PUT KNOWLEDGE TO WORK.

LEARNING LIVESTOCK  by Jason Detzel

Last year I received a grant from the New York 4-H Development Program to complete a poultry project with 4-H youth in the County. Naturally I chose to purchase an incubator, fertile eggs, and some supplies to teach a class on hatching chickens and to showcase the process at the Ulster County Fair.

Why hatching chicks? Children grow to interact and understand the world though the guidance of caregivers and teachers. Hatching out chickens allows us to introduce sensitive topics in a supportive manner to the people in our society who often have the most difficult time making sense of the world around them. Introducing these themes in real time and as they occur in an applied setting gives kids the room to think about what they are doing, to question why things are happening, and ultimately sort through the information and teach others about the experience.

As a team we can monitor the incubator daily, candle the eggs for signs of life, and eventually experience a new life coming into the world and all the responsibilities and chores that go along with nurturing them. Besides the beauty and excitement of birth, there is the other side of this project that is just as integral. Chicks that do not hatch, chicks that are sick, different, need a little extra help, and those that die all come with embedded lessons and understandings.

In my former life, the one where I didn't look at poop in a microscope or talk about fistulas, I was a special education teacher. For about ten years I taught, lived, laughed, and cried with students and

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT CCEUC?

Founded in 1913, Cornell Cooperative Extension is a separate 501(c)3 that works to connect university resources with community needs by delivering education programs, conduct applied research, and encourage community collaborations that enable people to improve their lives and communities.

To continue funding all of these wonderful County-enriching programs, we need to increase support through donations as local, NYS and Federal support continues to decline. You may give an unrestricted or direct program gift. All gifts, large and small, help us put knowledge to work in Ulster County.

(Continued on the back cover.)
"With that in mind I made the decision to only offer this course to special education classrooms" 

Their families as they made their way through a world largely developed for neurotypical folks. With that in mind I made the decision to only offer this course to special ed. classrooms in the Kingston City School District and boy was I impressed. 

These were not the clinical classrooms that I have seen in the past but vibrant and supportive rooms of learning where kids could be safe, be themselves, and work towards mastering the skills that will allow them to be as independent as possible. I find that we sometimes take for granted the fact that these kids are not challenged as often as their peers in their daily lives. So with the help of some truly phenomenal teachers and aides (and I’m not just saying that, my time in the classroom allowed me to witness the fair, caring, and stable relationships that these teams exude), we set out to both teach and learn together though the chicken hatching project. 

So we got down to business. With the help of the teachers and the aides we hosted a classroom session where we presented the daily logs, the student responsibilities, talked about the process and the perils of growing chicks out in the classroom, and began introducing the complex and amazing process that transforms a few cells in an egg to an eating, walking, and pooping chicken. It was amazing to watch the students make the connections between the biological development of the chicks and of themselves. Some of the students enjoyed cleaning or filling in the logs but all of them enjoyed their time playing and handling the tiny birds. This became obvious on the last day of project when I came to pick up the chicks to bring them to their new farm home. After a little over a month spent caring for and interacting with the chicks, the students were sad to see them go and we had more than a few tears as I left with the little ones in a simple cardboard box. 

All of the classroom projects were a success but that does not mean that all the chicks hatched. In fact, one classroom had zero chicks hatch and another lost the majority of their animals only days before the big day. 

But the purpose of this was not to hatch chicks; the purpose was to introduce life lesson to students and to help them grow and learn in a supportive environment and in this regard I know that we exceeded this goal. 

Do you know of a special education classroom that would welcome this project into their curriculum? Please let me know and if you would like to learn more about the many projects and the departments at CCEUC do please check out our website and events page. 

Learning Livestock is written by CCEUC Livestock Educator, Jason Detzel. You may contact him by email at jbd222@cornell.edu or by phone at (845) 340 - 3990 ext. 327.

This chick hatching project took place in three classrooms within Kingston City School District and reached about twenty third grade special education students.
Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program

Article by Brent Gotsch, AWSMP Watershed Educator

Ulster County (and much of the rest of upstate NY) is exposed to a variety of natural disasters. Blizzards, summer droughts and severe thunder and wind storms are not unusual. One of the most common, and devastating natural disasters for the region, is flooding.

"Most homeowner's policies do not cover damage caused by floods."

Between 1954 and 2013, a total of 11 Presidential Disaster Declarations were declared in Ulster County because of flooding (and numerous smaller floods that did not warrant a Presidential Declaration). Flooding is the most common natural disaster in the United States and one of the costliest. The Pew Charitable Trusts estimates that between 1980 and 2013 flooding caused more than $260 billion in damages in the United States. In 2017 alone, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) paid out over $8.7 billion in flood insurance claims.

