

# A {Garden of Friends}



Memorial Service  
August 30, 2011



Epsilon Sigma Phi

Your Key to Professional Excellence

This past year we lost 11 former Florida Extension agents, and four other friends of Extension. The following individuals were honored at the ESP Memorial Service in Orlando Florida.

*I {Garden} therefore I am.*

*Mr. Lester Hatch*

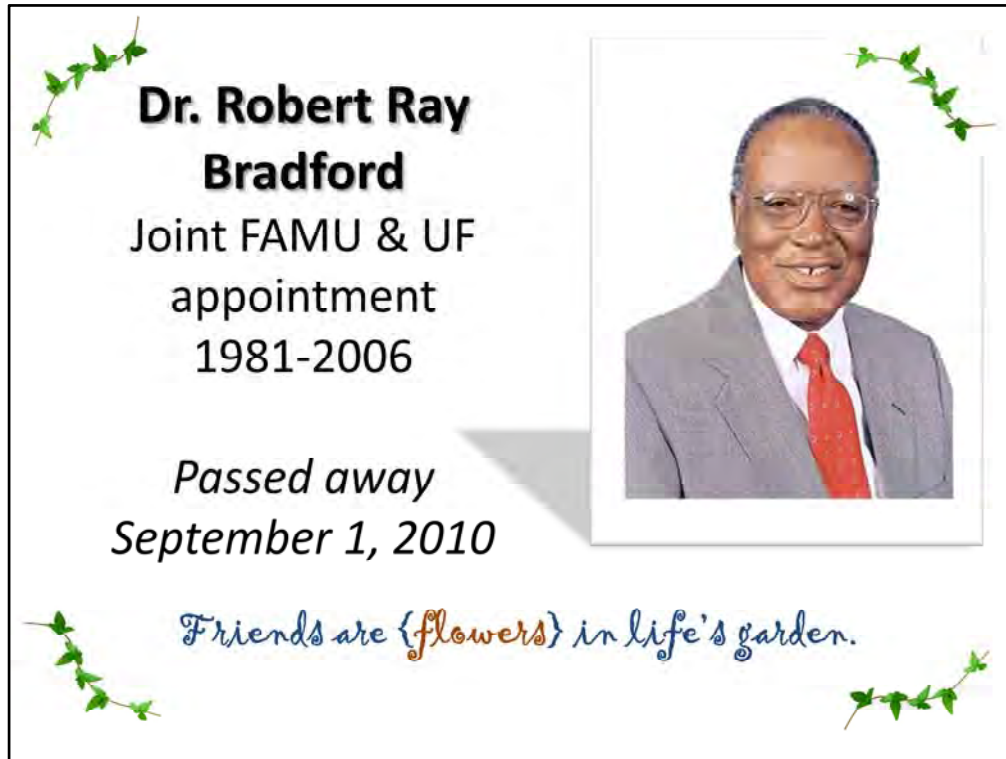
**Ag Agent  
DeSoto County & CED  
in Charlotte County**

**11/16/54 to 11/29/74**

**Passed away  
October 22, 2009**



**Mr. Lester Hatch**, 93, passed away on October 22, 2009. Born in Lawrence County, Arkansas, he was a graduate of the University of Arkansas. He farmed and taught agriculture to returning veterans in the late 1940s. In the 1950s, he moved to Florida, where he worked as an agricultural extension agent in both Charlotte and DeSoto Counties until his retirement in 1974. He returned to Northeast Arkansas in 1995.



**Dr. Robert Ray Bradford**, passed away on September 1, 2010. In 1981, he received a joint appointment between UF and FAMU as a professor and the director for the Center for the Cooperative Agricultural Program. He is a product of the 1890 land-grant system, graduating from Alabama A&M University in agronomy. Last year, he was honored as African-American Achiever in the 2010 calendar produced by Tallahassee Community College.

