Employees celebrate with football win, Barton dinner

NANCY DOOLITTLE

Two high numbers told the story of Employee Celebration Day, Oct. 13. First was the single-game record 280 receiving yards made by football special teams co-captain Luke Trasker to help Cornell to a 41-38 win over Monmouth at Schoellkopf Field under partly sunny skies. Second was the 3,000-plus tickets sold to faculty, staff, retirees and their families to see the game and attend the chicken barbecue and pasta dinner at Barton Hall afterward.

Also at Barton: face painting for children, Crossroad Clown, McGruff the Police Dog and displays by representatives of 14 campus and local organizations, including the Employee Assembly, United Way, Ithaca Car Share, Transportation Services, Gannett Health Services, Environmental Health and Safety, the Vet School, CU Compost, Procurement Services, and a number of human resource services.

The celebration’s planning committee had worked with Cornell Catering to reduce the amount of trash that was removed from the event: With the exception of cold beverages in recyclable bottles, all dinner utensils were compostable, in keeping with Cornell Catering’s sustainability focus.

“Thanks to everyone who participated to help make this year’s fall Employee Celebration a huge success,” said Jackie Beal of the Division of Human Resources and Safety Services, who coordinated the event this year. “From the planning committee, to Cornell Catering, Building Care and Facilities Management Shops staff, to the groups who provided informational displays – as well as more than 65 student and staff volunteers – many thanks.”

The event was sponsored by the Division of Human Resources and Safety Services, Cornell Catering, Pepsi, the Department of Building Care and the Department of Athletics and Physical Education.
Tech Talk: Get Cornell Box!
A 10 GB Cornell Box account is waiting for all staff, faculty and students. With Cornell Box, you can collaborate with others, and view and access your content on demand. With Cornell Box, you also get desktop sync!
To start using your account, simply log in at: https://cornell.box.com.

Get started with Box now:
Don’t bog down email with attachments – share project files and assignments instantly with links.
Share content from any desktop, laptop, phone or tablet.
View and access content on demand, whether you’re at Cornell or traveling abroad.
Store files online, then organize them into folders - just like on your computer.
Use Box Sync to back up files automatically to your Cornell Box account.
Share a whole folder of files by creating a new folder, uploading files and inviting others to join.
Receive real-time updates when someone views, edits, or comments on something you’ve shared.
See the latest versions of recently updated files while you’re on the go.
Find out more at the Cornell Box service web site: http://it.cornell.edu/services/box/.

Already have a personal Box.com account set up with your Cornell email? Change the email address on your private account, get your new Cornell Box account, and transfer Cornell files. See: http://www.it.cornell.edu/services/box/personal.cfm.

Box support is provided by the IT Service Desk (607-255-5500 or www.it.cornell.edu/support).
Be a good custodian of institutional information.
See permitted uses for Cornell Box: http://www.it.cornell.edu/services/box/terms.cfm.

Tech Training Spotlight:
CIT is offering several Office 2010 productivity courses this Fall/Winter. Register now for the two-hour Excel, Outlook, Word or PowerPoint 2010 New Features workshops or the four-hour Access, Excel or PowerPoint 2010 Basic classes.
For a complete listing of technical training resources, see www.cit.cornell.edu/training. Email questions to workshop-info@cornell.edu.

