayter, D. Nistler, C. Sanders, E. Toro, B. Wilder, T. Wilson, K. Wynn**	Launch of 4-H Global Network **N. Samuel***	Palm School for Master Gardeners, Garden Club Members and Homeowners **C. Kelly-Begazo*, M. Elliott**	Preparing Youth to Be Productive Members of the Food Service Workforce **N. Gal**

**indicates presenter(s)*

Professional Development, Marketing, Technology, International

Immokalee Room and Gulfbreeze North and South

Georgene Bender, ESP Abstract Chair

Tuesday, September 1, 2015 10:15 - 2 pm Immokalee Room

Wednesday, September 2, 2015 9 - 11:45 am Gulfbreeze North and South

Time Tuesday	Speakers	Abstract
10:10 – 10:15 am	Georgene Bender	Introductions & Protocol
10:15-10:30 am	T. Hylton, G. Queeley, L. Sapp, L. Harrison	Fighting Hunger in Socially Disadvantage Communities: A case Analysis of the FAMU Community Garden
10:30-10:45 am	S. Kennedy, C. Kirby, C. Snodgrass, M. Atkinson, M. Glenn	Put a Little Ag in your Water School: An Integrative Approach to Water Resource Education
10:45-11 am	M. Maddox*, J.S. Strickland*	Demonstrating Economic Impact by Implementing SNAP/EBT at Your Farmers Market
11:15-11:30 am	M. Maddox*, J. S. Strickland*, C. McAvoy*,K. Taylor*, J. Davis,L. Singleton, E. Jennings	A Multi-Year Evaluation of Agriculture Awareness
11:30-11:45 am	V. Spero-Swingle*,L. Cash*, L. Valencia*,K. Miliffe*, B. Alfonso*,S. Michael*, .Whitworth*,A. Thompson*	Next Stop: Job
1-1:15 pm	K. Jackson*,R. McWilliams*, J. Dillard,J. P. Dillard, J. Wells, L. S. Jackson, P. Vergot III, M. Gutter	E-commerce: How to Start or Grow a Small Business Online
1:15-1:30 pm	G. Ricketts	Partnering with Community Business for Sustainable Extension Program
1:30-1:45pm	J. Popenoe*,M. Lollar*, E. Felter*,R. Hochmuth*, L. Osborne	Utilizing Banker Plants in the Greenhouse and Field In-Service Training

1:45- 2 pm	**C. Kelly-Begazo*,Y. Goodiel, E. Skvarch, K. Monaghan,M. Swisher**	**Assisting Beginning Farmers by Helping Them Acquire Basic Knowledge Necessary to Succeed in Farming**
Wednesday September 2nd 9- 11:45 am Gulf Breeze N & S		
9-9:15 am	**J. Mayer*,L. Cash, P. Roland, M. Johnson, K. Blyler**	**Florida 4-H Environmental Science Update: Connecting Kids, STEM, and Natural Resources**
9:15-9:30 am	**K. Blyler**	**2015 4-H State Marine Ecology Event: Integrating Service Learning for Environmental Literacy and Youth Leadership**
9:30-9:45 am	**L. Hurner, J. McWhorter, K. Whiddon, D. Austin, L. Baucum**	**Increasing Local Agricultural Awareness Through Agritourism**
9:45-10 am	**A. Toelle*,J. Altum*, S. Amolsch***	**Preparing for a Federal Affirmative Action Audit**
10-10:15 am	**K. Stauderman**	**Who in the World Is Watching Us? You Tube Analytics**
10:15-10:30 am	**K. Stauderman**	**What Are They Watching? YouTube Analytics**
10:30-10:45 am	**R. Jordi,A. Thien**	**Extension Marketing Efforts**
10:45-11 am	**L. Carnahan**	**Facilitating a Regional Approach to Sea Level Rise Planning**
11- 11:15 am	**M. Campbell, R.Madhosingh-Hector**	**Pinellas Green Local Government Certification**
11:15 -11:30 am	**M. Glenn*,M. Atkinson*, C. Snodgrass*,N. Boyd, Z. Deng,H. Smith**	**Get "Em"Done: CEU Day Meets Clientele's Needs for Continuing Education Units**
11:30-11:45 am	**J. E. Dillard**	**Connecting with Novice Grazers: The Jefferson Grazing Series**

*On-site room changes of presentation locations may occur. Look for posted announcements of any changes.

Fighting Hunger in Socially Disadvantaged Communities: A Case Analysis of the FAMU Community Gardens

T. Hylton*, FAMU County Extension; **G.** Queeley, FAMU Cooperative Extension; L. Sapp, FAMU Cooperative Extension; and L. Harrison, UF/IFAS Wakulla County Extension

In 2013, the rate of food insecurity among African American households was almost twice the national average. That same year, congress voted to remove more than 2 million socially disadvantaged individuals from the supplementary nutritional assistance (SNAP) program. Many working SNAP participants still need dietary assistance. There is an abundance of research on the municipal benefits of community gardens. However, very little attention has been given to their role in addressing hunger in underserved communities. Objectives: The objective of this study was to estimate the nutritional and cost benefits of the FAMU community gardens. Methods: Crop yield values were obtained from 71 garden plots during spring and fall 2014. Standard USDA and local food bank equations were used to estimate the number and value of meals and the USDA weekly recommended intake for each vegetable grown. The benefits of interest were the number of meals supplied, their nutritional value and food costs averted by cultivating selected vegetables (tomatoes, sweet peppers, summer squash, green beans, cabbage, collards and mustard greens). Results: The FAMU community gardens supplied approximately 42,837 servings valued at $14,279.00 to the families of 71 area residents, reaching the USDA's weekly recommended vegetable consumption for the selected vegetables. Conclusion: The yields were sufficient to supply the USDA weekly recommended vegetable intake for all age and gender classes. After expenses, the FAMU community gardens can potentially save $1189.92 annually, or $99.16 monthly, on vegetable purchases for socially disadvantaged families.

Put a Little Ag in Your Water School: An Integrative Approach to Water Resource Education

S. Kennedy***,** UF/IFAS Extension Manatee County; C. Kirby**,** UF/IFAS Extension Manatee County; C. Snodgrass, UF/IFAS Extension Manatee County; M. Atkinson**,** UF/IFAS Extension Manatee County; M. Glenn**,** UF/IFAS Extension Manatee County

A growing population means an increased strain on an already fragile resource: water. The 2014 Manatee County Water School sought to take an inter-disciplinary approach to educating local citizens about the current and future challenges facing local water resources. Unlike previous Water Schools, this one included a more integrative approach with an agricultural perspective, providing participants with a more holistic view. OBJECTIVES: The primary objectives of the workshop were to increase participant awareness of the pressures facing local water resources, increase their knowledge about the conservation practices of the municipal, agricultural, and residential sectors of the community, and encourage individual behavior change through the adoption of water-conserving practices. METHODS: The Water School was a two-day workshop. Day One involved a variety of guest speakers representing municipalities, the water management district, local homeowner associations, regional estuary programs, and commercial agriculture. Day Two included a bus tour highlighting water conservation practices being implemented at a wastewater reclamation plant, a local potato farm, a commercial nursery, and a Florida-Friendly residential community. RESULTS: Post-survey respondents reported a 56% increase in knowledge about the water-saving practices used by local agricultural producers, a 50% increase in knowledge about the water conservation principles applied at the wastewater Reclamation plant, and 82% reported an intention to implement at least one water-conserving practice at home, including using rain barrels and faucet aerators. CONCLUSIONS: The 2014 Water School was a great success, offering a well-rounded perspective on the present and future challenges facing one of our most vital natural resources.

Demonstrating Economic Impact by Implementing SNAP/EBT at Your Farmers Market

M. Maddox*, UF/IFAS Extension, Sumter County, J. S. Strickland*, UF/IFAS Extension, Hernando/Sumter County, Brooksville/Bushnell, FL.

Twelve percent of Sumter County's population is below the poverty level. The average household received $274.98 in SNAP monthly benefits. Twenty seven local produce farmers sell fruits and vegetables at the Sumter County Farmers Market. No farmer or farmers market in Sumter County prior to this education program accepted SNAP/EBT. OBJECTIVE: Farmers Market will apply and start accepting Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards. Economic impact to the market by using EBT terminals will be $250 in the first three months. METHODS: A presentation was made to the market board on the benefits SNAP/EBT at the local market. The presentation covered: EBT contributions to the market and the community, guidelines, how transactions work, funding opportunities and application process. A needs assessment was created and vendors were surveyed to gauge interest. The market made the application to start accepting EBT cards. Creative works created to promote and advertise include: three power-points, vendor signs, a webinar and 4 other promotional pieces. RESULTS: The markets application was accepted and on September 8, 2014 the Sumter County Farmers Market started accepting EBT cards. The economic impact over a three month period is $2,800 in EBT token exchange to 25 families. CONCLUSION: This program has brought a previously untapped customer base to the market, increased sales, kept dollars within the community, and provided consumer education while providing families with fresh/local fruits and vegetables. Since the launch three other local farmers have been interested in applying and making application for SNAP/EBT at their location.

A Multi-Year Evaluation of Agriculture Awareness

M. Maddox*, UF/IFAS Extension, Sumter County, J. S. Strickland*, UF/IFAS Extension, Hernando/Sumter County, C. McAvoy*, UF/IFAS Extension, Sumter County, K. Taylor*, UF/IFAS Extension, Sumter County, J. Davis, UF/IFAS Extension, Sumter County, L. Singleton, UF/IFAS Extension, Sumter County, Bushnell, FL, E. Jennings, UF/IFAS Extension, Pasco County.

While Sumter County is primarily rural, it also has the fastest growing town in the United States (The Villages). Meanwhile, the number of farms (1,367) in Sumter County has increased by 63% over the last five years. OBJECTIVES: Increase knowledge in 100% of the elected officials about the importance of agriculture to the economy of Sumter County. Empower elected officials to make more informed agriculture decisions. Attract 2000 Villages residents to the Farm-City Event. METHODS: We targeted two distinct populations for agricultural education: The Villages residents and elected officials in consecutive years. The program execution included 38 exhibitors educating Villages residents about agricultural operations in conjunction with the elected official tour that focused on livestock and commercial horticulture. RESULTS: The Farm-City event in 2013 attracted 73% of elected officials in Sumter County. Three month follow-up surveys were sent to those elected officials that attended. As a result of this event, 100% (n=11) self-indicated knowledge gain. Also as a result of attending the Brownwood event and Farm Tour, 80% (n=11) of the elected officials indicated that this event and tour helps them make more informed decisions regarding agriculture. At the 2014 event, The Villages Entertainment estimates attendance at 2,500 for the event. Attendance in 2013 was 250 resulting in a 900% increase in attendance from 2013 to 2014. CONCLUSION: The committee successfully organized and carried out two educational events showcasing agricultural commodities in the community, emphasized stability, and empowered elected officials to make more informed agriculture decisions.

Next Stop: Job

V. Spero-Swingle*, UF IFAS Extension Brevard County, L. Cash*, UF IFAS Extension Volusia County, L. Valencia*, UF IFAS Extension Osceola County, K. Miliffe*, UF IFAS Orange County Extension, B. Alfonso*, UF IFAS Extension Seminole County, S. Michael*, UF IFAS Extension Seminole County, G. Whitworth*, UF IFAS Extension Brevard County, A. Thompson*, UF IFAS Extension Brevard County

According to studies, "There is widespread concern that youth lack the skills essential for job success and are entering the workplace unprepared (Business-Higher Education Forum, 2001; Casner-Lotto and Barrington, 2006)." By providing programs that teach youth soft skills (oral communication and work ethic), foundation skills (personal qualities and basic skills), and cross-functional skills (time management, self-management, and money management), youth will achieve greater success as productive members of society. OBJECTIVES: Participants will learn how to successfully market themselves in the workforce in preparation for a job. METHODS: Next Stop: Job is a six-hour program designed to teach youth, ages 14 and up, the skills necessary to obtain a job. Through videos and hands-on activities, youth learn how to write a cover letter and resume, how to dress for interviews, and the skills required to ace an interview. In addition, youth learn how to track their spending and use a budget. Videos were created using online software called PowToon. RESULTS: The program has been piloted three times with 29 participants. Results from the pilot programs are awaiting tabulation. Participants provided initial feedback that the program helped them learn how to write a resume and cover letter, that they felt comfortable to dress for an interview, and were more prepared to interview and manage their finances. CONCLUSIONS: Next Stop: Job will continue to be piloted in order to increase its scope and effectiveness as a career workforce program. To date it has been successful and well received.

Ecommerce: How to start or Grow a Small Business Online

K. Jackson*, UF/IFAS Extension Jefferson County; R. McWilliams*, UF/IFAS Extension Regional Specialized Agent for FCS; J. Dillard, UF/IFAS Extension Jefferson County; J.P. Dillard, UF/IFAS Extension Washington County; J. Wells, District Computer Specialist; L.S. Jackson, UF/IFAS Extension Regional Specialized Agent for Agriculture and Technology; Dr. P. Vergot III, UF/IFAS Extension Northwest District Director; Dr. M. Gutter, Associate Dean for Extension and State Program Leader, 4-H Youth Development, Families and Communities

Nine of the 16 counties located in the UF/IFAS Extension Northwest District (Jefferson County, FL to Escambia County, FL) are considered rural. Furthermore, despite their rural or urban classification, 11 of the 16 counties have a poverty rate greater than the state average of 13.8%. Objectives: The objective of this course was to respond to the increasingly important role that e-commerce provides for rural small business to expand beyond traditional "store-front" operations to online markets by equipping entrepreneurs with the necessary knowledge/skills to increase their revenues and clientele contacts by expanding their operation to include ecommerce start-up/expansion. Methods: Participants attended five to six two-hour lessons hosted via Acano to allow multi-county collaboration. The following topics were covered: Online & Offline Business Basics, Internet Business Rules & Regulations, Internet Marketing, Payment Options & Shipping, Record Keeping/Tax Planning and an optional lesson entitled Starting a Florida Food Business Online. Each included a lecture with PowerPoint presentation, discussion, additional readings, written assignment and evaluation. Results: Participants have started working on or adapting their business plans and marketing plans. Final results available May of 2015. Conclusions: Final results available May of 2015.

Partnering with Community Business for Sustainable Extension Program

G. Ricketts, UF/IFAS Extension, Osceola County

Aging affects nutrition and diet choices. According to Florida Department of Elders Affairs, 15% of Osceola County population is seniors age 60 and over. Over 30 % of Osceola County elderly residents suffer from disabilities that limit physical mobility. The management of Oak Leaf Landings, a low income senior housing facility, has observed that their residents were making unhealthy food choices which resulted in many of them experiencing poor health conditions. OBJECTIVES: The main objectives of the program at Oak Leaf Landings were to install wheelchair accessible garden beds and to assist their residents in making better food choices. METHODS: Extension staff met with the Oak Leaf Landings management team to discuss ways to implement a nutrition and garden education plan. Home Depot awarded a grant of $3,500 in materials towards the project and provided 240 hours of labor to build new raised garden beds. The UF/IFAS Extension staff conducted a meeting to develop a selection process to identify participants for the project. Participants received instructions and were given journals at training. Garden supplies were purchased, a vegetable planting day was organized and eight nutrition and eight garden education classes were taught by Extension staff. RESULTS: Since the establishment of the new wheelchair accessible beds, the numbers of participants increased from 20 to 40 compared to the previous year. Based on results from questionnaires, participants are consuming more vegetables compared to when they were not involved in the garden project. CONCLUSION: As a result of the success of this program, both the Family Nutrition Program and the Horticulture Program staff will be seeking funds for new programs at other senior facilities.

Utilizing Banker Plants in the Greenhouse and Field In-Service Training

J. Popenoe*, UF/IFAS Lake County Extension; M. Lollar*, UF/IFAS Jackson County Extension; E. Felter*, UF/IFAS Orange County Extension; R. Hochmuth*, UF/IFAS Extension – Northeast District; L. Osborne, UF/IFAS MREC

Pressure to be environmentally friendly combined with significant numbers of pesticides being pulled from the market and replaced with new, more selective products requires Extension agents to keep clients up to date on the latest integrated pest management options. OBJECTIVES: It is crucial Extension agents stay on the cutting edge of new developments in pest management. Research is being conducted to verify reliable beneficial insect resources and an In-Service Training was necessary to keep agents and growers up-to-date. METHODS: A beneficial insect rearing plot was installed at the University of Florida Mid-Florida Research and Education Center in Apopka, FL. Crops planted in the plot were evaluated based on ease of establishment and reported to participants. Educational activities consisted of presentations from Extension specialists and researchers, tours of the beneficial habitat plot, a banker plant greenhouse study, a live viewing of beneficials/pests and an overview of beneficial rearing procedures. RESULTS: As a result of the Banker Plant Utilization in the Greenhouse and Field IST, three Commercial Horticulture Extension Agents are working with their clientele (three citrus groves, a large greenhouse operation, and one large ornamental tree farm) to develop on-farm beneficial insect habitats. One Urban Horticulture Extension Agent is implementing banker plant education into her Master Gardener program and installing banker plants at the county demonstration gardens. CONCLUSION: The popularity of banker plants is increasing as growers continue to adapt to clientele demands for limited pesticide applications. Attendees of the IST are now able to better meet grower needs.

Assisting Beginning Farmers by Helping Them Acquire Basic Knowledge Necessary to Succeed in Farming

C. Kelly-Begazo*, UF/IFAS Extension Indian River County; Y. Goodiel, UF/IFAS Extension Martin County; E. Skvarch, UF/IFAS Extension St. Lucie County; K. Monaghan, Florida SARE; M. Swisher, Family, Youth and Community Sciences

New and beginning farmers are usually enthusiastic and energetic with regard to farming, but often lack the experience and knowledge necessary to do so successfully. The UF/IFAS Extension Treasure Coast Small Farms Working Group along with the Center for Sustainable & Organic Agriculture offered during the summer of 2014 an 8-part series entitled "Beginning Farmers: Planning For You Successful Farm" which had been partially developed from a previous SARE grant. OBJECTIVES: Offer a summer series that would give the participant some basic knowledge in soils, crop selection, nutrient management, pest control, irrigation and marketing. Beta-test the learning modules that had been previously developed, and determine if they were appropriate for statewide distribution. METHODS: Four Saturday sessions were offered; each session consisted of 2, 90-minute classroom modules with a companion farm visit. Modules consisted of a short presentation followed by a group discussion or learning activity that reinforced specific concepts. RESULTS: The first two sessions were attended by 15-20 new/beginning farmers, or participants that were interested in farming. The farm visits were overwhelmingly popular with many scheduling follow-up visits that would allow for more in-depth examination of specific farming practices. All of the participants felt they had learned something new and 50% felt that they were going to try and incorporate some of what they had learned into their farm. CONCLUSIONS: Most new/beginning farmers feel that they lack some of the necessary information to be successful. How they seek and receive that knowledge is as variable as their own farming goals.

Florida 4-H Environmental Science Update: Connecting Kids, STEM, and Natural Resources

J. Mayer*, UF/IFAS Extension Palm Beach County L. Cash, UF/IFAS Extension Volusia County, P. Roland, UF/IFAS Extension Collier County, M. Johnson, UF/IFAS Extension Nassau County, K. Blyler, Florida 4-H State Office

The UF/IFAS Extension Road Map has identified several "Super Issues" of importance to Floridians. These include an awareness and appreciation of our environment; sustainability and conservation of resources in our Florida communities; and the opportunity for youth to experience science, technology, engineering and math. Through positive youth development opportunities in environmental science and outdoor education, Florida 4-H is addressing these challenges while preparing youth to be productive members of society. OBJECTIVES: The Florida 4-H Science Action Team Environmental Science Cluster supports the work of Extension professionals and volunteers in implementation of environmental science and outdoor education programs by providing professional development, curricula support, and fundraising. Outdoor and environmental science education have been shown to increase youths' motivation for learning, create a more positive attitude toward science and environmental concepts, and aid in the acquisition of knowledge and skills (Athman and Monroe, 2008). METHODS: This abstract session will provide participants with an overview of Florida 4-H Environmental science resources and opportunities, and the services offered by the cluster. In addition, the abstract will serve to raise awareness of the 2016 4-H environmental science project launch, "Amphibians and You". RESULTS: High quality training and ongoing support are essential for preparing 4H professionals and volunteers to successfully implement 4-H programs. Additionally, statewide support of the environmental science program ensures fidelity of implementation throughout Florida. CONCLUSION: The 4-H Science Action Team Environmental Science Cluster provides ongoing

support and resources designed to help Extension professionals and volunteers successfully implement environmental science and outdoor education programs.