*Flowers are the  
{sweetest things}  
God ever made and  
forgot to put a soul  
into.*



**Jean Meadows**  
Family & Consumer  
Sciences Agent in  
Suwannee, Jefferson,  
Hernando, Sarasota  
& Manatee Counties

10/16/63-4/30/03

*Passed away  
September 29, 2010*

**Ms. Jean Meadows**, 71, passed away on September 29, 2010. She was born in Tampa, and raised in Riverview, where she was active in 4-H. She received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Science from Florida State University. She retired in 2003 having served for 40 years with the Florida Extension Service. She worked in Suwannee, Jefferson, Hernando, Sarasota, and Manatee counties during her Extension career. She was very involved in quilting guilds and sustainability projects. After retirement, she moved to Blue Ridge, Ga. where she loved becoming involved with the fabric arts community.

## **Oscar Harrison**

Ag Agent

Washington County  
(1944-51)

Dixie County (1951-53)

Walton County (1953-65)

*Passed away Jan 14, 2011*



*Everyday is {earth} day.*

**Mr. Oscar Harrison**, 101, passed away on January 14, 2011. He was born in Geneva County, AL and was the 7th of 13 children. In 1916, his family moved to Walton County, FL. In 1937, he earned his Bachelor's of Education degree from the University of Florida and continued teaching in Walton County until 1944 when he & his family then moved to Washington County and became an Ag Agent. He was then an Agent in Dixie County and then to Walton County. He was instrumental in securing the funds for the Walton County Fair. He worked for Walton County Extension until his retirement in 1965. During his retirement years, he constructed more than 2,200 bluebird houses which adorn many of the yards of Walton County.

