



## BRIEFS

### FS&T Graduate Students Receive Awards

Several Geneva Food Science and Technology graduate students received awards at the "Cornell Institute of Food Science Award Ceremony for Undergraduate and Graduate Students and Excellence in Teaching" held on May 6 at the Statler Hotel on the Ithaca campus.

Elizabeth 'Betsy' Bihn was the recipient of the Downing Graduate Student Excellence Award.

The Downing Award is given annually to an outstanding graduate student in the Department of Food Science and Technology at Geneva, who is selected on the basis of academic achievement, service to the department, and leadership among students working in the area of fruits and vegetables.

Betsy, along with Illeme Bonsi and Guoping Feng, also received the Ruth and Henry Herzog Graduate Award presented to students who have achieved academic excellence and advanced in their research endeavors. A department plaque will be updated to honor these students.

Illeme also received the Goya Foods Prize, which is given annually to an outstanding graduate student in the field of Food Science and Technology at Cornell University working in the area of fruits and vegetables.

Megan Lang received the Unilever United States Graduate Award, which was established in 1993 by Ned W. Bandler to recognize an outstanding graduate student involved in frozen desserts technology or new product development. A department plaque will be updated with the recipient's name.

Passaporn Siricururatana received The D. Glynn Davies-Juice Products Association Scholarship Foundation Award. The award is made to a qualified student in the Col-

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## Hans Walter-Peterson Named Finger Lakes Viticulture Extension Educator

**H**ans Walter-Peterson has been hired as the new viticulture extension educator for the Finger Lakes Grape Program. He comes to the position after spending the past 5 1/2 years in a similar position with the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program (LERGP), based in Fredonia, NY.

"I am very excited to have the opportunity to work in what I feel is one of the most diverse and exciting grape industries in the world," Walter-Peterson stated. "One day, you can be working with a grower who is trying to increase his yield of Concord grapes while reducing his production costs in order to remain profitable. The next day, you're working with someone who is trying to improve the quality of her Riesling grapes so her wines will be able to compete with some of the best made anywhere in the world. As the viticulture extension educator for the region, I need to be able to address the needs of both of those growers, and the challenge of trying to do that excites me."

Walter-Peterson received his B.A. degree in biology in 1990 from St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, and his M.S. degree in viticulture from the University of California – Davis in 2001. Since finishing his graduate studies, he has worked for Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) as the viticulture extension educator for the LERGP in the Lake Erie grape belt of Western New York and Northwestern Pennsylvania, which is one of the country's largest grape growing regions outside of California.

"I think I bring a unique set of skills and experiences to this job, between my experience working with low-cost, high-production growers of Concord and Niagara grapes in the Lake Erie region, along with the education and experience that I gained while studying with some of the best viticulturists in the world at UC-Davis," Walter-Peterson said.

Walter-Peterson said that while much of the time during his first season in the Finger Lakes will be devoted to getting to know growers and the industry in general, he has some ideas for programs that he can start developing for growers right now. "I think there are some things that we have been working on lately with the growers in the Lake Erie region that I can bring to the industry in the Finger Lakes right away," he said. Some of the programs that he plans to work on include ways to evaluate and improve vineyard soils, managing vineyard water requirements during the growing season, reducing vine injury due to winter cold temperatures and spring frosts, estimating and controlling cropping levels in vineyards, and other practices that can help to improve the quality and profitability of grapes that are grown in the region, whether they are processed into grape juice or fine wines.



*H. Walter-Peterson*

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(BRIEFS, continued)

lege of Agriculture and Life Sciences who demonstrates a keen interest in the fruit juice industry. Industry members have a strong desire to assist recipients of this Scholarship in gaining employment in the industry upon graduation.

Also that evening Emeritus Professor Don Downing was presented with an Appreciation Plaque for supporting excellent graduate students in Food Science & Technology with an annual award - "The Downing Graduate Student Excellence Award."

### Commencement Volunteers Needed

Cornell needs you! Come and be a part of one of the most exciting events on the Cornell campus - commencement. You can help out simply by being a volunteer at one or more of the University Commencement Weekend Events.

Approximately 100 ushers are needed to help with the Senior Class Convocation from 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 26; 20 ushers are needed for faculty regalia distribution starting on Wednesday, May 23 until Sunday, May 27; 30 ushers are needed to help with the Ph.D. Recognition Ceremony from 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 26; and approximately 320 ushers are needed to assist the 40,000 students, families, and guests from 7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 27.

To become a volunteer, please sign up on-line at, [www.commencement.cornell.edu/May/ushers/index.html](http://www.commencement.cornell.edu/May/ushers/index.html) and fill out the usher application form. The last day to sign up is Monday, May 21, 2007. If you do not have access to sign up on-line but would like to volunteer, give the Commencement Office a call at 607-255-9541.

