EPAF

Extension Professional Associations of Florida

2018 Professional Improvement & Administrative Conference Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

August 27th – August 30th, 2018

Presentation of Extension Programs Thirty-second 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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UF IFAS Extension UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Extension Professional Associations of Florida Charting New Waters and Conquering the Challenges

Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

32nd PRESENTATION OF ABSTRACTS

Oral Abstract presentation session: Tuesday August 28, 2018	9:30 am – 5:00 pm
 EPAF Abstract Committee Melanie Thomas, UF/IFAS Exter Brad Burbaugh, UF/IFAS Extens 	nsion Duval County ion Clay County
Agriculture and Horticulture Hosted by FLO AGENTS - FACAA <i>Tim Wilson</i>	RIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AGRICULTURE
Natural Resources and Outreach Hosted by EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS - FANREP BJ Jarvis and Chris Verlinde	FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Youth Programming Hosted by FLORIDA AS Crystal McCazzio	SOCIATION OF EXTENSION 4-H AGENTS - FAE4-HA
Food and Finance Hosted by FLORIDA EXTE SCIENCES - FEAFCS Gabriela Murza	NSION ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER
Leadership and Sustainability Hosted by EP Adrian Hunsberger	SILON SIGMA PHI - ESP Champions B

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

Table of Contents		
Торіс	Page	
Map of Facilities	4	
Oral Presentations Schedule at a Glance	5-8	
Agriculture and Horticulture Room Schedule	9-10	
Agriculture and Horticulture Room Abstracts	10-17	
Natural Resources and Outreach Room Schedule	18-19	
Natural Resources and Outreach Room Abstracts	19-26	
Youth Programming Room Schedule	27-28	
Youth Programming Room Abstracts	28-35	
Food and Finance Room Schedule	36-37	
Food and Finance Room Abstracts	37-44	
Leadership and Sustainability Room Schedule	45-46	
Leadership and Sustainability Room Abstracts	46-53	
Council of Presidents & EPAF Board of Directors	54	

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

Map of Facility



2018 EPAF Abstract Schedule

Tuesday	Agriculture and Horticulture	Natural Resources and	Youth	Food & Finance	Leadership and Sustainability
Room	Champions C	Champions G	Champions H	Champions A	Champions B
9:30-9:45	Are Farmers and Ranchers Growing Winter Forages Profitability? C. Prevatt*, UF/IFAS Range Cattle Research and Education Center; M. Bauer UF/IFAS Extension Columbia County	Making Waves with a New "Master" Water Program L. Milligan*, UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County; A. Tyrna*, UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County	Strategies for Organizing Volunteer Processes at the County Level S. Turner*, UF/IFAS Extension Duval County	Go Online! Extend the Reach of Your Extension Program J. England*, UF/IFAS Extension Seminole County; W. Lynch*, UF/IFAS Extension Putnam County; W. Dahl, Food Science and Human Nutrition Dept.	Experiencing the Food System Beyond the Farm and Table H. Wooten*, UF/IFAS Extension Seminole County; L. Felter*, UF/IFAS Extension Regional Specialized Agent; R. Tyson* and C. Glatting, UF/IFAS Extension Orange County
9:50-10:05	Ensiling Crop Residues for Livestock Feed: A Sustainable Approach to Improve Crop Productivity W. Mussoline, PhD,* UF/IFAS Extension Flagler/Putnam Counties; L. Ferraretto, Assistant Professor, UF Animal Science Department	Compost Topdress of Zoysia Lawns: Build Soil Health in The Villages L. Singleton*, UF/IFAS Extension Lake County	4-H Afterschool Making a Difference A. Tharpe*, C. Olson, L. Wiggins*, and V. Blanco*, UF/IFAS Extension Taylor County	Building Financial Stability: An Online Learning Opportunity L. Leslie*, UF/IFAS Extension Hillsborough County	Pinellas County Shoots for the STARs R. Madhosingh- Hector* and T. Ackerman*, UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County; C. Moore, C. Gray, and A. Keen, Pinellas County Planning Department
10:10- 10:25	Garden Unification through Landscape Design Workshops: From Hodgepodge Gardens to Master Plan T. Freeman*, UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County	Backyard Shiitake Mushroom Workshops: Fun, Nutritious and SAFE! E. Lovestrand*, UF/IFAS Extension Franklin County; R. Bodrey* and M. Taylor, UF/IFAS Extension Gulf County; S. Kennedy*, UF/IFAS Extension Wakulla County	Using agriculture as the context to teach urban audiences STEM concepts L. Harlow*, A. Sheldon*, B. Burbaugh*, A. Creamer, W. Hobbs*, and S. Conner*, UF/IFAS Extension Clay County	Feed Them Well: Expanding the Power of Your Pantry A. Hinkle* and D. Lee*, UF/IFAS Extension Escambia County, P. Allen*; UF/IFAS Extension Okaloosa County; G. Hinton*, UF/IFAS Extension Santa Rosa County; J. Breslawski*, UF/IFAS Extension Okaloosa and Walton Counties	Increasing Program Reach with Facebook Live L. Carnahan* and B. Niemann*, UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County; S. Jackson, UF/IFAS Extension Bay County; R. Burton, Florida Sea Grant
10:30- 10:45	Flip or Flop- Hernando County's Hybrid Master Gardener Training W. Lester*, UF/IFAS Extension Hernando County	Youth-Friendly Wetland Science Education at the Mounts Botanical Garden R. Rice*, UF/IFAS Extension Palm Beach County; R. Wolberg, D. Robaina and M. Brown, Palm Beach County Mounts Botanical Garden	Sewing: Stimulating Creativity and Helping Prepare Youth with Life Long Skills L.Wiggins*, UF/IFAS Extension Taylor County	From In-Kind to Income: the Central Florida Housing Education Network Sponsorship Model L. Hamilton*, UF/IFAS Extension Volusia County; S. Preston*, UF/IFAS Extension Seminole County	Teaching Best Practices Benefits Tree Canopy in Hurricane Country H. Mayer*, UF/IFAS Extension Miami Dade County; M. Orfanedes*, UF/IFAS Extension Broward County
10:50- 11:05	Utilizing the Southeast Hay Contest to Enhance Relationships with Hay Farmers D. Mayo*, UF/IFAS Extension Jackson County	Weedon Warriors: A Nature-Based Therapy Program L. Carnahan* and B. Niemann*, UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County	Are You Ready YET? - Nassau County 4- H Youth Emergency Team K. Irvine*, UF/IFAS Extension Nassau County	Money Management Day Camp: Local Partnerships and Hands on Learning J. Shoup*, UF/IFAS Extension Jefferson County	Community Conversations Can Create Change L. Milligan*, R. Madhosingh- Hector, and L. Carnahan, UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County

Tuesday	Agriculture and	Natural Resources and	Youth	Food & Finance	Leadership and
8/28	Horticulture	Outreach	Programming		Sustainability
Room	Champions C	Champions G	Champions H	Champions A	Champions B
11:10- 11:25	Training Volunteers to Prune Trees in Jacksonville's Parks L. Figart*, UF/IFAS Extension Duval County	Host a Job Fair to Increase Volunteers' Confidence, Service and Extension Awareness N. Pinson*, UF/IFAS Extension Hillsborough County	Can you get out? Escaping into 4-H PYD and Communication Skills K. Haupt*, UF/IFAS Extension Duval County; S. Spann*, UF/IFAS Extension Baker County; N. Crawson*, UF/IFAS Extension Holmes County	Are you Mortgage Ready? UF/IFAS Extension First Time Home Buyer Programs L. Hamilton*, UF/IFAS Extension Volusia County; J. G. Ramirez*, UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County; S. Preston*, UF/IFAS Extension Seminole County	International Food System Case Study to Enhance Multidisciplinary Extension Programs in Florida H. Wooten*, UF/IFAS Extension Seminole County; S. Hensley*, UF/IFAS Extension State Specialized Agent; A. Sheldon*, UF/IFAS Extension Clay County; T. Momol*, UF/IFAS Extension Central District
11:30- 11:45	Applying Extension Education and Research to Improve and Expand Rice Production in Florida M. VanWeelden, PhD*, UF/IFAS Extension Palm Beach County; J. Bhadha, PhD, Department of Soil and Water Sciences	Creating Awareness and Community through a Central Florida Hops Program K. Greer* and A. Vu*, UF/IFAS Extension Orange County	Cultivating Cloverbuds: Engaging the Tiniest 4-H Members A. Stewart*, UF/IFAS Extension Highlands County	Over the River and Through the Woods to a 4-H Thanksgiving We Go! J. Corbus*, UF/IFAS Extension Washington and Holmes Counties	Keeping Up with Recordkeeping T. Sanchez*, UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County
12:15 -					
1:45 Buffet Lunch and Lightning Rounds					
2:15-2:30	Increasing Profits through Reproductive EfficiencyC.L. Kirby*, UF/IFAS Extension Manatee County; J. Bosquez-Mendez, UF/IFAS Extension Hardee County; L.D. Butler and C.C. Larson, UF/IFAS Extension Okeechobee County; S. Crawford and L.F. Wiggins, UF/IFAS Extension Hendry County; M. Hersom and T. Thrift, UF/IFAS Department of Animal Science; T. Pohl, UF/IFAS Extension Highlands County; P. Moriel and C.G. Prevatt, UF/IFAS Extension Seminole Tribe; B.C. Stice*, UF/IFAS Extension Seminole Tribe; B.C. Stice*, UF/IFAS Extension Polk County; D.W. Thompson, UF/IFAS	WILD Horticulture Series: A holistic approach to introducing Florida- Friendly LandscapingM. Hunter* and A. Marek*, UF/IFAS Extension Marion County	What Makes This Bug Camp Special? E. Harlow* and K. Haupt*, UF/IFAS Extension Duval County	Growing & Cooking Workshop SeriesA. Nikolai* and A. Yasalonis, UF/IFAS Extension Polk County	Office team building— one step at a timeC. Stevenson* and L. Johnson*, UF/IFAS Extension Escambia County

Tuesday	Agriculture and	Natural Resources and	Youth	Food & Finance	Leadership and
8/28	Horticulture	Outreach	Programming		Sustainability
Room	Champions C	Champions G	Champions H	Champions A	Champions B
2:35-2:50	Hydroponic Programs Serve as a Marketing Tool for New Extension Clientele F. Rivera*, N. Pinson and S. Steed, UF/IFAS Extension Hillsborough County; J. Bosques*, UF/IFAS Extension Hardee County; E. Campoverde, UF/IFAS Extension Miami- Dade County; T. Sanchez, UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County; E. Pabon, UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County	Rapid aerial response saves spiny lobster industry \$4 million after Hurricane Irma S. Krueger*, UF/IFAS Extension Monroe County	Supporting Volunteers: Planning Ahead to Reduce Risk M. Ward*, UF/IFAS Extension Citrus County	ServSafe Serves to Provide Job Skills to At- Risk Youth S. Bresin*, UF/IFAS Extension Pasco County	Using Community- Based Social Marketing Techniques to Build Bigger Audiences and Impacts: Results of a Multi-Year Case Study L. Albrecht*, UF/IFAS Extension Palm Beach County
2:55-3:10	A Community-Based Approach to Tackling Termites E. Harlow*, UF/IFAS Extension Duval County	Sarasota County Residential Composting Study R. Penn*, UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County	Lunch & Learn: An innovative way to reach at-risk youth A. Morgan*, UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County; L. Corley*, Life Ready Program Assistant; M. Andrewskiewicz*, 4-H Program Assistant	Homeflow: The HabiJax Connection M. Thomas* and S. Toelle*, UF/IFAS Extension Duval County	Generating Program Enhancement Funds through an Educational Expo K. Waters*, UF/IFAS Extension Holmes County
3:15-3:30	Building Success Through the Garden Educator Training Series M. Jameson.*, T. Hylton*, A. Mullins*, and M. Tancig*, UF/IFAS Extension Leon County; T. Torres*, NW Family Nutrition Program; M. Foster*, SW Family Nutrition Program	Treejuvenation Urban Forestry Program: Florida Arbor Day Event M. Beckford* and A. Vinson, UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County	The Petunia Project – A Youth Horticulture Entrepreneurial Event K. Stauderman* and L. Hamilton*, UF/IFAS Extension Volusia County	Culinary Camps Teach Youth More than Just Cooking S. Kennedy*, UF/IFAS Extension Wakulla County	Expanding Farm to Fork with Energy and Numbers M. Ward*, UF/IFAS Extension Citrus County
3:35-3:50	A Regional and Team- Focused Approach to Training of Trainers on the 2015 Revised Worker Protection Standards (WPS) Rule C. Kelly-Begazo*, UF/IFAS Extension Indian River County; Y. Goodiel, UF/IFAS Extension Martin County; G. Kakkar and E. Skvarch, UF/IFAS Extension St. Lucie County	Sustainability Education in the Workplace R. Madhosingh-Hector* and T. Ackerman, UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County	Growing an Egg- citing Event with Extension: Wakulla 4-H Henfruit Festival R. Pienta*, UF/IFAS Extension Wakulla County	The Homemade Entrepreneur: A Program for Growing Small Food Businesses N. Parks*, UF/IFAS Extension Duval County; S. Deary*, UF/IFAS Extension Bradford County; M. McAlpine*, UF/IFAS Extension Nassau County; B. Burbaugh* and A. Sheldon*, UF/IFAS Extension Clay County; S. Ahn, UF/IFAS Food Science; A. Simonne, UF/IFAS Food Safety and Quality	Teaching Food Systems Through Summer Day Camps K. Taylor*, UF/IFAS Extension Sumter County

Tuesday	Agriculture and	Natural Resources and	Youth	Food & Finance	Leadership and
8/28	Horticulture	Outreach	Programming		Sustainability
Room	Champions C	Champions G	Champions H	Champions A	Champions B
3:55-4:10	Hoof Care Workshop C. Larson*, UF/IFAS Regional Dairy Specialized Agent	Learning in Florida's Environment (LIFE): A Model for Science-based Environmental Education on Public Conservation Lands K. Clements*, P. Williams, A. Ubeda and S. Davis, UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County; J. Dehart*, Sarasota County School System; S. Cummings and R. Hochmuth, Florida Conservation Corps AmeriCorps Project R.O.A.R.; A. Sasloe and B. Lutz, Oscar Scherer State Park; L. Brouse and J. Henry, Florida Conservation Corps AmeriCorps Project A.N.T.	How to Use School Enrichment Programs to Achieve <u>Meaningful</u> Youth Development W. Cherry*, UF/IFAS Extension Calhoun County	Sprouting Healthy Businesses Workshop K. Rotindo* and C. Alberts, UF/IFAS Extension St. Lucie County	A Model for Classical Newsletter Development K. Waters*, UF/IFAS Extension Holmes County
4:15-4:30	Managing Health for Sustainability in the Beef Cattle HerdL. Butler*, UF/IFAS Extension Okeechobee County; C. Kirby, UF/IFAS Extension Manatee County; B. Stice*, UF/IFAS Extension Polk County; D. Thompson, UF/IFAS Extension DeSoto County; L. Wiggins, UF/IFAS Extension Hendry County	Fall Pond Workshop SeriesK. Korus*, UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County	Rockets to the Rescue – Summer Day CampK. Popa*, UF/IFAS Extension DeSoto County	Sharing Wellness at the Dinner Table: Educating Food Pantry AttendeesG. Murza*, UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County	Improving Farm Profitability and Sustainability with Alternative CropsB. Wells*, UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County; D. Dinkins, UF/IFAS Extension Multi-County; G. England and S. Chambers, UF/IFAS Hastings Agricultural Extension Center
4:35-4:50	Enhancing Soil Health through Winter Cover Cropping P.Troy*, K. Athearn, and J. Love, UF/IFAS North Florida Research and Education Center- Suwannee Valley	Establishing Water Quality Outcomes for UF/IFAS Extension L. Krimsky*, Southeast District; H. Abeels* and L. Seals, UF/IFAS Extension Brevard County; M. Lusk, Department of Soil and Water Sciences	Proving to Stakeholders that 4-H Contributes Economically and Socially back into the Community J Hink*, UF/IFAS Extension Pasco County; C. Prevatt*, UF/IFAS Range Cattle Research and Education Center	Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) – Engaged Pantries A. Hinkle*, UF/IFAS Extension Escambia County; D. Devries- Navarro*, UF/IFAS Extension Palm Beach County; N. Owens Duffy*, Family, Youth and Community Sciences	Master Gardener Plant Sale & Ag Fest Provides Team Work for Extension Agents & Volunteers C. Sanders*, K. Korus, T. Sanchez, A. Morgan, and M. Maddox, UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County
	presenters				

Agriculture and Horticulture Champions C Tim Wilson, FACAA Abstract Chair Tuesday, August 28, 2018 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Time Tuesday	Presenters	Abstract
9:25-9:30 am	T. Wilson	Introductions & Protocol
9:30-9:45 am	C. Prevatt	Are Farmers and Ranchers Growing
		Winter Forages Profitability?
9:50-10:05 am	W. Mussoline, PhD	Ensiling Crop Residues for Livestock
		Feed: A Sustainable Approach to
		Improve Crop Productivity
10:10-10:25 am	T. Freeman	Garden Unification through
		Landscape Design Workshops:
		From Hodgepodge Gardens to
		Master Plan
10:30-10:45 am	W. Lester	Flip or Flop- Hernando County's
		Hybrid Master Gardener Training
10:50-11:05 am	D. Mayo	Utilizing the Southeast Hay Contest
		to Enhance Relationships with Hay
		Farmers
11:10-11:25 am	L. Figart	Training Volunteers to Prune Trees
		in Jacksonville's Parks
11:30-11:45 am	M. VanWeelden, PhD	Applying Extension Education and
		Research to Improve and Expand
		Rice Production in Florida
Buffet Lunch and Lightening Rounds 12:15 – 1:45 pm		
2:15-2:30 pm	C. Kirby, B. Stice	Increasing Profits through
		Reproductive Efficiency
2:35-2:50 pm	F. Rivera, J. Bosques	Hydroponic Programs Serve as a
		Marketing Tool for New Extension
		Clientele
2:55-3:10 pm	E. Harlow	A Community-Based Approach to
		Tackling Termites
3:15-3:30 pm	M. Jameson, T. Hylton, A.	Building Success Through the
	Mullins, M. Tancig, T. Torres,	Garden Educator Training Series
	M. Foster	
3:35-3:50 pm	C. Kelly-Begazo	A Regional and Team-Focused
		Approach to Training of Trainers on
		the 2015 Revised Worker
		Protection Standards (WPS) Rule
3:55-4:10 pm	C. Larson	Hoof Care Workshop

4:15-4:30	L. Butler, B. Stice	Managing Health for Sustainability in the Beef Cattle Herd
4:35-4:50 pm	P. Troy	Enhancing Soil Health through Winter Cover Cropping

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

Are Farmers and Ranchers Growing Winter Forages Profitability?

