Radio stars Betsy DeMatteo and Nancy Stehulak share news and information on the Farm Bureau’s program, Town Hall.
Welcome . . .

We Welcome . . .

Allison Cooper, Educator, 4-H, Crawford County, who started in the Northwest Region on January 26.

We Welcome . . .

Michael Schweinsberg, Educator, 4-H, Paulding County, who also started in the Northwest Region on January 26.

We Welcome . . .

Caitlin Jones, Program Coordinator, Community Development, Van Wert County, who started in the Northwest Region on January 12.

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 9 - 13

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Region Office</td>
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<td>Lucas County</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Wooster AM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Allen County PM</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Admin. Cabinet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Paulding</td>
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SANTFA, South Australia No Till Farmers Association (Source: Alan Sundermeier) . . .

Alan Sundermeier and Jim Hoorman were invited to present at the SANTFA, South Australia No Till Farmers Association on February 27. They toured Sydney, Adelaide, and Kangaroo Island, then spent 4 days and traveled 1,000 miles visiting farms and consulting on cover crops and soil quality.

Soils in South Australia are very old and lack soil structure and organic matter. With low rainfall and high temperatures, wheat production is marginal yet progressive farmers are using no till and cover crops to increase soil production. They were able to advise farmers on techniques to further improve their farm productivity and were well received. Research collaboration will begin between Ohio State and the SANTFA association.

Alan at the Sydney Opera House  
Jim presenting at SANTFA  
Alan & Jim digging cover crops
Minors Policy 1.50 Compliance Update – County Office (Source: Elayne Siegfried to County Extension Directors) . . .

We will be sending the names of those OSUE current employees who need a BCI background check to OHR and Gina Thorpe’s group. You should expect an email communication from them indicating how to obtain your BCI background check. They are familiar with helping all the new OSUE employees during the past two years go through the background checks and have processes for all the counties.

With the help of OHR, the CFAES HR office will be tracking and monitoring the background checks which are required every four years under the Minors Policy.

All faculty and staff at the OSUE county offices must complete the training module developed by OHR through Carmen. It can be found at https://carmen.osu.edu. Click “join self-enrollment courses,” select “Activities and Programs with Minor Participants” and complete the training.

All faculty and staff must read, sign and agree to abide by the “Standards of Behavior” document that is attached and available at http://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/resources/150standards-emplvol.pdf. When complete, the document must be sent to the attention of Kaylee Buzard (buzard.19).

Please let me know if you have any additional questions regarding the above requirements.

Communiqué (Source: Keith Smith) . . .

A new issue of the Communiqué’ is now available online at http://extension.osu.edu/communique. The topics include:

- OSU Extension Leadership Search Begins
- OSUE Position Description Template
- OSU Extension County Websites – Upcoming Training Opportunities
- Ohio Minimum Wage Change was Effective January 1
- Engagement Scholarship Consortium Conference – proposals due March 20
- eXtension Announces Request for Proposals
- Leadership YOU – March 11 workshop
- DISCflex – March 18 workshop
- Applying Your Strengths at Work – March 24 workshop
- Navigating Difficult Conversations – March 30 workshop
- Ohio Ag Hall of Fame Nominations – due March 31
A summary of the ideas generated from the VP Summit during Annual Conference can be found at http://go.osu.edu/SummaryVPSummit. We have also updated the materials available on the VP Conversation website. The trend research papers, a summary of the interim project report, an updated list of committee members and other materials that will help inform this second phase of the program have been added to the webpages at go.osu.edu/OSUEFuture.

The VP Conversation committee is working on putting together a variety of ways you can continue to be involved and provide more visioning input. More opportunities will be shared soon so be sure to select one or more that will fit your schedule.

In his February 20 webinar, Dean McPheron talked about the next few months for the VP Conversation, saying our organization’s challenge for this project is to prime ourselves to be adventurous and to be ready to adapt to the challenges that the future may bring. He has encouraged us to create, through our visioning sessions, opportunities that are enabling, rather than constraining, for our future organization and leaders. Watch it here if you haven’t yet had the opportunity to view it (http://cfaes.osu.edu/about/from-the-vp)

Please consider registering for the Diversity Leadership Symposium as part of your professional development for the year. This year’s theme addresses privilege, “Elephants in the Room: The Power of Privilege.” The symposium will be held on April 1 from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Ohio Union. For more information or to register, visit http://go.osu.edu/RegistrationDiversitySymposium.

Do you know Ohio 4H members who are graduating this year? Let them know about the Agriculture Scholarship program. The Ohio Benevolent and Protective Association has set aside 33 college scholarships, of $1,000 each, just for Ohio 4H members! Help spread the word about this great opportunity that rewards youth leadership in our programs. To be eligible, high school seniors must have a grade point average of at least 2.5 and plan to pursue a bachelor’s degree in any discipline at an Ohio college or university. For more information, and to download application forms, visit www.ohio-hbpa.com. The application deadline is April 17.