2015 4-H State Marine Ecology Event: Integrating Service Learning for Environmental Literacy and Youth Leadership

K. Blyler, State 4-H Science Coordinator

Objective: The State Marine Ecology Event (MEE) is an annual contest that 4-H youth may enter. The contest helps youth learn about Florida's marine habitats and organisms. In 2014, the MEE received funding from the Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation to support the event and create additional skill-building opportunities for youth through service learning projects. This presentation provides an overview of the MEE and how this new funding benefits youth. Methods: Study materials are online at http://florida4h.org/programsandevents_/marine/. To prepare for the contest, county faculty and/or leaders take youth on trips to beaches, marshes, estuaries, museums, aquariums, and nature centers. Youth also prepare by working in study groups, mentoring others, and developing educational games. A new service learning category helps youth apply what they learned to community-based projects that foster environmental literacy and stewardship. Results: Surveys from adults (65) involved in the MEE indicate that 99% felt youth had gained knowledge in marine science; 94% felt youth's interest in science had increased; and 90% felt youth had practiced science skills as a result of participating in the MEE. Skills identified were: making observations; categorizing and classifying organisms; critical thinking; and communicating with others. The MEE also recognizes the achievement of youth, thus building self-esteem. Conclusion: The 4-H MEE helps youth gain subject matter knowledge and provides opportunities for them to practice science and life skills. Adding a service learning component to the MEE creates opportunities for youth to develop and be recognized for their skills in leadership and citizenship.

Increasing Local Agricultural Awareness through Agri -tourism

L. Hurner, J. McWhorter, K. Whiddon, D. Austin, L. Baucum.

Promoting local agriculture in a county with a large amount of seasonal residents is important by detailing the impacts of agriculture on the local economy. OBJECTIVES: Promote local agriculture in Highlands County. Educate tour participants about the different types of agricultural operations in Highlands County. Raise $2,000 to help fund educational programs conducted by Highlands County Extension Agents. METHODS: Three tours were conducted; one touring agricultural operations in the northern part of the county, and two in the southern part of the county. Tour guides consisted of agents and members of the overall advisory committee. 4-H groups volunteered to help serve lunch on two of the tours to promote the local 4-H. Tour stops included: cow/calf ranches, dairies, vegetable farms, sugarcane production, caladium production, ornamental greenhouse production, citrus production and packing, and a nursery operated by Avon Park Correctional Institute. RESULTS: Over $4,000 was raised to fund Highlands County Extension programs by selling 154 tickets for the three tours. 82% of the tour participants were seasonal Highlands County residents unfamiliar with local agricultural production. CONCLUSION: We exceeded our goals for raising money for extension programing while educating seasonal residents on local agriculture and its importance to Highlands County's economy.

Preparing for a Federal Affirmative Action Audit

A. Toelle*, J. Altum*, S. Amolsch* UF/IFAS Extension Duval County

OBJECTIVES: Every five years the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) sends a team of affirmative action auditors to Florida to audit the Extension program for compliance. This year only 4-H programs were audited. The State 4-H program along with several county programs including Duval County was selected. METHODS: Given very limited direction from the state, Duval County developed a plan to prepare. This plan included meeting with past agents that had completed an audit, online research, gathering and organizing paperwork, updating the wall club map, and mock interviews. To expedite the process, affirmative action items were collected and compiled into a file box for easy reference. RESULTS: The auditor was very easy to work with and very thorough. She appreciated the file box and the way our materials were organized. The agents and other staff were well prepared for the interview questions. Our team felt well prepared and confident of our compliance activities and all reasonable efforts. CONCLUSIONS: By being prepared, the team was confident to answer questions and eager to showcase what we do to reach ALL of the youth in Duval County. The team was able to anticipate the auditor's needs and be prepared to address them. In total, the audit process was a good experience. It allows an external person to objectively review our program and offer suggestions for improvement.

Who in the world Is watching us? YouTube Analytics

Karen Stauderman, UF/IFAS Volusia County Extension

It is not always feasible for extension agents to obtain program ratings and viewership data from public broadcasting television shows. Social media outlets and YouTube videos allow for global audiences to view these televised broadcasts. Fortunately, YouTube Analytics API is a tool that captures data from YouTube videos and offers an instant snapshot in time of viewer data. OBJECTIVES: YouTube Analytics will capture data of global audience viewership and length of time watched of 43 programs of Gardeners Hotline, a UF/IFAS extension television series. METHODS: Nine seasons (115 shows) of Gardeners Hotline were produced throughout 2008-2014. Content highlighted Florida commercial production of agriculture, horticulture and introduced University of Florida research faculty. A total of 43 programs were uploaded as YouTube videos between the years 2011-2014 and broadcast by way of Facebook, websites and listserv efforts. RESULTS: Out of 138 countries, United States was the largest audience of all shows (100%, n=43). India (25.6%) ranked second, followed by Canada (18.6%), United Kingdom (16.3%) and finally Australia and Philippines each with 4.7%. Canada spent the longest time viewing the programs content (averaging 8.3 minutes, 30.8%) followed by, U.S. at 27.4% (7.4 minutes). United Kingdom, Australia and India followed with (14.6%, 10%, and 9.1%) in that order. CONCLUSION: YouTube Analytics is a successful tool in identifying global audiences. This knowledge suggests global awareness to Florida agriculture and horticulture issues and the University of Florida efforts. There is a potential to target our programming to specific countries or in collaboration with new global partners.

What are they Watching?-YouTube Analytics

Karen Stauderman UF/IFAS Volusia County Extension

YouTube Analytics API is a useful evaluation tool in identifying viewer data from extension YouTube videos. As educators transition to online learning they require more information than just hits. This tool reports what global audiences are watching, identify possible trends, and recognize the devices used to

view extension programming. OBJECTIVES: This tool will capture evaluation data from global audiences watching Gardeners Hotline, a UF/IFAS horticultural extension television series including: favorite programs, viewing device used, and demographics. METHODS: Forty three programs were uploaded as YouTube videos between the years 2011-2014. YouTube Analytics evaluated all programs and results were averaged. RESULTS: The program topic most popular within the US was Orchids. Americans watched the longest at 42.7% of the program. Globally, Roses was the most popular (38.7%). Cacti & Indoor Plants and Indoor Foliage Plants was trendy in India (9%, 42.7%), Orchids and Fairy Gardens were well received by Canadians (6.3%, 6.1%), Vietnamese tuned into Bonsai (6.3%), United Kingdom preferred Growing Grapes in Florida and Philippines opted for Ornamental Grasses. Desktops (100% n=43) were the most popular device used to view the videos followed by tablets, and mobile phones. Two videos averaging over 8,000 viewers captured demographic data that identified age and gender. Males aged 25-34 were the largest audience of both Cacti & Indoor Plants and Orchids. CONCLUSION: YouTube Analytics can assist educators to evaluate viewership of YouTube videos, identify potential trends in demographics, and worldwide use of desktops. This valuable reporting may potentially benefit the future of Florida horticulture.

Extension Marketing Efforts

R. Jordi, A. Thien, Nassau County

With a national trend toward urbanization, the general public has become disconnected from agriculture and the Cooperative Extension Service. Extension agents must use effective communication and distribution methods in order to best inform, motivate and service clients (Hogan, 1994). Extension agents believe marketing Extension programs is a necessary part of their job but find marketing a difficult process especially with budgets becoming more limited. OBJECTIVE: Increase marketing efforts of all Extension programming through variety of venues. METHODS: Incorporated traditional forms of marketing UF/IFAS Extension Services with low budget processes to reach a wider audience by fostering relationships with talented volunteers or friends of Extension to create an unforgettable full bodied mascot called “IFAS”, a roadside billboard and more. Public relations, a valuable tool, reached a broad audience by building on the good conducted for the community, causing people to remember positive Extension activities. RESULTS: A consistent message of “UF/IFAS Extension” was portrayed to youth, the elderly and everyone in-between at every program, in newspaper articles, websites, flyers, FACEBOOK pages, newsletters, UF/IFAS promotion items and PSA. The Extension Service is weekly in the media positively portrayed as serving the public with over 21 million potential hits in 2014. The mascot, “IFAS”, was asked to be in several community outreach programs and hundreds of people daily view Extension billboard on U.S. 1. CONCLUSIONS: In order to remain viable, UF/Extension must be willing to promote programming and increase visibility with the general public through a variety of marketing tools.

Facilitating a Regional Approach to Sea Level Rise Planning

L. Carnahan, UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County

The Tampa Bay region is low-lying and densely populated and is therefore vulnerable to a variety of climate change impacts, most notably sea-level rise (SLR). SLR threatens natural resources, critical infrastructure, and quality of life. OBJECTIVES: Local scientists and planners will increase knowledge of regional SLR research projects and engage in regional coordination in an effort to assist governments

plan for climate change and associated SLR. METHODS: Agent conducted an inventory of SLR research projects through a workshop and associated electronic survey. She collated the results to assess planning needs of coastal communities. In response to a stated need, the agent convened regional scientists and urban planners to establish the Tampa Bay Climate Science Advisory Panel (CSAP). In 2014 and 2015, the Agent facilitated 7 meetings of the CSAP. RESULTS: In April 2015 the CSAP published "Recommendation for a Unified Projection for Sea-Level Rise in the Tampa Bay Region." The agent delivered the recommendation of the CSAP to local governments at to Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council's One Bay Resilient Communities Working Group, Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners, the Manatee County Administrator and Directors, and the Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County Climate Adaptation Workgroup. CONCLUSIONS: The UF IFAS Extension Agent identified a community need and is facilitating a process to assist county and municipal partners. The recommendations of the CSAP can be utilized by local governments to (1) increase awareness, (2) assess vulnerabilities, and (3) incorporate adaptation into future planning. The work is ongoing.

Pinellas Green Local Government Certification

Mary Campbell and Ramona Madhosingh-Hector, UF/IFAS Pinellas County Extension

Pinellas County Extension was asked to provide programs that would support sustainable practices within county offices. Extension led the effort for the Green Local Government Certification which was re-certified to Pinellas County in 2013 at the Gold level. Objectives: To increase the use of sustainable office practices and gain recognition for the resources available through UF /IFAS Extension. Methods: Faculty conducted a needs assessment survey with recycling coordinators and a Green Office Audit to assess use of recycled products in county offices. Results: Recycling coordinators identified employee education (58%) (n=12) as a barrier for recycling program. Survey respondents also identified a need for factsheets (69%), educational posters (62%) and training (62%).In response to the survey, Extension developed new factsheets with the Green Pinellas logo. Extension now provides educational content in the Pinellas Employee Newsletter to 3,500 employees. Through a partnership with the Human Resource department, all new employees receive an informational packet and a commitment pledge on sustainable practices. Follow up assessments will be conducted with new employees in 3-month increments. Forty percent (40%) (n=43) of those responding to the office audit use post-consumer content recycled paper. An initiative in 2014 with the Pinellas County Print Shop created specifications that all printed materials will contain at least 10% post-consumer content recycled paper. Conclusions: A consistent and ongoing effort to infuse sustainable practices into county government operations requires collaboration and targeted efforts to succeed.

Get "Em" Done CEU Day Meets Clientele's Needs for Continuing Education Units M. Glenn*, UF/IFAS Manatee County Extension; M. Atkinson*, UF/IFAS Manatee County Extension; C. Snodgrass*, UF/IFAS Manatee County Extension; N. Boyd, UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center; Z. Deng, UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Educational Center; H. Smith, UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Educational Center

The commercial, landscape, and vegetable agents in Manatee County realized that their clients had a common need, continuing education units (CEUs) for pesticide applicators. To meet this need, the agents decided to combine forces and have a day long program offering a wide range of CEUs focusing on new research. OBJECTIVE: The primary objective was to increase the attendees' knowledge of new research findings and to encourage best management practices (BMPs) using an entertaining format to

promote interest and participation. METHODS: Get “Em” Done CEU Day advertisements, presentations, pesticide game, and PowerPoints were themed in a redneck fashion. Instructors dressed and acted in character to increase involvement among attendees. UF/IFAS research specialists presented their newest research pertaining to pesticides, weed control, and new, resistant cultivars. Pesticide and landscape redneck jokes were told throughout the training to lighten the mood and engage participants. RESULTS: Of the 52 applicators present at Get “Em” Done CEU Day, 60% gained overall knowledge of the topics discussed. The survey documented that 40% might share and 60% would definitely share information taught during the day. CONCLUSIONS: Get “Em” Done CEU Day was a hit among the audience. Attendees laughed along with agents throughout the day creating a relaxed atmosphere for exchange of information. We look forward to offering future Get “Em” Done CEU Days bi-annually. This type of program could be easily used at other extension offices thought out the state.

Connecting with Novice Grazers: The Jefferson Grazing Series

J.E. Dillard, UF/IFAS Jefferson County Extension

Objectives: The Jefferson Grazing series teaches local grazers current topics on pasture management, with a special emphasis on recruiting new pasture owners with little experience or previous Extension contact. Owners of all grazing species participate in the series. Methods: New grazers were recruited through word of mouth and interactive displays at local small farm events. The series combines hands on teaching with two hour evening classes taught by the agent or specialists. Two field days have been held. The first was a Saturday pasture walk at the local extension campus and the second was a cool season variety trial of 33 grazing species grown in cooperation with a local cattleman and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Sciences Department of Agricultural Water Policy. Results: One hundred twenty-three participants attended five two hour evening sessions and the two field days were attended by a total of seventy-six participants Audience members who have attended the most sessions have been clients with little or no previous Extension contact. Experienced pasture owners have been most attracted to sessions taught by the specialists. The series has attracted an audience from five adjacent Florida counties and three counties in Georgia. Conclusions: This series addresses an audience frequently underserved by Extension livestock agents. This group is seeking impartial advice on pasture management, and can be taught in sessions which also attract experienced pasture managers.

Agriculture and Horticulture

Sunset Terrace

Les Baucum, FACAA Abstract Chair

Matt Lollar, Yvette Goodiel, Laurie Hurner -Moderating

Tuesday, September 1, 2015 10:15 am - 2 pm Sunset Terrace

Wednesday, September 2, 2015 9 - 11:45 am Sunset Terrace

Time Tuesday	Speakers	Abstract
10:10 – 10:15 am	Matt Lollar	Introductions & Protocol
10:15-10:30 am	M. Mauldin*, J. Corbus*	Grill It Up! Beef
10:30-10:45 am	M. Mauldin*, D. Mayo, G. Lamb, D. Henry, M. Goodchild, H. Grant	Teaching Cattle Pregnancy Diagnosis: A Hands-On Approach
10:45-11 am	J. Whorter*, L. Wiggins*, C. Prevatt	Making Dollars and Sense of Pasture Weed Control
11:15-11:30 am	K. Wynn, B. Tillman, N. Dufault	Peanut Production Education in Hamilton County,Florida
11:30-11:45 am	T. Badurek*	Advanced Help Desk Master Gardener Training Program
1-1:15 pm	S. Steed*, C. McAvoy	Ornamental Container Weeds and Preemergent Demonstration Plot Workshops
1:15-1:30 pm	J.McConnell*,T. Vandiver*, B. Bolles, B. Thaxton, M. Derrick, M. Orwat, L. S. Jackson, E. Powell, L. Williams	Spring in to Vegetable Gardening: Interactive Video Series for Novice Gardeners
1:30-1:45pm	M. Atkinson*,K. Migliaccio, M. Dukes	Using Smart Irrigation Apps to Show the Value of Extension to Local Government
1:45- 2 pm	L. Felter*, M. Lollar, J. Popenoe	IPM Scouting Workshops Improve Skills and Provides Economic Growth for Employees and Increases Low Impact Growing Practices

Wednesday September 2nd 9- 11:45 am		
9-9:15 am	E. Bolles, S. Dunning*, B. Thaxton	Extension and Industry: Spreading Roots and Branching Out with Tree Installation Training
9:15-9:30 am	J. McConnell, B. Thaxton, T. Vandiver, J. Xin, B. Bolles, M. Derrick, M. Orwat, L. S. Jackson, E. Powell, L. Williams, R. Trawick, A. Bolques, R. Carter, S. Dunning, L. Harrison, G. Knox, C. Stevenson	Gardening in the Panhandle Gets an Extreme Makeover!
9:30-9:45 am	J. McConnell	Retail Garden Center Employees Introduction to Extension Resources and How to Handle Fertilizer Questions from Customers
9:45-10 am	M. Atkinson*, P. Monaghan, E. Ott	Tips for Hiring Landscape Contractors for Communities
10-10:15 am	J. Ludlow	Florida Invasive Plant Education Initiative's Newest Program: Lakeville, a Natural Resource Management Activity for the Classroom and Beyond
10:15-10:30 am	M. Lenhardt	Attracting Golf Course Superintendents and Sports Turf Managers to UF/IFAS Extension Programs
10:30-10:45 am	L. Felter	Plant Diagnostic Clinics Provides Educational Opportunity to the Nursery Industry
10:45-11 am	Q. Wang*, S. Zhang, D. Seal, G. McAvoy	Timely Responses and Approaches to Meet Growers' Urgent Needs
11- 11:15 am	D. Austin	Florida-Friendly Talk and Tour
11:15 -11:30 am	B. Carlisle*, R. Easterly, M. Hersom, E. Jennings, B. Myers, C. Wickens	Livestock Education And Certification for Agricultural Law Enforcement(LECALE)
11:30-11:45 am	D. Barber*, B. Bactawar, M. Davis, D. Fenneman, S. Hayter, D. Nistler, C. Sanders, E. Toro, B. Wilder, T. Wilson, K. Wynn	Providing Beef Cattle Educational Programs through Partnership with North Florida Cattlemen's Association

Grill It Up!-Beef

M. Mauldin*, UF/IFAS Extension Washington County; J. Corbus*, UF/IFAS Extension Washington & Holmes Counties

Grill It Up! – Beef was a cooperative effort between an Agriculture Agent and a Family and Consumer Sciences Agent. OBJECTIVES: 1) Increase consumer awareness of lower-priced beef options that are suitable for grilling. 2) Increase knowledge of beef retail cut selection, knife skills, grilling techniques and food safety. METHODS: The program included a live demonstration and a classroom presentation. The demonstration involved breaking down large cuts of beef and preparing two entrées on the grill. During the demonstration, food safety, knife skills, and grilling techniques were emphasized. The classroom presentation focused on "Bargain Steaks" – how to select them and how to grill them and "The Economics of Ground Beef" – results from applied research, conducted by the agents, looking at shrinkage of grilled hamburgers. RESULTS: Surveys were collected from 32 individuals; 100% (n=32) specified something they had learned. Seventy-nine responses were provided; 22 relating to retail cut selection, 20 relating to grilling techniques, 19 relating to knife skills, and 13 relating to food safety. All respondents indicated that they planned on applying at least one thing they learned. Follow-up conversations indicate that at least six attendees have applied at least one concept they learned. CONCLUSIONS: The program was successful; the stated objectives were met. As a result of this program, consumers were better able to continue grilling beef, even though the price had become much higher than to what they were accustomed. This benefits both consumers and the beef industry.

