SO YOU ARE LIVING OFF-CAMPUS... NOW WHAT?

Welcome back to Middletown! My name is Stephanie Burke Lewis and I am the Area Coordinator for Wood Frame houses and Fauver Apartments.

I'm writing on behalf of the Office of Residential Life to offer some support as you navigate the year in off-campus housing. Though you may be a bit more removed from campus than in previous years, you can always ask for help when you need it.

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Life in the Neighborhood

For some, being a good neighbor is a life-long practice. As you settle into your off-campus living arrangements, here are some tips to keep in mind:

- Trash and recycling collection differs by street and city. The collection schedule for Middletown can be found by clicking here. Remember to bring the bins back from the street in the morning - failure to do so can result in a city fine.
- Meet your neighbors! Whether you share a building, yard, or street, the relationship is important. Neighbors can help you learn the vibe of the area and especially in the time of Covid19, you'll want to know who you live near.
- When it comes to noise, err on the side of quiet. Soon you will know if your neighbors have young children or early jobs, and they deserve your respect, just as you deserve theirs.

Covid19 Reminders

- Frequently disinfect communal objects and surfaces: doorknobs, mailboxes, gate latches, kitchen appliance buttons, keys, etc.
- Carefully clean cellphones, laptops, wallets, and credit cards.
- Wear face-masks when leaving your house or personal apartment.
- Discuss Covid19 safety and social distancing with platonic and romantic partners.
- And as always... wash your hands!
Tips for New Renters

- Know who you are renting from! Keep your landlord or leaseholder's contact information in an easily accessible place, and share with your housemates.
- Photograph and report any pre-existing apartment damage when you move in, so to not be held liable when you move out.
- Update any saved online shipping information to your new address.
- Post communally shared utility and/or internet bills in a common space.
- Be mindful of parking in the designated spaces for your unit, and look for street-parking snow bans when winter comes.
- Please consider buying Renters' Insurance! Policies are available through well-known companies as well as National Student Services Inc.

Links & Resources

Office of Residential Life

City of Middletown website

Rights and Responsibilities of Landlords and Tenants in CT