



**A Publication of  
Solano Park, UC  
Davis**

# THE PARK MESSENGER

October 2016

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

## Meet the New RA, David Gomes

Parent Child Care Funding Program	2
International Festival Davis	2
Impossible Acres Farm	2
15 Tips to Carve the Perfect Pumpkin	3
Internet Safety For Kids	4-5
RA Programs	6-7
Monthly Maintenance	7
Holidays and Anniversaries	8
Calendar of Events	9
Did You Know?	10

### Solano Park Office Hours:

Monday—Friday  
9:00am—12:00pm  
1:00pm—4:00pm

### Special points of interest:

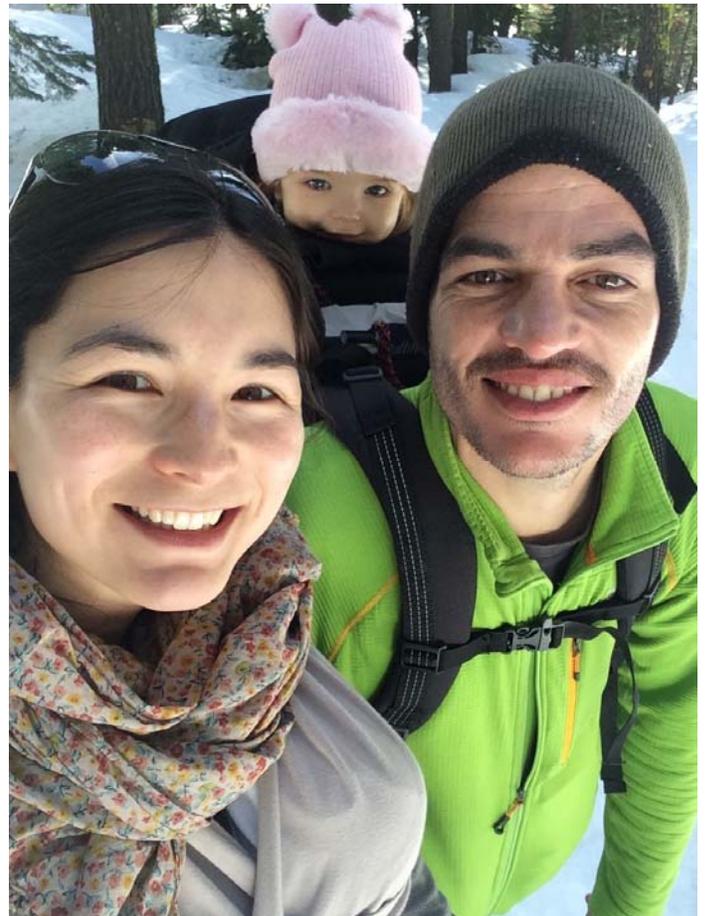
- Parking permits expired as of September 30, 2016. All leaseholders with vehicles should have renewed their parking permits for the new academic year or risk being cited for having an expired permit.

I was born in the north of France, close to the Belgian border – maybe that is why I appreciate the American craft beers so much – and have lived all around France before going overseas.

After 6 years teaching Mathematics, and Sciences in a High School in Burgundy, I packed my books and moved to Ethiopia for two years where I met my wife Tomoé. Then we moved to Kenya for two years and Luce was born. We have been living so happily in Davis for the past two years and we had a new baby, Michelle, who was born last January.

I love outdoor activities: white water rafting, rock climbing, biking, mountaineering, camping, ... Another hobby is computer sciences, and especially all the open source systems. I value my safety and my privacy in the digital world.

Moreover, I like to learn and discover new activities, which has led me to various fields (street arts, board games, music, ... ), so please let me know if you would like to have a specific activity proposed, I will be glad to help make it come true. I hope I will be able to share those passions with you and to serve our rich and various international community.



