Ohio Saves Week

Two of the Ottawa County commissioners, Jody Regal and Steve Arndt, presented Katie LaPlant with a proclamation for Ohio Saves Week (which was February 23-28).

Travel Grants for the Scholarship of Engagement Available (Source: OnCampus Today) . . .

Small grants are offered to offset the cost of travel or expenses related to presenting at conferences or participating in workshops associated with advancing the scholarship of engagement across teaching and research activities. Funding is offered for meetings that include the Engagement Scholarship Consortium Conference, the International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Civic Engagement, and the IUPUI Service-Learning Research Institute. Apply by Friday (3/20). Contact: outreach@osu.edu. Read more: go.osu.edu/travelgrants15
Dependent Eligibility Verification (Source: Amy Burns) . . .

Approximately 6,900 Ohio State employees will be required to verify their dependents’ eligibility for Ohio State health benefits by April 16.

In 2010, all faculty and staff covering dependents on an Ohio State health plan were asked to complete a certification questionnaire attesting that covered dependents met all of the eligibility criteria. Individuals who previously attested to eligibility will be required to provide documentation to verify eligibility. 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. Xerox will be contacting you if you are one of the 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

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.

Happy March Birthdays . . .

- March 5  Vicki Roth – Program Assistant, Henry County
- March 17  Jenny Morlock – Program Assistant, Wood County
- March 22  Kris Simpson – Program Assistant, Huron County
- March 23  Beth Brown – Office Assistant, Richland County

Cindy Torppa’s Schedule for March 2 - 6

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<td>Performance Evaluations</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Seneca County</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Fulton County</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Performance Evaluations</td>
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New College Library is Home Away from Home (Source: OnCampus Today) . . .

“It was a dungeon.” That’s how users of the old College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences library described the 1956 facility, housed on the ground floor of the Agricultural Administration Building, said Pat Whittington, assistant dean of student development. Today, after an eight-month renovation, students are enjoying a brand new space, the college’s Library and Student Success Center. Read more: go.osu.edu/cfaeslibrary

Self-disclosure of Criminal Convictions Policy (Source: Amy Burns) . . .

This is a quick note to remind you that, as part of Ohio State’s Self-Disclosure of Criminal Convictions Policy, all current faculty, staff, graduate associates and student employees, appointees, volunteers and staff provided by third party vendors are required to self-disclose criminal convictions that occur within three business days of the conviction.

Please know that reporting a conviction will not necessarily impact your employment at the university. Once a conviction is disclosed, a determination regarding suitability for continued employment will be made based on the information received and collected regarding the conviction.

You may disclose a conviction by submitting the disclosure form to Elayne M. Siegfried, HR Director at siegfried.20@osu.edu or directly to the Office of Human Resources at ohrc@hr.osu.edu. Please contact Elayne Siegfried or Gina Thorpe, Background Check Coordinator, at thorpe.45@osu.edu with any questions related to this policy.
$10 Million Grant Opportunity, Deadline: March 6 . . .

Don’t miss this opportunity to improve the lives of Ohioans. Community Connectors is one of the key education initiatives announced by Ohio Governor John R. Kasich at his 2014 State of the State address to support Ohio’s schools by fostering increased student mentorship by bringing together families, community organizations, faith-based organizations, businesses and others in support of our schools and to mentor students.

Community Connectors provides $10 million in 3-to-1 matching grants that will help give more Ohio students access to role models who can help motivate and inspire them, as well as help them develop skills that lead to success in school and the workplace.

Applications will be accepted through 5:00PM March 6, 2015. For more information, go here.

Frequently Asked Questions
Please email info@communityconnectors.ohio.gov if you have any questions.

USDA Grants

OSU Extension County Websites – Upcoming Training Opportunities (Source: Cheryl Buck) . . .

As you may know, the OSU Extension county websites are now based in the Drupal 7 content management system. The county website structure and content types are unique to the county sites. CFAES Communications has added monthly Drupal training sessions in 2015 for the OSU Extension county websites.

This training is open to new Extension employees, those who will be handling website responsibilities for their county, or those who would like a refresher. This training will cover the basics of Drupal 7: how to create and edit pages, news items, events, people, and the general guidelines for content placement. Any Extension employee who will be adding or updating content on your county website is required to attend a training session before he or she is given access to the county site.

The Extension county website training sessions will be held on the fourth Friday of each month from 9am to 1pm, starting on February 27. Space is limited and the sessions will be filled on a first come, first-served basis, so email Bonnie Scranton at scranton.9@osu.edu about which session you would like to attend and which county site you will be editing after training. Visit go.osu.edu/training for more information.