



## BRIEFS

### Communications Services News

Communications Services is reorganizing its print and mail services, and welcoming some new faces for the summer.

If you have seen Matt Lewis mowing the grass or planting flowers, it is because he now splits his time between Communications Services and the greenhouse grounds crew in B&P. This move reflects the seasonal slowdown in two-color offset printing, as well as the realities of the digital world where printing is increasingly done electronically, in color, and on-demand. Matt will still be doing offset printing, collating, and binding. Additional short-run and on-demand jobs are being handled in the CS graphics shop in Barton Lab on new digital color printers/copiers. All printing jobs should come through Gemma Osborne at gro2 or x2248.

Station mail services have also been transferred over to B&P, which has the staff to back up Matt. You can continue to contact Matt at x2251 or mel18.

Among the new faces in Communications Services is Nate Abbott, who is working part-time in the department as a writer. Nate graduated from Cornell with a bachelor's degree in English in 2005. He spent the first two years after graduation in San Diego, working as a staff writer for a marketing company. He says one of the reasons he traded the palm trees and beaches of Southern California to move back home was so he could afford gas, but that part of the plan backfired as the high gas prices seem to have followed him here. Nate hangs his hat in room A-137 in Barton Lab and can be reached at nha2.

Kelsey Ryan is a Communications major at SUNY- Geneseo, with a concentration in public relations. She will

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## Nicole Russo Receives Barbara McClintock Award

Nicole Russo, a Ph.D student working in Herb Aldwinckle's lab in the department of Plant Pathology, was named a recipient of the Barbara McClintock award.

The McClintock Award is a graduate student award supported by a College endowment, The Barbara McClintock Fund. It is named in honor of Cornell plant geneticist Barbara McClintock, who won the Nobel Prize for her work on

transposons. The endowment for the award came from Dr. Robert Rabson, who enabled much novel plant physiology research through his long leadership of the Department of Energy's Energy Biosciences Division. The award consists of a framed certificate along with \$2,000 to be used toward the student's research or for travel to a conference.

Graduate students in any of the six plant science graduate fields (Horticulture, Plant Biology, Plant Breeding, Plant Pathology, Plant Protection, and Soil and Crop Sciences) are eligible for the award. Primary consideration is given to a graduate student with the best potential and greatest background merit, students who have completed at least two years of their M.S./Ph.D or Ph.D program and who have made unique and outstanding contributions in research and teaching.

"Nicole has truly shown excellence in her academic work and in her research. She shows great promise to be an outstanding teacher, and she has provided commendable service to her field at Cornell," Aldwinckle said. "Her qualifications for the McClintock Award are impeccable."

Russo came to Cornell with a BS in Biological Science from Rutgers, and according to Aldwinckle her academic performance was excellent. "I was also impressed by her practical experience working on the Rutgers organic farm. She has more than fulfilled my expectations of strong academic ability, and a has bent for research using cutting-edge technologies to solve practical problems. She has taken a demanding course load at Cornell, and

*(Continued on page 2)*



*Herb Aldwinckle presents Nicole Russo with The Barbara McClintock Award.*



*(BRIEFS, continued)*

be a junior this fall, and has an interest in special events. Kelsey, who is commuting from Cortland, will be working two days a week helping Gemma Osborne with event planning, which, this year, includes Empire Farm Days as well as the Station's 125th Anniversary. Kelsey is working in Barton A117.

Lauren Way, who will graduate from Marcus Whitman High School on June 22, will be joining the department later this month and will be working as an administrative intern. Lauren is the Salutatorian of the Class of 2007 at Marcus Whitman and will be attending Ithaca College in the fall.

### **Geneva Wellness Seminar Portion Distortion**

Wednesday, June 27, 11:30am - 12:15pm  
in the Jordan Lounge.

Presented by Beth McKinney, RD

Portion size is a key factor in managing calories. Find out about how your environment may affect your eating behaviors.

### **Fire Alarm Testing**

This is a reminder that Buildings & Properties Dept test fire alarms on a monthly basis.

On the 2nd Wednesday of every month, 6am - 8am the fire alarms will be tested.

If you are in a bldg that is being tested, you are not required to leave the bldg.

This is the only time you are not required to leave bldg. Any other time LEAVE the bldg. when you hear a fire alarm.