## UC Davis Student Parent Child Care Funding Program

Submitted by Sandy M Batchelor

Applications for the UC Davis Student Parent Child Care Funding Program are available for the 2016-17 Academic Year. Grants are available to help offset child care costs for Graduate, Professional and Undergraduate students. Please visit the website for more information, fact sheets, deadlines and applications. [http://worklife-wellness.ucdavis.edu/family\\_care/children/childcaresub.html](http://worklife-wellness.ucdavis.edu/family_care/children/childcaresub.html)

## International Festival Davis

Submitted by Ann Gunion



International House Davis will celebrate its sixth annual International Festival on October 2nd, 2016 in Davis Central Park from noon to 5 PM. Please join us to celebrate Unity in Diversity. There will once again be live entertainment on two stages, ethnic food, arts and crafts vendors, an international fashion show and parade of nations, activities for children, business and non-profit tables, as well as culture booths from around the world. Delicious food from a variety of food vendors and a wonderful bake sale are also highlights of the Festival. Explorit Science Center will bring out some of its wonderful and fascinating animals for all to see. Come join us in this once a year celebration of fun and fellowship! For more information see the Festival website at [www.internationalfestivaldavis.org](http://www.internationalfestivaldavis.org) or call 530-753-5007.

## Impossible Acres Farm

Submitted by Audrey Bergmann, RA

If you are looking for a fun family activity this October, look no further than Grandpa's barn at the Impossible Acres farm. Grandpa's barn is located at the corner of road 31 and road 98, west of Davis. It is a short drive or a longer bike ride. Impossible acres is "a small family farm that has been growing a variety of fruits and vegetables for the past 6 years." They sell to local grocery stores, and they have berries and fruits that you can pick yourself at the farm. Most of the fruit is done for the season, but they have an excellent pumpkin patch and petting zoo during the month of October. Go pick out your pumpkin for Halloween, or pay a small fee to visit a great assortment of farm animals. Last year we saw baby pigs, kittens, bunnies, ponies, ducks, chicks, and a very young calf! Most animals are available to touch and hold, depending on the age and maturity of the children who are visiting them. Last year, we got a season pass to the petting zoo which allowed us to visit several times during the month and watch how quickly the baby animals grew and changed. They also have a corn maze and a bucolic barn, making it the perfect location for a fall photo shoot. For more information, please visit [www.impossibleacres.com](http://www.impossibleacres.com)



# 15 Tips and Tricks to Carving the Perfect Pumpkin

Submitted by Corey Coates, RA



It's time to get into the ghastly ghoully spirit of Halloween — and there's really no better way to do it than to carve your own jack-o-lantern. Pumpkin carving isn't just for kids: It can be an art, and can create some pretty charming decorations. Whether you're an experienced gourd sculptor or still at elementary-school level, there are a few tricks that can easily improve your results, making for a jack-o-lantern you'll keep on admiring through All Saints Day. Assuming it doesn't get smashed by Halloween hooligans, that is.

## Choosing a Great Pumpkin

1. Bigger pumpkins are easier to carve, but before you grab the largest specimen, inspect the rind.
2. A lighter color means softer flesh that's easier to carve in detail.
3. Any bruises, cuts or soft spots can mean the pumpkin's already started rotting — a bad sign if you want it to last more than a few days.
4. Give your pumpkin a lift. If it's heavy, it'll probably have thicker flesh. It should feel somewhat light, meaning its nice and hollow inside.

## Selecting Your Weapon

5. You're only as good as your carving tool. A boning knife — sharp, thin and pointed — is a good choice for carving small details.
6. For cutting out the lid, you might want a larger carving knife or even a serrated knife.
7. If you're carving with kids, don't just hand them a deadly weapon and let them start hacking away with it. Pick up a pumpkin carving set that includes a safety knife designed for small hands. Your health insurance provider will thank you.

## Gutting the Gourd

8. Here comes another of Halloween's greatest moments: Reaching inside a pumpkin and pulling out a handful of gooey guts and slimy seeds. But wait! Don't just throw that away. Rinse the seeds and toast them on a baking sheet. Sprinkled with seasonings, they're a perfect snack.
9. Scrape the inside of the pumpkin completely to expose the light-colored flesh, which reflects more light.
10. You can use a large spoon or ice cream scoop for scraping — or if you're feeling daring, try an electric mixer on medium-low speed.

