Alvernia Almanac
Your University, Your Community, Your News.

September 18, 2009

Tip of the Week...

Don’t miss the Health & Wellness Center’s second annual “Walk It Out Challenge,” Wednesday, September 23. Teams of 4 or 5 people will need a digital camera and about an hour of time to take part in this photo scavenger hunt on Alvernia’s campus. Start anytime between 8AM and 4:30PM. Contact Kiara Gregoris (x1467) for details.

Upcoming Events

9/20 Spaghetti Dinner (Polish Room) 8PM
9/23 Founders Day Lecture (BFCC) 4PM
9/23 Salsa Dance Lessons (FH Aud) 6PM
9/24 Poetry by Avilda Castro Suarez (Crusader) 6PM
9/25-27 Alumni Trip: Seneca Lake Wine Trail
9/26 Trip to Philly Parkway (Leave from SC) 9AM
9/26-27 ESCAPE! First Year Retreat

Home Athletic Contests

9/19 Women’s Tennis vs Albright 1PM
9/19 Women’s Soccer vs Catholic UofA 2PM
9/19 Field Hockey vs Gwynedd-Mercy 7PM
9/23 Field Hockey vs Franklin & Marshall 4PM
9/23 Men’s Soccer vs Ursinus 7PM
9/25 Volleyball vs DeSales 7PM
9/26 Men’s Golf vs Albright 12:45PM

Check out the Athletics website: http://athletics.alvernia.edu/

Alvernia in the Community

The Holleran Center for Community Engagement is cosponsoring a Women In Transition Weekend on October 2-4, 2009 at the South Mountain YMCA. The goal is to provide opportunities for women to develop healthier physical, emotional and spiritual connections with themselves and others, in what some find very stressful times.

In today’s fast paced and demanding world, women experience many different periods of transition. From family to career to personal life issues, these stressful transitions can jeopardize one’s health and wellbeing. In the midst of these transitions, it is often difficult to focus on self and on healthy solutions. This weekend will provide opportunities for women to develop healthier physical, emotional and spiritual connections with themselves and others. Participants will be able to gain valuable information, share personal experiences, rest, recreate, rejuvenate, and develop nurturing, supportive relationships with other women.

Cosponsors of the weekend event are the South Mountain YMCA, FairView Counseling and Play Therapy Center, the Caron Treatment Centers, Mary’s Shelter, Easy Does It, Inc, and the Reading Berks Conference of Churches. Contact (610) 670-2267 x224 for more information.

The Literary Festival is right around the corner. Visit alvernia.edu for a full calendar.
Alumni News

Robert Lee Balthaser ’91 has been named new Vice President of Development for the Trust for the National Mall, in Washington D.C.

The National Mall is the nation’s premier national park, suffering from over 30 years of neglect and dwindling resources. Balthaser is charged with raising $500 million to make the National Mall the most beautiful park in the world.

Student News

The Miller-Keystone Bloodmobile will be on campus for the first blood drive of the semester:

Thursday, September 24
(Outside the Student Center)

The event is sponsored by the Alvernia’s Student Nurses’ Association. Be a donor, save a life.

Faculty & Staff News

Donna Yarri (humanities) presented a talk on “Ethics and Leadership” for the Education Policy Fellowship Program on Friday, Sept. 11, 2009, in Harrisburg, PA.

Julie Sweitzer will be joining Institutional Advancement on September 28 as the new Director of Annual Giving. Julie comes to Alvernia from the Goggleworks where she has served as Grant Writer and Capital Campaign Coordinator. She has also worked at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, FirstEnergy Corp., and she served an internship at the Reading Public Museum. She holds a BA in philosophy with a minor in art history from Kutztown and she completed her coursework toward an MA in art history at Temple University.

Alvernia in the NEWS...

Alvernia student, Howard Bates, was pictured on the front page of today’s Reading Eagle in a timely article about precautionary measures for the H1N1 Virus. Click here to read the full article.

Dr. Kelly Crozier ’04 was featured on the front page of the Reading Eagle’s Berks & Beyond section, Thursday, September 10 showing Reading Hospital’s new rehabilitation center (to open doors on October 20). Crozier is the rehab’s medical director and chief of physical medicine and rehabilitation at the hospital. Click here to read the full story.

Alvernia Trustee Carl Staples was featured in the Reading Eagle, Wednesday, September 9, after being named “Berks County’s new top appointed official” as Chief of Operations for Berks County. Click here to read the article.

BRAND SCENE INVESTIGATOR

Thanks to good work by Beth DeMeo, Carrie Fitzpatrick (both communication) and a gang of active students and young alumnae, Alvernia will be this year’s national sponsor of the annual Sigma Tau Delta English Conference.
Taking Five with Sharon Blair

Executive Assistant to the Provost, Sharon Blair, has been a member of the Alvernia community since 2006.

What is the best part about your job? My boss, Dr. Shirley Williams. I know that sounds like I am "brown-nosing," but it's true. She is a joy to work for/with. I learn something new every day. She is fair, honest, patient...etc. And we love to sing!

What should others at Alvernia should know about your office? The Provost has oversight of the College of Professional Programs, College of Arts and Sciences, School of Graduate and Continuing Studies, Library, Information Technology, Registrar's Office, Institutional Research, Center for Ethics & Leadership, the Holleran Center for Community Engagement, Seniors College, and Montessori. I assist the Provost in any way that is needed for any of these areas.

Where are you from, and where are you living now? I am from Altoona and now live in Shillington. I'm the youngest of four girls, and the only one that moved away, but I'm very close with my sisters and parents. We have started a new annual tradition, where we go to the beach together (just the 6 of us) for a week...no kids, no husbands. My mom said that she wants to reminisce with us, while she is alive. Dad even gives us a week allowance during that trip. I highly recommend this to all of you.

Tell us about your family: My husband (Greg) and I started dating when I was 16, and we just celebrated our 24th wedding anniversary. We have three wonderful children (young adults). Alli is an Alvernia junior, Luke is an Alvernia freshman, and Emma is a sophomore at Governor Mifflin. We love our family dinners and travels. My children have been playing soccer since they were five, so many of our weekends have involved traveling to soccer tournaments. Luke plays on the Alvernia men's soccer team, Emma plays at Mifflin as well as on a premier team. My husband even plays on an "over 40" team. Ah, I don't play though. I just love to watch them.

Do you have any long-term plans? My long-term plan is to retire in Florida, but not that typical 'gray hair' retirement. I want to work at Disney and be the witch that scares everyone who comes out of the haunted house! They don't even need to pay me. Just let my family get in for free.

Have you ever traveled somewhere interesting? Huntington Beach State Park, South Carolina...what made it interesting is that for two weeks every summer growing up, my parents would take us (four girls) camping on the beach! Can you imagine that? What were my parents thinking? There is no way I would do that today, but we have the best memories of those days.

Rumor Has It...

Facilities is raffling off used TVs and VCRs. If you wish to enter your name in the raffle, dial 0 on an Alvernia phone. Please provide your name, contact information & the item you would be interested in by Tuesday, September 22. All winners will be notified by Wednesday, September 23, and items must be picked up by Friday, September 25.

I’m where yesterday follows today, and tomorrow’s in the middle. What am I?

Be the first to answer correctly!
Send your answer to:
Carey.Manzolillo@alvernia.edu

Bragging rights for last week go to Sean Cullen, distance learning. Answer: Smoke.

Do you have news?
Send it to:
Carey.Manzolillo@alvernia.edu