Teaching Cattle Pregnancy Diagnosis, a Hands-on Approach

M. Mauldin***,** UF/IFAS Extension Washington County; D. Mayo, UF/IFAS Extension Jackson County; G. Lamb, UF/IFAS Animal Science Department; D. Henry, UF/IFAS Animal Science Ph.D. student; M. Goodchild, UF/IFAS Extension Walton County; H. Grant, UF/IFAS Extension Gadsden County

Cattle pregnancy diagnosis using blood sample analysis is a technology that is underutilized by cattle producers in NW Florida. OBJECTIVES: After attending a hands-on training, cattle producers would 1) Increase their awareness of this method of pregnancy diagnosis and 2) improve their blood collection skills. METHODS: Agents and cooperating a producer attended a training session at the North Florida Research and Education Center where they received hands-on practice collecting blood samples from cattle. The agents and cooperators then held county level training sessions utilizing the cooperator's cattle for hands-on practice. RESULTS: There were a total of four county level trainings. Sixty-three surveys were collected. Seventy-three percent of respondents (n=45) indicated that prior to attending the training they used no form of pregnancy diagnosis in their operation. Of those 45 respondents 69% (n=31) indicated that they were planning on utilizing a form of pregnancy diagnosis in their operation after attending the training. Prior to the training 27% (n=17) of respondents indicated that they had the knowledge and skills necessary to collect blood samples for pregnancy diagnosis. After the training 88% (n=49) indicated that they were comfortable collecting blood samples for pregnancy diagnosis. Follow-up discussions have shown that at least 5 producers have applied the technology. CONCLUSIONS: The utilization of local cooperators and their facilities combined with the hands-on nature of the trainings made this program successful. The stated objectives were met; cattle producers were made aware of the technology and many increased their blood sampling proficiency.

Making Dollars and Sense of Pasture Weed Control

J. McWhorter*,UF/IFAS Highlands County Extension; L. Wiggins*, UF/IFAS Hendry County Extension; C. Prevatt, UF/IFAS Regional Specialized Agent, Range Cattle REC.

Highlands, Glades, Hendry, Lee, Collier, De Soto, St. John, Hardee, and Volusia Counties represents 362,200 of the nearly 1.7 million head of cattle in Florida. Providing forage to feed the large amount of cattle requires cattlemen to develop a comprehensive weed control program. OBJECTIVES: Increase knowledge in weed control methods. Present weed control costs for common pasture weeds. Educate ranchers how to economically evaluate their weed control program. Present the current economic returns for treating problems weeds. METHODS: Two workshops; one in Highlands County and one in Hendry County. Presentations covered choosing the appropriate herbicide, correct timing of herbicide application, and how to economically evaluate a weed control program. The agents developed an economic model based on UF/IFAS research and presented up-to-date economic returns for treating smutgrass and dogfennel in South Florida. RESULTS: The attendance for both workshops totaled 51 ranchers from the nine counties mentioned above. Respondents (n= 33) indicated a 44% and 29% increase of knowledge in economics of weed control and weed control techniques respectfully. Overall (n=35), 51% of the respondents reported the workshop exceeded their expectations. 100% of the respondents (n=35) stated they would use the information presented in these workshops. CONCLUSION: The knowledge gained in these workshops will enable South Florida cattle producers to remain environmentally and economically sustainable through the implementation of best management practices taught. Program participants will control weeds more effectively and economically, increase forage yield, and increase the carrying capacity of their pastures.

Peanut Production Education in Hamilton County, Florida

K. Wynn, B. Tillman, N. Dufault

Peanut production is an important commodity crop for Hamilton County. During the 2014 growing season, forty-five producers generated approximately $4,760,000 from 5600 acres of peanuts produced. Often the only data producers have to determine the best peanut cultivar or spray program comes from small plot trials conducted at research stations some distance from their fields. While this data provides quality insight into cultivar and fungicide selection, it neglects to account for the variability associated with farm equipment and differing production techniques. OBJECTIVES: Producers will increase their knowledge of current peanut production practices and will incorporate new cultivars and fungicide spray programs into current peanut practices based on disease pressure and market demand. METHODS: Two University of Florida Specialists and the UF/IFAS Extension Hamilton County Agricultural Agent have provided a program consisting of two peanut meetings and two peanut on-farm trials annually over the past four years. This has provided producers with an opportunity to interact with UF/IFAS specialists and extension agents. RESULTS: According to evaluations and observation, 85% of Hamilton County producers now use a fungicide spray program consisting of biweekly sprays adopted from Hamilton County on-farm trials. CONCLUSIONS: Producers have incorporated new cultivars that possess disease resistance in their production areas which have had a history of disease. They have also integrated spray programs patterned by the ones evaluated in these on-farm trials. Adopting these production techniques have increased yields approximately 700 lbs. per acre which has generated an additional $148 per acre.

Advanced Help Desk Master Gardener Training Program

T. Badurek*, UF/IFAS Extension, Pinellas County Extension

Pinellas County Master Gardener (MG) volunteers provide solutions to thousands of citizens every year at three Lawn and Garden Help Desks. The agent recognized the need for more advanced training for Help Desk volunteers due to low confidence and over-reliance on horticulture program assistants. OBJECTIVES: Objectives include increasing volunteer confidence with Help Desk questions, improving quality of solutions provided, and reducing reliance on program assistants. METHODS: Ms. Badurek created a 10 part monthly series of 3 hour workshops with an introductory lecture and hands-on learning experiences designed to enhance subject mastery. Topics included plant identification, diagnostic questions, using a microscope, plant pathology, proper cultural practices, common problems of fruit/vegetable crops, indoor/outdoor pests, and more. Ms. Badurek delivered these workshops along with the help of two program assistants. Only Help Desk MG volunteers qualified to take this series, thus providing incentive. RESULTS: Twenty-one (21) MGs attended this series. This training gave them a higher level of knowledge, skills, and confidence to better serve the public. Evaluations showed that 100% (n=21) of participants increased knowledge gain and 100% (n=21) of participants made better or more specific recommendations to clients based on information they learned during this training. 95% (n=20) of participants report more confidence at the Help Desk. Both program assistants report higher volunteer confidence after this training and less dependence on staff when answering client questions. CONCLUSIONS: The Advanced Help Desk Master Gardener Training Program was successful in attaining every objective. This program will be repeated to keep MG skills sharp.

Ornamental Container Weeds and Preemergent Demonstration Plot Workshops

S. Steed*, UF/IFAS Extension Hillsborough/Polk County, and C. McAvoy, UF/IFAS Extension Sumter/Pasco County

OBJECTIVES: The objectives of this program were to demonstrate preemergent herbicides for combinations of weeds, container growers commonly face in production and to increase knowledge of weed id, calibration skills, application technique and herbicide/weed interactions. **METHODS**: Multiple demonstration plots in two counties were built with industry help, to screen 17 pre-emergent herbicides, one organic mulch and one organic mulch/herbicide combination for efficacy against troublesome nursery weeds commonly seen in production. Used potting soil containing weed seeds was used as the base. Weed seeds were collected from nurseries and raked into the top of the plots to create a worst-case scenario. Pre-emergent herbicides were applied over the 4.3 ft^2 plots and weed data was measured. Three on-site demonstration workshops and three classes were employed to convey findings. At the workshops, classroom instruction was given in herbicide BMPs, weed id, hands-on granular herbicide application, liquid application, and calibration. Participants self-guided the herbicide plots and group cooperative learning was employed to draw out conclusions from observations. **RESULTS**: Post-evaluations (n=68) determined that 94% will save money from using the knowledge gained on preemergent herbicide trials and herbicide calibration with and estimated average $1627.60 per attendee per year for an approximate total of $222,979/year for all educational events. 100% of workshop attendees reported learning a new weed. **CONCLUSION**: The experiential workshop was highly effective at increasing knowledge of herbicide/weed combinations, weed identification, calibration and inducing industry change.

Spring in to Vegetable Gardening: Interactive Video Series for Novice Gardeners

J. McConnell*, T. Vandiver*, B.Bolles, B. Thaxton , M. Derrick, M. Orwat, L.S. Jackson, E. Powell, L. Williams.

OBJECTIVES: Today, our economy appears to be on the rise; however, despite consumers being able to purchase produce, home vegetable production is still a relevant topic. Consumers have increased spending by an average of 14% for food gardening products from 2008 through 2012 (National Garden Association, 2013, p. 12). This data coupled with steady attendance at local vegetable gardening classes initiated a home gardening series developed by the Horticulture Program Implementation Team (PIT) in the Northwest Florida District. METHODS: Team members worked with IFAS Communications to create a flyer and matching multi-media template. Topics covered included: proper planning, variety selection, integrated pest management, and much more. The 3-day series was broadcast across 16 counties in North Florida using Blue Jeans, a cloud-based video service that also allowed for program recordings that will be available for viewers to watch at their own convenience online. RESULTS: A total of 306 clients attended the program. Evaluations during each class indicated that participants gained knowledge in all topic areas. A follow-up survey was emailed to 119 participants six months after the class. The following reported behavior changes as a result of attending: 58% (n=31) established a vegetable garden; 35% (n=31) amended soil as indicated by a soil test; 93% (n=31) harvested fruits/vegetables from their garden. CONCLUSIONS: The success of the spring vegetable gardening series led to a second series related to fall vegetable gardening. A webpage that features video recordings and educational resources from both series will be completed and available for public viewing.

Using Smart Irrigation Apps to Show the Value of Extension to Local Government

M. Atkinson*, UF/IFAS Manatee County Extension; K. Migliaccio, UF Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department; M. Dukes, UF Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department

Extension needs to show their value to county government who often fund local extension services. One way that the UF/IFAS Manatee County Extension Service is showing its value is by helping Manatee County save irrigation water on county owned properties. OBJECTIVES: The primary objective is to conserve irrigation water on county properties while educating site managers on water conservation related to irrigation. METHODS: At each county site Extension staff work with site managers to conduct an irrigation evaluation. Extension staff identify irrigation inefficiencies and recommend changes. While on site detailed zone information is gather and compiled into a report for easy entry into the Urban Lawn SmartIrrigaiton app. Using the app to alter a time-based irrigation schedule, site managers can provide irrigation amounts to turf that more closely match water needs. The irrigation schedule the app generates is based on real-time evapotranspiration data at a weather station near the system location. RESULTS: On properties that have been evaluated, recommend changes are estimated to save 30% of current usage. Using the app for irrigation is expected to reduce irrigation amounts annually by 25%–30% if the app-suggested schedules are followed. CONCLUSIONS: Educating residents about conserving natural resources is a great Working with the site managers has been a success as it has introduced Extension services to a new audience and gave managers a new resource for information. The Smartirrigation Turf app provides an easy way to determine their irrigation schedule for better management of turf and conservation of irrigation water.

IPM Scouting Workshops Improve Skills and Provides Economic Growth for Employees and Increases Low Impact Growing Practices

L. Felter*, UF/IFAS Extension Orange County, M. Lollar, UF/IFAS Extension Seminole County, Popenoe, UF/IFAS Extension Lake County

OBJECTIVES: The purpose of this educational program was to increase IPM scout training practices for workers within the greenhouse/nursery industry and to increase environmentally friendly production practices. Central Florida is the second largest production area in the state with total sales for Orange, Lake and Seminole counties at nearly $3.2 billion. METHODS: A 3 day mini-series of classes was provided to accomplish these objectives. A team of 3 commercial horticulture agents and 4 Extension research specialists taught the various topics. Participants were taught how to identify insect pests, beneficial insects, weeds, diseases, nematodes and abiotic symptoms, how to monitor soil pH and fertility and the importance of water quality. In recognition of the participants various learning styles a variety of educational activities were used. These activities included PowerPoint, lab demonstrations, class discussion, field trips and hands-on scouting practice. RESULTS: Participants indicated 74 % increased their pest identification skills, 93 % stated their job performance would increase, 29% reported the training helped them get a higher paying job or a pay raise at their current position. The amount of money received was a dollar more per hour. Finally, 100% agreed or strongly agreed that what they learned in the class was useful in their job. CONCLUSION: This class teaches employable skills to industry workers resulting in pay raises and promotions. The skills also reduce water used and increased monitoring of fertilizer practices. It also increases the accurate identification of plant problems which allows for timely and least toxic means of control.

Extension and Industry: Spreading Roots and Branching Out with Tree Installation Training

E. Bolles, UF/IFAS Extension Escambia Co.,S. Dunning,*, UF/IFAS Extension Okaloosa County B. Thaxton, UF/IFAS Extension Santa Rosa County

Numerous businesses in Northwest Florida specialize in the installation of ornamental shrubs and trees. Other lawn maintenance companies are contracted to install large shrubs and trees. The Panhandle has seen the nursery industry take the blame for declining trees. However, Extension agents make site visits to these trees and diagnose the failure due to improper planting. **OBJECTIVES:** To proactively prevent tree loss due to improper installation, UF/IFAS Extension and Panhandle Growers Ornamental and Shade Tree Nursery developed a training to help educate horticulture professionals to properly plant trees. The objective of the training was for 75% of participants to gain knowledge on several tree installation topics and techniques. **METHODS:** The half-day training began with presentations on common tree installation problems, container vs. balled & burlap trees, and proper tree installation. Following the instructional presentations, Panhandle Growers demonstrated proper installation of a large container tree and a B&B tree. **RESULTS:** A total of 39 horticulture professionals attended the training, 36 filled out an end of program post-pre test evaluation. Evaluations indicated 100% (36) gained knowledge on recognizing common tree installation problems, 100% (36) increased knowledge of tree planting techniques that promote tree establishment and survivability, 97% (35) increased knowledge of correct handling procedures for container or B&B landscape trees, and 94% (34) intended to use a learned practice. **CONCLUSIONS:** The training was an example of industry and extension identifying and addressing a problem. Proper tree installation is beneficial to nursery producers, installers, and maintainers, not to mention the trees.

Gardening in the Panhandle Gets an Extreme Makeover!

J. McConnell, B. Thaxton, T. Vandiver, J. Xin, B. Bolles, M. Derrick, M. Orwat, L.S. Jackson, E. Powell, L. Williams, R. Trawick, A. Bolques, R. Carter, S. Dunning, L. Harrison, G. Knox, C. Stevenson

OBJECTIVES: With un-researched, and often biased, materials easily available on the Internet, homeowners need access to reliable horticulture information. Gardening in the Panhandle is an email newsletter produced by the Horticulture Program Implementation Team (PIT) of the Northwest Florida District and addresses timely topics for gardeners of all levels. The newsletter has been in production since 2010, but recently a major overhaul was undertaken. METHODS: The team worked with Information Technology specialists to streamline the subscription process and to update banners for a more appealing modern appearance. The original newsletter was distributed monthly, offered one article per issue, and did not incorporate any consistent graphics or content. The new format is distributed weekly, uses a minimum of three articles per issue, and an "Upcoming Events" section was added to inform clientele of impending educational opportunities throughout the district. We are now able to more easily count web hits for individual articles in addition to hits on the main webpage of the Gardening in the Panhandle blog. RESULTS: Gardening in the Panhandle transitioned from a single article sent to 1,300 subscribers monthly to a weekly electronic newsletter of three to five articles reaching 3,010 subscribers per issue. An increase in clientele initiated the production of a second district-wide newsletter targeting Green-Industry/commercial clientele that has already garnered 593 subscribers. CONCLUSIONS: The updated template and streamlined subscription process has increased subscriber numbers, number of educational articles distributed, and created a Gardening in the Panhandle brand awareness that was lacking in earlier editions.

Retail Garden Center Employees Introduction to Extension Resources and How to Handle Fertilizer Questions from Costumers

J. McConnell, UF/IFAS Extension Bay County

OBJECTIVE: Increase awareness of available extension resources and increase knowledge of fertilizer and pesticide products recommended by garden center employees. METHODS: Based on clientele calls to the extension office and input from a local Garden Center Department Manager, a need for landscape chemical product training was identified. Agent contacted local garden center managers of local "big box" stores to offer free on-site training of employees. Classes were scheduled during business hours because stores do not budget for employee paid training sessions. The agent compiled three-ring binders for each garden center to keep with soil testing forms, weed identification plates, and EDIS publications on topics covered including soil testing, fertilizer recommendations, pesticide label reading, weed identification and management. The training was performed at garden centers using products on the sales floor to demonstrate proper label reading and product components. RESULTS: Four training sessions were held reaching twenty five garden center employees. Participants increased awareness of extension resources and increased knowledge of the chemical products sold in their department. CONCLUSIONS: Employees indicated they had not received specific training on chemical products, but felt pressured by customers to give recommendations to "fix" their landscapes. Participants were enthusiastic to learn about products and expressed relief to be able to direct customers to extension for advice and recommendations about landscape issues. Future plans include reaching more stores and increasing topics.

Tips for Hiring Landscape Contractors for Communities

M. Atkinson*, UF/IFAS Manatee County Extension; P. Monaghan, UF/IFAS Agricultural Education and Communication; E. Ott, UF/IFAS Agricultural Education and Communication

Homeowner association (HOA) board members are tasked with evaluating and accepting contracts for landscape maintenance within their communities. Often due to lack of knowledge among board members regarding landscape maintenance the only criteria evaluated is cost. Associations soon find that the level of service is not what was expected. OBJECTIVE: The purpose of the program was to provide community decision makers with an understanding of what green industries best management practices (GIBMP) consist of, the purpose of the GIBMPs, and items to consider for inclusion in their landscape contracts. METHODS: Extension Services partnered with Manatee County Neighborhood Services and received sponsorship from local landscape professionals to offer a program to HOA board members. Presentation included GIBMP overview along with certification requirements for Manatee County, professional associations and certifications available to the green industry. Resources distributed included information on how to find licensed and certified professionals. Panel discussions with a question and answer session were held with landscape professionals. Neighborhood Services discussed other county resources available to communities. RESULTS: Knowledge about the county certification, GIBMPs, and green industry professional associations increased 70% among the 48 attendees. Attendees expressed how much they needed this information and called soon after the program requesting the presentation in their communities. They also requested another program with additional topics. CONCLUSIONS: From the overwhelming positive response we are looking forward to hosting future programs expanding the agenda to a full day and include a stormwater pond component.

Florida Invasive Plant Education Initiative's Newest Program: *Lakeville*, a Natural Resource Management Activity for the Classroom and Beyond

Ludlow, J. UF/IFAS Calhoun County Extension

The Florida Invasive Plant Education Initiative was created to provide educators with resources needed to teach students about the impacts of non-native, invasive plants. Working with Florida's teachers, multiple lessons and hands-on activities were developed, the most recent of which is Lakeville. OBJECTIVES: The ultimate goal is for 4-12th grade youth to draw on knowledge gained as they mature into responsible environmental stewards; and we want Lakeville to be adopted and used by UF/IFAS Extension Agents across the state. METHODS: Lakeville is a multi-disciplinary unit about ecosystems, natural resource management, and civic responsibility. Activities are taught in sequence or as stand-alone sessions. Each session is designed to encourage critical thinking while enhancing students' environmental knowledge. The three sessions are: Silent Invaders of Florida's Freshwater Ecosystems, Components of an Ecosystem, and Lakeville ~ The Game. Students role-play as local decision makers, while other students role-play as various organisms. The unit includes information on invasive species and management methods, and includes details on 30 native, non-native, and invasive organisms. All lessons are aligned to Florida Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and Common Core State Standards. RESULTS: Since 2012, Lakeville has been presented to 3,642 students and 120 teachers, with a 19% knowledge gain. CONCLUSIONS: Lakeville is a proven, adaptable, and valuable tool for use by Extension Agents throughout Florida. Although designed for students, components can also be used to educate policy makers and other clientele. With greater use, Lakeville can further develop its reach and content.

Attracting Golf Course Superintendents and Sports Turf Managers to UF/IFAS Extension Programs

M. Lenhardt, UF/IFAS Extension Brevard County

Objectives: Golf course superintendents and sports turf managers are challenging audiences to attract to Extension programs. Many in this clientele rely on education from golf industry shows, trade journals, or hands-on experience. To reach this clientele, the Brevard County commercial horticulture agent partnered with stakeholders and Extension specialists to develop an innovative program called the Space Coast Golf and Turf Association. Methods: Workshops are held at golf courses throughout the county on a quarterly basis and consist of a classroom presentation followed by an outdoor session on the golf course to reinforce turf management topics learned in the classroom. Several golf courses also collaborated with this agent and Extension specialists to conduct research in irrigation and weed science, which enhanced the audiences' level of knowledge. Results: From 2013 – 2015, average workshop attendance increased from 15 to 25 attendees. In 2014, forty-two percent of workshop participants indicated an increase in use of UF/IFAS recommended management practices including weed identification, applying irrigation diagnosis steps to help determine irrigation schedule, and rotating chemical modes of action. Conclusions: The popularity of this program and the educational gains by golf course superintendents and sports turf managers indicate the benefits of UF/IFAS educational programs. This is an especially important audience to reach, due to the large acreage of turfgrass maintained, which is integral to improving water quality and conserving water.

