Thank you Shelby County Commissioners, Bob Guillotzet, Julie Ehemann, and Tony Bornhorst, for your continued support and enthusiasm.

The Shelby County Extension Office greatly appreciates all that you do!

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Shelby County Extension Updates
Shelby County Extension has gained a new team member! We'd like to welcome Judie Gaerke, Office Associate to the team.

Shelby County Extension
810 Fair Road
Sidney, OH  45365
937-498-7239 (office)
937-498-7241 (fax)
shelby.osu.edu
facebook.com/ohiostateuniversityshelbycounty

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity
West Ohio Agronomy Day
West Ohio Agronomy Day (WOAD)/Private Pesticide Application Recertification and Fertilizer Applicator Certification (with CCA credits)
WOAD has been held annually in January at St. Michael’s Hall in Fort Loramie. This program deals with Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification Credits for farmers and Continuing Education Units for Certified Crop Advisors. Beginning in 2015, training was added to meet the new requirements for Fertilizer Applicator Certification for those holding a Pesticide Applicator License. WOAD hosts speakers from both Purdue and Ohio State University Extension. In 2015, approximately 240 were in attendance, supported by 21 agribusinesses. This year sessions emphasized profitable and environmentally sound crop fertility practices.

Cover Crop Field Day
A Follow-Up Cover Crop Field Day was held in April to observe what had happened over inter. It was too wet/muddy to be in the field, so examples were dug and pictures taken. These were then used at the indoor meeting location for discussion. Over 60 people attended.

Farm Bill Meetings
Three Farm Bill meetings were held with just under 200 in attendance. Additionally, one Dairy Farm Bill (Margin Protection Program) meeting was held in the county with 21 producers present.

Pastures
A presentation was given on “Pastures” for the “Livestock and the Land” series organized by NRCS and held at the Upper Valley Career Center in Piqua. The topics involved pasture lay-out, fencing, water sources, etc. In addition, a “Pastures for Horses” discussion was presented at a program in Miami County, sponsored by their SWCD. This presentation covered pasture lay-out and grazing management.

Individual Instruction @ the Office
Over 100 individual requests for information:
- Custom rates and cash rents;
- Insect/weed/and disease identification;
- Pesticide/fertilizer applicator licensing;

Women in Agriculture: An Empowerment Celebration
The first “Women in Agriculture: An Empowerment Celebration” was held on March 19th. This event was planned and organized by various “ag” organizations and industry representatives in Shelby County. Attendance maxed-out the venue at 50+. Four mini-sessions were held during the conference:
- Quick foods
- Women’s health
- Need to know financial basics
- Adding Value to your farm

Plans for 2016 are presently being made: St. Michael’s Hall in Fort Loramie.
Master Gardeners
Master Gardener volunteers, trained by OSU Extension, help Extension share research-based information with gardeners through workshops, community gardens, and one-on-one consultations. Forty active MG Volunteers provided over 2000 hours of volunteer service helping over 3000 clientele address home horticultural concerns in an economic and environmentally sound way. They attained 500 hours of continuing education.

Our Master Gardeners hosted a **Diagnostic Workshop** on June 12th that had twenty participants from multiple counties. They also held a **Landscape Design Class** in November with almost 40 participants.

MGs sponsor the flower and vegetable awards for the Junior Fair and continue to maintain flower gardens at both the Extension Office and the Shelby County Fairgrounds. A number of our members have been actively involved in leading the Agape community garden. Several volunteers provided their expertise at Conservation Day Camp. More than 100 children created Buckeye necklaces at Forestry Field Day and the Shelby County Fair. MGs also had displays at the Shelby, Auglaize, and Mercer County fairs.

Fifty-five attended the Master Gardener Banquet last fall where Warren Koogler was recognized as Volunteer of the Year and Lynda Adams (SWCD) as our “Community Support Person of the Year.” One member serves on the state-wide "Ask a Master Gardener" helpline and one member serves on the State Master Gardener Advisory Committee.

