

LEGISLATIVE REPORT



Reflecting Program Highlights

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January 2017

Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program (AWSMP)

Shandaken-Allaben Local Flood Analysis Kick-Off

The first public meeting to kickoff a **Local Flood Analysis** in the hamlets of Allaben and Shandaken in the Town of Shandaken was held on December 20 at the Shandaken Town Hall. Residents were encouraged to join the Shandaken Flood Committee (SAFARI) as they begin the detailed flood analysis for the hamlets. Working with SAFARI, consulting firm Milone and MacBroom will carry out the analysis to: 1) determine the causes of intensified flooding and evaluate solutions and 2) design and implement projects to alleviate flooding and reduce hazards. Public input is needed to develop feasible and community supported projects for implementation.



AWSMP Program Leader: Leslie Zucker laz5@cornell.edu

4-H Youth Development Program

Asunción, Paraguay - 4-H Program Leader Melanie Forstrom spent three weeks in November in Paraguay, thanks to grant funding from the Dept. of Labor, administered through the Farmer to Farmer Program. This amazing opportunity brought Melanie to work with the Information and Resource Center for Development (CIRD in Spanish), to start a 4-H Program in the Department of Guiará in Paraguay through their project Paraguay Okakuaa (Paraguay Progresses in the Guaraní language).

The assignment was to create 4-H groups in an effort to reduce the worst forms of child labor in this area. Melanie was pleased that she trained an amazing group of 4-H agents in Guiará and "Extensionistas" at the National University's Leadership Center. She feels certain that the work accomplished in the next 3 years will have a resounding impact in the region. Visiting a 4-H program in its infancy in the small rural town of San Antonio, Department of Cordillera in Paraguay, Melanie listened to the youth describe their community service project in the local plaza, which was previously littered with garbage. To the praise of neighbors and community members, this new 4-H club installed 5 trash cans with the 4-H logo and built benches from

Melanie had the opportunity to train 150 people in three departments in Paraguay about 4-H and share the benefits of the program. She appeared on various radio programs and was written up in a newspaper, ABC Color, in Asunción.

recycled materials for community members to enjoy their plaza.

4-H Program Leader: Melanie Forstrom maf357@cornell.edu



Career Panel: local 4-H agents and students at the Cipriano Ocampos School



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MISSION: Improving the lives of New Yorkers through educational partnerships that put scholarship and local knowledge to work.

Agriculture/Horticulture



Livestock Educator Jason Detzel is proud that the livestock program has presented a *barnyard of classes* in 2016...covering a wide range of topics and animals. Whether a seasoned farmer looking to grow your business or a citizen with an acre and a dream we've got you covered. January 2017 will see the start of PUG, Progressive Ulster Graziers Club. PUG will meet each month, at which a speaker will discuss a topic relevant to grazing livestock. This is a free program and a great way to get to know your fellow producers in the area and see how other farms tackle their grazing issues.

Livestock Educator: Jason Detzel jbd222@cornell.edu

Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP)

We are very grateful to RAPP's newest funder: Office of Children and Family Services. The \$100,000 grant was awarded on September 1, 2016, and extends through August 2017. Added to RAPP's other funders, the Dyson Foundation and the United Way of Ulster County, this grant enabled RAPP to hire an outreach coordinator, whose primary goal is to connect with families consisting of caregivers raising relative children. The RAPP program has been invaluable to many area families as they deal with tough "parenting" issues. The RAPP team provides youth activities, education, referrals, and respite for the caregivers and peer support groups.



Program Coordinator: Jennifer Patterson jmp394@cornell.edu.

Live Well Kingston



Exciting News! At his recent State of the City address, Mayor Steve Noble of the City of Kingston shared plans to establish the Live Well Kingston Coalition as a City Commission. The **Live Well Kingston (LWK) Coalition**, launched by CCEUC in 2013 and coordinated by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County, has made impressive strides, with a structure based on focus teams: Eat Well, Play Well, Travel Well, Age Well. The focus teams work within their focus areas, supporting healthier access to foods, increased access to physical activity, improved transportations initiatives, and reaching out to the senior communities to assess their needs and concerns. *Coalition Coordinator: Melinda Herzog mmh62@cornell.edu*

Master Gardener Program

\$500.00 Dominic Parise Master Gardener Scholarship Offered

This \$500 scholarship was established in honor of former Horticultural Assistant, Dominic Parise, who played a critical role in revitalizing the Master Gardener Program in Ulster County. The Master Gardener Program is a group of trained volunteers who educate and assist the community in a variety of horticulture projects.

Applications are open to Ulster County college or college-bound students who are pursuing, or will pursue, a degree in horticulture, agriculture or environmental biology. For a printable application, visit the CCEUC website. Applications to be postmarked on or before April 15, 2017. For more information, or to request an application, please contact:

Master Gardener Coordinator Dona Crawford at 845-340-3990 x335 or email dm282@cornell.edu.



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