New USDA State Fact Sheets Available (Source: Roger Rennekamp)...

The USDA Economic Research Service has updated its data sets on population, income, education, employment, federal funds, organic agriculture, farm characteristics, farm financial indicators, top commodities, and exports for each state in the United States. Some county-level data also is available. See http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/state-fact-sheets.aspx.
Welcome! . . .

We Welcome . . .

Melanie Cucco, Program Assistant, 4-H, who started in Huron County on August 8.

We Welcome . . .

Shannon Smith, Program Assistant, SNAP-Ed, who started in Wood County on August 8.

Director’s Drop-in . . .

Thanks to all who helped us celebrate Ohio Local Foods Week on August 7-13. It was great to see so many activities going on across the state to promote the use of local foods. Kudos to the Local Foods signature program team – led by Heather Neikirk, ANR educator in Stark County, and Patrice Powers-Barker, FCS educator in Lucas County – for its outstanding preparation for the week, excellent marketing of the event, development of numerous materials for our own personnel and consumers, and helping to coordinate countless efforts with statewide and local partners.

The toolkit, event listing, and celebration suggestion list were all tremendous resources – not to mention the $10 local foods challenge. If you haven’t checked out http://localfoods.osu.edu/ohio-local-foods-week yet, make some time to review this info on the Local Foods website. Thanks also to the Local Foods team for keeping local foods top-of-mind with resources online (http://localfoods.osu.edu) and being very visible year-round.
Enthusiastic about Extension work? Interested in developing your ability to lead Extension into the future? If your vision of your future includes building your career with Extension, then the NELD North Central leadership experience may be just the opportunity you need!

NELD is an annual four-session program designed to help participants:

1. Learn, apply and reflect on new effective leadership, organizational collaboration and change concepts and strategies
2. Develop a better understanding of self and enhance personal effectiveness
3. Strengthen competence in decision-making, build leadership capacity, improve effectiveness of Extension programming and promote life-long learning
4. Broaden their understanding of Extension on a local, state, national and international level
5. Build a more robust national Extension network

Session dates and locations for 2017 include (100% attendance is required):

- January 23-27 (Chicago)
- March 31-April 8 (Costa Rica)
- July 10-14 (Washington, DC)
- September 19-22 (Minneapolis/St. Paul)

Interested educators, program staff, and specialists can apply by responding in 300 words or less to the question: “Why I am an ideal candidate for NELD North Central in 2017”. To be considered for the 2017 class, simply send your answer to the question above (email is fine) to davis.1081@osu.edu by September 1. You can learn more about the program here and direct questions to any regional director or assistant director.

New Log-in to be Required to Access Paycheck and Benefits Information (Source: onCampus Today) . . .

BuckeyePass, a new multi-factor authentication service, will begin protecting information saved in the Employee Self Service system beginning Monday, Sept. 12. Register before Friday, Sept. 9 to be automatically registered to win an iPad. With BuckeyePass, your paycheck, benefits, leave and other personal information will have extra protection beyond your password. The service is easy to use and registration is fast and simple.

→ Read more → Contact
The University of Minnesota Extension and the National Urban Extension Leaders are pleased to jointly announce a call for proposals for the National Urban Extension Conference on “Engaging in Collective Purpose,” which will be held in Bloomington, Minnesota, May 7-11, 2017.

Deadline for Submission of Proposals is September 30, 2016

Read the full call for proposals and submission instructions here: https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/urbanextensionconference2017/call-for-proposals

Visit the conference website for more details at: https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/urbanextensionconference2017/index

Some of the most pressing social problems and policy issues confronting America and the rest of the world involve urban people and places. Extension professionals across the nation are working in and across various program areas to address these issues. However, urban settings are often competitive environments for Extension educators, so novel approaches to programming are increasingly necessary in order for Extension to gain and maintain its place as a premier institution for the betterment of urban individuals, families, and communities.

The National Urban Extension Conference provides an opportunity for Extension professionals to learn first-hand about these innovative approaches from their colleagues and receive inspiration for their work at home. Now is the time for a new dialogue to integrate urban Extension scholarship and practice and to define the role that Extension will play in engaging in collective purpose.

The conference will provide opportunities for Extension professionals from all program areas to share their research and innovative educational strategies that address the needs of urban, suburban, and peri-urban populations as well as urban-rural interdependencies. The program planning committee plans for participants to learn about cutting edge research and to see innovative outreach efforts that successfully transfer research-based information to various urban clientele. Proposals may be for presentations, workshops, posters, and panels (defined below) for the 2017 Conference. Abstracts that highlight research and/or outreach activities that involve partnerships between practitioners and Extension professionals are especially encouraged. We are also looking for innovative ideas that are just that, ideas; which can be presented in an Ignite format.
JCEP Fall Scholarship Reminder (Source: Rob Leeds) . . .

Just a reminder, the Fall Scholarship Deadline is Thursday September 1, 2016. Take advantage of this opportunity and apply now for funds to attend a fall or winter training.

Professional Development Scholarships are for current members of Ohio JCEP. Members may apply for up to $750 to support participation in educational events/conferences/or online trainings, pursuit of an advanced degree, or special study assignments. Up to $2000 is available for this February deadline for Ohio JCEP members. Preference is given to applicants who haven’t received funding in the previous 2 years. The application is available at www.go.osu.edu/OhioJCEPprofdev. It must be approved by a supervisor. This is usually a Regional Director or appropriate Assistant Director.

Completed forms should be sent to me by email (leeds.2@osu.edu) no later than Thursday, September 1, 2016 at 5:00 PM. Supervisors’ approval can be emailed to me. A subcommittee of the Ohio JCEP Scholarship, Grants and Recognition Committee will make selections based on award criteria and members will be notified within a couple weeks.

