2015 YP4H Program Now Open! . . .
The 2015 Your Plan for Health program is now open! If your New Year's resolutions include eating healthier, getting more active, managing stress better or taking charge of your preventive health, then there is a challenge waiting for you in the YP4H portal to help you get results! [Login to view current challenges](#). This year, you can earn up to $125 in Amazon gift cards as you complete various challenges.

Want to learn more about the premium credit and medical plan choice requirements for this year? [Click here to view](#).

New this year: Learn about bonus point opportunities you can earn for having an "early-bird" biometric screening and/or meeting three of five biometric outcomes.

If you have any questions, feel free to browse our [frequently asked questions](#) or email us at yp4h@osu.edu

HR Contact Information . . .
(Source: Amy Burns)
As you are aware the Human Resources department has reorganized. The College has assigned an HR team to work with Extension. We wanted to forward you a contact list with the areas we support, which is attached. Please do not hesitate to call anyone of us with a question. We will attempt to answer any question, even if the subject is not listed under our name.

Your patience during our transition has been appreciated. You have welcomed our new structure and been extremely supportive, thank you! We look forward to continue working with you in the New Year!
**Tri-State Diversity Conference Diversity Champion Award**

**Tri-State Diversity Conference Diversity Champion Award – Nominations due by February 16 . . .**
The goal of the Tri-State Diversity Conference (to be held February 19-20) is to network and link people and resources together to better integrate diversity into programs, policies, and practices for creating community wellbeing.
The 2015 theme is “reThinking Diversity: Addressing the Cultural Shift in America.” For more information, visit [http://ces.ca.uky.edu/tristatediversityconference](http://ces.ca.uky.edu/tristatediversityconference).

The 2015 nomination form for the Tri-State Diversity Champion Awards is attached; the form is also available on the conference website. Please nominate yourself or others for one of these awards. The nomination deadline is January 16. Send nominations to Pat Holmes at holmes.86@osu.edu. An individual award and a team award will be presented during the Tri-State Diversity Conference luncheon on February 19.

**Pre-registration Deadline for Ohio Commercial Pesticide Applicator Recertification Conference**

**Thursday, January 15, 2015 (All day)**
**Contact Phone: 614-292-4070**

Pre-registration deadline for Ohio Commercial Pesticide Applicator Recertification Conference Jan. 22 in Sandusky. The course helps applicators fulfill Ohio’s commercial pesticide applicator requirements. Recertification credits are available in all categories. Pre-registration is $75 without lunch, $95 with lunch; registration at the door is $85 and doesn’t include lunch.

**Ohio State economist predicts continued but slow growth**

The U.S. and Ohio economies will continue to recover from the Great Recession in 2015 with continued but slow growth, according to an economist with the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. Mark Partridge, a professor who holds the C. William Swank Chair in Rural-Urban Policy in the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics, said overall, 2015 looks to be a relatively good economic year as the U.S. and Ohio economies will continue to grow at reasonable rates.

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**Happy January Birthdays…**

- January 4 Kelsey Johnson – Program Assistant, Lucas County
- January 8 Becky Guinther – Program Assistant, Crawford County
- January 12 Eric Richer – Educator, Fulton County
- January 16 Ed Lentz – Educator, Hancock County
- January 21 Betsey Rossman – Program Assistant, Wyandot County
- January 24 Heather Gottke – Program Coordinator, Van Wert County
- January 24 Cassie Turner – Director/Educator, Hancock County
- January 25 Jane Wyse – Office Associate, Fulton County

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**Cindy Torppa’s Schedule**

- Monday – Administrative Tasks
- Tuesday – Hancock County
- Wednesday – Van Wert County
- Thursday – Region Office
- Friday – Morrow County, Region Office

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Staff Grant, Award Opportunities…

Staff Career Development Grant applications
The Staff Career Development Grant provides staff with an opportunity to further their growth and development. Eligible staff can apply for a Staff Career Development Grant of up to $1,000 for individuals and $1,500 for groups. Grants can be used for professional development, education or training costs related to job and/or career goals. Applications are being accepted until Saturday (1/31).
— > Read more: hr.osu.edu/special/specgrants

Distinguished Staff Award nominations
Nominations are open until Monday (2/9) for the Distinguished Staff Award, which honors 12 outstanding staff members for their significant leadership, accomplishments and service to the university. Award recipients are selected based on how they have enhanced the quality of work life for colleagues or customers; provided outstanding service to university stakeholders; developed creative solutions to increase department or university operations; or demonstrated one or more of the university’s values.
-- > Read more/nominations: hr.osu.edu/special/dsa.aspx

Distinguished Diversity Enhancement Award nominations
Nominations are open until Monday (2/9) for the Distinguished Diversity Enhancement Award, which celebrates and rewards diversity efforts on the Ohio State campus. Nominees may include campus organizations, academic units or teams, students, alumni, faculty or staff who have implemented policies, procedures, or programs to enhance diversity on the basis of any diversity qualities.
-- > Read more/nominations: hr.osu.edu/special/ddea.aspx