Plant Diagnostic Clinics Provides Educational Opportunity to the Nursery Industry

L. Felter, UF/IFAS Extension Orange County

OBJECTIVES: To increase greenhouse/nursery grower's knowledge and skills for efficient plant production and sustainable practices as well as provide timely and accurate diagnosis. METHODS: Program activities include a weekly plant diagnostic clinic conducted at the University of Florida Research Center in Apopka, FL. Methods: Area growers bring plant samples to the clinic and the Extension agent and Extension research specialists examine the sample. Teaching methods include a one-on-one conversation about growing methods which includes a list of pesticides used, fertilizers or other treatments applied, use of a hands lens or microscope, measuring soil pH and soil fertility, internet and publication resources. RESULTS: Plant samples have been featured in newsletter articles. Over 200 growers attended the plant diagnostic clinic in 2014. Producers participating in this program indicated the value of this program saved them up to $100,000 a year and the value of the crops saved was up to $300,000. Ninety-two per cent of them responded that information learned in the plant clinic was used on the job. A grower brought in Viburnum; the roots were not growing and were clubbed. It was determined water samples should be tested for salt. An improper application of herbicides was also determined. This company was facing $150,000 in lost sales. The plant clinic provided timely and accurate diagnosis. CONCLUSIONS: The plant clinics provided an educational opportunity to growers during the worst economic downturn faced by the industry and were unable to attend traditional workshops. The clinic saves time and money and sustains profitability.

Timely responses and approaches to meet Growers; urgent needs

Q. Wang*, UF/IFAS Miami-Dade County Extension; S. Zhang, D. Seal, UF/IFAS Tropical-REC, U. McAvoy, UF/IFAS Hendry County Extension

Objectives: The primary objective of the events was to bring people's alert about an outbreak of tomato chlorotic spotted virus (TCSV) in Miami-Dade County last year, to educate growers in vegetables and other commodities to collaborate for identifying vectors and effective controlling the pests to prevent a widespread of such a fetal disease. Methods: Field surveys were conducted by agent, researchers, industry representative and growers immediately when the outbreak of TCSV occurred; working with plant pathologist and entomologist, a factsheet was developed within a week to bring a mass attention for potential damages; a workshop with update on pest control was held within a months; a newsletter was published; 4 field day events were organized in the growth season; and a tomato variety field trial was conducted to compare TCSV resistant cultivars versus a susceptible one grown locally. Results: There were 171 participants in total for the workshop and field days. Among them, 97% indicated knowledge gain; 98% showed satisfaction with helpfulness for these events; 90% indicated practice changes including collaborative pest control, host weed and plant residue removal. For instance, western flower thrips and common blossom thrips are major vectors for TCSV; and IPM are best solution for such a challenge. As a consequence, this fetal disease has fortunately been controlled within the Homestead area. Conclusions: It is a primary work for commercial vegetable extension agent to help local growers with their urgent challenge. Timely actions, great efforts, and excellent collaborations with multiple expertises are essentially important to succeed.

Florida-Friendly Talk and Tour

D. Austin, UF/IFAS Extension, Highlands County

OBJECTIVE: Highlands County is part of the Lake Wales Ridge which is an important ecosystem marked by leachable soils and many lakes and watersheds. This makes Florida-Friendly Landscaping (FFL) an important part of the Urban Horticulture program. In this program, attendees will learn the nine principles of Florida-Friendly landscaping and adopt one or several of its principles. METHOD: We hold the program with groups of residents at a local nursery where we have access to many plants that are Florida-Friendly. The program consists of a lecture on the nine principles of Florida-Friendly Landscaping while also introducing residents to Green Industry Best Management Practices and Florida water restrictions. A tour is included around the nursery where Florida-Friendly plants are marked with irrigation flags. During this segment, attendees learn that FFL plants can be colorful and easy to maintain. RESULTS: 54 residents attended the Talk and Tour. According to pre- and post-tests the knowledge of participants increased by 28%. From email surveys emailed after the class (n=30). 97% adopted one or more of the Florida-Friendly Principles and put them into practice. 23% adopted from 2-3 principles. While 30% adopted 4-5 principles and 43% adopted more than 5 principles. 3% did not respond. CONCLUSION: After the workshop, attendees gave FFL an 8.84 on a scale of 1-10 on the importance of FFL; with 1 being not important and 10 being very important. There is a need for more education on water restriction and Florida Law on GI-BMPs and rain sensors.

Livestock Education and Certification for Agricultural Law Enforcement (LECALE)

B. Carlisle* UF/IFAS Polk County Extension, R. Easterly UF/IFAS Agricultural Education and Communication Department, M. Hersom UF/IFAS Animal Sciences Department, E. Jennings UF/IFAS Pasco County Extension, B. Myers UF/IFAS Agricultural Education and Communication Department, C. Wickens UF/IFAS Animal Sciences Department.

Many law enforcement agencies in Florida have dedicated law enforcement officers (LEOs) who respond to crime in agricultural areas, urban/rural interface issues, and potential livestock neglect cases. These LEOs have presented themselves as potential Extension clients with educational needs. Objectives: To develop and implement a training and certification program for Florida LEOs in the field of animal science to better prepare them to do their jobs. Methods: Participants are taught using a combination of classroom work and experiential learning sessions utilizing applicable equipment and live animals. Benefits: The LECALE training program addresses Florida specific conditions and it will enable LEOs to do their jobs more efficiently and uniformly across the state of Florida. The training will also equip LEOs with the ability to be vigilant for threats to our food supply system by natural and man-made causes. The accompanying certification program will add to the credibility of this clientele group when they present their testimony in a court of law and make difficult decisions in cases. Conclusion: A four day program was taught to a pilot group of veteran LEOs in July 2014. Utilizing survey and focus group data obtained from pilot participants, the program was modified and taught to 26 clients in March 2015. Twenty of the participants passed the certification requirements of the program and overall knowledge gain was increased by 41%. Utilization of the LECALE program by Florida LEOs could result in a savings of nearly $2,500 compared to certification through other national services. A curriculum relevant to the needs of LEOs was developed using the backwards design method and delivered by subject matter experts.

Providing Beef Cattle Educational Programs through Partnership with North Florida Cattlemen's Association

Barber, D.*, Columbia County; Bactawar, B., Union County; Davis, M Baker County; Fenneman, D., Madison County; Hayter, S., Duval County; Nistler, D., UF/IFAS Extension Clay County; Sanders, C., Alachua County; Toro. E.,; Wilder, B., Wilson, T., Wynn, K.,

In April 2013, six Florida counties (Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Hamilton, Suwannee, and Union) in North Central Florida joined to form the North Florida Cattlemen's Association. Objectives: The main goals were to encourage the membership base to be more active in attending meetings, increase overall membership in the association, and help beef producers improve production practices through partnership with the UF/IFAS Extension Northeast Florida Livestock Agents Group. Methods: Agents attended six quarterly meetings to provide educational information on topics of cattle production and held half day educational seminars at two district meetings. Topics on production practices such as forage production, reproduction, herd health, nutrition, and management were covered at the meetings and seminars. Results: These educational activities reached 675 producers over the past two years. The success of these educational programs has increased the attendance of beef producers at meetings (by an average of 84 attendees at each quarterly meeting). Conclusions: These programs, workshops, and seminars have increased producer awareness of resources that are available to them through the University of Florida/IFAS Extension and the Northeast Florida Livestock Agents Group.

4-H and Youth
Mangrove Room
Whitney Cherry FAE4-HA Abstract Chair
Sarah Whitfield Moderating
Tuesday, September 1, 2015 10:15 am - 2 pm Mangrove Room
Wednesday, September 2, 2015 9 - 11:45 am Mangrove Room

Time Tuesday	Speakers	Abstract
10:10 – 10:15 am	Sarah Whitfield	Introductions & Protocol
10:15-10:30 am	P. Phillippe*	Around the World with 4-H
10:30-10:45 am	L. Valencia*, E. Foereste*,K. Miliffe*, E. Pardo*	Connecting Urban Youth to the Environment through 4-H Eco-Explorers Camp
10:45-11 am	N. Samuel, A. Stewart*, J. Bosquez J. Cohen*, Y. Zhuang*, M. Carden*, W. Lester*, K. Condurso, D. Johnston, W. Lusher, L. Staudt	Exploring Florida Agriculture Through Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)
11:15-11:30 am	M. Glenn*, C. Snodgrass, D. Smith*, N. Boyd, Z. Deng, H. Smith, V. Whitaker, J. Mangandi, G. Vallad	Green & Growing Field Day Helps Youth Explore Careers in Agriculture
11:30-11:45 am	N. Crawson*, A. Granger*, S. Prevatt*, M. Brinkley, J. Brooks*, J. P. Dillard, H. Kent	4-H Chick Chain: Spreading Your Wings and Learning Life Skills
1-1:15 pm	M. Benge*, J. Altum Cooper, S. Conner	All About Animals Camp: An Exploratory Experience for Cloverbuds
1:15-1:30 pm	J. Altum Cooper*, S. Sachs, A. Toelle	Minute to- Win-It Challenges: Putting the Fun Back into 4-H by Using New Delivery Methods

1:30-1:45pm	**V. Spero- Swingle*, J.Walter***	**Meeting the Demands of an Urbanizing Community with Small Animal Projects**
1:45- 2 pm	**K. Jackson*, J. Dillard*, J. Lilly***	**More Than Just**
Wednesday September 2nd 9 - 11:45 am		
9-9:15 am	**S. Michael*, B. Hughes***	**Fostering Etiquette**
9:15-9:30 am	**S. Prevatt*, M. Boston***	**The Volunteer Ambassador: Leveraging Local University and College Campuses to Your Benefit**
9:30-9:45 am	**L. Cash***	**Growing the Volusia County 4-H Volunteer Program**
9:45-10 am	**A. Stewart**	**ATV Safety for Marion County Youth**
10-10:15 am	**A. Hedstrom*, D. Dinkins*, C. McCazzio*, G. Sachs*, S. Taylor,M. Warren***	**Growing Agriculture Awareness: Tri County 4-H Potato Project**
10:15-10:30 am	**A. Granger***	**4-H Cloverbud Animal Science "Cloverbud Explorations: The World of Rabbits and Poultry"**
10:30-10:45 am	**R. Madhosingh-Hector***	**Fostering Youth Development Through a County Initiative**
10:45-11 am	**P. Caskey*,M. Gutter**	**Teaching Youth Financial Responsibility by Using *On My Own* Simulation**
11- 11:15 am	**L. Cash*, S. Hensley*, J. Taufer***	**Eat 4-Health Program**
11:15 -11:30 am	**L. A. Hurner***	**Highlands Youth Citrus Project**
11:30-11:45 am	**N. Samuel***	**Launch of 4H Global Network**

On-site room changes of presentation locations may occur. Look for posted announcements of any changes.

Around the World with 4-H

P. Phillippe*

Global awareness, tolerance of others, and an understanding of other cultures are integral parts of the 4-H Citizenship program. It is important for our children to appreciate that youth in other countries have different lifestyles, and that those lifestyles are just as interesting and important as the one they have. OBJECTIVES: To design and implement a series of day camps to introduce cultures from different countries around the world. METHODS: 4-H staff and volunteers selected twelve countries to present during the day camps. Each day focused on four countries, and from each country, the participants prepared a common street food, learned how to say 'Good Morning, how are you?' in that country's language, learned about 4-H in the country, played a traditional game, learned about a special holiday, and made a traditional craft. The participants received passports and stamps for visiting the countries. They also received cookbooks with the recipes from the day. RESULTS: Forty youth participated in the day camps. Each morning, the participants were given a pre-test on the day's countries. At the end of each day, a post-test was administered. 100% of the youth (n=40) increased knowledge of the countries and stated that they would be more likely to make friends from those counties. CONCLUSIONS: Day camps with international themes are often used to expand global awareness with our youth. Around the World with 4-H Day Camps expanded on this educational opportunity. Participants and their parents have requested new sets of countries for the upcoming year.

Connecting Urban Youth to the Environment through 4-HEco-ExplorersCamp

L. Valencia*,E. Foereste*,K. Miliffe*,E. Pardo*

SITUATION: Osceola County and Orange County, Florida are facing rapid urbanization, with that youth, especially those who are underserved, are disconnected with their environment. OBJECTIVE: Youth who participate in the Eco-Explorers Camp will demonstrate social action and environmental behavior change that will not only have a positive environmental impact on their respective local counties but also help develop lifelong conservation habits. METHODS: A three day environmental education day camp was held throughout Osceola and Orange Counties. Hands-on learning focused on areas such as water conservation, invasive species, food waste (Take-In the Trash), composting, recycling and natural resources stewardship. Nature walks and nature encounters at local conservation areas in the middle of the city encouraged youth to explore the diverse ecosystems and understand the importance of being responsible citizens. RESULTS: 4-H Common Measures was utilized to collect data and programmatic impact. A skill-a-thon event was utilized to qualitatively and quantitatively demonstrate knowledge gained by youth. As a result, 88% (n=23) of participants separate items at home for recycling, 72% of participants and their families compost food waste, 72% of participants have asked family members to recycle items used at home and would ask friends to do so also; 96% feel it was important to use water wisely and 48% of participants have talked with adults at home about problems with the environment. Of participants surveyed, 100% indicated that they care about the environment. CONCLUSION: Through this environmental educational camp, participating youth were able to learn techniques to develop lifelong conservation habits.

Exploring Florida Agriculture through Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)

N. Samuel, A. Stewart*, J. Bosquez J. Cohen*,Y. Zhuang*,M. Carden*,W. Lester*,K. Condurso, D. Johnston,. Lusher, L. Staudt

According to Holz-Clause and Jost (1995) youth often do not make the connection between farming and science. OBJECTIVES: To increase fourth graders' understanding of food production from planting to market and careers in agriculture through the integration of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) activities. METHODS: In fall 2014 Marion County Public Schools fourth grade teachers received an information packet with an overview of the project and a pre-test to be administered prior to the event. Teachers arranged a field trip for students to visit the UF/IFAS Extension Marion County Office to take part in one of two days of hands-on, fun, STEM activities. Students participated in an introductory session then rotated through the following stations every 15 minutes: Garden Design, Soils, Irrigation, Weather, Plant Selection, Garden Recycling, Bee Basics, Good Bug/Bad Bug, and Careers in Agriculture. Teachers administered the post-test at their respective schools after the event and returned them to the Extension office. RESULTS: A total of 427 students from four schools participated in the event. Mean pre and post-test scores were 4.46 (SD=1.83) and 6.59 (SD=2.31), respectively. Overall, students showed a 38% (n=140) increase in knowledge gain between the pre and post-test. One remarked "this is an excellent way to relate the concepts they learn in the classroom to real life situations." CONCLUSIONS: Youth participating in the project had an opportunity to see that agriculture is more than a farmer in overalls. Students now know what goes into growing their food and future career possibilities in agriculture.

Green & Growing Field Day Helps Youth Explore Careers in Agriculture

M. Glenn*,C. Snodgrass, D. Smith*, N. Boyd, Z. Deng, H. Smith, V. Whitaker, J. Mangandi, G. Vallad

Manatee County has over 313,000 acres of production agriculture and ranks 7th in Florida in agricultural sales. An aging workforce threatens the future viability of these enterprises. It is vital to inspire our youth to consider careers in agriculture. OBJECTIVES: This program allowed youth to experience the STEM side of agriculture while encouraging them to consider future agricultural careers. METHODS: The participants toured a local potato farm and tree farm, where they learned about all aspects of production and were given the opportunity to pick their own potatoes and tag a tree for sale. At the Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, several researchers talked about their current projects and the youth toured the field trails and research labs, viewing insects and diseases under microscopes. The afternoon session consisted of more presentations, hands-on activities, and educational games. RESULTS: Fifty-one youth of diverse backgrounds participated. Evaluation results showed a 39% increase in knowledge about agricultural science, a 36% increase in knowledge pertaining to the nursery and farm business, and a 28% increase in interest in pursuing a career in agriculture. 80% of the youth felt that buying food locally was a good idea and had convinced their parents to do so and 60% said they realized some insects are beneficial and tried to preserve them in their homes and gardens. CONCLUSIONS: This program was a success and plans to continue it are already in the works. It could easily be adapted in other counties in Florida.

4-H Chick Chain: Spreading Your Wings and Learning Life Skills

N. Crawson*, A. Granger*, S. Prevatt*, M. Brinkley, J. Brooks*, J. P. Dillard, H. Kent All About Animals Camp: An Exploratory Experience for Cloverbuds M. Benge*, J. Altum Cooper, S. Conner

OBJECTIVES: The 4-H Chick Chain is a multi-state program between Florida 4-H and Alabama 4-H that encourages youth to raise healthy chickens in preparation for a poultry show and auction to develop safe poultry management skills, successful business management skills and accurate record keeping skills. METHODS: Each youth receives eighteen day-old NPIP certified pullet chicks to raise for twenty-one weeks in preparation for a poultry show and auction. On the day of the show and auction, each youth will choose their three top birds for competition/auction. Youth will compete in Showmanship to answer questions from judges and demonstrate the handling of one of their birds. Following the show, a professional auctioneer will auction off each pen of three birds. Youth can earn awards and premiums and will keep the remaining fifteen birds. RESULTS: With this being the first year of the 4-H Chick Chain for Florida 4-Hers, specific impacts are not yet available. However, with the introduction of this new program: Six Florida 4-H counties are participating; a total of thirty-six Florida youth. The participants make up a diverse group of rural and urban residents. CONCLUSIONS: This program is accomplishing successful multi-state programming by allowing Florida and Alabama 4-H programs to collaborate together. In addition, youth are gaining essential life skills mentioned in the objective. They are confidently contributing to the food supply of their own homes, developing successful business practices and acquiring skills for accurate record keeping.

Minute to-Win-It Challenges: Putting the Fun Back into 4-H by Using New Delivery Methods

J. Altum Cooper*, S. Sachs, A. Toelle

Every great organization requires innovation to stay on top. Through integrating the popular television show Minute to Win It with traditional 4-H programming Duval County has been successful in hosting events that challenge youth in a new way. Through this program youth compete in individual and team challenges during a short time limit. Participants are tested on their ability to critically think, problem solve, work as a team, and manage time. Objectives: Increase county level participation by encouraging the essential element of belonging, and recruit new members by enticing youth with fun activities. Methods: 3 different facilities were utilized to host these events. Clubs were encouraged to participate, and youth were given flyers to distribute throughout their communities. Volunteers were recruited to serve as game masters and scorers. Materials were mainly re-purposed from the County Extension Office, donated, or purchased.. Results: 104 youth have participated at the Minute to Win it 4-H programs. 26% (n=27) of attendees were not part of the 4-H program, this program gave these youth an opportunity to learn about 4-H and engage in an all-inclusive program. Additionally, all four 4-H age groups were active in this event (5-7, 8-10, 11-13, 14-18). Conclusion: Many youth and parents reported that they would like to attend future Minute to Win It Programs with 4-H. The next Minute to Win it contest will be April 1, 2016.

Meeting the Demands of an Urbanizing Community with Small Animal Projects

V. Spero-Swingle*, J. Walter*

OBJECTIVES: In recent years, Brevard County has experienced a shift in demographics from a rural community to a more urbanized community. Large animal species, such as cattle, have begun to give way to smaller, more affordable and less resource intense species, such as poultry. Renewed interest in small farms and new ordinances governing zoning of backyard poultry created an opportunity for the expansion of the youth poultry program. METHODS: In 2010, Brevard County Extension introduced the Brevard County Fair Market Poultry Project. Youth have the ability to replicate real world small agricultural projects through raising, managing, marketing, and selling layer pullets at auction during the local fair. The program expanded to include 66 members in its fifth year, up from seven in 2010. The birds average $100.00 a piece showing community support for the project. In order to meet the demands of the urbanized underserved youth population and with the financial support from the community, two cooperative coops were constructed in the county. RESULTS: Through donated resources, grant funding, and volunteer hours, the coop has become a success; it is an attraction and a highlight in recruiting new 4-H members in several small animal projects. Participants in the poultry project not only learned poultry husbandry but also additional lessons in citizenship, planning, scheduling, team work, responsibility, marketing, and carrying out daily chores. CONCLUSIONS: The interest in this project has grown exponentially and allowed youth who would otherwise not be able to participate in a market project to do so.