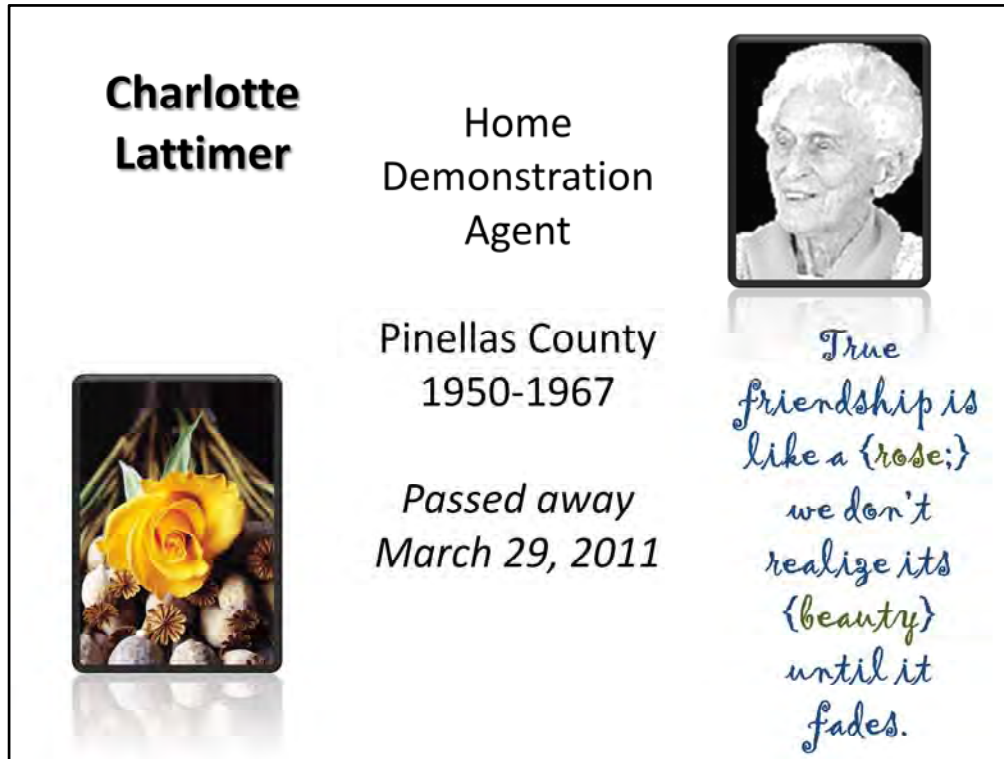


**Mr. David DeVoll**, 69, passed away on February 23, 2011. He served as a Highlands County Ag Agent from 1968-94 and was instrumental in the formation of the Highlands County Grape Growers Association. He was well regarded by his Master Gardeners and commercial growers. After leaving Sebring, he moved to Virginia, where he and his wife had a lovely home at the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. They had a large plot of land where David planted pumpkins (for sale), many grape vines and a huge garden. He worked part-time in a nursery and loved to help people with their questions about plants. He was a great gourmet cook and enjoyed time with his family and the land.



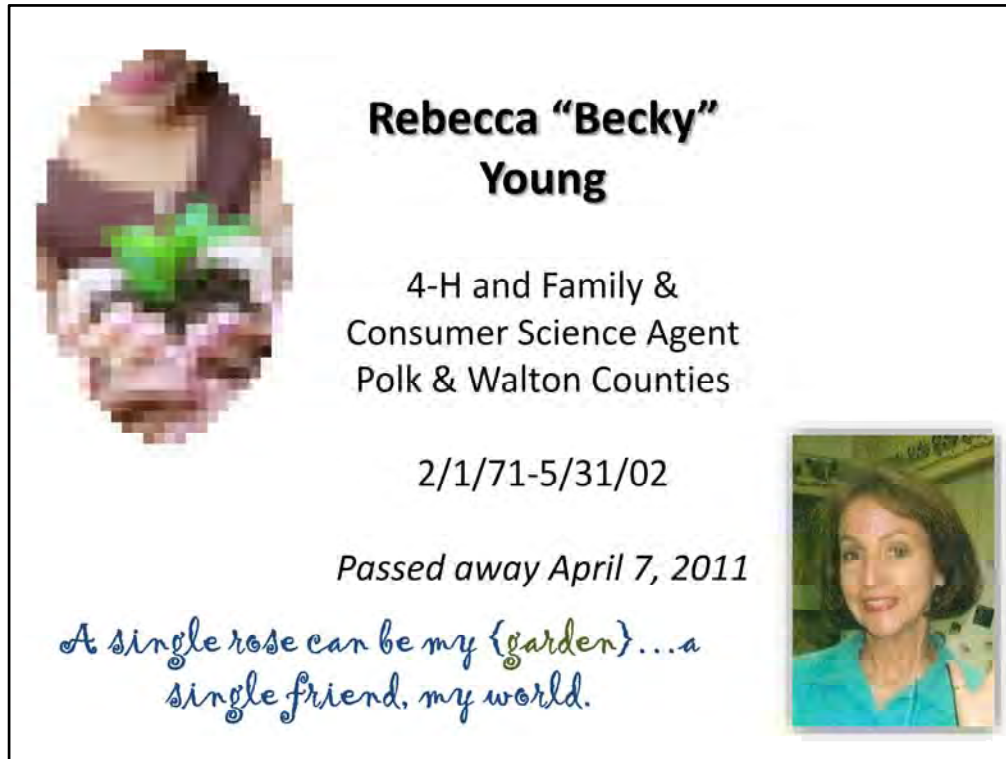
**Ms. Barmell Dixon**, 75, passed away on March 4, 2011. Born in Big Stone Gap, VA, she moved to Brooksville, FL 60 years ago. She is a graduate and post-graduate of Florida State University. She was a home economics agent in Hernando, Sumter, Citrus, and Pasco Counties. She enjoyed cooking and spending time with her family.





**Ms. Charlotte Lattimer**, 98, passed away on March 29, 2011. She was born in Buffalo, NY and attended Buffalo State Teacher College Normal School from kindergarten through ninth grade, and then was accepted and graduated from Lafayette High School, where she was on the high school's swim team. Upon graduation she was asked to train for the Olympics, but decided to go to Cornell University instead. While at Cornell, she majored in Home Economics. In 1947 she moved to Florida and in 1950 became the Pinellas County Home Demonstration Agent, a job that she held until her retirement Nov. 30, 1967, over 17½ years. Under her leadership, the home demonstration women and girls' 4-H club programs flourished. She is Past President of the Florida Home Demonstration Agents' Association, Past President of the Florida Extension Workers' Association, Past Vice President of the National Association of Extension Home Economists, and Past Chairman of the Florida West Coast District Home Economics Association.





