

Donations now being accepted for C.A.R.E. (Critter Adoption & Rescue Effort, Inc.)



Here is the list of items they need:

Rawhide Bones, Toys for Dogs & Cats

Tidy Cat scoopable litter, Yesterday's News brand cat litter for Kittens, Hard and soft treats for dogs and cats

(no Milk Bones please), Science Diet brand adult dry dog food, Science Diet brand dry cat food, Canned dog and cat food, any brand, PetSafe Premier Quick Snap collars, Peroxide, Rubbing alcohol, Puppy pads, Laundry Detergent HE (High Efficiency), Bleach, Dish Soap, 13 Gallon Trash Bags, Distilled Water, Paper Towels, Clean used bath towels, Copy paper, Postage Stamps

You can drop items off at Trish Todd's

Fun Fall Activities in Tampa—Mark Your Calendar for these Events -

Bolts Brew Fest 8/5 7 p.m.

Amalie Arena—Creative Loafing and the Tampa Bay Lightning team up to bring you the beer drinking event of the summer.

Summer of Rum Festival 9/2 12 noon

Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park—best way to celebrate Labor Day.

Tampa Bay Kids Fest 9/30 10 a.m.

Florida State Fairgrounds—Register for free tickets to this fun family event at www.813area.com

Tampa Pig Jig 2017 10/28 12 noon

Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park—annual fundraiser event hosted on Tampa's waterfront with live music, great food and BBQ, of course!



GCREC Employee News

August 2017

Research Matters Seminar Series Continues on 8/18



You all eat the delicious strawberries we grow here at GCREC, and now you can learn a little about the science behind them. Dr. Vance Whitaker, Associate Professor/Strawberry Breeding, is our next faculty member to contribute to the Research Matters Seminar Series on Friday 8/18. 12 noon in the auditorium.

AUGUST Birthdays

- 1 Todd Test
- 1 Reza Shekaste Band
- 1 Michelle Souza Olivera
- 4 Kshitij Khatri
- 5 Trish Todd
- 5 Saroj Parajuli
- 7 Evangelon James
- 9 Keevan Mackenzie
- 14 Christopher Delcastillo
- 14 Ravneet Sandhu
- 18 Heather Adkison
- 18 Daryl Taylor
- 26 Israel Cepeda
- 30 Jake Helmer

Hillsborough County Schools are back in session on August 10th

If you're driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car. It will give you more time to stop once the yellow lights start flashing. **It is illegal in all 50 states to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.** Be alert; children often are unpredictable, and they tend to ignore hazards and take risks.



Who's Number 1 in Florida and Number 5 in the country? The University of Florida! It's good to be a Gator!

Taking the top spot in a recent online poll ranking of the best colleges in Florida is UF. Offering more than 300 different degree paths at the undergraduate and graduate level -- alongside 30 certificate programs -- the university ensures that every student has the chance to find their passion. Undergrad students choose from courses covering African-American studies, classics, medieval and early modern studies, and veterinary medical sciences, among others. UF students may choose to take part in the school's unique Innovation Academy, a 30-major program where every student gains a minor in innovation. The program, which was designed to give students a research-focused approach to business development, technology, and ethics, is particularly valuable to students considering an entrepreneurial path. Other colleges of note include the Schools of Agricultural and Life Sciences; Design, Construction and Planning; and Veterinary Medicine.



"You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete."

— R. Buckminster Fuller

And this quote brings us to report some positive changes here at GCREC. You may have noticed that our maintenance crew and procedures for requesting maintenance assistance has changed. **The new work order can be found on our website here: <http://gcrec.ifas.ufl.edu/forms/>.** Once completed, you'll receive an email confirmation and then another noting the project you requested has been scheduled. Our maintenance crew and requests are now overseen by the supervisor at Citrus REC in Lake Alfred, Mr. Bob O'Neil. This has been instituted to allow a more streamlined method of keeping our center in good operating condition. He will be overseeing maintenance, custodial, and the landscaping at our center. We now have a professional landscaping company coming to the center one a week and a cleaning service will also be contracted to assist with janitorial work. Not only is this new system going to allow us to run these areas more efficiently, we'll actually be saving money. Please note that the work order for maintenance should be used for all requests, unless there is an emergency situation. For emergencies, contact the in-house maintenance crew— Tom Scales or Todd Test. You can also report these issues to Christine Cooley or Gary Vallad.

New Phone Numbers Mean New Updates

If you haven't figured it out by now, we have a whole slew of new phone numbers. Our new main line is 813-419-6670 and every office and lab also have new numbers. It is up to you to make sure that your new contact phone number is updated in the UF Directory. The front office cannot do this for you. Go to my.ufl.edu...my account...update my directory profile. Your new telephone number will not be reflected in the UF or IFAS directory until you complete this task. In addition, you will need to be sure and update your new number with any vendors you use on a regular basis either online or in person.



Constructive criticism is the process of offering valid and well-reasoned opinions about the work of others, usually involving both positive and negative comments, in a friendly manner rather than an oppositional one. Do you have a suggestion to improve something here at the center that can be conveyed in a friendly manner? Suggestion box in the copy room.

Butterfly Nursery at GCRC

Outside the breakroom of the main building, there are a couple of trellises where several passion flower vines are growing. These plants attract Gulf fritillary, Agraulis vanillae (Linnaeus), a brightly colored butterfly common across extreme southern portions of the United States. At home in most open, sunny habitats, it frequents roadsides, disturbed sites, fields, open woodlands, pastures, yards, and parks. It is a regular in most butterfly gardens, including those in more urban settings. There have already been dozens of these butterflies born here at GCRC. Watch it happen from the windows of the breakroom. Quite stunning.



Coffee Fund Challenge—If you drink coffee here at GCRC, we have a fun challenge to collect \$\$ to help pay for coffee and supplies. There are two jars by the coffee—using your spare change, vote for who you think would win in a fight. Donald Duck or Daffy Duck.



Get the Perks

Make the most out of being a University of Florida employee. Take advantage of discounts provided to UF faculty and staff. You don't have to be in Gainesville to enjoy discounts on your wireless communication needs—check this out:



AT&T
www.wireless.att.com/business/enrollment AT&T provides a 17% discount to UF faculty and staff on qualified wireless plans & services. Waived activation and upgrade fees with select activations and upgrades. To redeem: Contact Keisha Duncan keisha.duncan@att.com to get access to the site for all plans and offers. Existing customers can register for the discount at www.wireless.att.com/business.

Sprint
www.sprint.com/storelocator Discount: UF Employees receive a 19% discount off select Sprint service and activation fees are waived. To redeem: Existing Sprint Customer? Please visit www.sprint.com/verifyto add the discount! New Sprint Customer? Visit your local Sprint store, mention CorpID GVSFL_ZZZ, and show your UFID, or visit the Sprint Discount Program education webpage here.

Verizon Wireless
John.Ivey@VerizonWireless.com
www.verizonwireless.com/discounts Discount: 19% off on eligible monthly service plans. Selection of discounted phones available with free shipping through Federal Express. Please refer to the UF Employee Verizon website link for more details. Ask us about 4GLTE!

For more discounts visit this page: <http://hr.ufl.edu/benefits/other-benefits/gatorperks/>

REMINDER:

We have now gotten a taste of tropical weather with Tropical Storm Emily. This is a reminder that our center is only closed if **Hillsborough County Offices are closed—NOT THE SCHOOLS, the government offices located in downtown Tampa.** When inclement weather is in the area check your local news stations for updates on closures. tbo.com is a great source. Anyone is welcome to take vacation leave hours if you don't want to report to work because of the weather.