New Sign for the Office

In December we unveiled our new logo signage for our office door and window. We used a design from John Victor, Senior Graphic Designer and had it installed by a local sign company. The cost was about $380 for installation and removal of the old lettering. From an OSU Extension brand perspective, the new logo really works for our office. We like the clear, crisp, powerful and meaningful visual the logo produces. We are now working with the Delaware County communications director to develop signage recognizing our county commissioners for their support. (As seen on page three)

Delaware County Highlights

The OSU Extension, Delaware County office is proud to be highlighted for the first county update of 2015. I hope everyone had a great New Year and enjoyed the Bucks big win in New Orleans. As we enter the New Year several of us in the Delaware County office have been asking, “When did December get to be so busy”? Of course I could be wrong but I think I used to remember a time when Decembers used to be a little slower. However, our office found time to get away and plan our annual January County Appreciation Luncheon. Each year, for the last 11 years, our office has held an appreciation luncheon for our Delaware County Maintenance Department and the County Commissioners office. I have to say the whole office, except for me (Rob), has made this the must attend event of the luncheon season. Everyone, especially, the maintenance department employees are very appreciative of the gesture.

New office Associate

In August the Delaware County office hired Kim Baldwin as our new Extension Office Associate. Kim comes to us from Union County Extension office. While Kim is very excited to be in Delaware County, she has encountered several hurdles in her new job. On her very first day, she was trying to be the dutiful new employee by helping fellow office staff carry some items to the nearby dumpster; took a wrong step near the curb and ended up on her back in the parking lot. As she got up she asked everyone if this was the way to make a very good first impression. In her first couple of months, Kim has also had the experience of dealing with several computer issues, including a virus, a rebuild, and what we are calling, the “red screen of death”. Kim handles our financials and is in the process of switching our accounting system to QuickBooks, moving our checking account to a new bank and preparing for an audit. She is doing a great job and we are excited about her working in the Delaware County Extension office.
Delaware County Highlights Continued

Fertilizer Applicator Certification Training (FACT)

Delaware County held our first FACT meeting on December 19. The meeting was sponsored by We Feed U Farms, Jim Rodman and Tri-Ag Products Inc. The behind the scenes story was that Jim just built a new barn this fall and Delaware County Ag community wanted an excuse to see the finished product, so we held the meeting there. Jim has always been a good Extension supporter and it is a good location. But I will be the first to tell you picking the December 19th date, was not one of my better decisions. With Annual conference and Pesticide Applicator Training in-service in the days before, prep days for this new program were not abundant. However, thanks to my follow Educators: John Barker, Knox County; Jeff McCutcheon, Morrow County and Steve Prochaska, Field Specialist, the program was a success. Not only did we provide quality information to almost 70 farmers, but we also had a lot of fun. I am lucky to have such quality colleagues to work with. My advice to new Educators is: don’t underestimate the impact or fun quotient of working with your neighboring educators.

Delaware County 4-H – Laryssa Hook

The Delaware County 4-H program is primarily a traditional program with about 65 clubs, 320 volunteers, and 1200 members. We have a balance of non-livestock and livestock projects, reflecting the suburban and rural demographics of the county. Camp is a strong part of the program, drawing both members and non-members annually to the event at 4-H Camp OhioFair is also a strong part of the program, with most of the 4-H members exhibiting their project that week. The fair takes place in mid-September with school in full swing. With the Little Brown Jug harness race taking place on Thursday, we run a tight schedule for the livestock shows. In addition to traditional 4-H programming, we offer school enrichment programs throughout the county and Carteens. School enrichment programs were expanded about 4 years ago to add ChickQuest and Rockets Away, in addition to Real Money, Real World, which has been offered for about 8 years to schools. Carteens reaches a little over 400 youth annually, and the school enrichment programs reach about 1800 youth annually.

