



# FORUM



## West Region Newsletter

### This Issue

**MARCH 2011**

- **Miami County Explores New Co-operative Grocery**
- **Butler County 4-H Carteens**
- **Promotion Planning Tip and Recommendation**
- **Hancock Saves**
- **OrganWise Guys (OWG) program**
- **ServSafe**

### Miami County Explores New Co-operative Grocery

OSU Extension has been involved helping plan, organize and bring together neighbors, farmers and local organizations to collaborate in a grassroots effort to organize and establish a new cooperative grocery in Miami County. The Miami River Foods Project incubated the co-op through the leadership of two full-time organizers, Laura Hanson and Jake Schlachter. In February 2010, they established a pilot online grocery to support the organizing process. The online grocery kept \$52,000 circulating in the local and state economies from February to September. Stone's Throw Market is now incorporated as a co-op with 125 founding member-owners. Stone's Throw now collaborates with several dozen local farms and businesses. Local vendors earn an average of 65 cents per dollar, vastly more than the national average.

### Butler County 4-H CARTEENS

A teen driver intervention program designed to teach young drivers how to reduce their risky driving behaviors. Parents are expected to attend with the teen since they are responsible for the actions of their teen driver.

Upcoming sessions: March 2, 9, 26, 23; April 6 & 20, May 4, 11, 18, 25. Cost is \$30.00 for the teen driver.



# FORUM

## Promotion Planning Tip and Recommendation

If you are considering promotion this year (A&P educators or faculty members), please be proactive and request an EEET summary report **NOW!** You may request a report by using the following link: <http://go.osu.edu/EEETRequest>

The above “request- link” should only be used by individuals applying for promotion and submitting a vita this year (2011). For promotion purposes, you should request a 5-year summary report with comparison data. Note that the annual 2010 EEET summary reports have already been emailed to educators and program support staff. EEET summary reports are constructed in a custom fashion individually. Therefore, the EEET summary reports assembly system is **NOT** automated and requires ample time to generate each 5-year summary. If a program support staff member has misplaced their annual EEET summary, they should contact Kim Bahnsen and request another for their performance review. ([bahnsen.8@osu.edu](mailto:bahnsen.8@osu.edu)). The Regional Office has copies of educators’ annual EEET summaries.

## Hancock Saves

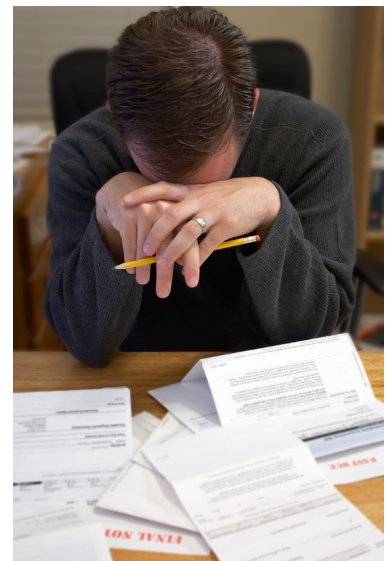
On Feb. 20-27 Hancock County celebrated Hancock County Saves Week with the theme, “Start Small. Think Big.” The focus of the event is to help individuals and families build wealth, not debt.

Hancock Saves is a new nonprofit organization and a new United Way partner agency. Their mission is to promote and increase saving and debt reduction to produce financial stability among individuals and families in Hancock County. The organization was initiated by Ohio State University Extension and the Finlay-Hancock County Community Foundation in 2005. For further information, contact Barbara Brahm at Ohio State University Extension at 419-422-3851, or go to [hancock.osu.edu](http://hancock.osu.edu) and click on Hancock Saves.

Some of the activities for the week were:

**“Kickoff” activities-**George Barany of America Saves spoke on “Saving—Start Small. Think Big.” Jim Steffen, America’s Fun Fitness Coach gave a presentation on “Using Exercise to Deal with Financial Stress”.

**“Debt and Credit Day”** was held on Feb. 23rd at the Hancock County Agriculture Service Center. Megan Frame of Ap-  
prisen Consumer Credit Counseling gave a presentation on “Dealing with Debt and Credit Repair”.



# FORUM

## OrganWise Guys (OWG) program

Troy City Schools are the first in the state to pilot the OrganWise Guys (OWG) program. Lisa Goodall, FNP PA, along with Joyce McDowell and Ana Claudia Zubieta presented the program to Troy Superintendent, Mr. Herman, at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year. Mr. Herman agreed to the program for all 6 elementary buildings in the district, as it ties in with the Senate Bill 210. This bill revises the standards for school nutrition, physical education and health classes in public schools. Four of the six elementary buildings qualified for the pilot due to the number of students receiving reduced lunch. Troy City Schools paid for the other two. The OWG curriculum is designed to instill a healthy habit mindset early on which will continue to build throughout life. These habits include: maintaining a low fat diet, consuming high fiber foods, drinking plenty of water & daily physical activity. A component of the program is the Foods of the Month Club. Monthly, OSUE's FNP PA, visits each elementary with a food tasting. Fresh veggies, fruits, grains and low-fat dairy are offered to each student. Many of the children have never tasted some of the foods and are very excited when it's tasting day. Colorful posters are hung every month in the cafeteria's showcasing each months' food. The food service staff also wear buttons with the OrganWise Guys characters and many of the foods have been switched into the school lunch menu. As the OWG saying goes...*low-fat, high-fiber, lots of water....exercise!*

## ServSafe

ServSafe is designed to provide food service managers with update principles of safe food handling. The principles learned in this course can easily be applied and practiced by all food service workers. Upon successful completion of the course and exam, participants receive a Certificate of Completion from ServSafe™ and Certification in Food Protection from the Ohio Department of Health.



April 7th & 14th— Manager Training  
June 14th & 21st—Manager Training  
8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Cost: \$150.00

May 26, 2011— Employee Training  
July 14, 2011—Employee Training  
8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Cost: \$50.00

All programs are held at OSU Extension in Butler County, 1802 Princeton Road, Hamilton 45011.