**Additional Educator Duties**

*Committee Member*
*Top of Ohio EERA Leader for ANR Educators*
*P & T Committee – OJECP*
*Local Emergency Planning Commission – Public Information Committee*

**Involvement**
*Research Project: Identification of Soybean Yield-Limiting Factors in Ohio*
*Local Ag Groups: Cattlemen, Dairy Boosters, Farm Bureau, etc.*
*Annual Chamber of Commerce Leadership Class Ag Day in June*
**“Careers in Agriculture” at Rhodes State Career Day**

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* Warren Koogler: “Outstanding Volunteer” award
* 2015 Shelby County Master Gardener Volunteers

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* Additional Educator Duties*
*Farm Science Review (assist at various locations)*
*Presentations to local community clubs and schools, e.g., Fort Loramie Community Club*
*Assist with Youth Quality Assurance program; 4-H project judging*
*Weekly Crop Observation and Reporting Network (CORN) Conference call (Editor for newsletter in July)*
*Ohio Ag Manager calls; Agronomy team; ANR summer meeting; SARE calls; Dairy Working Group*
*Regular articles in the Sidney Daily News and weekly broadcasts on WCSM Radio (96.7 FM; wcsmradio.com)*
Junior Fair Board
The Shelby County Junior Fair Board is a very active and integral part of the Junior Fair. These 28 teens from across Shelby County representing different schools, clubs, and organizations (FFA, 4-H, and Girl Scouts) serve as the primary leadership and youth governing body of the Shelby County Junior Fair. These members plan, organize, implement shows, hire judges, and contact award donors. Members hold regular monthly meetings October-July, work in the Extension Office June-July, hold work nights prior to the start of Fair, and run the 4-H Pre-Fair Judging.

Shelby County United Way is the proud sponsor of the Shelby County Junior Fair.

**Learning Opportunities**
- Demonstrate leadership skills
- Demonstrate communication skills
- Improve decision-making skills
- Improve public-speaking skills
- Improve conflict management skills

Fairlawn After-school 4-H Program
Fairlawn Local School was awarded a 21st Century Grant in 2013 and through this a partnership was formed with the OSU Extension Office, 4-H Youth Development program. A 4-H Club was formed and the initial focus of this club was on vegetable gardening, which has now expanded to additional 4-H projects. These youth are identified as “at-risk” and the 4-H Educator provides hands-on learning activities as needed during the school year. This club has further teamed up with the Fairlawn FFA and has made use of their greenhouse (hydroponics facilities). Some of the activities we have done:
  - Bird seed ornaments / Recycled flower cards / STEM (Lava lamps) / Glucose monitoring / Farming & Globalization

Shelby County 4-H Shooting Sports Club – Hot Shots
The Shelby County Shooting Sports 4-H Club, The Hot Shots, accepted its first members (16 youth) this spring. Five certified Shooting Sports Instructors went through a rigorous 3-day training certification program held by Ohio 4-H Shooting Sports. In addition, each discipline requires a separate certification process. Each of our current instructors has gone through two training certification programs (with more on the way). As part of the training process, instructors can be certified in archery, pistol, rifle, shotgun, muzzle loading, reloading, living history, and hunting and wildlife.

Each discipline within the shooting sports program teaches safety, shooter courtesy and ethical behavior, concentration, self-discipline, self-confidence, goal-setting, and decision-making. The goal is for each youth member to learn basic skills and build toward more advanced activities.
4-H Camp & Camp Counselors
Young people know 4-H Camp is fun. And youth development experts know 4-H Camp helps build critical life skills for both campers and youth counselors. 4-H Camp helps build teamwork, communications, and leadership, cultivating the job readiness skills employers look for, all while giving campers a chance to connect to nature. Superheroes in Training...4-H Camp 2015 provided the setting for 165 youth (including 48 teen camp counselors) to develop life skills.