C. Prevatt*, UF/IFAS Range Cattle Research and Education Center; M. Bauer, UF/IFAS Columbia County Extension

Many producers plant cool-season annual forages into dormant warm-season perennial grass pastures to provide feed for their livestock during the winter and early spring months. **Objectives:** Conduct onfarm evaluations to determine whether producers were economically planting and grazing cool-season annual forages and increase their knowledge on the economics of cool-season annual forages by 50%. This program targeted an economic impact of \$2,000 on each operation. Methods: Ten producers planting and grazing cool-season annual forages were identified. Each operation was evaluated based on their level of forage production, utilization, and cost. Enterprise budgets were developed for each individual to determine their cost of forage production. Values for estimated level of forage production and utilization were obtained from the producer. Results: Seven of the ten producers evaluated planted and grazed cool-season annual forages economically. The net return to Florida's farmers and ranchers was \$27,441 and the economic impact this program had on the State of Florida was \$72,578. Each of the producers completed an evaluation survey: 80% will make a change to their operation based on the information shared, 70% will continue to develop enterprise budgets for their system, and 20% will increase their number of planted acres next year. Conclusions: We received positive feedback from producers about their interaction with the agent and specialist that were involved with this program. The knowledge gained by those involved will enable them to be more prepared for future production years. We are currently looking for producers to work with for Fall 2018.

Ensiling Crop Residues for Livestock Feed: A Sustainable Approach to Improve Crop Productivity W. Mussoline, PhD,* UF/IFAS Extension Flagler/Putnam Counties; L. Ferraretto, Assistant Professor, UF Animal Science Department

Objectives: Dual-purpose crops that offer both human and livestock nutrition are a sustainable approach to agriculture. Sweetpotato vines are crop tops that are normally discarded during harvest, but marketing the vines as an alternative forage can increase crop profitability and efficient land use. The objectives are to (1) identify the equipment necessary to mechanically harvest the vines without damaging the roots; (2) evaluate the forage quality of the vines compared to other common forages; and (3) determine the most appropriate wilting age to maximize fermentation efficiency. **Methods:** Vines were harvested from Blue Sky Farms in Hastings using a mechanical gripper and baled using a round baler. Sweetpotato vines, pearl millet and sorghum sudangrass were evaluated for forage quality by Dairy One Laboratories. Silage trials were conducted on fresh and wilted vines (24 and 48 hours). Water soluble carbohydrates, total acid concentrations and pH were evaluated at Days 0, 30 and 60 to measure fermentation efficiency. **Results:** Although crude protein was slightly higher in pearl millet (13.5%DM) compared to the vines (11.8%DM), the vines had the highest total digestible nutrients (62%DM), relative feed value (175) and lowest fiber content of the three forages. The silage trials showed that the most efficient conversion of sugar to acids

occurred when the vines were ensiled fresh versus wilted, despite the higher moisture content (85%). **Conclusion:** The grower is expanding the sweetpotato crop from 14 to approximately 200 acres and intends to harvest, bale, ensile and market the vines to local herdsmen this season.

Garden Unification through Landscape Design Workshops: From Hodgepodge Gardens to Master Plan T. Freeman*, UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County

Objectives: To equip Master Gardener volunteers for the St. Johns County Extension Botanical Gardens with landscape design skills so they can effectively participate in and feel invested in the development of a master plan for the demonstration gardens. Additionally, this will serve to clarify the objective of the gardens to the volunteers, which is to provide gardens that support the horticulture departments' educational efforts. **Methods:** Agent provided an intensive series of workshops which included developing a vision for the botanical gardens, creating educational objectives for each garden, principles and elements of landscape design, and the entire landscape design process (developing a base map, site analysis, concept diagram, planting plan, rough draft and final design). **Results:** 100% of 15 workshop participants improved their landscape design skills, increased their understanding of the mission of St. Johns County Extension Botanical Gardens, and are more unified with the other garden teams because they understand that even though they may volunteer in separate gardens, they are working toward a similar goal. **Conclusion:** Agent was successful in unifying the garden teams to work together towards our mission. The garden designs are in final stages of development and the morale of the garden volunteers has been boosted as they now feel invested in a larger mission and more unified as a Master Gardener team.

Flip or Flop- Hernando County's Hybrid Master Gardener Training

W. Lester*, UF/IFAS Extension Hernando County

Objectives: To recruit and more effectively train new Master Gardener volunteers, a flipped classroom program for Master Gardener trainees was created. Initial Master Gardener training in Florida normally consists of students spending an entire day in training each week, but offering much of the instruction on-line results in participation by a wider cross section of the community. This is the first occasion where UF/IFAS Extension in Florida has offered the on-line training. Methods: The current curriculum, previously taught in-person, was transformed into an on-line course offered on the University of Florida Canvas E-Learning Platform. Presentations normally given by me personally or guest lecturers were recorded, uploaded to a YouTube page and placed in Canvas. Learning objectives, quizzes, a variety of assignments and additional resources were all added to the Canvas course. Students are required to attend an in-person three-hour classroom session once a week for hands-on activities that reinforce the week's video lessons. The students also participate in discussions posted in Canvas and a small group exercise in plant diagnostics on the site. **Results:** The first group of 12 students was trained from September-November of 2017 and the second group of 16 is being trained from February-April of 2018. The first group expressed a high level of satisfaction on the format and quality of training materials based on surveys. Approximately 50% of the trainees would not have been able to participate in a traditional all-day course.

Utilizing the Southeast Hay Contest to Enhance Relationships with Hay Farmers

D. Mayo*, UF/IFAS Extension Jackson County

One of the challenges county agents have is establishing and enhancing relationships with elite farmers. **Objectives:** The Southeast Hay Contest provides both the opportunity and an incentive to get hay producers to submit samples of their best hay for quality evaluation. The lab test results provide an opportunity for agent/producer interaction, as well as producer/customer education related to producing and feeding higher quality hay. The results can also be used for a county recognition during Farm City Week. **Methods:** Over the past 10 years, 2,102 forage samples have been submitted from across the Southeast, with 94 of them coming from Jackson County. Using the results from these evaluations, the Agent was able to annually recognize Hay Farmers of the Year in Jackson County. **Results:** The Southeast Hay Contest demonstrated a 14% increase in RFQ score (overall hay quality) over the past 10 years (RFQ from 118-138). A recent UGA study demonstrated that a 7% drop in RFQ score from Stem Maggot damage equated to the need for an additional 1.5 pounds of supplement needed per head, per day or an additional \$0.13 in feed per head per day. Based on their data, a 14% improvement in hay quality would reduce feed costs by \$0.26 per head per day or \$31 per cow each winter. **Conclusions:** Jackson County has 24,000 beef cows, so this improvement in quality has the potential economic impact of \$744,000 in supplement feed savings.

Training Volunteers to Prune Trees in Jacksonville's Parks

L. Figart*, UF/IFAS Extension Duval County

Objectives: The Objective of the Duval County Tree Steward Program is to train and equip a group of Master Gardener Volunteers whose mission is to improve and restore the tree canopy in local parks. Methods: The Duval County Urban Forestry Agent recruits, trains, and retains an active group of Master Gardener Volunteers to become Tree Steward Volunteers. This training is held every other year and includes 25 hours of advanced training in subjects such as pruning, identification, selection, and maintenance of trees. Results: Since 2015, sixty one volunteers have been trained to properly prune trees by removing co-dominant stems, improving structure, removing rubbing and crossing limbs, and increasing park user safety by keeping limbs above eye level along sidewalks. The trees pruned are typically less than 20 feet tall. The Duval County Tree Stewards donated over 1,160 hours of time pruning trees during 41 work projects in City of Jacksonville parks. Over 2000 trees have been properly pruned by removing structural defects therefore improving public safety and increasing the likelihood that the trees will grow structurally sound. In an annual survey of tree steward volunteers 97% feel more confident pruning younger trees, 76% feel more active by working outside, 76% enjoy the social aspect of working together, 97% enjoy learning about trees, and 93% feel they are making a difference improving the Urban Forest. Conclusions: The tree steward model used in Duval County provides new opportunities for volunteer service and could be adapted for use in other counties.

Applying Extension Education and Research to Improve and Expand Rice Production in Florida

M. VanWeelden, PhD*, UF/IFAS Extension Palm Beach County; J. Bhadha, PhD, Department of Soil and Water Sciences

In Florida, flooded rice is produced as a rotational crop with sugarcane because of the benefits in reducing negative impacts from soil subsidence; however, growers face numerous challenges including pests and diseases, limited varieties, and water management. To continue the adoption and expansion of rice in the region, extension and applied research programs were implemented by UF/IFAS faculty. Objectives: To provide research-based recommendations to Florida rice growers by developing technical workshops and online educational materials in order to address continuing and newly emerging problems within the industry. Methods: County and state faculty members developed the inaugural Rice Variety Technical Workshop to address the needs to rice growers in Florida by providing multi-disciplinary, lecturebased modules. In addition, this team of county and state faculty members developed the 1st edition of the online "Florida Rice Handbook" to distribute among the rice industry. Results: Based on results from paper and Qualtrics evaluations, percent knowledge gained was 52% for nutrient management, 65% for stem borer identification and management, 61% for rice water weevil management, 34% for water management and quality in cultivated rice, and 42% for rice variety assessments. Mean percent knowledge gained across all topics was 41%. Conclusions: Workshops and online handbooks developed by this team of county and state faculty will assist in the dissemination of pertinent educational material to members of the Florida rice industry, promoting the expansion of this industry which is vital to the longevity of southern Florida's agroecosystem.

Increasing Profits through Reproductive Efficiency

C.L. Kirby*, UF/IFAS Extension Manatee County; J. Bosquez-Mendez, UF/IFAS Extension Hardee County; L.D. Butler and C.C. Larson, UF/IFAS Extension Okeechobee County; S. Crawford and L.F. Wiggins, UF/IFAS Extension Hendry County; M. Hersom and T. Thrift, UF/IFAS Department of Animal Science; T. Pohl, UF/IFAS Extension Highlands County; P. Moriel and C.G. Prevatt, UF/IFAS Range Cattle Research and Education Center; A.M. Stam, UF/IFAS Extension Seminole Tribe; B.C. Stice*, UF/IFAS Extension Polk County; D.W. Thompson, UF/IFAS Extension Desoto County

Reproductive efficiency has been recognized as the most important factor influencing the economic viability of cattle operations in Florida. The income structure of Florida beef operation is based on pounds of weaned calves sold annually. Therefore, profits are directly correlated to reproductive efficiency of the cow herd. **Objectives**: To increase knowledge of reproductive management principles and adoption of management practices. Methods: Students are introduced to topics in a classroom setting and topics are reinforced with a lab including topics such as reproductive physiology, obstetrics, and bull soundness exams, just to name a few. Each day students also participate in an on-ranch pregnancy diagnosis lab utilizing live beef cattle. Results: Program evaluations have indicated a 59% overall increase in knowledge of the participants. Of those participants surveyed, 86% indicated that they have adopted one or more management practices following the school. Conclusions: As a result of participant's knowledge gain and subsequent adoption of management practices, reproductive efficiency in their herds have the opportunity to increase between 5% and 20%. This translates to approximately 192,339* more pounds of calves weaned annually with a 5% increase in reproductive efficiency. With current day cattle market prices, this could translate to an annual economic increase of \$309,666**. With a 20% increase in reproductive efficiency this would translate to an increase of 769,356* pounds of weaned calves with an economic increase of \$1,238,663 for the number of cattle represented in our program over the past three years. These figures are based on a 70% calf crop.

Hydroponic Programs Serve as a Marketing Tool for New Extension Clientele

F. Rivera*, N. Pinson and S. Steed, UF/IFAS Extension Hillsborough County; J. Bosques*, UF/IFAS Extension Hardee County; E. Campoverde, UF/IFAS Extension Miami-Dade County; T. Sanchez, UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County; E. Pabon, UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County

Situation: Hydroponic programs were conducted as a statewide initiative between Extension agents in Hillsborough, Hardee, Alachua, Osceola, and Miami-Dade counties. Program participants (n = 310) represented farmers (11.43%), homeowners/Master Gardeners (83.57%) and students (5.00%). Challenges for food production in Florida include a reduction in available agricultural land, the average age of farmers (58+) and an increase in the number of beginner small farmers who need assistance in developing agricultural skills. Objectives: Teach farmers and homeowners general concepts about hydroponic systems to help them develop an agricultural business, acquire agricultural skills or learn the competencies necessary to integrate into the agricultural industry. Results: 310 people attended the one-day, four-hour workshop replicated in 5 counties. Evaluations reflect knowledge gain in the areas of hydroponic growing systems (47.65%), hydroponics growing media (20.13%) and nutrient solution management (24.83%). Overall, 91.43% of participants found the topics to be useful and 6.67% found the topics to be somewhat useful. In subject matter areas, knowledge gain ranged from 4.03% to 47.65% in post-test evaluations. Opportunities exist to expand concepts about best plants to grow hydroponically, and system components such as pumps. Conclusions: Participants reported increased confidence to answer questions about hydroponics and to locate resources. Fifty-eight percent (58%) were inspired to build hydroponic systems with participants' preference for 37% NFT and 63% floating bed. Due to this interest, we expanded hydroponic outreach and implemented strategies to develop new agricultural skills and experience for farmers, homeowners, students and Master Gardeners.

A Community-Based Approach to Tackling Termites

E. Harlow*, UF/IFAS Extension Duval County

Sometimes there are problems that are community-wide that are just too big for one extension agent to tackle. In Duval County, a museum was demolished due to termites after spending \$7 million on renovations in 2016. Local government and the community immediately became concerned. A task force was developed to address issues and provide a forum where solutions could be found. **Objectives:** The objectives of the project were to educate residents about this new invasive termite and determine a city-wide management plan. Methods: A monitoring project was initiated in the summer of 2017. A UF intern managed the 131 stations that were placed throughout Jacksonville. Partners including fire and rescue, mosquito control, utilities, and residents assisted. Stations were collected weekly and termites identified to species and recorded. Funding was provided through monetary and in-kind donations (over \$4,000) provided by local pest control companies. Seven educational programs were also provided. **Results:** Two-hundred and three people attended the programs. Based on the monitor stations, the invasive Formosan termite was found throughout Duval County. An interactive map with termite counts and species can be viewed at http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/duval/hort-and-pest/termites/. Because these termites infest living trees, a treatment strategy for city-owned trees is underway as part of the urban forestry management plan. **Conclusions:** While these termites cannot be eradicated, Jacksonville aims to be one of the first cities in the U.S. to have a community-wide plan. This grassroots effort is community driven with Extension leading the way.

