



Neighborly News



Family Housing Council

Vol. 33 Iss. 50 • December 21, 2007



Weekly Reminders

Saturday, December 22

Sewing Room 10am at LRC
First Day of Winter

Tuesday, December 25

Christmas

Wednesday, December 26

Kwanzaa Begins

Saturday, December 29

Sewing Room 10am at LRC

Monday, December 31

New Year's Eve

Tuesday, January 1

Rose Bowl on TV 3pm at CC

Pest Control:

There will be no scheduled pest control during the week of December 24 or December 31 because of the holidays. To request treatment, visit the website below.

Submit Maintenance Requests to:

<http://iservice.housing.uiuc.edu>

FHC Monthly Public Meeting

There will be no FHC meeting during December because of the holiday break. The next FHC meeting will be held on Friday, January 25 at 5:45pm at the CC.

The Neighborly News will not be distributed during the week of December 28 because of the winter break. The newsletter will return on Friday, January 4.

Candle Use Not Permitted

Because the use of candles or incense poses a serious fire hazard, their use is prohibited within your Family & Graduate Housing apartment. How risky is candle use? According to the National Fire Protection Association, the top five days for home candle fires are Christmas, Christmas Eve, New Year's Day, New Year's Eve, and Halloween. More than half of all candle fires start when curtains, decorations, bedding, or furniture are too close to a lit candle. Falling asleep is also an important factor in home fires caused by candles. We hope you enjoy the festive lights and decorations of the holiday season, but do so without lighting any candles.

Use TMA iService Desk for your Maintenance Requests

Do you have maintenance or repair requests? Then submitting an online maintenance request through the TMA iService Desk is the best and fastest way to do it. Please follow these easy steps to submit an online maintenance request:

1. Go to <http://iservice.housing.uiuc.edu/>
2. Select "Submit a Work Request"
3. Under "Select Complex," please select Orchard Downs
4. Select your building
5. Type in your basic information and the nature of your request in the spaces provided and click "Submit"

Feel free to contact Family & Graduate Housing Office at famhous@uiuc.edu at any time if you have questions.

No Friendship Group, Parent/Child Playgroup, or Cooking Club During Holidays

In observance of University holidays, International Friendship Group will be cancelled on Monday, December 24 and Monday, December 31.

Parent/Child Playgroup and Cooking Club will be cancelled on Tuesday, December 25 and Tuesday, January 1. Please enjoy your holidays and contact Amanda with any questions at amandaj@uiuc.edu or 333-5665.



Community Programs

Please note that we often take photographs during community events, and these photographs may be used in a gallery online. If you do not wish to have your photograph taken, please inform the staff member at the event or contact the Family & Graduate Housing Office at famhous@uiuc.edu or 333-5656.

No Spanish/English Coffee Club

The Spanish/English Coffee Club will be discontinued for the month of December and indefinitely afterward. If you have any questions, please contact [Amanda at amandaj@uiuc.edu](mailto:Amanda@amandaj@uiuc.edu).

Close “Knit” Community Workshop

If you want to knit, this is a great workshop for you. We are going to make a baby sweater over the course of 4 to 7 weeks. But first we’re going to learn to knit and practice by knitting for our community! There will be several things you can choose to knit and contribute. If you are interested, please email Sonia at sillybluefrog@yahoo.com by **Friday, December 21, 2007**.

Welcome to the World

At Family & Graduate Housing, we consider babies to be a joy. It is for this reason that we would like to welcome your newborn into the Orchard Downs community with a complimentary gift package. This is our way of saying, “Welcome to the World!” If you have recently welcomed a new baby into your family, please contact Amanda Johnson by phone at 333-5665 or by email at amandaj@uiuc.edu.

Hot Topics

AMERICAN HOLIDAYS: New Year’s Eve (December 31)

In the United States, the federal holiday is January first, but Americans begin celebrating on December 31. At New Year’s Eve parties across the United States on December 31, many guests watch television as part of the festivities. Most of the television channels show Times Square in the heart of New York City. At one minute before midnight, a lighted ball drops slowly from the top to the bottom of a pole on one of the buildings. People count down at the same time as the ball drops. When it reaches the bottom, the New Year sign is lighted. People hug and kiss, and wish each other “Happy New Year!” Whatever you choose to do for New Year’s Eve, remember to be safe. See what safety tips the Illinois State Police recommend at www.isp.state.il.us/media/pressdetails.cfm?ID=210.

Article adapted from www.usemb.se/Holidays/celebrate/newyears.html

Winter Weather Tips

Cold: If you are not accustomed to cold weather, it is important that you remember to dress properly. In addition to a heavy coat, wear boots on your feet, a hat, gloves or mittens, and a scarf that you can wrap around your face. If you are traveling in a car and have mechanical problems or suddenly cannot see to drive, stay inside your car to remain protected from the cold.