Shelby County Junior Leaders
The Junior Leaders Club is open to any youth ages 13 to 18 (as of January 1). This group is designed to help young people become better leaders in our community. Junior Leaders is also a group opportunity to meet new friends from other schools in the county. Overall objectives of the Junior Leaders is to:

- Achieve broader understanding of the meaning of leadership and qualities of a leader
- Understand and practice ethical character
- Develop follow-through and responsibility
- Gain self-confidence and self-respect
- Use your knowledge, skills, and abilities to help others
- Experience Doing Good!!!

2014-2015 Service Projects
Valentine’s Day Cards for local military serving overseas
Plastic mats for the homeless
Fairhaven Nursing Home Easter Egg Hunt
Pioneer Day
Christmas Party with Big Brothers/Big Sisters
ServOhio Grant to beautify the Shelby County Fairgrounds

Quality Assurance OSUE Signature Program
Assuring Quality Care for Animals, OSUE Signature Program is held every year for livestock exhibitors. This year approximately 400 youth and parents participated. Topics covered this year included: Ethics & Animal Welfare; GPP 2: Establish and implement an efficient and effective health management plan; GPP 4: Properly store and administer animal health products; and GPP 5: Follow proper feed processing protocols.
Advisor Training, Updates & Additions

- Approximately 2,000 4-H Family Newsletters were prepared and mailed out (500 copies X 4 times)
- Three (two-hour) 4-H Advisor Update sessions were offered. Topics included: fingerprint requirements, financial summaries, 4-H projects, new 4-H enrollment and fair entry forms, Jr Fair updates
- Increased interest in 4-H from the Sidney area: A 4-H club has moved to the fairgrounds to meet this need

Ohio/Shelby County 4-H Recognition

Shelby County 4-H Week
February 22-27, 2015
4-H Night at Rolling Hills Skating Rink

Bookmarks passed out to local schools during 4-H Week

Tractor Supply Company Paper Clover Campaign

4-H Paper Clover Campaign sponsored by Tractor Supply Company (TSC) generated $303 (Fall 2014) for the Shelby County 4-H Program.

Additional 4-H Happenings

*DairyPalooza West* was held at the Auglaize County Fairgrounds May 9, 2015. The Shelby County Extension Office helped State Dairy Program Specialist, Bonnie Ayars, with the one-day event. Over 200 youth and adults were in attendance.

Shelby County 4-H Member, Keaton Topp, demonstrates how to properly prepare injections.

Maxine Allen, Paw Prints 4-H Club, was honored at the Ohio 4-H Teen/Volunteer Conference for her 60 years of service!!!!

The Ohio State University Extension Shelby County Staff

Laura Norris, MA & MAG
County Extension Director & 4-H Extension Educator

Lydia Rinehart, 4-H Program Assistant

Judie Gaerke, Office Associate

Deborah (Debbie) Brown, Ph.D.
Agricultural & Natural Resources Extension Educator

Victoria Cordonnier, SNAP-Ed Program Assistant

*Larry Gearhardt, State Tax Specialist*
**Additional Educator & County Director Duties**

**Committee Member**
*Regional Director Search Committee*
*Gist Chair Advisory Committee*
*Public Issues – OJECP*
*OSUE Strategic Plan: Initiative 7 (become a leader in addressing emerging issues and shaping real-world solutions) Needs Assessment Committee*
*Shelby County Drug Free Coalition Committee*
*Part of a team coordinated by NIFA for Vulnerable Populations that is focusing on Immigrant/Migrant youth*

**County Director Duties**
*Fiscal & Volunteer Management*
*Hiring & Performance Appraisals*
*CED Assessment Center participant*
*CCAO participant*

**Educator Specialization**
Animal Sciences: Small & Companion Animals

**Educator Interests**
*Small & Companion Animals: Youth w/Disabilities; Behavioral Modification/Juvenile Reform*
*Community Development*
*International Extension*
*Leadership (civic & youth)*