How common is a significant flood exactly? Over the course of 30 years, there is 26% chance that a structure located in the 100-Year floodplain will experience a flood. Depending upon where the home is located (if it is immediately adjacent to the stream channel for example) then the possibility of experiencing a flood is even greater and almost guaranteed over that time period. To top it off, the NFIP reports that more than 20% of flood claims come from properties outside of high-risk flood zones. Furthermore, most homeowner's policies do not cover damage caused by floods. Special flood insurance, typically purchased through the NFIP, has to be obtained to cover flood losses.

In the Ashokan Watershed portion of Ulster County that includes all or parts of the Towns of Shandaken, Olive, Woodstock and Hurley, efforts are underway to mitigate flooding. It all starts with education. Educators from Ulster County Cornell Extension with the Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program (AWSMP) meet regularly with local officials including: Town Supervisors, Highway Superintendents, Code Enforcement Officers, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals members. The goal is to educate them on state and federal floodplain management policies and advise them on how to best stay in compliance with the NFIP. Specialty trainings on how to utilize flood insurance rate maps, how to calculate base flood elevations, as well as courses for local real estate agents are held regularly throughout the year.

Under direction of town Flood Advisory Committees, designated hamlets in the watershed have undergone a Local Flood Analysis (LFA) process. An LFA is a special engineering analysis designed to identify flood hazards in a community and to determine possible mitigation solutions. So far in Ulster County, the Town of Olive hamlets of Boiceville and West Shokan, and the Town of Shandaken hamlets of Phoenicia, Mount Tremper and the joint hamlets of Shandaken-Allaben have competed LFAs.

A potential solution to flooding determined by the LFAs, includes buyouts and relocations of flood-prone parcels in the 100-Year floodplain. The main benefit of buyout and relocation is getting those who live in hazardous areas out of harm's way. Another benefit is that now vacant parcels can be utilized for stream restoration work.

These now vacant areas can also be utilized to improve infrastructure. In Mount Tremper, the Town of Shandaken, AWSMP, NYC Department of Environmental...
(AWSMP continued...) Protection, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, and the NYS Department of Transportation are working to redesign the Route 28 Bridge that crosses the Esopus Creek. The new bridge design uses information and data contained in the LFA (and additional engineering studies and analysis) to raise the bridge and widen its span. This will allow floodwaters and debris to pass underneath the bridge without causing damage to the structure and allow the road to remain open to traffic even during a 100-Year flood. In addition to that, Route 212, where it intersects with Route 28, will be realigned and elevated to allow passage during a flood.

Unfortunately, there is no simple solution to flooding. Risk reduction often takes a tremendous amount of community planning where tough decisions have to be made about where development should occur. While this may be difficult, communities who commit to educating themselves about these issues and involve themselves in the planning process are poised to be more resilient and successful in the face of increasingly severe flooding and a changing climate.

BILINGUAL GRAPE WORKSHOPS

Jim O’Connell, CCEUC Senior Agriculture Resource Educator, has worked extensively on producing bilingual (English & Spanish) educational grape and berry programming. The project was funded through a North East SARE grant titled: Developing Tools to Improve Communication Between Farmers and Farmworkers. The grant, which ran from 2014 to 2017, funded Jim to develop guides for common practices around fruit farms. Topics included identifying and trapping insects like the spotted wing drosophelis, pruning grape vines, harvesting brambles, etc. The project is intended to bridge the language gap between English speaking farmers and Spanish speaking farmworkers.

Jim recently held a grape thinning workshop at Red Maple Vineyard in West Park, NY. The workshop was attended by 13 people, three of which were able to translate during the workshop.

Madison Marshall, a Cornell Viticulture & Enology grad, works at Red Maple as the vineyard manager and head wine maker.

Madison says: “Jim, as well as Jim’s workshops are the reason that we still have a vineyard!!... I must have called Jim at least twice a week for the entire season. We had every disease you could think of, and without Jim I think we would have lost our vineyard. That year (and every year since) he has sat down with me for hours helping me go over my pest management plan. He helps us select materials that fit into our mission of

PROPAGATING GRAPE

More wineries for the Hudson Valley

Aron Rosenberg, an educator and wine maker at Ben Ish Winery in Brooklyn, NY, was familiar with making wine. He wanted experience growing and propagating grapes in NYS, so he contacted Jim O’Connell with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County. Aron has volunteered with children at summer camps in teaching them about propagating and growing grape vines and he decided to get more involved in the learning process of propagating grapes.