## Designing Your Masterpiece

11. If you're going for high art, print or draw your design on paper first. Then lightly trace the design through the paper and onto the pumpkin with the tip of your knife.
12. For a more extemporaneous approach, sketch your design directly onto the pumpkin with a dry-erase or water-based marker.

## Keeping the Flame

13. It can be surprisingly hard to keep a candle lit inside a dank gourd. Make sure you provide enough oxygen to feed the flame by leaving the lid ajar (cut it at a steep angle to help with this) and by cutting "ears" or air holes in the sides and back of the pumpkin.
14. Avoid a pumpkin inferno by placing a tea light inside a pint glass.
15. Want to keep your Jack indoors? Sprinkle his insides with cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves and he'll double as an autumn air freshener.

Original Article by: [Jessica Reader, Organic Authority](#)

# Internet Safety for Kids

Submitted by David Gomes, RA

Are you concerned about Internet safety for kids, but you're unsure how to go about creating a good plan? Some experts give their top tips. You've tried not to let the TV babysit your kids, keeping them occupied with real-world activities as their young minds develop. But let's face it -- your kids love screen time, and surfing the Internet and checking social media is quickly becoming second nature to them. So it's important that you, as their parent, teach them Internet safety for kids. Here are a few tips.

## Be Your Kids' "Friend" on Social Media Sites

You like to know who your kids' friends are at school, so you should make it your business to know who they're communicating with online. How do you do this without looking over their shoulders? Become their "friend" on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest and other social media sites, and follow what they're posting. Don't do it secretly, but out in the open. Explain to your children that they can't go on social sites without "friending" you first.

In addition to keeping tabs on your kids' network, you'll be able to monitor their posts and Tweets. Too often, kids will post things without thinking of the long-term consequences. One good general rule for your kids is "Don't post it if you wouldn't want Mom to see it." Remember, you're responsible for your children until they reach 18, so being informed about what they're doing in cyberspace is just another step in good parenting, says Alexis Moore, author of "[Cyber Self-Defense](#)."

## Discuss What's Acceptable to Post -- and What's Not

Many kids live in the moment and don't realize that what they post in public stays public and virtually never goes away, says Tammy Gruer, [Media & Technology Specialist for Guilford County Schools](#) in North Carolina. Have a discussion with your kids about appropriate photos and posts, and how words and pictures can be misconstrued and even hurtful to others. Explain what's appropriate to share -- non-personal observations, friendly joking -- what's not appropriate -- photos that you wouldn't want your grandparents to see, mean comments about friends or anyone else -- and why. Point out to your kids that a photo meant for one friend might be shared publicly. Remind them to ask themselves, every time they write an email, "What if I sent this to the wrong person? Would it be embarrassing or harmful?" If yes, hit "delete."

## Keep Computers (and Screens) in the Family Room

Encourage internet safety for kids by only allowing iPhones, iPads, computers and other devices in public areas of your home, like the kitchen or living room. This way you can see exactly what web pages your kids are looking at, the types of online games they're playing and any private chats they're having. Keeping online devices in plain sight encourages responsible online etiquette, Gruer says.

## Create a Plan

Together, you and your children should create a plan of do's and don't. It's important that they feel like they're a vital part of the conversation -- and they're more likely to follow the plan if they helped create it. Some things to cover include having your child:

Not accept "friend" invitations or "follow" requests from people you don't know.

Avoid all chat rooms unless they have run them by you.

Not give out any specific information to anyone online, even a friend. This includes address, school name, phone number, credit card and social security numbers.

**(Continued from page 4)**

Don't give out details about your family.

Let you know if someone is making him feel uncomfortable online, either through cyberbullying or sending inappropriate photos or posts.

Don't forget to talk about what the family consequences would be for deliberately not following the rules. Perhaps your child would lose access to her device for a set amount of time. Be sure to also let your child know that if she feels threatened by a stranger online, that's an appropriate time to contact the police.