Flexible spending accounts have new features, limits

NANCY DOOLITTLE
Cornell’s Select Benefits program has undergone some changes. The program has been renamed Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA), a name used by virtually all other employers, and will be administered by a new company, PayFlex. FSAs offer the same pre-tax advantages as did the Select Benefits accounts, but also include some new features and impose new federally mandated restrictions.
Staff and faculty can enroll in two kinds of flexible spending accounts during the open enrollment period for (for endowed employees) and option transfer period (for contract college employees): a health care FSA and a dependent care FSA. Employees must enroll each year in order to participate in that FSA.
A health care account reimburses you for eligible out-of-pocket medical, dental, prescription or vision expenses not covered under your health care plan; a dependent care account reimburses you for such services as day care, before- and after-school programs, nursery school or preschool, summer day camps and adult care.
According to the Benefits website, the flexible spending accounts program is one of the greatest tax breaks available for middle-income families. Money in an FSA is exempt from federal, most state and payroll taxes.
To activate an account, specify how much money you want transferred from each paycheck to your flexible spending account. FSAs use pre-tax dollars, effectively lowering the income that you are taxed on.
New this year: federal regulations stipulate that the most a plan participant can target to a health care FSA is $2,500 per employee each plan year. As in the past, the most that can be applied to a dependent care account is $5,000 per household per plan year.
Also new this year: PayFlex will offer a debit card that can be used to pay for eligible medical care expenses. If you enroll in a medical FSA, this card will be automatically loaded with the full amount you have elected for the year and mailed to you.
How does it work? You swipe the card at a provider where MasterCard is accepted, and the money from your account is automatically applied to your bill. Providers include many physician and dental offices, hospitals, mail-order prescription vendors, hearing and vision care providers, discount stores, grocery stores and pharmacies, provided the merchant has implemented an inventory information approval system (IIAS) or other Internal Revenue Service-approved system.

Backpack Program Update
Remember the Backpack Program, where, this September, we reported that thanks to the generosity of faculty and staff and other members of the Cornell and local communities, 676 backpacks filled with school supplies were distributed to children in need, more than double that of 2009?
That preliminary figure did not include the 41 backpacks that had been distributed at, but not yet reported by, one of the schools. Including those 41, the total number of backpacks distributed to children in need through the 2012 Backpack Program was 718.
As announced last spring, the endowed health plan offered through HealthNow will be discontinued and no new members will be accepted into the Aetna 80/20 plan for endowed employees, effective Jan. 1, 2013. During the benefits open enrollment period, Nov. 1-30, endowed faculty and staff will be able to enroll in or switch to one of three plans offered through Aetna: the Cornell Program for Healthy Living (CPHL), the Aetna Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) and the Aetna Health Savings Account (HSA). Below, Paul Bursic, senior director of benefit services, answers questions about the plans:

**What are the similarities and differences between HealthNow and the three Aetna plans?**

The three Aetna plans are similar to the HealthNow plan in that they cover similar services and treatments (the HSA plan has a higher deductible but lower premium rate than the other two Aetna plans). The Aetna plans encourage participants to use health care providers in the nationwide Aetna network to avoid higher out-of-network charges. HealthNow had a more limited network of providers.

All three Aetna plans have the same prescription drug plan administered by Express Scripts/Medco.

**What do I do if I am in HealthNow?**

First, find out if your physicians participate in Aetna’s network by checking Aetna’s DocFind, [http://www.aetna.com/docfind/custom/cornell/](http://www.aetna.com/docfind/custom/cornell/) or call Aetna’s Member Services at 877-371-2007. More than 96 percent of the in-network providers used by current HealthNow participants are members of the Aetna network. If you are one of the three percent whose providers are not in the Aetna network, see the online Frequently Asked Questions, [https://www.hr.cornell.edu/benefits/open_enrollment.html](https://www.hr.cornell.edu/benefits/open_enrollment.html), for the process to follow or contact the Benefits Resource Center at 607-255-3936 or email benefits@cornell.edu.

**How do the three Aetna plans differ?**

The Aetna PPO is nearly identical to the discontinued HealthNow PPO in covered services, but Aetna has a stronger national network of providers. CPHL offers an optional enhanced wellness exam, using specially contracted Ithaca-based primary care physicians. Additionally, CPHL offers the widest range of preventive health services of the three plans when you use any primary care physician in the national Aetna network. The HSA differs from the CPHL and Aetna PPO in how participants pay for care: The HSA plan allows you to put money into an account that earns tax-free interest as it grows over time and to draw from that account as needed to pay the plan’s high deductible or any uncovered medical expenses.

