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AlcaláView

A newsletter for the employees of the University of San Diego / February 2004 / Vol. 20, No. 5

She's not just horsing around! Amy Walker-Pinneo in the registrar's office is part owner of four race horses. Two of them recently won races in Santa Anita. See page 3.



Three Decades of Determination Are Just the Beginning

She did it one class at a time, and after 30 years, **Kay Norton** earned a bachelor's degree in sociology. As if that wasn't enough of a feat, Norton, who recently celebrated her 35th anniversary at USD, is hitting the books again. She's working toward a master's degree in history, and hopes this time around will go faster.



Kay Norton has learned the art of juggling work and school, and this semester continues taking classes toward her master's degree.

Norton, who earned a 3.35 grade point average and received a standing ovation when she received her undergraduate diploma at last year's commencement ceremony, was part of a group of people who fought to make sure staff members, like faculty and administrators, were given the tuition remission benefit which makes it possible to earn her degrees at USD.

(Continued on page 2)

USD's New Home Away from Home

Painters smoothed on the final coat of color, landscapers planted the final cluster of flowers and cleanup crews swept away the final load of litter. And finally, after much anticipation, the doors of the Degheri Alumni Center opened.



In the last days of January, crews scurried to put the final touches on the Degheri Alumni Center, which opens this month.

This month, employees in the offices of alumni relations, parent relations, development, public relations, marketing and publications will move in, hang pictures and make the new building their home. Dubbed from the beginning as "the gathering place," the three-story, 28,000-square-foot building will be the first to greet people passing through the main campus entrance and will be a home to all at Alcalá Park.

"People might think, because of its name, that this building is just for alumni," says **Jack Kelly '87**, USD's alumni relations director, "but it's for everyone. It's for alumni, parents, students, prospective students and friends of the university. If, for example, the Associated Students wants to hold a reunion for all its past presidents, we'd love to have it here."

The facility, built with a \$5 million gift from Bert Degheri '61, includes an alumni living room, open-air courtyard, conference room and hospitality center. It will be dedicated on April 30.

This month, Kelly, who will direct the move-in, anticipates completing a policy that establishes how the building will be used. It naturally will be a spot for alumni board meetings, Homecoming reunions and pre-game get-togethers. But, even before the building was completed, Kelly received requests to host all kinds of events, including the Graduate Student Association's open house later this month.

Even though it's not a classroom or a residence hall, Kelly says he hopes students will have fond memories of the alumni center — the place where they will come not only for their first campus tours and their freshman orientations, but the place to which they return long after they graduate.



Construction crews tore down Harmon Hall to make way for the Degheri Alumni Center.

"We have a number of people waiting to hear back from us, and it's exciting to see," Kelly says. "These people aren't alumni, but soon they will be and we want them to get used to being here and coming back." **AV**

Norton

(Continued from page 1)

"I helped found the Staff Employees Association in 1976," says Norton, who began working in the registrar's office in 1968. "Tuition remission didn't exist for staff, they were only allowed to take three units. But we in the SEA helped change that. It took time, but it got done."

That could be Norton's motto in life. This experience has taught Norton, who admits

she's impatient, that some things are worth waiting for. There were many times Norton could have quit. She took her first course in 1972. It was the year U S D was formed, and, as the only person working with Registrar Nick De Turi, it was



After taking classes for 30 years, Kay Norton received a bachelor's degree in 2002.

the year she literally was overwhelmed with the daunting task of merging the records of the men's and women's colleges.

Her husband died in 1975. Her daughter died in 1989 and her mother died in 2000 — the same year Norton was inducted into the

National Honor Society. She took time off, but, even through the most difficult times, she knew that no matter how long it took she'd achieve her goal. In a religion class taught by Father J.J. O'Leary, the teacher and student often prayed together for her mother.

"It was hard to focus, because I was always going back and forth to the hospital to visit my mother," Norton recalls. "I'd go home and try to study, but was sometimes so tired. I don't know how, but I ended up getting an A- in the class. God was helping me through it, I guess."

Norton, who works full-time, typically took one or two classes a semester, usually at night or, if it was necessary, during her lunch break. She juggled homework and group study sessions with her other duties as a wife, mother, daughter, active church member and a USD employee. She even bowled on Friday nights. She did all this and, most nights, got to bed by 11 p.m.

This semester, having completed nine units toward her master's degree, Norton is taking one class about the history of the Spanish Southwest.

"I'm not thinking yet about when I'm going to finish or when I'm going to retire," says Norton, who proudly admits she's 64. "I know I won't be able to use my master's to teach, but that's OK. I'm just doing this because I love to learn."

Kyoto Laureates Coming to Campus

A chemist, a physicist and a puppeteer who have garnered international recognition for their achievements in basic sciences, advanced technology and arts and philosophy will convene on campus March 3-5 for the third annual Kyoto Laureates Symposium.