*Buildings & Properties*

### **Upcoming Technical Training from CIT**

CIT Training & Documentation is offering classes. View the complete course schedule at: <http://cornell.veplan.net/Education/catalog.aspx?c=629>. Please direct any questions about these classes to: [workshop-info@cornell.edu](mailto:workshop-info@cornell.edu)

*(McCLINTOCK, continued)*

performed admirably," he said.

Aldwinckle explained that Russo's area of research was formulated based on a need for apple nurseries to know whether a particular apple rootstock (B.9) was truly resistant to a lethal disease (fire blight), before they made costly investments producing trees and marketing them to apple growers, with a subsequent high liability. "Nicole very thoroughly and conclusively showed that B.9 is in fact resistant to fire blight," he said "She then went on to determine that the resistance was not due to the grafting process, as had been thought, but to the maturity of the rootstock's tissues. She is now interested in investigating the molecular nature of the resistance."

Aldwinckle went on to say that Russo's research has required use of molecular techniques, as well as novel manipulation of plants, and trees in the greenhouse and field. "Her results are novel and unexpected, are of great value and due not only to her acquired knowledge but to her hard work as well. She has had to be imaginative and innovative and has had to seek out and learn new techniques from within and outside her committee's expertise. By putting these resources and skills together, and by great persistence, she has achieved success. I believe that with this background, Nicole now has great potential as an original researcher."

Aldwinckle added that Russo is also able to present and explain her results to both academic/professional and industry audiences in an appropriate and credible manner. "She is now sought after by extension educators for their programs, and recently spoke at the statewide Hort Expo, and at a Capitol District fruit school."

Russo has previously been recognized by Cornell and by the American Phytopathological Society (APS), with two Cornell Graduate Student International Travel Awards, two (APS) Student Travel Awards, and two Arthur Boller Endowment (Cornell) awards for tree fruit research. The Plant Pathology department recognized Russo in 2006 with the Robert M. Gilmer Award for best overall graduate student performance.

*J. Ogrodnick*



### **Who Was Barbara McClintock**

**B**arbara McClintock enrolled in CALS at Cornell in 1919 to pursue studies in plant and animal breeding. After receiving her Ph.D she worked with Professor Rollins A. Emerson studying the genetics of Maize. Within a few years, McClintock had made a half-dozen significant discoveries related to the location of genes on chromosomes.

In 1936 she accepted a job at the University of Missouri, and five years later she took a position with the Department of Genetics at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and remained there for the rest of her career.

In 1944, McClintock became the youngest person and only the third woman elected to the National Academy of Sciences, and the first woman to be elected president of the Genetics Society of America. She received a number of recognitions following her retirement including the Wolf Foundation Prize in Medicine and the Nobel Prize. She became only the third woman after Marie Curie and Dorothy Hodgkin to receive an unshared Nobel Prize in the sciences.

*J. Griffith*



## Geneva Employees Honored at 52nd Annual Service Recognition Dinner

In early June each year, the Office of the President at Cornell hosts the annual Service Recognition Dinner, honoring those staff members who have been employed by the University for twenty-five, thirty, thirty-five, and forty or more years.

In attendance at this year's event were 266 employees (with 7,605 combined years of service) including four staff from Cornell's Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico.

Six Geneva employees were on hand for the reception and dinner. Lorraine Barry, and Wilma Kean were honored for twenty-five years of service, and Jim Abbott, Roger Cullen, Jane DeCann, and MaryLou Hessney for thirty years. John Thibault and Steve Lerch reached the twenty-five year and thirty-year milestone respectively but were not able to attend.

"Cornell again rose to the challenge of showing hundreds of employees and their friends and family a good time," said Roger Cullen. "There was special note of the employees from Arecibo who had to make considerably more effort to attend than the Geneva contingent. Cornell Dining does an amazing job providing a fine dining experience for a huge crowd."

"It was wonderful! I truly felt that my 30 years of service is appreciated by the university," said Mary Lou Hesssney

"It was a very nice evening, the meal was excellent and I had a good time," Wilma Kean added.

"The employee dinner is a very special occasion at Cornell where in a small way employees are recognized for their many contributions to the University," said Station Director Tom Burr. "We are especially fortunate in Geneva to have such outstanding employees that take pride in making the Station recognized for excellence. I would like to congratulate all of the employees that were recognized at this event as well as those who reached this milestone in their employment with Cornell but could not attend."



Annual Service Recognition Dinner group from Geneva. (L to R) Roger Cullen, Wilma Kean, Jane DeCann, Mary Lou Hessney, Lorraine Barry and Jim Abbott.

