U-CUT CHRISTMAS TREE FARMS NEAR SACRAMENTO

Submitted by Nina Zamuruyev

Thanksgiving opened a Christmas season, a season of warm family evenings by the fireplace or lighted tree, sipping of hot apple cider while watching favorite Christmas story movie, and some time off from school work. Though, everyone celebrates this holiday in their own way, but the smell of a fresh-cut pine tree that fills our homes unites us all.

Most of the Davis stores carry Christmas trees for sale but cutting one tree yourself can be a pleasant, memory-forming, experience for you and your family. A trip to local U-cut Christmas tree farm can be a good family oriented activity that will fill your child memory with joy of this holiday.

As a suggestion, here is a list of Christmas tree farms near Sacramento. It is not always about the tree but about the experience of the rural areas that you will see. Just one word of caution; prepare lunch and call the farm before you go. Merry Christmas!

1. Ardencaple Forest Tree Farm
   2580 Andler Road
   Placerville, California
   This Sierra tree ranch is close to Sacramento.

2. Cedar Ravine Tree Farm
   5240 Cedar Ravine Rd.
   Placerville, California
   All trees are $24. Repeat customers receive a $3 coupon making your tree only $21 out the door!

3. McGEE’S Christmas Tree Farm
   3131 Carson Road
   Placerville, California
   Fresh wreaths. Apples and hot cider next door. Price includes tax and packaging.

4. Snowy Peaks Tree Farm
   30100 Foresthill Road
   Foresthill, California
   Enjoy a free cup of hot chocolate or coffee. They also have horse drawn wagon rides!

5. Silveyville Pumpkin and Tree Farm
   6224 Silveyville Road
   Dixon, California
   The fire is always going, enjoy a cup of our warm apple cider and freshly roasted popcorn.

Full list of tree farms you can find if you will follow this link http://www.trekaroo.com/list/u-cut-christmas-tree-farms-near-sacramento
MEET THE SOLANO PARK STUDENT ASSISTANTS!

Hello! I am Andrea Gallegos and I'm from Los Angeles, CA. I am currently a third year Human Development major minoring in Education. Once I graduate, I am hoping to become an elementary school teacher because I want to inspire and brighten the lives of children in every way that I can. I aspire to add a bit of light to the life of each person I get the chance to meet. My favorite things to do are getting lost in a good book, baking new recipes, watching movies and spending time with people who make me smile.

My name is Linda Nguyen and my hometown is Sacramento. I have finally leveled up and reached my fourth year (and hopefully my last year) with an Asian American Studies major and a minor in Women and Gender Studies. My passion and values are rooted in community work and social justice. I am weak to endlessly scrolling through Tumblr and watching anime.

My name’s Luna and I’m from Orange County. I’m a sophomore currently double majoring in International Relations and Economics. I love reading, music and volunteering. Feel free to say hi if you ever see me around!

Hi my name is Kimberly Hara and I am from Long Beach California. I am also a junior majoring in communications here at UC Davis. Some of my favorite hobbies are going hiking and camping, swimming at the beach and going to music concerts. I hope to someday work in a creative media industry or do something with music. Being up north is very different but I am excited to try and venture out to explore more places such as San Francisco and other places near the Bay.

Hi! My name is Alison Guzman. I’m from a little town called Oakhurst, just outside of Yosemite National Park. I’m a senior this year studying animal science to become a veterinarian specifically for horses. I would love to continue on to vet school here at Davis if possible and then start my career as an equine vet. Things I like to do include reading, spending time outdoors, eating, and spending time with family. I’m excited to be here in Davis for a second year since the area is beautiful and it has a great community.
Holidays and Anniversaries

December 6—Saint Nicholas' Day [Christian]
St. Nicholas, noted for his charity, arrives on horseback, bringing nuts and apples. He is the patron saint of Turkey and was a generous bishop in 4th century Turkey, known as the protector of children. He is celebrated by giving of oneself without seeking or expecting repayment. He was one of the most venerated saints of both eastern and western Christian churches. This day is also celebrated by Dutch, German and Eastern European communities. Santa Claus and the presentation of gifts are said to derive from Saint Nicholas.