Building Success Through the Garden Educator Training Series

M. Jameson*, T. Hylton*, A. Mullins*, and M. Tancig*, UF/IFAS Extension Leon County; T. Torres*, NW Family Nutrition Program, M. Foster*, SW Family Nutrition Program

Objectives: The Garden Educator Training Series was developed to support teachers, community leaders, and volunteers who want to start and sustain school and community gardens. It utilized expertise from multiple Extension agent programs and the Family Nutrition Program, involved assistance from FDACS and the Damayan Garden Project, was designed to be replicable statewide, and was replicated in Pinellas County. Methods: In Leon County, the series was completed three times, totaling 12 classes averaging 32 attendees, a school garden field trip, and two hands-on irrigation and pest management weekend workshops. Attendees were provided a "Living History Binder," which they filled with resources throughout the series to use with their team to help organize their garden projects, including seasonally relevant, hands-on gardening skills, curriculum connections, and community organizing strategies. Participants who attended all four sessions in a series received a certificate of completion, and teachers earned Professional Development credits. Results: Of 55 participants surveyed, an average of 72% increased their knowledge from very low or low to high or very high for assembling a garden committee, hands-on gardening skills, and garden curriculum connections. Out of 45 participants surveyed tracking behavior change, an average of 52% intend to start a garden, start a garden committee, use garden curriculum with youth, or invest in community partnerships. **Conclusions:** This series strengthened the Leon County gardening network, as it taught attendees tangible skills to launch or improve their garden projects, promoted health and wellness, facilitated community engagement, and valued nutrition and sustainable food systems.

A Regional and Team-Focused Approach to Training of Trainers on the 2015 Revised Worker Protection Standards (WPS) Rule

C.Kelly-Begazo*, UF/IFAS Extension Indian River County; Y. Goodiel, UF/IFAS Extension Martin County; G. Kakkar and E. Skvarch, UF/IFAS Extension St. Lucie County

Agriculture along the Treasure Coast was affected by the changes to the federal Worker Protections Standards (WPS) that took effect in 2017. Initiating a 'Train-the-Trainer' (TTT) program was identified as a priority in the region by advisory committees. **Objectives**: Offer updated WPS TTT training for owners, supervisors and staff on changes to the WPS rule and information on how to comply. Methods: A program was developed with the assistance of extension faculty and FDACS staff. Two trainings were offered; 2016 (Martin County) and 2017 (St. Lucie County) with pre- and post-surveys and a 1-year post training follow-up questionnaire. Results: Over fifty trainees participated in the WPS TTT workshop, completing the requirements to become WPS trainers. Ninety three percent of the participants recognized the importance of the training and 86% felt that it enhanced their abilities to share that knowledge with others. Sixty-one percent felt that after the training, they possessed the skills to organize, coordinate and execute a WPS training on their own. A one-year post follow-up survey (in process) will be sent out to participants to determine if; a.) the training met their specifics needs; b.) they were able to conduct WPS training without further instruction and c.) what further training needs did they have with regard to WPS TTT. Conclusions: Updated training was necessary to help the agriculture industry comply with changes to the Federal WPS Rule for agriculture workers. A regional extension approach was adopted to offer TTT opportunities for the agriculture industry.

Hoof Care Workshop

C. Larson*, UF/IFAS Regional Dairy Specialized Agent

Lameness on dairy farms affects production efficiency and is a growing welfare and stewardship concern. Proper trimming techniques are essential for cow comfort and lameness prevention. Routine trimming, preventative measures, and monitoring can avoid costly treatments and reduce culling due to lameness. Objectives: Participants will increase knowledge of the importance of proper hoof trimming by learning at least one new method, skill, or diagnosis ability. Participants will demonstrate skills learned and have their trimming and correction evaluated. Methods: A workshop for hoof trimmers and dairy managers in south Florida was provided by a collaboration of UF/IFAS extension, UF College of Veterinary Medicine, and Iowa State College of Veterinary medicine. The workshop consisted of classroom presentations and a wet lab with hands-on practice with cadaver hooves and various hoof trimming tools. Industry sponsors provided funds for the workshop. Results: 13 participants representing 25,000 dairy cows in south Florida participated in the workshop. 100% of participants demonstrated new skills learned. 100% of participants gained knowledge and demonstrated mastery in each of the following areas: lameness prevention, trimming techniques, tool maintenance, safety equipment, and lameness monitoring. Follow-up calls to owners and managers revealed that 92% of hoof trimmers were more confident in their trimming ability and 100% of managers rated the knowledge and skills learned as extremely valuable. Conclusion: Collaboration and the ability to provide hands-on practice increase participation and generate tangible results to dairy farms.

Managing Health for Sustainability in the Beef Cattle Herd

L. Butler*, UF/IFAS Extension Okeechobee County; C. Kirby, UF/IFAS Extension Manatee County; B. Stice*, UF/IFAS Extension Polk County; D. Thompson, UF/IFAS Extension DeSoto County; L. Wiggins, UF/IFAS Extension Hendry County

Objectives: The purpose of the 2017 UF/IFAS South Florida Beef Forage Program's Herd Health Seminar was to increase participant knowledge and awareness of health management practices to prevent disease and judicious treatment practices in the event of disease; and to increase adoption of management practices that will prevent disease and reduce antibiotic use. Methods: The program addresses herd health management strategies. Nationally recognized University Specialists and Industry Professionals assist in the delivery of these programs that are offered in a classroom setting. In 2017, the seminar focused on addressing the topics of vaccination programs and antibiotic stewardship on the ranch. **Results:** The seminar had thirty-nine participants from Central and South Florida that represented nearly 34,000 head of cattle on nearly 120,000 acres. Program evaluation through postprogram surveys indicated that participants experienced a 70% increase in knowledge of vaccination program planning and a 72% increase in knowledge of antibiotic stewardship. As a result of the information presented, 62% indicated that they would adopt new management practices and/or change existing practices. Examples of adopted practices include decreasing stress in herds, evaluating and improving vaccine protocols, developing a VCPR and utilizing antimicrobials only when necessary. **Conclusion:** Cattle that are managed under a well-designed vaccination program and treated appropriately in the event of a disease will be more productive and remain in the herd longer. More importantly, preventative measures for disease and judicious use of antibiotics will preserve the availability and effectiveness of antibiotics for future generations.

Enhancing Soil Health through Winter Cover Cropping

P.Troy*, K. Athearn, and J. Love, UF/IFAS North Florida Research and Education Center-Suwannee Valley

Land grant research in other states has shown that cover cropping leads to higher yields and profitability over time while reducing disease and nematode populations. Little is known in Florida about cover crops' impact on soil health and cash crop productivity. **Objectives**: 1) Collaborate with farmers to better understand their challenges and logistics of adoption, 2) Test cover crops on-farm using measurements specific to their desired outcome, and 3) Create outreach materials and venues for sharing specifics on cover crop economics, planting, and benefits. Methods: An informal survey was conducted with 13 row crop grower collaborators who agreed to plant new and diverse mixes of winter cover crop species. Agents from 4 counties took soil/biomass samples to evaluate physical, biological and chemical properties of the soil (via the only national commercial Soil Health Laboratory). Additionally, 3 events (monthly farm visits, an agent IST, and a field day) provided opportunity for interaction and understanding of cover crop benefits and /or challenges. Results: Of 17 farmers attending the field day, 88% intend to plant again next year, while 59% said information was the main barrier to adoption. As a result of their participation in the on-farm demonstrations, many more farmers have come forward asking for help this next fall. **Conclusions**: Strong feedback in this pilot program has made this a priority program for the agent. With more trials and collaboration with state specialists on new mixes and management, we expect to see improved cash crop production and long-term soil benefits mentioned nationally.

Natural Resources and Outreach Champions G BJ Jarvis and Chris Verlinde, FANREP Abstract Chairs Tuesday, August 28, 2018 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Time Tuesday	Presenters	Abstract
9:25-9:30 am	BJ Jarvis and Chris Verlinde	Introductions & Protocol
9:30-9:45 am	L. Milligan, A. Tyrna	Making Waves with a New
		"Master" Water Program
9:50-10:05 am	L. Singleton	Compost Topdress of Zoysia Lawns:
		Build Soil Health in The Villages
10:10-10:25 am	E. Lovestrand, R. Bodrey, S.	Backyard Shiitake Mushroom
	Kennedy	Workshops: Fun, Nutritious and
		SAFE!
10:30-10:45 am	R. Rice	Youth-Friendly Wetland Science
		Education at the Mounts Botanical
		Garden
10:50-11:05 am	L. Carnahan, B. Niemann	Weedon Warriors: A Nature-Based
		Therapy Program
11:10-11:25 am	N. Pinson	Host a Job Fair to Increase
		Volunteers' Confidence, Service
		and Extension Awareness
11:30-11:45 am	K. Greer, A. Vu	Creating Awareness and
		Community through a Central
		Florida Hops Program
But	fet Lunch and Lightening Rounds	12:15 – 1:45 pm
2:15-2:30 pm	fet Lunch and Lightening Rounds M. Hunter, A. Marek	12:15 – 1:45 pm WILD Horticulture Series: A holistic
2:15-2:30 pm	fet Lunch and Lightening Rounds M. Hunter, A. Marek	12:15 – 1:45 pm WILD Horticulture Series: A holistic approach to introducing Florida-
2:15-2:30 pm	fet Lunch and Lightening Rounds M. Hunter, A. Marek	12:15 – 1:45 pm WILD Horticulture Series: A holistic approach to introducing Florida- Friendly Landscaping
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4:15-4:30 pm	K. Korus	Fall Pond Workshop Series
4:35-4:50 pm	L. Krimsky, H. Abeels	Establishing Water Quality
		Outcomes for UF/IFAS Extension

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

Making Waves with a New "Master" Water Program

L. Milligan*, UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County; A. Tyrna*, UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County

Objectives: The Florida Waters Stewardship Program (FWSP) was created to raise awareness and increase the public's sense of responsibility to water resources. Specifically, FWSP aims to bring about community change by increasing knowledge of water resources as measured by pre/post tests and increase the number of people who implement at least one new behavior as measured by follow-up surveys. Methods: Six to eight class sessions are held at different locations throughout each county to highlight site-specific water topics. Class sessions include a canned visual presentation, class discussion, short field tour, and a guest speaker. In between class sessions, participants work together on a stewardship project, engage in online explorations, and attend a stakeholders' meeting. Results: Prepost surveys (n=32) showed average knowledge of all participants increased in the thirteen water topics evaluated. Written reflections recorded during the last session highlight the network of like-minded people as one of the most influential aspects of the programs (69%, n=19). Follow-up surveys from one pilot showed 67% (n=12) of participants are being more conscious consumers, using less water and reducing plastic use. Furthermore, program graduates describe themselves as taking on new leadership roles including: publishing a children's book on the water cycle, writing and co-hosting a local environmental radio show, and writing and joining their HOA boards. **Conclusions:** FWSP successfully trained and educated interested Floridians to become stewards of their local water resources. As a result, this program should be adopted throughout the state in order to spread water stewardship and protect Florida waters.

Compost Topdress of Zoysia Lawns: Build Soil Health in The Villages

L Singleton*, UF/IFAS Extension Lake County

Objectives: The soils on residential lots in The Villages, Florida are often fill soils characterized by limited organic matter content, low nutrients and high pH. These poor soils can result in poor aesthetic quality of the zoysia turfgrass lawns. With the high standards among these residents for landscape quality, this often results in increased irrigation use and fertilizer application. In an effort to improve turfgrass quality by improving soil structure and health, a field study was conducted in 2017 to measure the effect of topdressing zoysia with a local compost product on soil organic matter (SOM), pH, and nutrients. **Methods:** 35 homeowners in The Villages with Zoysia lawns were enlisted to participate in this study, agreeing to pay for the compost application and grant permission and access for measurements and soil sampling. A team of Sumter County Master Gardeners were trained to take the measurements of the turf areas and take soil samples in March prior to the application, most of which were accompanied by aeration. The soil samples were submitted to the UF Soils Lab and results from 33 lawns were evaluated. **Results:** On average, soil nutrient content doubled, SOM increased from 1.0% to 2.3%, and pH moved from 7.39 to 6.95. **Conclusions:** Improving soil health with compost topdressing is worthy

of research as a cost-effective method to impact turfgrass quality with potentially less negative environmental impact.

Backyard Shiitake Mushroom Workshops: Fun, Nutritious and SAFE!

E. Lovestrand*, UF/IFAS Extension Franklin County; R. Bodrey* and M. Taylor, UF/IFAS Extension Gulf County; S. Kennedy*, UF/IFAS Extension Wakulla County

Objectives: Teach small-scale shiitake mushroom production to mushroom-loving clientele as a safe, enjoyable alternative to wild harvest of fungi for consumption. Methods: Natural Resource, Agriculture/Horticulture, and Family and Consumer Sciences Faculty from Gulf, Franklin and Wakulla County collaborated to host two half-day workshops. The workshop format involved two components. First, a teaching session with presentations focused on the history of shiitake mushroom cultivation, current methods of small-scale shiitake production, the health value of mushrooms, the hazards of eating wild fungi, and practical cooking and storing methods. Following these presentations, participants were involved in a hands-on session to prepare their own mushroom logs to take home. **Results:** Thirty-six people who attended the two workshops returned class evaluations. Self-assessment showed that 78% of the participants possessed very little to some knowledge of shiitake before the workshop but 81% felt they were knowledgeable to very knowledgeable about shiitake after the workshop. All participants were confident that they could seed their own shiitake mushroom logs at home and 97% planned to grow shiitake for personal use after the workshop. Regarding the health benefits of shiitake, 72% of participants were able to correctly identify important vitamins and minerals in mushrooms and 97% plan to cook with shiitake mushrooms at home following the class. Conclusions: Collaboration between a variety of Extension Faculty provided a diverse presentation format that workshop participants appreciated. This combination of formal presentations and hands-on activity, with a product to take home, was engaging and effective.

Youth-Friendly Wetland Science Education at the Mounts Botanical Garden

R. Rice*, UF/IFAS Extension Palm Beach County; R. Wolberg, D. Robaina, and M. Brown, Palm Beach County Mounts Botanical Garden

The Palm Beach County (PBC) Extension campus includes the 14-acre Mounts Botanical Garden (MBG). Strategic planning by Extension has transitioned the MBG mission from strictly horticultural themes to include environmental outreach. The 06/2017 opening of the artist-inspired "Windows on the Floating World" wetland garden was supported by partnerships with the non-profit MBG Friends (funding) and PBC Art in Public Places (curatorial/construction management). Additional strategic partnerships [PBC Soil-Water Conservation District, Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge (Lox)] helped secure a Community Foundation grant (\$40,000) to create the "Ambassadors of the Wetlands" education program for middle-school children. Objectives: Increase student wetland ecosystem knowledge and encourage preferred water/energy conservation behavior changes at home. Methods: Combine classwork (Everglades ecosystem education) with wetland-related field trips (MBG, Lox) emphasizing hands-on activities (dip-netting, water sampling/analyses). Pre/post tests (15 questions; soils, flora/fauna, water issues) and conservation behavior change assessments were conducted. Results: From 10/2017-02/2018, 602 students (9 schools) received wetland science education, 488 attended both field trips, and 201 completed their pre/post tests. Based on t-test statistics, the average post-test score (63.3%) significantly exceeded the pre-test (44.0%). Regarding a willingness to adopt water/energy conservation behaviors, students adopting zero changes decreased 73.8% (pre n=42; post n=11). Students adopting 4 or more changes increased 21% (pre n=142; post n=172) while students adopting 7 or more increased 30.6% (pre n=62; post n=81). **Conclusions:** Guiding the MBG to address wetland science and water/energy conservation education combined with strategic community partnerships has enhanced the scope of UF/IFAS Extension outreach in Palm Beach County.

Weedon Warriors: A Nature-Based Therapy Program

L. Carnahan* and B. Niemann*, UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County

Pinellas County is home to approximately 100,000 military veterans; many are treated at Bay Pines Veteran's Affairs Healthcare System (VA). OBJECTIVES: The Weedon Warrior Program, offered bimonthy in cooperation with the VA, aims to foster health, wellness, and a successful community transition for our region's veterans. METHODS: The Friends of Weedon Island formally sponsors the program and UF/IFAS Extension Faculty provide programmatic support and subject-matter expertise. A total of nine (9) individuals, staff and volunteers, actively engaged in certification credential through the American Canoe Association. Therapists from the VA provide transportation and are present at all times during the trips. Faculty instruct the participants on how to paddle canoes, safety awareness, and the natural and coastal resources of the area. RESULTS: In 2017, seven (7) paddling trips were offered with 84 participating veterans. Eighty-nine percent (89%) of attendees surveyed (n=36) reported significant knowledge gain on post-program evaluations (58% much, 31% moderate). Ninety-seven percent (97%) of veterans responded that they practiced at least 4 life skills that are integral to their recovery process. Skills include practicing interaction with others, following instructions, developing and following a plan, increased leisure awareness and awareness of community resources, managing anxiety, demonstrating coping skills, and practicing mindfulness. CONCLUSIONS: More and more research is validating the therapeutic benefits of nature. This program fosters psychological and physical health, recovery and well-being for our veterans. In turn, our community will benefit from the positive re-integration of the veterans into society.

