



The Latest in Pawprint: October 7, 2016

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Hospital for animals to celebrate National Veterinary Technician Week



When a beloved animal is sick or injured, the person you want to see is a veterinarian. This is especially true at the Cornell University Hospital for Animals (CUHA), where primary-care veterinarians send their patients for advanced diagnostics, surgery and treatment.

So you may not notice the team behind the veterinarian, but they notice you. The person who schedules your appointment; the one you check in with; the pharmacist who fills your prescriptions; the clerk in Records who makes sure full patient information is at the veterinarian's fingertips before meeting with you – all do their best to make a difficult situation run as smoothly as possible.

October 16–22 is National Veterinary Technician Week (NVTW). In New York State, [Licensed Veterinary Technicians](#) (LVT) must spend two-to-four years in a college-level veterinary technology program and pass a national exam in order to obtain a license, and complete continuing education courses to maintain it. LVTs work side-by-side with veterinarians to manage client communication and patient care. An LVT's responsibilities might include placing intravenous catheters, monitoring anesthesia, administering chemotherapy and all aspects of patient comfort – and at CUHA, a patient can be as small as a hamster or as big as a camel.

CUHA celebrates LVTW by showing special appreciation for the entire staff. In addition to the examples cited above, there are animal care attendants and veterinary assistants who monitor in-patients, hold large and small animals for exams and take hospitalized dogs for walks; custodians who keep the property clean and in good working order; warehouse employees who restock equipment and supplies; people who manage discharge procedures and billing, and HR professionals who see to the needs of everyone else.

None of these staff members diagnose or treat animals, but oncology LVT Laura Barlow says their work is critically important: “These are aspects of running a hospital that we can’t live without.” Then there are the Night Owls. CUHA is open all year, around-the-clock, caring for hospitalized animals and emergency cases. That means that in addition to LVTs and emergency veterinarians, someone has to be there after hours to check in new patients and someone has to clean up after them.

“I am thankful for the dedication and excellence that all of our staff, house officers and faculty model for our veterinary students every single day,” says CUHA Director Dr. Meg Thompson.

Most CUHA employees could work in other businesses. Why do they choose to work in an animal hospital? Barlow says CUHA staff members share a love of animals, but that’s only half the equation. “We also want to be able to provide compassion for owners,” she says. “We are owner advocates as well as animal advocates. And owners need compassion, much more so today because their animals are part of their families.”

Claudia Wheatley is a senior public affairs officer for the College of Veterinary Medicine.

President Rawlings to address staff Oct. 11

Join the Employee Assembly Oct. 11, noon-1 p.m., in Call Auditorium, Kennedy Hall, for the annual President’s Address to Staff, when Interim President Hunter Rawlings, a three-time Cornell president, will address the staff community.

A light lunch will be provided.

For those unable to attend in person, the event will be streamed live [via CornellCast](#).

Additionally, all are invited to [submit questions](#) in advance – and during the event – for consideration to be asked of Interim President Rawlings.

You also can receive an [email reminder](#) of the event.

EHS and Grounds partner to keep campus safe



Cornell's Environmental, Health and Safety and Grounds departments have partnered to offer a series of messages on staying safe this winter. Below is the first of these messages, also posted on the Facilities Features Pawprint column and the [EHS web site](#):

Winter walking falls are a serious safety hazard!

Even with the mild winter in 2015, Cornell experienced nearly 50 reported slip-and-falls related to winter snow and ice. While this figure represented a drop from 80 reported incidents in the 2014 season, these slip-and-falls resulted in bruises, sprains and strains and even broken bones.

Stay healthy and injury-free this winter by following these winter walking safety tips:

Snow removal

Exercise extreme caution in parking lots and sidewalks during snow events, especially early mornings when the Grounds staff are trying to keep up with clearing roads and parking lots. In fact, 44 percent of our slip-and-falls in 2015 happened between the hours of 7-10 a.m.

