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A Season of Celebration and Spirit

The holidays are here!

While parties are plentiful and opportunities to help others in need abound at Alcalá Park, a number of events for faculty, staff and administrators are planned to launch the holiday season: Mass of Guadalupe

This Mass will be celebrated with all the tradition and festiveness common in Mexico, where the Virgin of Guadalupe’s image was a rallying point in the country’s fight for freedom.

The Dec. 12 celebration will begin with a Mexican dinner served in the main dining room from 5 to 7 p.m. Employees are invited to join students in the cafeteria, and 100 free dinner tickets will be available to employees and their families on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets will be available at the Hahn University Center box office beginning Dec. 6.

Following dinner, attendees will gather at Colachis Plaza to watch Aztec dancers, then proceed to University Center Forum A/B where the Mass will be celebrated at 8 p.m.

Mecha, university ministry, UC operations and student affairs are co-sponsoring the festivities. For more information, call Kily Jones at ext. 4796.

The Mass also will be celebrated in Spanish on Dec. 10 in Founders Chapel.

Christmas Posada at the Casa

President Alice B. Hayes is opening her home and garden from 2 to 4 p.m., Dec. 14, for her annual holiday gathering of the USD community.

All faculty, staff and administrators are invited. Limited parking will be available in the Camino lot for off-campus guests with special requirements. Christmas attire is welcome!

Alumni Director at Home in His Work

John Trifiletti

John Trifiletti does, in fact, work hard and was honored earlier this year, along with Debbie Gough of the Provost’s Office, as the university’s administrators of the year. In 1995, Trifiletti was honored with the Mother Rosalie Hill Award, given annually to an alumna or alumnus who personifies the spirit and philosophy of the university.

Since helping lead the university’s summer tour to the University of Alcalá near Madrid, Spain, this summer, Trifiletti has not slowed down. He spent time in Chicago, San Francisco and Phoenix, where he finally did something for himself.

Five years ago, “Trif,” as he is known around campus, was introduced to horseback riding by some friends living in

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New Employee Hires and Promotions

Welcome to the following employees who recently joined the Alcalá Park community:
- Basoz Ahmad, printing and duplicating;
- John Asaro, main dining room, Pamela Avila, mail center; Veronica Barrios, undergraduate admissions; Esther Cerda, public safety; Michael Chiles, academic computing; Anna Chimowicz, UC administration; Niel Cho, academic computing; Margaret Clark, campus health center; Cheryl Dean, planned giving; Timothy Doudna, facilities management; Dayanne Douglas, housing; Thomas Elliott, Traditions; Joshua Gaynor, housing; Elizabeth Harrington, development; Deanna Harrod, printing and duplicating; Steffanie Hoie, undergraduate admissions; Sherrie Kelly, bookstore; Cynthia Kokocinski, Copley Library; Michael Matoso, athletics; Michael McDonald, Traditions; Maura McHugh, School of Business; Patricia Myers, child development center; Wendy Nalbandian, development; Eddie Paje, human resources; Jennifer Pendleton, housing; Felicity Penner, housing; Christopher Redo, School of Business; Karina Rico, human resources; Ana Rocha, undergraduate admissions; Laura Ross, child development center; Troy Sandberg, public safety; Belinda Sandoval, undergraduate admissions; Paul Signorelli, athletics; Joni Smythe, Manchester rentals; Julie Su, Copley Library; Ying-Shih Sun, main dining room; Deborah Terwelp, university ministry; Kelly Vander Dussen, School of Business.

Congratulations to the following employees who were recently promoted:
- Sheryl Barzal, administrative assistant 2/Bursars; Margaret Carroll, faculty secretary 2/mathematics; Rosemary Dyrenes, parking services assistant 2/parking services; Tanya Howe, data processing technician 1/Legal Research Center; Theresa Hrenchir, director of special projects/law school administration; Kathleen Johnson, director of budget/administration/law school administration; Mary Krue, associate university minister/university ministry; Nancy Olson, procurement supervisor/university services; Jennifer Pendleton, resident director/Camino, Founders housing; Gina Petelin, assistant director of corporate relations/development; Margaret Peters, executive assistant 1/School of Business; Ginny Proctor, accounting supervisor/controller; Rosaura Rodriguez, executive assistant 1/academic computing; June Rogers, data processing assistant 1/undergraduate admissions; Jesus Varela Jr., building maintenance mechanic 2/building maintenance.

