Everyone wants to join Extension and the College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, including our two feathered friends seen here. The pair hung around for several days, peering through the glass and generally making their desire to be admitted known to everyone who entered or exited the building. Sadly, their ACTs weren’t high enough to matriculate, and eventually a more suitable location was found for them.
A new issue of the Communiqué is now available online at http://extension.osu.edu/communique.

The topics include:
- Director’s Internal Advisory Committee Meeting
- OSUE Administrative Cabinet Recognition
- Program Director, Educational Technology Appointment – Jamie Seger
- Educational Technology Update
- 2015 Common Start Dates – Human Resources Reminder
- Background Checks – Clarification about Employee Requirements
- Campus Campaign Reminder
- County Website Drupal Training
- Upcoming Dates
  - eXtension Innovative Proposals Due April 17
  - Nominations for Joseph Sullivant Medal Due May 1
  - James F. Patterson Land-Grant University Lecture May 6
  - Outreach and Engagement Recognition Awards Ceremony May 6
  - Outreach and Engagement Forum May 6
  - Albert Schweitzer Fellows Celebration of Service May 6
  - New OSUE Employee Welcome Festival October 22
  - Research in View Training October 23
  - Various Leadership Center Workshops
- OSU Extension Personnel Update

Updated Social Media Guidelines Now Available . . .

In February, Comm Tech updated the CFAES Social Media Guidelines. The Ed Techs recommend that any Extension employee who is currently using, or planning to use, social media professionally read through the guidelines. They not only document the correct way to use social media as a professional of the college, but also offer best practices and other related information.

Click here to view the CFAES Social Media Guidelines.

Happy April Birthdays …

- April 5  Kim Herman – Program Assistant, Williams County
- April 7  Dar Mensing – Program Assistant, Ottawa County
- April 7  Alan Sundermeier – Educator/Director, Wood County
- April 17  Donna Green – Educator, Erie County
- April 20  Patrice Powers-Barker – Educator, Lucas County
- April 23  Bernadette Stephens – Program Assistant, Seneca County
- April 26  Chris Brubaker – Office Associate, Henry County
- April 26  Jayne Roth – Educator, Wood County
- April 28  Melissa Welker – Educator, Fulton County

Cindy Torppa’s Schedule for April 6 - 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday:</th>
<th>Region Office</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday:</td>
<td>Hancock Co. AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday:</td>
<td>Crawford Co. AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday:</td>
<td>Admin. Cabinet</td>
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<td>Friday:</td>
<td>Performance Reviews</td>
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Social Media Marketing (Source: Kennetha Peebles) . . .

Please check out the latest edition of Extension Marketing: It’s Everyone’s Business, brought on behalf of the Program Development and Evaluation team! The April edition will focus on Social Media Marketing. In this newsletter, you will gain an understanding of what social media is, the different social media platforms, and best practices for each platform. A social media marketing training video will be released in a few weeks, so stay tuned!

OSU Extension Director Search Update (Source: Jeff Sharp, Search Committee Chair) . . .

Over the past two months, our search committee for the Associate Dean & Director, OSU Extension has been working hard to develop and finalize the position profile as well as a timeline for the search process. We are pleased to share that the position profile will be widely available and has already been posted on the Journal of Extension Job Board.

We strongly encourage you to take the opportunity to review the full position profile when it is made available on the CFAES website and to share it with appropriate and qualified individuals. As the search progresses, we will widely distribute additional information regarding the overall schedule and opportunities for engagement.

Again, we encourage you to disseminate the announcement broadly among your colleagues and professional networks. This is an outstanding opportunity to attract world class candidates to Ohio State, and it will take each of us promoting the tremendous opportunities that exist here at The Ohio State University.

Campus Campaign . . .

If you have participated (or soon will participate) in this year’s Campus Campaign, you will have your name put in a drawing for a few items that have been donated by our administrators. A sample of the items to be given away so far include two pounds of fudge (donated by Greg Davis) and an Ohio State wall hanging (made and donated by Bev Kelbaugh).

Click here to view the Dean’s recent message about the Campus Campaign.
If you were one of the approximately 6,900 Ohio State employees required to verify your dependents’ eligibility for Ohio State health benefits, you will need to submit a reply by the April 16 deadline. Those who do not verify eligibility by the April 16 deadline will lose coverage immediately.

The university has contracted with Xerox HR Solutions (Xerox) on the verification process. During the week of March 16, Xerox sent U.S. Mail contact to those 6,900 employees chosen for verification.

The Office of Human Resources has put together a FAQ document for those affected who have questions regarding the process. [http://hr.osu.edu/benefits/hb_dependentcertification](http://hr.osu.edu/benefits/hb_dependentcertification)

If you have additional questions, you can contact the Office of Human Resources Customer Service at service@hr.osu.edu or 614-292-1050/1-800-678-6010.

Ohio State is committed to offering high-quality health care coverage while being good stewards of its resources by managing costs of its benefits programs. Covering ineligible dependents may be unnecessarily increasing plan costs by millions per year based on an average annual per dependent cost of more than $4,600.

After numerous questions about this deadline. Here are a few items that might help clarify your questions:

1) If you have gone through the dependent eligibility process before, you will not need to verify again. This process will be primarily for newer employees.
2) There will be a second contact for those who do not respond and an appeal process is available to provide the information.
3) You may contact Xerox directly and inquire if you are on their list. You will need to provide your social security number. Their phone number is 1-877-248-1595.
4) Any other concerns can be answered by the frequently asked questions links below or by contacting OSU HR Customer Service at service@hr.osu.edu or 614-292-1050/1-800-678-6010.
Ohio Real Colors Certification (Source: Jessica Rockey) . . .

A few more seats have been opened for this workshop. A Real Colors certification program HAS been set up for Ohio this spring! Not sure what Real Colors is? Visit www.realcolors.org to learn more! This program is being hosted by 4-H, but is open (and could be useful!) to Extension professionals in ALL program areas!

The training will be held May 13-15 (9a-5p daily) at the 4-H Center in the International Room. Space is limited, so register ASAP! An informational brochure is attached, and includes a hard-copy registration form…OR you can register online at http://realcolors.org/products/real-colors-certification-training/real-colors-certification-training-columbus-ohio-may-1315-2015

The base price for this training is normally $695, but our EXTENSION price has been reduced to $450...you must use the coupon code OH245 to get this discounted price! *Remember, this is the Extension price only, please include any travel expense (mileage, hotel, meals), or materials to conduct the program.

For questions contact Jessica @ rockey.16@osu.edu
(Remember, if you pay for this registration with the office PCard, you will need to get a T# first.)

Today is World Day for Physical Activity (Source: onCampus Today) . . .

Did you know that exercise is one of the easiest ways you can reduce your risk of chronic disease? Research suggests that 150 minutes of moderate physical activity each week is effective. Today (4/6) is World Day for Physical Activity and reminds us of one way we can improve our health with minimal cost, and maximum gain. What are you doing today to increase your physical activity at work? Read more: go.osu.edu/worldactivityday