



Indigestion caused by swallowing your pride is not fatal.

JUNE

Birthdays

2.....Jim

Sumler

2.....Andrew

Marsh

16....Catalina

Moyer

16....Dasha Taborsky

16....Joel Parlin

17....Jim Price

22....Don Maynard



Congratulations!

Once again GCREC came through with the gold! IFAS Image Awards this year awarded two gold level winners (one per category). Congratulations to **Zhanao Deng/Christine Cooley** for the brochure on *UF Caladiums* and to **Steve Johnson/Dale Johnson/Monica McGarrity** for their poster on *Venomous Snakes of the Southeast*.



Plant City teaching garden opened in April...

The teaching garden at the Plant City campus features 1.5 acres of themed garden areas, a gazebo, bridge and bat house. The garden will be used for horticultural programs at HCC and UF, and is also open to the public 8:30 am until 4:30 pm. Although designed as a teaching garden, a stroll through this beautiful garden may bring some landscaping inspiration to the homeowner. Guided tours are available by calling (813) 757-2286.



[Welcome New Employees...](#) The month of June has been a busy month for new employees. We welcomed back **Dr. Arie Markus** for his yearly research visit to investigate the potential of essential oils and other products to improve repellency of whitefly on tomatoes.

Dr. Amr Abd-Elrahman awarded three summer internships for his Geomatics program. **Molly Conlon** is an HCC student and both **Darin Rushnell** and **David Coughlin** are Plant City campus students. Also new to the Geomatics program are four computer science students from the Gainesville campus who will be assisting in the program: **Ni Xu, Sravani Duggirala, Nikita Rasam,** and **UgandharReddy Chittamuru.**

Dr. Michael Andreu has also awarded three summer internships for Forestry. Both **Heather Violet** and **Sam Logue** are HCC graduates and a third, **Mary Hudson**, also an HCC graduate has been previously working at the Plant City campus.



As the new summer semester opened, we welcomed a new graduate assistant for Dr. Jeremy Edwards. **Mehul Bhakta**, a citizen of India, received his BS degree from the Navsari Agricultural University. His assistantship will be

for the next two years in the Master of Science program in Horticultural Sciences.



We welcome **Andrew Marsh**, of Ruskin. Andrew is a graduate of East Bay High School. He is working for Dr. Geoff Denny as an OPS to assist Nancy West in Commercial Landscape Management.

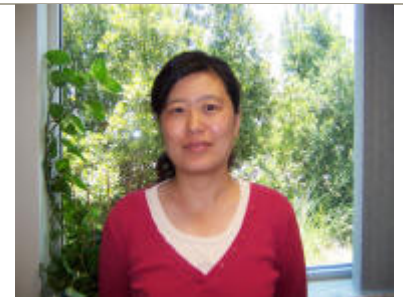


Dr. Craig Chandler has recently hired a summer student from Middleton High in Tampa, **Ramon Alonso**. Ramon is working with several programs, assisting where needed.

In May we hired an OPS assistant for the farm crew, **James Aguilar**. James lives just around the corner here in Balm and has just recently become a father! Congratulations on the birth of your son, James!



Li Gong, Post Doc Assoc. in Dr. Zhanao Deng's floriculture program, received her PhD in Plant Genetics and Breeding from the Vienna Agricultural University in Austria this past February. As soon as Li gets settled into the area, she will be joined by her family; husband, Guofa Hu, and daughter, Jialu. Carol Campbell has graciously hosted her until an apartment can be found. We welcome you, Li, to the GCREC family!



New arrival:

Ethan Gabriel Vallad was born to Dr. Gary Vallad and wife, Susana, on May 31st! Ethan weighed a whopping 10 lbs. 13 oz. at 22.3 inches. Big brother, Lukas, and sister, Alyssa, are proud of their little brother!

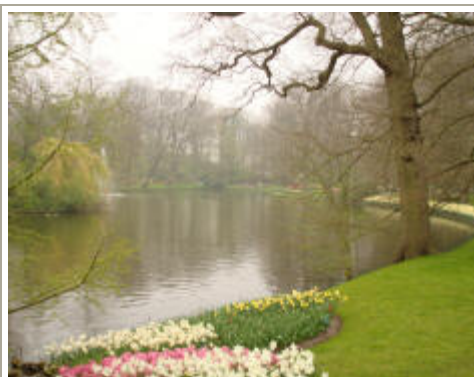


In May **Michael Andreu** participated in a triathlon in St. Augustine - a 0.5 mile ocean swim in 71 degree water, a 12 mile bike ride and a 3.1 mile run. While grueling at the time, in reflection he said it was fun and he met his goal - he made it in 1 hr. and 38 minutes. Congratulations, Michael! (rt. - *Michael with the heat turned up!...*)



Mark your calendars for the **2008 Florida Ag Expo** at Gulf Coast REC, **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5th!** There will be in-depth educational sessions of timely topics for growers, field tours in vegetable production research, hands-on previews of the latest products and equipment, free admission with lunch included.

Parting Shots... of Zhanao Deng's recent trip to Holland



July Birthdays...

- 13.....Cora Sanders
- 16.....Sara Hutchinson
- 17.....Rosa Ayala
- 23.....Pat Jones (ret.)
- 26.....Li Gong
- 29.....Natalia Peres