

CORNELL
UNIVERSITY

STATION NEWS

GENEVA
NEW • YORK

VOLUME LXXXIV • NO. 7

FEBRUARY 14 - 21, 2003

BRIEFS

Geneva Head Start Needs Readers

The Geneva Head Start program (housed at North St. Elementary School) has a 'Ready to read' project where a book is shared in the class each week, and then the 3-5 year-old children are given a copy of that book to take home and re-read with their family. The community is given the opportunity to participate in this project by reading the books to the classes each week.

The Station has been asked to send readers to the classes on Thursday, March 13. Fred Musser needs several readers for time slots between 8:15 and 12:15. Each volunteer will read the story "Inch by Inch" to a single classroom. Your total time involvement would be about an hour.

If you are interested, contact Fred Musser at frml@cornell.edu and he will sign you up.

Literacy Volunteers Needs Tutors

Literacy Volunteers of Ontario County is pleased to announce that their next Combined Basic Literacy and ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Tutor Training Workshop will take place at their office at 208 South Main Street, Canandaigua from 5:30 to 8:30 on the following Mondays and Thursdays.

Orientation: Monday, March 17, 2003

Workshop sessions: March 20, 24, 27, 31, April 3, 7, 10

A \$30 fee offsets the cost of materials and is due at the first session and may be waived under special circumstances with a written request.

To become a Literacy Volunteer Tutor you must be at least 18 years of age, able to read and comprehend English, interested in helping adults learn, able to attend orientation and ALL workshop sessions, willing to do

(Continued on page 2)



Department chairman Alan Lakso presented Heidi Noordijk The Perrine Award last Friday.

Heidi Noordijk Receives Perrine Scholarship

Heidi Noordijk, a master's candidate in horticultural sciences at Cornell, received the 2002 Perrine Scholarship Award during a small ceremony at the Experiment Station on February 7. The award acknowledges Noordijk's research on post bloom thinning of apple trees. Horticultural sciences chairman Alan Lakso and ex-chairman Hugh Price presented the award to Noordijk on behalf of the Perrine family.

The scholarship was established by David Perrine (Cornell 1922) in 1993 to support pomology research at Geneva. The \$2000 award supports Noordijk's research program and educational expenses.

"Members of the Perrine family—their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren—have been very generous in making annual contributions to this endowment they established in memory of David B. and Fanny F. Perrine," Price said.

Noordijk is the eighth recipient of the award, and the first recipient whose research is based in the Hudson Valley. Jim Schupp is her major professor.

"Heidi has done a fine job doing all the things we expect of Cornell students: getting good grades in her course work, and designing and conducting thesis research," Schupp said, when talking about his student. "She had the extra challenge of conducting her spring and fall field research in the Hudson Valley while taking a full course load. She did a super job of keeping everything going at the same time. It meant a lot of extra hours and miles crossing the Catskills in her car, but she made it look easy," Schupp noted.

Noordijk uses a combination of fish oil and lime sulfur in her research on post-bloom thinning of apples. Mature apple trees can have up to 5000 flowers, of which only 4 to 10

(Continued on page 2)

(BRIEFS, continued)

the homework associated with training, be a high school graduate or GED (recommended), willing to devote two hours per week to work with an adult student, and willing to keep records and make reports as requested by LVOC

If you plan to attend this workshop, please complete the registration form and reference sheet on the literacy volunteer website at www.literacyvoc.org by March 10.

If you have any questions, you may call the Literacy Volunteer office at 585-396-1686 or toll free at 1-888-546-5862, or send an email to lvontario@aol.com. The office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

Martha Doody, Student/Tutor Coordinator

(NOORDIJK, continued)

percent become harvestable fruit. Post-bloom thinning causes the weaker fruits to fall off. The advantage of the fish oil and lime sulfur combination is that it can be used by organic growers, or as a replacement for the chemical thinner Carbaryl that conventional growers use.

"The only disadvantage is that it smells really badly," Dr. Price noted when presenting the award. "This is perhaps the smelliest project any Perrine winner has ever had."

Before coming to Cornell, Noordijk received her B.S. in horticulture from Michigan State. After graduation, Noordijk took a very round-about way to Ithaca. First, she went to Oregon for two months, then to Cincinnati for two months (to become a nanny for her nephew), then to the Hudson Valley to work on a cousin's fruit farm, then back to Michigan for two months (to work at an upscale toy store), then to New Zealand for three months (to backpack), then back to the Hudson Valley (for six months), then back to Oregon for eight months (working at Landscape Nursery), then back to the Hudson Valley for harvest. Finally, in the fall of 2001, she arrived in Ithaca, and started thinking about going back to school. Noordijk worked as a technician in Marvin Pritt's lab on the Ithaca campus before becoming a graduate student.

