

AT HOME WITH Graduate Apartments

February 2011



from Betsy's desk...

As I write this column on the last day of January, I say 'thank you' to the start of a new month and hopefully put the bad weather behind us. I don't really think that I have that kind of magic as there are storms forecasted for this first week of February. I now have resorted to using the mantra, 'THINK SPRING!' Please feel free to join me.

It is an enormous challenge to maintain normal services and programs when faced with the amount of snow and cold temperatures that we have faced over this past month. The Connecticut Weather Service has reported that this has been Connecticut's snowiest January on record! Grounds Maintenance and Physical Plant have met head on with the endless job of clearing sidewalks and parking lots, problems facing the cold temperatures and the issues that they cause. It may appear that things are not getting addressed but with the huge challenges and the sheer numbers of service requests, things are getting resolved. Patience is the name of the game and if you feel that your service request is becoming more critical, please let us know.

February has proven in the past to be a busy time as we prepare for contract renewals and receiving new applications from students hoping to gain a spot in the apartments. We are busy reviewing our current contract and policies regarding subletting and transfers. This information along with the 2011/2012 rates will be highlighted in the March newsletter. If you have questions prior to then, please call to schedule an appointment to meet with me.

Residence Life New programming was set to begin in January, some of which had to be rescheduled due to the weather. Both *Night at the Observatory* and *Meet the Musicians* are being rescheduled for March. New dates will be announced in the March newsletter. Please stay tuned!

In the meantime Resident Coordinators are busy planning programs and social events for the semester. Super Bowl parties, children's events and cooking demonstrations are just to name a few. The events are planned with you in mind offering you the time to take a break and visit with your friends and neighbors. So if you haven't already joined in the fun please plan to do so! If you have any ideas or comments on events that interest you, please contact your resident coordinator directly.

Quiet Please! At this point of the academic year, students are facing many stresses which manifest themselves in a variety of ways. There seems to be an escalated number of noise complaints. Please be mindful of your neighbors in the early and late evening hours. If your apartment is not carpeted, please put down some area rugs so as to soften the footsteps throughout the apartment. **Quiet hours start at 10pm and last until 8am.** This does not mean that you can't play music and watch television, just do it quietly. It does not mean that you can't have friends over to visit. Just keep voices at a low decibel. The first rule is to talk with your neighbors who may not be aware that they are causing noise. The last resort is to contact our office and see how we can help resolve the situation for everyone.

Coming In March...

The March newsletter will include important information regarding your graduate apartment assignment for the 2011/2012 year. This will be your opportunity to communicate your plans and needs for the summer and next academic year. This process will be made available to you through 'MyHousing' beginning March 1st. All decisions must be submitted no later than Monday, March 21st.

Maintenance

What is a maintenance emergency?

Maintenance emergencies are situations which may pose a health or safety threat to the residents or may cause damage to the apartment and must be taken care of immediately. Examples of an emergency are: no heat/hot water, no electricity, plugged or overflowing toilets or sinks, water leaks.

Who do I report this to?

ALL APARTMENT EMERGENCIES MUST BE DIRECTED TO PHYSICAL PLANT AT 203-432-6888. Non-emergency repairs should be reported by using the FAMIS system at <http://www.facilities.yale.edu/Who/FandO.asp>.

Laundry Rooms

MacGray Laundry Service is responsible for the service and maintenance of the laundry equipment throughout campus and at the apartments.

If you are experiencing problems with the equipment please contact MacGray directly at www.macgray.com to submit an online service request. Select 'customer service' and enter laundrylinx password 'yalebulldogs' to do so.

Laundry equipment issues should not be reported to Facilities.

Groundhog Day



Groundhog Day began in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania in 1887. On February 2nd spectators watch as a groundhog emerges from its burrow. As the story goes, if the groundhog sees its shadow, we can expect six more weeks

of winter, but if it doesn't, we can look forward to an early spring. Several cities have famous groundhogs which emerge every Groundhog Day: the most well-known is Punxsutawney Phil.

Valentine's Day

The origin of Valentine's Day as the "holiday of love" is somewhat obscure. In Ancient Rome, February 15 marked the festival of Lupercalia, named after the god of fertility. In addition, the Catholic Church recognizes three Saint Valentines, all of whom were said to be martyred on February 14. One legend holds that Saint Valentine wrote a love letter to his jailer's daughter the evening before his execution, signing it 'from your Valentine'. The association between Valentine's Day and romantic love seems to have originated in Medieval Europe and is celebrated in several countries today.



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i>	3 <i>Asian Lunar New Year Dinner</i>	4 York Crown: Lunch @ Zaroka!	5
6 <i>Mansfield Super Bowl Party</i>	7 WHITEHALL PLAYGROUP 10 AM	8	9	10 <i>Esplanade Playgroup 10 am</i>	11 <i>McDougal 11th Annual Winter Ball</i>	12
13 <i>Winter Tree Identification Hike</i>	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15	16	17	18	19
	20 WHITEHALL PLAYGROUP 10 AM	21-22 <i>Dinosaur Days</i>		23	24 <i>YCT: PETER PAN!</i>	25 <i>YCT: PETER PAN!</i>
27	28					26 MOUNT SNOW!

What's happening in February...

2/3, *Asian Lunar New Year Dinner @ HGS Dining Hall, 5-8 pm, Celebrate the Lunar New Year of the Rabbit with a dinner of Chinese and Asian delights! \$13.25 all you can eat. Kids 3-10 1/2 price.. 203-432-2583.*

2/4, *York Crown: Lunch at Zaroka!, 12-1 pm*

2/6, *Mansfield Super Bowl Party! The fun starts at 5:45 pm in the Community Room.*

2/11, *Whitehall Children's Arts & Crafts: Featuring...Valentine Heart Magnets!, 4 pm in the community room.*

2/12, *McDougal 11th Annual Winter Ball, New Haven Lawn Club, 193 Whitney Avenue, 8pm-1am, Come alone, with a date or group of friends and dance the night away! Dessert Reception. For ticket information contact mcdougal.center@yale.edu or call 432-BLUE.*

2/13, *Winter Tree Identification Hike, 1:30 pm Sleeping Giant State Park, 200 Mt. Carmel Avenue, Handen, CT FREE, www.sgpa.com.*

2/24 & 2/25, *Yale Children's Theatre Presents: Peter Pan! 11 am & 1 pm. Dwight Hall, 67 High Street. Some shows are free, most have low cost tickets. ILoveYCT@gmail.com for more info.*

2/25, *Whitehall Children's Arts & Crafts: Featuring...Stamp Work!, 4 pm in the community room.*

2/26, *Bus Trip to Mt. Snow, Vermont!*

Bus Trip to Mt. Snow, VT! Saturday, February 26th

Graduate and Professional Students, Affiliates, Families and Friends who live both on and off campus.

\$30 per person includes bus transportation and lift ticket. Reservations will be limited to available seating. If you wish to attend please visit the OCP office (420 Temple Street, G2) Feb 7th -11th between 9am and 3pm. **Only payment and a signed waiver will reserve your seat(s) on the bus!** Questions? email OCP@yale.edu.

Dinosaur Days February 21-26 at the Peabody Museum

Join in the fun during the February school holidays for the annual celebration of paleontology and dinosaurs. There will be plenty of hands on activities for the whole family! our famous fossil dig, an extensive fossil touch table, dinosaur arts and crafts, and the chance to meet experts and watch them prepare dinosaur bones for display — plus a puppet show each day at 11:00 a.m., and something special each afternoon at 1:00 p.m. For more info call 432-5050 or visit www.yale.edu/peabody 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

