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Payroll Clerk Hits Pay Dirt

By Jill Wagner

Ryan Marsh makes no claims to being a lucky guy. He's blessed. Divinely blessed.

Three of the numbers on Marsh's $4 million winning lottery ticket came to him in a dream the night before he bought the ticket. Marsh chose the other three numbers randomly.

"I believe it was divine intervention, and I couldn't have done it without the grace of God," says Marsh, a still-employed records assistant in payroll.

And, yes, still a bit amazed by his fortune. Marsh has played the California lottery every week since 1985. On Saturday, May 23, he spent $10 on tickets instead of his usual $5. Marsh's broad grin lights up his face when he adds, "I didn't tell my wife."

Two days later, it was Nia, his wife of two years, who perused the newspaper and recognized three of the published winning numbers. The couple jumped in the car, where the ticket had been sitting over the weekend, and drove to the neighborhood 7-Eleven for confirmation. The $4 million jackpot indeed belonged solely to the Marsh family.

"It hasn't really sunk in yet," says Marsh, who celebrates 10 years of working at USD on July 5. "Not until I see it in my bank account."

The first check of approximately $100,000 is due to arrive this month. Once deposited, Ryan, Nia and their son, Ramel, will put into motion their biggest dreams: Buy a home in La Mesa with a yard large enough for a new pool; donate funds to their church, New Hope Friendship Baptist Church; purchase a new car for Nia; help Marsh's mother pay off some debts; start an education fund for Ramel; contribute to a couple of local homeless shelters; and invest the bulk of the winnings for future security.

None of the plans call for Ryan or Nia, who works in the billing department at Sharp Hospital, to quit working. At 32, Marsh is young enough to be very mindful of providing for his family for years to come, and his excitement at becoming a multimillionaire overnight is tempered by the reality of the government's take on his winnings. Marsh estimates that after taxes he will receive less than $2 million and is determined to be a careful spender and wise investor. It is not uncommon for lottery winners to go bankrupt within five to six years after hitting the jackpot because of wanton spending, Marsh notes.

"I have no intentions of being another lottery statistic," he says.

Marsh's wisdom and humility have long endeared him to co-workers across campus, hundreds of whom celebrated his winning as if they hit pay dirt themselves. "I've never seen so many people get vicarious enjoy-

Not Pictured, But Not Forgotten

The following staff employees are not shown in the service award photos on the following pages:

- Five years: Teresita Camina, media center; Richard Clark, catering; Diane Dobson, bursar; Maria Goncalves, custodial services; Kutrina Lawrence, bursar; James McManus, main dining; Mary Nafarrete, bursar; Katherine Peterson, School of Business Administration; Juan Carlos Rivera, main dining; Noel Rodriguez, telecommunications; Sister Alicia Sarre, university ministry; Linda Sola, career services; and Josie Vella, Institute for Christian Ministries.

- 10 years: Mildred Brown, career services; Martha Hernandez, main dining; Karen Molenda, Philip Y. Hahn School of Nursing; Maureen Rukstalis, president's office; and Jose Tavares, deli.

- 15 years: Maria Briseno, custodial services; Ted Geddes, custodial services; Grace McElhaney, housing; Lois Scheer, legal research center; Lonnie Turner, public safety; Mary Vicknair, School of Law; and Nancy Weber, public safety.

- 20 years: Leo Briseno, custodial services; Mary Ann Kennedy, health center; and Linda Quinn, School of Law.

- 25 years: Dora Camacho, custodial services.
**Benefits Brief**

**Tuition remission:** In order to be processed in a timely manner, tuition remission applications for Fall 1998 and Spring 1999 must be completed and returned to human resources, MH101, by Aug. 27, 1998.

**Health care reimbursement:** Benefits representatives occasionally return documentation attached to health care reimbursement forms with a request for further information. As a reminder, IRS regulations require information concerning the date of service, name of patient and health care provider plus the amount being charged for a service. Itemized statements or an insurance company's Explanation of Benefits (EOBs) provide this information. Canceled checks and credit card receipts are not acceptable as proof of expenses.

**Dependent care reimbursement:** When applying for dependent care reimbursement, please provide a statement or receipt that includes the provider's name, address, taxpayer I.D. number or Social Security number, name of child or children being cared for, amount paid and the actual dates of dependent care. Remember canceled checks and credit card receipts are not acceptable as proof of expenses.

**Campus ATM update:** The Mission Federal Credit Union ATM now takes your USE Credit Union ATM card in addition to the Mission Federal card. There is no bank charge for the use of these cards.

