

GCREC Students Head to the Magic Kingdom for Some Fun

Two great photos of a few of our GCREC Students spending the day with Disney Celebs. All those smiling faces provide, despite the lines, Disney World is the Happiest Place on Earth!

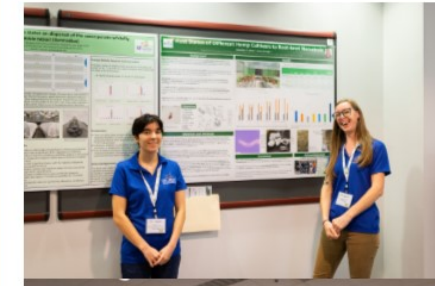



GCREC Employee News

December 2019

2019 Florida Ag Expo Brings Out a Record Crowd

The 2019 Florida Ag Expo broke all previous attendance records as growers filled the trade show and seminar hall with enthusiasm about hemp and other hot topics for Florida agriculture. We want to thank AgNet Media, the growers, exhibitors, industry members, and sponsors who made this year's show possible. But the people who really make this event successful year after year are GCREC Faculty and Staff. Thanks to all of our volunteers who really stepped it up this year. We are so proud to have so many amazing staff members!



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Daniel Cabral
- 6 Feng Wu
- 8 Courtney Sherman
- 10 Guadalupe Garcia Ramirez
- 12 Gagandeep Kaur
- 14 Teresa Seijo
- 16 Nan-Yi Wang
- 18 Tristan Watson
- 19 Sadiqshya Sharma
- 21 Bruno Rossitto
- 25 Laura Reuss
- 27 Jose Hernandez
- 30 Deborah Hilbert
- 31 Joseph Carrillo



GCREC Holiday Party Friday, December 20th 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Our annual Holiday Party will be full of fun, food and fellowship, so mark your calendars. Here's what has been planned -

Lab Contest— Star Power Contest. Labs can decorate a 12" star/ornamental for a chance to win \$50! Watch your email to be alerted when the stars will be available.

Gift Exchange—We encourage you to participate in the Musical Chairs Gift Exchange. Bring a wrapped gift to the party with a value of at least \$20 to participate.

Food and Beverages— The center will be providing the beverages and we're asking everyone to bring a family favorite dessert or appetizer. Something that you may have shared at your own family gatherings.

Etc.—We'll have a few other fun games planned, so get ready for a fun, festive time!



Holiday Word Search Challenge

Solve each clue to reveal the holiday-related words to find in the puzzle going across, down, and diagonal.

1. December 25th holiday: _____
2. Jolly man in red suit: _____
3. Hung by the chimney: _____
4. December holiday celebrating African-American heritage: _____
5. Family customs passed down to next generation: _____
6. Kwanzaa candle holder: _____
7. Hung on a door at Christmas: _____
8. Jewish Festival of Lights: _____
9. Special Jewish candelabra: _____
10. Red and white striped Christmas sweet: _____
11. A wax light that is used as a ceremonial symbol of many holidays: _____
12. Number of days of Hanukkah: _____
13. Santa's vehicle: _____
14. Kwanzaa feast: _____
15. Gifts given on the last day of Kwanzaa: _____
16. Christmas songs: _____
17. Potato pancakes: _____
18. They pull Santa's sleigh: _____

N Z R D C C J Y H C H R I S T M A S
 T L C X U C A N D L E L L L S T I J
 H F D Z N N O Z H R J E C E Q R G R
 V O G R C L U A C E W M N R J A Q R
 G M O B N O K W H K V A E P O D J K
 G C E W Q K O A N R C E W X K I I A
 S A F N U C G D E Y D K Q S V T L R
 B T S N O O Z I D N R N E W K I X A
 D G A T E R E N I L O K N R W O Q M
 O H N R O K A E F S T T T E A N L U
 N G T R H C R H L A K N H A N S F W
 W Q A Q Q O K O L W N G J T Z G G G
 S R C B X I R I H K I C F H A W I P
 R M L W A A F F N E I W Y S A G F N
 P E A Y C T X P L G I N X T R X T F
 O Z U G Q G U S O D S G A C R D S U
 S G S V Z N W V F C D X H R U N E L
 V W V C E L E B R A T E F T A W M I



Bonus: Find 5 more holiday words hidden in the word search grid



Degree Completed ✓

Dolly Cummings, Bio Scientist in Dr. Hutton's lab, recently completed her Master's degree in Agricultural Education and Communication! Dolly has been a TEAMS employee here at GCREC since 2011 and is one staff member that we can always count on to participate in our social and educational events. She is an active volunteer at Camp Bayou and is dedicated to Florida agriculture and our environment. In addition, no one rocks purple hair like Dolly! We're very proud of her and wish her the best always. Congratulations on this great accomplishment.



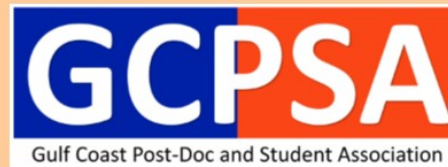
Calling all Post-Docs and Grad Students

Please join us for the GCPSA Winter BBQ on Friday, December 13th at 12 pm.

In addition to free food and games, the GCPSA will present its 2019 accomplishments and let you share suggestions for the upcoming year.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, December 11th using this link:

If you're interested in being a 2020 GCPSA committee member or want to nominate someone, please come to this event!



Pictured left to right Jijing Liao, Dr. Mary Lusk, Qianyao Si and Audrey Goeckner.

Dr. Lusk's Student Win Awards at Recent Soil Science Conference

Three MS students from Dr. Lusk's lab presented research talks at the annual Soil Science Society of America conference in San Antonio this month. Of them, Zijing Liao and Audrey Goeckner won 1st and 2nd place, respectively, in the Urban and Anthropogenic Soils Division graduate student presentation contest.

Congratulations to these future scientists!

Charity Toy Drive

Bring your new, unwrapped toy donation to the lobby by Friday, December 13th. We are trying to fill six bushel baskets with toys for those less fortunate this holiday season. Let's try and get children off the iPads and video games with some fun, creative gifts such as coloring books and crayons; puzzles, action figures, board and card games, Playdoh, craft sets or model kits. Please keep this request in mind when you're online shopping or at area stores over the next two weeks. We also have a donation tin at the front desk for your cash donations. Thank you!!!



BLOOD DRIVE

Be Someone's Miracle

\$10 Gift Card

All Blood Donors Will Receive A

FREE BLANKET & \$10 EGIFT CARD!

Tuesday, December 10, 2019
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Gulf Coast Research and Education Center

All donors will receive a wellness checkup including blood pressure, temperature, iron count, pulse and cholesterol screening!

Walk-ins are Welcome! To make an appointment, please visit www.oneblood.org/donate-now and use sponsor code #15966

ID REQUIRED

oneblood.org
1-888-9-DONATE

oneblood

Remember Self-Care During the Holidays

The holiday season is supposed to be filled with fun, family and opportunities to make memories. However, it can also be overwhelming and stressful for those trying to make everyone else happy. Perhaps if you feel yourself getting stressed instead of happy you can check out this online therapy option, available for any State of Florida employee, including us, called Talkspace. <https://www.talkspace.com/>

There is no charge for 6 weeks and can be extended under certain circumstances for no fee. It is available for grad students as well. The online format works for most situations but please note that there are seldom immediate responses so in a crisis situation, it may not be a good option for those who are looking for quick feedback or help. For those who just want to discuss emotional issues with someone who will take no offense, it works pretty well.

Thanks to Dolly Cummings for bring this great resource to our attention.