**Talk to Your Kids Offline**

Unplug and engage with your children, Moore advises. If your kids see you constantly on your computer, checking social media or surfing the Web, they'll follow suit. Instead, put down the devices and have real conversations with your kids -- about what's happening at school, in after-school clubs, with sports and with their friends. Ask questions and keep the dialogue open. The key to having responsible children online is having responsible children offline.

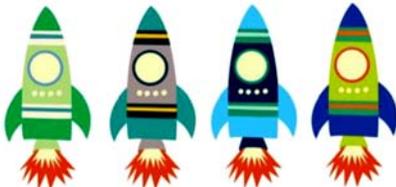
Source: Care.com (<https://www.care.com/c/stories/4798/internet-safety-for-kids/>)



# Community Programs

## YOUNG ROCKET SCIENTIST

Let's design and launch water rockets! You need to come with a plastic bottle (soda, water, etc), and a rain coat eventually. We will decorate and shape our rockets then water-fire them. Who will go higher? The small light one or the big fully loaded one? Please contact David, RA for Solano Park, if you have any questions at [dgomes@ucdavis.edu](mailto:dgomes@ucdavis.edu).



When: Friday, October 14, 4pm-6pm  
Where: Solano Park Community Center

## FREE TUTORING

School is back in session, which means it's time for your school-aged kids to hone up on their skills! Send kids 7 and older to the community center for small-group tutoring with an experienced educator. Have your kids bring homework they are struggling with, or just show up for some developmentally-appropriate enrichment activities. This service would typically cost \$30+/hour, so please don't miss out! If you have any questions, please contact



Audrey, RA for Solano Park at [audrey.bergmann@gmail.com](mailto:audrey.bergmann@gmail.com).

When: Monday, October 17 at 4pm  
Where: Solano Park Community Center

## KNITTING CIRCLE

Stop by the community center for an evening of knitting and socializing. Experienced knitters can bring projects, and beginners are welcome to start a scarf. We have a limited number of supplies, so come early! I will be available for basic instruction, project advice, and assistance. Beginners welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Audrey, RA for Solano Park at [audrey.bergmann@gmail.com](mailto:audrey.bergmann@gmail.com).



When: Wednesday, October 19 at 8pm  
Where: Solano Park Community Center

## OCTOBER SOLANO POKER TOURNAMENT

A card game is always a good opportunity to socialize, and if there is one that everybody know around the world, it's definitely the Poker Texas Hold'em. So let's play! Of course we will play in a friendly atmosphere and won't gamble any money. We will all start with the same value in chips, and after 90 minutes of playing we will have a winner. If you enjoy that night, we will continue in November and December and, by adding the scores

on the three events, we have a Fall Quarter Champion! Please contact David, RA for Solano Park, if you have any questions at [dgomes@ucdavis.edu](mailto:dgomes@ucdavis.edu).

When: Thursday, October 20, door



opening at 9pm, game starts at 9:15pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center

## SOLANO TOP CHEF CONTEST POTLUCK

Let's have a cooking contest! A good opportunity to work on his gastronomical creativity and to share with others around a potluck. For this first event of a - I hope - long series, you will have to bring a dish based on ... pumpkins! (Yep it's already October) So bring your dishes at 12pm and we will start testing them at 12:30pm. At 1:30pm we will count the ballots and will have a champion in each category: appetizer, entrée, dessert, overall. Come, play, and enjoy great food! Please contact David, RA for Solano Park, if you have any questions at [dgomes@ucdavis.edu](mailto:dgomes@ucdavis.edu).



When: Saturday, October 22, 12pm  
Where: Solano Park Community Center

## Community Programs

### RICE KRISPY TREATS AND CRAFTS

Come by the community center to enjoy some sweet krispy treats and make some crafty decorations for the harvest festival. If you have any questions, please contact Audrey, RA for Solano Park at [audrey.bergmann@gmail.com](mailto:audrey.bergmann@gmail.com).



