Now she has witnessed Ariana "grown to be an individual, become her own person" as a result of her membership in 4-H. "She's more outgoing now, and winning the county ribbon in sewing really built her confidence." As for Ariana, she says, "I like 4-H better than any other group. You can do anything."

Lydia Mostella used to think “animals and farming” when she heard “4-H.” Then a friend of her daughter Ariana talked about a 4-H photography project, and their church youth program held a meeting about starting a new 4-H club. “They mentioned you could take sewing and writing. Ariana’s very creative — this was perfect for her.”

Ariana Mostella and her mother Lydia of Youngstown never imagined the possibilities 4-H held in store; Youngstown proper now has six 4-H clubs with 100 members.

Now she has witnessed Ariana "grown to be an individual, become her own person" as a result of her membership in 4-H. “She’s more outgoing now, and winning the county ribbon in sewing really built her confidence.” As for Ariana, she says, “I like 4-H better than any other group. You can do anything.”

Young people like Ariana are just who OSU Extension Educator Janice Hanna had in mind when she worked with community leaders to start 4-H clubs in the heart of the city. Hanna first approached Youngstown’s Community Youth Director Andrea Mahone, who openly admits she was a hard sell at first.

“I knew nothing about 4-H,” Mahone said. “I thought it was all horses and pigs, and how could that involve our children in the inner city?” But talking with Hanna persuaded her to take a leap. Now the city has six 4-H clubs with 100 members, and Mahone is one of its biggest fans. She tells anyone who will listen: “We’re always trying to invent new programming. Don’t reinvent the wheel — 4-H already has it in place.”

Lydia is glad to see it. She feels her relationship with Ariana grew stronger as mother helped daughter with her 4-H project, and she appreciates the caring adults involved in the 4-H program.

“It’s so good to see adults and children working together to make a better community.”

To see a video about the Youngstown 4-H program, see OSU Extension’s YouTube channel at http://www.youtube.com/osuextension.

4-H IN THE CITY CLUBS MAKE IMPACT IN YOUNGSTOWN
Pesticide Education Program Provides Environmental, Economic Benefits

An Ohio State University Extension program created in the 1970s to promote public safety and a cleaner environment continues to be a source of economic stability for thousands of Ohioans.

OSU Extension’s Pesticide Safety Education Program offers statewide training, workshops, conferences, regulatory updates, and courses to become a certified commercial pesticide applicator. It’s a required designation set forth by state and federal regulations for anyone handling pesticides in a host of working environments, including grounds maintenance for schools, weed control in crop fields, mosquito control in cities, and bed bug control in housing.

Through collaboration with the Ohio Department of Agriculture, the program trains about 30,000 licensed commercial and private pesticide applicators in Ohio.

“Pesticides are a useful tool, and their use is critical to a lot of industries and in public health, but there is a need to use them responsibly in a way that minimizes any potential harmful effects to humans and the environment,” said Joanne Kick-raack, state director of the OSU Extension Pesticide Safety Education program. “It teaches people how to manage pesticides effectively while utilizing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques. It’s not pro-pesticide or anti-pesticide. It’s a responsible-use program.”

It’s also a program that many see as necessary for securing stable employment during the current economic turmoil.

“We haven’t seen a reduction in numbers of folks signing up for training. People see the certification or recertification process as a necessity to finding employment or to stay employed,” said Kick-Raack.

Many companies that normally provide training are cutting back, she said. The Pesticide Safety Education Program is stepping up and filling that need.

For more: http://pested.osu.edu or call (614) 292-4070. ♦ CANDACE POLLOCK

Harvesting the Sun
OSU Extension helps Wyandot County become solar energy leader

The 85-acre field just north of Upper Sandusky had been producing corn and soybeans for years. But last autumn, just as the tractors came and hauled the grain away, the roots of a new crop began to be planted there: 159,000 solar panels that will yield enough clean energy to power about 1,500 homes.

The same way it supports field-crop and other farmers with their operations across the state, OSU Extension has played a key role in the development of the 12-megawatt Wyandot Solar project — the only one of its kind in Ohio, the largest in the Midwest, and one of the biggest east of the Mississippi.

