Northeast Weekly Summary (NEWS)
December 21, 2015

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Happy Holidays . . .
Have a very blessed and relaxing holiday season!

Jackie

Welcome . . .

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Congratulations . . .
to the Northeast Region faculty and staff who were honored last week at Service Recognition Luncheon for completing 25 and 30 years of service:

30 Years
• Kathy Bulka (Medina)
• Vicki Myers (Northeast Region)

25 Years
• Cindy Bond (Guernsey)
• Cathy Ruther (Summit)
Correction . . .
In last week’s NEWS under the Congratulations section for Annual Conference Presentations, Joseph Maiorano was listed in the wrong county. Our apologies, to Joseph, the correct information is below:

Presentations
- Expanding Your Cultural Intelligence: An Innovative Way to Address Ohio’s Changing Demographics – Joseph Maiorano (Harrison) and colleague

PCard Deadline . . .
Since the PCard reallocation deadline is next week and many of you will be taking vacation, please enter all documentation into eRequests this week.

Mileage Reimbursement Update . . . (Source: Ric Hunter)
Effective January 1, 2016, the mileage reimbursement rate will decrease from 57.5 cents to 54 cents a mile for all business miles driven from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

Connect and Collaborate Grants . . .
Below is a copy of the poster from Annual Conference on Connect and Collaborate grants, including OSU CARES. I encourage you to apply for these grants. Most of the grants are due February 3rd. Please contact Karen Bruns (bruns.1@osu.edu) or Terri Fisher (fisher.456@osu.edu) should you have any questions. Information and application materials are available at the Connect and Collaborate Grants Program webpage.
Planning Your PhD Materials:
If you were unable to attend the Planning Your PhD session held on December 1 in Union County, below are links to presentations from various speakers. A PowerPoint and other handouts are also linked. Thanks to all the presenters.

SW Region PhD workshop - Scott Scheer
SW Region PhD workshop - Kathy Lechman
SW Region PhD workshop - Hannah Epley
SW Region PhD workshop - Jackie Kirby Wilkins
SW Region PhD workshop - Jeff McCutcheon

https://mediasite.osu.edu/Mediasite/Play/862dd79201a3425b89968f8896f5e28d1d
Note: if Brian Raison’s video starts/stops or is jerky playback, simply close the browser and open it again new. That will likely smooth it out!

New on the Business Office Website . . .
http://cfaesfinance.osu.edu
• Extension Computer Depot Update – News
• CFAES Budget Information for FY16 Updated – Resources

Need Help with the New Travel Policy? . . .
Check out the CFAES Supplemental Travel Guide
• Pages 1 and 2 consist of the unique questions and answers we have received for CFAES.
• Pages 3 to 5 are detailed pictures and examples for how to calculate your reimbursable mileage and how to put that information on the new log.
• Pages 6 to 20 are the University Travel Guide - a comprehensive list of frequently asked questions about the travel process and the new policy.

Benefit Updates . . . (Source: Amy Burns)
New Health Benefits Cards Coming for 2016
Faculty and staff will receive new ID cards related to Ohio State health benefits over the coming weeks. These cards are often necessary for faculty and staff to utilize for confirmation and access of their health benefits. They should continue to use their current cards until the new ones arrive, then they should destroy the old cards.

Medical/Prescription Drug Cards
New medical/prescription drug cards are being mailed to the home addresses of all 2016 medical plan enrollees from CoreSource (formerly referred to as NGS CoreSource). New cards should be received by January 1.
New Ohio State Travel Assistance Cards
New travel cards will be mailed to the home addresses of all faculty and staff who are enrolled in a university-sponsored medical plan in 2016. New for January 1, 2016, RedpointWTP LLC will provide international travel services. GlobalCare will continue to provide travel services in the U.S. (outside Ohio). New travel cards should be received by early January and replace the current GlobalCare card. Printable cards will also be available soon at hr.osu.edu/benefits.

Health Care Flexible Spending (FSA) Cards
Individuals who newly elected a 2016 health care FSA will receive a Health Care Flex Card by January 1. Current participants who re-enrolled in health care FSA for 2016 should keep their current Health Care Flex Card. The Health Care Flex Card allows easy access to the funds in participants’ fund in Health Care FSA, eliminating the need to file a paper reimbursement request.

Poultry Exhibition Ban Lifted in Ohio . . .
As of 9:00am December 16 the ban prohibiting bird shows in Ohio has been rescinded. This means Ohio can now have live poultry at county and independent fairs, the Ohio State Fair, and all other gatherings of birds for show or for sale, including auctions and swap meets.

Throughout the length of the ban there were no confirmed cases of High Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Ohio, and there is no immediate threat of this disease. However, while the intention is to allow bird exhibitions to be held next year, an outbreak in Ohio or nearby states may require the reinstatement or even an extension of the ban. Therefore we are still recommending that youth who enroll in 4-H poultry projects also enroll in another county-fair-eligible project to be able to participate in the county fair. It is imperative that youth and their families follow strict biosecurity practices. We will post biosecurity information on the Ohio 4-H website poultry resources page at http://www.ohio4h.org/statewide-programs/animal-sciences/poultry/poultry-resources.

The press release lifting the ban will be posted on the Ohio 4-H website poultry home page http://www.ohio4h.org/statewide-programs/animal-sciences/poultry/poultry-calendar-events.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at miller.78@osu.edu, 614.292.7453 (office), or 740.708.0359 (mobile).