More Than Just Dirt

K. Jackson*, J. Dillard*, J. Lilly*

Soil quality impacts food security, climate change and sustainable development. As Extension Agents we realize soil is, “More Than Just Dirt.” The goal of the program was to build a shared understanding about the importance of soil and soil quality with clientele. The target audience was students pre-kindergarten to grade three, parents and teachers. OBJECTIVES: Students would know the make-up of soil, how soil is formed and why it is important. METHODS: Agents used displays such as: Velcro boards, soil horizons, soil samples, earthworm farms; open ended discussions, think/pair/share activities and allowed students to pet real earthworms to engage students. RESULTS: UF IFAS Extension Jefferson County was able to share research based knowledge with 1,274 clientele (students, parents and teachers) in twelve days through the partnership with Aunt Louise’s Farm. Due to the short time that the agents had to work with students in a nontraditional environment students’ knowledge was evaluated by verbally asking the student questions. CONCLUSIONS: Seventy-five percent of the teachers whom we worked with in the past brought their current class this year. We had 7 teachers and 3 parents ask for a copy of our lesson plan or for where to find more information. Agents gave stickers for correct answers. Before the conclusion of each rotation, we made sure that every student had a sticker by giving students who first answered incorrectly additional opportunities to participate.

Fostering Etiquette

S. Michael*, B. Hughes*

Seminole County Extension collaborated with First Star Central Florida Academy to provide etiquette education for teens in foster care. Due to the unfortunate instability of the foster care system, these youth often do not receive instruction regarding manners, etiquette, and social protocol. Objectives: The primary objective was to introduce participants to etiquette procedures of table manners, table settings, email etiquette, event planning, and parliamentary procedures. Methods: The facilitators, with the aid of volunteer mentors, planned a full day of hands on activities along with classroom style teaching. During the event participants designed a tablescape, prepared lunch using food safety procedures, practiced proper table manners, participated in a mock business meeting using parliamentary procedures, discovered appropriate email etiquette, enhanced their team building skills, and ended the day with a party planning session. Results: During the table manners session a pre and post test was administered to the participants. The results showed that 100% (n=16) of the participants increased their knowledge of proper table etiquette. An overall post reflective survey indicated that again 100% (n=16) of the participants felt more prepared for planning their end of the program party and were satisfied with the overall program. Conclusion: With the absence of family and consumer science classes, the ever dwindling family dinner time, and the potential threats of our technologically advanced global society, there is a true need for etiquette programs for youth. Through proper etiquette training our youth can develop the life skills necessary to navigate the world as productive, contributing citizens.

The Volunteer Ambassador: Leveraging Local University and College Campuses to Your Benefit

S. Prevatt*, M. Boston*

OBJECTIVES: The FSU Ambassador Program is a partnership between UF/IFAS Leon County 4-H and Florida State University's Center for Leadership and Social Change. The objective of this program is two-fold: The Center seeks job-like opportunities for FSU students who have applied to be ambassadors in the greater Tallahassee area. The 4-H program is searching for motivated, qualified volunteers to serve as club leaders, community representatives, and recruiters of future volunteers. METHODS: Each spring, the 4-H agent submits a position description to the Center. In late spring, applicants are interviewed and chosen. Ambassadors serve a complete school term (fall and spring), volunteering as SPIN club leaders, school enrichment program coordinators, after school activity leaders and more. RESULTS: Four FSU ambassadors have given 1200 volunteer hours (a value of $27,684.00), recruited 15 long, short-term and episodic volunteers, and started one SPIN club. This has led to the implementation of more than 15 afterschool and community-based programs, increased the 4-H programs' visibility and expanded our partnership with new, grassroots organizations. CONCLUSIONS: College students are seeking opportunities to integrate themselves within the local business community in order to grow as a young professional. Furthermore, there is resurgence among our young generation to give back to one's community. The partnership between FSU and UF/IFAS Leon County 4-H provides is a streamline program for ambassadors, or other student volunteers, seeking youth-focused opportunities.

Growing the Volusia County 4-H Volunteer Program

L. Cash*

OBJECTIVES: While volunteers are important human resources in all Cooperative Extension educational programs, they are especially critical in the successful planning and implementation of Extension 4-H Youth Development programs. Consequently, it is critical that Extension professionals providing leadership to 4-H programs better understand how to effectively and efficiently manage and support this enormous volunteer workforce, 4-H Youth Development Professionals' Perceptions of the Importance of and Their Current Level of Competence with Selected Volunteer Management Competencies, http://www.joe.org/joe/2007june/rb1.php. METHODS: The Volusia County 4-H Extension Agent created an organizational structure to engage volunteers. Club leaders meet for ninety minutes monthly. Volunteers have exhibited measurable knowledge and behavior change in the areas of risk management, program involvement, club management, and Florida 4-H policies. There is a general session followed by committee meetings: Livestock; Policy and Awards; Events; and Club Management. RESULTS: The committees have developed a Grievance Policy; a "New Club Leader Notebook"; changes to the Volusia County Fair livestock slot procedure; Record Book policy; awards; contest rubrics; a Family Fun Day; a Sheep and Goat Open Show; and updates to our County Events. Middle management volunteers have been another result: a volunteer oversees the Florida 4-H Archery program, one runs the Livestock and Meats Judging programs, and another is coordinating the development of a policies notebook for Volusia County 4-H. CONCLUSION: Over 85% of screened club leaders (n=50) attend each month. The leaders network and provide "needs assessment" feedback. They have learned how to manage themselves and work together on workshops and events.

ATV Safety for Marion County Youth

A. Stewart

SITUATION: According to the Journal of American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, Florida accounts for 29% of the nation's all-terrain vehicle deaths. Of reported injuries, 68% are youth under 16. Research shows such injuries are the result of not wearing proper equipment or having adequate training. OBJECTIVES: The primary objective of this program is to provide youth with proper ATV Safety training. EDUCATIONAL METHODS: Six classes were taught throughout the county. Participants were informed about state regulations pertaining to the use of ATVs. Participants were instructed on ATV Safety practices as well as ways to identify, avoid, and navigate potentially hazardous riding situations. Participants completed activities and participated in interactive online games to help reinforce the knowledge and skills learned. RESULTS: Pre-test reports showed 90% of participants had little to no knowledge of regulations for ATV use as well as safe handling techniques. Post-test evaluation showed 100% of participants understood the content presented and the need for completing state requirements for riding ATVs. Of the 327 participants completing the ATV Safety classes, 219 successfully passed the Online E-Course and two participants created an ATV Safety public service announcement. CONCLUSION: This program seeks to change the behavior of participant ATV riding practices. Though long-term outcomes will be difficult to measure, a significant impact has been made on the youth who have completed this ATV Safety program. Through this program, participants have learned safe riding practices, regulations, and critical life skills such as personal safety, wise use of resources, and decision making

Growing Agriculture Awareness: Tri County 4-H Potato Project

A. Hedstrom*, D. Dinkins*, C. McCazzio*, G. Sachs*, S. Taylor, M. Warren*

In our economy, there is a growing interest among consumers concerning food systems, the source of food, and food safety. At the same time, an annual report released by STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Food and Ag Council states there is a shortage of youth agricultural professionals and a need for new professionals trained in STEM fields. OBJECTIVE: This project objective is to provide hands on, science based learning experiences that will increase youth's STEM knowledge, raise an awareness of the agriculture industry, and provide workforce readiness life skills. METHODS: A collaboration of UF/IFAS Extension 4-H and Agricultural Agents from the Tri-County Area (Flagler, Putnam, and St Johns) along with the UF/IFAS Hastings Agricultural Research Center provided two field day learning opportunities. The youth were also provided a Potato Project Activity Book, a potato plant to grow, and a community supported Potato Ambassador Program. RESULTS: This year, 59 youth and their families have actively participated in various stages of potato production. Youth have been given the opportunity to gain knowledge in commercial harvesting practices, marketing, and careers in agriculture which they will put into practice as they prepare to complete the project. CONCLUSIONS: Feeding a global population that will increase to 9 billion people over the next 35 years will require STEM trained professionals to face the challenge of making agriculture more efficient and productive. It is our intention to sow a seed of interest which inspires youth to pursue a future in education and careers in STEM fields.

4-H Cloverbud Animal Science "Cloverbud Explorations: The World of Rabbits and Poultry"

A. Granger*

OBJECTIVES: As there are a lack of Cloverbud animal science materials, the agent has created introductory curriculum emphasizing 4-H Animal Science in the subject areas of rabbits and poultry. Materials are designed to develop small group communication skills; encourage youth to develop awareness of animal science; encourage awareness of zoonotic diseases prevention through hand washing; provide volunteers with animal science activities; and provide an effective evaluation tool for youth and adults. METHODS: Using a Facilitator's Guide with helpful hints for anyone, regardless of skill level the facilitator is walked through the materials. Included are craft supplies, experiential learning activities, a power-point presentation, and evaluation tools for youth and volunteers. Two illustrated children's books on similar topics, the use of which are optional, and written permission from the publisher are included. The curriculum was introduced through a Cloverbud Day Camp, and a club sponsored day camp with assistance of 4-H volunteers. RESULTS: Of the 23 youth and three adults participating in the Cloverbud animal science program to date: 100% (n=23 youth) reported knowledge gain; 100% (n=23 youth) acknowledge importance of hand washing. Of the 3 adults polled, 100% (n=3) reported ease of understanding of materials using the facilitator's guide; 100% (n=3) reported confidence in their ability to effectively utilize the materials; 100% (n=3) reported knowledge gained in animal science. CONCLUSIONS: Materials have been reviewed by the State 4-H Educational Specialist, are available to Agents and educators through the County 4-H webpage and shared with Agents upon request at the 2015 YDI.

Fostering Youth Development through a County Initiative

R. Madhosingh-Hector*

Youth involvement in local government supports civic engagement and the development of leadership and citizenship skills. Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners sponsors a Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) which is open to high school students. Extension faculty serve as the Staff Advisor and work directly with the sponsor Commissioner. OBJECTIVES: To provide an opportunity for active engagement in county governance, highlight the democratic process of decision-making, cultivate leadership skills, and develop soft skills. METHODS: Students attend monthly meetings, participate in commission meetings, provide input on county initiatives, plan and implement community service projects, and participate in county and community events. Faculty also conduct annual evaluation surveys to assess students' perception of skills gained from YAC. RESULTS: Since 2011, more than 80 students have served one term on the YAC. The YAC hosted 15 Teens behind the Scenes sessions at county locations such as the jail, public works and engineering, and animal services. YAC members planned and facilitated at least 5 community service projects donating 100 volunteer hours to support county initiatives e.g. healthy communities, environmental quality. Evaluations reveal that all participants gained a better understanding of their own leadership skills while 89% stated that community projects promoted an understanding and appreciation for county's commitment to social and environmental amenities. CONCLUSIONS: Early exposure to governance and public sector activities provides a solid foundation for youth aspiring to become community leaders. This model can be replicated to provide opportunities for youth to understand participatory democracy.

Teaching Youth Financial Responsibility by Using *On My Own* Simulation

P. Caskey*, M. Gutter

Many Extension Agent have to travel with youth and it becomes very clear, very fast that they lack financial skills. Unable to budget, count change and even write a check, many teens are unprepared for living on their own. The Friday Night Finance Class incorporated Living on My Own (LOMO) simulation to assist in the four-week course. OBJECTIVES: To teach the youth financial responsibility while employing LOMO and basic financial strategies. METHODS: Through a four-week class, LOMO was utilized for the first class and last class. Upon arriving at the initial class, youth were given a job, family situation and salary. They were then released in "The Real World" where the LOMO simulation was set up. They were given no instruction other than they had to visit all of the stations and purchase something at each one. This was the pretest. Two classes were developed to teach basics of budgeting, smart shopping, writing checks and balancing a checkbook. RESULTS: After the initial class, 25% (n=9) of the class had no money left to purchase a home; 5 were relegated to living in their cars. When LOMO was introduced at the final class, 100% (n=36) of the students secured a home before making any other purchases. 100% of the youth learned to write checks in the correct format and to balance a checkbook. CONCLUSIONS: LOMO Simulation made the financial class real for the youth and they were able to see real-life circumstances come into play during the simulation.

Eat 4-Health Program

L. Cash*, S. Hensley*, J. Taufer*

OBJECTIVES: "Changing youth perceptions about nutrition and healthy living will help ensure that they will carry new behaviors to the adults in their lives and, ultimately, to the next generation (United Healthcare 4-H Eat4-Health Toolkit)." Over 50% of youth participants will demonstrate knowledge gained and behavior change in the area of healthy lifestyles. METHODS: Several counties received United Healthcare grants with the directive to reach middle-school age youth with approved health curriculum. In X County, a "Healthy Kids Day Camp" was offered March 23 – 27, 2015 to 14 youth, ages 10-13. Youth prepared food, shopped at the local Farmer's Market, exercised, and completed project books. Materials used included: Eat4-Health Simple Tips for Smart Eating, Cornell University's Choose Health: Food, Fun and Fitness, National 4-H's STEPS to a Healthy Teen, and USDA's MyPlate materials. RESULTS: The 4-H Common Measures 4th- 7th Grade Healthy Living Items post test indicated that over 85% (n=12), would increase their intake of whole grains, fruits and vegetables; 100% (n=14) understood the benefits of physical activity; and 100% (n=14) increased knowledge in MyPlate guidance. In a follow-up survey, over 85% (n=12) retained that knowledge and made at least one positive change. State-wide, 536 youth participated in at least six hours of instruction associated with this grant opportunity. CONCLUSIONS: It is clear that Healthy Lifestyles initiatives are effective in reducing the obesity epidemic. Educating youth is the logical step – if they make healthy choices as young people, they will be more likely to adopt these behaviors as adults.

Highlands Youth Citrus Project

L. A. Hurner*

Education of future generations is part of the survival of the Florida Citrus Industry. In response to a call from the Highlands County citrus Industry, a youth citrus project was established. **Objectives:** The primary objective of this project was to provide 4-H youth an opportunity to grow an orange tree and auction it in the county fair. The secondary objective was to educate youth on the importance of the citrus Industry to Highlands County. **Methods:** The HYCP Committee created a project book and outline for the project. Four workshops were conducted. The participants submitted their tree for judging prior to the fair, a display board on a pre-selected topic and a completed project book. The participants were required to bring their trees to the Ag Center three times for a required chemical spray to help prevent psyllid infestation. **Results:** Eighty-six youth registered for the project. Seventy-four completed the steps to exhibit their tree during the fair. 29% (n = 25) of the registered youth were first time participants. A post-project survey was administered and 84% (n=72) of the participants indicated that they were better aware of the impact that the citrus industry has on Highlands County. 90% of the returned surveys indicated that the participant learned how to correctly grow a citrus tree and 94% indicated they would participate in the program again next year. **Conclusions:** The HYCP exceeded our expectations. Every year the program grows and a new generation of Florida Citrus industry advocates and potential growers is created.

Launch of 4H Global Network

N. Samuel*

4-H is making a positive impact on the lives of youth worldwide reaching approximately seven million youth in 50 countries. OBJECTIVES: According to the Korean 4-H Association (2014), the Network was formed to: (i) connect 4-H stakeholders and foster effective communication, access and sharing of resources; (ii) develop and train 4-H stakeholders on a common set of principles and best practices; (iii) "recruit, train and maintain high quality positive youth development volunteers to serve 4-H programs; (iv) engage influencers, multinationals and partners to advance the 4-H mission." METHODS: 4-H youth, professionals, administrators, and volunteers from around the world gathered in Seoul, South Korea in October 2014 for the 1st Global 4-H Network Summit and launching of the Global 4-H Network. UF/IFAS Extension faculty member, Norma Samuel, was invited to be part of the 16-member delegation from the United States responsible for conducting competency building workshop sessions. She conducted two 90-minute workshops on Risk Management. Other Summit activities included drafting a strategic plan for the Network and election of officers. RESULTS: The risk management sessions were attended by 31 participants. Items discussed that will possibly be part of the Network's strategic plan include: global citizenship incorporated into 4-H activities; increasing 4-H enrolment worldwide to 25 million by 2025; and virtual 4-H clubs with members from different countries. A Global 4-H Summit will be held every three years. CONCLUSIONS: The Global 4-H Network is an excellent opportunity to advance the 4-H movement and its positive impacts through sharing of resources and expertise.

Natural Resources
Chokoloskee Room
Ramona Madhosingh-Hector FANREP Abstract Chair
Tuesday, September 1, 2015 10:15 am - 2 pm Chokoloskee Room
Wednesday, September 2, 2015 9 - 11:45 am Chokoloskee Room

Time Tuesday	Speakers	Abstract
10:10 – 10:15 am	R. Madhosingh-Hector	Introductions & Protocol
10:15-10:30 am	L. Carnahan, R. Madhosingh-Hector, L. Milligan, R. Zarger	Climate Conservations: Assessing Public Concerns of Regional Climate Change
10:30-10:45 am	S. Krueger, L. Krimsky	Water Watch: Citizen Science Water Monitoring Programs for South Florida
10:45-11 am	N. Pinson	Soil pH Fertility Test Interpretation On Homeowner Landscape Practices
11:15-11:30 am	L. Singleton*, J. Davis*	Growing a Church's Outreach Program with a Community Garden
11:30-11:45 am	L. Hickey	Reducing Coyotes Encounters Through Community Awareness Programs
1-1:15 pm	L. Hickey	Making Changes in Home Vegetable Gardening
1:15-1:30 pm	S. Dunning L. Johnson C. Stevenson, C. Verlinde, R. O'Conner	Alabama and Florida Extension Agents Partner to Offer the Beaches and Woodlands Pre-Tour at the Mobile AM/PIC
1:30-1:45pm	N. Pinson*, N. Ham	Expert Bee Contact as Local Extension Appointment
1:45- 2 pm	S. Krueger*	Sponge Restoration in Florida Bay Through a Successful Research-Outreach Partnership with Florida Sea Grant and Old Dominion University
Wednesday September 2nd 9- 11:45 am		
9-9:15 am	L. Hickey	Motivated Mentors for the Florida Master Gardener Program

9:15-9:30 am	**T. Sudol**	**Targeting Invasive Plant Removal in Residential Properties**
9:30-9:45 am	**E. A. Staugler, J. Hazell K. Lorenzen, C. Crandall, J. Dutka-Gianelli**	**Empowering Local Communities to Engage in Fisheries Governance in Meaningful Ways**
9:45-10 am	**D. Barber*, B. Bactawar, A. Blount, A. Burnett, J. DeValerio, S. Hayter, C. Mackowiak, A. Shaw, B. Wilder, T. Wilson**	**Growing Extension Impact with Synchronized Wildlife Food Plot Demonstrations**
10-10:15 am	**S. Haddock**	**Turfgrass Diagnostics Training to Reduce Potential Negative Environmental Impacts**
10:15-10:30 am	**R. Madhosingh-Hector***	**Sustainability Connections: A Community Film Series**
10:30-10:45 am	**C. Stevenson*, C. Verlinde*, L. Johnson, R. O'Connor, B. Thaxton**	**2014 Gulf Coast Agritourism/ Ecotourism Business Development Conference**
10:45-11 am	**J. Sewards*, C. Lewis*, J. Bossart, J. Marvin, G. DeChapman Hansen**	**Retrofitting Landscaping at an Existing Planned Community: A Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Demonstration Project**
11- 11:15 am	**J. Ludlow*, R. L. Carter*, J. Ellis, E. Anderson J.D. Atkins, J. Bearden, J. D. Dillard,**	**Beekeepers, UF/IFAS and FDACS Apiary Inspectors Join Forces to Respond to Florida's Booming Beekeeping Industry by Providing Educational Outreach**
11:15 -11:30 am	**L. Johnson*, R. O'Connor*, C. Stevenson, B. Thaxton, C. Verlinde**	**Naturally EscaRosa: Promoting Agritourism/Ecotourism**
11:30-11:45 am	**C. Kelly-Begazo*, M. Elliott**	**Palm School for Master Gardeners, Garden Club Members and Homeowners**

Climate Conservations: Assessing Public Concerns of Regional Climate Change

L. Carnahan, R. Madhosingh-Hector, L. Milligan, R. Zarger

Climate change information is vast; there are numerous scientific publications, an array of politically charged opinions, and an internet full of overwhelming and sometimes false information. Concerned residents are often unable to comprehend the data on global national scales and interpret its potential effects on local areas. OBJECTIVES: The program objective is to assess how local residents view climate change risk and vulnerability in the Tampa Bay region and to improve participant knowledge of local climate change information. METHODS: Four team-taught collaborative community engagement programs were attended by 130 participants between 2013 and 2015. The programs consisted of a climate science overview, a video proposing three (3) possible climate futures for the Tampa Bay region, and five (5) interactive listening stations: sea level rise, transportation and infrastructure, water resources, food systems, and natural resources. RESULTS: Eighty-nine percent of those surveyed after the program indicated they are very concerned about climate change in the Tampa Bay Region (n=93). Of those surveyed, 91% (43 of 47) pledged to modify actions based on knowledge gain. Eighty-two percent of participants (75 of 92) demonstrated increased knowledge by listing 2 or more facts they learned as a result of the workshops. CONCLUSIONS: The "Climate: Change the Conversation" workshops have been well received by participants and results support the program's objectives. The team plans to conduct additional workshops reaching out to a more diverse, targeted audience including homeowners associations and faith-based organizations.