**What is the CPHL’s enhanced wellness exam?**

The enhanced wellness exam includes a comprehensive annual physical examination, a web-based healthy living risk assessment based on answers you provide to a confidential questionnaire, lab work and a healthy living assessment from your primary care physician – all free of charge. The CPHL also includes, for the Cornell employee, discounted membership in the Ithaca YMCA or Island Fitness Center or free membership in the Cornell Wellness Program, should your physician determine these would help further your goals; and support by your physician to help you develop and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Also offered through CPHL: lactation consultations, breast pumps and supplies (see the Breastfeeding Counseling and Supplies Q&A on the Benefits website).

**Do you need to use an Ithaca-based physician to be in CPHL?**

Yes, but only when and if you choose to take advantage of the enhanced wellness exam. In that case, if your regular physician is not on the specific list of Ithaca-based physicians offering enhanced wellness benefits, you will need to select a physician from that list to receive them. The only time you need to visit this physician is for your yearly enhanced wellness exam. You may use any other doctor in or out of Aetna’s nationwide network for additional care. This feature is especially helpful for those who are traveling or for employees who live outside of Ithaca and customarily receive their primary care elsewhere.

**What next?**

Start by reviewing the 2013 endowed health plans comparison chart and other information on the Benefits website. If you have questions, call the Benefits Resource Center at 607-255-3936 or email benefits@cornell.edu. Also plan to attend Benefair Nov. 14, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., G10 Biotechnology Building.

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**Endowed Faculty and Staff**

**Remember November**

**2012 Open Enrollment Nov. 1-Nov. 30**

**Enroll**

Go to benefits for Employee Essentials at [http://hr.cornell.edu](http://hr.cornell.edu)

**Stay Informed**

Benefair Nov. 14
G10 Biotech
9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Get your questions answered by staff from Benefit Services and vendor representatives.

For more information on benefit plan changes and open enrollment: [www.hr.cornell.edu/benefits/open_enrollment.html](http://www.hr.cornell.edu/benefits/open_enrollment.html)
Skorton recognizes achievements in staff address

BY NANCY DOOLITTLE

Cornell’s staff is “a very critical component of why this university is considered nationally and internationally such an excellent institution,” said President David Skorton in his annual address to staff Oct. 9. He noted that, through staff efforts, the university has received recognition on several “best workplaces” lists; staff are one of the reasons Cornell had the largest pool of first-year applicants in its history this year; and they helped the university end the fiscal year with a balanced operating budget a year ahead of schedule.

But Skorton spent most of his address to an audience of more than 450 in Bailey Hall by focusing on steps the university is taking to improve campus climate, discussing the “Toward New Destinations” diversity planning project, and updating staff on work that is under way to address some of the results of last year’s Employee Survey.

Recent incidents of violence and bias have “left many of us … feeling angry and anxious and vulnerable,” Skorton said. He thanked the Cornell University Police and Chief Kathy Zoner, staff at Gannett Health Services and the dean of students’ office, and staff in the Division of Student and Academic Services for their work addressing these issues.

“Each of us has to reaffirm that violence and bias have no place on our campus,” he said. “How we treat each other, how we think about ourselves, and the prudent measures I hope that we will all take for safety and for individual respect … are very, very important.”

Skorton noted the university-wide diversity planning project, “Toward New Destinations,” is well under way. Each college and administrative unit has selected five initiatives to improve diversity and the climate of the organization in general. About a third of these initiatives relate to staff, Skorton said. And “Respect@Cornell,” a program from the Office of Workforce Policy and Labor Relations, furthers Cornell’s diversity initiatives, he said.

Skorton also discussed the Employee Survey conducted last fall, noting that 80 percent of those who responded were “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with working at Cornell. He outlined ongoing work on four areas of concern identified through the survey:

- Career and professional growth;
- Workload and workload imbalances;
- Opportunities to recognize staff for excellence; and
- Developing and implementing supervisory feedback measures.

Committees addressing these concerns and staffing by employees across campus have sent their recommendations to Mary Opperman, vice president for human resources and safety services. By the end of December, Skorton will finalize actions the university will take on those recommendations. He invited staff to provide further feedback and ideas to the committees on the Employee Survey website, https://www.hr.cornell.edu/about/employeesurvey.

