Northwest Region Touchpoint
August 22, 2016

Hancock Farm Tour 2016 (Source: Gary Wilson) . . .

Spend a day in the country that’s both fun and educational for your family. Held every four years since 1970, Farm Tour 2016 includes eight different stops along a 25-mile route through Hancock County. Along the way, you’ll learn about raising grain, hogs, cattle and so much more! See why farming is the number one industry in Hancock County. See Farm Tour 2016 brochure:
http://hancockswcd.com/Websites/hswcd/images/FarmTour2016/Farm%20Tour%202016-updated.pdf
Happy August Birthdays …

- August 1  Bruce Clevenger – Educator/Director, Defiance County
- August 6  Tony Campbell – Program Coordinator, Paulding County
- August 8  Craig Everett – Program Assistant, Wood County
- August 13  Felicia Lonas – Program Specialist, Lucas County
- August 14  Dawn Feller – Office Associate, Hancock County
- August 17  Jay Gerken – Program Assistant, Lucas County
- August 18  Gwen Soule – Educator/Director, Sandusky County
- August 19  Lee Richter – Program Assistant, Lucas County
- August 21  Jackie Bailey – Office Associate, Lucas County
- August 25  Tina Dendinger – Office Associate, Erie County
- August 25  Tami Kromer – Office Assistant, Erie County
- August 27  Elliott Lawrence – Educator, Lucas County

Northwest Region Newsletter

Director’s Drop-in . . .

As an organization that promotes lifelong learning, it logically follows that we not only provide learning experiences for others, but participate in the continuing education we need to be the best we can be on the job. In addition to the ongoing array of in-service education we offer on an annual basis, a special opportunity for support staff is coming to Ohio this fall.

Ohio is pleased to host the national conference of the Extension and Research Support Staff Association (TERSSA) in Columbus this October. This a unique opportunity for the individuals with critical task of the keeping our organization running smoothly to meet with peers from across the country and explore new ways to maximize personal and organizational effectiveness.

This year’s theme is One Voice – For Strength, Unity and Shared Vision. When individuals have opportunities to share their knowledge with others in a spirit of mutual exchange and learning, we all benefit.

If you haven’t already registered, I encourage you to view the agenda online. Come learn from other support staff professionals from across the state and nation. The TERSSA conference offers a great opportunity to strengthen existing relationships, make new friends, and gain skills you can use in your professional and personal life.

Card Shower . . .

Mary Longo’s birthday is today, August 22 and she is now in Dodd Hall working on some heavy duty rehab. Please shower her with some uplifiting birthday wishes. Her address at Dodd Hall is:

Mary Longo, Room 4141
Dodd Hall
480 Medical Center Drive
Columbus, OH 43210

OUTSTANDING U!
I am pleased to announce the members of the search committee for the next Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Dean of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. Dr. Karla Zadnik, Dean of the College of Optometry and Executive Dean of Health Sciences, has agreed to serve as the committee’s chair for this pivotal search. In addition, the other committee members are:

- Sheryl Barringer, Professor and Chair, Department of Food Science and Technology
- Luis Canas, Associate Professor, Department of Entomology
- Vanessa Egbo, Student Representative, Department of Food Science and Technology
- Ryan Hade, Assistant Professor, Agricultural Technical Institute
- Gonul Kaletunc, Professor, Department of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering
- Elizabeth Parker, Associate Professor of Professional Practice, Department of Animal Sciences
- Pierce Paul, Associate Professor, Department of Plant Pathology
- Amanda Forquer, Program Coordinator, Ohio State University Extension
- Roger Rennekamp, Professor and Director, Ohio State University Extension
- Mazeika Sullivan, Associate Professor, School of Environmental and Natural Resources
- David Williams, Dean, College of Engineering

Ex Officio:

- M. Kimberly Lambert, Program Director, Talent Strategy, Office of Human Resources

I look forward to meeting with the committee soon to give them their charge and launch the search. Dean Zadnik and the search committee will solicit nominations for the new vice president and dean in the near future.