Email any questions and our committee will do our best to assist you.

Required Training for Principal Investigators (Source: CFAES Weekly News Digest) . . .

A new training requirement will go into effect on October 1, 2016, that will impact your continued access to information in the PI Portal.

The Office of the CIO recently revised the Institutional Data Policy that classifies all university records and data as public, internal, private or restricted. Some data related to research grants falls into the restricted category – specifically voucher/invoice images displayed in the PI Portal and the Subaward Invoice Approval (SIA) application. Additional controls will be required for access to restricted data, including completion of the university’s Institutional Data Policy Training.

What does this mean for you?

• As of October 1, 2016, in accordance with university data security policy, access to voucher/images will be removed in the PI Portal and SIA for all users pending completion of the required Institutional Data Policy Training.
• In order to retain access to this information, all principal investigators must complete the online training by September 30, 2016. Instructions for enrolling in the training are available on the CIOs website. The course and assessment will take about 40 minutes to complete.

More details can be found at: http://osp.osu.edu/2016/08/02/new-required-training-for-pis/
The 2017 North Central Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (NCR-SARE) Partnership Grant Program Call for Proposals is now available online at http://www.northcentralsare.org/Grants/Our-Grant-Programs/Partnership-Grant-Program

NCR-SARE's Partnership Grant program is intended to foster cooperation between agriculture professionals and small groups of farmers and ranchers to catalyze on-farm research, demonstration, and education activities related to sustainable agriculture.

Individual grants are limited to $30,000. NCR-SARE expects to fund about 10 projects in the twelve-state North Central Region with this call. A total of approximately $300,000 is available for this program.

NCR-SARE will be accepting online submissions for the Partnership Grant Program. More information about the online submission system can be found in the call for proposals. The deadline for Partnership Program proposals is October 27, 2016 at 4pm CDT.

NCR-SARE administers each of its grant programs with specific goals, audiences, and timelines. Funding considerations are based on how well the applicant presents the problem being addressed, it's relevance to sustainable agriculture in the 12-state North Central region, and how well it aligns with NCR-SARE's goals.

Funding decisions are made by a regional Administrative Council (AC), with review from a Technical Committee. The Administrative Council is a collection of producers, university representatives, nonprofit group interests, Extension and NRCS people, other government employees, and agribusiness representatives. This group sets research priorities and recommends projects for funding.

Each state in SARE's North Central Region has one or more State Sustainable Agriculture Coordinators who can provide information and assistance to potential grant applicants. Interested applicants can find their State Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator online at http://www.northcentralsare.org/State-Programs.

For questions or additional information regarding the Partnership Grant Program, contact Beth Nelson or Rob Myers at bethnelson@umn.edu or myersrob@missouri.edu.
Youth Educator Grant projects provide opportunities for youth in the North Central Region to learn more about sustainable agriculture (farming and ranching that is ecologically sound, profitable, and socially responsible). Educators use the grants to encourage young people and their parents to try sustainable practices and see sustainable agriculture as a viable career option. Projects should help youth discover that sustainable farming and ranching is profitable; good for families, communities, and their quality of life; and good for the environment long term. The maximum amount for grants is $2,000, and a total of approximately $20,000 is available for this program.

NCR-SARE will be accepting online submissions for the Youth Educator Grant Program. More information about the online submission system can be found in the call for proposals.

Interested applicants can find the call for proposals online as well as useful information for completing a proposal at http://www.northcentralsare.org/Grants/Our-Grant-Programs/Youth-Educator-Grant-Program. You can find more information about sustainability at: http://www.sare.org/ and in the Youth Education Topic Room at: http://www.sare.org/Learning-Center/Topic-Rooms/Youth-Education.

Proposals are due by November 10, 2016, at 4pm CST.
Potential applicants with questions can contact Joan Benjamin, Associate Regional Coordinator and Youth Educator Grant Program Coordinator, at benjaminj@lincolnu.edu or 573-681-5545 or 800-529-1342. Applicants should also contact Joan Benjamin if they need a hard copy or an email version of the call for proposals. There are revisions to the calls for proposals each year, which means it is crucial to use the most recent call for proposals.

Each state in SARE’s North Central Region has one or more State Sustainable Agriculture Coordinators who can provide information and assistance to potential grant applicants. Interested applicants can find their State Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator online at: http://www.northcentralsare.org/State-Programs.
Support Staff – Have You Registered? . . .

The registration is now open for the National TERSSA (Support Staff) Conference. The cost of registration for this two-day program is $195 ($145 for TERSSA members). Lodging is limited at Westin Great Southern Hotel, so please book your room now.

- Registration
- Agenda
- Lodging

Blog Links . . .

- CFAES Weekly News Digest – http://u.osu.edu/cfaesadmin
- Extension Director, Roger Rennekamp – http://u.osu.edu/conspectus/
- Community Development – http://u.osu.edu/extensioncd/
- OSU Extension Ed Tech – http://u.osu.edu/extensionedtech/
- Ag Law – http://aglaw.osu.edu/blog

National Meeting Information . . .

NEAFCS – http://www.neafcs.org/2016-annual-session
- Hotel Reservations – Open now until August 1 or until sold out
- Regular Registration – by September 1 - $475
- Late Registration – after September 1 - $525

- Hotel Reservations – Opens May 2 - $229.00 per night
- Regular Registration – July 15 (@ 9:01 PM Pacific) – August 12 - $475.00
- Late Registration – August 12 (@ 9:01 PM Pacific) – September 30 - $550.00

Hotel Reservations - https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/events/start.action?id=1508250964&key=DEDCA86

- October 24-27 in Cape May, New Jersey
- Early Bird Registration – until July 31 - $425
- The site of the 2016 meeting is The Grand Hotel of Cape May