**Ms. Becky Young**, 62, passed away on April 7, 2011. Born in Des Moines, IA, she had been a resident of DeFuniak Springs, since 1973 . She graduated from Auburn University, receiving her Bachelor's Degree in Home Economics. She also received her Master's Degree from Florida State University. In 1970 she began working with at the Polk County Extension office as a Clothing and Textile Agent. After moving to DeFuniak Springs she served as the 4H agent, and later the Family & Consumer Science for Walton County for 29 years before retiring in 2002. She was an expert seamstress, nutrition educator and was always trying to gain more knowledge to better help her fellowman.



**Ruth Ann Miller**  
Home Demonstration  
& 4-H Agent  
Polk County

9/1/69-12/31/91

*Passed away  
April 16, 2011*



*It takes a long  
time to {grow}  
an old friend.*

**Ms. Ruth Ann Miller**, 85, passed away on April 16, 2011. Born in Goshen, NY she was a graduate of Penn State University and worked for the New York Extension Service from 1949-1967 until she transferred to Florida as the Polk County Extension agent. She retired in 1991. She had a strong interest in social causes, volunteering and international travel. Family and friends loved her positive outlook and generosity.

**Mary Bennett**  
Home Demonstration  
Agent  
DeSoto, St. Lucie &  
Jackson Counties

1950's-1969

*Passed away June 24,  
2011*

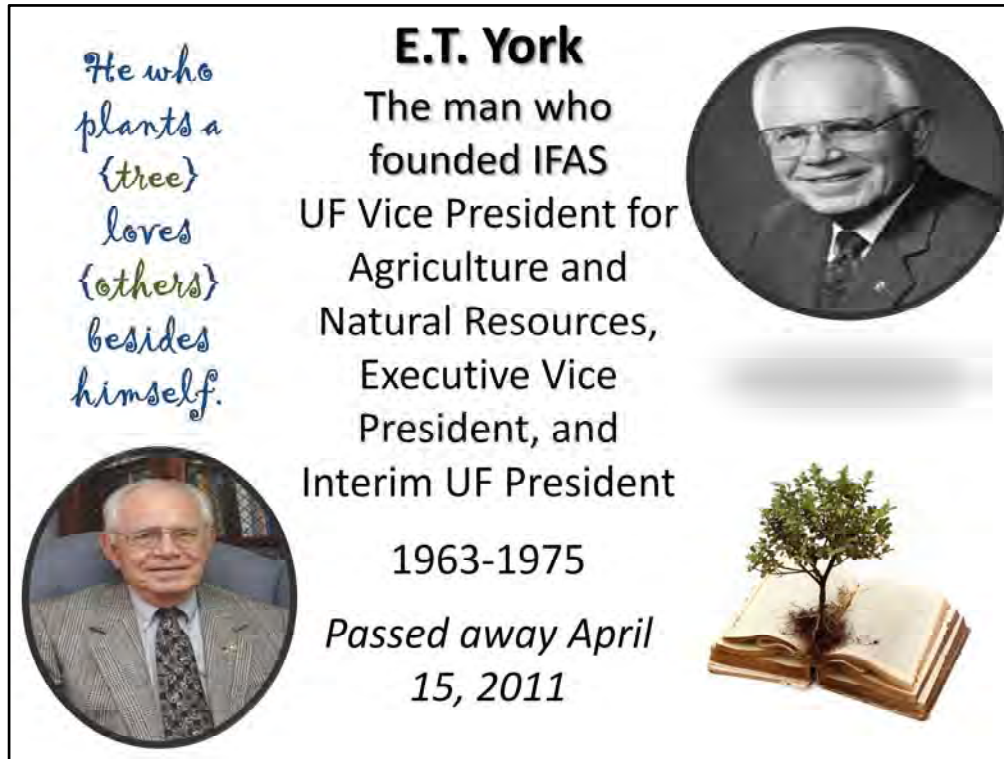
*We make the  
world we  
{live} in and  
{shape} our  
own  
environment.*



