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.
Happy November Birthdays…

- November 5 Courtney Michael-Program Assistant, Fayette County
- November 7 Linda Newman-Office Assistant, Clark County
- November 8 Godwin Apaliyah, Extension Educator, Fayette County
- November 9 Connie Veach, Office Assistant, Miami County
- November 11 Melanie Hart-Extension Educator, Greene County
- November 13 Rebecca Supinger-Educator/Director, Greene County
- November 15 Pat Holmes-Extension Educator, Montgomery County
- November 23 Pam Dixon-Program Assistant, Hamilton County

PCard Reallocation Deadline – November 25 . . .

Please note that the PCard deadline is EARLY due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. Please have all paperwork documented early!! The reallocation deadline is November 25. The normal billing cycle is the 25th of any given month through the 24th of the following month (e.g. 6/25 to 7/24). The last transactions that post to the bank on the 24th are provided to the University on the 25th, and loaded into the Financials system during the day on the 26th to ensure that transactions are posted to the current General Ledger accounting period. The monthly reallocation deadline is the second to last business day of each month. Due to weekends and holidays, the deadline may vary each month.

Friendly RiV Reminder

As a reminder, your extension activities and impacts for calendar year 2014 need to be entered into RiV by January 15, 2015. This date is important as the information pulled out of RiV at that time is used for mandatory federal reporting. This date is firm for everyone in Extension, from county educators to state specialists in departments on campus. Please let me know if you have any questions or have concerns.

Dean’s Webinar. . .

Dean McPheron’s monthly webinar is scheduled for this Friday, November 21 at 1 p.m. Please hold the date. More information will be sent this week about connecting to the webinar.

CCAO Banquet. . . (Source: Gwen Wolford)

The County Commissioner’s Association of Ohio will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary of OSU Extension at their annual banquet on Monday December 8. They have extended an invitation to any Extension personnel who would like to attend this event to join them. We have not yet been given the cost to attend the banquet but didn’t want to delay any longer in letting you know this is an option. As soon as we know how much it will cost to register that will be communicated to everyone. The banquet will be at the Columbus Convention Center – reception from 5 – 6 pm, followed by the banquet at 6. Brutus Buckeye will be joining us for photos.

Barb Brahm’s Schedule

- November 17 Union
- November 18 FCS Conference
- November 19 FCS Conference
- November 20 Clinton, Montgomery, and Union
- November 21 Vacation
SET is launching a new Phase (V), and we would like to invite you and the appropriate staff to attend a webinar on December 5th at 2:00 p.m. to learn more about this opportunity. SET enables communities and counties in rural America to work together in developing and implementing an economic development blueprint for their multi-county region that strategically builds on the current and emerging economic strengths of that region. Creating, attracting and retaining jobs as a single rural county, in isolation from other nearby counties, is becoming increasingly ineffective. In today's global marketplace, economic development progress is more likely to be realized when rural and metro counties work together as a region to assess, design, and implement plans that build on their assets and comparative economic strengths.

All states will be eligible to join SET as part of Phase V, including those in previous phases. Note that applications need to be jointly developed and submitted by USDA Rural Development (working with the State Director) and Extension Service. Applications are due January 31, 2015 (and will shared with you as we get closer to the webinar date). The regional applications will be due later. Stronger Economies Together is a partnership between Cooperative Extension Service, USDA RD, the four Regional Rural Development Centers, NIFA and Purdue Center for Regional Development. The partners all work together to help regions (which are three or more counties) to work, learn, plan and implement together the region’s plan.

To join the Webinar (which will be recorded): 1. Go to https://rurdev.webex.com/rurdev/k2/j.php?MTID=t2fe8a9f49f8f73c698f95e8d5c673266 2. Enter your name and email address. 3. Enter the session password: SET and click "Join Now". 4. Follow the instructions that appear on your screen. 5. For audio call: 1-800-981-3173 3665# To view in other time zones or languages, please click the link https://rurdev.webex.com/rurdev/k2/j.php?MTID=t337c8dae490be5363a8830461d18a8d2

SET V is taking a brand new approach based on an extensive review of the program over this past summer. For instance, significant improvements to engage participants has been made; a civic engagement module added which will increase stakeholder involvement (and buy-in); and a more streamlined approach which reduces the number of modules to 6, and gives greater flexibility to adapt to the capacity of that region. Most importantly, significant time will be devoted to launching the plan into implementation.

If your state joins SET for Phase V, it will require a commitment of staff time from both Rural Development and Extension. Extension Service will receive a subcontract for the regions it serves in the amount of $26,400 per region for up to two regions. This funding can cover staff time, travel, and program delivery expenses (printing, supplies, meeting expenses, etc.)

We look forward to working with you on new phase of an improved SET. Questions can be directed to Rachel Welborn at rachelw@srdc.msstate.edu or 662.325.5885.
Our Connection Page

Drupal County Website Deadline

A reminder: November 26 the content for the county websites must be completed on new sites, copied or archived from current site.

2014 Zero Weight Gain Email Challenge

Join this Live Healthy Live Well challenge now. Challenge dates are November 24 thru January 4. Two weekly emails will be sent directly to you from your local OSU Extension FCS Professional. Participants will learn about:

- Healthy Celebrations
- Pay It Forward: Giving Back
- Stress and the Holidays
- Don’t Drink Your Calories
- Mindfulness, Find Your Calm

There is no cost, it is free! To sign up go to http://go.osu.edu/FrankZWG14
Registration closes November 23.

CES Annual Service Project at Annual Conference and Research Colloquium

Once again, the members of Chi Epsilon Sigma, will conduct our Community Service project during Extension’s Annual Conference. CES members will be collecting non-perishable food and personal care items, along with monetary donations for the Mid-Ohio Foodbank as part of our Community Service efforts.

A little background on the Mid-Ohio Foodbank (MOFB):

Through a network of more than 550 partner agencies in central and eastern Ohio, MOFB provided over 50 million pounds of food and groceries for hungry people in our area, equaling to more than 107,000 meals each day. More than 35 percent of food requests Mid-Ohio Foodbank receives from food pantries are for children, and another 15 percent are for senior citizens. Mid-Ohio Foodbank is able to transform your $1 donation into $10 worth of groceries! Find out more at http://www.midohiofoodbank.org/.