The mood of the day is captured on a graduation cap during Commencement ceremonies Dec. 7. (Photo by Claire B. Dunn) More photos from Commencement can be found HERE.

**Advice to Graduates: Live with Heart, Kindness, Passion**

"Live your life with heart and kindness. Do in your work what you love and are passionate about. Be willing to work hard with complete dedication," said Dr. David Amberg, ESF’s interim president, to the Class of 2018 during December Commencement exercises.

"Always give more than you take and leave every situation in better shape than you found it. Lastly, pay it forward; many helped you succeed so return the favor to those following behind you," he said, assuring them these "simple rules" would contribute to "productive, happy lives."

Amberg’s remarks were one of the highlights of the ceremonies Friday at Hendricks
ESF Students Ride to Ribbons in Horse Show

The Western Equestrian Team at Syracuse University - made up mostly of ESF students - opened its winter competition season with 10 students winning ribbons and the team as a whole earning honors as reserve high point champion (horse-show parlance for second place) on the first day of showing.

"Believe it or not, most of the Western Equestrian Team at Syracuse University is ESF students. We're an official Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) team that is open to SU and ESF students," said ESF senior Mikayla Call, a four-year member of the club and its current president.

Read the complete ESF story HERE.

Studies: Transgenic American Chestnut Trees Show No Ill Effects on Seeds, Fungi or Larval Frogs

Two new studies on the environmental impact of transgenic American chestnut trees provide evidence that the trees have no harmful effects on germinating seeds, beneficial fungi, or larval frogs that are dependable indicators of environmental quality.

The findings were published by researchers at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF), where scientists have been working for 29 years to restore the valuable species after it was nearly wiped out by a pathogenic blight in the 20th century. Now that they have developed a process for growing blight-tolerant trees, ESF scientists have turned their attention to assessing how these trees could affect the environment.

Read the complete ESF story HERE.

In the Know with the CDO Charts Progress Made

Dr. Malika Carter, chief diversity officer (CDO), offers the following message regarding her blog, In the Know with the CDO:

"Dear ESF Community,

"As Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) at ESF, I have worked diligently to manage projects that relate to my three core drivers of pipelining, climate, and professional development and training.

Read the complete ESF story HERE.
"The purpose of the “In the Know With the CDO” blog is to provide additional information on some of the tasks that have been completed and initiated to date. In some guise, this list provides insight into day-to-day activity, but fully outlines what the Office of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity has been able to accomplish through partnerships. Special thanks to stakeholders mentioned throughout. Information herein has been presented to the ESF Board of Trustees in advance of the December, 2018 meeting.

"For more information about campus-wide inclusion, diversity and equity efforts, or if you have improvement ideas, please contact me or email the College-wide Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Committee and visit the IDE website."

The 2017-18 Honor Roll Recognizing Donor Generosity Now Online

The 2017-2018 Honor Roll is now available online in recognition of our generous donors who gave to ESF during the 2017-18 fiscal year, which ended June 30, 2018.

If you were a donor to the ESF Annual Fund last year—Thank you! Find yourself listed among the thousands of alumni and friends who joined you in support for ESF students and academic programs.

We’re nearing the halfway mark of the new fiscal year, and more than 1,100 people have committed already—including faculty, staff, volunteer board members and many families of our ESF students. Please be sure you are included in next year’s Honor Roll. Make your gift to the 2018-19 ESF Annual Fund today.

Your gift makes a difference every day!

View the 2017-18 Honor Roll HERE. To give to the 2018-19 ESF Annual Fund, click HERE.

This is the final edition of the Acorn Advisory for the semester. The Acorn Advisory will return in January 2019. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

ESF Board of Trustees Meeting

The ESF Board of Trustees will hold its regular business meeting in Gateway Center this week. To watch the meeting online click HERE.

Dec. 14, 2018
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Gateway Center
One Can Make a Difference

CSEA Local 647 is holding a food drive for the Star Lake Community Food Pantry through Jan. 10.

Donation boxes are located in the Physical Plant offices, the ESF Bookstore, the second-floor Bray rotunda, the Marshall Hall basement lobby, the fourth of floor Baker Laboratory, 241 Illick Hall, Moon Library and the Ranger School mailroom.

Dec. 12 to Jan. 10
Locations all across campus and at the Ranger School

Trailhead, Treehouse Closed Over Winter Recess, MLK Holiday

The Trailhead Cafe and The Treehouse will close for winter recess after normal business hours this Friday, Dec. 14. Both dining centers will return to regular hours Monday, Jan. 14.

Both locations will be closed Jan. 20 and 21 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Dec. 15 to Jan. 13
Closed
The Trailhead Cafe and The Treehouse

ESF IN THE MEDIA

Mahoney Named Co-grand Marshal for St. Patrick's Parade

Joanie Mahoney, chief operating officer, was named co-grand marshal for the Syracuse St. Patrick's Parade along with her father, Bernie Mahoney.

READ HERE

Rome Sentinel: Growers Ready for People Seeking Perfect Christmas Tree

ESF alumnus and Christmas tree grower Dick Shuster talks about what inspires people to purchase a real Christmas tree.

READ NOW

 Juice and Java: Real vs. Fake Christmas Trees

Dr. Rene Germain weighs in on the debate of real versus artificial Christmas trees.

WATCH HERE

NEWS ARCHIVE

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