

JEWISH AWARENESS MONTH

Jewish Awareness Month (JAM) is an annual month of fun events and activities put on by the Jewish Student Union. This year's JAM-packed month of activities include but are not limited to the following:

- JAM Kick-off Purim Party**- Saturday, February 27th
- Purim Carnival**- Sunday, February 28th
- Farrahs Night**- Sunday, February 28th
- Ben Folds Concert**- Wednesday, March 17th
- Ginnie Springs Trip**- Saturday, March 27th

For more information, check out the "Jewish Awareness Month 2010" Facebook group.



FREE MEDIATION SERVICE

Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (SCCR) is now offering mediation services to UF students and student organizations.

What is mediation?

Mediation is a voluntary and non-disciplinary approach to solving disputes. In a mediation session, the disputants and a trained mediator come together in a neutral and informal setting. The mediator is objective and does not decide how the dispute should be resolved, but instead works with the disputants to find a lasting solution or plan of future action to resolve the issue at hand.

Who are the mediators?

Our mediators are trained SCCR staff, University of Florida law school students, and other community members where appropriate.

Why use mediation?

- Mediators do not fix blame and allow agreements to be reached by parties themselves.
- Privacy: Everything said in a mediation session will be confidential.
- No Cost: SCCR provides mediation services to students for free.
- Peace of Mind: Mediation helps to preserve important relationships and ends conflict peacefully.

Common Mediation Situations

- Disputes between roommates and/or neighbors
 - Disputes between friends
 - Disputes within or between student organizations
- If you would like to request mediation or want more information, please visit SCCR's Web site at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, 2/10: Dating and Roommating: Creating and Maintaining Healthy Relationships

Reitz Union
284
11:45AM-12:35PM

Gain insight from a panel of experts on how to have healthy and happy relationships within yourself and others. Free lunch is provided.



Thursday, 2/18: Breakfast Club

202 Peabody Hall (next to Criser Hall)
9:30AM-10:30AM

Spot in for a free breakfast and to share your questions or concerns about living off campus. Food is provided by the Bagel Bakery, a local business with a great staff and even better bagels and treats.



BUZZ AT THE BAGEL BAKERY

4113 NW 16th Blvd., (352) 384-9110



GET PUBLISHED IN OCL'S MAGAZINE!

Remember your high school yearbook? Think of how awesome (or embarrassing) it felt when you saw your name and picture in print. OCL's yearly magazine publication is looking to include YOU!

Submit a quote sharing why you love living off-campus, your favorite memory about living off-campus, what you know now that you wish you knew before, etc. Basically, we want to include your thoughts about off campus life. Submit quotes to leahv@offcampus.ufl.edu If your quote is published, we will also print a picture of you. Please keep quotes and pictures appropriate. No profanity, nudity, or inappropriate content is allowed.

Along with quotes, submit your design for the front cover. The front cover is 8 1/2" x 11" and full color. Any form of art--photography, graphic design, etc. is welcomed. The focus is off campus life. Send front cover design submissions in PDF format to OCL Director Nora Kilroy at norak@offcampus.ufl.edu.

The Gator Guide to Off Campus Life goes out to over 6,000 students and gets 10-15,000 hits on our website. Take advantage of this opportunity to be included in a University publication!

LET'S TALK ABOUT SEX

It's easy to get caught up in the excitement and anticipation of Valentine's Day. Though it may be the "Day of Love", don't abandon everything you know about safe sex. One day's event could be a lifetime of consequence. Keep your sexual health in check. Go to the Student Health Care Center and learn ways to maintain your sexual health and keep yourself safe from STD's. Get tested for STD's and AIDS at the SHCC or Health Department. SHCC has free condoms for students. Planned Parenthood also provides services for sexual health.

- SHCC: <http://shcc.ufl.edu/gatorwell/index2.shtml>
- Alachua County Health Department: <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/chdalachua/hiv/hiv.htm>
- Planned Parenthood: <http://www.plannedparenthood.org/>

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February is Black History Month. For a complete February calendar of events, go to <http://ufblackhistorymonth.com/default.aspx>. Upcoming Events include:

Friday, 2/5

- GatorNights-Movie This is it, 6:30, 9 and 11 PM

Reitz Union Auditorium

Saturday, 2/6

- Black Leadership Conference 9 a.m.-4p.m.
- GatorNights- Movie This is it

Reitz Union Auditorium

8 and 10:30 p.m.

