

Legislative Update

Cooperative Extension
ULSTER COUNTY

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Summer 2004

ACHIEVEMENTS

- June Strand & members of the *Community Heart Health Coalition* received the **Program Recognition Award** from the American Heart Assoc. in appreciation of a committee, organization or volunteer's efforts to promote heart-healthy information to the public for *Kingston Walks*; a program encouraging people working in Kingston to walk at or near their worksites.
- The **Master Gardener Program** has won 1st & 3rd place in the **2004 New York State Master Gardener Search for Excellence Awards** for the *Xeriscape Demonstration & Teaching Garden at SUNY Ulster and Garden Day*. The awards recognize the best Master Gardener projects and activities in the state.
- **The Ulster County Fair** was a tremendous success with 2100 4-H exhibits from 200 youth. 150 volunteers ensured its success by serving as judges, show assistants, barn managers, and snack bar managers.
- **The Hudson Valley Tree Fruit News**, a newsletter for commercial fruit growers addressing production, business management and disease control issues is now available via email speeding up delivery, reducing printing and postage costs and increasing the delivery of timely information regarding insect and disease problems with a new full color Photo Gallery.
- Senior Extension Associate, Jennifer Brickmayer (Ret.), Cornell University, led more than 30 people in a daylong training session hosted by the **Human Development Program** on the *National Extension Parenting Education Framework*; a system of best practices for professional parenting educators to employ in their work.
- **The Family Resource Management Program** held a series of well attended workshops for participants in Ulster County's Homebuyers Program. The sessions addressed common problems with home contractors; the ABCs of lawn maintenance; and mold problems in the home.

IN PROGRESS

The **Feathered Friends 4-H Club**, based in Tillson, is collecting *Sandals for Iraqi Children*. The campaign seeks 500 pairs of new or used children's sandals to be donated by Oct. 1, when they will be shipped to the Command Sergeant of the 800 soldiers from the New York National Guard who will personally give the sandals to Iraqi children. Collection sites include CCEUC's office in Kingston; Burd Farm, Rte 209, Kerhonkson & Rosendale Hardware, 1094 Rt. 32.

The **Northeast Small Farm & Rural Living Expo** takes place from 9 - 4 Sept. 18 & 19, at the UC Fairgrounds. Hosted by Cornell Cooperative Extension, Penn State Extension and Rutgers Extension, it features more than 50 demonstrations, workshops and classes on commercial horticulture, risk management for farms, natural resources, equine/livestock and rural living. There will also be children's activities, demonstration gardens, farm animals, antique farm equipment, blacksmith demonstrations and live music. Admission is \$5/per, children under 14 are free.

Summer Youth Nutrition Education Programs are underway at sites throughout the county including Kingston Parks & Recreation programs at Hasbrouck and Forsyth Parks; Boys & Girls Clubs in Kingston and Saugerties; Cahill & Morse Schools; Ellenville and New Paltz summer YMCA programs.

The **Master Gardener Program** is asking home gardeners, community groups and organizations to join their *Plant A Row for the Hungry Campaign*. Gardeners donate surplus food from their home gardens which is shared with food banks, soup kitchens, food pantries and CCEUC's nutrition education programs in Ulster County.

WHAT'S NEXT

The 5th annual *Truck Day*, returns to the **Little Ones' Library** on Sept. 18 (rain date: 9/25). Trucks of all sizes, shapes & types will be in the parking lot beginning at 10 am for children to explore & learn about. The morning will be filled with stories, activities, trucks, trucks & more trucks.

National 4-H & CCE Week, Oct. 3-9, will celebrate the power and promise of youth, and the role Extension plays in improving agricultural and food systems in New York State. Special events and activities are being planned to highlight CCEUC's contributions in these areas.

The **Human Development Program** is sponsoring an interactive distance learning program, *How Does Growing Up In a Single-Mother Family Affect Children?*, Oct. 7th at SUNY Ulster's BRC. Rachel Dunifon with the Parenting in Context Program, Cornell University, will present her research single-parenthood and child well-being focusing on how living in a single parent family affects children of different races differently.

For more information about any of the items listed in this publication please call Lisa M. Berger, Marketing & Public Relations, CCEUC at 340-3990.