

CORNELL
UNIVERSITY

STATION NEWS

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MAY 8-15, 1998

BRIEFS

CORNELL RESEARCHERS
RECEIVE BEST PAPER AWARD

Station researchers Tim Martinson, Richard Durst, Alan Lakso, and Greg English-Loeb have received the Best Paper of the Year Award in viticulture from the American Society for Enology and Viticulture. The paper, "Impact of Feeding Injury by Eastern Grape Leafhopper (Homoptera: Cicadellidae) on Yield and Juice Quality of Concord Grapes," was judged to be outstanding in content and of making a substantial contribution to the field of viticulture. The authors receive complimentary registration at the society's annual meeting, an engraved plaque, and a \$500 award payable to the senior author.

CHANGE IN EMPIRE HEALTH
PLAN PROVIDERS

We have been informed of the following: the Medical Associates of the Finger Lakes L.L.P. will terminate their preferred provider status with the New York State Empire Health Plan effective January 1, 1999. The Associates includes physicians located at 324 W. North Street and 116 Lewis Street, Geneva; some of these physicians also have offices located at 418 North Main Street, Penn Yan. Letters to this effect will go out to their patients in the next couple of months, providing time for the patients to make a decision with regard to their health insurance coverage. The Associates will continue to participate in Blue Choice and Preferred Care; both are available to eligible Station employees and the Empire Plan remains an option under United Healthcare's non-participating provider program.

Since available New York State health insurance plans are negotiated, changes can
(Continued on page 2)

APPLES BY THE SLICE

The apple trees on the hillsides of the 1500 acre Cahoon Farm in Walcott, NY, are in full bloom. Hundreds of 17-bushel crates lie empty in the long warehouses, waiting for fall harvest. But, thousands of slices of fresh apples are moving along conveyor belts in Nature's Pleasure, Cahoon's new 7,000 sq. ft. processing plant. Using minimal process technology developed at the Experiment Station in the laboratory of food scientist C.Y. Lee, fresh apples are cut into wedges, dipped in a solution of ascorbic acid to prevent contamination and browning, blow dried, and packed in modified atmosphere packaging for consumer use. From dump room to packout takes 15 minutes.

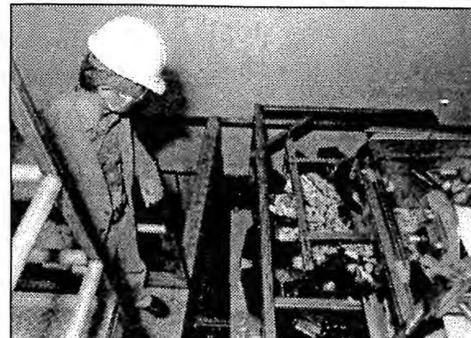
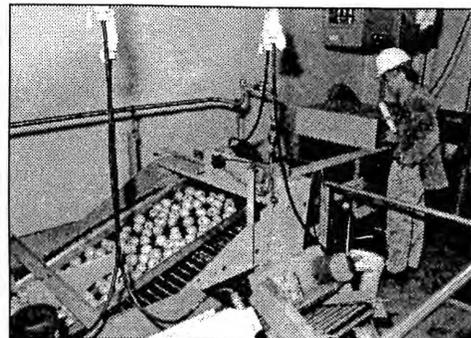
In today's run, fresh Granny Smith, Empire and Gala apples are being cut into wedges with the skins on, dipped, dried, and packaged with either caramel or peanut butter dip under colorful labels that feature Bugs Bunny and his Looney Tune friends. The 2.4 oz. fresh-fruit packs are bound for school lunchrooms in Dayton, Philadelphia, Grand Rapids, Chicago, Long Island and New York City.

"We co-pack these apple packs for Tanimura & Antle, Inc.," said third-generation owner Jeff Cahoon. "The food service company introduced them last fall to satisfy the federal MDR of 1/2 cup serving of fresh fruit or vegetables in school lunch programs." Perhaps more importantly, kids really eat them. "The reorder rate from school districts is almost 100 percent," said Cahoon. "They are one of the most popular items on the school menu."

