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New Employees Welcomed



Levy County Commission members welcomed the new Levy County Extension Director Ed Jennings (seen above at the microphone) during the meeting Tuesday (Dec. 21) and they welcomed the new Levy County 4-H Agent -- Genevieve Mendoza (seen here in the audience at the meeting). With the retirement of former Levy County Extension Director (and 4-H Agent)



Albert Fuller, the county, in cooperation with the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, recruited these two individuals to fill that vacuum. Where Fuller's expertise was 4-H, Jennings' area of specialty is in livestock. Therefore, a need was seen for an agent to lead the 4-H program, where Brenda Heberling serves as a 4-H program assistant. Jennings is the new director of Levy County Extension, which includes Jennings directing Agricultural Agent Anthony Drew, 4-H Agent Mendoza, 4-H Program Assistant Heberling and others. Jennings said he has met with some cattlemen's groups already, and Mendoza was at some 4-H events, too, including the Tropicana 37th Annual Levy County 4-H Tropicana Speech Contest. (To see a video of one of the winning speeches by 4-H member Hunter Sharp, click [HERE](#). There were three first place finalists in the contest. And the Dec. 6 Tropicana Speech event is scheduled to be added to the *HardisonInk.com* archives soon. Archives are accessed by clicking on the graphic at the bottom of

the ads on the right side of any of the seven pages of the *HardisonInk.com* website.)

Photos by Jeff M. Hardison © Dec. 21, 2016 at 9:37 a.m.