



Agriculture - What's New in Grains?



Over sixty farmers, industry representatives, and educators gathered on February 10th in Coxsackie in Greene County for the sake of local grains. This year's **Hudson Valley Value-Added Grains School** marked the third consecutive year that CCE has hosted the popular event. The School is focused on supporting 1) burgeoning interests in small grains for the artisan baking and craft brewing and distilling industries, and 2) interest in other grain/field crops and marketing strategies with potential for producing greater-than-average crop value. CCE Ulster also hosts an annual small grains field day in June, which is focused on grains

production education; in contrast, the Grains School has become more focused on market awareness for various types of grains. For more information, contact: Justin O'Dea, jko32@cornell.edu, 845-340-3990 ext. 390.

Urban Agriculture Workshop: Are you considering urban/small acreage agriculture as a source of income or a new food source? Christian Malsatzki, *Ag Program Leader*, looks at urban agriculture. *Wednesday, May 24, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM.*

4-H Youth Development Program Winds up Ag Literacy Week with Record Numbers!

4-H reached their goal of educating 1010 K-5th grade students!

This year's book choice for Ag Literacy Week (educating local youth in the value and function of farms) was "The Grapes Grow Sweet", which tells the story of a child growing up in a family that owns a vineyard. The book explores the cycle from growth to harvest. Following the reading, two different grape juices were poured for the kids to sample and give their feedback, which they did enthusiastically!

Established in 1985, New York Agriculture in the Classroom (NYAITS) is a partnership of Cornell University, the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, the NYS Education Department, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and the New York Farm Bureau. The NYAITS works to increase agricultural literacy in New York State.

Thanks to the 4-H groups, some superstar Librarians, Kingston Mayor Steve Noble, Ulster County Legislator Jim Delaune, and many other great Volunteers who donated their time and enthusiasm and read in 52 class rooms!

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



Ms. Millers' first grade class in Walkkill, NY

Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program (AWSMP) Hosts Conference

How do we sustain our local economic development in a changing environment? The April 29th Ashokan Watershed Conference, held at the Ashokan Center in Olivebridge, focused on climate change, sustainable economic development, community planning, invasive species, local fisheries, and DEP reservoir operations. Featured at the conference was a presentation by Dr. Kieran Donaghy of Cornell University's Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future.

A Stream Explorers' Youth Conference was held concurrently, for children aged 8-14 of an attending family member. The conference featured hands-on outdoor morning activities taught by CCE educators and an afternoon gorge hike. Children joined their family members for lunch in the dining hall.

AWSMP Program Leader: Leslie Zucker laz5@cornell.edu



Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP) Youth Keeping Busy



RAPP youth have been busy this past winter engaged in exciting activities and working on a number of projects. Some of the activities included a fitness program which offered yoga, Zumba, trail walking and Karate. They planted seedlings, which will be transplanted into the Sojourner Truth Memorial Garden outside the Family Court House; this is the 7th year that Rapp youth have maintained a garden at that site. Teen Rapp held several fundraising events; most recently they assembled goodies and created festive Easter baskets, which they sold to raise money for a trip to Cornell University in the summer. At Cornell, the

teens will have the opportunity to explore career paths in workshops and tours. During Ag Literacy week, a 4-H Youth Development Program, RAPP youth participated as volunteers and read a story to kids at the town of Ulster Library. This was a new and fun experience for them -they got to feel what it was like to be on the other side of the learning curve!

RAPP Program Coordinator: Jennifer Patterson jmp394@cornell.edu.

FREE MOVIE NIGHT - GRAZING FOR LIVESTOCK
Tuesday, May 16, 2017 6:00pm - 8:00pm
CCE Education Center, 232 Plaza Road Kingston, NY 12401

Master Gardener Program & the 19th Annual Garden Day

On Saturday, April 8 the Master Gardeners hosted **Garden Day** at SUNY Ulster. Always a sold-out event, this year's key note speaker was Marie Iannotti, gardening expert at About.com and the author of four gardening books including *A Gardener's Tour of the Hudson Valley*. Attendees had sixteen gardening classes to choose from, with such topics as: Drip Tips: Irrigation; Veggie Problem Solving; Pruning Shrubs and Trees; Soil; Foundation Plantings.

What are you doing on Saturday, June 3? Forsyth Park Pavilion is the site of the **18th Annual Great Plant Swap & Sale!** Read about the guidelines (like how to label and pot your plants, and drop off times) online at ulster.cce.cornell.edu. Be sure no plants are listed on the NYS Invasive List.

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