



## The Latest in Pawprint: April 21, 2017

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### Bikes on demand go any place, on campus or off



On-demand bike sharing – commonplace in major metropolitan areas – became a reality at Cornell April 14 at a ribbon-cutting ceremony outside Kennedy Hall, with about 50 onlookers eying the Zagster bikes gleaming bright white in the afternoon sun.

The [Big Red Bikes program](#) features a fleet of 32 bicycles, with five pick-up/drop off bike-rack stations on campus: at Balch Hall, Kennedy Hall, Stocking Hall and Grumman Squash Courts, and between Olin Library and Stimson Hall.

Anyone 18 years or older – Cornell students, faculty, and staff as well as visitors and community members – is welcome to join the bike-share program. The program will be maintained by Zagster, a national provider of bike-share programs for cities, universities, businesses and properties, in partnership with the Big Red Bikes student organization and Cornell's Transportation Services.

Anyone who joins the program can check out a bike and pay-as-they-ride at \$3 per hour. Regular users can purchase a monthly or annual pass that allows an unlimited number of rides and the first hour of every ride is free. After the first hour, pass-holder rides cost \$3 per hour.

Big Red Bikes received funding from the Student Assembly and Cornell Transportation Services to start the program. Once registered [online](#), riders request a bike via [the Zagster app](#) or SMS text message, are sent a code to unlock a bike, ride it as they wish, and then drop the bike at any Zagster bike station.

Calling the new program both sustainable and convenient, Susan Powell of Transportation Services said it is a pilot, during which campus response will be measured.

Jung Won Kim '18, recently elected president of the Student Assembly (SA), said the program showcases the assembly's goals of increasing student engagement, involvement and leadership. Like the role of the SA in the formation of [Anabel's Grocery](#), setting up the Big Red Bikes program was logistically challenging and its implementation impressive, he said.

Kim and six Big Red Bike committee members – Blanche Shao '19, Venus Dulani '19, Yorda Girmay '19, Erin Tou '18, Nicholas Kan '19 and Yabework Abebe '19 – did the ribbon-cutting, while other committee members set up bikes outside Olin Library.

“Our undergrads are investing in our infrastructure, in our transportation ... not just for their four years but beyond that,” said Gary Cremeens, manager of outreach and new media in Cornell's Transportation Services.

Fernando de Aragon, executive director of the Ithaca Tompkins County Transportation Council, noted that reducing the number of automobiles driven in the county depends on providing buses, car-share programs, bike lanes and trails – and bike shares. He and Vikki Armstrong, director of Bike Walk Tompkins, voiced their optimism about creating a safe walking and biking culture throughout the county. This program will be “a terrific asset to the university and eventually, I hope, it will move to the rest of the community,” de Aragon said.

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## Employee Assembly to hold membership election

All eligible Cornell staff members will receive an email from the Employee Assembly Monday morning, April 24, inviting them to vote for a new member to the EA. This election will be held beginning Monday, April 24 at 8 a.m., and ending Wednesday, April 26, at noon.

On Monday, voting will be open for one of two candidates – [Bruce Roebal and Jonathan Fuller](#) – for the College of Arts and Sciences.

Only one candidate applied for each of the following areas, so these candidates automatically will be appointed as representatives:

- College of Architecture, Art & Planning – [Marjorie Mosereiff](#)
- College of Engineering/CIS – [Chris Dawson](#)
- Infrastructure, Properties & Planning – [Dustin Darnell](#)

The following units and affinity groups still need representation. The EA will be working to fill these seats and will hold a special election in the fall if needed. If you are interested in one of these seats, contact the [Office of the Assemblies](#):

- School of Hotel Administration
- School of Industrial and Labor Relations
- Disability

All remaining seats will be occupied by their current Employee Assembly member.

For more information and a link to the ballot, go to <http://assembly.cornell.edu/Elections/2017SpringEAElection>. A direct link to the ballot will be in the Employee Assembly e-newsletter.

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## Debra Howell elected to NYS ACE Women's Network

Debra Howell, director of information technology for the Division of Infrastructure, Properties and Planning (IPP), was elected to the executive board as the information officer for the New York State Chapter of the American Council on Education (ACE) Women's Network during their annual conference April 6-7 in Cooperstown, NY.

"I am honored to be invited to serve this organization and its goals of promoting the advancement, visibility and influence of women in higher education," Howell said.

