

# AT HOME WITH Graduate Apartments

February 2012



## from Betsy's desk...

**2012** is a Leap Year and therefore a leap day is added to this month's calendar giving us 29 days instead of the usual 28. During those 29 days, we will be busy completing policy changes and preparing the 2012-2013 budget which will include the new apartment rent rates. Complete details will be outlined in the March newsletter. It is most important that you take the time to read it as it will provide to you the terms and conditions for renewing your contract assignment, ability to transfer and vacating instructions. If you have questions that need to be answered in February, send me an email and we can set up a time to meet and talk.

**Winter Weather** Typically February can be kind in the weather forecasts but with the strange weather patterns we have had since October it is highly likely that a snow storm or other bad weather pattern may push through the area over the next few weeks. In the case of a storm please watch for emails alerting you of snow removal plans. Your cooperation is necessary in order to effectively clear the parking lots.

**Postal Rate Increase** Effective January 22, 2012 the U.S. Post Office has increased the First Class mail rate to 45¢ to mail a First Class letter. For more information go to [www.usps.gov](http://www.usps.gov) or visit the nearest branch. A US Post Office is located on campus at the corner of Elm and High Streets.

**Special Projects** Many of the Fall projects have been completed and we are in the midst of outlining our requests for the Spring and Summer months. When I have news to share, I will make it available.

**Residence Life** Resident Coordinators are busy planning programs and social events for the semester. Super Bowl parties, children's events, and shows at the Yale Rep are in the works. 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.

**COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS** We are currently looking for someone who would be interested in offering a cooking series during March, April and May. If you are interested please contact [laura.bertolini@yale.edu](mailto:laura.bertolini@yale.edu).

**Attention International spouses and partners!** Are you new to New Haven or even the States? Do you speak English? Together we will find places to shop and visit, your favorite food that you are homesick for, or help you with your English. For more information contact group coordinator Milica Stevic at [milicakovacevicstevic@gmail.com](mailto:milicakovacevicstevic@gmail.com) or stop by the Whitehall Community room Fridays at 11 am. All Graduate Apartments residents are welcome!

**Quiet Please!** 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. Be considerate of your neighbors. If you are having a noise issue with a neighbor please try to speak with them directly. They may not even be aware that they are creating noise! The last resort is to contact our office and see how we can help resolve the situation for everyone.

**No Smoking!** Smoking is not permitted in the graduate apartment buildings or within 30 feet of their exterior. Doing so is a violation of your contract terms and conditions and can result in termination of your lease. Please be sure to advise your visitors and guests.

## Coming In March...

The March newsletter will include important information regarding your graduate apartment assignment for the 2012/2013 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 Tuesday, March 20th.

## Be Informed \* Be Smart \* Be Safe!

University Police recommends that you do not walk alone (especially at night); Walk with a friend or colleague. Call To-Walk at 203-432-9255 when your friends are not available. To-Walk is available 24 hours 7 days a week. For your safety, program the following University service numbers into your cell phone.

University Police.....203-432-4400  
University Security.....203-785-5555  
Nighttime Mini-bus.....203-432-6330  
Escort Service.....203-432-WALK

## 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](http://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.

## Maintenance

**APARTMENT or BUILDING EMERGENCIES MUST BE DIRECTED TO FACILITIES AT 203-432-6888.**

Non-emergency repairs should be reported online at [www.facilities.yale.edu](http://www.facilities.yale.edu).

**ALL REQUESTS at the Sterling Quadrangle should be reported to:  
DIVINITY.FACILITIES@YALE.EDU**

## 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.



# February 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<i>Dragon Dance!</i>		
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <i>Groundhog Day</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> WHITEHALL PLAYGROUP 10 AM	<b>7</b> Mansfield & Esplanade Wine & Cheese Party	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Whitehall Kid's Arts & Crafts: Valentines!	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <i>Winter Tree Identification Hike</i>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <i>Valentine's Day</i>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> WHITEHALL PLAYGROUP 10 AM <i>President's Day</i>	<b>21</b> <i>Dinosaur Days</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Esplanade Family Movie Night!	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <i>McDougal 12th Annual Winter Ball</i>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <i>LEAP DAY!</i>			

## What's happening in February...

2/2, **Dragon Dance!** Celebrate the Chinese New Year in New Haven! 11:30am - 12:15pm. Parade begins at the New Haven Green, corner of Church and Elm and proceeds up Church/Whitney to the Yale-China Association at Trumbull and Temple Streets with performances along the way.

2/7, **Mansfield/Esplanade Wine and Cheese Party!**, 6:30 pm in the Mansfield Community Room.

2/9, **Whitehall Kid's Arts & Crafts: Valentines!** 6pm in the community room. Pre-registration is required. RSVP to Mary or Elizabeth at [glendonsen@gmail.com](mailto:glendonsen@gmail.com) or [elizavernon@gmail.com](mailto:elizavernon@gmail.com) if you plan to attend.

2/12, **Winter Tree Identification Hike**, 1:30 pm Sleeping Giant State Park, 200 Mt. Carmel Avenue, Handen, CT FREE, [www.sgpa.com](http://www.sgpa.com).

2/23, **Esplanade Family Movie Night!**, 6pm in the community room. Popcorn and drinks provided.

2/25, **McDougal 12th 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](mailto:mcdougal.center@yale.edu) or call 432-BLUE.

## Dinosaur Days February 20-24 at the Peabody Museum 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

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.peabody.yale.edu/events](http://www.peabody.yale.edu/events) for a complete schedule.



## Coming Soon....

**A Night at the Peabody Museum**  
March 24th, 6-9 pm.

See the museum come alive with games, crafts, scavenger hunts, live animals and some special surprises! \$12 for museum members/Yale employees and \$18 for non-members. Advance purchase required. Tickets can be purchased online at the Museum Store website at [www.peabodystore.com](http://www.peabodystore.com).



## LEAP YEAR: 2012

A Leap Year consists of 366 days, as opposed to a common year, which has 365 days. Leap Years were first introduced nearly 2000 years ago by Julius Caesar. It was necessary in order to keep our calendar in alignment with the Earth's revolutions around the sun. A Leap Year occurs nearly every 4 years. During a Leap Year an extra day or Leap Day is added on February 28th. If a day was not added on this date nearly every four years almost six hours would be lost off of the calendar year. After only 100 years the calendar would be off by approximately 24 days!