Black ice

Call the Winter Safety Program number (254-COLD (2653)) to report any hazardous walking conditions, including any "black ice," which is oftentimes invisible. Help keep yourself and the Cornell community safe this winter season.

Footwear

The single most important thing you can do for your safety is to wear weather-appropriate footwear. Boots with rubber soles and non-slip tread are great; grippers, traction cleats or "Yaktrax" are another excellent idea. Nothing is foolproof, but the right footwear provides slip resistance.

Defensive walking

Just as being a "defensive driver" helps to avoid accidents, becoming a "defensive walker" helps avoid winter falls.

Remember to... Walk like a Penguin!

Employee incident form

If you do fall, please fill out an

[Injury / Illness / Exposure Report Form](#)

President Rawlings encourages United Way participation

Interim President Hunter Rawlings sent the following email message to the Cornell community Oct. 3:

Dear Colleagues,

Once again, I am proud to engage in an important community-campus tradition by supporting United Way of Tompkins County.

Most of us are connected with United Way agencies in some way, whether through accessing their resources for ourselves or a family member, or by volunteering at a United Way-funded organization.

An illustration of the depth and diversity of these agencies, and what your support can enable can be found [here](#).

Cornell faculty, staff and students provide nearly 40 percent of the countywide United Way campaign each year, though many Cornellians do not participate, perhaps feeling that someone else will step up.

The reality is that United Way needs everyone's help, now more than ever. Even \$1 per paycheck can provide five days of "meals on wheels" for one person, two round-trips to bring a rural mom and her baby to a pediatrician, or an hour of home health aide services.

Finally, please consider:

- All gifts to partner agencies, special initiatives, and other United Ways go directly to benefit programs and services because Corporate Cornerstone Partners and earned income cover 100 percent of United Way's operating expenses.
- If you have a favorite local organization, you can designate your contribution to support it, or note any organization you do not want your contribution to support.
- If you do not live in Tompkins County and want to help an agency in your home community, you can make such a contribution through Cornell's United Way campaign as well.
- You can make a tax-deductible donation online beginning October 14, specify an amount to give through payroll deduction, or write a check.

Learn more about United Way, its agencies, and ways to help, by visiting unitedway.cornell.edu. You will soon receive an email invitation from our campaign co-chairs Andy Noel and Kathy Zoner, along with a pledge card packet in the mail.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Hunter R. Rawlings III

Interim President

Last call for photos submission: Deadline is Oct. 9

Reminder: The deadline for submitting photos to the 34th annual Photography Contest is October 9 at 11:59 p.m.

Good news for those who have already submitted: your chances of winning something are pretty good, because so far there are fewer entrants than in the past several years.

Good news for those who submit before the Oct. 9 deadline: your chances of winning something are pretty good, because so far there are fewer entrants than in the past several years.

(Of course, if we have numerous submissions before the deadline, the chances of winning per person go down, but then the good news is that Pawprint can better showcase the university's many talented Cornell community members.)

Guidelines for photograph submissions remain the same as in the past, but judging will be modified slightly based on feedback from last year's winners.

All Cornell staff, faculty, students, alumni and retirees are eligible to enter and each can submit up to four entries, one in each of nine categories: adults, animals, Cornell (any location), humor, landscape, nature, special effects (digital enhancement), structures/buildings and unspecified.

Family members of Cornellians, professional photographers or their support staff, student photography majors and contest judges are not eligible.

In addition to the categories noted above, faculty and staff who have not submitted any photos to the contest in the past three years can choose to enter **one photo** in the new entrants category, on any subject. They can also choose **not** to enter any of their four photos in the new entrants category.

Photos must be submitted digitally by October 9, 11:59 p.m. (entrants are advised to submit photos earlier to avoid networking overloads). The file name must include the photographer's Cornell NetID, category and name of photo in this format: njs3Animals.AViewFromAbove. Email to Aggie Binger, akm4@cornell.edu, with the subject line 2016 Photo Contest. Entries will not be posted online until AFTER the deadline is past.

For complete rules and information, see [July's article](#).

