Congratulations! . . .

Kathy Bulka, Office Administrative Associate, OSU Extension, Medina County, was awarded the OSU College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences Staff Advisory Council Above & Beyond Special Recognition Award for going above and beyond job duties, special commitment to tasks, positive customer service, and improving workplace communications. Kathy is in her 30th year at OSU Extension and was nominated for her continued service to the community and for always going well above and beyond for her colleagues, the University, and Medina County. The award was presented on November 6 at the Ohio State University Ohio Union by the Dean of the College, Dr. Bruce McPheron and the President of Staff Advisory Council, Sara Williams.

In Memory . . .

A Celebration of Life event was held on November 5th for Greg Yost, at the Youth Outdoors center. Many of the individuals whose lives were touched by Greg gave testimony and shared their favorite memories and thoughts about his immeasurable contributions to urban youth. A quote that Greg enjoyed that I think captures his vision of 4-H youth development is as follows: "Must we always teach our children with books? Let them look at the mountains and stars up above. Let them look at the beauty of the waters and the trees and flowers on earth. They will then begin to think, and to think is the beginning of a real education" — David Pollis

He will be missed greatly, but his legacy will continue. Greg's tremendous influence has been recognized by the National 4-H Council (initiated by his OSUE 4-H colleagues) with an award recently named "The Greg Yost of Power of Youth Award."

Levy Passes! . . .

Congratulations to the Coshocton County Office on the successful passage of their Extension Levy in last week's election.

RiV Retreats (Help Sessions) . . .

The Northeast Region Office would like to set up a series of RiV Retreats (Writing Help Sessions), up to two in each EERA. If you are seeking promotion or getting started in the RiV system, or just need some help, please send Vicki an email at myers.26@osu.edu. She will be contacting those that have expressed an interest, coordinating the responses from a Doodle Survey and scheduling dates. These sessions will not have a formal structured agenda but will be used to help each other with writing. If you are also very comfortable in the RiV system and would like to share your expertise, please let Vicki know this as well.

Please send your email expressing interest by November 17.
Message from Keith Smith

I encourage all of you to attend this year’s OSU Extension Annual Conference and Research Colloquium on December 9, 10 and 11 at the Ohio Union. With this year’s 100th anniversary of Extension, and the VP Conversation on the Future of Extension, we need all of you at the conference. You each have contributed to our success and the impact Extension has every day in the lives of Ohioans. You know your community. You have valuable insight into the issues impacting our communities, and the role that Extension can play in the future.

I encourage your entire office staff to participate in this year's conference. Close to 400 of your colleagues have already taken advantage of the early bird registration fee which is available through November 12th. I encourage you and your office colleagues to do the same.

Go to http://extensionhr.osu.edu/AnnualConf/annualconf.htm to register today.

Annual Conference and VP Conversation – Summit December 10 . . . (Source: Graham Cochran)

On behalf of the VP Conversation Steering Committee, below are two quick notes about the VP Conversation on the Future of OSU Extension. Please take a few minutes to view the video message and respond to the survey if you haven’t done so already.

#1 - Video message from Dean McPheron – Click on the link below for thoughts from Dean McPheron regarding the upcoming Annual Conference and Vice President’s Conversation – A Summit on the Future of Extension, on December 10. Please take a few minutes to view the attached video. Bruce is looking forward to spending time with you at Annual Conference and the VP Summit, considering and talking about OSU Extension’s best opportunities to continue to help Ohio and Ohioans address the potential future challenges and opportunities.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OuLTO8_vwPE&feature=youtu.be

#2 - Many of you have already given us your opinion on trends and issues. If you haven’t already, a reminder that we need 5 minutes of your time to complete a brief 4-question, multiple choice survey to prepare us for conversations later this year about the Future of OSU Extension.

Over the past several months, we have been talking to stakeholders, thought leaders and OSU Extension staff to gather information about the most challenging trends and issues that will impact Ohioans by the year 2035. We have combined all of the ideas that were generated during those conversations into 17 unique descriptors. You can read more about the 17 descriptors at go.osu.edu/Ohio2035Trends.

Now we need you to help us with your opinion on which trends are most important, most uncertain, and both important and uncertain at the same time. Please take five minutes to complete this brief survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Ohio2035 by November 10.

We will share more about the scenarios for potential futures resulting from your input at Annual Conference.

We Need Your Help! . . . (Source: Emily Winnenberg, Director of Development, CFAES)

Ohio 4-H has been selected to be a part of Farm Credit Mid-America’s promotional campaign, 299 WAYS TO SAY THANK YOU! 4-H has the opportunity to win a $100,000 gift from Farm Credit Mid-America if our youth organization receives the most votes. Please pass this on, share with folks in your circle and post on your social media sites. I have attached a flyer that you can share if appropriate. You can vote once a day until January 1, 2015.

Find out more about Farm Credit Mid-America’s promotion and the link to vote here - http://promotions.efd-farmcredit.com/299Thanks/

We are in a head to head battle with the FFA, so make sure to vote today and every day for 4-H! 😊

Let Emily (winnenberg.8@osu.edu) know if you have any questions.
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.

INFORMATION SESSION: If you, or someone you know, are interested in learning more, we are hosting an information session on Friday, November 14, from 11 a.m. to noon, in the MLK Auditorium, Hale Hall, 154 W. 12th Ave. The session will also be available for remote participants through Carmen Connect (https://carmenconnect.osu.edu/grantinfo1).

Proposal submission deadline is Mon., Feb. 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.

Business Office Update for November . . .
The November Business Office Update has been issued. Links to the PDF version of the newsletter as well as the traditional online view are linked below.

PDF Version of the Newsletter
Online Version of the Newsletter

In this issue:
- NEW!! OSU Extension Minority Professional Development Award Application
- Calendar Year Purchase Order Renewals Due 11/28/2014
- Apparel, Promotional and Branded Items Updates
- Account number use
- Salaries for Project Personnel - New page added
- Extension Annual Conference
- Accident Reporting Protocol posted to Policies
- PCard Log Reminders
- eStores Vendors – Use eStores through eRequest whenever possible