Year after year we hear from families who tell us that Cornell has the best commencement around and we know that is due, in large part, to our dedicated staff and retirees who volunteer to make this special day so lovely for our graduating students and their families. Cheers to a beautiful Commencement weekend!

### The United Way Campaign is Underway!

When you donate to the United Way, a full 100% of your donation stays right here in Ontario County, helping those who are

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"The Finger Lakes has earned a reputation as one of the finest grape growing and wine producing regions in the United States, if not the world. I want to help the industry strengthen that reputation even further," Walter-Peterson said.

Walter-Peterson moves into the position previously held by Tim Martinson, who was recently hired to coordinate CCE's viticulture extension programs across New York State. Martinson's promotion and Walter-Peterson's hiring are part of a larger movement by Cornell University and CCE to expand the resources available to the state's growing grape and wine industry, which has a \$3.3 billion impact on the state's economy. Cornell has expanded grape and wine outreach on Long Island and in the Hudson and Champlain valleys, created new enology and viticulture curricula for undergraduates, and plans to build a new research and extension facility in the Lake Erie region. Three new enology and viticulture faculty members have been hired, and a search is underway to fill the position recently vacated by Dr. Thomas Henick-Kling, who directed wine research and extension at Cornell since 1987.

## Arbor Day 2007 Celebrated Jointly with City

**"He that plants trees loves others beside himself"**

*-Dr. Thomas Fuller, Gnomologia, 1732,  
British physician (1654 - 1734)*

This year's Station Arbor Day ceremony was held jointly with the City of Geneva as part of the Station's 125th anniversary celebration. About 80 first graders were special guests for the event on April 27 and took an active role in various aspects of the ceremony.

Two 'Prairiefire' crabapples, donated by the city for the occasion, were planted on the lawn just west of Parrott Hall. "In light of the Station's 125th anniversary, this was an appropriate site for the planting this year," said Martin Goffinet, chairman of the Station arboretum committee.

"You see a lot of trouble and fighting on television these days," said Marc Smith who represented the Station. "Caring about and paying attention to trees is a peaceful pursuit." Touching on the 125th aspect of the gathering, Mark went on to tell the group how the Station has been here since 1882 to learn about plants and food.

Gordon Eddington, representing the City of Geneva, read a proclamation signed by Mayor Cass establishing the joint Arbor Day ceremony as just one facet of a year-long celebration to mark the Station's 125th Anniversary.

Smith and Eddington, along with a few of the first graders, shoveled soil onto the new plantings, while another student placed a wooden tag on a tree branch identifying the tree and commemorating the event.

Arbor Day has been celebrated annually at the Experiment Station since the Station's Arboretum Association was chartered in 1989 by a group of interested faculty, staff, and graduate students. The Association is dedicated to listing, preserving, and improving the woody plantings at the Station.

At one time the west lawn of Parrott Hall had at least 56 trees and shrubs, but most specimens are gone, as can be said of most campus areas. "The two 'Prairiefire' crab apple trees presented by the City of Geneva to the Experiment Station at this year's joint Arbor Day ceremony will certainly provide some much needed spring color to this historic space," Goffinet said.



*Martin Goffinet was the emcee for Arbor Day 2007.*



# Station Community Lends a Helping Hand

Experiment Station staff donated their time to the Geneva Community Lunch Program on four consecutive Thursdays during the month of April to prepare and serve a hot lunch to those in the community who might otherwise go hungry.

Volunteers came from all walks of Station life and included: technical staff, administrative staff, graduate students, retirees and retiree's spouses. Twenty-eight individuals – some of them more than once – volunteered for this worthy cause. The Community Lunch Program (Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes) serves lunch five days a week in the downstairs dining hall at the First United Methodist Church in Geneva. It was pretty much the consensus among the volunteers that they worked hard, had a good time, but most of all felt good about having the opportunity to give something back to the community and do something for those less fortunate than themselves.

Kim Moyer and Gemma Osborne, who coordinated the effort for the Station, along with Margaret Shanahan (Geneva Community Lunch Coordinator) wish to thank everyone who volunteered their time.



*It's a 'Wrap.' Margaret Provvidenti (left) and Megan Dewdney (right) get silverware ready prior to lunch.*



*Kim Moyer (left) and Luciana Cursino (right) are 'on a roll' slicing buns for sandwiches.*



*Cheryl Galvani (left), Tanya Taylor (center), and Laura Wakefield (right), prepare to serve up the fruits of their labors.*



*Lunch preparation often took on the look of an assembly line. Pictured here (clockwise) with their hands in the thick of things are: Roger Cullen, Margaret Provvidenti, Janice Valerio, Beth Gugino, Nancy Long, and Lorraine Barry*



*Ann Cobb (left) and Hilda Collins (right) can even find something to smile about during the clean up phase.*