Water Watch: Citizen Science Water Monitoring Programs for South Florida

S. Krueger, L. Krimsky

The waters surrounding south Florida are considered an area of critical state concern due to compromised water quality, yet little notice has been paid because of their perceived health. To gain local and statewide support for water quality improvements, two community-based volunteer water quality monitoring programs were initiated in 2015: Biscayne Bay Water Watch (BBWW) and Florida Keys Water Watch (FKWW). The goals of the programs are to ADAPT – raise awareness about water quality, collect baseline data, adopt best management practices to reduce nonpoint source pollution, create community partnerships, and provide tools and training for citizens. OBJECTIVES/METHODS: The objectives include 1) volunteer recruitment and establishment of monitoring sites; 2) volunteer training to collect quality assurance/quality controlled (QA/QC) water quality data and samples as determined by observational proof-of-method; 3) the use of water quality data by local resource managers; and 4) adoption of a state-wide EPA-approved quality assurance project plan. BBWW follows a "train-the-trainer" model creating a coalition of 5-8 trained organizations that monitor 10-12 sites monthly. FKWW is partnering with citizens, teachers and students in Monroe County for monthly monitoring by 10-30 trained groups. RESULTS: 7 training workshops have been conducted and 19 groups have committed to adopting sites; volunteer recruitment and training workshops are ongoing and sampling is expected to begin in June 2015. CONCLUSIONS: BBWW and FKWW are examples of citizen science programs that gather QA/QC water quality data and provide resources to volunteers through two distinct approaches that can be adopted and adapted for any community.

Soil pH Fertility Test Interpretation on Homeowner Landscape Practices

N. Pinson

County Extension Agents interpret soil pH and fertility tests to clientele on a routine basis. These interpretations require tailoring the information to the clients' landscape, needs, or situation. OBJECTIVES: In many cases, clients submit soil samples to solve a problem or plan a landscape. Yet agents typically count these consultations only as client contacts. However, information obtained from soil pH and fertility tests can be used to select appropriate plants, correct nutrient deficiencies, and apply fertilizers or soil amendments. METHODS: To learn how homeowners use the information provided to them through soil tests and Extension agents, a survey tool was created and e-mailed to clients six months after submitting soil samples. RESULTS: Preliminary results show 90% (n = 24) of survey respondents are satisfied with the quality of service, 80% replied they know more about soil pH, and 50% responded they changed their fertilizer practices, applied lime or sulfur responsibly, and stated the pH information will help them choose appropriate plants. More than 60% of survey respondents reported the soil test information saved them money and time. CONCLUSIONS: Initial results of this survey demonstrate Extension agents can use survey tools to quantify homeowners' use of soil pH and fertility test interpretation on their landscape practices. Potential outcomes from appropriate plant selection, responsible use of soil amendments, and time or money savings can be useful to Extension agents quantifying their programmatic efforts.

Growing a Church's Outreach Program with a Community Garden

L. Singleton*, J. Davis*

The Villages, a 100,000+ resident retirement community situated in Sumter County has homeowner covenants and restrictions that do not allow vegetable gardening on residential lots. The United Church of Christ is a progressive Christian denomination interested in helping to build strong communities and care for the environment. Objectives: The primary objective for this project was to partner with an organization to create a viable sustainable community garden for seniors who want to grow a vegetable garden. Methods: A development team of three master gardeners coordinated the garden planning, permission to use the church site, necessary donations and publicity with the support of the extension agents. 40 raised bed garden plots (4'x12') were built and planted in two phases with volunteer labor in less than one year from concept. The area is fenced and has irrigation. Grants from several entities and donations from citizens and master gardeners were secured to fund the effort. Results: 40 beds are fully subscribed at a nominal annual rental fee, with a waiting list of 15. The gardening participants report bountiful harvests. The church is pleased with the garden success; it has acknowledged its heightened community awareness. Partnering with this project has increased the visibility of UF/IFAS Sumter County Extension throughout the county. Conclusion: This project will serve as a potential model for UF/IFAS Extension to partner with congregations such as United Church of Christ and other houses of worship. Educational presentations and hands-on demonstrations will also be available and free to the general public.

Reducing Coyotes Encounters Through Community Awareness Programs

L. Hickey

Prior to the turn of the twentieth century, wolves were nuisance wildlife to farmers and residential owners. After eradication of wolves, coyote population increased due to lack of predation by wolves. Coyotes expanded their territory into Florida. Their adaptability and behavior easily allows them to adjust in the urban environment (Coates, Main, and et.al. 2011). During Manatee County's urban corridor expansion, coyote activity increased in residential landscapes. Telephone calls tripled (n=146), expressing concern over coyote's increased activity. The Manatee County Commissioners were called on many occasions to "hunt and kill the coyotes". OBJECTIVES: To provide educational programming on coyote awareness in order to reduce fear, increase awareness, and interject behavior changes in the affected communities. METHODS: Create a residential program complemented with short videos, a toolkit containing a coyote fur, footprints, scat and skull, to offer residents. Pre and post-tests will measure knowledge gained and surveys will measure behavior change. RESULTS: 465 people attended workshops, 34% (n=156) self-reported a gain in awareness and knowledge, and 17% (n=79) self-reported behavior changes. CONCLUSIONS: To date, two homeowner associations adopted changes in their community to reduce coyote encounters. For example, monthly meetings were held to inform owners and help with tips to reduce coyote encounters, delay in trash disposal until morning hours, some owners built tighter trash receptacles, a reduction of dogs on long, retractable leashes, and removal of outdoor pets and pet dishes during evening hours.

Making Changes in Home Vegetable Gardening

L. Hickey

Forty-two million households across the US have vegetable gardens, an increase of 17% in a five-year period (Cristelli, 2014). As more people start vegetable garden, it is important for horticulture agents to meet the demand with workshops on the basics of starting a vegetable garden. OBJECTIVES: The primary objectives are to increase the quantity of "Vegetable Gardening" workshops, attain 30% knowledge gain in subject matter, and attain 10% behavior change in creating productive gardens. METHODS: Workshops will be offered at several venues, pre and post TurningPoint tests will be added to presentations, and Qualtrics surveys will be sent at one and three month intervals after workshops. RESULTS: In 2014, 233 people attended vegetable gardening workshops, 36% (n=84 respondent) self-reported knowledge gained, 25% (n=58 respondents) self-reported at least two behavior changes as a result of the workshop. CONCLUSIONS: To receive a better response on behavior changes, a pre-survey was sent to measure the "intent to adopt at least two behavior changes "scout for pests before spraying pesticides, use the least toxic method of pest control, and/or measure soil pH before using fertilizers". The pre-survey prodded gardeners to consider changes and gave them two months to adopt the changes. When the Qualtrics survey was disseminated at the third month interval, satisfactory results were measured. Measuring knowledge is important but measuring behavior is rewarding. You get the sense that the attendees "got it!"

Alabama and Florida Extension Agents Partner to Offer the Beaches and Woodlands Pre-Tour at the Mobile AM/PIC

S. Dunning L. Johnson C. Stevenson C. Verlinde, R. O'Conner

UF/IFAS Extension and Alabama Cooperative Extension agents worked to design, teach, and evaluate a program to highlight the unique ecosystems found in lower Alabama. OBJECTIVES: Introduce unique ecosystems and natural and cultural history of the Northern Gulf Coast region to 10 Extension agents field experiential learning and enable 10 agents to gather and synthesize information, including the Florida Master Naturalist techniques and curricula, which can be incorporated into Extension programming across multiple disciplines nationwide. METHODS: The 1 ½ day event was an experiential-learning style, group excursion in which attendees received instruction on the natural and cultural history of the region; led by a combination of Extension agents, private landowners, forest managers, and professional eco-tour guides. Emphasis was placed on explaining public and privately-owned natural resource management and the economic impact associated with proper planning. Participants visited a coastal barrier island, upland seepage bog, privately owned longleaf plantation, Mobile Tensaw River delta, and Bottle Creek Indian Mound. RESULTS: Fourteen (14) participants from 6 states attended. Seven (of 14) responded to an emailed post-tour survey. 100% of the responding attendees (7/7) indicated they increased their knowledge of pitcher plants, the Mobile River Delta and watershed, Longleaf pine and fire ecology, local Indian history, gopher tortoises, sea life, and Cogongrass. CONCLUSIONS: Participants indicated that they have shared information with clientele and colleagues and integrated interpretive skills into programming for various disciplines (e.g. the 4-H Wildlife Habitat program). Multi-state programming raises awareness and cooperation on issues such as water quality and invasive species management.

Expert Bee Contact as Local Extension Appointment

N. Pinson*, N. Ham

County Extension Agents and Master Gardener volunteers field questions from the public about diverse horticulture topics. Increasingly, residential clientele ask for information about bee control and beekeeping. OBJECTIVES: Depending on the agent's or volunteer's bee knowledge, these questions may be easy or difficult to answer. Did you know local Extension offices can select and appoint an expert bee contact? METHODS: To answer client questions and provide research-based information, a Master Gardener volunteer completed the UF/IFAS Apprentice, Advanced and Master Beekeeper training and became appointed as an expert contact. This volunteer works directly with the agent, answering questions and competing projects required by the UF/IFAS Florida Master Beekeeper Program Requirements. RESULTS: As a certified local Extension appointment, this volunteer maintains a clear channel of communication with the agent, while completing credits and projects for the Master Beekeeper certification. During her Extension appointment, the volunteer completed fifteen Extension activities such as writing a four-part blog series on Africanized honeybees, presenting seven basic beekeeping classes to youth and adults, completing one trade journal interview and writing one newsletter article. Value of volunteer hours is $955.00 (45 hours at $21.24 per hour). CONCLUSIONS: A local Extension appointment can assist faculty with answering bee related questions, while fostering individual leadership and completion of Extension projects through the UF/IFAS Master Beekeeper Program.

Sponge Restoration in Florida Bay Through a Successful Research- Outreach Partnership with Florida Sea Grant and Old Dominion University

S. Krueger*

Harmful algal blooms have decimated sponge populations in Florida Bay. OBJECTIVES: A research-outreach partnership was created between Florida Sea Grant and Old Dominion University to restore sponges and raise awareness about the importance of sponges for water quality and essential fish habitat. METHODS: Under the direction of Dr. Mark Butler, volunteers were recruited to collect sponges from healthy areas and make cuttings to attach to bricks; three months later the sponges were transplanted to sponge die-off areas. An outreach campaign was initiated to educate Monroe County residents about these important filter feeders. RESULTS: The novel sponge restoration method trained 20 volunteers who transplanted >1800 sponges with >80% survival rate after 9 months. Researchers documented restoration sites had greater abundance of fish, invertebrates and sea turtles compared to non-restored sites. 55 people attended a public Shallow-Water Sponge Forum with presentations from 6 scientists from 3 universities, 1 state agency, and a commercial sponger. The Key West Citizen Sunday-Edition ran a cover story and the extension agent and researchers were interviewed for the newspaper, 3 radio spots, and 2 Florida Sea Grant factsheets were produced. CONCLUSIONS: The Florida Sea Grant-Old Dominion University research-outreach partnership is a successful multi-state collaboration aiming to scale-up sponge restoration and volunteer participation in 2016. Increasingly, research grants are requiring an outreach component, and extension agents have the skillsets required to assist researchers share and apply their research, and involve community volunteers perform scientific research.

Motivated Mentors for the Florida Master Gardener Program

L. Hickey

The Manatee County Master Gardener (MG) Program started a student mentoring program in 1997. As extension agents retired, so did the mentoring program. By 2013, attrition impacted membership from 125 members to 79. OBJECTIVES: In 2014, increase MG membership by 20%, motivate mentors to guide and help train new MG students, and increase new trainee retention to 50% at the end of one year internship. METHODS: A tool kit was developed to help revitalize the mentoring program. It included the duties of the mentor, expectations for a successful mentor/mentee relationship, a checklist with week-by-week tasks correlating to the training schedule, and two trainings sessions and materials to mold an individual into motivational mentor. A survey was given post internship to determine the effectiveness/ineffectiveness of the program. RESULTS: 18 mentors were trained for 18 new students. 16 students (89%) completed their internship in one year increasing active MG membership to 95 active members (20% increase). 89% indicated mentoring was rewarding and the reason they passed the training course. CONCLUSIONS: Mentors addressed homework questions, helped students study for exams and quizzes, and introduced students to the Plant Diagnostic Clinic, reducing hands-on time required by the extension agent. Mentors equipped with training skills, checklist of expectations, and their own caring passion, become motivated to assist others in the program. In 2015, the agent will add an item to check in on the mentors as the training progresses.

Targeting Invasive Plant Removal in Residential Properties

T. Sudol

Invasive plants are known to cause harm to the environment, economy and/or human health. Homeowners can plant or allow invasive plants to become established. Likewise, responsible homeowners can remove them from their yard or neighborhood. As part of National Invasive Species Awareness Week 2015, Seminole County Urban Horticulture and Florida-Friendly Landscaping led, "Getting to Know Invasive Species". OBJECTIVES: Increase participants' identification skills of common invasive plants, and motivate participants to remove invasive plants. METHODS: We organized a two-hour program, comprised of a PowerPoint overview on invasive species issues, a small group rotation of 23 invasive plant samples, and then a test of participants' knowledge in a "Bingo" format. Using Turning Point, participants identified 15 pictures of invasive plants. Fifty days later, I sent a follow up survey asking about identification, presence/absence, and removal of the 15 species. RESULTS: We had 47 participants. On average, the class identified 72% of the 15 species correctly. Twenty-one participants responded to the survey. 85% of respondents said they could identify the 15 species. Respondents have taken a total of 100 actions to remove some of the invasive species (Mexican Petunia (12) and Sword Fern (10) most commonly removed). Respondents took far fewer actions (22) to remove invasive plants from their neighborhood. CONCULSION: The results will guide future programming on which invasive species to target for removal. The homeowners who removed invasive species improved habitat for native Florida flora and fauna.

Empowering Local Communities to Engage in Fisheries Governance in Meaningful Ways

E. A. Staugler, J. Hazell, K. Lorenzen, C. Crandall, J. Dutka- Gianelli

Recreational and commercial saltwater fishing generates more than $10 billion per year for Florida's economy but fisheries are facing increasing pressures from human and natural impacts. Fisheries enthusiasts play a critical role in supporting sustainable fisheries and uncovering new priorities for research and management. Many fishers communicate with scientists and with government officials, but their insight, knowledge and creativity may be more powerful when collected, sustained and focused around a particular location. Objective: This project seeks to develop a stakeholder driven Charlotte Harbor focused community of practice to engage people in fisheries issues through a combination of stakeholder meetings, interviews, surveys and public education. Methods: Methods have been largely driven by project participants who chose to have monthly meetings open to all fisheries stakeholders with discussion facilitated by Florida Sea Grant agents to narrow down key issues and action items. Results: To date three preliminary and four forum meetings have been held in Charlotte County with an average attendance of 60 stakeholders. The participants have determined a format, established norms, brainstormed and prioritized action items, and begun working on action steps and timelines. Conclusion: The Fisheries Forums are a challenge for Extension agents in time, planning and uncertainty of outcomes however; for stakeholders who feel the forums give them a voice in fisheries management, they have proven extraordinarily powerful. Extension agents have the tools, expertise and skills to navigate these complex issues in ways that allow participants to gather information and make decisions on topics most relevant to their experience.

Growing Extension Impact with Synchronized Wildlife Food Plot Demonstrations

D. Barber*, B. Bactawar, A. Blount, A. Burnett, J. DeValerio, S. Hayter, C. Mackowiak,
A. Shaw, B. Wilder, T. Wilson

Wildlife recreation generates $9 billion annually in the state of Florida. Objectives: Provide multiple demonstration sites designed to provide clientele access to cool-season wildlife forages recommended for Northeast Florida. Methods: UF/IFAS Extension Agents representing six North Central Florida counties (Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Duval, Nassau and Union) teamed with Extension State Specialists to design multiple forage demonstration sites to provide landowners and land managers access to twenty-one varieties of cool-season forage crops suited to wildlife. These demonstration sites provided county agents with hands-on experiences related to the design, site preparation, planting, fertilization, and management of wildlife food plots in their counties. Results: On March 24, 2014 two field days were held in Bradford/Columbia counties and on March 19, 2015 two field days were held in Duval/Union counties to showcase the food plots to clientele. These field days were synchronized to facilitate travel time for speakers and specialists and to provide more opportunities for clients to attend. The demonstrations provided agents and specialists an opportunity to develop and build relationships through hands-on experimental learning experiences tailored to address landowner and land manager needs. One hundred-three participants from ten counties attended the field days and one high school FFA member completed his “Proficiency in Research” project by analyzing forage data collected from the demonstration sites. Conclusions: This project has grown from four participating agents to seven in its second year. By demonstrating the variety recommendations and new cultivars developed for Florida, agents provide data that is used in peer reviewed extension publications.

Turfgrass Diagnostics Training to Reduce Potential Negative Environmental Impacts

S. Haddock

OBJECTIVES: By completing the Turfgrass Diagnostics training, including interactive exercises, and end of training test, attendees gain a broader understanding of the impact of management strategies on water quality, how to assess turfgrass health, determine causes of turfgrass decline and implement appropriate corrective actions that have a lower impact on water quality. The program improves attendee professional client inter-actions when recommending alternative courses of action regarding turfgrass problems. METHODS: Attendees attend a training session which includes 5 hours of traditional classroom training, interactive exercises and completion of a test at the end of the training session with a minimum score of 70% to receive the Certificate in Turfgrass. Diagnostics. RESULTS: Pre and post training program evaluation reveals that attendees gain knowledge in training topics, improve their level of confidence regarding recognizing and diagnosing turfgrass problems, and have a greater understanding of how management practices impact water quality. Two and six month post training surveys reveal that attendees employ the systematic approach to diagnostics taught in the training, recommend alternative courses of action to clients, and have reduced reliance on chemical applications to improve turfgrass quality. CONCLUSION: Urban turfgrass management can be challenging especially under pest and rainy season pressures, and client expectations of perfect monocultures. Many landscape maintenance professionals struggle to manage declining turfgrass in urban settings. As a result of this program turfgrass managers can utilize a systematic approach to problem identification which results in unnecessary or incorrect applications of fertilizers, pesticides and supplemental irrigation.