Reminder: Emergency CARE Fund seeks donations for annual auction

The annual auction to support the [Emergency CARE Fund](#) (Cornellians Aiding and Responding to Employees) will be held Nov. 1-3. The fund is currently collecting donations, up through Oct. 28. Individuals and departments can also sponsor a prize or donate cash directly.

The online auction gives participants the opportunity to bid for such prizes as hotel packages, vacation home stays, private tours, events and athletics tickets, massages, jewelry, dog boarding, specialty foods and dining, service work and yard cleanups, SAT tutoring, art and handicrafts.

Join in anytime during bidding from the convenience of your computer, laptop, phone or tablet.

The [Emergency CARE Fund](#) offers confidential financial assistance to Cornell faculty and staff who have experienced a non-recurring sudden or emergency-related financial hardship due to an unforeseen or unavoidable event.

Have questions or want to donate? Contact Michelle Eastman, mre2@cornell.edu, or Andrea Rutherford, alr276@cornell.edu.

Reminder of finances, retirement planning workshops

The following workshops will be offered at G10 Biotechnology Building unless otherwise noted. Free and open to all faculty, staff and students.

Health and Money: A Powerful Link: This Fidelity webcast features personal finance journalist Jean Chatzky and Dr. Michael Roizen, of the Cleveland Clinic, who will discuss women's unique challenges in living healthy financial, mental and physical lives. Offered twice: **Oct. 13 at 1 p.m. or Oct. 18 at 3 p.m.** [Register](#) to view the webcast from your computer.

Pre-Retirement Planning: This in-person and webcast program, presented by Benefit Services, provides information on transitioning into retirement and the effect on your benefits. See the [web page](#) for the webcast and to download the Retirement & Beyond booklet.

- **Endowed employees: Oct. 18, noon-1:15 p.m.**, at G01 Biotechnology Building
- **Contract college employees: Oct. 26, noon-1:30 p.m.**, at G01 Biotechnology Building.

Smart Money Moves in Your 20s and 30s: MetLife presents ten relevant smart money tips, from creating a budget to establishing an emergency fund, to making the most of retirement savings, **Oct. 19, 2016, noon-1 p.m.**, at G10 Biotechnology

Building. Register by going to www.MetLifePlanSmart.com (enter Cornell) or call 866-801-3547.

Women and Finance: Get Organized: Fidelity presents helpful guidance on budgeting, saving and managing debt for women, **Oct. 20, noon-1 p.m.**, at G10 Biotechnology Building. Reserve your seat online now. Or call 800-642-7131. R.S.V.P. is required.

Within Reach: TIAA discusses final preparations to help shift from an active career to retirement, **Oct. 25, noon-1 p.m.**, at G10 Biotechnology Building. From income options to taxes to health insurance, you need to be prepared. [Registration required.](#)

Social Security Basics: At this TIAA webcast, **Oct. 25 at noon**, you can learn the basics about Social Security, including eligibility, how to apply, benefits calculation, strategies and disability benefits. Register at www.tiaa.org/ve to view the webcast.

New York City day trips

The Cornell Recreation Connection (CRC) has organized one more monthly New York City day trip for 2016, Dec. 10.

All CRC trips are on Saturdays and the discounted fare for these trips is \$50 per person for Cornell faculty, staff, retirees and up to four guests.

Contact Swarthout Coaches at <http://www.goswarthout.com/tours/cornell-faculty-tours-31.html> to make a reservation for all trips. Full payment is due at the time of reservation.

Once your payment is received and your reservation is set you will receive an email confirmation. This is also your boarding pass for the trip.

New York City Day Trip: Dec. 10

- 6:30 a.m.: Bus leaves Cornell's B-Lot (you must have your boarding pass to board the bus).
 - 11:30 a.m.: Bus arrives in NYC with drop offs at Bryant Park and Macys (34th St. and 7th Ave).
 - You will spend the day on your own in New York City.
 - 8 p.m.: The bus leaves from Bryant Park only at 8 p.m. sharp, returning to Cornell at about 12:30 a.m.
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