“It was January 2009 when I took the first call from Juwi Solar (a Boulder, Colorado-based company designing and building the facility) asking if Wyandot County would be interested in a solar power generation project,” said Eric Romich, an OSU Extension economic development and regional planning educator who also leads the Wyandot County Office of Economic Development. “I looked outside at the winter weather. It didn’t sound like something that could be done here.”

But Wyandot County officials ended up warming up to the idea, proactively pursuing an agreement with Juwi to develop the project. In the process, Romich said, the county looked to OSU Extension for fact-finding, studying the viability of such a novel enterprise, and organizing public forums.

After “a lot of effort to put this together so quickly and to be able to make informed decisions,” Romich pointed out, construction began in the fall of 2009 on the county-owned field near the Wyandot County airport. Wyandot Solar has entered into a 20-year power purchase agreement with American Electric Power (AEP) for purchase of the output generated by the facility. In September 2009, Juwi sold the project to PSEG Solar Source LLC, a leader in development, ownership, and operation of utility scale solar facilities.

The project benefits Wyandot County in many ways: 80–100 jobs are being created in the construction phase, with those workers receiving training in green energy technologies; 14,030 tons of greenhouse gas emissions will be eliminated per year; and three area high schools will have small solar energy systems installed for science education and technology training. ♦ MAURICIO ESPINOZA
Identifying local, state, even national resources when faced with financial difficulties or unemployment can be a stressful, confusing, and overwhelming task. A new effort by Ohio State University Extension is saving Ohioans the energy by bringing those resources directly to them.

“5 County Solutions” is a collaboration among OSU Extension offices in Clinton, Highland, Greene, Fayette, and Montgomery counties that provides comprehensive information delivered primarily through a web site (http://5countysolutions.osu.edu) and social media, such as Facebook (http://www.facebook.com/pages/5-County-Solutions/205783132240).

The effort materialized after DHL pulled out of Wilmington, Ohio, in 2008, leaving 10,000 in surrounding counties jobless or in financial hardship.

“Extension educators in the five counties got together and said, ‘What can we do to help?’ These hard-working people had no other jobs to turn to,” said Susan Holladay, OSU Extension educator in Clinton County.

The answer was a web site that delivered information on services and tools that residents may not have been aware of.

“The key was to use technology to deliver resources to fit people’s schedules,” said Pat Brinkman, OSU Extension educator in Fayette County. “We wanted a tool that could be accessible 24 hours a day.”

Topics include coping with stress and job loss; establishing financial priorities and budgeting; county resources including family services, career centers, and food pantries; state, national, business, and OSU Extension resources; support groups; information on essentials such as food, shelter, and clothing; tax information; and tips on avoiding scams. Launched in November 2008, the site had nearly 3,000 visitors by the end of 2009.

“This site is for anyone facing economic hardship and financial difficulties,” said Brinkman. “It’s a one-stop shop to being informed of tools, resources, and services that exist and a way of easily reaching them.”

Other OSU Extension educators involved in the effort include Chris Olinsky (Montgomery County), Rose Fisher Merkowitz (Highland County), and Melanie Hart (Greene County).
Midwest’s Own Comes Home: SENR Names New Director

Ron Hendrick sees a bright future, and a brighter spotlight, for the School of Environment and Natural Resources

It didn’t take long for Ron Hendrick to feel at home here. A Michigan native, formerly of the University of Georgia, Hendrick became the new director of the School of Environment and Natural Resources on November 1 of last year.

“Everyone has been very helpful and supportive. I didn’t realize how much I missed the friendly, down-to-earth nature of Midwesterners,” he said. “My wife, Michelle, and I are both from the Midwest, and it took very little time for us to feel very much at home, both at Ohio State and in the Columbus area.”

At Georgia, Hendrick was a professor of forest ecology and associate dean for academic affairs in the D. B. Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources. He collaborated on high-profile campus initiatives related to Georgia’s curriculum, international education, minority recruitment, and graduate education. He directed the Warnell School’s curriculum development; faculty evaluation and development; and student recruitment, instruction, retention, advising, and placement. He taught undergraduate and graduate courses throughout his tenure there.

His research centers on fine root dynamics and the role of belowground processes in nutrient cycling.