**Worksite wellness programs** will be offered to employees in the future. Look for an announcement in campus mail.

— Vicki Coscia

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**The Magic of a Bicycle**

By Jill Wagner

Thirty-five miles into my day, on the left side of the deserted road, a general store popped into view. Bicycles strewn about the dirt parking lot made me smile with understanding. So it wasn't just me who had had her fill of bananas and energy bars.

A dozen riders — of the 2,600 pedaling from San Francisco to Los Angeles in the fifth annual California AIDS Ride — sat on the wooden railing munching cinnamon rolls and chips while guzzling soda pop. It was the third day of my seven-day, 576-mile cycling adventure and I felt like a machine. I could hardly keep up with my stomach. It was empty and calling out for food as fast as I could eat.

I pulled back onto Jolon Road, somewhere in central California between King City and Paso Robles, and drank in the breathtaking view of vineyards stretching to the base of mountains encircling my course. As far up the road as I could see, cyclists in a single file line cranked through the 84 miles facing us on Tuesday, June 2.

Two days earlier, in the shadow of the Golden Gate Bridge, we rode onto the streets of San Francisco at 7 a.m. for a 92-mile ride to Santa Cruz. Well-wishers clapped, hollered and waved banners with such fervor that I shook with excitement. I never felt like a celebrity before this day.

The California AIDS Ride is a fundraising event for the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, two of the nation's leading advocates for research dollars to go toward finding a cure and in providing services to HIV and AIDS patients. I and the more than 50 friends, co-workers and family who pledged their support, contributed nearly $3,500 to the $9.5 million total. We were part of the largest AIDS fund-raiser in history.

I rode alone through the grapevines for the first half of that day and luxuriated in the peacefulness. The hum of my tires on the pavement sent a thrill through my taut muscles. I zoomed up hills in gears I could previously use only on flat land.

Somewhere, out in the middle of that vast crop land, the words came crashing in — I AM A CYCLIST. It is astounding to know.

When I was diagnosed in high school with a muscular disease in my legs, the athlete in me died. Twelve years later, with diet and careful attention to every decision about physical activity, much of the weakness and daily pain has subsided. In January, I made a decision that changed my life. I registered for the AIDS Ride and agreed to raise at least $2,500 — my grand total was $3,473! An amazing three days of riding turned magical when I came upon a fellow rider who said she was particularly fatigued that day. I told stories, asked questions and suggested singing (she didn’t take me up on the offer) as we fought through the last, extremely windy 25 miles of the day.

We rode into the Paso Robles Mid-State Fairgrounds, where 2,600 riders and 650 volunteer crew members camped for the night, and Dana threw her arms around me.

"Thank you," she whispered.

What I couldn’t express, in my surprise, was how she kept me going, how inspired I felt riding next to her. After that, Dana and I were inseparable. We could ride for hours, not saying anything, but building a friendship unlike any I have known. The trip stopped being about me riding a bike 576 miles and became about the community we created.

The most diverse group of people you can imagine united for seven days, supporting and loving each other without judgment. We worked our bodies for an average of eight hours a day, through rain, heat, wind and over some of the biggest hills California has to offer. Kids hung off school yard fences, cheering us through their towns. Local residents hung signs of encouragement and handed out jelly beans at stop signs. We

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Thank You!

Kay Norton, registrar, celebrates 30 years of service to the university.

The employees celebrating 15 years of service include (left to right): Ina Levy, School of Law; Jeanne Heaphy, continuing education; Edward Helzer III, print shop; and Mary Robbins, registrar.

Staff employees who received five-year service awards include (back row, left to right): Catherine Crutchfield, arts and sciences; Vivian Holland, arts and sciences; Eric Wildman, accounts payable; Bill Anderson, School of Law; Georgia Gordon, athletics; and Georgia Belaire, School of Education; (front row, left to right): Marilyn Green, continuing education; and Niran Shenoda, legal research center.

Primo Party Planners
The annual Employee Appreciation Picnic comes together each year because of a small, dedicated group of the very people the party is honoring. The following employees contributed their time and expertise to make the 1998 Peace Fest a hip happenin’ success:

Scott Gill, Rudy Spano, Greg Zackowski, Lou Magaña, John Martin, Patrick Noma, Jill Wagner and Thu Tran were the heart of the picnic.

Mandy Johnson and Maria Sanchez, students working in human resources, helped immeasurably.

