



## The Latest in Pawprint: August 28, 2015

Also available online at [www.pawprint.cornell.edu](http://www.pawprint.cornell.edu)

### Looking back to CALS Summer Scoop



With temperatures reaching well past 90 degrees, July 29 was a perfect day for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences' Annual Summer Scoop. More than 1,000 hungry students, faculty, staff and their families queued up to taste old favorites and new delights.

New to the lineup this year were the crazy creative flavors of Sweet CORNell and Boorange. Sweet CORNell was the winner in last year's Food Science 1101 course and features salted caramel and crispy corn pieces. Boorange is an orange-flavored ice cream with dark chocolate chunks produced in honor of CALS' own Dean Boor.

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### Inauguration of President Elizabeth Garrett: Volunteers needed

Inaugural festivities will celebrate Elizabeth Garrett's installation as the 13th president of Cornell University. As a volunteer, you will significantly contribute to the inauguration's success by helping to coordinate, inform and create a welcoming environment for those who attend.

Volunteers will assist at a variety of events on Thursday, September 17, and Friday, September 18. A variety of volunteer options are available for shifts that begin at different times throughout the festivities. The length of the commitment will vary

depending upon the volunteer position you select.

Consider helping Cornell mark this historic occasion by signing up at the [inaugural volunteer](#) web page.

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## **Child care grant application period begins Sept. 1**

[Cornell's Child Care Grant Program](#) helps faculty and staff pay for child care expenses by granting awards of up to \$5,000 a year, tax free. The application period for the 2016 Child Care Grant begins Sept. 1 and ends Sept. 30.

The grant covers eligible child care, including infant and toddler day care, preschool/preK programs, school-age summer day camps/programs and school-age before/after school care.

To receive grant funds on a tax-free basis, faculty and staff must be eligible to participate in the dependent care flexible spending account. Cornell Cooperative Extension County Association employees are not eligible to apply for the grant program.

For detailed information on the program, application process and eligibility requirements, read the [frequently asked questions](#). If you do not find an answer to your question in the FAQ, contact the resource center at Benefit Services at 607-254-2910 or by email: [childcare@cornell.edu](mailto:childcare@cornell.edu).

Undergraduate and graduate/professional students can find child care grant information, guidelines and applications posted on the [Cornell Students with Children website](#) or by emailing Marie Roller at [mr36@cornell.edu](mailto:mr36@cornell.edu).

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## **Welcome to the start of another academic year!**

I have always enjoyed the ebb and flow of life on campus and look forward to the energy and vitality that new people – students, faculty and staff – bring to the Cornell community. As we start this new year, I'd like to formally welcome the new members of the Employee Assembly (EA) and the returning members. We have an ambitious year ahead of us and I am excited to work with this year's assembly, advocating for staff interests and improving the staff experience. Throughout the year, keep an eye out for updates from our EA members. They will be introducing themselves and current and upcoming actions from the EA.

How can you get involved with shared governance? The EA meetings are generally open to all staff members and we welcome guests to our meetings. Check out our homepage at <http://assembly.cornell.edu/EA/Home> and learn of our upcoming resolutions on our assemblies dashboard. The Office of the Assemblies is leading an initiative to encourage better methods of public comment on actions of shared governance. We encourage you to use this engagement tool as a way to interact with the EA.

The adage goes that it takes a village to raise a child, and at Cornell I believe every person on campus is involved in the education of our students. Shared governance is a way for staff members to engage issues that affect our entire university. Whether it's attending a meeting or emailing an EA member with a concern that affects your local staff community, we welcome your participation in the shared governance process.

In light of President Garrett's recent memo calling for the assessment of processes and procedures to reduce or eliminate unnecessary regulation, duplicative structures or burdensome paperwork, realize that change and progress don't only come from the top, and many solutions necessary to help Cornell thrive and lead in a changing environment can come from the talent that lies within our ranks. Look around and see what ideas you have to improve your work place for you and your colleagues. Share these ideas and innovations with your supervisor and the EA. By working together, we continue to make Cornell an

outstanding place to work.