“He sees a bright future for his new home, and also a brighter light on it.

“We have a lot of very talented people in the school: faculty, staff, and students. The environment is very much at the forefront of the news and in people’s minds, and the school will play a prominent role both on campus here and around the state,” he said.

“It’s very much within our reach to become one of the country’s top environmental science and natural resources programs. We have all of the necessary resources. We just need to become a less closely guarded secret.”

KURT KNEBUSCH
Split between two colleges for 42 years, Ohio State University’s Department of Entomology has come home.

Since 1968, department faculty shared appointments with the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences and the College of Biological Sciences. But due to a recent restructuring within the College of Biological Sciences and a desire among CFAES administration to solely house entomology, the department is now back where it originated.

“Both colleges wanted the department’s full complement of time and attention and it became clear that we could not serve two masters. Over time it became clear that our future would be much brighter if we severed the ties with Biological Sciences and fully invested with the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences,” said Susan Fisher, chair of the Department of Entomology. “Plus the move back to CFAES makes so much sense. We fit in well with the college’s strategic mission.”

The merger primarily affects three entomology faculty: Fisher, whose expertise is environmental toxicology; Glen Needham, known for his work on ticks; and Dave Denlinger, a member of the National Academy of Sciences who studies insect temperature tolerance and reproduction. The three researchers always carried partial appointments with the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center; now their ties to the college will be even stronger. Needham and Denlinger will also retain partial appointments with the College of Biological Sciences.

With the move also comes the reappointment of Fisher as chair of the Department of Entomology. She is serving her second four-year term.

“Faculty, staff, and students are devoted to this change. They are enthusiastic and see this as a great opportunity,” said Fisher.

But the merger doesn’t come without its challenges, specifically economically.

“With the large deficit we are facing, it’s a bit scary, but Bobby (Dean Moser) has put so much faith in us,” said Fisher. “We want to do our best to ensure that he made the right decision.”

CANDACE POLLOCK

DID YOU KNOW?

The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences Ambassadors received the Excellence in Leadership award at the 2010 National Agricultural Ambassador Conference, making this the third year in a row they have won. This is the first time a school has won an excellence award three years in a row. Congratulations, Ambassadors!
Students in an Ohio State University class are helping the owners of a home now under construction find out if it can officially be “green.”

The class, “CSM 670 — Green Building and Sustainable Construction,” is a new offering in the Department of Food, Agricultural, and Biological Engineering. Instructor Victoria Chen hopes to include a service-learning component each time the class is offered.

During winter quarter, students assisted a local couple, former college instructor Rosemarie Rossetti and her husband Mark Leder. Rossetti was paralyzed in 1998 when a tree limb fell on her during an afternoon bike ride. After years of research, the couple has designed their new home near Gahanna to be a national demonstration home featuring the concept of Universal Design. Dozens of companies and consultants have contributed time and materials toward the project. (See details at http://www.udll.com)

Leder and Rossetti also want the home to be as environmentally friendly as possible, and hope to achieve “green” certification under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program, developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), and a similar national green building program overseen by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). Leder is acting as the general contractor, and he initially attempted to review and complete the guidelines himself but was quickly overwhelmed. Both the LEED and NAHB programs have dozens of guidelines that require specific measurements and detailed information for certification.

Megan Welsh, a student who took Chen’s class in the fall, helped coordinate the undertaking as part of an independent study. “The class was divided into teams to carefully comb through the project,” Welsh said. The students focused on the verification process outlined by both LEED and NAHB and the information required to qualify for certification. The more credits they can help Leder identify, the closer the home will be to attaining “green” certification.

“The systems are complicated, in particular LEED for Homes,” Chen said. “Some students are familiar with USGBC’s LEED programs for commercial buildings, but the requirements and the verification process are different for single-family homes.”

Chen said the new class seems to be striking a chord with students. “The class is attracting students from all sorts of majors, from our own Construction Systems Management major to architecture, civil engineering, city and regional planning, systems engineering — I’ve even had a couple students from the business school and the law school,” Chen said. “It’s not a required course under any curriculum, but students really want to work in this area and learn more about environmental sustainability and energy efficiency. They’re just really interested in it.”