Ice: Ice is dangerous to walk on and even more dangerous for driving. Stay off the ice if possible. If you must walk, wear shoes or boots that have rubber grids, not smooth leather-soled shoes.

Snow: If you shovel snow, shovel it away from your porch and sidewalks where you and others walk. Snow can become compressed and slippery. If you prefer to do some of your own shoveling, remember to shovel carefully so you don’t hurt yourself! The University is not responsible for any injury or damage that occurs due to shoveling.

Blizzards: Blizzards include snow, high winds, and cold. You often cannot see to drive under such conditions, even if you can see out of the windows of your apartment. If there are blizzard conditions, do not travel by any means. If you have to travel for an emergency, call the police department for direction and assistance.



Watch the Rose Bowl

The Fighting Illini made it to the Rose Bowl! If you have no plans for **Tuesday, January 1, 2008**, then start the year off by cheering on the U of I football team to glory as they take on the University of Southern California in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena. Join Alyssa in the **Community Center** to watch the game on the big screen. We will be watching some pre-game entertainment from **3pm**. Game time is 3:30pm. If you have any questions, please email alyssanevin@hotmail.com.

Valuable Resource: Orchard Downs Discussion Board

Do you want to publicize an event to the Orchard Downs community?

Are you holding a moving sale?

Are you looking for a roommate?

Do you want to share a ride?

The Orchard Downs Discussion Board is the best venue for that! It's online, it's free, and everybody can have access to it by visiting <http://bb.odfhc.org//index.php>. We are looking forward to your announcements!

Inexpensive Gift Ideas for the Holidays

Try these great gifts for anyone on your list. They are easy on the budget!

- Special foods that you know the person likes (candy, imported cheeses, tea, wine)
 - Homemade cookies or desserts
 - A dozen fancy envelopes from a stationery store that are already stamped
 - Photo album, puzzle books, magazine, or newspaper subscriptions
 - Gift certificates to a movie theater, restaurant, beauty salon, etc.
 - Telephone calling card
 - Designate a day to take the person shopping, out to eat, to the library, etc.
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FHC Public Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 30, 2007

The meeting started at 5:45pm with the presence of the FHC Board, the Community Aides, and some residents. President Elham Fini opened the session by welcoming the attendees and encouraging everybody to enjoy the pizza and drinks.

1. Eli thanked the volunteers who helped with the home-buying workshop.
2. Officer Matthew J. Ballinger from Campus Police talked about personal safety and then took questions from the audience. He emphasized that people should call 911 whenever they feel they are in immediate danger.
3. Eli explained that since the two submissions that the Board had received for the logo competition were not deemed appropriate, the competition is now closed.
4. Alexandra introduced the new Sewing Room monitor, Feifei Zhan, and Eli introduced the new treasurer, Qiping.
5. Eli announced that no public meeting will be held in December.

The meeting ended at 6:45pm.



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WWW.ODFHC.ORG

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What is the FHC?

The Orchard Downs FHC is an organization created to safeguard the interest of the residents of Orchard Downs Family & Graduate Housing.

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MultiCultural Health Center

2040-A Orchard Street

The MCHC works to deliver culturally sensitive illness prevention and health promotion services to the families of the Family & Graduate Housing community. The Center provides health information, education, insurance information, and referrals to residents.

Planned Parenthood

This service provides sexual and reproductive health care **every second Wednesday of the month** from 6-8pm.

Mobile Clinic by CUPHD

Mobile programs and services are a wide variety of affordable programs offered by Champaign-Urbana Public Health District (CUPHD) to meet residents' health care needs. This mobile program will be offered **once every month on a Thursday** from 2-4 pm on the **South Laundry parking lot closest to the MCHC**. Please refer to Orchard Downs calendar for the clinic service schedule. Some of the services that will be offered include Illinois Diabetes Control Program, Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Programs, HIV and STD screening, smoking cessation information, disease management education, blood pressure checks, referrals into other programs, and Immunizations. For details, contact Lin Yang at linyang3@uiuc.edu.

Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

This program will be offered **every other Friday afternoon** from 1 to 4pm at the **MultiCultural Health Center**. The next service will be provided on **Friday, December 14**. These services are provided for women, infants and children, and are offered by the Champaign Urbana Public Health District. Some of the services provided to WIC participants include supplemental nutritious foods, nutrition education and counseling, screening and referrals for other health services, welfare, and social services. For more information, contact Lin Yang at linyang3@uiuc.edu.

Thursday Clinic Services

The Champaign County Christian Health Center (CCCHC) offers clinic services on the **second and fourth Thursday evenings of the month** from 6 to 9pm. The clinic will be staffed with a physician and/or a nurse practitioner. For more information, please contact Lin Yang at linyang3@uiuc.edu.

NEIGHBORLY NEWS

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