At the symposium, held at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, the laureates will deliver a public lecture about their fields of study and research. The honorees received a diploma, a gold medal and \$400,000 in cash at a ceremony in Japan last November.

This year's event includes the debut of the Kyoto Youth Scholar Discovery Awards, in

which high school students from the San Diego and Tijuana areas will compete for scholarships in an essay contest. To enable more people to attend, most events will move to the evening, and a celebratory gala will be open to the local and regional community.

The 2003 laureates are: chemist George McClelland Whitesides

who pioneered a technique of organic molecular self-assembly in nanotechnology that will help create machines, medicines and materials that can store trillions of bits of information, detect the onset of cancer and even restore mobility in paralyzed limbs; physicist Eugene Newman Parker

who established a new perspective on astrophysics that triggered drastic changes in the perception of space; and Tamao Yoshida, who is credited with helping make Bunraku puppetry, a classical Japanese performance art, the world's most highly refined form of puppet theater.

For information, log on to: www.sandiego.edu/kyotosymposium.



George McClelland Whitesides



Eugene Newman Parker



Tamao Yoshida

USD Sends Christmas Cheer to Charities

More than 350 benefits-based employees took President Mary E. Lyons up on her Christmas offer to designate \$5 on their behalf to go to various charities this holiday season, for a total of \$1,755 in donations.

The majority of the employees — 46 percent — opted to put their money, totaling \$810, toward the USD Fire Victims Emergency Fund. Project Wildlife received \$425, Catholic Charities received \$295, and the American Red Cross received \$225.



It's A Date!



Making the Most of the Day with Mostly Mozart

USD will spend its extra day this year basking in the magnificence of music. The sixth annual fund-raising concert for the James H. Kolar Amadeus Music Fund will be held at 3 p.m., Feb. 29, in the French Parlor in Founders Hall. Tickets are \$8, general admission; \$6 seniors, USD faculty, staff and alumni, non-USD students; free to USD students with ID. For information, call ext. 4171.

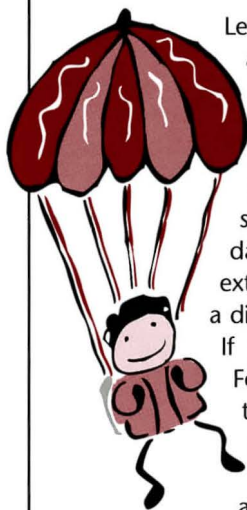
SEA Snippets

The following issues were discussed at the January meeting of the Staff Employees Association:

- USD's Staff Employees Association, which for more than a decade has supported local charities during the holiday season, would like to thank all USD employees for their generous contributions to the 2003 Adopt-A-Family Program. The program, run with the assistance of University Ministry, raised enough money to help make the holidays brighter for six USD families that were nominated by members of the campus community.
- President **Penny Navarro**, SEA's representative to the parking committee, reported that effective Jan. 1, employees who use mass transit to commute to or from work now can pay for mass transit costs with pre-tax dollars and be reimbursed by the human resources department through a program similar to those offered for health care and dependent care. For information, contact human resources at ext. 6611.
- Navarro, one of SEA's three SEA representatives to the Staff Compensation and Performance Management Committee, says the committee is in the beginning stages of developing a new tool to evaluate performance. She says the committee hopes to present ideas to the board of trustees in the spring, but because a new process would involve training, it's still unknown when it might be implemented.
- **Lupita Jewell**, executive assistant in the residential learning program, is the SEA's representative on the social issues committee, which organizes the annual Social Issues Conference scheduled for March.

- Research and planning analyst **Larry Gardepie**, an administrative liaison to the SEA, reported on behalf of human resources that an entry in the new university policies and procedural manual, which says staff employees may not use earned vacation time in less than four-hour increments, should be disregarded. The university's previous policy, which said staff employees can use vacation time in one-hour increments, will remain in effect.
- The SEA is discussing attending a few Padres games. Details will be released at future meetings.
- SEA meetings are open to all employees, especially staff. The next SEA meeting is scheduled for 2-3 p.m., Feb. 11, in the Hahn University Center Forum.

A Day to Remember



Leap Year only comes around once every four years, and with it comes a special day — Feb. 29. It's an extra day to do something new or daring, or something extraordinary that makes a difference in the world. If you were born on Feb. 29, or have plans to make this a day to remember, the *Alcalá View* wants to hear about it. Send your stories and photos to Krystn Shrieve at kshrieve@sandiego.edu.

Breakfast with a Boss

Is your department daring to do things differently? Are you putting a new twist on an old program? Do you need to inform the campus about innovations in your office? Whether you're a boss, a department chair, a program



director or the head of an office, we want to hear about the latest scoop in your area. Send an e-mail to Krystn Shrieve at kshrieve@sandiego.edu or call her at ext. 4934 to share your story.

