Next month’s issue: Spring Break!

What are your plans for spring break this March? Everyone has travel and safety tips so we can pass them along.

Send submissions to calliep@offcampus.ufl.edu

www.offcampus.ufl.edu

OCL Events:

Get featured in the 2012-13 Off Campus Life, OCL’s magazine!

As mentioned in last month’s newsletter, OCL is making progress each week on the new website and updating the 2012-2013 Gator Guide to make those resources more valuable.

On that note, here at the office we are hoping to get some quotes from our off-campus Gators about Student Legal Services, tips for living in a dorm, safety tips, experiences with transportation (biking tips, bus routes, commuter rundown, avoiding tickets, parking tips, etc.), experiences with transportation (biking tips, bus routes, commuter rundown, avoiding tickets, parking tips, etc.), and tips on how to get involved.

To be featured!

Buzz Words: “Lights Out”

Notice any streetlights out in your neighborhood during your evening run or walking home from a night class? Well you can do something about it! Anyone can report a streetlight that’s gone dark to the UF Office of Campus Life. All you need to do is take a picture of the five digit pole number identifying the streetlight, and post it vertically on each pole. With the power back on, the fix will be done.

Getting an apartment

Here are some things to keep in mind during your search.

• Privacy
• Proximity to campus, stores, businesses, entertainment, etc.
• Bus route accessibility (do you want to be able to walk to campus?)
• Rent (and summer sublease info!)
• Pet costs
• Transportation expenses
• Roommates
• Renter’s insurance
• Utilities, gas, water
• Tuition
• Eating out or cooking
• Parking
• Roommates
• Privacy

Budgeting! Money does not regenerate (I wish!) so we all need to plan a budget according to what’s affordable. Here are some average expenses:

• Tuition
• Monthly Bill
• Utilities, gas, water
• Pet’s insurance
• Groceries, pet costs, transportation expenses, clothing...

Tour several properties before making any final decisions (I recommend 4-5). When searching, use our ‘housing locator’ tool up front, and have Student Legal Services look over your lease.

If you need to Sublease:

Check with office management to make sure you are allowed to sublease first, and then make sure to advertise ASAP. Ask if the company has any possible renters, otherwise, post your sublease on our housing locator and start asking around for people who need a place to crash.

Most importantly, if you have any specific questions or need more advice, make an appointment by e-mailing the director, Nora Kilroy, or stop by the Off Campus Life office on the first floor of Peabody Hall to talk before making any moves. Happy hunting!

Stress Break

Fun, friends and food were the focus of the last fall Community Advocates event on November 30. The Community Advocates, or CAs, are Off Campus Life’s affiliated student organization. The CAs help bridge the gap between university students and the Gainesville community.

At the fall De-stress Fun Fest, students gathered in Graham Gallery to play games like Apples to Apples or Taboo, color, craft refrigerator magnets or weave bracelets. Sometimes a little break is just what you need to ace that exam!

Do you see yourself in these photos? Tag yourself on Facebook at UF Off Campus Life and you can

OFF CAMPUS LIFE

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