For more information about the Construction Systems Management program at Ohio State, see the web site of the Department of Food, Agricultural, and Biological Engineering at http://fabe.osu.edu.
More than 80 faculty from 12 colleges at Ohio State are pooling their expertise to address global issues in food supply, food policy, and nutrition and health. Backed by $3.75 million in university funding, the Food Innovation Center will focus on four themes: designing foods for health, ensuring food safety, advancing biomedical nutrition in disease prevention and health promotion, and examining global food strategy and policy.

The center is taking on a tremendous challenge, said Ken Lee, professor of food science and technology and project director. “Feeding the rapidly growing world population — a projected 8 billion by 2025 — will require a 40 percent increase in the world food supply,” Lee said. “At the same time, we are wasting 40 percent of the current supply due to challenges in economics, safety, health, nutrition, security, technology, and food policy. But it’s this kind of mission-oriented research that can tackle these issues.”

Dr. Steve Clinton, a co-principal investigator and professor of internal medicine, said the center capitalizes on Ohio State’s diversity. “You can count on a few fingers the number of academic institutions that have colleges of agriculture, business, public health, and veterinary medicine, integrated programs in human nutrition and food science, as well as a Comprehensive Cancer Center, on one single campus,” Clinton said. “The new center can propel us to academic prominence and contribute solutions to critical global challenges.”

The center is one of two new Centers for Innovation at Ohio State. Funded by the Office of Academic Affairs and Office of Research, each is receiving $750,000 a year for five years. The other center is the OSU International Poverty Solutions Collaborative. “There very well could be some synergies between the two centers,” Lee said. “We’re both interested in health and well-being, and food and poverty issues have similar challenges.”

More information on Ohio State’s Centers for Innovation is available at http://research.osu.edu/innovation/.  

Center director Ken Lee: Ohio State’s new Food Innovation Center allows the university to harness the intellectual, transdisciplinary resources to aggressively attack crises in food production, supply and safety.
Anaerobic digestion — the process of breaking down organic matter in the absence of oxygen to produce methane for electricity and fuel applications — is one of the technologies Ohio is betting on to lead the way in the age of renewable energy.

Now, a patent-pending process developed by OARDC biosystems engineer Yebo Li could double the amount of biogas produced through anaerobic digestion, making this technology more economically feasible for large green energy generation in places with large biomass resources — such as Ohio.

Li’s invention is a “solid-state biodigester,” which makes it possible to produce methane from abundant sources of cellulosic biomass such as yard trimmings and crop residue. Current biodigesters use liquid wastestreams such as manure and sewer sludge, limiting the amount of solids that goes into the process, and with it the overall biogas output.

“Biogas comes from the solids present in the anaerobic digestion process,” explained Li, an assistant professor in the Department of Food, Agricultural, and Biological Engineering and also a specialist with OSU Extension. “Current liquid-phase anaerobic digesters used in the United States can only process up to 14 percent solids content. My system has been successfully tested with 20–40 percent solids content, substantially increasing biogas production efficiency compared to existing systems.”

Businesses and government are taking notice. Since 2008, Cleveland-based quasar energy group (which has an engineering office and a lab on OARDC’s Wooster campus) has been working with Li to optimize his technology for commercial use. And last December, the state of Ohio’s Third Frontier Advanced Energy Program gave quasar a $2 million grant to put the new technology — dubbed iADs, or integrated anaerobic digestion system — to the test.

The grant will allow quasar to demonstrate iADs technology at its flagship biogas facility currently being built at OARDC, adding a solid-state digestion system to its liquid biodigester. The integrated system will be able to process over 30,000 wet tons of biomass annually with more than 750 kW of electrical generation capacity.

Methane is a versatile source of clean power. It can be used to generate electricity and thermal heat; it can also be cleaned, separated, and dried to produce natural gas; or it can be compressed to fuel automobiles (as compressed natural gas, or CNG).

Other collaborators in the Third Frontier grant include Ohio State’s Ohio BioProducts Innovation Center (OBIC), Rockwell Automation, Seaman Corporation, seepex, and McCabe Engineering.