With no land available in Brooklyn, Aron looked to the Hudson Valley and purchased some small parcels of land. He hopes to slowly convert the properties from vacant land to producing vineyards. Jim has worked with Aron over the phone and through email, providing advice on how to correctly propagate the grape vines. As of now, the cuttings have rooted and will then be acclimated to outdoor conditions for planting in a field. We will be connecting with Aron for an update for our October issue.

He hopes to slowly convert the properties from vacant land to producing vineyards.
"WHEN THE WORKERS UNDERSTAND THE PURPOSE BEHIND THE TASK, AS WELL AS HOW TO DO IT, THEY DO A MUCH BETTER JOB..."

the task, as well as how to do it, they do a much better job, which leads to better quality grapes and higher quality wine! Every year since that fateful summer our yield and quality has increased. I owe our (somewhat) successes to Jim! We still have lots of learning and growing to do, but at least now we have somewhere to start from."

We look forward to continuing to provide bilingual workshops that will aid communication between farmers and their Spanish speaking workers.

A special thank you from Jim O’Connell to everyone who responded to his survey about farmworker programming. He has compiled the responses and they will be used to help guide program development.

EAT SMART NEW YORK (ESNY)

WHERE’S KATIE NOW?

Katie Sheehan-Lopez, ESNY Educator, will be doing weekly cooking demonstrations at Peoples Place Free Farm Stand most Tuesdays, monthly walks on the Rail Trail with a group from the Cerebral Palsy Association of Ulster County, nutrition and cooking demonstrations at three senior lunch sites in Shokan, Rosendale and New Paltz, and a series of nutrition and cooking classes with youth through Family of Woodstock. She will also be teaching nutrition classes to our very own Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP) support group!

SOBER PARENTING JOURNEY

This 14-week curriculum is designed to assist parents and caregivers who are living with addiction issues. This program successfully completed the first 14-week session in Kingston and is now into the 4th week of another session taking place in Ellenville.

"THE BUSINESS SIDE OF STARTING YOUR FARM"

This class covered everything from the business structure to fit your operation to the right insurance coverage that you should carry. Participants learned valuable information to help move them forward with starting their small business, as well as helpful tips on how to avoid common pitfalls that many people encounter.

URBAN AGRICULTURE

Christian Malsatzi taught the basics of different operations involved in Urban Agriculture production and how they may or may no fit within zoning regulations and ordnances.

RELATIVES AS PARENTS PROGRAM (RAPP)

The Sojourner Truth Memorial Garden located at Ulster Family court is open to the public every third Saturday of the month from 10 am - 12pm. To volunteer contact Allison aar66@cornell.edu

MASTER GARDENERS

It’s time to think about entering your prize flowers or veggies at the Ulster County Fair to win a prize. Visit the Ulster County Fair website for details.
For the latest event details and registration information, visit our event page on our website at ulster.cce.cornell.edu/events

**AUGUST 5**

The Ulster County Fair

Come visit us at the Ulster County Fair where our 4-H youth exhibit their animals and projects. We will be serving healthy food choices at the Snack Bar in the youth building. Teen Council will be selling their infamous milkshakes and our programs will offer a variety of activities during the week!

**AUGUST 13**

Sushi Rolling Class

Learn how to roll sushi like a pro! Ingredients and methods for vegetarian sushi will be covered. Stay for lunch and enjoy your Japanese masterpiece! 10 am to 1 pm, $35 pp.

**AUGUST 18**

How to Take Garden Photos Like a Pro

Join us to learn about photographing your garden like a pro. This class is a part of the “Learning in the Garden” series hosted by our Master Gardeners at the award-winning Xeriscape garden at SUNY Ulster. 10 am to 10:30 am, this is a free event! (Please RSVP)

**SEPTEMBER 10**

ServSafe® Food Safety Manager Course

For food service managers and employees who work where food is prepared, handled and served. 9:30 am to 3:30 pm, $150 pp.

**SEPTEMBER 15**

Annual Plant Sale

The Master Gardeners annual fundraiser and part of the “Learning in the Garden” series. We will offer plants from the Xeriscape Garden, perennials, shrubs, trees and houseplants grown by the MGs! 10 am to 12 pm, this is a free event!

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**JULY 9**

ServSafe® Food Safety Manager Course

For food service managers and employees who work where food is prepared, handled and served. 9:30 am to 3:30 pm, $150 pp.

**JULY 16**

Strawberry Jam Canning Class

Start your preserving season by learning to use the boiling water bath method and the science behind canning recommendations for safe preservation. Take home a jar of canned strawberry jam! This class is sponsored by and takes place at the Ellenville Public Library from 10 am to 12 pm. This is a free event but RSVP required. Please call the Ellenville Public Library and Museum at (845) 647-5530.