Host a Job Fair to Increase Volunteers' Confidence, Service and Extension Awareness N. Pinson*, UF/IFAS Extension Hillsborough County

Situation: New volunteers learn about volunteer opportunities during initial training. However, some may not be acquainted with how to access and participate in programs and therefore may be reluctant to volunteer. Recognizing this need, our UF/IFAS Extension Hillsborough County Master Gardener (MG) program planned and implemented a job fair for volunteers. **Objectives:** The objectives were to 1) provide information about volunteer opportunities, 2) decrease barriers to volunteering, and 3) establish relationships among new and veteran volunteers. **Methods:** Veteran MGs created fun, interactive program displays. New volunteers were provided job descriptions for each volunteer opportunity. Two veteran Master Gardeners staffed each display to discuss programs and answer questions. New MGs visited the displays and completed an Extension BINGO game to collect veteran MG names representing projects and committees. New volunteers voted on the best displays and MGs responsible for designing and staffing these displays won gift certificate awards. **Results:** During the job fair, volunteers learned about each project and met with veteran MGs. As a result of the job fair, 21 volunteers signed up for new projects in the online volunteer management system, 12 signed up for leadership roles, and 18 signed up to help with more than one program. **Conclusions:** Job fairs incorporated in Extension volunteer training may help integrate new volunteers more quickly, inspire

leadership and increase retention rates. This presentation will discuss how to conduct an effective job fair and will provide example job descriptions and follow-up survey questions.

Creating Awareness and Community through a Central Florida Hops Program

K. Greer* and A. Vu*, UF/IFAS Extension Orange County

The growing popularity of craft beer along with Florida having one of the fastest growing microbrewery industries has increased the demand for hops (Humulus lupulus) in Florida. Most hops used by brewers come from the Pacific Northwest. The demand for hops has created the opportunity for a new Florida grown cash crop and for local residents to try growing something new and trending in their landscapes. Objective: To set up a demonstration hop yard to show residential and commercial clientele how hops are grown, harvested and used. Methods: The 4 acre Exploration Garden at Extension Orange County set up a hop demonstration yard with locally grown hop plants. To prepare, the agents participated in a variety of educational opportunities and used that knowledge to grow, harvest and market the hops. Collaboration with a local microbrewer offered the opportunity to brew ale from the hops. An event was organized to assemble the different sectors of the agricultural community, brewers and local residents. **Results**: The microbrewery created a French-style Farmhouse Ale aptly named 'Gator Ale' with the hops grown in the Exploration Garden hop yard. The event hosted 200+ attendees. \$1 went back to Extension programming with every glass of 'Gator Ale' sold during the evening raising \$177. The event connected growers, producers and consumers, bringing awareness to hop production, food systems and local products. Conclusions: Community events can bring together diverse community sectors allowing spontaneous learning and networking. Using a trending social setting can bring awareness to the local industry.

WILD Horticulture Series: A holistic approach to introducing Florida-Friendly Landscaping

M. Hunter* and A. Marek* UF/IFAS Extension Marion County

Situation: Marion County is unique in that it is part of three large watersheds, home to three first magnitude springs, and is experiencing significant population growth that is putting significant strain on our water resources. The WILD Horticulture Series (Water and Wildlife conservation, IPM, Landscape services, Done right!) was established to offer conjoined programs in ecologically friendly gardening techniques. Objectives: To increase homeowner knowledge about Florida's natural resources and landscaping BMPs and to encourage the adoption of landscaping BMPs to conserve water and protect wildlife habitat. Methods: Attendees learn about gardening through Florida-Friendly Landscaping's nine principles while also learning about native ecosystems, wildlife, alternatives to traditional gardening such as hydroponics, and new ways to implement best management practices in the residential landscape. These one hour classes are held monthly at On Top of the World Communities in Ocala, FL with more community centers and HOAs planned for the future. Results: A total of eight classes have been provided since September of 2017 with a total of 136 attendees. Class evaluations have stated that 95% of attendees were satisfied with the course and learned new information. Attendees are also sent six month follow-up surveys to evaluate their adoption of landscaping BMPs. The first surveys were sent in April. Conclusion: There is a definite need and interest amongst homeowners to learn Florida-Friendly Landscaping practices. By offering a holistic gardening series, homeowners can learn landscaping practices they can do that will benefit local ecosystems, attract wildlife, reduce water consumption, and reduce costs.

Rapid aerial response saves spiny lobster industry \$4 million after Hurricane Irma

S. Krueger*, UF/IFAS Extension Monroe County

Hurricane Irma made landfall in the Florida Keys as a Category 4 hurricane one month into spiny lobster season. The 130 mph winds and storm surge displaced 350,000 traps inside the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS). **Objectives:** Spiny lobster is Monroe County's most lucrative commercial fishery, a \$42 million dockside value (2016), and fishermen needed to recover their traps to get back to work. Methods: The Agent contacted the Florida Keys Commercial Fishermen's Association (FKCFA) and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), whom indicated a rapid assessment was needed to locate these displaced traps. Florida Sea Grant (FSG) contracted spotter pilots to fly 2,100 miles inside the FKNMS and take >15,000 GPS-enabled photographs. These GPS-enabled photos were plotted to create nautical charts, which were distributed to fishermen, law enforcement, and local marinas. Results: Spiny lobster traps moved an average of 3 miles, up to 18 miles, from initial deployment. Within 1 week, 17,500 traps were recovered and redeployed. By March 2018, 258,000 traps had been retrieved. FKCFA estimates these aerial flyovers saved the industry \$4 million in traps, boat time, and diesel fuel. Conclusions: Successfully piloted in Florida, aerial reconnaissance could be the new response protocol for other coastal communities affected by severe weather. These aerial flyovers and resultant nautical charts were an efficient means to create a useful tool to help local fishermen locate their traps and sponsor partnerships with FKCFA, FWC, FKNMS, and FSG.

Sarasota County Residential Composting Study

R. Penn*, UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County

Situation: The state of Florida has set a statewide goal of achieving a 75% recycling rate by 2020. Sarasota County recognizes that diversion of food waste and other compostable material will extend the life of its landfill beyond 2050. A 2010 Waste Composition Audit (WCA) found that 13.8% of the material disposed of in the landfill is food waste- 40% was generated by unincorporated Sarasota County single family residents. In order to increase the county's recycling rate beyond its current 64% rate, Sarasota County will need to increase the amount of food waste diverted from landfill disposal. Methods: UF/IFAS and Sarasota County Solid Waste began a 12-month study with a sample group (100) of single family residents. Five individual training classes were held that taught the sample group how to build effective to backyard composting systems and how to reporting data. Each month participants submit the amount of food they composted via an online form. A pre-survey showed that 30% of the participants had no previous composting experience. **Results:** Monthly data collection has shown that 57% of the participants have implemented a composting system and reported their food waste data. On average 18 lbs. of food waste is generated per household per month. Conclusion: The goal of the yearlong pilot project is to determine the average amount of food waste generated per month per household and the engagement level of the participants. This project has already demonstrated that there is a need and demand for composting education in Sarasota County.

Treejuvenation Urban Forestry Program: Florida Arbor Day Event

M. Beckford* and A. Vinson, UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County

Objectives: Urban forests provide many benefits to communities, improving air quality, reducing heat island effects, and positively impacting residents' physical and mental health. A 2013 tree canopy study in Sarasota County indicated a 35% vegetation cover in the Urban Service Area. The Treejuvenation Urban and Community Forestry Extension Program was designed to provide education and outreach to Sarasota residents, promoting awareness of the benefits of urban trees. The Treejuvenation program hosted a Florida Arbor Day Treequest Scavenger Hunt to increase community engagement around urban forestry benefits. Methods: Promotional postcards, PR releases, social media posts and tree tags were created. Two county parks were selected (one in the north- and south- county regions); trees were tagged in each park, with information including common and scientific names, and iTree[©] / MyTree[©] environmental benefits of trees. Clues were developed for each tree, and contestants asked to submit their answers via a survey link after visiting **one** of the parks, and finding the tagged trees. Winners received rain-barrels, admission passes to State parks or UF/IFAS Extension gardening classes. Results: 32 family groups (approximately 90 people) participated. All follow up survey respondents (37%) commented that they "enjoyed the activity", found it "a fun adventure for the entire family" and some (16%) "did not know the names or the benefits of the trees" prior to the scavenger hunt. Conclusion: There is a need to continue to promote awareness of the benefits of urban forests, to identify and support tree-planting opportunities.

Sustainability Education in the Workplace

R. Madhosingh-Hector* and T. Ackerman, UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County

Objectives: Pinellas County's Comprehensive plan states that it "will incorporate its sustainability commitment into new employee orientation, and will ... require all management staff to train in sustainable and efficient operations for incorporation into daily office operations." Branded as Green Pinellas, a two pronged sustainability education approach using a new employee pledge and an educational column in the Pinellas Employee Newsletter (PEN) was designed to fulfil this objective. Method: The pledge program, a partnership with the county's Human Resources department, was originally administered in a paper format to new hires at orientation. As part of the rebranding efforts, the pledge program was digitalized to increase employee participation, improve response rates, and support sustainability. New hires are targeted in multiple ways to ensure familiarity with the Green Pinellas program – welcome/invitation email, reminder email, and follow-up surveys. Extension columns in the PEN provide additional information on a variety of sustainability topics and programs that complement the pledge. Results: In 2016-2017, all new employees with an email address were contacted (n=286) with 48% (n=137) completing the employee pledge. Fifty-four percent (54%, n=25) of follow-up respondents (N=46) agreed that the pledge was an effective tool to promote green office practices. Conclusion: Digitizing the employee pledge program streamlined the process, increased its sustainability footprint, and improved participation rates. This program could be replicated in other offices and demonstrates the benefits of internal partnerships to increase sustainability education in an office environment.

Learning in Florida's Environment (LIFE): A Model for Science-based Environmental Education on Public Conservation Lands

K. Clements*, P. Williams, A. Ubeda, S. Davis, UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County; J. Dehart*, Sarasota County School System; S. Cummings and R. Hochmuth, Florida Conservation Corps AmeriCorps Project R.O.A.R.; A. Sasloe and B. Lutz, Oscar Scherer State Park; L. Brouse and J. Henry, Florida Conservation Corps AmeriCorps Project A.N.T.

Objectives: The goal of the LIFE program is to provide participants an opportunity to act as wildlife biologists, ornithologists, marine scientists, horticulturalists; increasing accessibility to science and scientific careers. The LIFE program in Sarasota County increases knowledge, skills, and environmental stewardship among participants as measured by pre-post surveys. Methods: UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County partnered with Friends of Florida State Parks, Oscar Scherer State Park (OSSP), Myakka River State Park (MRSP), Florida Conservation Corps AmeriCorps Project R.O.A.R., and a Sarasota County Schools science teacher to coordinate, develop, and implement the LIFE program in Sarasota County. In its pilot year, fifth grade students participated in three LIFE experiences. Each experience included an inclass preparatory presentation and skills practice; followed by three standards-based, STEM-focused field labs at Sarasota County public conservation lands. Results: Pre-post survey data indicated 26.7% knowledge gain (n=337). 100% of teachers (n= 12) positively responded that labs met benchmarks and expectations, and improved student engagement and enthusiasm. 70% and 64.5%, respectively, of Title 1 students had never visited MRSP (n=128) or OSSP (n=129). Success stories include: specific students who are interested in becoming a biologist and entomologist; an at-risk student whose performance and behavior during the field labs far exceeded her typical in-class conduct; and a facilitator who developed an interpretive program on oak galls. Conclusions: LIFE in Sarasota County successfully educated participants on the importance of local ecosystems, conservation, and science-based careers. As a result, LIFE should be implemented in more schools and grades throughout Sarasota County and Florida.

Fall Pond Workshop Series

K. A. Korus*, UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County

There are many freshwater ponds in Alachua County designed for various uses: fishing, aesthetics, retention, livestock and recreation. Based off of the large amount of pond health questions coming into the office, a fall pond workshop series was created. **Objectives:** This two day workshop focused on educating pond owners about water quality as it relates to fish health and aquatic weed control via hands-on activities. Methods: Three specialists from UF were invited to teach at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation building which contains several small ponds with various health issues. Attendees were encouraged to bring both water and plant samples from their ponds. Each attendee tested their own pond water for dissolved oxygen, pH, alkalinity and several other water quality parameters. Aquatic weeds brought in were identified and management options were discussed. Results: For the first pond workshop covering water quality testing, 10% of the participants reported a 60% gain in knowledge and felt confident performing the water quality tests at home. For the second workshop covering aquatic weed control, 75% of participants reported a 40% gain in knowledge, including the identification of aquatic weed species. Site visits will be conducted to evaluate if the attendees have implement the knowledge gained in the workshop to improve the health of their ponds. **Conclusions:** This workshop was very popular and will be delivered annually. Based off of class evaluations, we will also include pond construction and fish stocking information in classes moving forward.

Establishing Water Quality Outcomes for UF/IFAS Extension

L. Krimsky*Southeast District; H. Abeels* and L. Seals, UF/IFAS Extension Brevard County, M. Lusk, Department of Soil and Water Sciences

Florida has a diversity of water quality and supply needs and UF/IFAS has a long history of promoting water resource protection. While these efforts might be under statewide Initiative 2, programmatic efforts are largely developed and implemented by individuals. Extension's success and recognition will be improved if these efforts share evaluative methods. **Objectives:** Develop a cohesive evaluation method and impact statement for the Urban Water Quality Priority Working Group. Methods: A three-pronged approach is being implemented. 1) A temporary metric based on the FDEP Basin Management Action Plan Total Maximum Daily Load nutrient reduction credits was developed and promoted. 2) An experiment along the Indian River Lagoon is investigating the amount and source of nutrients associated with surface water runoff from conventional and Florida Friendly™ landscapes. The sampling design will also compare the nitrogen isotopic signature to that of known nitrogen sources in surface waters and evaluate the impact of the fertilizer ordinance blackout that is in effect during the wet season. 3) A task force will convened in summer 2018 with the intent to match water quality impacts to PWG evaluative metrics. Results: In 2017, behavior changes associated with FFL and GI-BMP programs contributed to a reduction of 15,990 lbs of total nitrogen and 1,622 lbs of total phosphorus according to BMAP reduction credits. Results of the surface water grant and task force are pending. **Conclusion:** These three efforts will allow for statewide impact of urban water quality Extension programming.

Youth Programming Champions H Crystal McCazzio, FAE4-HA Abstract Chair Tuesday, August 28, 2018 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Time Tuesday	Presenters	Abstract
9:25-9:30 am	Crystal McCazzio	Introductions & Protocol
9:30-9:45 am	S. Turner	Strategies for Organizing
		Volunteer Processes at the
		County Level
9:50-10:05 am	A. Tharpe, L. Wiggins,	4-H Afterschool Making a
	V. Blanco	Difference
10:10-10:25 am	L. Harlow, A. Sheldon, B.	Using agriculture as the
	Burbaugh, W. Hobbs,	context to teach urban
	S. Conner	audiences STEM concepts
10:30-10:45 am	L. Wiggins	Sewing: Stimulating
		Creativity and Helping
		Prepare Youth with Life Long
		Skills
10:50-11:05 am	K. Irvine	Are You Ready YET? - Nassau
		County 4-H Youth Emergency
		Team
11:10-11:25 am	K. Haupt, S. Spann, N. Crawson	Can you get out? Escaping
		into 4-H PYD and
		Communication Skills
11:30-11:45 am	A. Stewart	Cultivating Cloverbuds:
		Engaging the Tiniest 4-H
		Members
Buf	fet Lunch and Lightening Rounds	12:15 – 1:45 pm
2:15-2:30 pm	E. Harlow, K. Haupt	What Makes This Bug Camp
		Special?
2:35-2:50 pm	M. Ward	Supporting Volunteers:
		Planning Ahead to Reduce
		Risk
2:55-3:10 pm	A. Morgan, L. Corley,	Lunch & Learn: An innovative
	M. Andrewskiewicz	way to reach at-risk youth
3:15-3:30 pm	K. Stauderman, L. Hamilton	The Petunia Project – A
		Youth Horticulture
		Entrepreneurial Event
3:35-3:50 pm	R. Pienta	Growing an Egg-citing Event
		with Extension: Wakulla 4-H
		Henfruit Festival

3:55-4:10 pm	W. Cherry	How to Use School Enrichment Programs to Achieve Meaningful Youth Development
4:15-4:30 pm	К. Рора	Rockets to the Rescue – Summer Day Camp
4:35-4:50 pm	J Hink, C. Prevatt	Proving to Stakeholders that 4-H Contributes Economically and Socially back into the Community

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

Strategies for Organizing Volunteer Processes at the County Level

S. Turner*, UF/IFAS Extension Duval County

Objectives: To achieve 90 % compliance in all 4-H volunteer paperwork and background screening by 2019. **Methods:** There have been multiple changes in the background screening requirements over the past 3 years that have led to disorganization within the county tracking system. To tackle this issue, the agent created a system to track all volunteers' progress. The structure includes a spreadsheet, file folders, email templates, and a process for all 4-H agents in the office to follow. Agent has informed volunteers of new screening requirements, and put into action new requirements of screening and risk management policies. Any 4-H agent or staff can access this information and know where each volunteer is. **Results:** 100% of volunteers have or are in the process of being fingerprinted and screened. This creates a system that is accurate, streamline, and consistent. Duval County volunteers are more informed on new policy changes, upcoming training opportunities, and have complete visibility on their volunteer progress status. **Conclusions:** This system allows all 4-H agents and staff to have an understanding and access where each individual volunteer is in the onboarding process and what requirements they will need to fulfill at any moment. This volunteer paperwork system eases tension for the 4-H volunteers through the tedious process of paperwork.

