

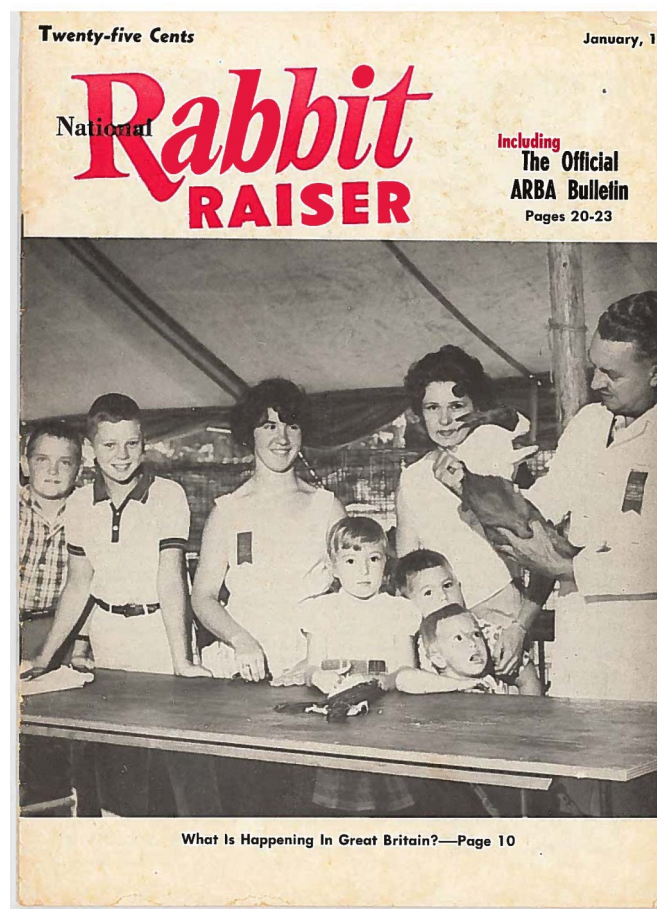


## We'd be Lost Without You

Just a little shout out to our hardworking dedicated farm crew—Jose Moreno, Tyler Leonard, Jose Alvarez and these two guys—Jeb Cofer and Matt Brown. Working in the field is often a thankless job and we're lucky that you all are willing to be part of the team helping our faculty with their research.

**Thank you!**

*Photo by Joyce Jones*



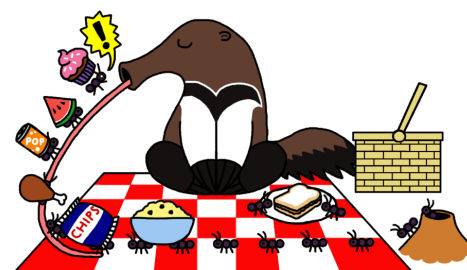
Once upon a time, there was a little boy whose family was dedicated to raising rabbits.

Photographed here with his family is a young Alan Behrens one of Dr. Zhanao Deng's employees. He's the little guy standing closest to the researcher who just happened to be his father. His other siblings and mother are pictured to his left. The National Rabbit Raiser was a publication created by the American Rabbit Breeder's Association, which is still a working association today. Fun Rabbit Fact—The rabbit test, or "Friedman test", was an early pregnancy test developed in 1931 by Maurice Harold Friedman and Maxwell Edward Lapham at the University of Pennsylvania. The rabbit test consisted of injecting the tested woman's urine into a female rabbit, then examining the rabbit's ovaries a few days later, which would change in response to a hormone secreted only by pregnant women. The term "rabbit test" was first recorded in 1949 and became a common phrase in the English language.

*Thanks Alan for sharing this great throwback pic!*

## Family Picnic—Saturday, April 22 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. here at GCREC!

The perfect chance to show off your work place to family and friends during our Family Picnic April 22nd. There will be food, fun, games, a DJ to keep things rockin', relay races, pickup soccer (and perhaps kickball or volleyball) a ginormous bouncy house—twice as big as last year's! Woo-Hoo! Adults \$5 a piece, kids under 16 are free. Mark your calendars and get ready to have some fun with your co-workers and their families.



## Due for Review

**Employee Appraisal Reports must be completed and submitted to Trish Todd on or before Friday March 24th.** This is the perfect time of year for a one-on-one conversation between supervisors and employees to discuss concerns and goals for the upcoming year. Our Employee Appraisals have significant value despite what you might think. No, you might not get an automatic raise by achieving a positive review, but your appraisal history is taken into consideration when the university distributes one-time bonuses or future raises that maybe based on a percentage rate. For example, the university announces that all state-funded employees will receive a pay increase of 1.5 to 2.5%. The percent you receive will be based on your past appraisals. So make sure you keep track of all your accomplishments throughout the evaluation year and give yourself a pat on the back for the great work you complete here at GCREC.

