

WHEREAS, May 8, 2014, marks the centennial of the signing of the Smith-Lever Act which established the Cooperative Extension, known in the State of Florida as UF/IFAS Extension and Florida A and M Extension, the nationwide transformational education system operating through land-grant universities in partnership with federal, state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, UF/IFAS Extension and FAMU Extension continue to receive programmatic leadership and support through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture and from the Florida State Legislature and local county governments; and

WHEREAS, Cooperative Extension's research-based education for farmers and ranchers helped establish the State of Florida and the United States as a leading agricultural-producing state and nation in the world; and

WHEREAS, the clover emblem was adopted in 1924 to represent 4-H, Cooperative Extension's nationwide youth development program which has helped to prepare them for responsible adulthood; and

WHEREAS, Cooperative Extension prepares people for healthy, productive lives through sustained education, such as the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, breaking the cycle of poverty and reducing expenditures for federal and state assistance programs; and

WHEREAS, Cooperative Extension engages with rural and urban learners through practical, community-based and online approaches, resulting in the acquisition of knowledge, skills and motivation to strengthen the profitability of animal and plant production systems, protect natural resources, help people make healthful lifestyle choices, ensure a safe and abundant food supply, encourage community vitality and grow the next generation of leaders..

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda Hudson, Mayor of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby issue this proclamation in honor of the:

“100th Anniversary of the Cooperative Extension Service”

and encourages the people of the State of Florida and St. Lucie County to observe and celebrate the centennial with a focus on launching an innovative and sustainable future for Cooperative Extension.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, to be affixed this 5th day of May, 2014.

MAYOR COMMISSIONER