When he isn't co-packing for other companies, Cahoon packages his own Nature's Pleasure product of fresh-cut apples in 2 oz, 8 oz, and 32 oz packages. Consumers and food service companies use the larger sizes to make apple pies. He recently negotiated a contract

(Continued on page 2)

C.Y. Lee evaluates the new production line for minimal processing of apple slices at Cahoon Farms in Walcott, NY, and (bottom) confers with owner Jeff Cahoon (left) and production manager Kent Sparnon (center) on the packaging of Nature's Pleasures Apple Slices. photos by R. Way



(APPLES, cont.)

with U.S. Airway to offer the 2 oz. snack-pak—with or without cinnamon—on flights from New York to Boston and Washington, and expects to negotiate a contract with U.S. Air Express out of Dulles in the next month.

Cahoon believes the time is ripe for marketing apples by the slice. "People have been educated about the health benefits of consuming five portions of fruits or vegetables a day. With the fast-paced lifestyle, this is an even easier, more convenient way to eat apples," he said.

"We developed the technology for minimal processing using ascorbic acid dip and

modified atmosphere packaging in the early '90s," said C. Y. Lee, "but it took several years for commercial adoption by the food industry."

"Cahoon Farm uses a dip of 80,000 ppm of Vitamin C to prevent browning and contamination by microorganisms, followed by a unique method of blow drying and quick cooling that increases the efficacy of Vitamin C on the surface of the apple slices," said Lee. The process improves the appearance, maintains apple texture, extends shelf life to about three weeks, and maintains the nutritional benefits. Because ascorbic acid is so expensive, food

scientists also had to develop a way to pasteurize the Vitamin C dip solution so it could be re-used in processing.

Lee and his group are now conducting research on the antioxidant activity of fresh apples. Lee is a strong believer in the health benefits of fresh fruit consumption—particularly apples—and says there is even stronger evidence that consumers should follow the old adage "an apple a day keeps the doctor away."

Americans consume about 20 pounds of fresh apples and 28 pounds of processed apples per year.

L.McCandless

INJURY PREVENTION

In response to the Injury Prevention Surveys completed by employees earlier this year, Charles Curry, Coordinator of the Musculoskeletal Injury Prevention Program, has arranged three programs to be held on Tuesday, June 2, in the Jordan Hall Staff Room. Because of the tasks involved in many positions, employees may elect to attend more than one program. For convenience, the morning programs will be repeated in the afternoon. To register for one or more programs, please complete the form below and return it to Charles Curry, Office of Human Resources, 160 Day Hall by May 22, 1998.

Employees may also request an individual assessment. This would include meeting individually with Curry at your work site to assess potential for injury and give suggestions for prevention. These meetings will be held on Friday, June 5. To arrange an individual assessment, contact Curry at 8-5-9344 or e-mail at: clc34.

9:00 - 9:45 or 1:30 - 2:15: Office Ergonomics/Computer Workstation

Insure that your work position at your computer is optimal for prevention of repetitive motion injury which can be related to computer usage. If you have a history of such injury, the session can give you guidance to promote recovery and avoid recurrence. Targeted for anyone who spends significant time at a computer.

10:00 - 10:45 or 2:30 - 3:15: Postural Strain/Repetitive Motion Injury Prevention

Learn what repetitive motion injury is, what causes it, and how you can avoid it. If you have a history of such injury, learn how you can facilitate recovery and avoid recurrence. Targeted for those who spend significant time at a computer, and those whose job involves repetitive activities such as hand pinching/grasping, reaching, or trunk bending/twisting.

11:00 - 11:45 or 3:30 - 4:15: Lifting/Material Handling Injury Prevention

Learn the cause of serious back injury, and how you can continue a physically demanding job with lifting and carrying demands with reduced risk for spinal injury. Can also assist in your recovery from spinal injury, and in helping prevent recurrence. Targeted to those whose job requires heavier lifting, carrying, and pushing/pulling, and to those who want more information on reducing their risk of serious spinal injury.

