

ESP Life Members & All Extension Retirees
Fall / Winter 2018



ESP Extension Connections Life after a Dedicated Career

UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Staying Connected

We are hoping to use this newsletter as a way of keeping in touch after retirement. You invested so much time and effort to a mission of helping others through education. Along the way you made many new friends and became a part of our Extension family. With your help, we can keep track of our retirees, share stories, and maintain this important connection.

My County Extension Faculty and their families in the Florida Panhandle are safe, working through their continued daily challenges.

Many people who cannot come to assist are asking how they or others can assist my county faculty financially. The best way is through gift cards from Home Depot, Lowes, Ace, Walmart, or any others — we will get these to the faculty and staff in need.

Send to:

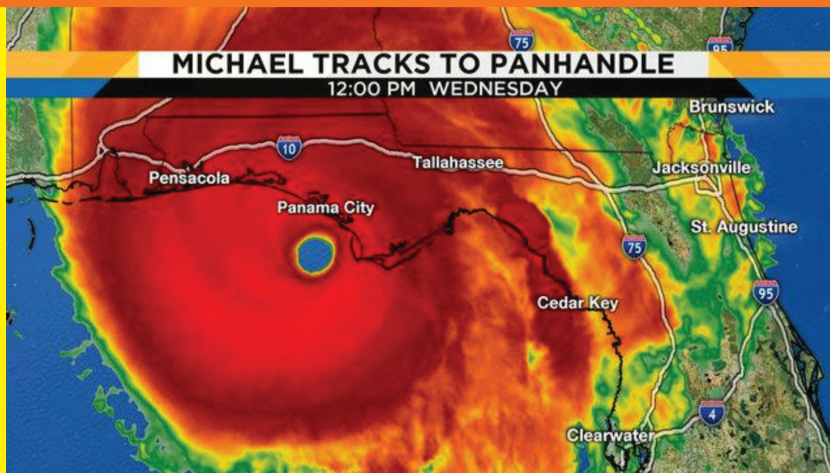
Northwest Extension District
Attn: Janice Walden
155 Research Road
Quincy, FL 32351

Many County Agents and their staff are on generators while helping their communities. Most have tarps on their roofs as roofing issues are a challenge. They have had trees on homes, fences and buildings destroyed; insides of homes have water and mold damage.

Thank you all for your thoughts, prayers, and support.

Dr. Pete Vergot

NW District Extension Director
pvergot@ufl.edu



Aid-A-Gator ~ <https://benefits.hr.ufl.edu/gatorperks/aid-a-gator/>

Rules don't govern how someone responds to disaster. A personal code does.

That's why Monica Brinkley didn't consult a handbook before jumping in to help. Instead, she was guided by a question: "What role am I going to play in all this?" Then she called the Liberty County emergency operations center and offered the UF/IFAS Extension Liberty County office as a collection point for donations.

The donations came in by the ton – far more than one woman could handle. Seemingly out of nowhere, three of her county club leaders and their 4-Hers (she is the UF/IFAS Extension Liberty County

Director and the 4-H agent) showed up and got to work.

As soon as UF/IFAS Extension Jackson County Director Doug Mayo could get out of his own driveway, he drove as close as he could to 4-H agent Heather Kent's house. Then he walked in with chainsaw gas and to see what else she needed. No one told UF/IFAS Extension Escambia County Director Nick Simmons to pack up a truckload of hay in Escambia and drive it to producers in Washington and Jackson counties.

Extension Dean Nick Place and Northwest District Extension Director Pete Vergot provided

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stellar leadership organizing relief efforts.

But our front-line employees had the best picture of the needs because of their relationships with their communities and with each other. They knew without being told how they could help.

Research employees shined as well. So many of his crew went to Marianna that Plant Science Research and Education Unit Director Jim Boyer found himself harvesting peanuts in Citra. Others came from Ona, from Live Oak, and from Jay. Like firefighters who travel the nation to help their brethren beat back blazes, our research and Extension employees acted on a code that compels them to respond to colleagues in need.

Students, too, got a lesson in the code. The Collegiate Cattlewomen and Block & Bridle made calls to Panhandle cattle families to check on what they needed. Then UF/IFAS Extension Holmes County livestock agent Kalyn Waters made several trips to Alabama to get it.

The aftermath of Michael was a moment when job descriptions and geographic boundaries didn't matter. Everyone was a relief worker. Everyone either worked in the path of the hurricane, or they rushed in from across the state immediately afterward to help.