More information can be found at http://quasarenergygroup.com and http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/bioenergy. □ MAURICIO ESPINOZA
Secrest Arboretum Takes New Ecosystem Approach

The planting beds in Secrest Arboretum are full of last fall’s leaves. And that’s how Ken Cochran, the facility’s program director, wants it.

Cochran is taking a new approach to managing the place, one that trades overzealous tidiness for a deeper understanding of the complex life there. “We’re not trying to completely control this environment,” he said. “And we’re not just letting it go. We’re trying to create more of an ecosystem in the arboretum — not an all-natural one, but a naturalistic one — to see how it functions.”

Those leaves, he said, will decompose soon. In the process, they’ll enrich the soil, feed plants, and grow a vast network of beneficial microbes and insects. It’s how a proper forest works.

The new philosophy shows in new features: the Ohio Native Plant Garden, which draws native pollinating insects; Skip and Letty’s Water Garden, home to not just fish and frogs but dragonflies over it and birds that come drink there; and the John Streeter Garden Amphitheater, a special spot for what might be the arboretum’s biggest component besides plants.

“The Garden Amphitheater adds a huge human element,” Cochran said. Hundreds attend weddings, recitals, and summertime science shows there. They sit on rock, not plastic, seating, with the sky overhead and with trees all around: a setting created on purpose. “We want people to have a relationship with the natural world while they’re there,” he said.

A proposed new visitor center, still in planning, should strengthen that tie even further.

For Cochran, it all comes down to connections: among plants, birds, bees, deer, slugs, fungi, and you, to name just a few. Plus soils, heat, drought, cold, rain, snow, wind, and sun.

“It’s such a diverse environment,” he said. “We want to respect the interrelationships. We want to understand them better.”

§ KURT KNEBUSCH

ABOUT SECREST ARBORETUM

Part of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) in Wooster, Secrest Arboretum spans 115 acres and houses some 3,000 plant types. The arboretum is named for Edmund Secrest, a forester and former director of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station (now OARDC), who made the first plantings in 1908.

1680 Madison Ave.
Wooster, OH
free admission
http://secrest.osu.edu
There’s a distinctive sound that wafts through the corridors of Halterman Hall during winter quarter — the sound of African drumming. For the past six years, ATI has hosted visiting instructor Divine Gbagbo, a Ghanaian musician and teacher. Gbagbo teaches drumming as part of the Music Cultures of the World class. Gbagbo is head of the music department at Mawuko Girls Senior High School in Ho, Ghana. He is also a composer, with more than 50 choral compositions to his credit.

“‘The focus of the class is the non-entertainment uses of music in African cultures,’ Gbagbo explained. ‘We talk about how music is used to facilitate work and make labor easier, how it is used in games and sport, and how it functions as a symbol of authority.’

Gbagbo says he really enjoys introducing ATI students to African music because of the way they respond to it. “The students are from such a different cultural background, and I admire the way they are able to keep all the complex rhythms straight when they’re drumming.”

Gbagbo also speaks to other classes at ATI. “He speaks to my Agricultural Issues in Contemporary Society class about African agriculture,” said faculty member Linda Houston. “We’ve had several students sign up for the Ghana study abroad trip as a result of Divine speaking to the class.”

ATI’s relationship with Gbagbo began eight years ago during one of the study abroad trips to Ghana led by Houston and another ATI faculty member, D. Elder. “We were walking past a high school,” Elder said, “and we heard some folks singing on the porch of the school. Divine was teaching them Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring’ by singing all the parts to them.” They met up with him again at a conference, where the choir he conducts was scheduled to sing.

Now, in addition to teaching at ATI during winter quarter, Gbagbo also assists with the study abroad trip to Ghana. “He makes a lot of arrangements for us for guest instructors,” Elder said. “But he also acts as our cultural liaison and translator. He makes sure we don’t do anything culturally insensitive because we don’t know better.”

As to his presence on ATI’s campus, Houston says, “It’s so much more than just drumming.” Student Audrey Ackerman couldn’t agree more.

“Mr. Gbagbo has taught us the importance of working together while drumming, as well as letting our individuality show through,” said Ackerman, a second-year floral design and marketing major from Oregon, Ohio. “He has a very contagious passion for a life filled with music. This has been my favorite elective, and I hope I get the chance to go to Ghana this summer.”