**Additional Educator Duties**
*Chaperone for Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF)*
*Programming efforts with other county educators: project judging & interviewing*
*4-H Night with the Dayton Dragons*
*Ohio State Fair Judge & Skillathon Facilitator*
*Ohio State Fair Skillathon Superintendent: Beef*

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**Collaborative Efforts: Ag & Natural Resource Day at County Fair & Play It Safe Skillathon Stations**

*Play It Safe*
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Ed) Victoria Cordonnier(PA)

**Purpose**
Ohio SNAP-Ed, a nutrition education program serving low-income adults and youth throughout Ohio, is a partnership between the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and Ohio State University Extension. Our goal is to improve the likelihood that families and individuals who receive food assistance benefits (SNAP benefits) make healthy food choices and choose active lifestyles.

SNAP-Ed programming focuses on (1) Diet Quality including promotion of Physical Activity, (2) Food Safety, and (3) Food Resource Management. The dissemination of nutrition education is mainly achieved by classes which are scheduled throughout Ohio in and in 69 counties. The format of the classes varies from a single session to a series of sessions.

Participants learn to select fruits and vegetables, whole grain, and low-fat dairy products for a healthy diet; to use limited resources to plan, purchase and prepare food for the family; to be physically active every day; and to store and handle food so it is safe to eat.

**Direct (Adult) Education Programs**
- MyPlate
- Vegetables & Fruits
- Dairy
- Whole Grains
- Protein Foods
- Food Shopping

**Youth Messages**
- Eat breakfast
- Eat different kinds of fruit
- Eat different kinds of vegetables
- Drink water instead of soda
- Eat foods from MyPlate groups
- Do things to be physically active

**Impact**
Approximately 1,869 people (860 adults/1,009 youth) in Shelby County have received direct education in nutrition, food safety, and food shopping in 2015. An additional approximate 11,396 people have benefited from indirect programming, which includes nutrition education handouts and OSU nutrition monthly newsletters.

**2015 Collaborators**
2015 Program Services Included:
- Job and Family Services
- Agape Distribution
- GRAD students at Sidney High School
- S&H Products
- Women’s Center
- Alpha Center
- Longfellow School
- Northwood Elementary

**Summer Feeding Sites**
- Brown Park
- Humphrey Park
- Green Tree Park
- Alpha Center

**Newsletters:** indirect
- West Ohio Foodbank
- Kids’ Learning Place
- Job and Family Services

Agape: Demonstrating how NOT to cut up a squash!
2015 Congressional Assistant’s Tour
Shelby County hosted Congressman Jim Jordan’s Legislative Aide, Tiffany Angulo. Ms. Angulo is a native of Florida and was interested in anything and everything ag-related!

Included in our tour:
- Freshway
- Knouff Family Farm (Soybean operation)
- Prairie Creek Treatment Train at Grand Lake St. Mary’s
- Small calf/crop operation

Where’s Mitchell?
OSUE Shelby County and S&H Products teamed up to house Mitchell in our office during Fair Season.

Junior Fair Poultry Posters
Everyone did a great job coming together and following through with their poultry posters.

Shelby County OSUE Fair Booth

SNAP-Ed S&H Products Evening Participants
**Shelby County 4-H Program & Junior Fair**

**2015 Statistics**

### 4-H Program

- Total 4-H Youth Participants: 937 (146 = Cloverbuds)
- Total Number of “active” Adult 4-H Volunteers: 117
- Total Number of 4-H Clubs: 29
  - Livestock 13
  - Home Economics 2
  - Dog 2
  - Horse 4
  - General 7
  - School-Related 1
  - Shooting Sports 1
- Gender of 4-H Youth Participants
  - Male 418
  - Female 519
- School Grade
  - Kindergarten 40
  - 1<sup>st</sup> 41
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> 65
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> 88
  - 4<sup>th</sup> 85
  - 5<sup>th</sup> 93
  - 6<sup>th</sup> 79
  - 7<sup>th</sup> 92
  - 8<sup>th</sup> 92
  - 9<sup>th</sup> 73
  - 10<sup>th</sup> 74
  - 11<sup>th</sup> 48
  - 12<sup>th</sup> 63
  - Post HS 4