## New and Familiar Faces Hitting the Halls at GCREC



Meet Saroj Parajuli, who graduated from University of Florida in Fall 2016 from Agronomy Department. During his PhD research, he worked on Sugarcane metabolic engineering. He has now joined Dr. Deng's lab and will be working on citrus genome editing.



Some of you might remember this familiar face, Xiaobao Ying has returned to continue his work in Dr. Deng's program. Originally from Shanghai, China, Xiaobao is back as Deng's Bio Scientist.



Another familiar face in the halls belongs to a former grad student—Bonnie Xie. She is now working for Dr. Johan Desaegeer's program. Welcome back Bonnie!



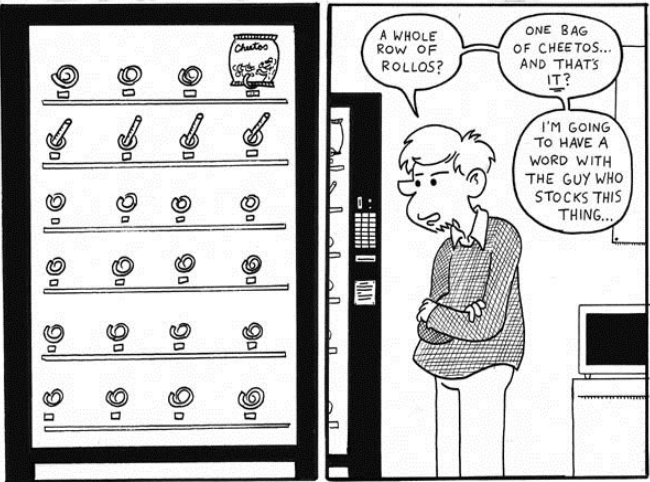
## Wild Kingdom

It was a vicious battle as two baby sand hill cranes took to the ring to fight it out over dinner. Mom and Dad apparently not too concerned as they work at digging up grubs and other insects to feed these fast growing fledglings. In the end, the match was voted to be a draw and the two champions left the area to fight another day.

*Photo by Michelle Middleton-Philpot*



Feeling the Love at the GCREC Valentine’s Day Party



VENDING MACHINES 101

If you have questions about the vending machine, see Michelle Middleton-Philpot in the admin office hallway. If your change gets stuck or you don’t get all your change from the change machine. Are your chips hung up in the rotating thingy in the snack machine? See Michelle. And remember we also have Gatorade \$1 and cans of soup if you forget your lunch for \$2—See Christine Cooley for those items. We’re welcome your suggestions for vending, so if you have one, let us know and we’ll try to accommodate.



GCREC Employee News

March 2017



Research Matters Seminar Series  
Focuses on Nutrition for the  
Month of March

Join Lacey Corrick on March 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m. in the auditorium to celebrate **National Nutrition Month®**. Lacey is a Registered Dietitian and the Education and Training Specialist for the UF/IFAS Extension Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (or EFNEP). She will discuss this year’s theme, “*Put Your Best Fork Forward*,” which serves as a reminder that each one of us holds the tool to make healthier food choices. Making small changes during National Nutrition Month® and over time, helps improve health now and into the future. A healthy lunch will be provided.

March Birthdays

- 1....Adrian Zuniga
- 5....Evan McClenthan
- 6....Michelle Middleton
- 9....Luis Osorio
- 17...Gurpal Singh Toor
- 21...Carolyn Hinson
- 26...Tyler Leonard



The Ides of March is a day on the traditional Roman calendar that corresponds to the date of March 15th on our current calendar. It is most commonly associated with the [assassination of Julius Caesar](#), on the Ides of March in the year 44 BC. A Warning—The Ides of March became well-known and notorious as the official date of Julius Caesar’s assassination in the year 44 BC. [Caesar](#)’s assassination was the result of a conspiracy by a coalition of Roman senators. According to [Catullus](#), the [haruspex](#) Spurinna warned Caesar in mid-February 44, telling him that the next 30 days were to be fraught with peril, but the danger would end on the Ides of March. When they met on the Ides of March, Caesar said "you are aware, surely, that the Ides of March have passed" and Spurinna responded, "surely you realize that they have not yet passed?" And you all know the ending of that story.

Nominate Your Co-Workers for an  
Outstanding Employee Award!

It’s time to give your fellow workers the recognition they deserve by nominating them for an Outstanding Employee Award. The Honors and Awards Banquet is scheduled for Friday, May 5 and we will be handing out yearly service pins along with the Outstanding Employee Awards for the following categories: Undergrad Student, Grad Student, Faculty Member, TEAMS Non Exempt, TEAMS Exempt and OPS. We are looking for people who go above and beyond their job description. Past winners are eligible as long as they didn't win the past year. Nominations will be accepted until March 31st. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Christine Cooley or Trish Todd.

Put your co-worker’s  
face on a cake by  
nominating them today!