Initial recommendations include creating career ladders that help employees grow in their careers; offering resume editing and mentoring to help staff apply for Cornell positions; discontinuing work that no longer needs to be done; developing creative and flexible ways for staff to manage their own well-being; exploring ways to offer wellness activities in more locations across the university; and finding better ways for staff members to conduct constructive dialogue with their supervisors.

To build a “culture of appreciation,” Skorton announced that the Employee Assembly Kudos program will be updated and three new annual peer-nominated awards will be established for individual excellence, management excellence and diversity. Nominees will be considered for a president’s award, and leaders who “live the university’s values” and demonstrate the “skills for success” and/or “leadership skills for success” will also be recognized.

Skorton ended his annual address to staff by announcing that “to acknowledge your hard work, the winter break would be extended an extra day this year to include Monday, Dec. 24.”

EA honors grounds crew

Prior to the President’s Annual Address to Staff, Tanya Grove, chair of the Employee Assembly, presented the Employee Assembly Appreciation Award to the Grounds Department for “their lasting contributions and continuing service to Cornell University,” Maria Cimilluca, senior director of facilities management, accepted the award on behalf of the team.

The event was coordinated and sponsored by the EA, which also provided lunch to all attendees. 🐾

How we treat each other, how we think about ourselves, and the prudent measures I hope that we will all take for safety and for individual respect ... are very, very important.’”

— President Skorton
Greetings from the Employee Assembly!

I’m Tanya Grove, chair of the Employee Assembly (EA) and a staff member in the Department of Performing and Media Arts. I joined the EA because I wanted to bring forward issues of importance to staff and I’m proud to be part of the group that initiated the Employee Engagement Survey.

Working in partnership with university leadership on key issues of concern has been a wonderful opportunity to support my staff colleagues. I am serving in my second term on the assembly and in my third year as chair, and I’m proud of the work that the assembly has done in that time. In addition to the survey, EA members have worked on changing the university calendar to provide an additional staff holiday for Martin Luther King Day, supported the CARE (Cornellians Aiding and Responding to Employees) Fund annual auction and coordinated the President’s Annual Address to Staff.

EA meetings are open to all Cornell staff members and are held the first and third Wednesday of each month. On behalf of my EA colleagues, I invite you to join us at a future meeting or to contact any one of us if you have an issue you would like to bring to our attention.

Our schedule and contact information can be found at http://www.assembly.cornell.edu/ea/home.

Human Ecology staff recognized for service at annual event

LUCY POLA

Approximately 75 College of Human Ecology (CHE) faculty and staff gathered Oct. 9 to celebrate staff service and recognize individuals who made extraordinary contributions to the college during the past year. Thirty-seven employees, representing CHE, Cornell Cooperative Extension-New York City, the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs and the joint College of Agriculture and Life Sciences/College of Human Ecology Business Service Center, celebrated milestone anniversaries this year, representing 560 years of service in total.

At this event, individuals who go “above and beyond” to support the missions of the college in academics, research and outreach are also recognized. This year, eight staff members were nominated for the Staff Recognition Award: Jean Zilnik, New York City Extension; Chuck Hunt, Information Technologies; Molly Berwald, Mary-Catherine French, and Bev Gedvillas, all in the Division of Nutritional Sciences; Elizabeth Hays, Department of Human Development; Karen Steffy, Department of Fiber Science and Apparel Design; and Tom Rushmer, Department of Policy Analysis and Management.

Two of these nominees were selected to receive the 2012 Human Ecology Staff Recognition Award: Chuck Hunt and Jean Zilnik. According to Dean Alan Mathios, “Chuck Hunt has masterfully kept up with the many changes to data forms and management, working tirelessly with college business units to make sure they have the information they need to make business decisions.” Hunt’s supervisor praised him for this “level of interest, understanding and investment in the business side of technology.” Zilnik distinguished herself with her ability to assist New York City Extension administration in adapting to “steep, retroactive funding cuts,” and for her management of 50 funding sources while learning the new Kuali financial management system.