Sustainability Connections: A Community Film Series

R. Madhosingh-Hector*

OBJECTIVES: To enhance sustainability programming efforts in the Tampa Bay area through collaborative work with regional partners. The goal was to educate at least 100 participants about climate change using a temporal film analysis with a focus on the human dimension of sustainability. METHODS: Faculty developed a partnership with the Patel College of Global Sustainability and utilized film screenings, moderated film panel discussions, a community expo, and retrospective evaluations to assess program design and delivery. The film storyline included Weather Report (2007), Island President (2011) and Shattered Sky (2012). RESULTS: A total of 128 attended the film series and 79 returned evaluations. Ninety four percent (94%) of attendees learned something new and were able to list two things learned at this event; 94% rated the program excellent, very good, or good; and 60% were unfamiliar with Extension as a resource. Attendees were asked to identify environmental pledges (such as contact local official, join local group) for a 3-month follow-up: 49% pledged three or more items while 24% pledged at least one item (n=75). Retrospective evaluations indicated that participants were more concerned (34%) and were more willing to engage others in a discussion about climate change (46%) after watching the film. CONCLUSIONS: Film screenings offer an innovative approach for attracting new audiences to Extension while invigorating old audiences. In urban areas, education through film utilizes a non-traditional medium and provides an opportunity for Extension to provide relevant, expert information on complex issues.

2014 Gulf Coast Agritourism/ Ecotourism Business Development Conference

C. Stevenson*, C. Verlinde*, L. Johnson, R. O'Connor, B. Thaxton

Escambia and Santa Rosa counties have had setbacks by hurricanes in 2004-2005, the economic downturn of 2008 and the oil spill of 2010. Local businesses, particularly those catering to vacationers and seasonal residents, suffered due to actual and perceived damage from the oil spill. Objectives: 1. Bring regional and potential owners of agritourism/ecotourism businesses together to increase marketing knowledge and business development practices. 2. Increase economic development and job creation. 3. Increase professional networks on a regional basis to promote sustainable businesses 4. Highlight the relationship of ecosystem health and economic impacts. Methods: Agents developed a two-day Gulf Coast Agritourism and Ecotourism Business Development Conference. The conference was held at an ecotourism venue in Milton. Sessions included training on marketing, insurance/liability, employee benefits and healthcare, and professional associations. Agents moderated a panel discussion of business owners and led an agri-tour. Results: The conference attracted 50 clientele, 14 agents and specialists for and IST, and 6 tourism industry professionals. Based on a post-conference evaluation, participants showed a 50% increase in knowledge of agritourism, ecotourism, and marketing. Ninety-two percent (92%) plan to use knowledge gained during this conference to improve their business operations, and 98% will encourage others to contact Extension for more information about developing agritourism/ecotourism enterprises. Twenty-four percent (24%) of these entrepreneurs have implemented new marketing techniques. Conclusions: We believe that well-run, successfully marketed agricultural and natural resource-based enterprises have a bright future and are key to sustaining Florida's tourism industry, local ecosystems, and food production.

Retrofitting Landscaping at an Existing Planned Community: A Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Demonstration Project

J. Sewards*, C. Lewis*, J. Bossart, J. Marvin, G. DeChapman Hansen

In Florida, there are almost 13,000 homeowner associations (HOAs). A common feature is homeowner association (HOA) restrictive covenants that specify landscaping requirements for common areas and individual lots. Many of these covenants, especially in older communities, do not accommodate the water conservation and low impact design principles promoted by Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ (FFL). A common misperception is that FFL looks unkempt and does not fit into the community's "look". Objectives: The objective for this project is to retrofit an existing planned community landscape to demonstrate FFL's aesthetic flexibility, while also meeting FFL's low impact goals. Methods: UF/IFAS Extension, Volusia County and the FFL state office teamed with the Spruce Creek Estates property owners association (SCPOA) to coordinate the demonstration project. The team selected the community's entranceway, a highly visible common area, for redesign. FFL state office landscape architects provided the new landscape and irrigation design. The SCPOA is funding the actual installation, which will be supervised by Volusia County Extension. Volusia County Master Gardeners will conduct pre and post-retrofit water use monitoring, and track post-retrofit fertilizer and pesticide use. Results: The UF/IFAS Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology (CLCE) provided funding for the redesign and the pre and post-retrofit monitoring. The completed retrofit plan is currently awaiting implementation by Spruce Creek. Data collection will begin prior to, during and after completion; which is expected in June 2015. CONCLUSIONS: FFL can be part of HOA covenants. This highly visible project will demonstrate to others that FFL and HOA's can be compatible.

Beekeepers, UF/IFAS and FDACS Apiary Inspectors Join Forces to Respond to Florida's Booming Beekeeping Industry by Providing Educational Outreach

J. Ludlow*, R. L. Carter*, J. Ellis, E. Anderson J.D. Atkins, J. Bearden, J. D. Dillard, M. C. Donahoe, S. Eubanks, M. Goodchild, H. G. Grant, G. L. Harrison, L. S. Jackson, L. Johnson, D. E. Mayo, J. McConnell, M. Orwat, W. Sheftall

Beekeeping in Florida is expanding rapidly and clientele are searching for education on this topic. OBJECTIVES: Two hundred clients, each year, will attend classes on beekeeping best management practices, bee biology, and Africanized bees. Seventy-five percent will increase their knowledge of beekeeping. METHODS: A committee of specialists from UF/IFAS Extension, the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (FDACS), and the beekeeping industry, team-designed and taught 19 internet videoconferencing classes, 4 tradeshows, 2 field days, and 1 Africanized Bee First Responder class. The tradeshows and field days provided hands-on activities. The videoconferencing classes enabled interaction among participants and presenters. RESULTS: Since 2011, a total of 1,558 clients participated from 16 Florida and 2 Alabama counties. Initially, only 17% rated their knowledge of beekeeping as "a good deal to very knowledgeable." After the classes, 91 % rated their knowledge of beekeeping as "a good deal to very knowledgeable," reflecting a 74% knowledge gain. Ninety four percent have greater confidence in establishing or expanding their own hives. Ninety-eight percent of participants felt they have a better understanding of Africanized bees and how to manage them. Three new beekeeping clubs were formed. CONCLUSIONS: Critical alliances between attendees, UF/IFAS Extension, FDACS Apiary Inspectors, and local beekeepers have been established. Panhandle beekeepers are better prepared to manage the threat of Africanized bees, and they can gain income by providing pollination services to local farmers, as well as selling products of their hives.

Naturally EscaRosa: Promoting Agritourism/ Ecotourism

L. Johnson*,R. O'Connor*,C. Stevenson, B. Thaxton, C. Verlinde

Objectives: 1. Increase visitors to local ecotourism and agritourism businesses, particularly during the spring and fall. 2. Increase local and out-of-area awareness of existing businesses. 3. Improve/form relationships between hospitality industry and tour operators. 4. Increase professional development opportunities for agritourism/ecotourism businesses. **Methods:** Extension agents pursued and were awarded a $171,150 grant from the Gulf Tourism and Seafood Promotional Fund. The funding was used to expand and update the Naturally Escarosa website (http://www.naturallyescarosa.com) and brochure. In addition, a mobile application is being developed, promotional banners, billboards, metal signs for each location and promotional materials were developed. The agents coordinated a 2-day conference for agritourism/ecotourism potential and current business owners and hospitality industry networking sessions. **Results:** Locations on the website have doubled from 48 in 2013 to 101 in 2014. The conference reached 75 people; a post-conference survey showed there was a 50% increase in knowledge of agritourism, ecotourism, and marketing campaigns. Twenty-four percent (24%) of these entrepreneurs have implemented marketing techniques learned at the conference. Website traffic has increased 62% when compared to the same time frame the year before. The program is considered as a model for statewide expansion. **Conclusions:** With the finalization of the website, mobile application and brochure, this program has been a success. The agents have received positive feedback and increased communication from local business owners and tourism professionals. There is a need for these groups to increase networking and professional development opportunities.

Palm School for Master Gardeners, Garden Club Members and Homeowners

C. Kelly- Begazo*, M. Elliott

Palms are considered an important and pivotal feature of most Central and South Florida landscapes. Although most palms are quite hardy, they still need some basic care in order to keep them healthy and majestic looking.
OBJECTIVES: To offer a day-long workshop that would give the participant in-depth knowledge of palms and how to care for them in the landscape. METHODS: This Palm School was designed after Dr. Monica Elliott's 2-day workshop "Palm Management in the Florida Landscape for Professionals" and was redeveloped specifically for Master Gardener (MG) volunteers. The workshop consisted of 7 topics; Unusual Palm Behavior, Anatomy and Morphology, Diagnosing Problems, Physiological Disorders, Nutritional Deficiencies, Fertilization and Pruning, and Major Diseases. Pre- and post-test surveys were administered as well as a final evaluation of the program. RESULTS: The school was originally going to be offered to MG volunteers, garden club members and homeowners. Enrollment was filled quickly by MG's (100) from Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin counties and a few garden club members (14). Preliminary results from class evaluations were overwhelmingly positive with 100% stating that they had learned something new and another 89% stating they would change at least 1 practice involving palm maintenance. A 3-month follow-up survey is planned. CONCLUSIONS: This workshop was overwhelmingly popular with the regional Master Gardeners and it has been planned for the same time next year. Since most MG's in the area will have already taken the course, it is hoped that more room will be available to homeowners.

Family and Consumer Sciences
Gulfbreeze South and North
Immokalee
Wendy Lynch FEAFCS Abstract Chair
Tuesday, September 1, 2015 10:15 am - 2 pm Gulfbreeze South and North
Wednesday, September 2, 2015 9 - 11:45 am Immokalee

Time Tuesday	Speakers	Abstract
10:10 – 10:15 am	Wendy Lynch	Introductions & Protocol
10:15-10:30 am	W. Fung*, A. Squitieri*	Fostering Smart and Savvy Shoppers: A MyPlate and Money Management Activity for Youth
10:30-10:45 am	W. Fung*, N. Jensen*, B. Crisp*, S. Carnevale	Strengthening Extension and Teaching: Practical and Time Saving Approaches to Utilize Community Interns
10:45-11 am	M. Derrick, C. Verlinde	The Peanut Butter Challenge Creates Ag Awareness in the Panhandle
11:15-11:30 am	A. Hinkle*, J. Walsh*	Exploring Quality of Life of EFNEP Participants
11:30-11:45 am	H. Copeland, W. Sheftall	Save Money: Be a Savvy Consumer of Energy
1-1:15 pm	J. England	Targeting the Needs of Older Adults in Lake County
1:15-1:30 pm	E. Shephard, V. Spero-Swingle*	eXtension CoP: Healthy Food Choices in Schools
1:30-1:45pm	P. Allen*, E. Bolles, A. Hinkle*, D. C. Lee*	Garden to Plate
1:45- 2 pm	J. Schrader	Early Childhood Nutrition Program
Wednesday September 2nd 9- 11:45 am IMMOKALEE		
9-9:15 am	A. Likens	Healthy Hands
9:15-9:30 am	L. Duncan, M. Kennington	Volunteers Expand FCS in Orange County: Increasing Extension's Ability to Respond and Deliver
9:30-9:45 am	L. Spence	Working Your Way Through the Personal Aspects of End of Life Concerns
9:45-10 am	S. Taylor, M. Maddox, L. Spence	First Time Home Buyers Seminar

10-10:15 am	**L. Leslie**	**Your Money, Your Goals: Multi-State Extension Collaboration with the Consumer Federal Protection Bureau**
10:15-10:30 am	**H. Janney*, H. Copeland*, M. Brinkley, D. Douglas, E. Gorimani, M. Gutter, K. Jackson, S. Swenson, M. Taylor, K. Vasquez, L. Wiggins, K. Zamojski**	**Low-Income Citizens Across North Florida Receive Tax Preparation Assistance and Financial Management Education through an IFAS/IRS Partnership**
10:30-10:45 am	**C. L. Kirby*, M. Atkinson, M. Glenn, S. Kennedy, E. Landauer*,C. Snodgrass**	**Culinary Students Agriculture Experience**
10:45-11 am	**G. Murza*, D. Rodriguez**	**Small Steps to Health and Wealth is Making a Big Difference for Osceola County**
11- 11:15 am	**H. Janney*, S. Amolsch*, S. Crawford*, P. Phillippe, M. Ward, M. Turner, M. Brinkley, B. V. Bennett, S. Ellison**	**Fashion Revue? Clothing and Textile Sciences? What is it All About? What's New?**
11:15 -11:30 am	**A. Hinkle*, J. Walsh***	**The Peanut Butter Challenge Takes a Bite Out of Hunger**
11:30-11:45 am	**N. Gal**	**Preparing Youth to Be Productive Members of the Food Service Workforce**

Fostering Smart and Savvy Shoppers: A MyPlate and Money Management Activity for Youth

W. Fung*, A. Squitieri*

According to the United States Department of Agriculture, the cost of feeding a family of four would be around $20.00 per day living on a thrifty, nutritious meal plan (Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, 2014). Adult education include topics on “stretching food bucks” but not many youth curricula promote this topic. By using youth activities in Extension programming to promote healthy food choices and positive attitudes towards eating, all members of the family can be responsible for adopting healthy dietary habits while staying within their budgets. OBECTIVES: A grocery shopping activity for youth was created to supplement current nutrition and financial management events such as day camps or programs. METHODS: Youth are divided into teams to practice planning meals, identifying foods and portions in food groups based on MyPlate, and purchasing foods for their families. The activity encourages decision making, communication, and teamwork. RESULTS: In 2014, X County implemented a three day nutrition day camp, MyPlate around the World – Passport to Foods, and used this activity with a group of 17 youth ages 5-14 years old. Of the 10 participants with complete pre/post data, six (60%) increased scores which tested knowledge of MyPlate recommendations, physical activity, food safety, and geography. CONCLUSIONS: Extension programs have long provided topics on eating healthy on a budget. This activity will further enhance those objectives as well as promote more responsibility for children to identify and purchase healthy choices for themselves. USDA Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion. (2014). Official USDA Food Plans: Cost of Food at Home at Four Levels, U.S. Average, July 2014. Retrieved from http://www.cnpp.usda.gov/sites/default/files/usda_food_plans_cost_of_food/CostofFoodJul2014.pdf

Strengthening Extension and Teaching: Practical and Time Saving Approaches to Utilize Community Interns

W. Fung*, N. Jensen*,B. Crisp*, S. Carnevale

As our communities progressively change, Extension programs must stay innovative to draw in audiences whether that may be implementing social media campaigns or developing new educational topics. Internships can be time-worthy and valuable ways to utilize creative ideas from students as well as develop future Extension professionals. OBJECTIVES: This presentation will share successful methods of past internships in order to enhance teaching and Extension opportunities. Agents will be equipped with resources to work with interns varying from 2 days to 2 months as well as distance to local, full-time interns. METHODS: Using county faculty-student internship experiences, Family and Consumer Sciences Agents from A, B, and C County will provide a foundation for a teaching-extension internship which will include preceptor/student expectations, assignments, and programs conducted. Input from the X County Livestock and Natural Resources internships will also be highlighted to generalize results to other program areas interested in providing Extension internships. RESULTS: Of the three counties reported, 1,885 hours were donated and more than 80 educational works created in the past three years. CONCLUSIONS: As faculty members, we can leverage our positions to help develop current students and to transform their work into practice. The value of one internship can be as much as 320 hours or approximately $6,800 depending on the duration and how many interns are accepted. With best practices shared from previous experiences, county faculty can support internships that will time-efficient and practical to enhance their programs.

The Peanut Butter Challenge Creates Ag Awareness in the Panhandle

M. Derrick, C. Verlinde

OBJECTIVES: The Peanut Butter Challenge in the UF/IFAS Northwest District had two objectives. The first was to increase awareness of peanuts, a locally grown, widely-consumed food and to promote its consumption in the form of peanut butter. The second was to provide a means of supplementing limited-resource families' diets with this healthy food. METHODS: Partnerships were formed with Florida Peanut Producers, Tri-County LLC, and local peanut farmers for peanut butter donations. A variety of organizations, businesses, schools, churches, and county offices participated in collecting peanut butter for donation to their local food pantries as a way to "help take a bite out of hunger". Grants were acquired to promote the nutritional and agricultural aspects of the program in schools. County peanut production fact sheets were distributed throughout the NW District. Facebook, radio and television spots, flyers, fair booths, and announcements about buy-one get-one free peanut butter sales promoted the program. Competitions to donate the most peanut butter were promoted between organizations and across county Extension offices. Extension offices throughout the NW District collected the peanut butter and distributed to food pantries and local events during Farm City Week. RESULTS: District wide, 9,223 jars of peanut butter, equating to 10,661 pounds and $26,652, were collected and distributed to over 100 food assistance sites. School post-test scores regarding peanut butter and nutrition increased 44%. Quality and quantity of foods in emergency food programs increased. CONCLUSIONS: The public was educated about a healthy, locally-grown food and connected it with helping families in need.

Exploring Quality of Life of EFNEP Participants

A. Hinkle*, J. Walsh*

The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) is designed to assist limited-resource audiences in acquiring the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and changed behavior necessary for nutritionally sound diets and to contribute to their personal development and the improvement of the total family diet and nutritional well-being. Healthful eating and physical activity program outcomes are well-documented for the national program while broader quality of life impacts have not been assessed as thoroughly. OBJECTIVES: To identify how EFNEP influenced participants and their families' quality of life as part of a multi-state project. METHODS: One focus group was facilitated in Florida by the Center for Public Issues Education with nine individuals who completed the EFNEP program three to nine months prior. The focus group was audio-recorded and observational notes were taken. Data were transcribed and analyzed for emergent themes using grounded theory. RESULTS: General themes for changes in lifestyle since engagement in EFNEP were: transitioning to safer home environments; maintaining sobriety; gaining employment; and sleeping better. Family engagement and having hope were themes specific to life satisfaction. The EFNEP program inspired feelings of pride and feeling better emotionally and mentally. CONCLUSIONS: The EFNEP experience made a positive difference in the quality of life of participants beyond expected eating and physical activity outcomes. These data will be analyzed with focus groups conducted nationally. Outcomes from this sample may be used to support the need to explore the broader impact of EFNEP on the lives of participants.

Save Money: Be a Savvy Consumer of Energy

H. Copeland, W. Sheftall

Using the terms savvy and saving simultaneously can be a compelling reason for consumers to take a look at personal behavior. Can consumers really make choices that change not only their personal behavior but also result in saving energy and money? Objectives: Persuading consumers to take a personal look at personal energy consumption behaviors, comprehending influences to personal conduct, encouraging personal behavior change. Methods: Extension agents presented a PowerPoint, followed by a discussion highlighting ways personal behavior provides an ENORMOUS benefit both in saving energy and money, often at no financial cost. Results: A post lecture feedback form indicated 100 % of participants reported they would be more aware of energy issues. 95% of participants increased their knowledge about small investments that provide short Returns on Investment if installed correctly and used efficiently. 95% of participants increased their knowledge of how to efficiently manage the principal systems that use energy in the home as well as gained knowledge in appliance replacement efficiency. Conclusion: Influencing consumer behavior is a multi-billion dollar marketing effort. Through face-to-face contact, Extension educators, effected individual behaviors through education and facilitated discussion. Participants that learn in a non-threatening environment begin to pre-contemplate as well as contemplate personal changes they can make. True valuation can be measured when individuals take action to decrease their consumption of energy as their new behavior soon becomes their new normal. Change happens. What better way to change than to engage in a more sustainable lifestyle with less consumption of earth's limited resources.