Kim Rodriguez and Tim Brouillette coordinated the door prize giveaway.

Theresa Waldhoff and Kily Jones planned the Bread for Dough bake-off.

Fred Rocha, Ernie Sanchez, Carlos Olivas and Samuel Robles lent plants and prepared the picnic grounds.

June Aleman, Joy Aleman and Patrick Boyce helped send out the voice mail messages.

Pam Bourne prepared the graphics and text for the fliers and invitations.

Jacquie Corey-Kennedy and Leslie Kafka made the banners and laminated the photos.

Alumni Relations lent us yearbooks.

Rana Sampson, Ken Springer and the rest of public safety helped prepare a last-minute rain plan.

Barbara Snyder provided invaluable assistance, as did folks in accounts payable, purchasing and the cashier’s office.

Pat Watson, Alicia Williams, Esther Nissenson, Sue Pillsbury, Debbie Anderson, Judith Muñoz, Reuben Mitchell, Judy Sanchez, Vicki Coscia and Bob Brown, human resources colleagues, contributed wonderful support.

And a final thanks to the folks who sent in photos for the Way We Were display and to the sporting participants in the Generation Gap relay race.

—Calista Davis
USD's Peace Fest
The 1998 Employee Appreciation Picnic

The university relations cheering section flashes some signs of the times.

Melissa Kinney on the Academaniacs team uses pedal power to move the adult-sized tricycle through the thick grass.

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Two passes to the Museum of Contemporary Art; Jan Devens and The Tran.
Proctor*Silex electric can opener from NAPA Auto Parts; Oscar Flores.
Two tickets for "Romeo and Juliet" from the Old Globe Theatre; Lynn Karpinski.
Keychain from PF Silver Imports; Cynthia Lee.
A lunch or dinner for two at Planet Hollywood of San Diego; Veronica Fernandez.
50 percent off additional catalog items after $10 purchase from Quality Shopping: James Tarbox.
Two passes for an evening event at the Reuben H. Fleet Space Theater; Charles Waldie.

Gift certificate for a combo and fountain drink from Rice King; Julio Hernandez and Andrea Letzring.
$25 gift certificate to Ronbinsons-May; Bea Elmore.
Two entry passes to Pirates Cove and two tickets good for one ride from the San Diego Coaster Company; Beth Limberg and Maria Naranjo.
Two passes for two free rounds of miniature golf and four 2-for-1 tickets for various games from the San Diego Family Fun Center: Patricia Luzack-Trevino.
Two passes for two free rounds of miniature golf and three 2-for-1 tickets for various games from the San Diego Family Fun Center; Ana Schafer and Debbie Gough.
$300 gift certificate to San Diego Fitness and Racquet Center; Mark Draper.
$100 gift certificate for San Diego Fitness and Racquet Center; Karen Tramontara, Kay Norton, Lee Magaña and Eldrie Rowe.
Sunday brunch for two at the Cavatappi Restaurant at the San Diego Hilton Beach and Tennis Resort; Luis Anjo.
Four guest passes to any of the San Diego Historical Society's museums; Aracely Smith, Samarna Hemasy, Stephanie Reighley, Alex Moran and Barbara Ramirez.

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Prizes (Continued from page five)

Two guest passes for the San Diego Ice Arena: Michael Corning and Carl Boals.

Two complimentary entree tickets for the Padres Pub from the San Diego Mission Valley Hilton: Mary Krueer.

Two vouchers for plaza or loge level tickets from the San Diego Padres baseball team: Rufus Rencher and Socorro Ellis.

Two admission tickets to Sea World: Tammy Gillespie, Laura McIntosh, Melinda Martinez and Lonnie Turner.

Gift certificate for two pounds of See's Candies: Mary Vicknair.

Sunday brunch for two at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina: Therese Thiessen.

Pass for party of four, for four games, shoes and soft drinks from Sunset Bowl, Inc.: Mike Kelly.

Sunday brunch for two at The Westgate Hotel: Carlos Vargas.

$100 gift certificate toward a 1998 summer sports camp from USD Athletics, Intramurals and Recreation: Eric Taylor.

Two tickets to any AMC Theaters from the Hahn University Center: Ilse Hunicutt.

$50 gift certificate to Croce's from USE Credit Union: Lisa Hillon.

Lava lamp, incense and holder from USE Credit Union: Janey Middleton.

Two admission tickets from United Artists Theater Circuit Inc.: Rennie Block and Ann Stiles.