### 4-H Projects

*Raw data; based on May 1 deadline*

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<td>Clothing and Textile Science</td>
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<td>Creative and Leisure Arts</td>
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<td>Self-Determined</td>
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<td>Workforce Preparation</td>
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**1603 TOTAL 4-H PROJECTS**

### Junior Fair Entries

*Raw data; based on May 1 deadline*

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<td>Cloverbud Exhibitors</td>
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<td>Beef Entries</td>
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<td>(breeding, market steer &amp; heifer, feeder calves)</td>
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<td>Dairy Entries</td>
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<td>Dog Entries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goat Entries</td>
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<tr>
<td>(market, dairy, pygmy)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Horse Entries</td>
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<td>Llama/Alpaca Entries</td>
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<td>Poultry Entries</td>
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<td>(fancy &amp; meat chickens, breeding &amp; meat ducks turkeys, geese)</td>
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<td>Rabbit Entries</td>
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<td>(breeding &amp; meat)</td>
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<td>(breeding &amp; market)</td>
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<td>Swine Entries</td>
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<td>(crossbreds &amp; purebreds)</td>
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<td>Cavy and Pets</td>
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<td>Special Interest Entries</td>
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<td>Woodworking Entries</td>
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**3755** Total Jr. Fair Entries
2015-2016 Programming Efforts & Considerations
Agriculture & Natural Resources

Educational Programs and Services Offered (and To Be Explored)

Definite Programming Services/Efforts for 2015-2016

- Western Ohio Agronomy Day (WOAD) – with segments to provide Fertilizer Applicator Certification for those holding a Pesticide License. [WOAD will be split into two different sessions this year: the traditional daytime meeting will be held Monday, January 11th. The evening session will be moved to another date and location (possibly Tuesday/19th or Thursday/21st). This change is due to the increased time needed to provide the Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification credits as well as the Fertilizer Applicator Certification Training (5 hours, total).]
- Fertilizer training for new licenses
- Women in Ag program – March 17th

Possible Programming Services/Efforts for 2015-2016 (based on discussions with Ag Advisory Committee)

- “Planning for Life’s Transitions” program
- Forages and pasture walks
- Farm and livestock security
- Farm safety
- Local foods/Farm-raised

4-H Youth Development

Educational Programs and Services Offered (and To Be Explored)

Programming Service/Efforts for 2015-2016

- Assuring Quality Care for Animals OSUE Signature Program – Quality Assurance & Animal Welfare
- Real Money Real World (RMRW) OSUE Signature Program – Financial Literacy
- 4-H Camping Program
- Junior Fair Board
- Junior Leaders
- Educational exhibits and hands-on learning at the Junior Fair
- *Leadership presentations/activities at local high school*
- *Premier Exhibitor*
- *Teen Opportunities*
- *CARTEENS* (will be offered starting in January 2016; collaboration between OSUE Shelby County, Shelby County Juvenile Court, and State Highway Patrol)

The Ohio State University Discovery Themes

Energy and the Environment / Food Production and Security / Health and Wellness

The food and agriculture bioeconomy in Ohio is an enterprise worth over 100 billion dollars annually, employing over one million people, and depends in great part on the OSU research, extension, and development programs reported herein. A key part of this effort will be our leadership in the three OSU Discovery Themes that are intended to guide and better integrate across all of OSU. Those themes, a key component of OSU’s rise from EXCELELNCE TO EMINENCE, are: (1) Health and Wellness; (2) Energy and Environment; and (3) Food Production and Security. For the past five years, OARDC and OSUE have been working on parallels to the Discovery Themes by advancing education, scholarship, knowledge acquisition, and information diffusion in CFAES’ three signature areas: (1) food security, production, and human health; (2) environmental quality and sustainability; and (3) advanced bioenergy and biobased products.