Saturday, 2/13

- Kids Day
- N. W Boys and Girls Club

11 a.m.-3p.m.

Wednesday, 2/17

- Accent Speaker and SGP- Conversation with John Legend

O'Dome

TBA

Friday, 2/19

- Fashion X-Clusive

Grand Ballroom

7:30 p.m.

Free and open to the public

Doors open at 6:30pm Seating is limited and first come first serve basis.

Saturday, 2/20

- FISS (Florida Invitational Step Show)

O'Connell Center

Doors open at 6 p.m.

\$12* student ticket

\$16* general admission ticket

www.ticketmaster.com

*Not inclusive of Taxes and Fees

Friday, 2/26

- Comedy Show-Lil Duval

Grand Ballroom

7 p.m.

Free and open to the public

Doors open at 6:30pm Seating is limited and first come first serve basis.



ATTENTION CLASS OF 2013!

New Student Program's Featured Speaker Series and the Common Reading Program will present Leah Sarat, Department of Religion, *The God without Borders and the Mexican Dream: Two Visions of*

the Migration Journey. Sarat will address the issue of border crossing as experienced by El Alberto residents and tourists in a rigorous U.S.-Mexico border crossing simulation in effort to raise migration awareness and generate sustainable local employment. Thursday, February 18th at 7:00pm in the Graham Gallery.

BUS ROUTES 9, 35, 36, 403, & LATER GATOR B DETOURS AND DELAYS

Thanks to the City of Gainesville for the following RTS press release.

Don't be late for your important date! City of Gainesville Regional Transit System (RTS) is expecting five- to ten-minute delays and implementing temporary bus stop closures and detours as a result of roundabout construction at the intersection of SW 35th Place and SW 23rd Terrace.

Starting Monday, February 1, Semper Fi Services will begin survey work and construction on the new roundabout, which will promote safety and mitigate traffic congestion during peak hours. RTS expects delays on weekday routes 9, 35, 36 and Later Gator B as well as on weekend route 403.

RTS will be temporarily closing five bus stops serving Route 403 and Later Gator B. Westbound bus stops on SW 35th Place between SW 23rd Terrace and SW 27th Street will be closed. Passengers using these stops may use the Southbound stop on SW 23rd Terrace at Southwood Apartments. Southbound stops on SW 27th Street between SW 35th Place and SW 38th Place will also be closed. Passengers using these stops may use the Northbound Lexington Crossing stop at SW 27th Street and SW 38th Place.

Later Gator B and Route 403 will be detoured, with buses continuing South on SW 23rd Terrace to Williston Road and approaching Lexington Crossing from the South. The bus will then loop back around, take a right onto Williston Road and continue on to resume its normal route.

Detours and bus stop closures will remain in effect until further notice. RTS expects construction to be completed sometime in May 2010.

For updates and more information on routes and schedules, visit the RTS Web site, www.go-rts.com, or call (352) 334-2600 for general schedule information. Direct media inquiries to Chip Skinner, RTS Marketing and Communications Supervisor, at (352) 393-7842 or skinnerc@cityofgainesville.org.

MAKE SENSE OF THE CENSUS

This March, the 2010 Census will arrive in every Gainesville resident's mailbox. Your responses will directly affect the distribution of more than \$400 billion in federal funding. Off-campus students must fill out the form with their housemates and return it by mail by April 1. For more information, visit www.YouMeCensUS.com.

WALLET WOES TO WALLET WOOS

J-Lo put it best when she said her love don't cost a thing. You can treat your loved one to a terrific Valentine's Day without breaking the bank. Read on for some creative and cheap ideas for celebrating Valentine's Day.