$75 cash from Valic: Darren Smith.

$50 cash from Valic: Bill Anderson and Sister Virginia McMonagle.

$25 cash from Valic: Mandy Womack, Reuben Mitchell and Doug Staib.

Two passes good for either the Zoo or Wild Animal Park from the Zoological Society of San Diego: Jack Adams.

The SEA 50/50 raffle winners were: Laura Ginella, $210; Calista Davis, $110; and Charlie Thomas, $110.

Outstanding!

10-year service award winners are (back row, left to right): Alicia Buenrostro, advancement services; Marcia Rathfon, continuing education; Everett Guzman, grounds and maintenance; Carter Edwards, general services; Chris Hernandez, building maintenance; and Jose Gonzalez, grounds and maintenance; (middle row, left to right): Mayola Acuna, custodial services; Josefina Monroy, School of Law custodial services; and Teresa Martinez, custodial services; (front row, left to right): Ryan Marsh, payroll; and Sixto Gomez, grounds and maintenance.

25-year service award recipients are (left to right): Roberto Rios, Acuna, grounds and maintenance; and Thomas Rogers, building maintenance.

Five-year service award recipients include (left to right): Laura Gimella, School of Law; Sharon Lainas, bursar; Julie Wright, print shop; Paciano Tovar, main dining; Elizabeth Cole, School of Law; Michael Shivers, advancement services; Patty Cortez, legal clinic; and Sheri Barzal, bursar.
Making Parking Simple is Not Easy

The campus parking committee is attempting to simplify regulations and, like most related issues on campus, is finding widespread opinions about proposed changes.

Following a June 12 meeting, parking committee members went back to the faculty, staff and administrators they represent, shared the proposed rule changes and solicited comments. The changes are designed to make the parking rules for the various permits more uniform and easier to understand.

"Clear rules allow people to know where they can park," says Rana Sampson, director of public safety. "They also reduce reliance on enforcement, which alienates customers."

Committee members unanimously agree some simplification in the rules is needed. Sampson hopes to take a new plan to the president sometime this summer, in order to have changes in place for the fall semester.

The complication with the existing regulations is that each permit — reserved, faculty/staff, commuter student, resident student, evening student, fringe and carpool — has its own set of enforcement times. For example, the reserved spaces currently are in effect from 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Faculty/staff permit holders must park in yellow spaces from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., but can down-park after 3:30 p.m. and park in reserved after 6:30 p.m. Commuter student permit holders must park in white spaces from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., then they can up-park in yellow spaces after 6 p.m. and park in reserved spaces after 6:30 p.m.

Proposed changes center on opening the campus after 5 p.m., meaning permit holders could park in any available space. Between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m., all permit holders would have to park in the areas designated for their type of permit.

Comments forwarded to parking officials have ranged from supporting the new idea to lambasting a plan that would reduce the reserved space privileges by an hour and a half. Some respondents, said basically, "If the plan isn't convenient for me, it's not a good idea."

"The truth is, everyone needs to give a little so as a larger community we're all better off," says Sampson.

Splishing and Splashing at Whitewater Canyon

The Staff Employees Association has a special deal all summer for employees seeking good clean (and cool) fun. Discount tickets to Whitewater Canyon water park in Chula Vista, regularly $22, are available for $16 through the SEA.

Whitewater Canyon is open seven days a week and tickets are good through September. Tickets can be purchased from Yolanda Castro, chair of the SEA social committee, in Hughes Center 222. For more information, call her at ext. 4520.

Candidates Welcome

Election time is not far off for the SEA, which will seat new officers this fall. Applications are being accepted for president, vice president, secretary and treasurer, all of whom will be elected to two-year terms. Any hourly, benefits-based employee is eligible to be an SEA officer or representative.

If you are interested in running for office, submit your name to president David Edgar. Elections will be held at a monthly meeting in the fall and new officers will be seated in January.

SEA meetings are open to campus employees. Attend any second Wednesday of the month to find out more about the association.

They Represent You

Have questions about campus policies or SEA happenings? Contact your SEA representative. At least one staff employee for each building sits on the board. New representatives who joined in June include Olivia Gil-Guevara, Guadalupe Hall; and Josie Vella, Serra Hall. A complete list of representatives can be obtained from Margie Carroll, SEA secretary, at ext. 4706.