### SAVE THE DATE

Join us at our  
**125th Anniversary**  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
September 15, 2007

# 125



College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Cornell University

### Seabreeze

### Tickets Available



There's something for everyone in your family -- just waiting for you at Seabreeze Amusement Park. With more than 75 great attractions, you'll find thrilling adult rides and classic family rides plus some cool kiddie rides too!! There's a ton of liquid fun for everyone with a whole waterpark to explore. Check out great games to play, favorite summertime foods to eat, and live sows to watch and enjoy.

Tickets can be purchased from Nancy Long in Barton from 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM at a reduced rate of \$19.37 for adults, a savings of \$3.06 and kids 48" and under \$18.35.

Seabreeze is open Saturdays and Sundays at 11 AM through mid June. Mid June to Labor Day the ride park is open daily from 11 AM to 10 PM and the waterpark is open daily from 11 AM to 8 PM.



## CALENDAR of EVENTS JUNE 8 - 22, 2007

### MEETINGS

#### ~~CANCELLED~~ CHAIR'S MEETING

~~Date: Tuesday, June 12, 2007  
Time: 8:30 AM~~

### TAEKARDIO

#### 3 WEEKS LEFT!

**Time:** 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM  
**Days:** Mondays & Wednesday  
**Place:** Jordan Hall Auditorium\*  
\* Monday, June 11 in the Sawdust Cafe

### ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Classes are free and include conversational English, writing skills and real-life communications.

**Instructor:** Mary Spittler  
**When:** Every Tuesday from 5-8 PM,  
& every Thursday from 3-6 PM.  
**Where:** The Food Science and Technology Building Lunch Room.

New students are welcome to join at any time. Just show up for any session. Classes are flexible so that students may attend either or both sessions each week.

### CLASSIFIEDS

**FOR RENT:** Very large 2 bdm apt., nice location, walking distance to station, 2 flr, carpeted, walk in closets, free parking, on site laundry, 24 hr. maintain. Available June 8. \$765obo. Call Ning at x2412 or nz35@cornell.edu

**FORRENT:** Very nice, 3 bedroom house, 1.5 bath on South West Street, Geneva. Available August 1. Rent: \$900/month. Contact Kathy DeRosa, x2236, kad2, 789-7482

**NEW!**

### TAI CHI

Nancy Caronia will be offering tai chi classes at the Sawdust Cafe for both beginners and intermediate-advanced students. Contact her at caronia8461@gmail.com for further information.



*Over the past three weeks students from two local elementary schools visited the Experiment Station. They got tours of the greenhouses, learned about plant diseases and also got a lesson in entomology. While touring the greenhouses, they saw plants that they had planted earlier this spring. Station folks involved included; Steve Reiners, Chris Smart, David Gadoury, Holly Lange, Amara Camp, Kerik Cox, Charlie Linn, Brian Nault and Paul Robbins. In the above photo, David Gadoury shows students a perfect specimen of the cedar-apple rust fungus (*Gymnosporangium juniperi-virginianae*).*

## Geneva Relay for Life

### June 15-16, 2007

#### 6:30 PM - 6:30 AM at the H&WS Track

Thanks to those who have already joined the Station team, we're already on a roll! There will be a wonderful prize basket for the highest fundraiser on our team!

The Geneva Relay is a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society and will take place on June 15-16, 6:30 pm - 6:30 am at the H&WS track (as in the past). Much of the money raised stays in the Finger Lakes area and goes towards cancer detection and prevention programs, support for cancer survivors and care givers, and research for a cure. It should be a great community event and opportunity to bond with your coworkers, as well as raise money for a very worthy cause.

The event is a bit different than previous years as it is the 10th anniversary of the Geneva relay. There will be a team lap between 7:15 - 7:30. We'll be walking with our brand new SAGES banner! Actual walkers will begin at 8 PM. There are themes for each hour this year as well. Other special events include: kickball game, midnight madness raffle and dessert buffet, pancake breakfast, and several bands.

Go to the link below to join our team.

<http://www.acevents.org/faf/search/searchTeamPart.asp?ievent=205600&lis=1&kn ta=205600=AEEF777F00AF47E2A43D2B983B19B43D&team=1900939>

Please contact Maryann Borsick Herman if you can provide a tent, grill, cooler, chairs for our team site or for more information at x2351 or mab225. Thanks for your support.