4-H Afterschool making a Difference

A. Tharpe*, C. Olson, L. Wiggins*, and V. Blanco*, UF/IFAS Extension Taylor County

Objectives: A 4-H Afterschool program was developed based on a needs assessment for Taylor County. Therefore, the need for a 4-H Led Afterschool program was prevalent, especially among working class families. 4-H Afterschool Program objectives are: Provide youth with a safe space to go while parents are at work, at an affordable price and provide an educational program where youth can complete homework, eat a healthy snack, physical activity, and participate in 4-H projects. **Methods:** 4-H Afterschool provides structured educational opportunities, life skill development, and opportunities for youth to benefit from the many 4-H projects offered. The 4-H afterschool program is designed to be a cost recovery program. A \$50.00 charge was implemented per child, per week. Two OPS part time employees were hired to implement the program, using the OPS model from the University of Florida. Thirty-six weeks of afterschool programming and projects were planned for 17 youth. **Results:** 4-H

Afterschool developed a parent evaluation survey through qualtrics that is collected monthly. 100% of the parents reported the Afterschool program fee was a reasonable price for the program offered, stated that the Educational project and clubs, homework assistance, transportation, and afterschool staff are excellent. **Conclusions:** High quality afterschool programs generate positive outcomes for youth including improved academic performance, classroom behavior, and health and nutrition. Communities and businesses also benefit when youth have safe and productive ways to spend their time while their parents are at work.

Using agriculture as the context to teach urban audiences STEM concepts

L.B. Harlow*, A. Sheldon*, B. Burbaugh*, W. Hobbs*, and S. Conner*, UF/IFAS Extension Clay County

Introduction: Clay County is rapidly urbanizing, and as a result, many young people are becoming generationally and geographically disconnected from agriculture. To address this disconnect, a multidisciplinary team successfully submitted and received a \$60,000 Cultivating Healthy Communities grant from the Aetna Foundation. **Objectives**: The goal of this project is to use agriculture as the context with urban audiences to a) help youth develop an interest in learning about agricultural science and technology, b) expand our role in delivering STEM education and c) increase public outreach and engagement. Methods: Every agent in our office is engaged in the development and delivery of this urban agricultural education project. Delivery methods include workshops, afterschool programming, activities for 4-H club leaders, and the development of two urban agricultural demonstration gardens. Topics addressed include hydroponics, urban beekeeping, robotics/drone use, sustainable food systems, and agricultural careers. Results: Since September 2017, the team has developed 5 "activities-in-a-box" for 4-H leaders, constructed the demo gardens, and taught 35 educational sessions reaching 1285 individuals. 78% of participants indicated an increase in knowledge of agricultural production; 62% indicated an increase in knowledge of urban beekeeping; and 42% indicated an interest in agriculture as a career. **Conclusions**: This project has helped us expand our outreach and engagement with an urban audience, served as a 4-H recruitment tool, and created new partnerships within the community. Incorporating STEM concepts into traditional 4-H clubs and youth programs has allowed us to increase knowledge of urban agriculture and foster an interest in agricultural science.

Sewing: Stimulating Creativity and Helping Prepare Youth with Life Long Skills

L. Wiggins*, UF/IFAS Extension Taylor County

Research studies by the Home Sewing Association (HSA) (Jan. 2000) found that youth who learn to sew a simple project, show elevated creativity. The study concluded that "youth who sew today, may have a real edge in tomorrows' high tech service economy where creative flexible workers will be in high demand." In Taylor County, youth are no longer learning basic sewing skills in home economics classes because they are not offered. **Objectives:** Youth will demonstrate simple sewing methods and learn how to create clothing and nonclothing items for themselves and others. **Methods**: After-school 4-H Clothing Projects were taught at the Extension Office. The FCS Agent and volunteers teach monthly classes. Projects have included clothing and non-clothing items as well as items constructed for community service projects. **Results:** 100% of 89 youth demonstrated an improvement in fine motor skills, reported knowledge gained and a sense of accomplishment at the completion of the project year. Ten volunteers assisted with classes for a total of 336 hours. The Independent Sector 2018 Research Data values trained volunteers at \$24.69 per hour, giving the value to this program at least \$8,295.84. **Conclusions:**

Teaching sewing to young people is a wonderful opportunity to help young minds be creative, develop confidence, learn practical life skills and just have productive fun. Sewing skills acquired can lead to future garments and other constructed items but the life skills gained from this project can lead to a better tomorrow for the youth.

Are You Ready YET? - Nassau County 4-H Youth Emergency Team

K. Irvine, UF/IFAS Extension Nassau County

In 2017, Nassau County 4-H launched a cooperative program with Nassau County Emergency Management (NCEM) entitled the Youth Emergency Team (YET), which combined the Teen CERT curriculum with 4-H philosophies. This program would serve to better prepare our community in times of crisis by training youth ambassadors. Objectives: YET is as a short-term, afterschool program teaching youth ages 11-18 the fundamentals of emergency principals such as preparedness, animal sheltering, first-aid, CPR, leadership, and fire-safety. Graduates would acquire skills and resiliency necessary to respond to emergency situations. **Methods:** The YET program met for over 40 hours spread out from September to January. YET recruited local public safety instructors/volunteers (n>12), county employees, and wellness committees to instruct by the Teen CERT curriculum. All equipment was provided by NCEM. Beyond the hands-on education, a mentor/team system was implemented as well as 2 group capstone projects. Results: Youth graduated (n=17) after passing a written test and a team drill. 100% of surveyed youth reported utilizing skills learned in YET since graduation. Self-reported accolades conveyed strong emotional impacts on the youth in terms of both peer-peer and youth-adult partnerships. YET graduates have remained active as volunteers, taught adult CERT classes, acquired an internship, participated in public speaking, applied for the FEMA Youth Preparedness Council and received continued education. There is high community support to continue this program. **Conclusion**: The YET program would be beneficial to any county as more and more situations arise that necessitate emergency life skills, especially for our youth.

Can you get out? Escaping into 4-H PYD and Communication Skills

K Haupt*, UF/IFAS Extension Duval County; S. Spann*, UF/IFAS Extension Baker County; N Crawson*, UF/IFAS Holmes County

What do communication skills, finding letters on eyeballs, critical thinking skills, decoding a cypher, and leadership have in common? Travel with us through a maze of puzzles to uncover hidden successes to leadership, critical thinking, and communication through Escape Room programming. The goal of the escape room is to bring youth together to problem solve, communicate, and use critical thinking skills to "escape" from a room of puzzles. **Objectives:** (1) Design peer-to-peer leadership opportunities, (2) Provide venues to exercise communication skills, (3) Create an environment for youth to display higher order thinking skills, (4) Develop a space for youth to feel a sense of belonging in an inclusive and safe environment. **Delivery Methods:** Delivery modes include state program events, revenue enhancement activities, and teen-led day camps. **Results:** Through multiple modes of evaluation, youth were observed to be able to do one or more of the following outcomes: Understands steps necessary to coordinate an event; Improved communication skills; Understands the importance of diverse thoughts, strengths, and abilities; Creates personal network with caring adults and peers through the 4-H system; Reflect on leadership experiences and proactively plan and implement improvements; Coordinate effective team-run events and programs; Demonstrate skills used in motivating others toward a goal. **Conclusions:** This program is designed to teach youth development professionals how to: Create, implement, and enhance

revenue for their own programs; Facilitate team communication skills, leadership, and critical thinking skills; and to foster confidence in professionals' abilities to lead powerful and effective communication skills programming.

Cultivating Cloverbuds: Engaging the Tiniest 4-H Members

A. Stewart*, UF/IFAS Extension Highlands County

Objectives: Highlands County 4-H had a significant increase in the number of registered youth ages five to seven. There were limited activities for Cloverbuds and no age appropriate workshops for them to participate in. This created a need to develop an age appropriate workshop specifically for our youngest members. This program was designed to educate parents and members about opportunities available to Cloverbuds and to have them complete a Cloverbud project and project book. **Methods:** A one day, two hour workshop was offered focusing on the topic of Rocketry. At the workshop, members learned about the various activities that available to them, as well as learned about rockets, built their own edible rockets, completed the National Youth Science Day Rockets to the Rescue Experiment, and completed the Cloverbud Marshmallow Rocket project book. **100%** of participants reported knowledge gain and demonstrated mastery in basic design and engineering skills. All youth who completed their project books will receive recognition at the end of the year banquet for their efforts. **Conclusion:** The program was so well received that we have scheduled three additional workshops on the topics of Insects, Pets, and All About 4-H. We have also scheduled a one day Cloverbud Camp, and have started working with two local elementary schools to provide Cloverbud activities to over 270 youth in grades K-2.

What Makes This Bug Camp Special?

E. Harlow* and K. Haupt*, UF/IFAS Extension Duval County

There is a plethora of 4-H summer bug camps provided throughout the state. In 2017, Duval County decided to join the fun and created Insectpedition. The 4-day summer camp for youth ages 11-18 explored science-inquiry through insect collecting. But that's not what made this camp special. **Objectives:** The objectives of the camp were to increase interest in science and knowledge of entomology. Additional objectives were to provide exposure to careers related to entomology and horticulture and improve life skills. **Methods:** Scholarships were provided by the landscape and pest control industry to youth who qualified. To qualify, students were asked to hand-write a 500-word essay on "why insects were important to them." To encourage public speaking, students were asked to return to an industry meeting to present their collections and talk about their experience. During camp, youth learned about collecting insects, ephomaphagy (insects as food), pinning, and preserving. Results: Four students gave presentations to 80 professionals. In 2017, \$675 in scholarships were provided. A six-month follow-up survey asked about camper's experiences. Sixty percent increased their interest in science and learned to work with a team, while 30% improved their communication skills and their comfort speaking to adults. Conclusions: This camp was unique because it brought together the industry and youth. The youth were able to gain life skills and benefit from scholarships and interactions with industry leaders. The industry partners were able to connect with future generations.

Supporting Volunteers: Planning Ahead to Reduce Risk

M. Ward*, UF/IFAS Extension Citrus County

By their work with youth and families, 4-H volunteers are on the front lines of the 4-H program and the first line of defense in risk management. Objectives: In recent years regulatory and programmatic changes have strengthened youth development programming, and increased the need for organizational strategies in county 4-H programs. Often, volunteers report confusion, increased stress associated with reporting and a growing feeling of disconnect from partnership with the county program. In Citrus County we've addressed these concerns with our Volunteer Workshop series, which provides new and alumni volunteers with tools for success. Methods: Research has shown risk is a direct outcome of poor planning. Prior to the workshops, volunteers were sent materials on Financial Management, Protection of the 4-H Emblem, Reporting requirements, and more. In small mixed groups of new and alumni volunteers, the materials were reviewed and discussed for their relevance and role in each volunteer's 4-H responsibilities. Results: 30 adult volunteers provided constructive feedback on the program through an observational survey, which included program needs. Group activities identified new strategies for building the 5 C's in youth programs. **Conclusions:** Several of the needs identified by volunteers have been successfully incorporated into the 4-H program building a sense of contribution and connection. After learning more about reporting needs, volunteers increased their rate of report completion and submission. Volunteers that participated in this series now serve as models for other volunteers in our programs.

Lunch & learn: An innovative way to reach at-risk youth

A. Morgan*, UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County; L. Corley*, Life Ready Program Assistant; M. Andrewskiewicz*, 4-H Program Assistant

Objective: The objective of this programming method was to reach at-risk students and those who might not be able to participate in out-of-school programming. One student suggested the lunch program meet more frequently because it gave him a place to feel welcome during that time. This format enables consistency and allows programmers to engage with the students on a weekly basis, which contributes greatly to relationship building. Method: We met with students weekly during their lunch periods. This format began with the 4-H Life Ready program and serves as a successful example of how to increase programming throughout the county. Students voluntarily attend, and we provide snacks weekly and meals monthly. On separate days, other programs such as office hours for additional help and a Sister's Circle program were implemented based on this format. Results: This year, a total of 87 youth participated with a weekly average of 26. These participants have indicated that the program has been beneficial to their college and workforce development, as well as their own personal futures. We have seen a sense of belonging flourish among the participating students. The students have reported that this was the most efficient time to engage in programming due to transportation issues, tutoring, and extracurricular activities that typically occur before and after school. Conclusions: This method can be re-created in nearly any locality to garner a captive audience that might not be otherwise reached. Other topics that could utilize this format could include healthy living, STEAM, leadership, and more.

The Petunia Project – A Youth Horticulture Entrepreneurial Event

K. Stauderman and L. Hamilton, UF/IFAS Extension Volusia County

Objectives: Students will generate funds from a competitive entrepreneurial flower competition for their FFA Chapter as collected by donation proceeds. 25% of the youth attending will develop new work skills as measured by a post survey and by class participation. Methods: The Commercial Horticulture agent funded pots, soil and plants in supplies to the New Smyrna Beach High School FFA Chapter called 'The Petunia Project.' Agents taught three workshops to two classes that simulated commercial nursery industry issues that compete for market share. Red, violet and pink petunias were used in solicitation for donations during a Farmer's market event. Tables were assigned to student 'companies' with similar color; two companies per table, totaling 3 tables. This encouraged competitive marketing. Table décor and pot embellishment enhanced marketability of petunia plants. Results: 22 (FFA) youth attended the market event. They greeted shoppers and competed against fellow classmates in solicitation of donations. As evidenced by survey results: Students collected \$774.18 in total donations. 100% of the youth participated (n=308) in the classroom. The project provided an increased awareness of commercial horticulture, money marketing and business skills as evidenced by attendance in the classroom and during the event. Conclusions: Confidence, job satisfaction, undefined sales outlook of the Violet teams played a huge role in their success. Pessimism, job dissatisfaction, and defined sales outlook hurt Pink teams. The results from this study was shared with the students on the importance of these traits for commercial and employee success in today's business.

Growing an Egg-citing Event with Extension: Wakulla 4-H Henfruit Festival

R. Pienta*, UF/IFAS Extension Wakulla County

Wakulla County 4-H needs to expand awareness while increasing youth, volunteer, and overall community involvement. The 4-H Henfruit Festival was created to raise the 4-H community profile. **Objectives:** Demonstrate youth knowledge and increase community awareness of 4-H programs, including food preparation, egg production, fundraising, and public speaking. Methods: Faculty and volunteers facilitate hands-on, experiential learning to implement a one day 4-H Festival including food preparation and public speaking. A 900-egg omelet was prepared using eggs produced by 4-H memberraised chickens. A post-event evaluation administered to 12 program leaders - comprised of Advisory Council and Volunteer Club Leaders -- measured perceptions of the festival's value and potential as an annual 4-H Extension program. Results: 10/12 respondents rated the program as having high potential as an annual event to showcase 4-H accomplishments and to engage the community in 4-H activities. 10/12 respondents rated the event as having high potential for fundraising as well as for club and volunteer leader recruitment. Over \$600 was raised for the Wakulla County 4-H program. Conclusions: Feedback on the first implementation year includes high community attendance for a new event as over 400 community members attended. Evaluation results from program leaders indicated that this event was received positively by the community. The event attracted six new 4-H club members and five new 4-H volunteers while generating 35 new 2018 4-H summer camp enrollments. This worthwhile event can be modified by other agents throughout Florida to create their own community festival while increasing the awareness and enrollment of 4-H.