Howell has been at Cornell for 18 years, all of them with IPP. She started her work at Cornell in desktop support and worked her way to her current director position. She obtained her master's degree in the School of Industrial and Labor Relations in 2006.

In her current role, Howell oversees desktop support, systems administration, programming services and building automated control systems integration. She is also the service group director for IPP, human resources, environmental health and safety, and Cornell University Police. She has led the development of the Information Technologies Career Framework at Cornell. In her times away from work, she is a master trainer for the U.S. Department of Defense and volunteers as an instructor for the U.S. Army Yellow Ribbon Program.

"Debra encourages everyone in her group to be the best they can be at what they do," said Kristi Cooley, IT support assistant for IPP. "I am amazed every day at the number of groups she is involved with, and that these groups do so much for the community and beyond. She also encourages all her staff members to grow and take every learning opportunity they can – even if that means leaving her organization. She is my mentor and my friend. I have never met a more genuine, inspiring and thoughtful person."

Tom Horton, assistant director of identity management and security engineering for CIT, said, "Debra is known for developing people. As a former direct report, I never before had such support and encouragement to take risks. She encourages all of her employees to find what drives them, and to strive towards that. She challenges her colleagues to be better people and to act on their potential. I have enjoyed a successful career — in no small part due to the support and guidance I received from Debra throughout my time working for her."

Speakers at the annual conference included Hartwick College President Margaret L. Drugovich and educator and researcher Judith Tabron, Ph.D., with State University of New York Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher delivering the keynote address. Zimpher is the first woman to lead the nation's largest higher education system.

The [ACE Women's Network](#) is a national system of networks across all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia, with the mission to advance and support women in higher education leadership roles. Members of the ACE Women's Network Executive Council serve as advisers to ACE's Inclusive Excellence Group, liaisons to the state networks, and mentors to state coordinators.

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## **Employee Assembly calls for awards nominations**

Nominations are sought for two employee awards given by the Employee Assembly – the Opperman Award for Staff Advocacy and the George Peter Award for Dedicated Service.

### **Opperman Award for Staff Advocacy**

At any time during the year, staff members can nominate a Cornell staff or faculty member or academic professional who consistently demonstrates commitment to encouraging and supporting staff excellence. The deadline for submitting nominations for this spring's recognition event is May 5. More information:

<http://assembly.cornell.edu/EAAwards/EA-Opperman> or by contacting the Office of the Assemblies at 607-255-7075 or [assembly@cornell.edu](mailto:assembly@cornell.edu).

### **George Peter Award for Dedicated Service**

Faculty, staff and students can nominate a staff member at any time for the George Peter Award for Dedicated Service. This

award is given to staff members who consistently demonstrate a high degree of excellence in the performance of their duties, extend themselves to help others and exceed the normal expectations of their job responsibilities. Nominating materials are at <http://assembly.cornell.edu/EA-GeorgePeter/Home>.

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## Men's lacrosse to hold Clinic for a Cause

Once again, the Cornell men's lacrosse team will host its annual Save the Day fundraising event for the Dream Factory of Central New York, holding the [Clinic for a Cause](#) April 23, 11:21-2 p.m., with registration at 10:30 a.m., at Schoellkopf Field.

Members of the Cornell men's lacrosse team will be on hand to teach skills, give instruction and run games with youth lacrosse players (grades 3 through 8). Afterwards, participants will be treated to a tour of the Big Red locker room, as well as an autograph session and pizza party with the Big Red.

Proceeds from the clinic will benefit the Dream Factory of CNY, which grants dreams to critically and chronically ill children in the local area.

Reserve your spot now by contacting Charlie Estill at [cpe25@cornell.edu](mailto:cpe25@cornell.edu), 607-220-9937. Registration on-site begins at 10:30 a.m. at the field entrance to Schoellkopf Field. Donation: \$40 per participant.

### The Dream Factory

The Dream Factory of Central New York is a local chapter of a national non-profit that grants dreams to critically and chronically ill children. It is the second-largest wish-granting organization in the United States. Should you know a child who might be eligible for a dream, or for more information about the Dream Factory, visit <http://www.dreamfactoryinc.org/>, or contact [centralnewyork@dreamfactoryinc.org](mailto:centralnewyork@dreamfactoryinc.org), or call 607-272-1264.