FRANCES WHITED
Aspiring golf pros now have another option

The Agricultural Technical Institute and Ohio State's Department of Horticulture and Crop Science are teaming up to make the professional golf management (PGM) program even more accessible. Beginning in autumn 2010, students will be able to complete the first year of the PGM program on the Wooster campus. Students who complete the first year successfully will be able to transition to the Columbus campus for the remaining three years of the program.

Because ATI is an open-enrollment campus, the option to start in Wooster will enable students who want to be golf pros but choose not to start on the Columbus campus as freshmen a chance to realize their career aspirations. Students who wish to start the PGM program in Wooster still have to provide proof of an 18-hole golf handicap of 10 or better.

The first-year PGM-specific courses will be taught by Professor Ray Miller, director of the PGM program, and Chris Walsh, assistant director and formerly the PGA golf pro at the OSU Golf Club, so students on the Wooster campus have the opportunity to interact with Columbus faculty before transitioning to Columbus. “We also have the goal of enabling Wooster students to be active in the Columbus PGM student organization,” explained Gary Anderson, professor of horticultural technologies, who will be advising Wooster PGM students. “We want as much as possible for our students to have the same experience as the Columbus students.”

Wooster PGM students will have playing privileges at Hawk’s Nest, ATI’s 18-hole public course, similar to the privileges Columbus PGM students have at the Scarlet and Gray courses.

“This is truly a cooperative effort between Columbus and Wooster,” Stephen Nameth, ATI director, said. “We think the potential benefit for both campuses is enormous.”

FRANCES WHITED
**Scotts LawnService Donates over $100,000 in Support of Student Scholarships to Ohio State**

**Scotts LawnService has made a gift of $106,327 in scholarship support to Ohio State University’s College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. The Scotts LawnService Scholarship Fund will be a current use fund and will provide full in-state tuition for two students.**

“The Scotts LawnService Scholarship Fund in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences will be a tremendous help to our students, especially in the current economic climate. Ohio State and its students are most grateful for this generous gift, and for our continued partnership with Scotts LawnService,” said Bobby Moser, vice president for agricultural administration and dean of the college.

Recipients will also be awarded an internship with Scotts LawnService at its corporate headquarters in Marysville, Ohio, providing hands-on working experience. The internships will be year-long and will vary in time seasonally and depending on the students’ schedules.

“The scholarship and internship create an exciting opportunity to further our partnership with Scotts LawnService,” said Bill Randle, chair of the Department of Horticulture and Crop Science. “Tying the business experience through the hands-on internship with the academic scholarship is a win-win for everyone.”

The program is intended to provide student-recipients with insight, exposure, and opportunity to the professional lawn care and landscape industry.

“This is an outstanding opportunity for us to develop a working relationship with top talent at the university,” said Peter Korda, senior vice president, Scotts LawnService. “The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and Scotts LawnService are proud to be able to help prepare young adults for professional opportunities in our workforce.”

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**Naturally a Buckeye**

**Longtime Extension specialist provides CFAES with planned gifts**

Tom Stockdale credits his parents with passing along their love of nature and the outdoors. Their influence inspired his Ohio State education and long-term career in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES).

Stockdale’s father, Mike, served as a bailiff in the Erie County common pleas court for 43 years. He handled difficult situations at work all day and wanted a calming environment to retreat to during off hours. With his wife, Betty, he bought 15 acres outside Sandusky to build a home and raise their family.

It was their time spent together on the land that left an imprint on the young Stockdale. His father bird-watched and planted trees on the land. His mother liked to garden and belonged to the Sandusky Gardening Club.

“My mother used some scientific terms to describe the greenery around the place,” Stockdale said. “I was around this information enough that I knew I wanted a career that involved the outdoors. Wildlife management seemed an ideal direction.”

In 1955, he graduated from Ohio State with a bachelor’s degree in zoology and completed four years of ROTC. He served two years in Germany with the Army and then returned to Ohio State, earning a master’s degree in zoology in 1959.

“Lo and behold, I was in the right place at the right time. The university needed a wildlife specialist in the Extension service, and I was hired,” said Stockdale, who served as an Ohio State professor and Extension specialist for 28 years.