How to Use School Enrichment Programs to Achieve Meaningful Youth Development

W. Cherry*, UF/IFAS Extension Calhoun County

Objectives: 1) recruit long-term volunteers and 4-H members, 2) reach diverse audiences by reducing barriers to participation, 3) reach at risk youth by reducing barriers to participation **Methods:** By focusing the topic of 4-H classroom programs around one of the three mission mandates - Citizenship, Healthy Living, or Science - and planning for increased dosage and duration as compared to typical school enrichment programs, any 4-H youth development professional can not only increase volunteer and member participation, but also reach populations of youth previously underserved and see meaningful, positive change in the individuals they reach. Results: 4-H enrollment has increased from 45% (n=1,020) of the county's 4-H age youth (n=2,282) annually to an average of 67% (n=1,526) over the last 2.5 years. Additionally, students from the latter time period are being reached on a monthly basis year after year, in programs which purposefully build on each other. Whereas formerly, youth were likely only reached once per year, in non-consecutive years, and in programs which did not built on each other. Evaluations show that participants are improving academically and socially and feel like they belong in 4-H because their ideas are heard. **Conclusions:** This method of program delivery has allowed the Calhoun County 4-H program to reach its overall goals of 4-H youth development and to make a real difference in the lives of local youth. Consequently, it is believed that subject to appropriate adaptation based on local need, its implementation can and will benefit other 4-H programs throughout the state.

Rockets to the Rescue – Summer Day Camp

K. Popa*, UF/IFAS Extension DeSoto County

Objectives: The DeSoto/Charlotte County Rocketry camp was created to meet the needs of students and their need of STEM education while teaching them about rockets, space, jobs related to rocketry and space exploration and much more. **Methods**: From taste testing astronaut ice cream to launching real model rockets, students were immersed in STEM activities through the Rockets to the Rescue Summer day camp. In addition to these activities, students completed the Rockets to the Rescue National Youth Science Day activities and utilized the knowledge learned when visiting the local planetarium. **Results:** Through this day camp, 100% of students enjoyed learning about the concepts taught, 84% learned more about technology, and 95% gained a better understanding of how science, technology, or engineering can solve problems. **Conclusion:** Through this day camp, students became engaged in STEM activities where they were able to utilize their imagination, creativity and learn life skills and explore careers. After completing, students were excited to attend another 4-H STEM camp in the future.

Proving to Stakeholders that 4-H Contributes Economically and Socially back into the Community J. Hink*, UF/IFAS Extension Pasco County; C. Prevatt, UF/IFAS Range Cattle Research and Education Center

Objectives: To show how 4-H programs contribute economically and socially back into the community in terms that stakeholders and funders understand, such as return on investments **Methods:** We are able to obtain the needed information from accessible records documenting their inputs and out puts of 4-H projects through their record keeping (record books), level of performances (shows) income from sale of project animals and the numbers of volunteer hours through self-reporting and county records. **Results:** We were able to determine the combined Inputs and Outputs from livestock projects and calculate the economic value of 4-H trained volunteers. We are able to show stakeholders that Pasco 4-H livestock projects contributed over \$600,000 in 2017 for Pasco County. We are sharing this data with our stakeholders to show the economic contributions of 4-H livestock projects to our local economy. **Conclusions** Showing how 4-H projects allow youth to become small business Entrepreneurs through the purchase, care and for some the sale of their livestock projects. We were able to put an economic value on youth livestock projects. Some youth will increase the size of their business, some will diversify, and some may leave the business and pursue other project areas. Just like the real world, we are able to document their inputs and outputs of projects through their record keeping, performances and livestock sale. 4-H staff can educate stakeholders to the economic value of their local 4-H program.

Food and Finance Champions A Gabriela Murza, FEAFCS Abstract Chair Tuesday, August 28, 2018 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Time Tuesday	Presenters	Abstract
9:25-9:30 am	Gabriela Murza	Introductions & Protocol
9:30-9:45 am	J. England, W. Lynch	Go Online! Extend the Reach
		of Your Extension Program
9:50-10:05 am	L. Leslie	Building Financial Stability: An
		Online Learning Opportunity
10:10-10:25 am	A. Hinkle, D. Lee, P. Allen, G.	Feed Them Well: Expanding
	Hinton, J. Breslawski	the Power of Your Pantry
10:30-10:45 am	L. Hamilton, S. Preston	From In-Kind to Income: the
		Central Florida Housing
		Education Network
		Sponsorship Model
10:50-11:05 am	J. Shoup	Money Management Day
		Camp: Local Partnerships and
		Hands on Learning
11:10-11:25 am	L. Hamilton, J. Ramirez, S.	Are you Mortgage Ready?
	Preston	UF/IFAS Extension First Time
		Home Buyer Programs
11:30-11:45 am	J. Corbus	Over the River and Through
		the Woods to a 4-H
		Thanksgiving We Go!
Buf	fet Lunch and Lightening Rounds	12:15 – 1:45 pm
2:15-2:30 pm	A. Nikolai	Growing & Cooking Workshop
		Series
2:35-2:50 pm	S. Bresin	ServSafe Serves to Provide Job
		Skills to At-Risk Youth
2:55-3:10 pm	M. Thomas, S. Toelle	Homeflow: The HabiJax
		Connection
3:15-3:30 pm	S. Kennedy	Culinary Camps Teach Youth
		More than Just Cooking
3:35-3:50 pm	N. Parks, S. Deary, M.	The Homemade Entrepreneur:
	McAlpine, B. Burbaugh, A.	A Program for Growing Small
	Sheldon	Food Businesses
3:55-4:10 pm	K. Rotindo	Sprouting Healthy Businesses
		Workshop

4:15-4:30 pm	G. Murza	Sharing Wellness at the Dinner Table: Educating Food Pantry Attendees
4:35-4:50 pm	A. Hinkle, D. Devries-Navarro, N. Owens Duffy	Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) – Engaged Pantries

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

Go Online! Extend the Reach of Your Extension Program

J. England*, UF/IFAS Extension Seminole County; W. Lynch*, UF/IFAS Extension Putnam County; W. Dahl, Food Science and Human Nutrition Department

Time and travel constraints hinder in-person attendance at extension education programs resulting in no education or reliance on potentially unreliable information sources. Virtual delivery may increase program access as well as knowledge gain and behavior change. Objectives: 1. Increase extension program access and participation. 2. Participants will increase knowledge and self-efficacy in healthy eating and chronic disease prevention. 3. Participants will achieve at least one behavior change related to health or nutrition behavior. Methods: The nutrition webinar team, consisting of two county agents and a nutrition specialist, marketed and delivered lunchtime webinars as single sessions, clustered topics and a 5-part series. Results: From January 2017 through April 2018, 827 participants were reached through 14 webinars. Session participation ranged from 25 to 127 participants (consumers, agency professionals, extension agents, paraprofessionals, and volunteers). Post-program results (2017; n=209; 63% response rate), showed 88% (134 of 152) increased knowledge of ways to improve diet, 93% (53 of 57) increased knowledge of dietary changes for chronic disease prevention, and 85% (187 of 221) were more confident in their ability to lead a healthier lifestyle. Follow-up of 159 participants (37% response rate) showed 44% (26 of 59) made positive changes in food selection, 47% (27 of 58) preparing healthier meals and snacks more often, 51% (30 of 59) increased fruit and vegetable consumption, and 48% (28 of 58) increased physical activity. Conclusions: Online education increases access and provides opportunities for non-traditional extension audiences to increase knowledge, confidence and improve health behaviors.

Building Financial Stability: An Online Learning Opportunity

L. Leslie*, UF/IFAS Extension Hillsborough County

Hillsborough County's Family Empowerment Program works with low –income families to enable selfsufficiency. Families receive an individualized case plan, job training, and employment. Participants are required to complete a personal finance class. Synchronized group learning events are not feasible because participants live and work in different areas, have limited transportation options, and program registration is continuous. The agent developed the nonsynchronous online class "Building Financial Stability" using Canvas to overcome these obstacles. **OBJECTIVES:** Participants will 1) Increase knowledge of budgeting, credit, and evaluating loan terms; 2) Increase confidence in their ability to follow a budget and recognize subprime loans; 3) Commit to adopting at least one positive financial practice such as tracking expenses. **METHODS:** Ongoing enrollment provides three modules: Goals, Spending, & Saving, Facts about Subprime Loans, and Truth about Credit Repair. The focus is on areas that are particularly relevant to the target audience. Modules are concise and feature videos, case studies, infographics, and easy to use worksheets. Participants earn a certificate by using the materials to complete discussion questions. The class is designed to provide a convenient, engaging learning experience. **RESULTS:** Since launching in January 2017, 60 people have completed the class and 58 completed an end of class evaluation. Results include: 91% reported increased knowledge of a key financial concept, 90% increased confidence in ability to follow a budget, and 90% plan to adopt at least one positive financial practice. **CONCLUSIONS:** Learning Management Systems, such as Canvas, increase access and are effective teaching tools.

Feed Them Well: Expanding the Power of Your Pantry

A. Hinkle* and D. Lee*, UF/IFAS Extension Escambia County; P. Allen*, UF/IFAS Extension Okaloosa County; G. Hinton*, UF/IFAS Extension Santa Rosa County J. Breslawski*, UF/IFAS Extension Okaloosa and Walton Counties

Objectives: Poor economic conditions have increased limited-resource families' reliance on supplemental food from food pantries. Local pantries provide foods of poor nutritional quality, thereby adding to increases in poor health. At completion of Feed Them Well: Expanding the Power of Your Pantry programming in Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, and Walton Counties: pantries will promote healthy food items, pantries will offer nutrition education, and families will increase consumption of nutrient dense foods. Methods: A multi-pantry luncheon provided resources like recipes, guidelines for stocking healthy pantries, and how to ask for healthy donations. A series of nutrition classes was offered to pantry volunteers and their clients. Cooking demonstrations promoted local foods and healthy food preparation of common food pantry items. Grocery tours provided increased skills in healthy shopping on a budget. Some community partners included local health departments, food distribution warehouses, and UF/IFAS research centers. Results: Sixty-seven food pantry volunteers/clients completed series-based nutrition education classes. Approximately 1,300 pantry participants attended healthy food demonstrations at partnering pantries. Volunteers completed grocery shopping events which helped them successfully procure healthy foods for their pantry participants. Of 335 completed participant surveys, 71% (238) indicated they made healthy changes in food shopping, preparing, and/or preserving habits based on what they learned. Conclusions: Feed Them Well food pantries improved the nutrient density of foods provided while reducing unhealthy options. In this easily reproducible program, pantries and their clients learned how to use resources and tools to improve the pantry environments and the lives of the families served.

From In-Kind to Income: the Central Florida Housing Education Network Sponsorship Model

L. Hamilton*, UF/IFAS Extension Volusia County; S. Preston*, UF/IFAS Extension Seminole County

Objectives: Neighborworks found that including realtors and lenders in home buyer education courses improved outcomes for first time home buyers (2013). UF/IFAS Extension homebuyer education faculty commonly recruit professionals as guest speakers. Their contributions are typically counted as in-kind contributions. In 2017, UF/IFAS Extension faculty in Volusia and Seminole Counties implemented a contribution-based sponsorship model with three objectives: (a) recruit and train industry professionals to serve as guest speakers; (b) increase enrollment by marketing homebuyer education to the home purchase industry; and (c) generate income through contributions to support programming. **Methods**: Three guest speaker orientations were marketed via email and social media to home purchase industry professionals in Central Florida. Realtors, lenders, home inspectors, and title agents received orientation to UF/IFAS Extension home buyer education and were invited to register as

speakers and/or table sponsors at 48 home buyer workshops scheduled in Volusia and Seminole Counties in 2018. Requested contributions for speakers and table sponsors ranged from \$150 to \$375 per workshop. Attendees were also invited to purchase membership in the regional Network directory for \$150 to \$175. **Results**: Fifty-eight professionals completed guest speaker orientation. Participant enrollment has increased in Volusia County by approximately one-third from referrals from Network members. Contributions for 68 speaker and table sponsor slots have been made totaling more than \$12,000. Thirty professionals purchased directory memberships contributing \$4,500. **Conclusions**: The Network model has made a successful beginning to building regional homebuyer education program supported by the industry.

Money Management Day Camp: Local Partnerships and Hands on Learning

J. Shoup*, UF/IFAS Extension Jefferson County

Objectives: The objectives for the Money Management Day Camp were: 1) 100% of participants will open a savings account, 2) 75% will increase their money management knowledge and skills 3) 75% will plan to save money, 4) 50% will implement positive money management behaviors. **Methods:** Three 4 hour sessions were taught where youth learned about money management through books, activities and games that allowed them to practice making financial decisions and handle money. Youth learned about wants and needs, saving, setting goals, and spending wisely. Through a partnership with a local bank the campers toured the bank and opened savings accounts with a \$10 deposit. **Results:** 11 youth attended the day camp. 90% planned to make more deposits into their savings account. 70% totally agreed that they know how to make a deposit at the bank. 80% totally agreed that they plan to save money to reach a goal. 80% totally agreed that they could tell others how to spend money wisely. 82% (9/11) youth opened new savings accounts. 1 camper completed the follow up survey, reporting he made 5 deposits since attending camp and saved \$305. 4 parents completed the follow up survey. 100% noticed changes in their child's money management behaviors since attending camp. Behaviors included saving money, tracking deposits, and price awareness. **Conclusions:** Introducing money management and banking institutions can help develop positive financial behaviors at a young age.

Are you Mortgage Ready? UF/IFAS Extension First Time Home Buyer Programs

L. Hamilton*, UF/IFAS Extension Volusia County; J. G. Ramirez*, UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County; S. Preston*, UF/IFAS Extension Seminole County

Objectives: Home ownership is fundamental to the American Dream and successful home ownership is a primary method of building wealth. In 2013, Neighborworks found that 89% of respondents agreed the home purchase process was overly complicated. United Way of Florida reports that almost half of families across Central Florida (48%), are at risk of housing instability due to low-wage employment and rising rents (ALICE Report, 2017). UF/IFAS Extension home buyer education promotes housing stability by teaching families to become mortgage ready by improving credit scores, reducing debt, and increasing savings. **Methods:** Volusia, Seminole, and Osceola County faculty providing home buyer education began collaborating in 2017 to document regional impact of First Time Home Buyer programs. Participants learn how to budget for home ownership, strategies to improve credit scores, and the importance of reducing debt, increasing savings in order to become mortgage ready. In 2017, 63 First Time Home Buyer workshops were presented across the three counties reaching 1,948 participants. Participants receive eight to twelve hours of education in group settings at Extension offices, using curricula from the UF/IFAS Extension and Neighborworks. **Results:** Ninety-five percent (97%) of

participants (1,850 people) reported greater understanding of the requirements to obtain a mortgage. A six-month follow up survey indicated that 10% of respondents (n=49) opened new savings accounts, 32% reduced debt and 76% improved credit scores, **Conclusion:** First Time Home Buyer programs help families develop essential financial skills to prepare for home ownership.

Over the River and Through the Woods to a 4-H Thanksgiving We Go!

J. Corbus, UF/IFAS Extension Washington and Holmes Counties

Objectives: As a result of participating in a food preparation workshop, 50% of 11 4-H members will increase their knowledge of safe food handling practices by at least 30% as measured by pre/posttest scores. Methods: A Washington County 4-H Club leader desired to teach the members of her Club how to prepare a Thanksgiving dinner as a life skill. She partnered with the Family and Consumer Sciences Agent to teach Turkey Talk to 11 4-H members. After completing a 10-question true/false pretest related to food safety, members worked in groups to prepare a turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing, and cranberry sauce from scratch. Emphasis was placed on safe food handling and preparation practices. Four volunteers assisted with the five-hour workshop. After completing the posttest, the members enjoyed their meal as part of their monthly club meeting. Results: Eight of the 11 participants completed both the pre- and posttest. All eight improved their posttest score by an average of 34%. At least 50% felt "confident" or "very confident" to prepare the food items at home with adult assistance. Four (50%) indicated "Yes" to planning to help prepare their family's Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners this past year. A follow-up evaluation will be administered to measure actual participation in their families' holiday meal preparation. Conclusions: Youth will use food preparation and food safety skills throughout their lifetime. Preparing a holiday meal promotes family interaction and communication and provides an opportunity to pass along family traditions and make positive memories.

Growing & Cooking Workshop Series

A. Nikolai* and A. Yasalonis, UF/IFAS Extension Polk County

Objectives: The objectives of this workshop series are to increase participants' knowledge of growing vegetables and herbs, gardening best management practices, and how to prepare and increase consumption of vegetables and herbs. Each workshop in the series combines healthy eating with growing healthy foods. Workshops focus on preparing vegetables in new and interesting ways and substituting herbs for unhealthy food additives such as salt and sugar. Methods: To meet these objectives, the residential horticulture and the family consumer sciences agents partner and co-teach classes throughout the year focusing on vegetables and herbs by growing season. Workshops focus on seasonal vegetables, herbs, and spices. Powerpoint and hands-on methods are used in the workshops. Participants learn about how to start a garden, grow the plants featured in the workshop using best management practices, and how to maintain their edible garden. They get a look at the plants during a "pass the plant" session where they touch, taste and feel the vegetable and herbs featured in the presentation. They learn about ways to preserve, prepare, and enjoy what they grow in the garden. **Results:** 82% of workshop participants increased their knowledge about preparing healthy foods, 83% are more likely to prepare healthier foods, and positive improvement in knowledge on best management practices was indicated. **Conclusions:** Participants can observe significant cost savings by growing their own vegetables and herbs, improved environmental conditions by following best management practices, and improved health and wellness through both dietary changes and exercise related to work in the garden.