*The April 26 volunteers take a breather to pose for a group shot - (Front) Nancy Long, Tania Krastanova, Holly King, Kathy Morabito, Barbara Lamb, and Margaret Provvidenti. (back) Terry Spitzer, Edith Lurvey, Christine Piccioni (Rick's daughter), Pat Mahoney, and Margaret Shanahan (Community Lunch Coordinator).*





## CALENDAR of EVENTS MAY 11 - 25, 2007

### MEETINGS

#### CHAIRS' MEETING

**Date:** Tuesday, May 15, 2007  
**Time:** 8:30 AM  
**Place:** Director's office

#### CALS FACULTY SENATE MEETING

**Date:** Friday, May 25, 2007  
**Time:** 12 noon  
**Place:** 251 Food Science

### TAEKARDIO

**Date:** May 7, 9, 14 and 16  
**Time:** 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM  
**Note:** Sawdust Cafe, classes will resume in Jordan Hall on May 21.

Thank you aerobics group for sharing your space.

### ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Classes are free and include conversational English, writing skills and real-life communications.

**Instructor:** Mary Spittler  
**When:** Every Tuesday from 5-8 PM, & every Thursday from 3-6 PM.  
**Where:** The Food Science and Technology Building Lunch Room.

New students are welcome to join at any time. Just show up for any session. Classes are flexible so that students may attend either or both sessions each week.

### CLASSIFIEDS

**FOR RENT:** Large Cottage: S. Bristol, SW shore on Canandaigua Lake. Very nice location. Suitable 8-10 (max). Serious inquiries only: \$2,250/wk + sec. Openings remain July and August. 585-374-9585 or elg2

**FOR RENT:** Small Cottage: S. Bristol, SW shore on Canandaigua Lake. Very nice location. Suitable 2 couples/small family. Serious inquiries only: \$1,200/wk + sec. Openings remain July, August and September. 585-374-9585 or elg2

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**FOR RENT:** Lake-View Apartments. Rustic 1 bedroom apartment for rent with a screened in porch view of Seneca Lake. Coin washer and dryer. Parking space available. Rent \$600/mo. Available July 1. Contact Kitty at eln6@cornell.edu

**FOR RENT:** Updated 2 bedroom apartment for rent with wonderful view of Seneca Lake. Coin washer and dryer. Parking space available. Rent \$700/mo. Available July 1. Contact Kitty at eln6@cornell.edu

#### POSITION AVAILABLE

Agricultural Economic Development Specialist for Madison County, New York. AED Specialist will develop programs for farmers which create market opportunities and encourage value-added enterprises through market development and farm enterprise diversification. Competitive salary & benefits package. For complete position information, see <http://hosts.cce.cornell.edu/admin/careerops/pa437.htm>. Send letter of intent, resume, & transcript by 06/04/07 to PA#437, Box 26 Kennedy Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853.

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most in need in our community.

And Every Dollar Gets Empowered (EDGE) at United Way!

United Way of Ontario County was among the first United Ways in America to ensure that every cent of every dollar collected goes to take care of our own in Ontario County. The yearly earnings from United Way's Community Endowment Fund – not a penny of donor dollars – pay United Way's operating expenses. Bottom line – you get your money's worth when you give to United Way.

Also, when you donate to United Way of Ontario County, your money is distributed to five equally important areas of impact; ensuring kids are ready for kindergarten; helping kids succeed in school; supporting families; helping Seniors stay independent; and empowering people with disabilities.

Be sure to fill out your pledge form and return it to our HR office NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2007 even if you do not intend to donate this year, as we have to account for each form.

Please consider contributing this year

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to the United Way Campaign. If you've never donated to the United Way in the past, even a pledge of \$1.00 per pay period can help people in need in our community. If you currently donate to the United Way, think about an increase of just fifty cents. It can make a difference, as you never know when you or someone you love may need the services of one of the United Way providers.

Thank you!

#### WE DID IT!

The Station's WalkAmerica Team, Pim Larsson-Kovach, Donna Loeb, Michelle Rose, Jim Ballerstein, Janice Valerio, Pam Raes, Amy Hibbard, Tricia Miller, and myself surpassed our team goal of \$500 for the March of Dimes quest to help save premature babies and prevent premature births. The exact amount raised is not available yet, but preliminary calculations indicate we are well over our \$500 goal.

Of course, we couldn't have done it without our sponsors, thank you!!! Special thanks to Lou Ann Rago and Debby Ditzell who helped us with selling candy (one box each) and to Karen Switzer, owner of The Hair Hut, who sold four boxes of Niagara chocolates to help boost our team effort to reach our goal.

WalkAmerica Team members who joined in the walk enjoyed a gorgeous five mile walk from the Seneca Lake State Park to the tunnel under the arterial and back. The sun was shining, the sky was blue, and it couldn't have been a nicer day for the walk!!

Again, a great big thank you to the Geneva Experiment Station team and to all our sponsors.

K. DeRosa