Reminder: CARE Fund seeks donations

The Employee Assembly (EA) seeks donations for its online auction in November to benefit the Emergency Cornellians Aiding and Responding to Employees (CARE) Fund. Donations can include a service, craft, gift basket, gift certificate, sports tickets or other items. Donations are due by Oct. 31. The auction will run Nov. 1-15.

Cash donations to the auction or fund will also be accepted.

The CARE fund assists Cornell employees experiencing a sudden financial hardship due to an unforeseen or unavoidable event, and is funded entirely from within by Cornell community donations. Hardships that have been eased because of the fund include help in travel expenses for specialized hospital stays; help for those who have lost their homes from fire or flood; and help in paying funeral expenses after the sudden loss of a family member.

For more information or to donate, see: http://www.hr.cornell.edu/life/support/care_fund.html.
**Lab of Ornithology**

**Monday night seminars**

The next two Monday night seminars at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, 7:30-9 p.m., will focus on bird video cams and on birds that often bond with humans. On Oct. 22, Bob Anderson, director of the Raptor Resource Group, will discuss the phenomenon of bird cams that have gone viral, and will share insights learned from the Decorah bald eagle cam (which has had more than 275 million views), Montana Turkey Vulture cam and others.

On Oct. 29 author and artist Julie Zickfoose will discuss her book, "The Bluebird Effect: Uncommon Bonds with Common Birds." She will describe raising orphaned chicks and tending injured birds, and the ways in which some, such as crows, ravens and parrots bond with humans. A booksigning will follow.

**Save a songbird with sustainable coffee**

The colorful songbirds of summer are on the move, and many of them will end up spending the winter among the forest canopies of shade coffee plantations. There are many good options for buying sustainable coffee, but if you’re interested specifically in bird conservation, you’ll want to look for bird-friendly certified coffee.

A special report at [http://www.birds.cornell.edu/roundrobin/2012/10/09](http://www.birds.cornell.edu/roundrobin/2012/10/09) recaps the research, breaks down what the different labels mean, and helps you locate a seller near you or online.

**Winter finches on the wing**

The winter movement of finches and other Northern birds - red-breasted nuthatches, red crossbills, pine grosbeaks, common redpolls and evening grosbeaks - to the northern United States could be larger than usual, says the annual Winter Finch Forecast hosted by eBird, the result of poor cone and berry crops from this year’s drought. The full species-by-species forecast is at [eBird.org/content/ebird/news/](http://eBird.org/content/ebird/news/).

**African safari**

A few spaces remain for a 12-day safari, Jan. 22-Feb. 2, 2013 through Tanzania’s unforgettable landscapes. Riding in Land Rovers and sleeping in classic tent camps, participants will visit such landmarks as Serengeti National Park, the Ngorongoro Crater and Tarangire, home of such African birds as flamingos, ostriches, secretary-birds, hornbills and sunbirds.

Trip leader Irby Lovette directs the Fuller Evolutionary Biology program at the Cornell Lab. After more than a decade’s research and instruction in East Africa, Lovette is the perfect guide for this expedition. The program is open to all adults and teens 18 and older through Cornell’s Adult University. Information and registration: [http://www.sce.cornell.edu/cau/off_campus/](http://www.sce.cornell.edu/cau/off_campus/).

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**Staffer blog posted on Huffington Post**

Jennifer Maffett, web producer for the College of Arts and Sciences, is a writer and advocate for healthy living through good nutrition, simple living and localism.

One of her blogs on these subjects, “Pretty Food Gives Your Health a Boost” recently appeared in the Huffington Post, posted Oct. 2. The post, “More Colors, Better Health,” provides a quick look at how different colors of foods provide different benefits and offers suggestions for how to make colorful food fun for children to eat as well. See [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jennifer-maffett/healthy-foods_b_1933674.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jennifer-maffett/healthy-foods_b_1933674.html).