ServSafe Serves to Provide Job Skills to At-Risk Youth

S. Bresin, UF/IFAS Extension Pasco County

Objective: At-risk students will obtain SafeStaff and ServSafe credentials to become more marketable for food-industry jobs. Methods: The Central Pasco Girls Academy is a juvenile center for girls, where they live and attend school until they are discharged. In order to provide the girls with job opportunities upon their release, they were taught ServSafe. Because they are only in high school and haven't had any food-industry work experience before, the FCS Agent taught the eleven girls SafeStaff prior to ServSafe to slowly introduce them to the concept of food safety. Additionally, a local chef worked with the girls to reinforce the agent's ServSafe lessons. Results: Before starting SafeStaff, their pretests showed their scores ranged from 60 percent to 87 percent, with an average score of 69 percent. Upon completing the SafeStaff lessons, their posttests showed their scores ranged from 67 percent to 100 percent, with an average score of 85 percent. Next, nine of those students continued onto ServSafe. When comparing their ServSafe diagnostic (pretests) test scores to the "pop quizzes" from each lesson, they showed knowledge gained in the ServSafe material. So far, one student has passed the ServSafe exam, with the others to be tested at a later date. The school will follow up with the girls and see if they used their SafeStaff/ServSafe credentials to obtain employment in the food industry. Conclusion: Economic opportunities help to reduce crime, and so giving these students job skills will help them stay on the right path when they are released.

Homeflow: The HabiJax Connection

M. Thomas* and S. Toelle*, UF/IFAS Extension Duval County

Subsidized housing is a US HUD affordable housing voucher mechanism for assisting low-income citizens to transition from temporary to permanent housing. This transition is a gradual process that can sometimes span more than one generation. One organization whose mission is to expedite this process is Habitat for Humanity. As of 2016, one of its largest US affiliates, HabiJax, in Duval County, began using the Homeflow program as its baseline educational program for all new homeowner candidates. **Objectives:** Homeflow integrates the elements of home maintenance and healthy family relationships to bring higher efficiency, function, and home stability for family success. Participants: 1) learn types of products and practices that cause utility bill fluctuations 2) learn types of triggers that lead to relationship confrontation and procrastination. Methods: The training involved three separate workshops which consisted of lecture, demonstrations, and experiential activities. Pre and post-tests, as well as routine follow-up surveys are offered via hard-copy and Qualtrics. Results: In 2017, 37 individuals attended workshops. Seventy-seven percent strongly agreed they were confident they could save on utility bills. Ninety percent stated confidence in reducing conflict from occurring among home occupants. Conclusions: Participants in the HabiJax Homeflow program are moving into their first home, providing financial security and stability of home ownership, and building resiliency and cohesion within a family. These values create a stable local economy. Economic analysts wait for the latest housing numbers to be released before announcing forecasts, as these numbers help indicate the overall health of the economy.

Culinary Camps Teach Youth More than Just Cooking

S. Kennedy*, UF/IFAS Extension Wakulla County

Objectives: The Cooking and Gourmet Cooking summer day camps were designed to teach youth basic cooking skills as well as food safety practices, presentation, table setting, and formal table etiquette. This collection of life skills provides youth with a basic foundation upon which to build more advanced self-sufficiency skills as they age. Methods: The Cooking and Gourmet Cooking camps took place over five days, six hours each day. Each camp day consisted of a classroom-style lesson followed by hands-on activities highlighting a different skill such as proper cutting techniques, mixing and measuring, and baking or cooking. Guest presenters taught lessons on a variety of topics, such as creating food art, formal table setting, and proper table etiquette. Results: Survey results showed that 100% of participants learned a new cooking skill, 96% reported an increased interest in cooking at home, 84% intended to help out with cooking at home, 82% could properly set a formal table, and 75% were interested in taking more cooking classes. A follow-up survey to the participants' parents showed that three months after camp, 58% of the youth participants were helping to prepare family meals at least three days a week. **Conclusions:** Culinary summer day camps are an excellent way to teach youth important life skills such as cooking and baking, table setting, and table etiquette. Camp also provides youth with an opportunity to work together to create their own dishes and gives them the skills and confidence they will need to become self-sufficient teens and adults.

The Homemade Entrepreneur: A Program for Growing Small Food Businesses

N. Parks*, UF/IFAS Extension Duval County; S. Deary*, UF/IFAS Extension Bradford County; M. McAlpine*, UF/IFAS Extension Nassau County; B. Burbaugh* and A. Sheldon*, UF/IFAS Extension Clay County; S. Ahn, UF/IFAS Food Science; A. Simonne, UF/IFAS Food Safety and Quality

There has been a rapid expansion of specialty food stores and farmer's markets across Florida – this coupled with a 2017 change to the state's Cottage Food Law that allows individuals to produce up to \$50,000 in food products from their homes – provided an opportunity for Extension Agents to form a multidisciplinary team to develop, deliver, and evaluate a regional educational series. Thus, The Homemade Entrepreneur program was born to capitalize on the abovementioned trends and meet the need for small business development. Objectives: Participants will gain the knowledge necessary to start a home-based food business, practice proper food safety practices, and develop a business plan. Methods: The program is a three-part series of hands-on activities, videoconference, lecture, guest speakers, videos, cooking demonstrations, and participant presentations taught by a multidisciplinary team of agents and specialists. Results: To date, 46 individuals have graduated from the program. Retrospective evaluations reveal a statistically significant increase in knowledge related to food safety; cottage food regulations; business planning, practices, and budgeting. Additionally, 70% of participants plan on starting a business; these individuals projected they would earn, on average, \$12,934 annually. Follow-up surveys reveal 25% have started their Cottage Food business. Conclusions: The program was successful at supporting the development of home-based food businesses and creating a network of food entrepreneurs who engage extension for technical assistance.

Sprouting Healthy Businesses Workshop

K. Rotindo* and C. Alberts, UF/IFAS Extension St. Lucie County

Objectives: Encourage the growth of agriculturally-related small business opportunities by providing residents the tools to move toward that goal with confidence. Methods: Agents designed and delivered a six-session workshop combining the basics of horticulture focusing on vegetable gardening with basic business skills. Horticulture content included soil preparation, variety selection, planting (in ground and in containers), irrigation, pest control and harvesting. Business content included ownership-readiness awareness, licensing, taxation, record keeping, product pricing and packaging, business plans, marketing and funding sources. A local USDA Researcher presented a segment on the Viability of Growing and Selling Microgreens. The final session included a pitch of the participant's business idea to a representative of the local Small Business Development Center (SBDC). One participant was recruited on the spot to become a part of the SBDC Business Incubator program. Post surveys and course evaluations were collected. Results: 80% of participants indicated a plan to start a new business within the next 12 months, 100% of participants indicated they already had or were going to start a vegetable garden within the next 12 months. Conclusion: This workshop serves to meet the growing demand for educational programs that prepare community members for sustainable living through increased income and/or increased food availability.

Sharing Wellness at the Dinner Table: Educating Food Pantry Attendees

G. Murza, UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County

Objectives: A Place for Grace Ministries provides dinner two nights a week. They partner with other ministries, local restaurants, and non-profits to provide hot meals for attendees, but the leadership felt it was important to include an educational component as well. This piece was first introduced in December 2017. Objectives include: 1) Increasing knowledge gain in five nutrition principles - portion sizes, food labels, fruit and vegetable intake, healthy beverage intake, and healthier fat and carbohydrate options, 2) Adopting healthy behaviors using the same nutrition principles, and 3) Utilizing healthy behaviors outside of the food pantry. Methods: Monthly hour-long lessons are provided before dinner. Discussions are the central focus using either handouts or presentations. Games are also included, such as "Nutrition Know-How", a Q&A-style game created by the Agent. The survey is a retrospective pre-test post-test that will be administered in May to assess the first six months of the program. Results: Specific results will be shared in August. However, observational results show that during dinner, attendees choose water over soda, eat vegetables and protein before eating carbohydrates, and choose less desserts or sweets at the end of the meal. Most of these results have been observed within the past three months. Conclusions: Educational programs at food pantries is an important component to assist their attendees in making healthy behavior changes. Teaching concepts right before dinner keeps the information fresh and increases the likelihood that they will practice it at dinner time, and hopefully in other situations.

Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) – Engaged Pantries

A. Hinkle*, UF/IFAS Extension Escambia County; D. Devries-Navarro*, UF/IFAS Extension Palm Beach County; N. Owens Duffy*, Family, Youth and Community Sciences

Objectives: Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) participants regularly supplement their diets with foods lacking nutritional quality found at pantries. Making environmental changes where participants access food offers opportunities to practice EFNEP series based education principles. EFNEP-Engaged Pantries sought to improve client services, increase nutrient-dense items, and enhance nutrition education. Methods: Agents observed daily operations and identified appropriate interventions based on pantry needs and available evidence-based approaches. Retrospective surveys were conducted with pantry staff to examine environmental-level changes at six EFNEP education sites in Escambia and Palm Beach Counties. Interventions varied based on need. Results: EFNEP-Engaged Pantries resulted in many improvements. Increases in client services included transitioning to a choicebased shopping experience instead of receiving preselected items (50%), more cultural foods (33%), foods and materials presented in different languages (100%), and expanded referral services (e.g., WIC or SNAP) (83%). Improvements in offering healthy items included requests for healthy food drives (50%), on-site gardens (50%), and donated produce in addition to other healthy items (83%). Finally, nutrition education was enhanced with Florida-friendly and culturally diverse recipes (100%) and written education materials (83%). Conclusions: Support continues in the form of healthy food donations, money, and volunteer time because of the success of the program. Improving the environment of Florida pantries could lead to improved health outcomes and reduced health disparities among Florida's most food insecure.

Leadership and Sustainability Champions B Adrian Hunsberger, ESP Abstract Chair Tuesday, August 28, 2018 - 9:30 am – 5:00 pm

Time Tuesday	Presenters	Abstract
9:25-9:30 am	Adrian Hunsberger	Introductions & Protocol
9:30-9:45 am	H. Wooten, L. Felter, R. Tyson	Experiencing the Food System
		Beyond the Farm and Table
9:50-10:05 am	R. Madhosingh-Hector,	Pinellas County Shoots for the
	T. Ackerman	STARs
10:10-10:25 am	L. Carnahan, B. Niemann	Increasing Program Reach with
		Facebook Live
10:30-10:45 am	H. Mayer	Teaching Best Practices Benefits
		Tree Canopy in Hurricane Country
10:50-11:05 am	L. Milligan	Community Conversations Can
		Create Change
11:10-11:25 am	H. Wooten, S. Hensley,	International Food System Case
	A. Sheldon, T. Momol	Study to Enhance
		Multidisciplinary Extension
		Programs in Florida
11:30-11:45 am	T. Sanchez	Keeping Up with Recordkeeping
Buf	fet Lunch and Lightening Rounds	12:15 – 1:45 pm
2:15-2:30 pm	C. Stevenson, L. Johnson	Office team building—one step at
		a time
2:35-2:50 pm	L. Albrecht	Using Community-Based Social
		Marketing Techniques to Build
		Bigger Audiences and Impacts:
		Results of a Multi-Year Case Study
2:55-3:10 pm	K. Waters	Generating Program Enhancement
		Funds through an Educational
		Ехро
3:15-3:30 pm	M. Ward	Expanding Farm to Fork with
		Energy and Numbers
3:35-3:50 pm	K. Taylor	Teaching Food Systems Through
		Summer Day Camps
3:55-4:10 pm	K. Waters	A Model for Classical Newsletter
		Development
4:15-4:30 pm	B. Wells	Improving Farm Profitability and
		Sustainability with Alternative
		Crops

4:35-4:50 pm	C. Sanders	Master Gardener Plant Sale & Ag
		Fest Provides Team Work for
		Extension Agents & Volunteers

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

Experiencing the Food System Beyond the Farm and Table

H. Wooten*, UF/IFAS Extension Seminole County; L. Felter*, UF/IFAS Extension Regional Specialized Agent; R. Tyson* and C. Glatting, UF/IFAS Extension Orange County

Objectives: Florida produces the second highest vegetable value in the United States, and agriculture is the state's second largest industry. Farms in urbanizing counties face special challenges making it difficult to find sustainable long term solutions. The objective is to educate community leaders resulting in increased knowledge about the entire food system and identification of potential solutions including production, processing, distribution, and waste. Methods: In Spring 2018, UF/IFAS Extension and Good Food Central Florida, a food policy council, presented the 2018 Central Florida Food System Tour. Participants included Congressmen and community leaders travelling by bus and learning in the field. The tour featured food system experts, and visited large rural farms, smaller urban operations, processors, distributors, educators, and included a striking display of food waste. Results: The tour included 40 participants and 7 educators. Post program evaluations (n= 40) indicated knowledge increase in the following elements of the food system: 100% in production, 85% in processing, 85% in distribution, 90% in waste, and 100% in education and outreach. Additionally, 95% increased knowledge about the significance of agriculture in Florida, 98% identified barriers in the local food system, and 80% identified economic development opportunities related to the local food system. **Conclusion:** Touring the local food system and targeting community leaders is an effective educational approach. Networking cultivated relationships and new opportunities within the Central Florida Food System. Exposing challenges and successes from production, processing, distribution, and waste creates prospects for real solutions, from small to large scale, urban to rural.

Pinellas County Shoots for the STARs

R. Madhosingh-Hector^{*} and T. Ackerman^{*}, UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County; C. Moore, C. Gray, and A. Keen, Pinellas County Planning Department

Objectives: STAR Communities designates local jurisdictions for outstanding environmental stewardship and uses rating scales that range from 3-star to 5-star. Prior to STAR certification, Pinellas County was recognized as a certified Green Local Government through Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC). **Methods:** Agent prepared comparative materials to assess the benefits of STAR versus FGBC and partnered with county planning department to undertake STAR certification. Additional face-to-face meetings, partner workshops, onsite visits, telephone calls, and program assessments facilitated process familiarization and data collection. Overall project management and team collaborations was supported by a SharePoint site. A total of seven (7) categories and over 500 outcomes and actions are assessed with additional credits for innovative processes. **Results:** Preliminary review indicates that Pinellas County will attain 3-star certification by September 2018. The county will become one of 71 communities certified in the nation, only the fourth county in FL, and the second community outside of the City of St. Petersburg in the Tampa Bay area. The county received credit for Extension outreach programs, the Climate Science Advisory Panel, Green Business Partnership, and work in the local food systems arena. Additional data is gathered from community partners including local colleges, civic, and environmental groups. **Conclusions**: Green governments gain recognition and publicity for their efforts but also function better through cost reductions and internal efficiencies. The voluntary, performance based certification program allows local governments to establish sustainable practices and baseline targets using existing programs and policies while still promoting innovation to address new challenges.

Increasing Program Reach with Facebook Live

L. Carnahan* and B. Niemann*, UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County; S. Jackson, UF/IFAS Extension Bay County; R. Burton, Florida Sea Grant

UF/IFAS Extension faculty teach and facilitate hundreds of face-to-face seminars, workshops and conferences each year. However, barriers such as time, location, and cost often prevent our clientele from attending the classes and therefore accessing the information.

OBJECTIVES: To increase access to educational programming, UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County utilize Facebook Live. **METHODS** Simple Facebook Live videos can be produced in the field with a cellular phone or tablet. However, for longer programs faculty utilize a set up that offers higher quality sound and visual resolution. Materials include a dedicated computer for streaming, microphone, digital webcam, and a secondary computer for monitoring the online stream. The broadcast works best with 2 people, with one person acting as the broadcast director, and the other person responding to questions and comments on the stream. UF as a license with Zoom software to offer video conferencing, but the software can also be utilized for livestreaming videos. The videos are automatically archived to Facebook, and can be saved and uploaded to other platforms as well. **RESULTS:** Since November 2017, and after peer-to-peer training from Florida Sea Grant Communications, Agents have recorded 6 videos with resulting 2,460 views. In addition, Agents trained our Florida Public Archaeology Network partners who have recorded 3 archaeology seminars at our Weedon Island Extension office with 561 views. **CONCLUSIONS:** Our clientele increasingly look for information to be accessible online, and this is an easy strategy that can be used to multiply your programming efforts.

