

Montclarion

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2015



COURTESY OF KEVIN HYDE/HOLY NAMES UNIVERSITY

Rufino Quicho, general manager at Epicurean Group, has established a small organic garden within one of the courtyards on the Holy Names University campus. Shown, from left, are: Sandra Lacayo; Quicho; Maria Fernanda Cuevas; Dyese Atiba; and Freddy Trujillo.

Organic garden installed at Holy Names University

Epicurean Group general manager establishes area

OAKLAND — Holy Names University students will soon have campus-grown vegetables as an option to their dining choices.

Rufino Quicho, general manager at Epicurean Group, has established a small organic garden within one of the courtyards on campus. Epicurean Group manages food service operations at Holy Names University.

The garden will be named after Sister Ethel Mary Tinnemann, who taught for 45 years, resided in the dorms, and grew many of the plants and trees throughout the campus. The Tinnemann Courtyard Kitchen Garden will

serve students in multiple ways. It will mainly be used to supply a small amount of organically grown herbs and vegetables for the meals served in the university's dining hall.

Quicho also hopes to use the garden as an educational tool in order to teach the university community about food systems and organic gardening. Students are also invited to work in the garden.

Quicho's garden concept is an example of Epicurean Group's focus on educating clients, students, and families about how food choices affect health, the environment, and the community. With HNU's emphasis on social responsibility, the Epicurean Group's environmentally and socially responsible management practices make them a valued partner.

HNU President William J. Hynes, Ph.D., said: "Mary Clark Bartlett, founder of Epicurean Group, conceived of a better way to give people wholesome, locally grown, delicious food. HNU was the third institution to sign with Epicurean Group. Now, Rufino Quicho carries this mission to a new level for the University."

Although the newly established Tinnemann Courtyard Kitchen Garden is a first for HNU, Epicurean Group has established gardens for several of its clients.

"I wanted students to have an opportunity to learn and grow (food) at the same time," Quicho said. Quicho and his wife, Christina, donated the materials for the construction of the garden.

— Lesley Sims, Holy Names University