Injury Prevention Programs—June 2, 1998

Return this form by May 22, 1998 to:
Charles Curry • Office of Human Resources • 160 Day Hall

Name (print): _____

Department: _____

Phone Ext.: _____ Signature: _____

I will be attending the following program(s):

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 1) Office Ergonomics/Computer Workstation: | am__ pm__ |
| 2) Postural Strain/Repetitive Motion Injury Prevention: | am__ pm__ |
| 3) Lifting/Material Handling Injury Prevention: | am__ pm__ |

(BRIEFS, cont.)

occur from one coverage year to the next. Therefore, information regarding the current plans is available from the Personnel Office in Jordan Hall, but the information for the 1999 plans will not be available until late fall.

We will keep you informed.

C. Hibbard

PESTICIDE CORE AND CERTIFICATION EXAMS

An opportunity to take the DEC's pesticide core exam and/or category exam(s) at the Experiment Station will be offered Wednesday, June 3, starting at 9:00 in the Jordan Hall Auditorium. A minimum of 10 individuals taking the exam(s) is required by the DEC.

Individuals who are currently certified applicators or will have participated in the mandatory training must preregister for the exam(s) with Charie Hibbard, x210, by May 11. Only exams for which people have preregistered will be available.

Read the enclosure in this week's NEWS for more details. Contact Charie Hibbard, x210, for further information.

BPW SCHOLARSHIP

Ellen Chamberlain of the Food Science & Technology department is the recipient of the Business and Professional Women's Club of NYS Grace LeGendre Fellowship. The \$1000 award will be presented at a luncheon during the NYS BPW Conference to be held in the Adirondacks on May 30.

HOLLY BURR IS GENEVA HIGH VALEDICTORIAN



Holly Burr, Station employee and daughter of Tom and Judy Burr, has been named valedictorian of the Geneva High School Class of 1998. Burr was co-president of varsity club, secretary of National Honor Society, and a member of Youth-to-Youth, leadership committee, Math League, where she attended an all-star event, the hockey and lacrosse teams, and she was captain of the tennis team.

She received All-League defensive awards for lacrosse, the American Chemical Society Chemistry Award, the RPI Mathematics and Science Award, the Wells College 21st Century Leadership Award, the Xerox Award in Humanities-Social Sciences, and the Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award, and she was a four-time USAA National Award winner.

Burr has been treasurer and a member of the board of directors of the Rotary Interact club. She is a technician in Wayne Wilcox's lab in the Plant Pathology Department.

She has been accepted for fall admission at Cornell University where she plans to major in natural resources or biological sciences.

10th ANNUAL STATION CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday, June 5

Big Oak Golf Course

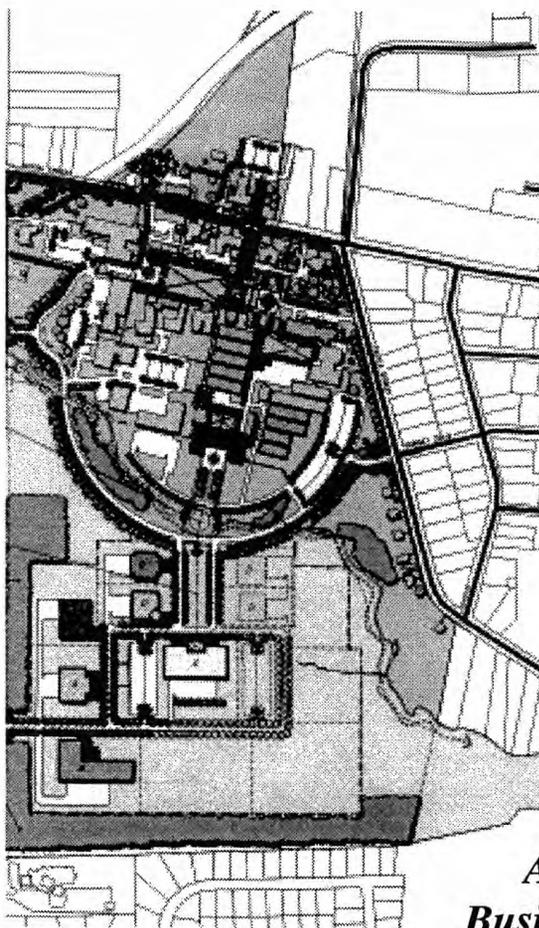
Shotgun start at 4:50 pm

See sign up sheet in last week's News for more info.