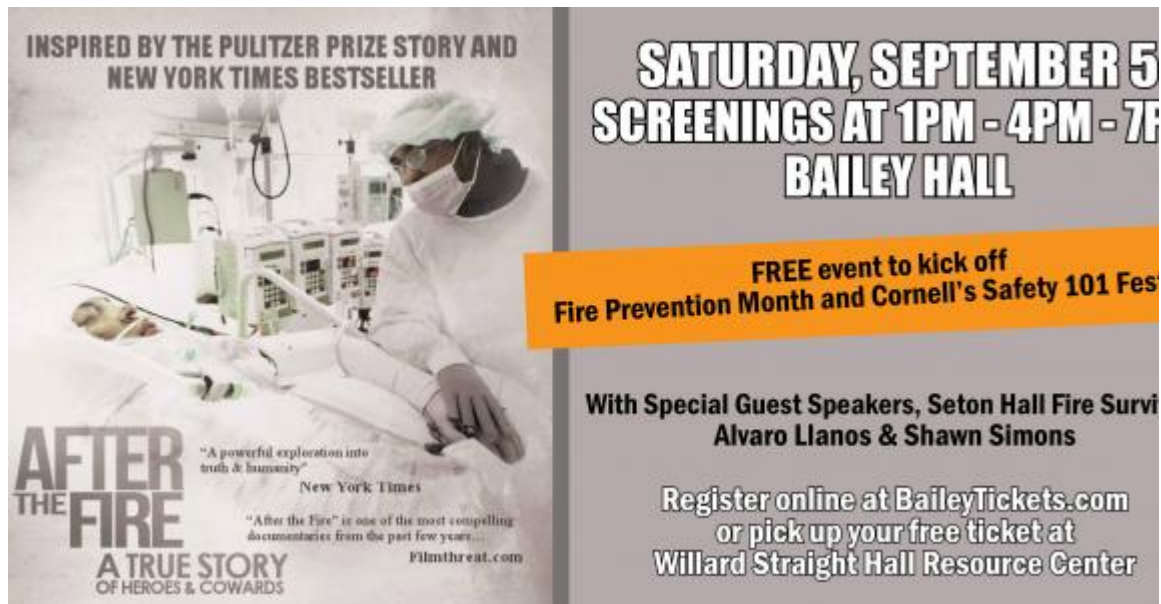
Thank you for contributing to the staff community, and have a great year!

BJ R. Siasoco

Chair of the Employee Assembly

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## After the Fire: A True Story of Heroes & Cowards



This documentary, to be held free of charge Sept. 5 at 1, 4, and 7 p.m., in Bailey Hall, marks the 15th anniversary of the fatal dormitory fire at Seton Hall University's Boland Hall. The fire claimed the lives of three students and injured 58 others. Shawn Simons and Alvaro Llanos, two critically injured survivors, will present "After the Fire," directed by Guido Verweyen and based on Robin Gaby Fisher's bestseller of the same name, discuss their personal ordeal and answer questions.

Simons and Llanos were roommates in the dorm where the tragedy struck, were severely injured, were in recovery for a year before returning to their studies, and have dedicated their lives to preventing future tragedies by telling their story to dorm residents on college campuses around the country.

Free tickets are available at [www.BaileyTickets.com](http://www.BaileyTickets.com) or Willard Straight Hall Resource Center. More information can be found at <http://www.alvaroandshawn.com>.

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## Pawprint: Web stays the same; PDF and distribution change

When you click on the "Download this PDF" icon on the Pawprint website, you will see that our layout of the print version of Pawprint has changed. The new layout is generated automatically, allowing us to focus on covering staff news rather than on laying out columns.

For those who prefer to read Pawprint on paper, this PDF is printable, either as a single copy, or should you wish to copy and distribute Pawprint to your unit, as multiple copies. It still includes the most important news that is also on Pawprint online at

<http://www.pawprint.cornell.edu>.

We are counting on each unit to determine the needs of their staff for access to hard copies of Pawprint, and to print and distribute or post copies at such gathering places as time card machines, mail rooms or break rooms. If you wish, you can choose to order Pawprint PDF copies through Digital Print Services at <http://digitalprintservices.cornell.edu/>.

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## Planning for religious observances

Faculty and staff are reminded to take religious observances into account when planning events, meetings, programs, meals and travel to help fulfill the university's commitment to diversity and inclusiveness. When planning for religious holidays and observances, consider the following guidelines:

- plan meetings and events for days other than widely observed religious holidays and avoid or modify banquets and other meal events during fasting times (e.g., Ramadan, Yom Kippur, Easter)
- allow [flexible schedules](#) to accommodate religious observances
- allow staff to use available time away leave (e.g., vacation, unpaid, or [health and personal leave](#)) to accommodate religious observances
- consult the [religious accommodation process](#) to resolve conflicts between an employee's request for religious observance, e.g., head covering or facial jewelry, and the business needs of the department.

For more information on upcoming religious holidays, read a list of [widely observed holidays](#) during the upcoming academic year, made available by Cornell United Religious Works.

For guidance on make-up examinations, study or work requirements due to students' religious observances, see the Cornell University Faculty Handbook (p. 88) or consult with the Dean of Faculty.

For more information on workplace accommodations, see an [FAQ on religious accommodation](#). You can also contact the Office of Workforce Policy and Labor Relations at 254-7232 or [equalopportunity@cornell.edu](mailto:equalopportunity@cornell.edu).

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## Reminder: photo contest deadline Oct. 9



Great prizes await the winners of the 33rd annual Photography Contest, thanks to units and departments all across campus.