In addition to owning and working on an organic and sustainable family farm, Maffett is a certified health coach. She works with local community groups to fight the obesity epidemic and help children realize that most of their food starts in the dirt – or should.

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**Saturday, October 20, has events for all ages**

**Insectapalooza**

The 9th annual Insectapalooza Insect Fair, hosted by the Department of Entomology, will be held Oct. 20, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Comstock Hall. Insectapalooza features hundreds of live insects, spiders and other arthropods. This year many new exhibits are on display, as well as such popular favorites as the live butterfly room, arthropod zoo and pollination room. All ages are welcome. Cost: $1 per person; children under age 3 free. Information: [http://entomology.cornell.edu/cals/entomology/news/insectapalooza.cfm](http://entomology.cornell.edu/cals/entomology/news/insectapalooza.cfm).

**Chocolatada!**

Celebrate the history of chocolate through tastings and hands-on activities, October 20, 1-4 p.m., at the Nevin Welcome Center, Cornell Plantations. Learn how chocolate grows and how a cacao seed becomes delicious milk chocolate.

Honor the Mexican Day of the Dead custom by decorating a chocolate skull, whip up a frothy chocolate drink using a traditional molinillo, process raw chocolate on a metate. All ages are welcome. Information: [http://www.cornellplantations.org/event/chocolatada](http://www.cornellplantations.org/event/chocolatada).

**The book, illuminated**

In celebration of the exhibition “Illuminated: The Art of Sacred Books,” a wide range of activities will be held Oct. 20, 1-4 p.m., at the Johnson Museum; performances by the Tibetan Association of Ithaca and <3 A Cappella; a book art workshop for adults re-purposing used books; bookmaking and a scavenger hunt for kids; gallery tours with Ellen Avril, the Johnson’s curator of Asian art, and Laurent Ferri, assistant curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts in the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections at Kroch Library; and fall-fare refreshments.

Bring gently used children’s books to donate to the Family Reading Partnership.


**Collegetown Neighborhood Fair**

The first Collegetown Neighborhood Fair, Oct. 20, 1-4 p.m. at 309 College Ave. (fire station #9), will showcase the Collegetown experience for Cornell families; provide students currently living or planning to live in Collegetown with resources to enhance an off-campus living experience; and create a venue in which community members can interact.

Featured: refreshments and food sponsored by local restaurants, entertainment provided by student groups, and informational tables hosted both by student and local organizations to better acclimate Collegetown residents to their environment.

Sponsored by the Cornell Collegetown Student Council (CCSC), with co-sponsor Office of Fraternities, Sororities and Independent Living.
Employee discounts help animal owners

STEPHANIE SPECCHIO

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e’ve all said it before: “We’re stuffed.” But when Molly Copeland said her four-year-old Brittany spaniel was stuffed, she was not exaggerating. Earlier this year, Cody decided to eat the back of Molly’s couch. And like a lead weight that wouldn’t move, the upholstery took up residence in his belly, refusing to pass through the intestines. With no room in his stomach, he wasn’t able to eat food.

“Cody is my best friend,” said Copeland, a veterinary technician at the Cornell University Hospital for Animals, where the team of 93 technicians is celebrating National Veterinary Technician Week this week. “I couldn’t very well say that I wasn’t going to help him.”

The first thing Molly did was to figure out what he needed. A call to the Emergency and Critical Care unit at Cornell’s Companion Animal Hospital prompted her to bring him in for radiographs and an ultrasound, both of which confirmed that the blockage was in the stomach and had not proceeded to the intestines. Only after the diagnosis was confirmed and Copeland had agreed to the recommended treatment plan did she begin to consider how to cover the costs. Thanks to the employee discount, Copeland said, she didn’t have to consider if she could cover the costs.

Cody

The employee discount program has also helped Rebecca Weger, director of prospect development with Cornell’s Alumni Affairs and Development. When her teen-aged cat woke her early one Saturday two years ago and then promptly collapsed on the bed, Weger rushed her to the Companion Animal Hospital, where Cornell veterinarians determined a pacemaker would add quality years to her life.

