

**UPDAT ED**

**Tuesday, January 3, 2017**

**Ask yourself the question: “Will this matter a year from now?”**

**Here’s to a 2017 of not sweating the small stuff.**

* Welcome back. I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season with a chance to rest and rejuvenate for the year ahead.
* I am going to change things up a bit for 2017 and reduce the UpdatED to monthly. We are a very interesting bunch, but I think I can effectively capture the happenings at the CDA with fewer editions.
* Also new for 2017 is a monthly acknowledgement of an employee who has really shone in their role. For January, I want to acknowledge our beloved Donna Bacon. She now has three distinct roles at the CDA. She is a support worker in Project Inclusion and Jump Start and has continued to keep the building clean and tidy, all with a smile on her face. Her openness to taking on new things in 2016 has been a gift to all of us. Thanks Donna!
* I did get some work done over the holidays on the Staff Web Page. This will now be the spot to get committee minutes, expense forms, past UpdatED etc. I have also just posted the new wage schedules so you can determine your new rates of pay when they increase in Feb. and April. You access the site by going to the main CVCDA website, going to About Us and then to Staff Only. The password is staff4288. Let me know how it is working for you and if you would like to have additional items posted there.
* I am continuing to look for ways to find more private meeting space so that you can meet with families or have a confidential conversation with a colleague. Starting this month, I have opened up my office to be booked for the days when I am not using it. Sandi will share the calendar with you so that you can go on to Outlook and book it if needed. Just a reminder that if you have booked a space and are not using it, please remove the booking so others can use the space.
* We have two items that have not been claimed from the Telethon Silent Auction. These are on offer to all of you first. We have 4 tickets to the “Have a Heart” fundraiser on Thursday, Feb. 16th. These tickets are worth $60 each, but the winning bid was just $150 so they are all yours for that price. We also have one of the White Wave Skin and Aesthetics packages – a $250 value for just $100. Let me know if you are interested in either.
* A New Year reminder to be conscious of our close quarters working environment and respect your colleagues’ work space. In particular, remember to check in with all occupants of an office before you begin a conversation with one of them.
* Finally, a huge thank you to all of our interior decorators – Lee, Angie, Dixie, Anne D., Wendy, Rich, Kim, Lindsay, Kathy C. and Michelle C. You will see some renewed looks in the meeting rooms and some of the offices. A great start to the New Year.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| January 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sun |  | Mon |  | Tue |  | Wed | |  | | Thu |  | Fri |  | Sat | | |
| 1 |  | 2 |  | 3 |  | 4  Cultural Humility 12:00 |  | | 5 | |  | 6 |  | 7 | |
| 8 |  | **9**  Program Managers 12:00 |  | 10 |  | 11 |  | | 12 | |  | 13 |  | 14 | |
| 15 |  | 16  O, H & S 12:30 |  | 17 |  | 18 |  | | 19  Accessibility 2:30 | |  | 20 |  | 21 | |
| 22 |  | 23 |  | 24 |  | 25  Board Meeting 5:30 |  | | 26 | |  | 27 |  | 28the rooster | |

**Cultural Corner**

New Year, or the “Spring Festival” as it is known in China, is the longest and most important holiday in China. The Chinese New Year 2017 begins on January 28, 2017. The Chinese New Year’s festivities end two weeks later on the 15th day of the first month on what is known as the Lantern Festival.

During the Chinese New Year’s celebrations, there are many traditional activities, some local and others celebrated universally. The Chinese believe that as they enter a new year, they should start a new beginning. They clean their houses, pay off all of their debts, purchase new clothes, paint their doors, and even get new haircuts in order to have a fresh start for the new year.

Homes throughout China are decorated with special banners, many of which are red and gold; the traditional representations of happiness and prosperity.

One very fun tradition of the Chinese New Year is exchanging gifts. A traditional present that is given is small red envelopes filled with “lucky money”. These envelopes are given to children by their family and friends.

The [Year of the Rooster](http://astrologyclub.org/chinese-horoscope/2017-year-rooster/#year-of-the-rooster-2017-predictions) will be a powerful one, with no middle of the road when it comes to moving forward. This year, impressions count. You’ll want to look your best and be clear on your intentions concerning love, money, and business. Stick to practical and well-proven paths to ensure success, rather than risky ventures.

Remember: In a Rooster Year, all of the Chinese animals can reap great rewards by tapping into Rooster traits. Loyalty, commitment, hard work, family values, and top-notch appearances are just some of the characteristics that will be rewarded this year.