(Pictured is Captain Hook, with a couple of the evil counselors that oversaw the little scallywags – oops, I mean campers.)
Delaware County Highlights Continued

Ladies Day at the Delaware County Fair – Barb Brahm

A new event at the 2014 Delaware County Fair was Ladies Day initiated and sponsored by OSU Extension. In cooperation with the Delaware General Health District and the Delaware County Fair Board, several activities were offered to women and everyone who wanted to join in the fun. The Health Department offered several health screenings, some free and some at a nominal fee. Four home and garden presentations were offered during the afternoon on container gardening, cooking with fruits and vegetables, garnishes from produce, and other gardening topics. Another event offered during the county fair was a “Walk at the County Fair”. Participants signed in and received a map with stations located all around the fairgrounds. They needed to visit each station and have their map stamped, and then return the map back to the registration area. If they followed the map, they walked over a mile. Those who completed the map were in drawings for door prizes.

Do It Yourself Series

To reach the millennial audience in southern Delaware County, a “Do It Yourself Series” was offered at a library near the Polaris area. Basic skills on food preservation, money management, gardening, and sewing were taught at four different sessions. All the sessions were interactive. A survey was taken to determine future interests and preferred times for additional classes. Master gardeners, the FCS Educator and 4-H Master Clothing Educator did the teaching. The program was well received and will continue with additional basic skills learning.

SNAP ED – Diane May

This fall I had the opportunity to schedule some programs for the children at Leads Head Start. Since the first program of the series was in October, we talked about our bones and what kinds of foods were especially good for our bones. The next lesson included information about the importance of physical activity and how important it is to eat appropriate amounts of food. To illustrate this, I showed the children several examples of things they could compare their servings to see if it was the right amount: 1 oz. of protein = a 9V battery, ¼ c. of fruits or vegetables would fit inside a large egg, etc.. The last session of the series, we made a healthy snack (Apple Smiles made of apple slices, peanut butter, and string cheese). As the children were eating their “smiles” we were reviewing which food group each part of the smile belonged in. One little boy started talking about eggs, which was not part of the apple smile! His teacher and I realized at the same time that he was talking about the appropriate serving size since his apple smile would definitely fit inside the plastic egg I had shown them!!
On-Farm Research Reports . . (Source Bruce Clevenger)

This is your invitation to submit on-farm research reports from the 2014 crop year. On-Farm Research reports are published annually in a peer-reviewed process to provide an outlet to your county applied research work. These reports are helpful to producers and your extension colleges. The reports need to have a sound research objective with a research design that includes randomization and replication. Statistics can be generated by using the Excel-Based ANOVA spreadsheet found at: http://agcrops.osu.edu/specialists/fertility/other-information

This year you will find a branded report template in BuckeyeBox at the following link: https://osu.box.com/signup/collablink/d_2845797929/784d20cde139f This template will provide layout, fonts and example table for data. The template is not an option authors can chose not to use.

Timeline: On-farm research reports are Due January 30, 2015.

Reports are posted at: http://agcrops.osu.edu/on-farm-research If you have questions contact Bruce at Clevenger.10@osu.edu

Julie’s Schedule the week of 1/5

M – Columbus
T – South Centers
W – Virtual (From home)
TH – Admin Cabinet
F – OH Fair Managers(Possibly Sat.)

Outreach and Engagement Grant Opportunities… (Source: Mark McCann)

OSU CARES/OSU Extension, the Service-Learning Initiative and the Office of Outreach and Engagement are pleased to offer this year’s OSU CARES/OSU Extension Seed Grants, Service-Learning Grants, and Engagement Impact Grants to support scholarly engagement efforts of university faculty and staff.

This year, we have more than $300,000, to support programs that establish and expand innovative, creative, scholarly engagement to address compelling challenges and critical needs in communities.

Information on the grants is available at http://outreachgrants.osu.edu, and on the attached Grant Comparison.

Proposal Deadline is Monday, February 16, 2015

If you would like some additional information, please feel free to contact Mark McCann (mccann.249@osu.edu) and we ask that you share this information with your colleagues.