- Make an old-school valentine. Bring it back to elementary school and bust out the construction paper, Elmer's glue, and white lace doilies. Cut out hearts and write a nice message. Not good with words? Use song lyrics you know your loved one would like.
- Go for a walk. Gainesville is home to plenty of natural beauty. Go for a walk around Lake Alice, Payne's Prairie, or Devil's Milhopper. UF's campus is a beautiful and free place for a leisurely stroll.
- Cook together. Avoid busy restaurants and over-priced menus and make a personalized menu for a nice home-cooked meal.
- Love coupons. Give a homemade booklet of love coupons to your partner. Make coupons your partner can redeem for a movie of their choice, a get-out-of-doing-insert-least-favorite-chore-here, etc.
- Make your own "Notebook" scene. Remember that scene in "the Notebook" where Ryan Gosling and Rachel McAdams are in a row boat surrounded by swans in the pouring rain? As beautiful as that movie was, it definitely set the grounds for unrealistic standards of love and romance. Regardless, take advantage of Gainesville and bring your loved one to Lake Wauberg. While chances are you'd be surrounded by alligators and egrets rather than swans, you can still enjoy kayaking or canoeing together for free with your Gator-1 ID.

Don't stress so much about expectations on Valentine's Day. Just be sure to enjoy each others' company and show appreciation for the efforts your partner puts forth.



NEW HOUSING LOCATOR LAUNCH

Looking for off campus housing? Go to www.offcampus.ufl.edu and use OCL's free housing locator service. The website has been renovated based off recommendations from you. A new appealing look and easy-to-use search tools makes your housing search easier. Happy house hunting!

DON'T HATE...GROUP DATE!

For some people, Valentine's Day is anything but a lovely day. As the old adage goes, if you can't be with the one you love, love the one you're with. Just because you're alone on Valentine's Day doesn't mean you have to be lonely.

- Get a group of friends together and throw a dinner party. Enjoy each others' company. You don't need a significant other to feel significant.
- Get moving. Get your energy out at the gym. SW Rec and SRFC are open from 10AM-10PM and the O'Connell Center Weight Room is open from 2-8PM. Grab some friends and play a game of Wallyball, tennis, raquetball, basketball, etc.
- Laugh! Watch some funny movies to get your mind off feeling lonely. Laughter is the best medicine.
- Relax. Valentine's Day is one day out of 364. Don't let your outlook on your entire year be ruined by one day.
- Give back. Valentine's Day may be one day when you feel lonely, but there are plenty of people who feel alone year-round. Volunteer at a local nursing home or visit patients in the hospital. Focusing on helping others ultimately makes you feel good about yourself and gets your mind off your worries. Check out UF's Center for Leadership and Service for opportunities to get involved at <http://www.leadershipandservice.ufl.edu/>.
- Be thankful. Realize that the grass isn't always greener on the other side. Just because someone is in a relationship doesn't mean their life is better than yours. Sometimes people are in unhealthy relationships and have their own challenges to face. Take this time to celebrate your life and what makes you the unique individual you are.



APARTMENT MANAGER'S CORNER

This portion of the newsletter is written by local apartment managers.

Every semester students begin to think about living away from home and out of the dormitory lifestyle. Fortunately, there are lots of choices to choose from in Gainesville. Those who begin to secure their home early will have the advantage over those who wait until the last minute.

A list of their advantages are:

1. First choice of the floor-plan that they desire
2. Better price incentives as earlier the specials will be better
3. Building and view preferences on the community
4. Guarantee of living with the roommate of your choice

So, keep in mind when you are shopping around for a new home, select early. This also gives you an opportunity to start selecting your decorations for your new room.

LEXINGTON CROSSING OPEN HOUSE

LC is hosting an Open House on February 6th from 10AM-7PM. There will be refreshments and a raffle for those people that sign leases on that day. There are special rates for that day for people that sign.

Sign a lease be put into a raffle for: Nintendo Wii, dinner to Texas Roadhouse, and UF Basketball tickets.

Lease rates for the day:

2/2's at \$494

3/3's at \$424

4/4's at \$394

*12 month leases also get to choose from a new 42" TV or a New Sofa Set

\$0 to sign a lease

Group special: If you fill a 3/3 or a 4/4, the rate is \$379 for a 4/4 and \$409 for a 3/3