When: Wednesday, October 26 at 5pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center

### PUMPKIN CARVING

Come out and carve up a pumpkin for Halloween! One pumpkin per family. If you would like to carve more pumpkins, feel free to bring your own. An evite will be sent out so people can RSVP. Some of the pumpkins will be used for decorations at the Fall Harvest Festival, but can be picked up at the end of the event. Children should be accompanied by a caregiver because it can be dangerous carving pumpkins. For more information, contact Corey, RA for Solano Park, by email at [cncoates@ucdavis.edu](mailto:cncoates@ucdavis.edu).



When: Thursday, October 27 at 7pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center

### FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Saturday before Halloween from 9:30-12 will be our Fall Harvest Festival. It will be a carnival set-up with lots of games and fun activities, including Band-Uh (the UC Davis Marching Band). Prizes will be awarded to winners of the games. Children can dress in their costumes to get an early start on the Halloween fun. Additionally, we will have a professional face painter and provide breakfast. We will have a photo booth, so we encourage you to bring your camera for a family photo. For more information, contact Corey, RA for Solano Park, by email at [cncoates@ucdavis.edu](mailto:cncoates@ucdavis.edu).



When: Saturday, October 29 from 9:30am-12pm

Where: Outside the Solano Park Community Center

## Monthly Maintenance Tips By Solano Park Maintenance

- To avoid plumbing charges, watch those kitchen drains. Make sure your strainer is in place in the drain to keep food from going down and plugging the drain.
- Never put grease or oil or any kind down the drain as it will clog the pipes. Put your grease or oil into a can or bottle while it is still warm. When it has cooled off, place it in the trash.
- Are your closet doors often coming untracked? Take care of them by sliding the closet doors slowly and straight.
- Remember that bedroom and cabinet doors are not painted surfaces. Hanging items with tape, nails, or tacks will harm the wood finish. Damage charges could be assessed when you vacate your apartment.
- Periodically cleaning the refrigerator door seal will make it easier to open and keep it from ripping. Take special care to clean the bottom edge with warm soapy water where sticky liquids like to accumulate.



# Calendar of Events

## October 2016

*\*\*All residents are welcome to attend all programs. All events held in the Community Center unless otherwise noted.\*\**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 <u>Young Rocket Scientist</u> SPCC @ 4pm	15
16	17 <u>Free Tutoring</u> SPCC @ 4pm	18	19 <u>Knitting Circle</u> SPCC @ 8pm	20 <u>Poker Tournament</u> SPCC @ 9pm	21	22 <u>Top Chef Potluck</u> SPCC @ 12pm
23	24	25	26 <u>Rice Krispy Treats &amp; Crafts</u> SPCC @ 5pm	27 <u>Pumpkin Carving</u> SPCC @ 7pm	28	29 <u>Fall Harvest Festival</u> SPCC @ 9:30am
30	31					



**The Park at UC Davis**

Solano Park  
Phone: 530-752-3958  
Fax: 530-752-0484  
E-mail: studenthousing@ucdavis.edu

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[http://www.housing.ucdavis.edu/housing/apartments\\_orchard\\_solano.asp](http://www.housing.ucdavis.edu/housing/apartments_orchard_solano.asp)

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.

Editor:  
Sue Franck

Assistant & Desktop Publishing:  
Andrea Gallegos

Contributors:  
Sandy M Batchelor  
Audrey Bergmann  
Corey Coates  
David Gomes  
Ann Gunion  
Peter Menard-Warwick

**The Park Messenger online:**

[http://www.housing.ucdavis.edu/current/park\\_messenger.asp](http://www.housing.ucdavis.edu/current/park_messenger.asp)

**Did you know?**

**Registration Reminder:** 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 the coming months. Please contact the Solano Park Office at 530-752-3958 if you have any questions.

**Parking Permit:** Please make sure that you've renewed your parking permit for the new year. If you haven't renewed, you will be subject to a parking citation and a \$50 ticket from TAPS. Come to the Solano Park Office during office to renew your parking permits.

**DSL:** DSL does not function in Solano Park. A free T1 connection is provided to all leaseholders in Solano Park.

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

**Safety Escort Service:** Need assistance while walking home at night? Call 752-1727 if you would

like a safety escort while walking alone on campus at night. A Cal Aggie Host will meet you and escort you to your destination on campus.

**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.