CFAES Backdrops . . .

Director Rennekamp purchased a CFAES backdrop for each of the EERAs. This backdrop and stand can be borrowed for your use. Please contact the Region Office at 419.373.4922 to borrow it.
Advocacy on the Job: A Case Study for Extension Professionals Amid Budget Cuts

It’s a challenge that Extension professionals experience more often than they wish: a state’s budget process threatens to dramatically reduce or eliminate a state’s Extension and other agriculture programs.

In 2015, Pennsylvania State University Extension faced elimination of its entire state appropriation. In response, the college and its stakeholders engaged in a comprehensive advocacy and communication strategy that was so compelling that in March, 2016, the entire budget was restored, plus an increase of 9.5%.

Please join eXtension on Tuesday, August 23, 2016, from 2:00-3:00 p.m., ET, for a new webinar, “Hope Is Not a Strategy: A Case Study on Penn State Extension’s Engagement to Restore State Funding.” This webinar will highlight three parts of this successful advocacy effort:

- Building long-term relationships with stakeholders and making them effective advocates who lead the efforts to restore funding
- Spreading the message about Extension through traditional and social media
- Following messaging guidelines for Extension employees when they post on social media or give interviews in funding-challenged times

The case study will be presented by Mary Wirth, Director of College Relations and Communications for the Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences. The office is a component of the dean’s office that manages the college’s relationships and strategic communications with external audiences – with a focus on alumni, industry and legislators as well as future students – and covers all three mission areas of the college including education, research and extension.

To add this event to your calendar please visit: https://learn.extension.org/events/2728.
Now is the time to nominate your peers, community partner(s), and/or yourself for Ohio Joint Council of Extension Professional Awards! For some of the awards, any employee can nominate someone, so PLEASE READ ON! Mark your calendars to turn in applications by October 1!!

To assist you the Scholarship, Grant, and Recognition Committee for JCEP is hosting a Carmen Connect Q&A session on **Wednesday August 24** at 10:00 a.m. There will be a brief presentation and then the floor is open for your questions for the award entry and nomination process. We will visit the JCEP website, talk about the specific awards, any changes, and what is helpful to know when applying or nominating. You do good work, learn how to submit it for recognition that is beneficial to your yearly reviews and promotion process.

Please join me in an Adobe Connect Meeting.

**Meeting Name:** JCEP Recognition 101  
**Summary:** One of the benefits of JCEP is recognition of your work. Award nominations and entries are due October 1st. Get a jump on the application process during this Q&A session.  
**Invited By:** Cassie Anderson (anderson.3157@osu.edu)  
**When:** 08/24/2016 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
**Time Zone:** (GMT-05:00) Eastern Time (US and Canada)

To join the meeting:  
http://carmenconnect.osu.edu/jcepsgr/

**Award Categories:**  
- **Team Teaching** – single-program area or multi-disciplinary teams, and categories specifically for teams with non-Extension Collaborators! At least 50% of the team must be JCEP/ESP members.  
- **Creative Works** – Do you have a great newsletter, website, TV program curriculum package, fact sheet, media production or other educational or marketing item you or your team created? This is the category to get those works recognized. All Extension Professionals (including non-faculty and non-ESP members) are eligible to enter their work in this competition.  
- **Friend of Extension** – think volunteers, business leaders, organizations, elected officials and more….up to 3 recipients will be recognized, with one being selected to represent Ohio through the National ESP award nomination process.  
- **Excellence in Extension** - annual award recognizing a superior Extension educator; based on excellence in teaching, research and service. This is Ohio Extension’s highest honor! Any Extension employee who is a current member of Epsilon Sigma Phi is eligible. The award can be received one time only. The award includes a cash award of $1,000 plus the addition of $1,000 to the base salary.
ESP Special Chapter Awards – Nominees are eligible to receive an award in any one category only once. A complete list of previous ESP Award Winners is available on the site with the applications. Chapter winners will be asked to complete a Regional/National Award Application in January. Award nominations require a 60 word or less abstract about the nominee. Categories are listed below. See application for details on each award.