Noordijk says she decided to become a graduate student because she didn't feel after her undergraduate work that she understood enough about how apple trees grew. Her goal in attending graduate school is to gain a better understanding of tree physiology. "I like to know why the trees and fruit are acting in a particular way when we apply various treatments. I feel that I will be more of a help to growers with this knowledge," Noordijk said.

Because her class work and research is a four-hour drive from each other, Noordijk finds her biggest challenge has been the weather. "It can be very unpredictable and has caused me to alter my experiment and measurements several times. Some days when I am scheduled to put on applications, it's too windy or too wet, so we have to wait until the conditions are suitable," Noordijk said. She added that this past spring was especially hectic, as she had some days when she needed to be in the Hudson Valley for measurements and also in Ithaca finishing up papers and taking exams. She is looking forward to May 2003 when she will be in the Hudson Valley and won't have to travel so far to take measurements.

When she's not in the classroom, the field or driving between the two, Noordijk likes to run, swim, play ultimate Frisbee, and cross country ski. Her favorite sport is soccer, which she played during college.

In the future, Noordijk would like to conduct extension and research in apples or other tree fruits. Eventually she hopes to have her own small fruit farm that she can use as an educational center for kids. "I think getting kids familiar with good tasting fruit early in their lives will have a continuing influence on them throughout their lives. I love the fact that I am able to do research on something that people will eat and that is healthy for them," Noordijk said.

Her email is: hn37@cornell.edu

John Zakour

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS OF THE
FINGER LAKES PRESENTS

MURDER AT THE MARDI GRAS

DINNER THEATRE

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2003

RAMADA INN, GENEVA

6:30 PM-HORS D'OEUVRES

7:00 PM-DINNER

\$50/PERSON PRE SALE

\$55/PERSON AT THE DOOR

QUESTIONS?

315-789-1522 or 315-568-9436

For tickets, contact Betsy Bihn at x2625 or eab38



**SAVE THE
DATE**

**Station Club
BOWLING PARTY
March 1, 2003**

V & B Gala Dinner & Premier Wine Auction April 4, 2003

CASA LARGA VINEYARDS, IN FAIRPORT, NY

More information about the event will be posted at

<http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/fst/vb>

as it becomes available.

For tickets, contact Nancy Long at npl1@cornell.edu

Shuffle off to Buffalo to Taste the New "Working Man's Red" from Geneva

Grape breeder Bruce Reisch will officially name and release a new red wine grape during the Viticulture 2003 Conference at the Buffalo Convention Center in Buffalo, NY, on Feb. 20 at 1:30 pm.

Tested as GR 7 and NY 34791, the grape was developed by fruit breeders and enologists at the Experiment Station. It was selected from a cross of 'Buffalo' x 'Baco noir', made in 1947.

"The grape produces good quality table wines and is highly suitable for blending," said Reisch, who directs the grape breeding program at the Experiment Station. GR 7 is disease resistant, extremely cold hardy, and very productive. Reisch affectionately calls it a "working man's red."

GR 7 is already under cultivation in Finger Lakes vineyards and used commercially for wine.

"GR 7 has much improved viticulture and wine making characteristics over older red hybrid varieties. It makes a good quality wine with attractive cherry flavors," said Station enologist Thomas Henick-Kling. He helped in the grape's development along with viticulturist Robert Pool (who led the breeding program in the 1970s), and research specialist Steve Luce.

"GR 7's good color and moderate acidity are its strong points," said Steve DiFrancesco, the winemaker at Glenora Wine Cellars, in Dundee, NY. Glenora has been using the grape in its Classic and Bobsled reds for over 8 years.

In its 125-year history, the Experiment Station at Geneva has developed and released 243 different varieties of fruit for commercial and home garden use. Of those, 52 have been grapes. GR 7 is the sixth wine grape to be released. Other important wine grapes from Geneva include 'Cayuga White' and 'Traminette'.

Any Station employee or grad student attending Viticulture 2003 is encouraged to attend the press conference and wine tasting on Feb. 20. Jim Hunter, Bruce Reisch, Thomas Henick-Kling and Steve DiFrancesco will be announcing the release.

L. McCandless



GR 7 will be named and released on February 20.



WALK AMERICA 2003

When you join March of Dimes WalkAmerica, you give babies born prematurely a fighting chance. Not ready to meet the world, many of these babies struggle just to survive. The funds you raise (or give) support lifesaving research and innovative programs.

This year, the March of Dimes WalkAmerica will be held on Sunday, May 4, registration at noon, and the Walk begins at 1:00 p.m. at the Seneca Lake State Park.

If you're interesting in participating in the walk (at the lake on an especially nice day) or in giving to this cause, please contact me! I will provide you with a registration card and more information.

Those of you who have participated in previous Walks should have received registration material at home. Please be sure to indicate you are on the Geneva Experiment Station team. Also, please let me know if you plan to Walk this year so I can include you on the Station list of participants.

THANK YOU!!!

