Dear Friends,

As my husband and I talked about container gardening this year, I reflected on how our first year of gardening went last season. Let's just say that it was a lesson in everything you shouldn't do when gardening. We learned a lot along the way... when to plant things, what varieties play nice together, how to nurture and care for certain plants, and what to do to keep the weeds from overtaking your bounty. I feel like the same things need to be considered in our work space. How do we find appreciation for the different types of individuals and personalities? Do we recognize the various strengths and skills each person brings to the team? Have we given thought to how we grow in our own development as well as help to grow those around us? And how do we keep the negativity (weeds) in check to create and maintain a healthy and thriving environment? I hope you will all join me in a bit of reflection this spring. Imagine what we can grow together!

P.S. Please share any programming you have coming up on container gardening or backyard production. I can use all the help I can get!

Best wishes,

Jackie

Welcome...

Sara Meeks
Program Assistant, SNAP Ed
Wayne County
meeks.123@osu.edu
Supervisor: Melinda Hill

Erika Lyon
Extension Educator, ANR
Jefferson County
lyon.194@osu.edu
Supervisor: Jackie Kirby Wilkins
Wedding Bells . . .

Ashley Mowen, Portage County 4-H Youth Development Educator, married Jim Hughey on April 3rd, 2016.

Congratulations! . . .
NACAA 2016 Applied Research and Extension Education Poster Competition Winners:

Applied Research:
- 1st – Clif Little (Evaluation Of a Natural Growth Promoter Amaferm For Lamb Finishing)
- 3rd – Jacqueline Kowalski (Use and Buying Patterns of Ethnic Vegetable Crops by the Refugee Population in Cleveland, OH)

Extension Education:
- 2nd – Clifton Martin and colleagues (Understanding Watershed Impact by Measuring Soil Organic Matter)

The first place winners in each category will move onto the national competition at the NACAA AM/PIC in Little Rock, AR.

NACDEP Award
Cindy Bond, Guernsey County, and colleagues: NACDEP honorable mention in Educational Materials: Team for 2016 at the national level for “Preparing Communities for Shale Development through Sustainable Planning.”

Recent Publication . . .
History of Northeastern US Maple Syrup Price Trends (Gary Graham and Eric McConnell)

Thank You! . . .
Last Tuesday was the annual Legislative Luncheon hosted by the State Advisory Committees for Extension and OARDC. A huge “Thank You” to all who hosted state legislators and found willing volunteers to help share our story. I know this is an extra duty for those CEDs/counties selected. From all accounts, your efforts were successful.

Conflict of Interest Clarification . . . (Source Cindy Buxton)
Provost Bruce McPherson sent out an email regarding the 2016 Conflict of Interest Disclosure (e-COI). Many CFAES employees received this email and must complete the e-COI. There was a travel section added last year which caused confusion. This question is only asking about travel which was reimbursed to you by an outside entity, external to OSU. If your travel was submitted for reimbursement through OSU or OSP, this does NOT qualify to be included on your e-COI. Questions? Contact Angie LeMaster (LeMaster.124@osu.edu or 614-292-6470.

Last Chance to Register for New Employee Fiscal Training . . . (Source: Cindy Buxton)
If you are new to CFAES and have a role in financial activities (approvers, initiators, reconcilers) the CFAES Finance unit has training scheduled for you. This course will cover the basic topics for new finance employees including support staff, unit leaders and finance managers. We will cover things like terminology, training requirements, who to contact for help and for what areas finance employees are responsible.

Friday, May 13, 2016 9:30-3:30, the course will be in person, in Columbus Room 205 Ag Administration, Lunch will be provided!

We have people attending from all over the state so please take some time to join your colleagues for a great training day.

To register – simply reply to my email address buxton.65@osu.edu.
CFAES Gender Initiative: Effective Negotiation . . . (Source: Jared Morrison)
Please see the flyer (below) to register for the CFAES Gender Initiative Effective Negotiation skill workshop on June 7, 2016:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CFAES Office of Equity and Inclusion-Gender Initiative Symposium</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Register Now:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gender Initiative Skill Workshop</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Effective Negotiation: Strategies to help avoid, “I wish I would have asked” syndrome</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilitator: Nicole K. Nieto, PhD, Program Manager, Ohio State ADVANCE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agenda:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Skill of negotiation in academia and outside academia</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Building confidence in negotiating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Register here: <a href="http://igo.osu.edu/genderinitiative-negotiate">http://igo.osu.edu/genderinitiative-negotiate</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The workshop supports the goals of the CFAES Gender Initiative to build a pipeline for women in the agricultural and natural sciences who want to enter the academy or other professional professions.