Stockdale retired at 55 and created an estate plan that supports programs he cares about. His two charitable gift annuities (CGA) benefit Ohio State’s wildlife program in CFAES’ School of Environment and Natural Resources, the Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center, and the Professional Golf Management program.

“With CGAs, you’re making a marvelous investment,” he said, adding that the interest rate is higher than most vehicles. “In addition, you have the satisfaction of knowing that your intentions will be carried out as you wish after your lifetime.”

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**SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR STAFF, FACULTY, AND RETIREES**

For any member of Ohio State’s staff, faculty, or retirees who is at least 55 years of age, you may fund a charitable gift annuity (CGA) to benefit any area of CFAES. A CGA makes a far-reaching impact and gives you fixed lifetime payments, an immediate charitable income tax deduction, and the satisfaction of making a difference.

For more details, please contact the Office of Planned Giving at (614) 292-2183 or e-mail plangive@osu.edu.
Last fall brought more than football to Ohio State. On Oct. 23 and Oct. 24, Tom Crow, one of golf’s legendary figures, visited The Ohio State University for the first time.

Tom Crow has had success both on and off the golf course. He is a former Australian Amateur Champion and also went on to represent Australia in the Eisenhower International Teams Championship. After moving to the United States in 1973, Crow founded Cobra Golf. Today it is one of the top manufacturers of golf equipment. Crow’s best-known design is the “Baffler,” the first utility wood. This type of club provides players with greater flexibility from difficult lies.

The Professional Golf Management Program (PGM) had the good fortune to be connected to Tom Crow through one of their students, Josh Stueve. The two met while Josh was interning last summer at a private course in Jackson, Wyoming, 3 Creek Ranch. Josh relayed Crow’s interest in PGM, and CFAES Development coordinated the visit along with the Department of Horticulture and Crop Science.

On the evening of Oct. 23, a reception was held at the Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center to welcome Tom Crow to campus. He gave an entertaining talk to the students and donors about golf club design. The program was a big hit with the attendees. On Saturday, Crow watched the Buckeyes beat Minnesota from the President’s Suite in The Horseshoe.

Josh Stueve said, “Mr. Crow’s visit to Ohio State turned out to be everything we had hoped it would be. The students very much appreciated his talk on the founding of Cobra Golf, and he offered valuable insight into many of the different projects the PGM staff is working on to improve the quality of the program. Best of all, after attending the Buckeye football game on Saturday morning, he has become an instant die-hard Buckeye fan. We really feel fortunate to have had Mr. Crow choose to visit our program, and we hope he comes back again soon.”

Following the game, Tom toured the PGM suite on the way out to visit the proposed PGM driving range site at Waterman. Tom’s old friend and fellow golf legend, Mike Hurdzan, was there to share his range site drawings. Crow was impressed with the work and enthusiastic about the possibilities. The highlight of Tom’s visit was going to Hurdzan/Fry Environmental Golf Design to see Mike’s collection of golf memorabilia.

The weekend wrapped up with a wonderful dinner with the PGM students and staff. Tom is excited about the program and wants to return. Crow said, “I am delighted with the young people in the PGM program. It was a fabulous visit and I was enormously impressed.”

For more information about Professional Golf Management, contact Karen Race at (614) 247-8754. SARAH GRAFNER
The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences Alumni Society recognized 16 individuals at its annual alumni awards luncheon on March 6, 2010. Congratulations to all of our recipients.

**Distinguished Alumni Award**

In front, from the left, Vice President and Dean Bobby Moser with award recipients Ruth Strader, B.S., Family Resource Management; Jack Strader, B.S., M.S., Horticulture; Terry Wehrkamp, B.S., Poultry Science; and in the back, from the left, Todd Beckwith, B.S., Agricultural Economics; D. Todd Kranz, B.S., Dairy Science; David Thorbahn, B.S., Dairy Science; and Brent Eichar, B.S., Animal Science.

**Meritorious Service Award**

Vice President and Dean Bobby Moser, left, with award recipients Harry Barr, B.S., M.S., Ph.D., Dairy Science; and J. Robert Warmbrot, Distinguished University Professor Emeritus.