Health Benefits a Hot Topic With SEA

SEA members lined up a subject and time for the next regular Hot Topics forum, which is open to all USD employees.

The next session will focus on health insurance and will feature human resources benefits representatives. The Hot Topic is to be scheduled in the first or second week of February.

The Hot Topics forum is a 60- to 90-minute session that centers around a single theme. Guest experts are invited to answer employees' questions and participate in a discussion. The last Hot Topic was in August and was about "Supervisory Discretion."

Larry Gardepie, business process analyst, suggested that the Hot Topics include a more focused, structured session where specific questions are answered. His motion was supported by the rest of the SEA representatives in attendance at a November meeting.

Coupled with Gardepie's suggestion was one made by Perla Bleisch, a faculty secretary with the School of Law. Bleisch suggested the SEA find a way to better inform its representatives' constituents of its presence and work.

"We need to let people know what we're doing at the SEA," said Bleisch.

Bleisch and other SEA representatives talked about staging open houses at which employees could meet and talk with their representatives.

SEA meetings are usually held on the second Wednesday of each month and are open to all employees.
Trifiletti

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Arizona. They taught him to ride and then asked him to join them in an annual trail ride. Every year, the ride is staged in a different part of the state, allowing participants to sample various terrains.

"It's amazing to get out there and see the red rocks and soil, the sunsets, things like that," says Trif of the three-and-a-half day ride. "Horseback riding is not quick — you're only moving a few miles a day. It's a refreshing break from getting on the '5' and racing around."

Trifiletti has tried other relaxing getaway techniques through his friendships with USD grads. A 1978 graduate himself, he's sky dived, sailed, bungee jumped and ran 12 marathons from 1984 to 1995. He's even bicycled the California coast by himself five times.

"The coolest thing about what I do is the travel and the chance to get out and do things with our alums," says Trifiletti. "I'd never been on a horse before I started riding five years ago, but now I love it."

Trifiletti's work load lightened a little last month after his office helped wrap up the university's 50th Anniversary year with a hugely successful Homecoming Weekend. Thousands of graduates returned to Alcalá Park for a weekend of events that also served as the culminating event for the year-long anniversary celebration.

— John Titchen
5 O’Clock Humor

An Alcala Park employee writes that her husband, a doctor, has made it a regular habit to stop off at a local bar for a quick drink on the way home.

Every day, the doctor stops in for a hazelnut daiquiri. The bartender, who is used to the doctor’s habit, has the drink ready every afternoon a few minutes after 5 p.m.

One afternoon, the bartender was alarmed to discover he was out of hazelnut extract. Thinking quickly, he threw together a daiquiri made with hickory nuts and set it on the bar.

The doctor came in at his regular time, took one sip of the drink and exclaimed, ‘Hey, this isn’t a hazelnut daiquiri!’ ‘I know,’ replied the bartender, ‘It’s a hickory daiquiri, doc.’

Readership Survey

As the university is poised to step into the next century, we would like employees to take a closer look at Alcalá View.

The publications and human resources offices need your input in our efforts to ensure the newsletter continues to meet the needs of its readers.

What is it about Alcalá View you find most useful? What would you like to see more of? What can we improve?

All employees — staff, administration and faculty — are invited to clip the list of questions below and send in their answers. Drop them off or send them to the publications office in Maher 274.

We’d also like to know at least a little about you: (Please circle one)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff Employee</th>
<th>Administrator</th>
<th>Faculty Member</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How long at USD</td>
<td>Department or building</td>
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• Does the news section of AV meet your expectations? What types of on-campus issues (parking, construction, etc.) are important to you?

• How can we improve the features section? What would you like to read about co-workers? Do you know of any employees that would make for good feature stories? A co-worker who sky dives or a boss who drives a race car?

• Would you like to read about money matters? What types of stories would you like to see (retirement, investing, building a stock portfolio, etc.)?

• What would you like to read about the campus and its history? How can we improve a section like “A Look At The Park?”

• How can we improve the newsletter’s visual appearance? Would you like to see more graphics, photos, tables or calendars, etc.?

• Is AV the publication you turn to for keeping up-to-date on events happening around campus? Are there ways we can improve it so that it becomes that “one-stop publication?”