Teaching Best Practices Benefits Tree Canopy in Hurricane Country

H. Mayer*, UF/IFAS Extension Miami Dade County; M. Orfanedes*, UF/IFAS Extension Broward County

Situation: Every time South Florida suffers a hurricane, we lose tree canopy, some of which may never be replaced. It can cause a lot of damage to public and private infrastructure, the electric power grid and sadly, human lives. Clean up and restoration can cost millions. In order to reduce the impacts of hurricanes on urban tree canopy, extension agents in South Florida conducted a series of educational programs to teach and encourage adoption of tree selection and maintenance best practices. **Objectives:** At least 500 green industry workers will participate in one or more tree management educational programs. Eighty-five percent of participants will increase their knowledge of good arboricultural practices; 70% will promise to make at least one practice change. Knowledge gains were measured using pre- and post-tests and follow-up surveys were used to document practice changes. **Methods:** Numerous workshops and public outreach events were conducted. Most programs featured multi-media presentations, demonstrations and hands-on activities related to tree grading, planting, and pruning. **Results:** 1547 people participated in 55 workshops and educational events. A post-seminar, self-assessment questionnaire was answered by 442 participants. 90% (398) increased their knowledge and 92% (407) were very satisfied with the program. 71% (314) indicated that they would adopt at least one of the recommended practices in their daily activities. **Conclusions:** Management of tree canopy in South Florida is improving due to a better trained work force and a heightened awareness of the need to follow tree care best practices by the general public.

Community Conversations Can Create Change

L. Milligan*, R. Madhosingh-Hector, and L. Carnahan, UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County

Objectives: Agents in Pinellas County hosted two community forums focused on climate change and stormwater to support the CIVIC (Community Voices, Informed Choices) initiative. These forums are designed for participants to learn new perspectives, engage in community actions to solve an issue, and create opportunities for Extension to conduct local needs assessments. Methods: Community forums begin with a pre-survey and an overview of the forum including objectives. A guiding question is used to familiarize participants with each other and the issues to be discussed. A short PowerPoint presentation establishes knowledge baselines and a placemat tool is used to guide conversation. Each forum concludes with debrief and post-evaluations, and a final report is also provided to forum partners to guide future actions. Results: A total of 15 attended both forums and this is reflective of the group size that is best suited to deliberative discussion. When asked if this program introduced participants to new ideas they had not previously considered, 93% (N=15) indicated it had and specifically listed topics or ideas they had not previously considered. Participants' level of motivation was also assessed and 73% were willing to take action towards solutions of the topic addressed. **Conclusions:** Traditional extension programs are an excellent way to relay information in the form of one-way communication, but are limited in their capacity to expand participants' views of a particular issue. Community forums allow Extension faculty to teach and engage in two-way communication about possible future actions the community can take toward positive change.

International Food System Case Study to Enhance Multidisciplinary Extension Programs in Florida H. Wooten*, UF/IFAS Extension Seminole County; S. Hensley*, UF/IFAS Extension State Specialized Agent; A. Sheldon*, UF/IFAS Extension Clay County, T. Momol*, UF/IFAS Extension Central District

Extension faculty generally works autonomously providing solutions to respective audiences in agriculture, family and consumer sciences, and 4-H youth development. Food systems programming promotes collaboration among Extension faculty. **Objectives:** 1. Enhance opportunities for collaborative food systems programming through international workshop and technical/cultural immersion. 2. Perform case study of agents' experiences from varying programs to evaluate collaborative opportunities in food systems education. Methods: Multi- state campus and county Extension faculty from Florida and North Carolina participated in an International Extension Workshop Exploring Food Systems of Southern Italy in October/ November 2017. Professionals toured Italian farms, "masseria" and "agriturismos", that grow, process, distribute, and market crops including pomegranates, grapes, olives, apples, and lemons. Participants regularly reflected and discussed farmers' production and marketing considerations and on attributes of the Mediterranean diet and lifestyle. Results: Various Extension faculty from agriculture, family and consumer sciences, and 4-H incorporated food system programming focusing on Mediterranean lifestyles from farm to table including agritourism. Agents related program specific lessons to clientele. Agriculture agents model integrated pest management techniques and alternative cropping systems of pomegranate and olive. 4-H agents incorporate food systems programs for youth. Family and Consumer Sciences agents enhance "Mediterranean Lifestyle" curriculum with collaboration from agents and specialists. Conclusion: Sustainability, dietary, and

lifestyle differences compared to the US were significant. Technical and cultural immersion allowed Extension professionals to experience, observe, and learn many aspects of a food system while reflecting with colleagues. Travelling beyond our borders allows Extension professionals to gain new perspectives and enhance extension education.

Keeping Up with Recordkeeping

T. Sanchez, UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County

It can be overwhelming to accurately calculate the number of calls, site visits, and emails provided to clientele. Using a database can be an easy way to keep records and pull reports. **Objectives:** (1) facilitate reporting; (2) document progress with clientele inquiries; (3) make inquiries and progress accessible to colleagues and/or office staff. Methods: A Microsoft (MS) Access database was created using two tables that collect client information (contacts) and progress (log). Based on the log fields, a form was created to facilitate data collection. Log fields include date, category (phone call, email, office or site visit), agricultural type (conventional, organic), industry (vegetables, ornamental, etc.) among others. The file is stored on the public server to allow access by multiple people. Reports can be generated using either MS Access or MS Excel. The preferred reporting tool is MS Excel as graphs can be created when needed. **Results:** Using the tool has significantly reduced the reporting time for quarterly county reports and annual state reports. It has facilitated follow up with clientele as the progress is documented and dated. It provides data for advisory committee meetings about the volume of inquiries received by the agent as well as topics (crops, etc.). The database serves as a constant needs assessment and, it works as backup for the agent's responses and recommendations. Conclusions: This tool provides opportunities for recordkeeping and reporting by Extension Agents. This data collection format could be adopted by the Program Development & Evaluation Center as a statewide recordkeeping system.

Office team building—one step at a time

C. Stevenson* and L. Johnson*, UF/IFAS Extension Escambia County

Objectives: To increase office unity while improving agent and staff members' health and productivity. Methods: During the spring of 2017 and 2018, the Escambia County Extension office formed "Team 9 ½ Mile" to compete in the University-wide "Spring Walking Challenge." The challenges were 4-week (2017) and 6-week (2018) efforts in which participants recorded their weekly step totals and reported a team average. In 2018, a paved 0.8-mile walking track was built around our office grounds, which allowed staff the opportunity to walk safely before, after, or during work on breaks. Results: The first year, we had a team (15 members) average of 68,000 steps and improved to a team (11 members) average of 68,501. Each year, our team walked an average of 1600 total miles. Several office staff members lost weight during the challenge, including one whose doctor reduced her blood pressure medication because of her improved health. Pairs and small groups of coworkers often walked together, and the team member with the most total steps was awarded the "golden sneaker" in recognition of their efforts. Almost immediately after the track construction, members of the community started using the track all day long. **Conclusions:** When exercise is presented as a fun team effort with attainable goals, people are motivated to do their best and increase their physical activity. Benefits of the walking challenge and track construction included improved physical health, office productivity, opportunities for colleague interaction in a relaxed atmosphere, and a public amenity for the citizens we serve.

Using Community-Based Social Marketing Techniques to Build Bigger Audiences and Impacts: Results of a Multi-Year Case Study

L. Albrecht*, UF/IFAS Extension Palm Beach County

The 'Let Every Drop Count' program was developed to address Florida's growing water crisis. **Objectives:** 1) to use community-based social marketing (CBSM) techniques to encourage participants to implement new water conservation practices on their properties and throughout community associations; and 2) to empower attendees to create positive behavior changes throughout the county. **Methods:** An initial presentation demonstrated how much water and money participants could save by taking simple steps to reduce landscape irrigation, and provided tips on how they could serve as community-wide 'water ambassadors.' Attendees then signed a voluntary pledge to participate in the program and created their own irrigation conservation plans. Integrative, experiential and reinforcement methods included follow-up presentations, plus demonstrations, brainstorming sessions, group discussions, and in-person and email pledge reminders. EDIS publications, fact sheets, and CBSM techniques such as specially-created pledge certificates, pledge cards, prompts and a campaign logo were employed to lower barriers to change and make new practice adoption convenient and desirable. Results: According to 60-day follow up surveys, 110 pledge takers adopted new practices that would reduce landscape irrigation by 13,309,367 million gallons of water a year (Boyer & Dukes, 2015). In addition, 96% of the respondents talked to others, including community associations, schools and clients about irrigation conservation. Conclusion: CBSM techniques can help agents foster large-scale behavior changes in landscape irrigation practices. This program has been adopted as a model in nearby counties.

Generating Program Enhancement Funds through an Educational Expo

K. Waters*, UF/IFAS Holmes County Extension

Natural resources (NR) are abundant in Florida, and many people participate in a vast array of outdoor recreation, creating a need to educate people on NR management and best management practices. **Objectives:** 1) To raise awareness of the NR and ensure they are preserved for future generations, 2) create a model that will increase practice change by providing opportunities to purchase tools/supplies the same day the knowledge is gained and 3) to generate program enhancement (PE) for all programs supported by the agent. Methods: The educational component of the Expo is done through interactive educational booths that are a part of a scavenger hunt. In addition, to educational booths vendors are onsite the day of the event to provide the opportunity to purchase goods/supplies of all types of natural resources management and outdoor recreation. Admission is charged to increase PE generated. Results: In two years 1,005 participants have attended the Expo, of which 176 were surveyed. As a result of their participation in the Expo, those surveyed reported that 111 planned to increase participation in outdoor activities, 170 reported knowledge gained, 59 made purchases the day of the Expo based off of something they learned. Total budget for the two Expos was \$18,180 of program enhancement resulting in \$3,886 in PE profit. **Conclusions:** This program has developed into a signature program for the agent. It is dual purpose, in that it educates the general public on NR, while generating PE that supports other program areas.

Expanding Farm to Fork with Energy and Numbers

M. Ward*, UF/IFAS Extension Citrus County

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) educators use innovation to reinvent traditional agricultural adventure camps; sparking imagination and engagement. **Objectives:** Learn the "ins and outs" of program development, from grant writing to volunteer recruitment and training to program logistics. Why is this program important? Globally young people need innovative, engaging programs that will put them on a trajectory to thrive. Agents need tools and techniques to expand programming. **Methods:** This program immersed 190 5th grade students and 9 teachers in a day-long program exploring the rich resources of Florida agriculture and their connection to math and science. In collaboration with Extension, teachers, school administrators, community partners and agricultural leaders engaged students to identify the role of agricultural commodities in consumer goods and services, connect the flow of resources (water, energy and nutrients) in agricultural systems, and link issues with water quality and weather. Results: Using a pre/post survey, classroom teachers reported improved student ability to relate science to life experiences, to see personal impacts on water quality, to connect agriculture with local climate, to recognize composting recycles nutrients, to identify chemical/physical changes, and relate chlorophyll to photosynthesis. **Conclusions:** Students and teachers were engaged and challenged to think in new ways about agriculture. This program may be replicated by multi-county or individual agents thereby establishing partnerships with stakeholders for financial resources, relationships with classroom teachers to address specific needs, e.g. sunshine state standards.

Teaching Food Systems Through Summer Day Camps

K. Taylor*, UF/IFAS Extension Sumter County

Objective: With over 1,300 farms, most would consider Sumter County a rural county, but it also has the fastest growing town in the United States (The Villages). With these two distinct populations, it is very important our youth continue to learn about the importance of agriculture. When youth increase their knowledge about nutrition and agriculture, allowing them to make informed decisions about their diets and overall health (agday.org). In addition, youth who learn and understand agriculture become informed citizens who are able to participate in making educated policies that will support agriculture. During the past three summers, 4-H has hosted, Fresh from Sumter County, Farm to Table and AG *Exploration.* The purpose of these camps was to increase participants' knowledge about local food systems, career opportunities, healthy eating habits, and food safety. It also taught youth the significance of the agriculture to the local economy. Methods: Delivery methods of educational materials included lectures using PowerPoints, group discussions and activities, educational games, field trips, handouts, and hands-on learning activities. Results: Pre and post-tests were given. Results from the Farm to Table camp concluded there was a 124% knowledge gain (n=14). Results from the Fresh from Sumter County camp concluded there was 110% knowledge gain (n=10). Conclusion: The success of this program was due to partnerships with local agriculture producers, agricultural organizations, business owners, and a number of extension agents. Due to these partnerships, we were able to visit both traditional and unique agricultural businesses in both Hernando and Sumter Counties.

A Model for Classical Newsletter Development

K. Waters*, UF/IFAS Holmes County Extension

Dynamic demographics in rural agricultural settings make communication with clientele a challenge. The increasing average age of producers, coupled with limited internet access limits the effectiveness of electronic communications. Classically, this has been done through a printed newsletter, but with common budget restraints there is rarely funding for the production of a newsletter. **Objectives:** 1) Develop an effective channel of communication, 2) increase programming awareness and participation, while providing a platform for educational materials to be distributed and 3) develop a model to be used in early career development that allows for classic newsletter production to be a viable channel of communication. Methods: A bi-monthly newsletter is distributed via mail to clientele with a focus on agricultural production topics, programming awareness, and agent-to-client relationship establishment. To support the cost of the production, sponsorships were secured for each of the newsletter pages. Results: Since 2016, 19 issues have been published and distribution has totaled 5,224 to 598 clientele. Sponsorships totaling \$5,250 have supported the cost of publication. A sample (36) of the clientele were surveyed, and as a result of the newsletter, 97% reported increased awareness of programming, 96% reported knowledge gained from content, 100% reported they felt it was the best means of communication in the county, and 74% reported that it resulted in them having a stronger relationship with their new agent. Conclusion: The newsletter has been established as an effective, recognized channel of communication that has increased program awareness, while helping to establish relationships and credibility with clientele.

Improving Farm Profitability and Sustainability with Alternative Crops

B.C. Wells*, UF/IFAS Extension St. Johns County; D. Dinkins, UF/IFAS Extension Multi-County; G. England and S. Chambers, UF/IFAS Hastings Agricultural Extension Center St. Johns County

Situation: Alternative crops are defined as agronomic crops unusual for a specific region yet selected for production due to high marketing potential or benefit to the farming system. In Hastings, the 'Potato Capital of Florida', potato acreage is significantly shrinking from low profit margins while area growers are seeking alternative crops to improve farm profitability and sustainability. With adoption of alternative crops, opportunity is increased, but risk is as well. Growers are relying on UF/IFAS Extension for research and education to help mitigate risks of adopting unfamiliar crops. Objective: Obtain research-based production information on alternative crops for Hastings area potato growers. Methods: An Extension program in alternative crops was implemented in 2015. Field research and demonstration trials are on-going at the UF/IFAS Hastings Agricultural Extension Center (HAEC) and in commercial fields exploring the production potential of various alternative crops including Asian vegetables, sweet potatoes, Brussels sprouts, artichokes, and cauliflower. Investigations have been diverse, and include cultivar selection, nutrient management, irrigation needs and pest management. Results: Since 2015, field trials at the HAEC have yielded a variety of outcomes, most notably, the establishment of nitrogen standards for select Asian vegetables, adoption of commercial production of purple sweet potato, and increased knowledge and interest in other alternative crops such Brussels sprouts, cauliflower, artichokes, carrots and corn. Conclusions: By utilizing UF/IFAS Extension research and demonstration centers such as the HAEC, agents can help growers transition to alternative crops through demonstrated field success that yields a well-thought out production plan derived from un-biased research.

Master Gardener Plant Sale & Ag Fest Provides Team Work for Extension Agents & Volunteers

C. Sanders*, K. Korus, T. Sanchez, A. Morgan, and M. Maddox, UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County

Objectives: The objectives of the Master Gardener Plant Sale & Ag Fest are: 1.) Increase public awareness of Extension; 2.) Increase revenue for Extension programs; 3.) Maintain partnerships with agricultural groups. Methods: Master Gardener Plant Sale and Ag Fest is an annual event at the Alachua County Extension Office. All faculty, and Master Gardener volunteers work together in the planning and implementation of the program. Displays include: plant diagnostics, Master Gardener information, 4-H ecology team, Cooking with Herbs, UF/IFAS Bookstore, Farm Service Agency, Local Bee clubs, Florida Department of Agriculture, Florida Friendly Landscaping, Alachua County Recycling, Composting, and FNP. The Master Gardeners propagate and grow 6000+ plants to sell. Educational talks by Master Gardeners and Agents are presented, topics include: growing & cooking herbs, growing fruit trees, and backyard flocks. Results: This event has been held annually for the past 14 years. The ag fest was added about 5 years ago to increase Extension awareness and agriculture in Alachua County. The program is held the 3rd Saturday of May, 8:00am – noon. The average attendance is 1150 citizens. **Conclusion**: This program has built a reputation in Alachua County, people line up at 6:30am. This program allows agents, staff, and volunteers to work together in the planning and implementation. This builds teamwork and collaboration with volunteers, citizens, and community groups that are involved. The last 5 years the plant sale has generated over \$110,000 in revenue. Funds are used to landscape the Extension office, school and community gardens, trainings, and equipment.

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Members of the Extension Professional Associations of Florida are encouraged to prepare program abstracts for 2019. 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