I have a simple philosophy.
Fill what's empty. Empty what's full.
And scratch where it itches.

—ELEANOR ROOSEVELT LONGWORTH—

CHAMBER HELPS WITH STATION PROJECTS



AgTech Business Park

Two projects currently under way at the Experiment Station are receiving assistance from the Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce. These projects involve helping to raise funds for construction of a new Vinification and Brewing Technology Laboratory at the Station and funding part of a market feasibility study to determine whether an Ag-Tech Park is a viable project to be undertaken in Geneva.

The Ag-Tech Park is receiving serious consideration by Station, State, County, City, and Chamber officials. A number of years ago, a master plan was completed for the Station by the architectural firm of The Saratoga Associates. One of the recommendations in this plan was for the Station to explore the possibility of establishing an Ag-Tech Park for companies and associations that

were in the commercial world and which had interests in common with work being done by the faculty and staff at the Station.

Currently, a market feasibility study is under way to determine if there is need for such a facility. At the same time this study is being undertaken, a preliminary environmental assessment is being made of 78 acres of land on Pre-Emption Road that has been set aside by the Station for this project. The environmental assessment portion of the project is being funded by the State University of New York Construction Fund. The market feasibility study has been underwritten through a tripartite agreement among the City of Geneva Industrial Development Agency (IDA), the Ontario County IDA, and Geneva Growth, Inc., which is the economic development arm of the Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce. If the studies currently under way indicate a strong possible viability for this park, it is conceivable that a private developer could be brought into the project and the first "tenants" might be able to occupy the park within the next two years.

The second project is a result of a partnership between the State of New York and the Station to construct a new Cornell Vinification and Brewing Technology Laboratory. This laboratory will have mashing and lautering vessels, a boiling kettle, fermenters, wine fermentation tanks, stemmers, crushers, presses, filters, and heating and cooling equipment, and an analytical laboratory and office. Cost to construct, equip, and staff the laboratory will run about \$500,000. To date, nearly \$100,000 has been received from individuals and the wine and brewing industries. The Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce, represented by its Executive Director, Ken Williams, played a key role in helping to organize a gala fund-raising dinner held in March. Williams is an active member of the fund-raising team for the Laboratory and worked closely with Ramada officials in matters relating to the logistics of the dinner.

P. Krauss

CALENDAR of EVENTS

MAY 8-15, 1998

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Tuesday, May 12, 10:30 am

348 Morrison Hall

*CALS Chairs' meeting***Wednesday, May 13, 3:00 pm**

Staff Room, Jordan Hall

Chairs' and Unit Leaders' meeting

WPS TRAINING

Training sessions for the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) will be held on Friday, May 15, and 29 in the Staff Room of Jordan Hall from 10-11:15 am. All new employees who will work in farm fields and/or greenhouses and all new B&P staff should attend within two weeks of their first day of work. This training is in addition to any OSHA training that may be required for lab or office workers. Call Mart VanKirk (781-5307) for more information.

STATION SPORTS

Both softball and soccer are starting up for the summer! Soccer started May 7, and softball begins May 26. There are currently 5 softball teams: FST/PP/Communications, Ent, B&P, PGRU, and Hort Sci. Contact Softball Commissioner Kristin Ondik (x246) or Soccer Commissioner Gus Gubba (x330 or x433) for more information

CLASSIFIED

WANTED: Affordable room in Geneva for graduate student to rent or sublet from May 18 to August 24 (or part of this period), or an exchange of your Geneva room for my Ithaca room which is a three minute walk to Cornell central campus. Contact Maolei at mx12 or x363.

FORSALE: Nursery stock—shade trees and shrubs. Over 50 species available through summer. Contact Jim, x378 (jpe6).