### The Save the Day program

In February 2003, Cornell's then-junior goaltender Kyle Miller was diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer. Despite his doctor's prognosis that he would not play collegiate lacrosse again, Miller made a triumphant return to the Big Red, seeing action in six games during the 2005 season. During the summer of 2003, while Miller was at home undergoing treatment, Ian Rosenberger '04 and David Pittard '04 decided to do something to support their teammate. The senior class chose to raise money to help children that were faced with chronic and critical illnesses. After teaming up with the Tompkins Trust Company and The Central New York Chapter of the Dream Factory, the Cornell lacrosse team founded the Save the Day fundraising program in the spring of 2004. This year's [Clinic for a Cause](#) will continue to support Cornell Lacrosse's fundraising effort for the Dream Factory.

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## Explore Tompkins' trails with ease with new website

[Cornell Botanic Gardens](#) and partner organizations have launched a new website designed to help outdoor enthusiasts find and take the perfect trail to walk, hike, bike, ski or even horseback ride. "Out on the Trails" at [IthacaTrails.org](http://IthacaTrails.org) is a GPS-enabled, mobile-optimized site that maps all of the trails in Tompkins County, and invites users to search by the experience they seek. Criteria include distance, difficulty, scenic views, wildlife viewing or picnicking, and also access directions to trailheads and information on parking.

"Our county boasts 240 miles of public trails, but since they span 15 different organizations, many residents and visitors find trail information in bits and pieces," says Todd Bittner, director of natural areas at the Cornell Botanic Gardens and one of the key grant managers. "The beauty of the new "Out on the Trails" website is that it provides comprehensive information on all

the trails, regardless of ownership.”

The site links to each partner organization’s website for more information on the organization and its park or trail. With appealing descriptions, photographs and a clean user-friendly layout, the site is designed to encourage users to explore the County's outdoor recreation offerings more deeply.

The Cornell Botanic Gardens maintains 32 miles of trails through its natural areas. The Cayuga Trail, which spans from Fall Creek Gorge eastward, then circumnavigates its [Monkey Run Natural Area](#), is a 10 mile-trail, maintained in partnership with the Cayuga Trails Club. “The website also leads you to hikes in some of our lesser known natural areas such as [Edwards Lake Cliffs](#), [Fischer Old-growth Forest](#), and [Ellis Hollow Wetlands](#),” Bittner says..

The Cornell Botanic Gardens and its trail partners are offering hikes during the month of April to celebrate local trails and the launch of the new website. On April 23, the botanic gardens hosts an [Earth Day Hike](#) with the Cayuga Trails Club on the Cayuga Trail. And on April 29, Bittner will lead a hike in the [Fischer Old-Growth Forest \(registration required\)](#), the best of the few remaining examples of pre-European settlement forest in the region.

Additional April hikes by partner organizations include [Roy H. Park Preserve](#); [Cayuga Waterfront Trail](#); [Black Diamond Trail](#); [Stevenson Preserve](#); and [Jim Schug Trail](#). Details available at [IthacaEvents.com](#).

IthacaTrails.org is a partnership of the Tompkins County Parks and Trails Network. Partner organizations include the Cornell Botanic Gardens, Town of Ulysses, Tompkins County Tourism Program, Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability , Ithaca Tompkins County Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Finger Lakes Land Trust, NY State Parks, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Ithaca College Natural Lands, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, City of Ithaca, Town of Ithaca, Town of Lansing, Town of Dryden, Town of Danby, the Nature Conservancy, and user groups, including Bike Walk Tompkins, the Cayuga Trails Club, and Finger Lakes Trails Conference.

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## Spend a Saturday in New York City



The first day-trip of 2017 to New York City, sponsored by the Cornell Recreation Connection (CRC) is May 13. Sign up early to ensure that these trips continue.

The CRC calendar includes trips on the second Saturdays of May, September, November, December and possibly July if there is interest.

The discounted fare for these trips is \$54 per person, round trip, for Cornell employees and up to four guests.

Contact Swarthout Coaches at <http://www.goswarthout.com/tours/cornell-faculty-tours-31.html> to make a reservation. Full payment is due at the time of reservation. All tickets are non-refundable.

**Itinerary for “Day on Your Own in NYC” trips**

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 at New York City with drop-offs at Bryant Park and Macy’s (34th Street and 7th Avenue).

8:00 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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