Pony Up

Amy Walker-Pinneo '01, who works in the registrar's office, is a part-owner of two horses that won recent races on the famed track at Santa Anita Park.



EarlySnow

Walker-Pinneo recently purchased one share of four horses through a partnership concept known as an owners' stable. One horse, named *EarlySnow*, won a race on Dec. 26, the opening day of this year's racing season at Santa Anita. On Jan. 15, a second horse, *TooFastForYou*, won his first race ever. Walker-Pinneo says her other two horses will run their inaugural races at the Del Mar track, where the season opens July 21.



TooFastForYou

"This is a dream come true for me," Walker-Pinneo says. "I always loved horse racing, but I never thought I'd get to own part of a horse. But now, I get to go down to the paddock and see the horses, talk to the jockeys and listen to the trainers giving last-minute instructions. Then I get to sit in the stands and root for the horses. It's amazing."

If you or someone you know deserves to be put "In the Spotlight," send an e-mail to Krystn Shrieve at kshrieve@sandiego.edu or call her at ext. 4934.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: Upright freezer. White, 9.1 cubic feet. Maker: Haier. Height, 55 inches; depth, 26.5 inches; width, 25 inches. Bought new in 2003. \$110. For information, contact **Sheryl Lorey-McAtee** at ext. 5922.

FOR SALE: Large corner computer desk with chair; unfinished pine. Like new, was \$129 at IKEA, will sell for \$50. Contact **Mike Haskins** at mhaskins@sandiego.edu or ext. 4684 to see a photo.

Chinese New Year Dinner

The USD Office of Cultural Diversity invites employees to attend the 10th Annual USD Chinese New Year Dinner. Cocktails are served at 6 p.m., and dinner starts at 6:30 p.m., Feb. 12, at Jasmine Restaurant, 4609 Convoy St., San Diego. The menu includes Peking duck, shrimp with walnuts, sautéed seafood in a phoenix nest, hot and sour seafood soup, lobster with ginger and scallions, beef with Chinese broccoli in oyster sauce, twin-flavored rod cod fillet, fried rice and, for dessert, sesame balls and fresh oranges. Reservations are required by Feb. 5. Tickets are \$30 per person. Send checks, payable to USD, along with your reservation, to the procurement office. For information, e-mail **Angela Yeung** at ayeung@sandiego.edu.

Parking Structure Opens

Roger Manion, assistant vice president of facilities management, reports that the West Marian Way Parking Structure opened Jan. 26. In the weeks that followed, crews finalized details, completed the ornamentation and cleaned up. The new six-level structure includes 764 spaces.

Dining Services Offers Special Lunch Menus

Don't miss February's Chef Specialty Bar in the Faculty and Staff Dining Room. The seafood pasta bar will be Feb. 18. Lunch is served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For information, log on to <http://dining.sandiego.edu>.

USD Night with the Gulls

USD alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff and the community will come together for a spirited fundraiser with the San Diego Gulls, at 7 p.m., Feb. 21, at the San Diego Sports Arena. All proceeds will go toward student scholarships, activities and the San Diego fire victims.

Five-time Taylor Cup champions, the San Diego Gulls hockey team, is devoting an entire night to USD. See USD leaders begin the game with the ceremonial puck toss, watch clips of USD on the Jumbotron and maybe even win a trip around the ice on the Zamboni.

Tickets are \$12. Call the Hahn University Center Box Office at ext. 4901.

MILESTONES

Nancy Olson, procurement coordinator, passed away Jan. 20. On Feb. 7, she would have celebrated her 18th anniversary at USD.

Jessie Pope, mother of Jack Pope, director of academic computing services, passed away Dec. 29.

Celaine S. Johnston, mother of Debra Johnston, in the communication studies department, passed away Dec. 28.

Alice Jean Poe, mother of Don Poe, user services specialist in the School of Law, passed away Dec. 4.

James A. Schlinger, father of Linda Scales, director of career services, passed away Dec. 2.

A Hole Lot of Doughnuts

The Manchester Family Child Development Center will be holding a finger-licking fundraiser on Feb. 13 to purchase educational materials. The center will be selling fresh, warm, Krispy Kreme glazed doughnuts by the dozen. To place an order for your students or co-workers, e-mail **Jacqueline Corey Kennedy** at kennedyj@sandiego.edu, by Feb. 11. The doughnuts, \$8 per dozen, will arrive on Feb. 13.

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EDITOR

Krystn Shrieve

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Michael Haskins, Tim McKernan

PRODUCTION AND DESIGN

SotoDesign

PHOTOGRAPHY

Barbara Ferguson, Rodney Nakamoto,

Brock Scott

COLUMN ILLUSTRATIONS

Greg High

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Office of Publications
Maher Hall 274