



Twinning for Tasti-Lee! Only get a couple of chances to wear our Tasti-Lee sweaters each year!



Some of us were feeling a little grey with this cooler weather—it's not going to last as 80's are in the forecast for the first weekend of December!



Photo by Lorna Carter.
A Winter's Morn at GCREC
dated 11/29/2018.

Random Acts of Kindness Advent Calendar						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1 Make a card for a soldier.
2 Choose one toy to donate.	3 Do a chore for someone.	4 Give someone a nice compliment.	5 Bake a treat for a neighbor or fireman.	6 Hold the door open for someone.	7 Write a nice note to your friend.	8 Clean up litter outside.
9 Tell jokes to make people laugh.	10 Let someone go ahead of you in line.	11 Call Grandma or Grandpa and say hi.	12 Help a neighbor with a chore or errand.	13 Make Christmas cards for your neighbor.	14 Have dinner with an elderly person.	15 Donate food to the food bank.
16 Write your teacher a nice note.	17 Tape popcorn to a RedBox machine.	18 Hand out candy canes to people.	19 Hide a dollar at the Dollar Store for another kid.	20 Donate a few books to the library.	21 Put the carts back in the store parking lot.	22 Make a present for a friend.
23 Help cook dinner for our family.	24 Read someone a Christmas story.	25				

Cooley Candy Cane Christmas

Every holiday season our street continues a 40-year old tradition of decorating our houses and the street. On Saturday Dec. 15th, my friends and family will be handing out candy canes to those driving down our street. You are invited to drive by or you can park at the end of the street and join us for smores, Jello shots and fun. We'll have a ton of food and beverages, adult and kid-style and we are happy to open our house and hearts to you this holiday season—10210 N. Hyaleah Drive, Tampa 33617. I'll send directions via email later in the month. - Christine



GCREC Employee News

December 2018

PARTY

*Friday, December 14
3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Auditorium*

- Yankee Gift Exchange (\$20 minimum gift)
- Candy Cane Game - 3 Rounds * 3 Prizes
- Cellophane Game - 3 Rounds * 3 Prizes

Lab/Dept. Challenge - Food Drive Contest
Whichever lab/dept. brings the most non-perishable food items, wins \$50. Winner to be determined by taking the number of items divided by the number of lab members.
So, if you collect 100 items and have 10 lab/dept. members, you'll get a score of 10.
Highest score wins.

This is a Potluck event so everyone should bring a favorite appetizer-type dish or dessert to share or you can donate \$5 at the front desk.
The center will provide the beverages.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1...Daniel Cabral
- 6...Feng Wu
- 14..Teresa Seijo
- 30..Deborah Hilbert



Fun Facts for December

- The birthstone of December is turquoise.
- Zodiac signs for December are Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21) and Capricorn (December 22 - January 19).
- The birth flower of December is the narcissus.
- World's AIDS Day is celebrated on December 1st.
- December 3 - International Day of the Disabled Person
- Universal Human Rights Month
- National Read a New Book Month
- On December 7, 1941, The United States Naval Base at Pearl Harbor was attacked by Japanese planes which killed more than 2,300 Americans.
- National Stress Free Family Holiday Month
- December 27th is National Chocolate Day YASSS!
- On December 29, 1862, the bowling bowl was invented.
- Poinsettia Day is on December 12th.
- On December 3, 1967, the first heart transplant was completed.
- On December 17, 1903, the Wright Brothers made their first flight.
- On December 14, 1791, the Bill of Rights was passed.

Get Ready to Say “Awwww” as We Welcome Two New Little Gators



Lina Lee, pictured here on the left, weighed in at 7 lbs 6 oz. She was born on Nov 22 (on Thanksgiving day). “She is healthy. We are happy!” said Dr. Tong Geon Lee. Congratulations to Tong Geon, his wife, Yeojin Jung.

And on the right, we have Baby Arjun Verma, was born on Nov. 18 at 3 pm, weighing 6 lbs 12 oz. He is the first child to Sujeet and Kanika Verma “Thanks for all your blessing. GCREC is truly our home, away from home!” said the proud new father, Sujeet with Whitaker’s Lab.



Winter Fundraisers

Don’t forget the homeless pets this holiday season! Bring in treat and toys for dogs and cats to be donated to a local animal shelter. But they are the only ones in need. We are collecting new, unwrapped toys to donate to Ministries of Hope so underprivileged children won’t think that Santa has forgotten them this year. Baskets are still pretty empty so if everyone just brought in one item, we could fill them up pretty quickly.

Or how about a little gift for yourself? Raffle tickets are available at the front desk for the Plant Pathology Graduate Student Organization annual Raffle Fundraising Event! Your support of the PPGSO will help the funding of our travel awards, workshops and other graduate student activities. You may win one or more of the following prizes:

RTIC 65 – Tan (\$250 value) donated by Erwin-Keith, Inc./Progeny Ag Products. The best large cooler available on the market. Makes an ideal marine, hunting or camping cooler. Holds up to 64 cans plus ice!

Handmade Teapot (\$50 value) donated by @PiCeramics, one of the most talented artists!
<https://www.facebook.com/PiCeramics/>

Town Branch Bourbon (\$50 value) – Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey donated by Highland Precision Ag.

\$25.00 Starbucks gift card and mug. Because who doesn’t need a little more caffeine!?

One ticket for \$5 or 5 tickets for \$20

Holiday Closures

The center is officially closed Tuesday, December 25th and will reopen Wednesday, January 2nd. If you are considered to be “essential personnel”, check with your supervisor regarding your schedule during the holidays.

Drones + Science = Precision Ag

Dr. Amr Abd-Elrahman and his team at Plant City are utilizing drones in research applications beneficial to agriculture. Ali Gonzalez, pictured here, guides one of their newest drones on a test flight. Precision agriculture is a farming management concept that uses drones for agriculture to measure, observe, and respond to variability found in crops. Unmanned aerial drones for agriculture are in their infancy in the United States, when in fact Japan has been using them for years to help rice growers. As always, GCREC is on the cutting edge of this new technology, and Dr. Abd-Elrahman’s research will continue to flourish benefitting area growers in the years to come. For information about UF’s drone policy visit this link: http://www.ehs.ufl.edu/programs/uas/uas_procedures/



Football Players are Approachable!

Even though Gator football players appear to be intimidating on the field, in person they are just like regular guys! Sarah Cox with Koeser’s lab had the courage to ask QB Feleipe Franks for a photo when she saw him on campus earlier in the semester and he was more than happy to oblige. What a nice guy! *Go Gators!*

13 Feleipe Franks Position: QB

Height: 6-6 Weight: 240

Class: Redshirt Sophomore

Hometown: Crawfordville, Fla. Highschool: Wakulla

Protect GCREC Wildlife

Just a reminder to be mindful of the wildlife at our center as well as human life. The speed limit is 20 mph throughout the center and it would be a tragedy if someone or an animal was hurt because of someone’s carelessness.