Dr. Sandy Velleman is the lead faculty working with the CFAES Office of Equity and Inclusion.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Tuesday</strong></th>
<th>Columbus Campus-333 Kottman</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 7, 2016</td>
<td>Wooster Campus-Fisher Classroom 121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time 9:00-11:00AM</td>
<td>Cost: Free</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Registration is now open: [http://igo.osu.edu/genderinitiative-negotiate](http://igo.osu.edu/genderinitiative-negotiate)

For additional information go to [Gender Initiative](http://igo.osu.edu/genderinitiative-negotiate)

Register Today for the Rivals Challenge . . . (Source: YP4H)

Help defeat our rival in a battle of the fittest by tracking your minutes of physical activity.
It's time to beat Michigan (again)! Register for The Rivals Challenge today and track your minutes of moderate physical activity to help Ohio State win.

The university with the highest average daily minutes per participant will be declared this year’s Rivals Challenge champion. You’ll also be able to earn YP4H points and win prizes!

In this challenge, every minute counts and participating is easy.

What you need to know to get started:
1. Start your own team or join a team.
2. Get active and keep track! (Strive to get the recommended 150 minutes of moderate physical activity each week to stay on pace and live a healthy lifestyle.)
3. Log your physical activity minutes through June 26, 2016.
4. Earn YP4H points and win prizes.

Share your photos by using #RivalsGoBucks on Twitter or Instagram, posting them to the YP4H Facebook page or emailing yp4h@osu.edu for a chance to win YP4H points and be featured in the weekly challenge email.

Learn more at TheRivalsChallenge.org
Let's Go Bucks!

Blog Links . . .
- CFAES Weekly News Digest – http://u.osu.edu/cfaesadmin
- Extension Director, Roger Rennekamp – http://u.osu.edu/conspectus/
- OSU Extension Ed Tech – http://u.osu.edu/extensionedtech/

National Meeting Information . . .
NACAA – http://www.nacaa.com/
- Registrations after May 15 will include a $100 late fee

- Hotel Reservations – Opens May 2 - $229.00 per night
- Early Bird Registration – June 1-July 15 - $450.00
- Regular Registration – July 15 (@ 9:01 PM Pacific) – August 12 - $475.00
- Late Registration – August 12 (@ 9:01 PM Pacific) – September 30 - $550.00

Important Dates and Deadlines . . .
If there are dates that apply to many that you would like to see included in this section of the newsletter, please send them to Vicki at myers.26@osu.edu.

MAY:
16 – JCEP Meeting, Carmen Connect
25 – Newer Educator Meeting, Trumbull County
31 – Region Support Staff Renew Retreat (optional evening and overnight), Stark County

JUNE:
1 – Region Support Staff Renew Retreat – Stark County
15-17 – ANR Summer Retreat, Hueston Woods Lodge and Conference Center, College Corner, OH
20 – JCEP Meeting, Ag. Admin. Aud.
26-29 – NACDEP & ANREP Conference, Burlington, VT

JULY:
20 – Region CED Meeting, Carmen Connect
24-28 – NACAA, Little Rock, AR
27-August 7 – Ohio State Fair

SEPTEMBER:
12-15 – NEAFCS, Big Sky, Montana
19 – JCEP Meeting, Carmen Connect
19 – EERA 4-H Program Leaders & 4-H Specialists Meeting, Columbus
20-22 – Farm Science Review
28 – Region CED Meeting, F2F, location TBD

OCTOBER:
2-8 – National 4-H Week
4-5 – Comm Dev Retreat
9-13 – NAE4-HA Conference, New Orleans
17 – JCEP Meeting, Ag. Admin. Aud.
18-19 – National TERSSA Conference (Support Staff), Columbus
23-27 – ESP National Conference, Cape May, NJ
26-27 – All FCS Conference, Crowne Plaza, Dublin

NOVEMBER:
1 – 4-H Professional’s Update, 4-H Center, Columbus
2 – Assuring Quality Care for Animals In-service, 4-H Center, Columbus

DECEMBER:
6-7 – Extension Annual Conference, Ohio Union