The disaster demonstrated how tightly we're connected. It did not change our service ethic. It revealed it. ~ **Jack Payne 10-29-18**

[http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/news/2018/10/19/uf-ifas-extension-northwest-district-faculty-persevere-help-others-after-hurricane/?ct=t\(June_IFAS_Matters_6_1_2016_COPY_01\)](http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/news/2018/10/19/uf-ifas-extension-northwest-district-faculty-persevere-help-others-after-hurricane/?ct=t(June_IFAS_Matters_6_1_2016_COPY_01))

[http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/news/2018/10/23/uf-ifas-extension-helps-panhandle-farmers-after-hurricane-michael/?ct=t\(June_IFAS_Matters_6_1_2016_COPY_01\)](http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/news/2018/10/23/uf-ifas-extension-helps-panhandle-farmers-after-hurricane-michael/?ct=t(June_IFAS_Matters_6_1_2016_COPY_01))

<https://www.morningagclips.com/uf-employees-help-hard-hit-north-florida-rec/>

Retirements 2018 - 2019

- Pam Allen – CED, Family & Consumer Sciences (Okaloosa)
- Linda Bobroff – State Nutrition Specialist 12/18
- Monica Brinkley – CED, FCS, 4-H (Liberty)
- Debbie Clements – 4-H (Okeechobee) 5/18
- Rod Clouser – Assoc. Chair Food and Resource Economics 6/19
- Monica Dawkins – Fam. & Cons. Sciences (Miami/Dade) 12/18
- James DeValerio - Ag/Natural Resources (Bradford)
- Diann Douglas – Family & Consumer Sciences (Madison)
- Anthony Drew – Agriculture/Livestock (Levy)
- Terry Delvalle – Urban Horticulture (Duval) 11/18
- Jim Fletcher – RSA Central, Water Resources, BMP
- Steve Futch – Interim CED, Citrus (DeSoto, Hardee, Polk) 6/19
- Kim Gabel – Master Gardener/FFL (Monroe) 1/18
- Cindy Higgins – 4-H (Columbia) 9/18
- Jean Hink – 4-H (Pasco) 1/31/19
- Barbara Hughes - CED, Fam. & Cons. Sciences (Seminole)12/18
- Jackie Hunter - EFNEP (Hillsborough)
- Nan Jensen – Family & Consumer Sciences (Pinellas)
- Robert Kluson, Natural Resources/Small Farms (Sarasota) 7/18
- Gene McAvoy – CED, Regional Vegetable/Hort. (Hendry) 7/19
- Marjorie Moore – CED, Family & Consumer Sciences (Bay)
- Jane Morse – Commercial Horticulture (Pinellas)
- Clay Olsen – CED, Ag/Natural Resources/Econ. Dev. (Taylor)
- Pamela Phillippe – 4-H (Charlotte) 4/18
- Mary Sowerby – Livestock RSA, District II (Hillsborough) 1/18
- Mike Sweat – CED, Agriculture (Duval) 6/19
- Marvin Weaver – CED, Agriculture/4-H (Gilchrist)

We are missing more names – if you know them, please ask them to contact us so that we can stay in touch!



A Fond Farewell ...

- 10/30/17 James B. "Jim" Estes - Franklin County, 30 years
12/31/17 George Henry - Leon County Agronomy, 20 years
6/1/18 David Bray - UF Dairy Science, 32 years
7/26/18 Kimberly Niblett - UF Biological Scientist Fruit Breeding, 20 years
7/27/18 Dr. Richard Baranowski - Tropical Res. & Educ Ctr. 1984-2000
8/11/18 Mark Shuffitt - Marion County Livestock Agent 1991-2018
8/15/18 - Carol Lehtola - Agricultural Engineering 1995-2010

ESP Membership Brochure & Form

<http://epaf.ifas.ufl.edu/esp/pdf/memberbrochure.pdf>
<http://epaf.ifas.ufl.edu/esp/pdf/lifememberapp.pdf>

Hello from ESP Members & Retirees



Mary Beth Salisbury ~ I retired from UF/IFAS in November 2011. I then took an Administravive position with Osceola County Government until October of 2015. At that point I was presented a job I could not refuse as Nanny for our now two grandchildren, Addi age three and Holden age 7 months. My husband Stephen ended his career as a contractor by building us a new home in Lake Wales, FL. We are learning to balance caring for the children three days a week and retirement.

Larry Arrington ~ I retired in November 2016 and I have not had a bad day yet. I think Candy has adjusted to having me around the house all the time. We live in the Ocala area for the winter/spring and Townsend, TN for the summer/fall. We have enjoyed traveling in retirement.