- **National DSA Ruby Award** – Must be an OJCEP member
- **Administrative Leadership Award** (must have 10 or more years of service)
- **Diversity Multicultural Recognition (Individual)** – (Must be an OJCEP member)
- **Diversity/Multicultural Recognition (Team)** – At least 50% of team members must be current OJCEP members
- **International Service Recognition** – (Must be an OJCEP member)
- **Visionary Leadership Recognition** – (Must be an OJCEP member)
- **Continued Excellence Recognition** - Must be an OJCEP member. Eligible for nomination five years after receiving chapter DSA. Minimum of 20 years in Extension
- **Meritorious Support Staff Service Recognition** for support staff who have demonstrated excellence in supporting Extension programs.
- **Retiree Service Recognition** given to a current OJCEP/ESP member who is an OSU Extension Retiree.

ALL applications are available at the site below. Applications are due (to the individual listed on each application) no later than midnight, October 1st! (*Creative Works must be mailed hard-copy and post-marked no later than Oct. 1.)*

FOLLOW THIS LINK: [http://go.osu.edu/ojcepawards](http://go.osu.edu/ojcepawards)

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**Dependent Tuition Applications – August 26 (Source: onCampus Today)**...

Dependent tuition applications must be submitted each term. The autumn 2016 term enrollment window closes **August 26**. Faculty and staff can apply online using Employee Self Service or paper applications. Students must have their social security number on file with the university bursar to receive the Dependent Tuition Assistance. Read more. Contact or call 614.292.4086.
Annie’s Project is a program whose mission is to empower farm women to be better business partners through networks and organization and management of important information. Women receive training in the five areas of agricultural risk management: financial, marketing, production, legal, and human resources.

How can you be involved in Annie’s Project?
1. You can host an Annie’s Project in your county (more details to come later)
2. You can teach on one or more of the risk management topics at an Annie’s Project program

We are working to update our list of instructors for the topics that are covered during Annie’s Project classes. Can you please complete this poll with any and all topics that you would be willing to teach for Annie’s Project? http://doodle.com/poll/md293nsmg8gavqnu. The poll will expire on Friday, August 26.

More information about Annie’s Project:
• Since 2008, Annie’s Project has been offered 28 times in 22 counties throughout Ohio. Over 375 Ohio women have participated in Annie’s Project taught by OSU Extension educators throughout the state.
• There have been some structural changes to Annie’s Project over the past couple of years. This program began through an Extension Risk Management Education Grant in 2003 at the University of Illinois. The program was named Annie’s Project, because Annie was the mother of Ruth Hambleton, the Extension agent who created the program. For many years, Annie’s Project was coordinated through Iowa State University Extension. Now Annie’s Project is a 501(c)3 with a Board of Directors.
• Gigi Neal and Chris Kendle serve as Annie’s Project state coordinators.

$5 Million Gift Gives OSU Extension New Facility at Waterman Site (Source: news.osu.edu) . . .

Donation creates facilities fund for outreach, research on urban farm. A $5 million gift will extend the outreach arm of The Ohio State University, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. The gift creates the Franklin County Extension Building Fund, which will be used for construction and maintenance of the new Franklin County Extension office and learning spaces on Waterman Agricultural and Natural Resources Laboratory. Waterman consists of 261 acres of farmland located northwest of West Lane Avenue and Kenny Road.

Waterman is designed for a major renovation into a research, learning and outreach hub. Brining Franklin County Extension to Waterman will put cutting-edge research at the Extension office’s front door. The new office will engage the community in demonstration gardens, large urban farm enterprises, nutrition kitchens and day camps. Pending approval from the Board of Trustees, construction will begin in 2017. Read more
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

**NAE4-HA** – http://www.nae4ha.com/2016-national-conference
- 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

**ESP National Conference** – http://conference2.espnational.org/
- 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