December 10—Human Rights Day [USA, U.N.]
Anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Declaration sets forth basic rights and fundamental freedoms to which all men and women are entitled.

December 16—Las Posadas [Mexico]
A nine-day celebration throughout Mexico, commencing 16 December. Processions of "pilgrims" knock at doors asking for posada (shelter), commemorating the search for Joseph and Mary for a shelter in which the infant Jesus might be born. Invited inside, fun and merrymaking ensue with blindfolded guests trying to break a piñata suspended from the ceiling.

December 26—Boxing Day [Canada, Bahamas, Jamaica, United Kingdom, Australia]
Boxing Day was originally a day when boxes of gifts were given to those entitled to gratitude's, such as employees.

December 31—Hogmanay [Scotland]
Scottish celebration of New Year's Eve. Comes from the French phrase "to the mistletoe, the New Year." Scots bang pots and pans at midnight and bring bread, salt and coal to their hosts symbolizing life, hospitality and warmth.

MONTHLY MAINTENANCE
Submitted by Solano Park Maintenance

If you live in an upstairs apartment, please be aware that the water from your bathtub can drip into the downstairs apartment if water escapes the bathtub. To prevent this from happening, be sure to close your shower curtain when showering and prevent water from escaping the bathtub.

Now that winter is fast approaching us, remember to keep a clear space around your wall heater and keep everything off of the top of it.

Also, to help reduce the potential of mold and mildew, try to run the bathroom fan after showering or bathing for a while to exhaust as much steam or moisture out of the bathroom. Also, leave the bathroom door open as much as possible. Remember, air exchange is the key.

On some occasions, it can get quite cold in Davis during the break between fall and winter quarters. Coincidentally, this is also the time that many of you will leave for the holidays. There are numerous problems that can develop in a vacant apartment due to the cold. Among them are:
- Doors swelling and warping
- Floor tiles coming loose
- Paint peeling
- Frozen water pipes bursting, causing flooding
- House plants that cannot tolerate the cold dying
- Sensitive electronic equipment developing problems

Therefore, if you are planning to leave more than one day during the winter holiday break period, we ask that you take the following steps to avoid any problems that the cold might create:
- Close and lock all windows and the glass patio door and close all window coverings.
- Leave all doors inside your apartment open allowing heat to migrate throughout your apartment.
- Leave your wall furnace on at the lowest possible temperature setting.
Community Programs

**FINALS STUDENT NIGHT**
All students are welcome. Come study in quiet at the Solano Park Community Center with drinks and some snacks to help fuel your brain as you write a final paper or cram for a test. For more information, please contact Nina Zamuruyev, RA for Solano Park by phone 916-508-7481, or e-mail nzamuruyev@ucdavis.edu.

When: Tuesday, December 1 at 6:30pm
Where: Solano Park Community Center

**TILE PAINTING**
Come join us to decorate and paint a piece of tile to give as a gift this holiday season or to keep at home. All ages are welcome. Kids 5 and under need adult supervision. Remember to wear proper clothes to paint in. For more information please contact Danielle Seibel RA by email at dseibel@ucdavis.edu.

When: Wednesday, December 2 at 3pm
Where: Solano Park Community Center

**BOARD GAME FUN!**
We will be having an afternoon filled with awesome board games. WE have a variety of games from Chess to Apples and Apples. If you have a favorite board game bring it with you! For more information contact Corey Coates, RA for Solano Park, by email at cncoates@ucdavis.edu.

When: Sunday, December 6 at 3pm.
Where: Solano Park Community Center

**TODDLER TUESDAY**
On Tuesday come and play with other toddlers at the Community Center! We have a variety of toys, but you are welcome to bring your child’s favorite toy with you. We have had a great showing of people so far and we hope you will join us. All children must be accompanied by a caregiver. We will only be having the playgroup the first two weeks of December. For more information contact Corey Coates, RA for Solano Park, by email at cncoates@ucdavis.edu.