But you can't win unless you enter. All Cornell staff, faculty, students, alumni and retirees are eligible and can submit up to four entries, one in each of their choice of nine categories: Adults, Animals, Cornell (any location), Humor, Landscape, Nature, Special Effects (digital enhancement), Structures/Buildings and Unspecified. If they choose, new entrants can enter one of their four photos in a "New Entrants" category, with the other three photos going to the categories noted above.

**Deadline: October 9.** Send your photos via email to [akm4@cornell.edu](mailto:akm4@cornell.edu), subject line: 2015 Photo Contest.

By submitting a photograph to the Pawprint Photography Contest, you are giving permission to Pawprint to produce that photo in Pawprint in hard copy and digitally online, for the purposes of promoting the contest and showing viewers the winning photographs.

Pawprint is not responsible for any copyright violations that web visitors may incur.

More information can be found at

<http://pawprint.cornell.edu/?q=articles/2015/06/new-dates-new-award-category-for-2015-photo-contest>

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## Campus Club invites new, returning members

The Campus Club at Cornell Inc. has been an organization for women of the Cornell community for more than 100 years. The membership has recently been expanded: women of the Cornell community and/or women of the Ithaca area are eligible to join.

The Campus Club Fall Coffee and Activity Group Sign Up 2015 will be held September 10, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Moakley House, Cornell University Golf Course, 213 Warren Rd. Activity groups include bird study, book groups, Bridge, Canasta, diner's group, French conversation, games, gardening, geocaching, gourmet, hiking and cross-country skiing, imagining retirement, performers group, quilting, Shakespeare on video, ukulele, wanderers, writing and yoga.

Campus Club will offer its first program/lecture of the year, Sept. 24 at 10 a.m.: Cornell Campus Architecture Walk: Cornell's Latest Editions. Roberta Moudry, Cornell architectural historian, will lead a walking tour focusing on four major additions to Cornell's Art Quad and vicinity: the Johnson Museum's northern expansion, Architecture, Art and Planning's Milstein Hall, the Physical Sciences Building, and Klarman Hall, the nearly completed extension of Goldwin Smith Hall. Meet outside the main entrance to the Johnson Art Museum. Metered parking is available on Thurston Ave. The city bus can be taken (get off behind Lincoln Hall).

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## Briefs 8/28/15

### Commons Celebration Weekend

Celebrate the conclusion of construction on the Ithaca Commons and the 40th anniversary of the Ithaca Commons as a pedestrian mall, August 28 and 29 at the Commons. Live music, free movies, family fun and games, beer and wine tent, displays, presentations. More information at <http://commonscelebration.com/>.

### Zimride

With the semester kicking off, now is a good time to post a new commute or update your existing commute on [Zimride](#), Cornell's private ridesharing software that provides students, faculty and staff an easy way to share rides. Carpooling saves

money, decreases stress and helps reduce your carbon footprint. In seconds you can set up a profile, search for open seats, or [post a commute](#) of your own.

### **Compost with confidence**

The Compost Education Program of Tompkins County Cooperative Extension holds a free, monthly class series on composting at the Ithaca Farmers Market at Steamboat Landing the last Saturday of each month through October, 11 a.m.-noon. Each class of the series offers compost basics and a different focal topic. The topic for August is “composting indoors.” For more information, visit [www.ccetompkins.org/compost](http://www.ccetompkins.org/compost) or call 272-2292.

### **Plantations lecture**

Cornell Plantations kicks-off its Fall lecture series Sept. 2 with Robin Wall Kimmerer, the renowned botanist, professor and award-winning author of “Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants.” The Harder Lecture begins at 5:30 p.m. in Call Alumni Auditorium in Kennedy Hall and will be followed by a complimentary garden party in the botanical garden of Cornell Plantations.

Kimmerer is a distinguished teaching professor and the director of the Center for Native Peoples and the Environment at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, NY. As a writer and scientist, she has delivered a TEDx Talk, has addressed the general assembly of the United Nations at the request of UN President Sam Kahamba Kutesa, of Uganda, and has won the prestigious John Burroughs Medal for Writing and the Sigurd Olson Nature Writing Award.

### **AARP defensive driving course**

The Lifelong Senior Center will host the AARP “Smart Driver” Course Sept. 12 and 19, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at Lifelong, 119 W. Court St., Ithaca. Participants can be eligible for a discount on their basic auto insurance and a possible waiver of up to four points on their NY license. In order to qualify, you must attend both days and be present the entire time.

While the course is designed for people over 50, it is open to any driver. Fee: \$20 for AARP members; \$25 for non-members, collected at the first session. Checks should be made out to AARP. bring your driver’s license

To register: Call Lifelong: 607-273-1511; maximum enrollment is 40. The course will also be offered Oct. 10 and 17 and Nov. 7 and 14 at Lifelong.

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