Heart of Ohio Newsletter
January 19, 2015

Knox County Highlights

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

In 2014 we served 62 community 4-H clubs consisting of 1,111 members and 179 volunteers. The Knox County 4-H Program has four kickoff events for 2015:

Saturday, January 17 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Extension office is a session for new volunteers and those who have served one or two years.

Tuesday, January 20 and Thursday, January 22 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Memorial Building, 112 East High Street in Mount Vernon are two weeknights for volunteer kickoffs.

Saturday, February 7 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. is the final date for the mandatory kickoff events.

Master Gardener Program

Knox County Master Gardener Volunteer program conducted training for seventeen new interns; bringing our county membership up to twenty six. Volunteers help Extension share research-based information with gardeners throughout the county by: conducting workshops, assisting in community gardens and one-on-one consultation. The 26 Master Gardeners Volunteers and Interns have given a combined 780 volunteer hours. These hours equate to more than $20,000.

Larry Hall is gearing up to present at:
- Ohio Camping conference 1/22
- Ohio 4-H Update 2/5
- MXC 2/21-22
- 4-H CEEI 2/23-26
- Ohio 4-H Conference 3/14
- Buckeye Leadership Workshop 3/18-22
**Knox County Highlights Continued**

2014 Central Ohio Agronomy School – Farmers from Knox and 7 surrounding counties attended this six week in-depth series on critical agronomic production topics. These producers reported production of more than 12 million bushels of corn, 3.5 million bushels of soybeans, 1.6 million bushels of wheat and 1.2 million tons of Alfalfa. These producers were responsible for adding more than $108 million in annual sales to their local economies. 100% of the respondents would recommend this school to others. This school has been offered 5 times since 2006 (every other year). 58% of this year’s participants have attended the 5 previous schools. 60% have attended 4 previous schools, while 65% and 74% have attended 3 previous and 2 previous schools, respectively.

Technology is changing many production practices on Central Ohio grain farms. 253 producers attended a series of Farm Technology meetings. Topics for this series included GIS software, Data Collection & Management, Using the Data - What have we Learned, Yield Monitor Calibration, Variable Rate Applications, Zone Management and Unmanned Aerial Systems (Drone) use in Ohio Agriculture. Participants at these workshops estimated a savings of $10 to $35 per acre based upon knowledge gained at these educational meetings.

Ohio State University Extension announce two Corn Colleges set for late January 2015

Topics will include:

- **Agronomic Practices that Optimize Profitability in Corn Production-Perception vs. Reality** – Dr Peter Thomison, OSU Extension, Corn production
- **Nitrogen Timing and Needs During Corn Development** – Dr. Steve Culman OSU Extension, Soil Fertility
- **Influence of N Source on Timing of Application** – Dr. Steve Culman OSU Extension, Soil Fertility
- **Fungicide Effects on Disease, Ear Rot and Yield in Field Corn** – Dr. Pierce Paul, OSU Extension, Plant Pathology
- **Real Field Experiences with Variable Rate Nitrogen Applications** – Tim Norris, Ag-Info Tech

**Happy January Birthdays!**

January 15th
Cara Gorman
Program Assistant – Franklin County

**Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Sabrina Schirtzinger of Knox county on recently having a baby!
**Corn College Information**

The Central Ohio Corn College will be held Monday, January 26, 2015 at the Agricultural Services Building, 1025 Harcourt Road, Mt. Vernon, OH from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Deadline for registration is January 19, 2015. Please send registration for the Central Ohio Corn College to OSU Extension Knox County, PO Box 1268, Mount Vernon, OH 43050. Make checks payable to OSU Extension. For more information contact John Barker (barker.41@osu.edu / 740-397-0401).

The Southwest Ohio Corn College will be held Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at the Clinton County Extension Community Room from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Deadline for registration is January 21, 2015. Please send registration for the Southwest Ohio Corn College to OSU Extension Clinton County, 111 S. Nelson Avenue, Suite 2, Wilmington, OH 45177. Make checks payable to OSU Extension. For more information contact Tony Nye (nye.1@osu.edu / 937-382-0901).

Cost is $50 per person for the Corn College. Cost will include handouts, bulletins, refreshments, and lunch. **CCA Credits will be available that day**

**Extension Items Due This Month**

**County Appropriation Authorization Form – Due 1/31/2015**

http://cfaesfinance.osu.edu/sites/cbo/files/imce/Forms/County%20Appropriation%20Form.pdf

to report appropriation awards and request the Business Office to invoice for appropriations and other contracts

**December Bank Reconciliation Form and December Bank Statement – Due 1/31/2015**

http://cfaesfinance.osu.edu/sites/cbo/files/imce/Forms/BankReconciliationForm%20Jan.xlsx

to report bank reconciliation and statements in January for local checking accounts

**Other Reminders:**

Mileage rate changed to $0.575 per mile. Travel forms are updated online:

http://cfaesfinance.osu.edu/forms#TV

Financial Volunteer Renewal Forms should be submitted for those units that have volunteers collecting money. http://cfaesfinance.osu.edu/sites/cbo/files/imce/Forms/Fiscal%20Volunteer.pdf

Credit Card Terminal – those contacted about wanting credit card terminals need to reply to Cindy by 1/9/2015 if they want a terminal in this round of submissions

PCard Deadline – please have all eRequests approved and complete by 1/28/2015

eReports ready for printing 1/9/2015
Updated Family and Medical Leave Policy

Ohio State, including the Wexner Medical Center, provides Family and Medical Leave to eligible faculty and staff for up to 12 work weeks of annual leave based on qualifying events. On February 1, changes to FML will take effect, including adding student employees as covered employees, altering eligibility and modifying immediate family-member definitions.

-- > Read more: humanresources.osu.edu/news
-- > Contact: Human Resources, hr-leaveadministrator@osu.edu

New Employee Welcome

We’d like to extend a Central Region welcome to the newest member of Morrow County, SNAP-ED Program Assistant, Michelle Lang!

Michelle Lang
Program Assistant, SNAP-Ed
Morrow County
lang.480@osu.edu
Supervisor: Becky Barker

2015 Your Plan for Health Program is Here!

If your New Year’s resolution includes 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. Benefits-eligible faculty/staff and enrolled S/SSDPs should get started early to earn up to $125 in Amazon gift cards. Learn more about this year’s premium credit and medical plan requirements, bonus point opportunities and more.

-- > Contact: yp4h@osu.edu

HR Contact Information

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!