Targeting the Needs of Older Adults in Lake County

J. England

Lake County's elder population (age 65+) accounts for approximately one-quarter (24.3%) of the total population. In addition, the county has a large influx of seasonal residents. This population has unique needs that can be addressed through extension educational programs. OBJECTIVES: Target age-specific educational programming to increase knowledge, confidence and behavior change in older adults. METHODS: Educational programs were developed or adapted, marketed, presented and evaluated. Locations were local libraries and extension office. Programs for 2014 were health-related discussing memory, maintaining independence, joints, bones and digestive system. Financial and home safety topics were presented in 2015 addressing clutter, fall prevention, organizing important papers and transferring non-titled property. Preparing your home for an extended absence was presented both years. RESULTS: Sixteen programs with 809 participants were presented January through April in 2014 and 215. End of program results from 2014 health-related programs included 93% (126 of 135) increased knowledge on program specific health behaviors and 90% (84 of 93) plan to increase consumption of fruits and vegetables. Compiled two year results for Closing Your Seasonal Home programs included 95% (224 of 235) intend to use at least one technique learned to prepare home for an extended absence. In a 9 month follow-up survey of 2014 participants, 94% stated they had improved their home preparation procedures (16 of 17 respondents). Results of 2015 programs are pending. CONCLUSIONS: Targeting educational programs for older adults addresses age-specific needs. Clustering related topics and marketing as a series adds continuity, increases attendance and provides positive outcomes.

eXtension CoP: Healthy Food Choices in Schools

E. Shephard, V. Spero- Swingle*

OBJECTIVES: The Healthy Food Choices in Schools CoP's mission is to provide educational/ informational tools and resources that empower school food service directors and staff, school administrators, teachers, health professionals, and wellness committees to make changes that encourage children to make healthier food selections in school food environments, without undermining revenue. Given the role parents and the children themselves have in the food choices they make, the CoP also develops and makes available tools and resources that families can use to improve nutrition at school and at home. Sites such as these are essential to generate public interest while assisting in the development of an Agent's career. METHODS: The Healthy Food Choices in Schools website provides resources, such as written documents, webinars, links, etc. Topics focus on the following core areas: Encourage Kids to Eat Healthy Foods, The Business of School Food, Develop Healthy Eating Dialogues, and Additional School Food Initiatives. Contributors to the CoP are expected to regularly participate in meetings, write articles, provide webinars, and peer review written works. RESULTS: Participation in a CoP helps Agents to become more scholarly, reach new contacts, and increase their knowledge base. It allows them to reach a wider audience through web based learning and increase their visibility and expertise in a core area. CONCLUSIONS: By utilizing resources, such as eXtension, Agents can be better informed, more up to date, and increase their knowledge and understanding of trending topics. Agents can provide support to their communities through participation and knowledge of eXtension.

Garden to Plate

P. Allen*, E. Bolles, A. Hinkle*, D. C. Lee*

Objective: Garden to Plate was designed to promote Healthy Lifestyles. Schools with 50% or more of its student body receiving free- or reduced-lunch were provided with the educational support needed to give students the ability to make healthy choices. Methods: Classes were given the complete "garden to plate" experience of learning, which addressed how food was grown and prepared to supplement a healthy diet. Garden to Plate was funded by a United Health Foundation grant. The grant provided the financial resources to provide materials needed for lessons, gardens, and staff support. Cooking carts were purchased for participating schools and used as a teaching tool. School gardens were installed in each school and used as an opportunity to talk about plant anatomy and the basics of gardening. Over the course of six lessons, fourth through seventh grade students learned about nutrition, food science, food preparation and safety, and how food is grown. The students were given a pre- and post-test before and after the six lessons. Results: 1,453 youth completed six lessons. Three Family Nights were held with 75 participants. Surveys from nine teachers reflected that they observed 88% of the students making a positive behavior change in eating habits. Of the random sampling of tests, 100% of 91 students increased knowledge from the pre- to post-test. Conclusions: The classes ended the program with a fuller knowledge of nutrition and how food is grown. Garden to Plate aided in developing the students' ability to make healthy choices.

Early Childhood Nutrition Program

J. Schrader

Clay County teachers involved in Early Childhood programs have indicated a need for preschool nutrition education. In response to many requests, the Early Childhood Nutrition program was developed. Objectives: High school students enrolled in Early Childhood Development will be trained in the YUM (Youth Understanding MyPlate) curriculum. They will deliver the curriculum lessons, supplemented with additional topics to preschoolers in the school daycare. The preschoolers will demonstrate an understanding of nutrition and food safety through food group identification, proper hand washing, and healthy snack preparation. Methods: Each month of the school year students of the Ridgeview High program were trained. They worked with the daycare preschoolers one day each month using motor activities, fun sheets and snack preparation as teaching tools. The student-teachers were supported with donations from academic departments throughout the school. For example, petri dishes were secured for use with the hand-washing lesson to help explain the concept of "germs". Results: The student-teachers reported an 87% (14 of 16) success rate with the preschoolers trying new healthy foods and with accurate food group identification. One hundred percent (16 of 16) of the preschoolers were observed using proper hand washing procedures throughout the series of lessons. The supervising teacher plans to expand this program next year and more schools have indicated interest. Conclusion: Nutrition education for young children is vital in supporting healthy lifestyles and preventing the development of poor food habits which can lead to many chronic diseases. Introduction of healthy alternatives and the involvement of children in food preparation support their desire to try new foods.

Healthy Hands

A. Likens

Hand washing is one of the most effective ways to prevent illness and reduce the spread of disease. Schools play an important role in supporting hand hygiene, according to the Center for Disease Control infectious diseases account for millions of school days lost each year. OBJECTIVES: The main objective of this program is to increase correct hand washing practices in kindergarten students. METHODS: A total of 31 kindergarten classes in Seminole County totaling 572 students completed a half-hour hand washing lesson. This class taught basic hand washing skills through an instructional video, group discussion, and hands on activity. Each student practiced hand washing by applying UV lotion, washing their hands, and then checking their hands under a black light. This activity allowed students to visually see if they washed their hands correctly. RESULTS: A follow up survey was distributed to all participating kindergarten teachers three months after completing the class. A total of 61% (n=19) of teachers responded, representing approximately 380 kindergarten students. 84% (n=16) of those teachers who responded reported an increase of students washing their hands after using the restroom and 89% (n=17) reported an increase of students following proper hand washing etiquette such as using soap, scrubbing hands for 20 seconds, and turning off the sink with a paper towel. CONCLUSION: Hand washing education in kindergarten students increases proper hand hygiene and increases the frequency of students washing their hands after using the restroom.

Volunteers Expand FCS in Orange County: Increasing Extension's Ability to Respond and Deliver

L. Duncan,M. Kennington

OBJECTIVES: LuAnn Duncan and Mary Sue Kennington, Orange County Family Consumer Sciences agents, implemented volunteer programs to address the rising needs of the urban 1,225,267+ population. Agents recruited, screened and trained volunteers to help deliver outreach programs to youth and adult audiences related to food safety, food preparation, nutrition, and financial wellbeing. Agent 2 implemented three annual Florida Master Money Mentor (FMMM) Volunteer trainings. She continues to advise and work with the X County Home and Community Educators who are celebrating 90 years of helping Extension with outreach and service. Agent 1 utilized volunteers from University of Central Florida, Disney World, and Volunteerism Pays to co-teach award winning food science youth camps and completed three annual Master Food and Nutrition Volunteer (MFNV) training programs. METHODS: FMMM and MFNV volunteers were trained using state approved curriculum. Other volunteers were recruited for specific events such as health fairs, youth camps and real world simulation activities. Volunteers were asked to provide scheduled accountability reports. RESULTS: Volunteers provided 13,600 hours valued at $288,864. HCE donated $28,000.00 in materials to make 13,000 items to give to those in need. Volunteers filmed 10 TV segments, reaching an audience of 450,000 per segment, and instructed 37 classes with evaluations documenting educational satisfaction and outcomes. Sixty-seven volunteers helped implement real life simulations reaching more than 200 individuals. Twenty-nine clients made financial changes after one-on-one sessions with FMMM volunteers. CONCLUSION: The volunteer outreach efforts increased Extension's ability to deliver programs/services to people who otherwise would not have been reached.

Working Your Way Through the Personal Aspects of End of Life Concerns

L. Spence

SITUATION: Lacking information and confidence, individuals and families commonly defer to loved ones and health care providers, hoping they will instinctively know what to do. This shifting of onus can wreak havoc on survivors' well-being, negatively impacting relationships and finances well beyond the loss. OBJECTIVES: 1.) Participants will increase their confidence to communicate about end of life issues with loved ones and health care providers; 2.) Participants will implement strategies to plan for end of life. METHODS: In a relaxed yet structured environment, this two-part program was presented using a combination of lecture, slides, role play, and case study. This format helped participants normalize conversations, strengthen communication skills, and change behaviors that in the past have rendered them unable to even think about, let alone meaningfully plan for, end of life concerns. The program was presented to nineteen residents of a planned retirement community. Topics included 1.) The research; 2.) Strategies for overcoming barriers; 3.) Navigating and developing an end of life plan. RESULTS: At program completion, a retro-posttest was administered to measure degree of confidence gain, and intent to further develop their plan. 1.) Eighty-five percent increased confidence in their ability to communicate about end of life issues. 2.) Ninety percent implemented strategies to plan for end of life. CONCLUSION: Unnecessary provisions and costly treatments can be avoided through informed conversation and understanding of service delivery. Individuals and families benefit when guilt and conflict are minimized through meaningful communication and planning. Confidence and satisfaction can prevail through informed planning.

First Time Home Buyers Seminar

S. Taylor, M. Maddox, L. Spence

OBJECTIVES: One of the primary goals of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) in Hernando County is increasing the basic money management skills of residents in Hernando County. For local residents looking to purchase their first home, it has been a struggle because of all of the different agencies involved in the home buying process: Mortgage companies, Realtors, County Government, Insurance providers, etc. METHODS: To assist this audience, FCS has developed and presents a comprehensive program that covers everything from Money Matters like budgeting, home maintenance, the process of finding and buying the home, and Title Insurance. By collaborating with local professionals affiliated with the Real Estate industry, the audience gets specific information that can most benefit their home buying situation, while the professionals gets research-based educational materials presented by a knowledgeable professional educator. Program concepts were enforced through classroom discussions, playing the "Steps to Buying a House" game, and real estate simulations. RESULTS: Of 288 attendees, knowledge gain through pre and post testing has been 23%, positive behavior change through use of the IFAS Money Management calendar for expense tracking of 46% (132 of 288), and continued educational pursuits through the FMMM program of 25% (72 of 288.) CONCLUSIONS: This type of collaboration allows local Real Estate professionals and FCS the opportunity to reach and influence a greater number of residents while working to further the professional field of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Your Money, Your Goals: Multi- State Extension Collaboration with the Consumer Federal Protection Bureau

L. Leslie

Families in economic distress often turn to social service agencies. These families may lack an understanding of fundamental financial management practices. Social service case managers are well positioned to help these distressed families. However, case managers need to increase their own financial knowledge to better serve clients. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) partnered with Extension and other agencies for a national roll out of Your Money, Your Goals (YMYG) training for case managers. The goal - provide financial education and tools to empower case managers to assist clients. OBJECTIVES: 1) Social service case managers will increase confidence in their ability to help clients. 2) Extension will increase outreach by maintaining a status of "go-to" financial education provider. METHODS: The USDA/NIFA Family & Consumer Science Program Leader facilitated partnership of 23 Extension offices in 9 states and CFPB. Each office agreed to train at least 25 case managers and administer pre and post training surveys. CFPB agreed to provide free Your Money, Your Goals toolkits. Hillsborough County Extension provided 2 trainings - one for case managers employed by Hillsborough County and another for a local non-profit. RESULTS: Hillsborough County, 36 case managers completed YMYG training. Twenty-eight (77%) increased confidence in their ability to discuss financial management topics with clients and plan to use the YMYG toolkit resources. CONCLUSION: YMYG training increases case managers' ability to assist financially stressed clients. Hillsborough County Extension's involvement with the multi-state collaboration meant it was ready to go when social services agencies requested YMYG training.

Low-Income Citizens Across North Florida Receive Tax Preparation Assistance and Financial Management Education through an IFAS/IRS Partnership

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S. Swenson, M. Taylor, K. Vasquez, L. Wiggins, K. Zamojski

Before the IRS officially started accepting tax returns, individuals around the nation started paying preparers to complete and file tax returns for them. Such service costs average of $160; “rapid refunds” cost even more! This is a burden to low-income citizens who do not always understand how to file on their own. At the end of 2014, an IRS Senior Tax Consultant sought to collaborate with UF/IFAS Extension to lead a multi-county pilot program providing Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) to rural residents. OBJECTIVES: To serve low to moderate income individuals and families with free income tax filing; to make available financial management education; to provide community service. METHODS: Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Extension Agents from ten counties and a site coordinator were provided VITA training. UF/IFAS Extension Leon County was the hub for the VITA-SKYPE activities. Rural county residents made an appointment in their counties. Trained volunteers prepared their tax return based on information received from intake sites as well as the face-to face and SKYPE interview. RESULTS: 11 FCS agents and 10 certified volunteers provided free tax return preparation. Filing reports are not final. Over 142 rural North Florida households filed their 2014 taxes; over $132,000 was refunded to tax payers (average tax refund $930.00). These participants also received access to financial services in a non-threatening environment. CONCLUSIONS: UF/IFAS partnering with the IRS helps encourage participants to file their taxes, start an emergency savings fund, and become more financially responsible.

Culinary Students Agriculture Experience

C. L. Kirby*, M. Atkinson, M. Glenn, S. Kennedy, E. Landauer*,C. Snodgrass

Agricultural products are a key component to any culinary creation. There was a need to educate culinary participants about where their food comes from and how it is grown and processed. Agents responded to this need by developing the first annual Culinary Agriculture Experience. Objectives: The objectives were to increase the awareness of locally produced agricultural commodities, strengthen confidence in the safety of the US food supply and stress the importance of agriculture to the economy of Manatee County. Methods: The agents gathered and developed a unique tour for the students. Students visited three farms, including and agri-tourism destination growing hydroponic and traditional fruit and vegetable crops, a cattle ranch and a potato farm. Lunch featuring in season Manatee County grown foods was provided. The final component was a question and answer period with local producers throughout the county. Results: The tour hosted 33 students and instructors of diverse backgrounds. Prior to the tour only 33% of the participants had visited a commercial agriculture operation. Participants increased their knowledge of agriculture and its impact on the economy of Manatee County by 20%. Their confidence in American grown foods increased 25% as a result of the tour. After the tour they were interested in collaboration on future tours for student chefs. Conclusions: Students were interactive and interested in how the crops and products were produced. As long as funding can be arranged we plan to continue this program in the future.

Small Steps to Health and Wealth is Making a Big Difference for Osceola County

G. Murza*, D. Rodriguez

OBJECTIVES: In Osceola County, 56% of households earn less than the median state and local income level. Additionally, the unemployment rate is around 9.6% with 70% having exhausted their unemployment benefits. Furthermore, there is a correlation between financial stress and health; increasing the risk for developing health issues such as anxiety, headaches, heart attacks, and ulcers. Participants are Osceola County residents at or below 200% of the poverty level with no health coverage. By participating in the Small Steps to Health and Wealth (SSHW) program, participants will gain employment or skills to prepare them for employment, seek health services and programs, and develop and maintain a budget. METHODS: Participants are required to complete three major components of the grant – Health, Financial, and Job Preparedness, involving one six-hour SSHW class held once a month; five health/wellness visits; three one-on-one financial coaching sessions over several months; one four-hour Boot Camp; and five one-on-one sessions with a Life and Employment Coach. RESULTS: To date, 370 clients have totaled 424 doctor visits, RD appointments, and exercise sessions; 166 completed the SSHW class; 3,943 received financial education; 423 received financial coaching; and 93 were connected to employment. Participants are at varying levels of completeness, but to date, 30 participants have completed all three major components. CONCLUSION: Participation in the SSHW program helps connect individuals to health services, employment, and allows them to gain financial independence, which will help them attain medical coverage and make more positive health and financial choices.

Fashion Revue? Clothing and Textile Sciences? What is it All About? What's New?

H. Janney*, S. Amolsch*, S. Crawford*, P. Phillippe, M. Ward, M. Turner, M. Brinkley,
B. V. Bennett, S. Ellison

Whether youth are career-focused on fashion, wanting to learn more about designing their own outfits and how the retail industry works, or they just want to have fun learning how to improve their daily look and mend their own garments, Florida 4-H Fashion Revue and Clothing and Textiles has been redesigned to help develop the necessary mastery to participate and compete in this project area while having fun and cultivating life skills such as critical thinking, problem solving and project planning. OBJECTIVES: Help youth to develop basic sewing skills, gain an understanding of the clothing and textile industry, and to recruit volunteers to help in this area. Also to revive interest in this project area. METHODS: The Florida 4-H Fashion Revue Taskforce has incorporated workshops into 4-H U, redeveloped the Fashion Revue Event, and developed resources for SPIN Clubs (both activities and volunteer recruitment). RESULTS: Fashion Revue competition has been redesigned to focus on clothing and textile sciences, learning lab has been developed for counties to attend, resource kits have been developed, and workshops are being developed yearly to hold at 4-H U. CONCLUSIONS: Clothing and Textile project is more focused and new resources make it easier to offer at a county level. Requirements for competitive events in this project area have been streamlined to fit the model of other statewide competitive events.

The Peanut Butter Challenge Takes a Bite Out of Hunger

A. Hinkle*, J. Walsh*

Objectives: The two fold objective of the Peanut Butter Challenge was to create awareness of local peanut agricultural production while stocking the shelves of local food pantries with peanut butter. Methods: Agents from across the Northwest District partnered with county and city offices, churches, libraries, retailers, financial institutions, schools and other community partners in disseminating information on local peanut production through static displays and serving as collection points for peanut butter from their employees, students and patrons. The event was publicized through extension blogs, Facebook pages, and the print and radio news media. Collection of peanut butter took places across the district during a six week period in October and November. Each County's participating agent(s) coordinated their partnerships and the collection and distribution of peanut butter. In order to stimulate participation and friendly competition in the district the agents in the county that collected the greatest quantity of peanut butter won a lunch sponsored by the Florida Peanut Producers Association. Results: 13 counties in the Northwest district collect 3,571 jars of peanut butter totaling 4,901 pounds. The Florida Peanut Butter Producers Association and multiple local peanut farmers donated matching amounts. The peanut butter was distributed to local food pantries in the county where it was collected. Conclusions: Residents in communities across the panhandle gained awareness of peanuts as a local agriculture crop through publicity and static displays. Local food pantries across the Florida panhandle were provide with sizable donations of peanut butter that are highly sought after food items for their clientele.

Preparing youth the be productive Members of the Food Service Workforce

N. Gal

Youth need to develop an appreciation for the importance of education to become productive wage earners. Many Culinary Arts students at a local high school had no post-graduation plans, neither higher education nor employment. The purpose was to encourage students to attain a higher knowledge level through receipt of the National Restaurant Association's ServSafe® Food Safety Training and Certification for Managers (ServSafe®) program in preparation for employment. OBJECTIVES: Fifty percent of students will: pass the ServSafe® exam; increase knowledge of commercial food safety practices. METHODS: Multiple sessions (12 hours) were taught to 105 students (2012-15, four groups) using the ServSafe® Essentials curriculum supplemented with advanced information. Instruction was based on the experiential learning model to enhance cognitive development through "real life situation" activities. Formative and summative evaluations: 40-item practice exam, chapter quizzes, written classroom activities, and national exam. RESULTS: One-hundred five completed the training and national exam. Ninety students (86%) received certification. Ninety-three students (89%) increased knowledge based on the practice exam and quizzes. CONCLUSIONS: Ninety students increased knowledge beyond the classroom and earned a credential that will enhance their abilities to secure higher paying entry level positions with greater career opportunities. Labor statistics indicate there are significant salary differentials based on knowledge, skill, and certification status in food service. Food service managers average $25.83/hour, compared to food preparation workers at $10.39/hour and fast food cooks at $9.91/hour. Therefore, for the ninety students who earned certification, their annual earning potential is higher, which hopefully will lead to advanced employment prospect

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Members of the Extension Professional Associations of Florida are encouraged to prepare program abstracts for 2015. Abstracts are ranked for selection based on a scoring system that emphasizes objectives and measurable results. The abstract title should briefly identify the subject and indicate the purpose of the program. The abstract should be a brief, factual summary of the content of the program and should include:

- Objectives of the education effort/program
- Methods used
- Results
- Conclusions or interpretation of the program's significance

The body should not exceed 250 words