“She has been my constant companion for years,” said Weger, explaining that the 10-pound long-haired tabby has well-formed opinions and an engaging personality – and thinks of herself more as a guard dog. “I knew that we were not done with each other. I also knew that if there was ever a cat I would do something extraordinary for, it would be Sasha.”

Fortunately, for both Copeland and Weger, their status as Cornell employees relieved some of the financial concerns. Regular full-and part-time employees, retired employees and students of Cornell University are eligible for a discount on services in the Companion Animal, Equine and Farm Animal hospitals.

A discount is applicable on up to three large or small animals that are personally owned. The three animals must live at the person’s current residence in order to receive the discount. The fees for the three animals will be discounted at each visit by 10 percent of the total bill, including work done in services that range from behavior to emergency and critical care, from dermatology to surgery. A handful of charges, including those for ambulatory visits, diagnostic laboratory testing, pharmacy and clinical pathology, are not covered by the discount.

“The discount was very helpful and continues to take the sting out of the bill for Sasha’s twice yearly visits to cardiology,” said Weger. “Equally important, though, is knowing that my pets have access to the top-notch care that I’ve found every time I’ve been at the hospital. The students are lovely. It’s clear that they are putting together the pieces of working with patients and owners as well as gaining life-saving clinical veterinary knowledge.”

Stephanie Specchio is director of communications, Vet. College.
Limited number of season hockey tickets available

Approximately 30 reserved-seat hockey tickets are available for the 2012-13 Cornell men’s ice hockey season through the Department of Athletics and Physical Education. All 30 tickets are in groups of 2-4 seats in sections O or G. The season ticket cost is $270/seat.

In addition, another 10-12 single seats are available in various sections around the rink, including center ice sections C and M.

Tickets are being made available to interested Cornell staff before they are offered to the public. If interested you can get more information by visiting the Athletic Ticket Office in Bartels Hall, or by calling 256-4247. The Ticket Office hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m., M-F.

Pawprint PICKS

STRONG BONES
Kerry Howell, Cornell Wellness staff member, will present “Strong Bones: 10 Things to Know,” Oct. 24, 10:30-11:20 a.m., Helen Newman Hall Classroom (floor 1). This workshop about bone health will explain how to have bone density measured, how life stages affect bone health, and what treatment options are available if losing bone mass. Free and open to the Cornell community; registration needed. For information and to register: www.wellness.cornell.edu/strong_bones.php.

WHISPERING WILLOWS AND LYING LILIES
Robert Raguso will discuss the chemical dialogues of plant behavior in a talk at the Alice Statler Auditorium, Oct. 24 at 7:30 p.m., “Whispering Willows and Lying Lilies.”

Biologists have begun to appreciate that plants play far more active, strategic roles in their own survival and success than was formerly appreciated, through adaptive responses to environmental stress and through complex above and below ground communication networks, mediated by chemistry. Raguso’s lecture will explore these new discoveries and challenge the audience to listen to their gardens, forests and meadows with new ears (and noses).

ON FAITH AND CLIMATE CHANGE
The semi-annual Beggs Lecture on Science, Spirituality and Society will feature climate change expert Katharine Hayhoe, associate professor in political science and director of the Climate Science Center at Texas Tech University. She will discuss the intersections of faith, values and climate change, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m., Anabel Taylor Hall auditorium. Her talk, “A Climate for Change: Global Warming Facts for Faith-Based Decisions,” will untangle the complex science behind global warming and highlight the key role faith and values play in shaping people’s attitudes and actions on this topic. A book-signing will follow.

Attention All Ghosts, Ghouls and Goblins!!!

Don’t miss CRC’s Halloween Happenings
Wednesday, October 31, 2012
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
610 Biotech Building
Dress up and be a contestant or come and cheer on your favorites
Parade of costumes will begin at 12:00
Prizes will be awarded for:
Most Original, Funniest, Scariest, and
Best Department/Group
Pizza, Beverages and Donuts will be available!