**JULY 21**

Using Annuals in the Perennial Garden

A part of the "Learning in the Garden" series, hosted by our Master Gardeners at the award-winning Xeriscape garden at SUNY Ulster. 10 am to 10:30 am, this is a free event! (Please RSVP)

**JULY 24**

Owning Donkeys Class and Donkey Hike

Join CCEUC and Steve Stiert, owner of Donkey Park, for a class on owning donkeys. The class will include a 45-min. hike with the donkeys! 10 am to 2 pm, $20 pp.

**JULY 31 THROUGH**

Dehydrating Food Preservation

**AUGUST 4**

Pickling Demo

Learn to pickle vegetables using a quick alternative to the fermentation method. We’ll make bread and butter zucchini pickles and dill cucumber pickle chips. This class is sponsored by and takes place at the Ellenville Public Library from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. This is a free event! Please call the Ellenville Public Library and Museum at (845) 647-5530.

**AUGUST 16**

Handmade Pasta Class
2018 ULSTER COUNTY FAIR

YOUTH BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, August 1

10 am to 2 pm – Wat-er you made of? Come on over to the Youth Building at the Fair for Waters with a Twist! Join us for yummy, delicious and nutritious hydration. Recipe cards, taste-testing and alluring table prizes! Fun fact: Wat-er you made of? Over 60% water! Hosted by RAPP Outreach Educator, Maria Cecilia Deferrari

1 pm to 2 pm - How Much Sugar is in Your Drink? Take the sugar challenge! Hosted by Healthy Communities Leader, Melinda Herzog

Thursday, August 2 (Senior Day)

All Day – Stream science activity and summer programming information. Hosted by Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program staff

10 am to 3 pm - How are you Peeling? Foods With Moods; create vegetable faces with the Master Gardeners! Based on a book by Saxton Freymann and Joost Elffers

11 am to 12 pm - Fish fillet talk and demo: learn where in Ulster County it is safe to catch and eat your fish! Hosted by Nutrition Educators Janie Greenwald & Katiri Hart

1 pm to 3 pm – Seneca corn husk doll making – a fun family activity for everyone! Hosted by Nutrition Educators Janie Greenwald & Katiri Hart

4 pm to 5pm – Chicken Hatching Demo Hosted by Livestock Educator Jason Detzel

Friday, August 3

11 am to 12 pm – Whole grain cooking demo: grind your own grains and make whole grain pancakes with a discussion about nutrition. Hosted by Eat Smart NY (SNAP) Educator, Katie Sheehan-Lopez and Ag. Program Leader, Christian Malsatzki

1 pm to 2 pm - How Much Sugar is in Your Drink? Take the sugar challenge! Hosted by Eat Smart NY (SNAP) Educator, Katie Sheehan-Lopez.

For the latest event details and registration information, visit our event page on our website at ulster.cce.cornell.edu/events

20TH ANNUAL 4-H GOLF CLASSIC SPONSORS!

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Wallkill View Farm
ULSTER COUNTY FAIR!
Come visit us at the Ulster County Fair July 31 to August 5 in New Paltz where our 4-H youth exhibit their animals and projects. We will be serving us delicious local corn, 100% beef hot dogs and other healthy fair food alternatives at the Healthy Choice 4-H Youth Entrepreneur Snack Bar in the Youth Building. Teen Council will be selling their infamous milkshakes made with Gillette ice cream and Boice Bros. milk. Our staff will offer a variety of fun, interactive activities during the week! See our schedule inside.

(Continued from front cover)

To give a gift you may use the "Donate" button on our website or Facebook page, or mail a check using the memo "donation". All gifts to CCEUC enhance the educational opportunities we provide. One hundred percent of donated funds go towards enhancing our program opportunities that better the lives and communities we serve.

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For subscription questions contact Carrie Doyle, at (845) 340-3990 ext. 311 or email cad266@cornell.edu. Both print and digital versions available.

For questions regarding content contact Tara Kleinhans, at (845) 340-3990 ext. 321.

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REMEMBERING F. THOMAS ATKINS

March 30, 1934 - April 13, 2018
F. Thomas Atkins died peacefully in his home in Stone Ridge, NY. He became a 4-H Agent with Cornell Cooperative Extension first in Riverhead, Long Island, then in Ulster County.

At the time of his retirement in 1989, he was Acting Coordinator. Some of his many 4-H duties included hosting a Saturday morning radio show, running the 4-H Summer Camp, judging poultry, teaching bike safety courses, and organizing many events at the Ulster County Fair.

This is an excerpt taken from Tom's obituary. It can be found on the gmoylanfuneralhome.com website.