**International Award**

Vice President and Dean Bobby Moser with award recipients Adipala Ekamu, Ph.D., Plant Pathology; Luis Noel Alfaro, M.S., Agricultural Economics, Ph.D., Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology; and Shih-Tong Ding, Ph.D., Animal Sciences.

**Young Professional Achievement Award**

Vice President and Dean Bobby Moser, left, with award recipients Aaron Arnett, B.S., Animal Sciences; Amy Studebaker, B.S., Agribusiness and Applied Economics; and Puntarika Ratanatitirong, M.S., Ph.D., Food Science and Technology. Not pictured: Kristopher Corbin, B.S., Animal Sciences; and Rebecca Scarbrough, B.S., Crop Science, B.S., Food, Agricultural, and Biological Engineering.

**Alumni Board Updates**

The CFAES Alumni Board has new officers! Are you interested in getting more involved with your alumni society? We currently do not have openings on the board, but can always use some help on our committees, which include Awards and Recognition, Advancement, and Fellowship (Fallfest and other events). Contact Ray Miller at (614) 292-5320 or miller.64@osu.edu for more information.

Past President — Richard Leiss
President — Ann Ball
President Elect — James Leonard
Secretary — Melissa Sanders
Treasurer — Matt Pullins
The CFAES Alumni Society scholarships have been awarded for the 2009–2010 academic year, and the recipients were recognized at the Alumni Awards Luncheon on March 6 at the Fawcett Center.

This year’s recipients, all of whom are College Ambassadors, are:

**Hanna Lemle**, a senior animal sciences major from Monclova in Lucas County. Hanna is active in Alpha Zeta Partners, and studied abroad in Brazil in Winter 2009.

**Ryan Conklin**, a senior double-majoring in animal sciences and agribusiness and applied economics from Plain City. Ryan has twice served as treasurer of Alpha Gamma Sigma Fraternity, and currently serves as President of the CFAES Student Council.

**Stephanie Neal**, a junior animal sciences major from North Canton. Stephanie is a member of the dairy judging team, the English Conversation program with international students, and studied abroad in Brazil in Winter 2010 with Alpha Zeta Partners.

**Justin Rismiller**, a junior agribusiness and applied economics major from Rossburg. Justin is an Alpha Zeta Partners member and studied abroad in Brazil during Winter 2009, and is active in OSU AgBusiness Club.

**Lynn Wischmeyer**, a food science and technology junior from Ottawa, Ohio. Lynn served internships with Hirzel Canning Company and Smith Dairy.

The Society established the endowed scholarship in 2007 to assist junior and senior students who had demonstrated leadership capabilities through active participation in college or university activities, and who had maintained a minimum 2.8 GPA.

Donations in any amount can be made to the FAES Alumni Society Undergraduate Scholarship Endowment Fund (fund number is 11000-622310). The Society can grow the endowment into one of the significant scholarship funds in the college. With your help as one of our 36,000 living alumni, giving at only the $100 level each, we can raise the endowment level to a reachable goal of $3,600,000. If we can do this, the society can extend a helping hand to more students and in greater amounts than we currently do. Contact the College Development Office at (614) 292-0473 or Ray Miller, Alumni Coordinator, at **miller.64@osu.edu** to inquire about how you might help this fund grow.
The advantages of a large university came to light this spring when The Ohio State University was designated as the sole university to be a part of the Center of Excellence for Food and Agriculture by the Ohio Board of Regents.

This designation acknowledges the great need for the work we do in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, as well as the benefits of being able to collaborate with scientists across our great university from medicine, public health, veterinary medicine, biological sciences, business, and social work.

It also acknowledges the importance of the world-needs that we address: With a world population of 6.7 billion, projected to grow to over 9 billion by 2040, sustaining growth in food production is of singular importance to human survival. Each day, more than 860 million people go hungry.

This Center of Excellence will focus on food, broadly defined, and four major themes that build upon the strengths of Ohio State faculty from many colleges and departments: Foods for health, food safety, biomedical nutrition, and global food policy. Global issues to be explored include the impact of climate change, natural disasters, availability of water, and infectious disease, and the “digital divide” on the availability and safety of the food supply.

Clearly, bigger is better when it means scientists can collaborate with those from other disciplines to best address critical world issues.