Mary Keith ~ I've been up to my ears in birding! I'm now president of the Tampa Audubon Society, with all the organizing and details that includes, and just finished running a 4-day Florida Birding and Nature Festival. We had over 400 people participate, 21 field trips, 36 seminar speakers, a poster session for local researchers, and 3 keynote addresses. I am also continuing to teach my diabetes/heart health classes in Spanish for 2 free clinics in town, and editing some of Linda Bobroff's publications in Spanish. Also on the work-related theme, the new person in my old position is trying to get canning classes started again. So I've taught 2 with her so far, we have a few more on the calendar, and when she feels ready she'll take them over. Delighted! And I judged the county and state fair home canning entries this year. With all of that, needless to say, I have not made much progress on the knitting, book reading, yard work or home improvement plans I had when I retired in April 2015!



Tom McCubbin
(Orange County Urban Horticulturist until he retired in April 2007) and wife Joani's website - <http://betterlawns.com/abouttom.asp>



<http://floridaaghalloffame.org/2015/10/thomas-h-braddock/>



Want to keep your ufl.edu email?

In order to fulfill the United Faculty of Florida Contract (Article 25 Section 9), UFIT will extend GatorLink ID and Email service to retired Faculty members. To support this, UFIT has implemented a new affiliation of 'Retired Faculty' (283). This new affiliation will accompany the existing 'Retiree' (199) affiliation; however, unlike 'Retiree' this new 'Retired Faculty' affiliation will be eligible for a GatorLink ID and UF Email services (@ufl.edu address, and mailbox). Users with this affiliation will have an Email Eligible Location of "Retired Faculty", and can maintain their existing mailbox in either UF Exchange or GatorCloud Email.

<http://identity.it.ufl.edu/process/technologies/email-provisioning/retired-faculty-accounts/>

If you have any questions or if your accounts have been disabled and you would like to activate them again please contact the UF Computing Help Desk - helpdesk@ufl.edu

Retirees In Action ~ What YOU can do for the University

Stay up to date on the latest news/issues involving IFAS and speak up! Take action at the local/state/national levels when needed. Mary Ann Gosa-Hooks, Director of Governmental Affairs (UF Lobbyist) can send out updates to our mailing list. Donations are always welcome! This newsletter could also use an update/personal paragraph from you about what you're doing.

As an ESP Life Member – You can volunteer to score abstracts, review award applications, and submit a name for the ESP Retiree Award (Usually due April 1st). <http://epaf.ifas.ufl.edu/esp/membership.shtml>

News from the State Office ~ State Budget Updates

- **6.5 mil deficit** for this year's budget (lost \$ after Parkland shooting)
- **UF proposed a retirement incentive** for agents who were not already in DROP with 30+ years (get 1 year salary + insurance + leave all paid by UF). 84 eligible and 34 took the deal (15 were county agents; of which 8 were CEDs - 5 of those in the Panhandle!)
- **UF proposed a 9 month appointment** for tenured faculty (not Extension agents). Will elevate salaries to generate more dollars off grants, etc. to cover summer. To start January 2019. Only 2 or 3 IFAS faculty interested at the time. Must explain how they will cover Extension responsibilities.
- **New state faculty** (500) – Mostly teaching but get to choose to do part Extension or Research.
- **New RSA hires** - 28 so far! Started with 5 for 4-H; 5 Water with State leg. funding (LBR); first FCS in Quincy; Live oak Economist + others.

EPAF Retirees Luncheon 8/18



Martin County - Bob Whitty (Ag) & Chris Kilbride (FCS)



Mary Keith - Hillsborough FCS

Loretta Hodyss - Palm Beach Horticulture



Betsy Crisp - Pasco FCS



Duval County FCS - Tamer Britton, Stephanie Toelle & Duska Dorschel



Tom Braddock (Duval Ag) with wife Mary, chatting with the Dean



Recognition of all Retirees at the Luncheon • (forefront) Mary Sue Kennington - Orange FCS • Not pictured: Dr. Kathleen Ruppert, UF Resource Efficient Communities

Contact Us

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Websites •••

- **ESP – Alpha Delta Chapter**
<http://epaf.ifas.ufl.edu/esp/>
 - **EPAF – Conference information**
<http://epaf.ifas.ufl.edu/>
 - **FCS – Profiles**
<https://www.floridafcs.org/>
- FCS agents past and present, be sure to fill out a profile (*click on the puzzle*) so that we can stay connected!

If you have any information about yourself or your County that you would like to share in the next issue, please contact Betsy or Chris.