Trivia Answers

The Flower Power Trivia Contest challenged the memory (or historical knowledge, for the youthful among us) of employees across campus. The answers are:

1. 1961
2. Priscilla
3. Beatles, 1964
4. "Mrs. Robinson"
5. Washington, D.C.
6. Betty Friedan
7. Graduate and continuing education
8. June 1964
10. John Steinbeck
11. "Sound of Music"
12. Green Bay Packers
13. Berlin Wall
14. 1962
15. 1969
16. Alan Shepard

New Hires and Promotions

Welcome to the following employees who recently joined the USD community: Paul Mamet, dramatic arts program; and R.T. Ronk III, administrative data processing.

Congratulations to the following employees who were recently promoted: Shahra Meshkty, user services information and training specialist in academic computing; Carlos Vargas, public safety officer 2 in public safety; and Eric Wildman, executive assistant 1 in accounts payable.

Passages

Retirements

Barbara McCluskey, executive assistant to the vice president for finance and administration, on June 25, after 18 years.

Manuel Vaz, lead custodian in facilities management, on June 26, after 12 years.

Pat Watson, human resources analyst, on June 30, after 15 years.

Dorothy Thomas, administrative support specialist, on July 2, after 21 years.

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**Deaths**

- Ruth Siemon, mother of Lois Scheer, acquisitions assistant in the Legal Research Center, on May 6.
- Marie J. Cannon, mother of Jack Cannon, director of public relations, on May 21.
- Ronald F. Rowley III, a sophomore student, on May 22.
- Monsignor Charles Dollen, founding director of USD Library, on June 5.

**Psst...**

**Bits and Pieces from the Readers**

Summer is here, the campus is quiet, parking is not so bad. In fact, some fringe permit holders may be wishing they had license to park on the main campus right about now. For $8 more per month you can do just that. The parking office will upgrade a permit anytime. A good little tidbit to keep in mind throughout the year.

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**Bicycle**

(Continued from page two)

were like a moving AIDS quilt, showing California how committed we are to finding a cure for the deadly HIV virus.

My resolve deepened with each pedal stroke and each hour that I followed Dana and the orange flag waving from her bike, identifying her as an HIV-positive pedaler. We pushed each other through the miles, giggled away the evenings with three other new-found friends and discovered a fire deep inside that taught each of us life is about making dreams come true.

On the fifth and especially hilly day, we reached the peak of a winding, seemingly endless hill and yelped with joy. I felt more alive than ever before in my 29 years and pulled alongside my smiling friend. This time it was my turn to express thanks.

"Dana, you are my hero," I whispered.

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**Pay Dirt**

(Continued from page one)

ment from something that happened to someone else," said Judy Sanchez, payroll manager, at the end of a day when crowds poured through the doors of the Maher Hall office to congratulate Marsh.

Despite being vaulted into incredible wealth, Marsh says little has changed in his life. A local television news crew was waiting for him at the lottery office when he arrived to claim the winnings. Since then, however, the media has been very respectful. He also has been fortunate not to be hounded by surprise calls from investment bankers, financial advisers or other strangers hoping to benefit from his fortune.

"I don't feel different," he says quietly. "I still pray every night. I still go to school and will graduate next year. I still go to work."

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**Peace Fest is Biggest Yet**

A record 700 employees turned out in tie-dyed shirts, beads and bell bottoms for the 14th annual Employee Appreciation Picnic, held June 12. The festivities were brightened by brilliant sun on a day when rain soaked neighboring locations just to the north of USD.

The annual awards ceremony kicked off by honoring Tom Burke, vice president of student affairs and dean of students, as Administrator of the Year. Becky Gilbert, network administrator in Copley Library and a six-year employee, was named the 1998 Manuel Hernandez Employee of the Year. Employee of the Year finalists introduced to the crowd included Dave Edgar, paste-up artist in the print shop; Roberto Acuna, gardener 2 in grounds maintenance; and Kathy Van Hoe, payroll lead.

Heated competition in the relay race between five divisions tested skills of balance, speed and strength. Burke's Burnouts, the student affairs team clad in worn out T-shirts, emerged champions for the first time in the relay's four-year history.

Other folks honored at the 1960s-themed Peace Fest included: Carrol Holmes, winner of the Flower Power Trivia Contest; and the Bread for Dough bake-off winners, Josie Vella and her husband, Pietro, first place in non-sweet bread category; Judy Gould, second place for non-sweet breads; Stephani Richards-Wilson, first place in sweet bread category; and Nancy Roos and Pam Bourne tied for second place in sweet breads.

Winning recipes will be published in upcoming issues of the Alcalá View.