Northwest Weekly Summary (NEWS)
January 26, 2015

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Family Addition . . .
Congratulations to Eric Barrett, Mahoning County Ag and Natural Resources Educator and his wife, Leslie, on the birth of their daughter, Clara Sophia Barrett, born Friday, January 16th at 9:00 p.m., weighing 8 lb. 10 oz. and 22 inches in length. Everyone is doing well and they are so excited about their first child.

Associate State 4-H Leader Announcement . . . (Source: Keith Smith)
We are pleased to announce the appointment of Kirk Bloir as the Associate State 4-H Leader, State 4-H Office. Kirk has also been appointed Assistant Professor, OSU Extension. This appointment will begin February 1, 2015. His contact information is: Bloir.1@osu.edu, 320 Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center, 2201 Fred Taylor Drive Columbus, OH 43210; 614-247-8168 (Office).

Kirk’s position will provide overall leadership for developing and implementing a comprehensive and balanced teaching and applied research agenda for 4-H Youth Program Development within the Department of Extension in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University. More specifically, he will be focused on the specialty area of risk management in outside school time youth organizations as well as the specialty area of positive youth development.

We thank Search Committee Chair, Dr. Robert Horton and his search committee for their efforts, and commend the great pool of candidates who applied and interviewed for this position. Join us in extending congratulations to Kirk.

The Business Office Update for January 2015 has been posted to the web at: http://cfaesfinance.osu.edu/newsletters/business-office-update-january-2015

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OSU Extension County Highlights Available Online . . .
The 2014 edition of the County Highlights is now available online at http://cfaes.osu.edu/commtech/resources/county-highlights, featuring individual reports for each county as well as Adventure Central and the Alber Enterprise Center.

These reports summarize the impact of our Extension professionals, and our numerous partnerships with community leaders, by highlighting success stories in each of our impact areas:
- Strengthening Families and Communities
- Preparing Youth for Success
- Enhancing Agriculture and the Environment
- Advancing Employment and Income Opportunities

Our federal, state and local elected officials want to know what we are doing throughout the state for their constituents. The County Highlights are one of the most effective publications we use to share local impact information.

You can print and distribute the County Highlights as necessary to help tell our story and highlight work that directly addresses critical issues and improves the lives of Ohio citizens.

OSU Extension Annual Reports - County Copies . . .
OSU Extension Administration is putting hard copies of the 2014 OSU Extension Annual Report (quad-fold and one-page stories) in county mail – two per county.

Please use the stories in this year’s annual report to help market the impact of Extension as a whole, and to support your local programs whenever possible.

PDF files of the quad-fold and the one-pagers are posted on the Section of Communications’ Resources page at http://cfaes.osu.edu/commtech/resources/annual-reports-and-legislative-stories. Copies of the 2013-2009 Extension annual reports are also posted at this link, as well as the OARDC annual reports.

Please use the online PDF files to print and distribute copies of the stories within the annual report for your county needs. Administration has a limited number of pre-printed copies on hand for special requests. Please contact me if you need a few copies for a special use.

Pay Advices to Include Employer-Paid Benefits . . . (Source: OnCampus Today)
New for 2015, Ohio State’s contributions toward your benefits will appear on your next pay advice. This includes the portion paid by Ohio State for employees’ health coverage, group term life insurance, long-term disability and retirement contributions. Your take-home pay is not impacted. This will appear on biweekly advices on Friday (1/23) and monthly advices on Friday (1/30).
-- > Contact: service@hr.osu.edu
-- > Read more: go.osu.edu/benefitsfaq
-- > Review your pay advice online: eprofile.osu.edu/

OSU Health Plans Exceed Mandate Minimums . . . (Source: OnCampus Today)
Federal law requires individuals to indicate on their 2014 tax returns whether they had minimum essential health coverage in 2014. The Ohio State University Faculty and Staff Health Plans (OSU Health Plans) provide excellent benefits that exceed the minimum essential coverage requirements. If you were covered under OSU Health Plans in 2014, you had minimum essential coverage for each month that you were enrolled. If you need to know your effective dates of coverage, email service@hr.osu.edu.
-- > Read more at go.osu.edu/ACAreform

Desk Stretches for the New Year! . . . (Source: David Crawford)
Attached are some nice, easy stretches for us to use and feel better as we move forward in the New Year!!
Updated Family and Medical Leave Policy . . . (Source: OnCampus Today)
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 Sunday (2/1), changes to FML will take effect, including eligibility, adding student employees and modifying immediate family-member definitions to be consistent with federal guidelines.

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

Notice: Educator Request for Promotion or Untenured Assistant Professor Appointment - Letter to Chair due March 2 . . . (Source: Ken Martin)

Extension Educators:

To request a review for promotion (Ed III or Ed IV) or request an untenured assistant professor faculty appointment, please submit your letter of request to Ken Martin, Department Chair, 2120 Fyffe Road, Room 3, Ag Admin Building, Columbus, OH 43210 or email the letter to: martin.1540@osu.edu. The letter must be received no later than midnight March 2, 2015.

Educators submitting a letter will receive a confirmation email along with additional instruction regarding submission of the dossier materials for review. Educators seeking a promotion are required to submit a Research in View dossier report for review by the Administrative & Professional Promotion Committee in the spring. Educators requesting an untenured assistant professor faculty appointment are required to submit a Research in View dossier report to be reviewed in the fall by the Promotion & Tenure Committee.

Based on the 2015-2016 Administrative & Professional Guide for Promotion, candidates will have the primary responsibility for preparing a dossier documenting his or her accomplishments using the outline provided by OSU Extension. Candidates must submit a letter of request to the Department Chair in the spring and provide a dossier for review by the A&P Promotion Committee. The candidate is strongly encouraged to have their dossier reviewed by their immediate supervisor prior to the spring submission. The final dossier is due in the fall. Candidates are evaluated by the A&P Promotion Committee with respect to assigned duties, considering the record of performance in meeting the criteria outlined in the promotion guidelines.


Should you have additional questions, you may contact your immediate supervisor, A&P Committee Chair, Eric Barrett, barrett.90@osu.edu or I can be reached at 614-292-8793, martin.1540@osu.edu.

Communique - New Issue Available . . .
A new issue of the Communiqué is now available online at http://extension.osu.edu/communique.

The topics include:

• Budget Reminder – Guidelines Regarding Political Activity by Employees of the University
• OSU Extension Strategic Plan Update
• OSU Extension Listserv Update – Reminder
• Weather or Other Short-Term Closing Reminder
• Staff Career Development Grant Applications – due by January 31
• Distinguished Staff Award Nominations – due by February 9
• Distinguished Diversity Enhancement Award Nominations – due by February 9
• Outreach and Engagement Grant Opportunities – Proposals due by February 16
• Tri-State Diversity Conference Diversity Champion Award – Nominations due by February 16
• What Will it be Today: Conflict, Compete, Collaborate? Workshop – February 4
• StrengthsFinder Workshop – February 12
• The Changing Face of the Organization: Millennials in the Workplace Workshop – February 17
The Ohio State University

- Ohio Ag Council Scholarship Applications – due February 27
- Ohio Ag Hall of Fame Nominations – due March 31
- Webinar: Farmers and Ranchers: Making a Smart Choice for Health Insurance – January 28
- Southern Region Middle Managers Conference – March 16-19