Tip of the Week...

Please join the Alvernia community for a special announcement on Monday, Dec. 7 at 10AM, in the Franco Library Bonaventure Room.

Elected community leaders will join Dr. Flynn to announce some very exciting developments related to our South Reading Youth Initiative program during a news conference.

Upcoming Events

12/4 Last Day of Classes
12/4 Student Musical Recital (FH 102) 3PM
12/4 Christmas on Campus (SC) 5PM
12/5 Christmas Concert (FH Aud) 8PM
12/6 Smoothie Ministry (Clare) 8:30PM
12/6 Smoothie Ministry (Veronica) 9:30PM
12/7-11 Final Exams
12/7 News Conference (Franco Library) 10AM
12/7 Bishop O. Barres Tour (main campus) 2PM
12/7 Mass with Bishop (Motherhouse) 5:30PM
12/7 Visual Art Show (FH Aud) 7PM
12/8-9 Art Show Open (FH Aud) 9AM-5PM
12/8 ACT 47 Forum (BFCC) 5:30PM
12/13 Baccalaureate Mass (PEC) 10:30AM
12/13 Winter Graduation (PEC) 1PM
12/14 Graduation snow date

Home Athletic Contests

12/5 Women’s Basketball vs Albright 1PM
12/5 Men’s Basketball vs Albright 3PM
12/5 Ice Hockey vs Gettysburg 8PM

Alvernia artwork will be on display in the Francis Hall Auditorium beginning Monday. (Above painting completed by Megan McCafferty, December 2008.)

Alvernia in the Community

This coming week is expected to be a busy one, with final exams beginning on Monday and several major events taking place on campus throughout the week.

On Monday, faculty and staff are invited to a news conference in the Franco Library at 10AM for a special announcement regarding the Holleran Center’s South Reading Youth Initiative.

In addition, Bishop John O. Barres will be making his first visit to Alvernia’s main campus and Saint Joe’s Villa Monday afternoon. As part of his tour, the Bishop will meet with Basketball team members and view a simulation in the Nursing Center.

Alvernia’s Visual Art Show will be opening Monday night at 7PM in the Francis Hall Auditorium. Can’t make it Monday? The exhibit will be open December 8-9, from 9AM-5PM.

Leadership Berks will host an Act 47 forum for emerging leaders on Tuesday at 5:30PM in the Bernardine Franciscan Conference Center. The purpose of the event is to provide a deeper understanding about Act 47 (the Financially Distressed Municipalities Act) and its implications for our community.
Alumni News

Suzanne Blankenbiller, a certified school nurse at Jacksonwald Elementary School, former student in Alvernia’s School Health leading to a Master of Education program, and member of the Alvernia University Nursing Community Advisory Board oversaw the planning of the Exeter Health Fair held at the Reiffton School on November 11, 2009.

Joining her at the Health Fair were Mary Jo Auman ’05 (a former student in the School Nurse Program), and current nursing student Brandi Flynn. Auman presented information on grief while Flynn shared information on nutrition across the lifespan. The Exeter Health Fair was open to the public.

Student News

44 Alvernia nursing students attended the 2009 SNAP Convention, held the week before Thanksgiving.

Eight delegates and alternates represented Alvernia in the legislative sessions, three students received scholarships, and the Alvernia Student Nursing Association received two awards at the banquet. In addition, a team of five students and one alternate participated in the Student Nurse Challenge and a senior book review was published in Insight.

Faculty & Staff News

Tim Blessing (history) was featured on a WFMZ Channel 69 News broadcast about what to expect from President Obama’s December 1 West Point speech about the war in Afghanistan. Click here to view the story.

Alvernia in the NEWS...

“Alvernia program helps Southern students write” was the subhead of a Reading Eagle article on December 2 about a program started by Kelly Cockrum (education) to help Southern Middle School students explore creative writing and poetry. The program is run by Alvernia faculty members and education students. Click here to read the full article.

Twin Alvernia student-athletes Ashley and Cara Tatangelo were featured in a Press and Journal article on December 2 entitled “Sticking together: LD’s Tatangelo sisters shine at Alvernia.” Click here to read the article.

The Reading Eagle published an article on November 20 about Alvernia’s annual turkey drive. At the time, the drive still needed $3,000 to meet its goal. After the article, over 90 calls were fielded and support poured in. A follow-up article was published on November 25. See Brand Scene Investigator for more.

BRAND SCENE INVESTIGATOR—Letter to Reading Eagle Editor

We want to extend a hearty and heartfelt “thank you” to the many, many Berks County folks who responded to the recent Alvernia University Turkey Drive. We received 94 phone calls offering turkeys, other food items, and money. From young folks missing their loved one serving in the Gulf to senior citizens wanting to share, even to companies responding generously, we were able to meet our goals and then some. Altogether, about 465 families will have benefited this year.

Over the 22 years, we have always gotten wonderful campus support for this drive, but it was a magical experience to receive so much support from the greater community this year. We at Alvernia believe strongly in community engagement, and this turkey drive has taught us that when we need it, the community is there with us too. Thanks again, one and all. We hope to be partners with you again next year! —Polly Mathys and John Luvisi, Alvernia University
The Alvernia University Lecture series wound down for 2009 with a nursing lecture last evening in the Bernardine Franciscan Conference Center. Moderated by Alvernia’s own Karen Thacker, Ph.D., RN, CNE (professional programs), three local nursing leaders served as panelists to discuss community nursing from the cradle to the grave.

Tracy Scheirer, RN, BSN focused on the importance of community nursing and nursing education.

Anne Fisher, RN, CSN, M.Ed., focused on school nursing and talked about some of the fantastic things that the Reading School District has recently done (smoking cessation program, walking clubs, etc) and ways to involve parents in children’s health. She also talked about the changes in the field of school nursing due to advances in technology.

Jennie Strauch, RN, MBA talked about how technology has changed home nursing care.

Keep your eyes peeled for the more Alvernia Lecture Series events coming in spring 2010.

The capital of Turkey is a long word. Can you spell it?

Be the first to answer correctly!

Send your answer to:
Carey.Manzolillo@alvernia.edu

Bragging rights for last week go to Drena Romberger (athletics). Answer: My father.