Kathy DeRosa, x2236, kad2

American Cancer Society Daffodil Days

It's that time of year again to think spring and order your daffodils to support the American Cancer Society. The Daffodil Sale will run this year until March 5 and delivery will be made sometime the week of March 24.

You may purchase a potted daffodil plant for \$10.00, a bunch of 10 fresh-cut daffodils for \$7.00 and a vase for your flowers for \$8.00.

Please see one of the following Station staff to place your order.

Jordan Hall-Kathy DeRosa Hedrick Hall-Kathy Morabito
FST-Debby Ditzell Barton Lab-Janice Valerio

Surprise a friend or a loved one with a spring bouquet and support the efforts of the American Cancer Society!



A Great Big Thank You

To all my friends. Thank you so much for the great party and the start of my new business venture.

Yours truly,
The HotWeiner King,
Jerry

CALENDAR of EVENTS

FEB. 14 - 21, 2003

SEMINARS

PLANT PATH

Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2003
Time: 10:30 AM
Place: Room A133, Barton Lab
Subject: Virology on a Shoestring: Showing the Value of a Multifaceted Approach
Speaker: Dr. Lance Davidson, Ithaca

Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2003
Time: 3:30 PM (Coffee at 3 PM)
Place: Room A133, Barton Lab
Subject: Agriculture in Yates County, with an Emphasis on Produce and Greenhouse Diseases
Speaker: Judson Reid, Yates County CCE

ENTOMOLOGY

Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2003
Time: 10 AM-12 Noon
Place: Jordan Hall
Speaker: Dr. Paolo Balsari, University of Turin, Italy

HORT SCIENCE

Date: Monday, February 24, 2003
Time: 11 AM
Place: Jordan Hall Staff Room
Subject: Understanding How Plants Mine the Soil: From Genes to Whole Plant Function
Speaker: Dr. Leon Kochian, Ithaca

LTC

Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2003
Time: 8 AM - 12 Noon
Place: LTC
Subject: Open Lab/FLEX Tutorials
Facilitator: Jane Irwin

FITNESS

Aerobics

Date: Mon. & Fri.
Time: 12:10 - 1 PM
Place: Sawdust Cafe

Taekardio

Date: Mon. & Wed.
Time: 12:10 - 1 PM
Place: Jordan Hall Auditorium

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: 1971 Snowmobile. Arctic Cat Puma, 440cc, excellent shape, runs well, stored inside. Contact George at x2618.

FOR RENT: Two bedroom apartment on North Main Street is available. Partially furnished. Preferably non-smokers and no pets. Call 315-789-7239 after 7:00 PM or e-mail kw22@cornell.edu

FOR RENT: Large 1 bedroom apartment, walking distance from Station. \$500/month plus electric. Security deposit required. Contact dbc10 or 781-1808.



"To love and be loved is to feel the sun from both sides"

—David Viscott

*garden*scape
 2003
Think Spring.

Tickets are available for GardenScape 2003

GardenScape 2003 - The Rochester Flower & Garden Show will be held at The Dome Center, 2695 East Henrietta Road in Henrietta, NY, March 20 - 22, 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM, and March 23, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

Highlights: 'Through the Garden Gate' is the theme this year. More than 20 landscaped gardens, 80 vendors and displays. Children can learn and enjoy in the interactive children's garden, designed and constructed by certified nursery professionals.

Seminars: Daily, 5 shows, hourly, beginning at 11 AM, and on Sunday only, beginning at 10:30 AM.

Headliners: Thursday: Dr. Steven Still, Professor of Landscape Horticulture, Executive Director of Perennial Plant Association, photographer and author.

Friday: Colston Burrell, garden designer, photographer, naturalist, and award-winning author.

Saturday: Rosalind Creasy, garden and food writer, photographer, and landscape designer.

Sunday: Kurt Bloemel, founder of the "ornamental grass movement," nursery owner and landscape designer.

Tickets: Adults, \$10 Children 6-12, \$4; 5 and under, free
 Show Series, \$15

Seniors, \$8 on Thursday, March 20, only

See Amy Andersen at A103 Barton Lab by March 17 to purchase advance sale tickets @ \$8.00 each. Children's tickets must be purchased at the door because there is not a discount. Please make your check payable to Station Club.

SWEETHEART OF A DEAL



The 2003 Station Club Membership Drive has begun!

This year we are featuring

two chances to win coveted Station Club merchandise. The Early Bird Raffle will be held on Valentine's Day and you must purchase your membership by noon on Friday, February 14, to be eligible for this drawing. Another drawing

will be held on Monday, March 3, for all who signed up during the membership drive. Winners from the first raffle will still be eligible for the second raffle.

The cost to join is \$8 for a family membership and \$5 for a single membership. Retirees and grad students receive a \$1 discount. Members receive discounts on Station Club events and merchandise.

Contact your Station Club representative today to obtain your membership.