When: Tuesday, December 1 and 8 at 10am
Where: Solano Park Community Center

**GIFT WRAPPING**
Christmas is just around the corner. We all celebrate this holiday in different ways but sure we all like to give and receive presents/gifts. Let’s get together and wrap those prepared presents in nice wrapping paper to make them ready for Christmas. Wrapping paper, tape, glue, markers will be provided. Please feel free to bring your own wrapping paper as we will have a limited supply available for residents. For more details, please contact Nina Zamuruyev, RA at Solano Park by phone 916-508-7481, or e-mail nzamuruyev@ucdavis.edu.

When: Thursday, December 3 at 4:30 pm
Where: Solano Park Community Center

**CHANUKAH DREIDEL TREATS!**
Come celebrate the first night of Chanukah. We will be making edible dreidels. All ages are welcome kids 5 and under need adult supervision. For more information please contact Danielle Seibel RA by email at dseibel@ucdavis.edu.

When: Sunday, December 6 at 4:30pm
Where: Solano Park Community Center
Community Programs

**BEADED JEWELRY AND KEY CHAINS**
Make a necklace, bracelet or earrings with beads! Everyone has keys, so come make a keychain for someone special. All ages are welcome but small children should be accompanied by a caregiver. For more information contact Corey Coates, RA for Solano Park, by email at cncoates@ucdavis.edu.

When: Monday, December 7 at 4pm
Where: Solano Park Community Center

**PICTURE WITH SANTA AT ANNUAL POTLUCK**
This celebration of holiday cheer is fun for all who’ve been good all year! Santa will be stopping by Solano Park on his way to the North Pole so parents be sure to bring your kids and take your own keepsake pictures while enjoying the community potluck feast. Please bring your favorite dish to share with your neighbors as we toast the holiday season. For more details please contact Nina Zamuruyev, RA for Solano Park by phone 916-508-7481, or email nzamuruyev@ucdavis.edu.

When: Wednesday, December 9 at 5:30 pm
Where: Solano Park Community Center

**POPSICLE STICK PICTURE FRAMES**
Finals are over! Come celebrate with your neighbors at the community center and make a picture frames for your Holiday pictures or your picture with Santa!! For more information please contact Danielle Seibel RA by email at dseibel@ucdavis.edu.

When: Monday, December 14 at 5pm
Where: Solano Park Community Center

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
**Calendar of Events**  
**December 2015**

**All residents are welcome to attend all programs, regardless of location. All events held in the Community Center unless otherwise noted.**

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**SOLANO PARK OFFICE CLOSED**

**December 2015**
The Park Messenger is published by Student Housing, at the University of California, Davis. Our goal is to communicate with Park residents, campus departments and the community of Davis. We encourage reader suggestions, criticisms and articles. Let us hear from you.

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The Park Messenger online:
http://www.housing.ucdavis.edu/current/park_messenger.asp

Did you know?

Eligibility Requirements: Student Housing requires all students to meet our eligibility requirements to continue living in Solano Park Apartments. Students must have full-time registered status during fall, winter and spring quarters/semesters. Full-time status is defined at 12 units for quarter students and 10 units for semester students. Students who do not meet the requirement are required to register for additional classes or submit a notice to move out. Please be aware of these requirements when you register for winter and spring quarters in the coming months. Please contact Student Housing at 530-752-2033 or the Solano Park Office at 530-752-3958 if you have any questions.

If you plan to travel during the holiday period, please leave a travel form with the Solano Park Office.

Planning to vacate after finals? Remember a 42-day notice is required.

Large Item Dumping: Unwanted personal items such as couches, dressers, desks, and other furnishings left behind detract from the visual appearance of our complexes. In addition, our dumpster areas that have unwanted items, often blocks access for trash pick-up. Student Housing then has to pay for staff time, dump fees, and gas to remove these unwanted items. As a result, if any personal items are left at the dumpsters upon vacate, you will be billed for the full cost of removal/dumping.

Packages: Please don’t ask the Solano Park Office to accept your incoming packages. We don’t have space and security for them. Perhaps a neighbor could be designated to accept a package for you, or you might indicate your balcony for drop-offs.

Cable TV: Cable is provided via closed circuit therefore, other cable services cannot be added or requested in Solano Park.

Mailboxes: Mailboxes are to be used only to receive mail for the tenant and other occupants listed on the current lease agreement.

Lights Out: If you ever notice that your front door light is out, please put in a maintenance repair request on the My UCDavis page.