WANTED: Non-smoking, quiet, PhD candidate in need of 1 or 2 BR apartment in/near Geneva beginning June 1 at the latest. Ask for Jonathan: x277 (daytime), 607-539-3293 (evenings), or jll12

FOR SALE: 1989 Suburu wagon, red, 4WD, power everything, \$2,500. Call 789-4940, evenings.

WANTED: House/apartment needed for new Station couple beginning around June 1. Unfurnished two bedroom, close to Station or in vicinity. Short term rental could work. Call Harvey, x332.

FOR SALE: MTD snowblower, 5 hp, 7 spd (5 forward, 2 reverse), electric start, 22" shave plate. Excellent condition—less than 10 hr use. \$350. My parents purchased it 2 years ago. Now they have decided to move to Florida. Call Jonathan in Ithaca 89-539-3293 (evenings) or jll12.

SEMINARS

ENTOMOLOGY

Date: Tuesday, May 12, 1998
Time: 10:30 am
Place: Room 310, Barton Laboratory
Speaker: David Kain
 Research Support Specialist
 Dept. of Entomology
 Cornell Univ., Geneva
Topic: A Good Bug Gone Bad? The
Campylopus verbasici Story
*There will be a period of social
 interaction with the speaker at 10:00 am.
 Coffee & cookies will be available.*

PGRU

Date: Tuesday, May 12, 1998
Time: 11:00 am
Place: Staff Room, Jordan Hall
Speaker: Larry D. Robertson
 PGRU Research Leader
 Candidate
 Legume Germplasm Curator
 Germplasm Resources Unit
 International Center for
 Agricultural Research in the
 Dry Areas
 Aleppo, Syria
Topic: Legume Genetic Resources Ac-
 tivities at the International Cen-
 ter for Agricultural Research in
 the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Date: Wednesday, May 13, 1998
Time: 11:00 am
Place: Staff Room, Jordan Hall
Speaker: Warren F. Lamboy
 PGRU Research Leader Candi-
 date
Vitis Curator, Biometrician, and
 Molecular Geneticist
 Geneticist/Curator, USDA, ARS
 Plant Genetic Resources Unit
 Cornell Univ., Geneva
Topic: The National Plant Germplasm
 System and the Plant Genetic
 Resources Unit in the 21st
 Century

PUBLIC LECTURE

Date: Wednesday, May 13, 1998
Time: 8:00 pm
Place: Coxe Hall Rm. 8
 HWS Campus
Speaker: Professor Nicholas Geacintov
 Department of Chemistry
 New York University
Topic: Environmental Carcinogens:
 Modes of Action and Reaction in
 Living Systems

SEABREEZE DISCOUNT TICKETS

With spring in the air, it's time to begin thinking of the excitement that summer has to offer. This summer you can fly on the new Screamin' Eagle at Seabreeze Amusement Park when you take advantage of the discount tickets offered by Station Club!

The All-Day-Pay-One-Price Ride and Slide Passes will be available soon at a cost of only \$10.95 (a \$3.00 savings). Plus, parking is free!

These passes are valid weekends from May 23 through June 14th and daily after June 20.

STATION CLUB

Springtime Lunch and T-Shirt Sale

Join us for lunch this Friday, May 8 at the Sawdust Cafe. We'll be selling lunches for only \$3.50 each, and they include grilled hot dog, macaroni salad, chips, and soda. Stop by, enjoy lunch, buy a couple of raffle tickets, and be sure to purchase a book bag for Mom for Mother's Day and a new golf shirt for the upcoming S.C. Golf Tournament scheduled for June 5!

Station Club Raffle

You only have two weeks left to purchase a ticket(s) for the Station Club Raffle. First prize will be a free pass to the upcoming Niagara Falls/Casino Niagara bus trip (May 31), and three 2nd place drawings will be held for \$10.00 gift certificates to be used towards the purchase of a ticket to any Station Club function or towards the purchase of Station Club merchandise.

See your Station Club representative for tickets. (\$1.00 each or three tickets for \$2.00.)

The drawing will be held on May 15.

C. VanAllan, S.C. President

REMINDER

**Retirement Party for
 John Martini**
Thursday, May 28, 1998
 See insert in the April 24th
 issue of News or contact
Jane DeCann, x287