**Ms. Mary Bennett**, 90, passed away on June 24, 2011. Born in Minette, AL and raised in Orlando, FL, she graduated in Home Economics from Florida State College for Women. She was a veteran of WWII, serving in the WAVES from 1943-46. In the late forties, she worked as a Home Demonstration Agent in Alabama until 1952 when she moved to Florida, becoming the Home Demonstration Agent in Arcadia and then Fort Pierce. In 1963, she became the Agent in Jackson County until 1969—due to conflicts with the County Commissioners over what she felt were gender & racial biases in the financing of homemaker programs. In 1974, she became the state coordinator for EFNEP in Hawaii until she retired in 1980.



**Mr. Cubie Laird**, 91, passed away on July 15, 2011. He was a native of Walton County, Fla., and after serving as a Second Lieutenant in WWII, he came to Gulf County (at Wewahitchka), Florida in 1945. He was employed as a Gulf County Extension Agent for 34 years, as Associate Professor of Agriculture with the University of Florida, and was a Civil Service employee with the U. S. Department of Agriculture. UF published his bulletin on pine fertilization, he led in establishing a Tupelo Honey Certification Program for Gulf County and led 4-H Club work with Gulf County youth. He demonstrated a timber-grazing-game combination program for forest land.



**Dr. E.T. York**, 88, passed away on April 15, 2011. He was Chancellor Emeritus of the State University System and former University of Florida (UF) Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources, executive vice president, and interim UF president. During his tenure at UF, York created the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) to facilitate closer coordination of the agricultural, teaching, research, and extension functions. York also realized that for IFAS to be most effective, its organization could not rely fully on public funding, that private funds must also be generated to support needed programs. Therefore, he set up another program, called SHARE (Special Help for Agricultural Research and Education) and called upon farmers, ranchers, growers and agriculturally related organizations to contribute funds. The SHARE program was established in 1968 and according to UF Foundation data, to date, has raised over \$260 million to support IFAS programs, contributing significantly to the effectiveness of the University of Florida's agricultural efforts. York also played a primary role in the formation of the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Florida.

## IFAS Extension Friends

*Bread feeds the {body}, indeed,  
but flowers feed also the {soul}.*



**Stella Lovely**

UF IFAS County Operations  
1979-June 2003  
*Passed away Sept 4, 2010*

**Dr. Henry Y. Ozaki**

UF IFAS Research, Fort  
Lauderdale & Belle Glade  
Centers  
1954-1988  
*Passed away Dec 27, 2010*

**Stan Harris**

Editorial Dept of IFAS Media  
Center  
40 years of service  
*Passed away Aug 2, 2011*

**Ms. Stella Lovely**, 83, passed away on September 4, 2010. Many will remember her working in County Operations for more than 20 years. She retired in 2003.

**Dr. Henry Ozaki**, 87, passed away on December 27, 2011. For 34 years, he worked as a research professor for the University of Florida and was recognized as a professor emeritus. He was an IFAS faculty member from 1954 to 1968 at Fort Lauderdale REC, the final 20 years up to his retirement in the late 1980s, in Belle Glade. Henry attended the Fort Lauderdale REC 50th anniversary observance in 2003, and he had lots of reminiscences.

**Mr. Stan Harris**, 83, passed away on August 2, 2011. He worked at the IFAS Media Center for more than 40 years.



All the flowers of all  
the {tomorrows} are in  
the seeds of {today}.  
— Swedish proverb



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This presentation was produced by Florida's 2010-2011 ESP Chaplin Tracy Tesdall.