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RENTER'S

*Guide*

# Community Calendar

## MONDAY, FEB. 20

### Naval ROTC Soup Lunch

The Beaver Battalion student group is hosting a weekly soup lunch buffet, complete with bread, desserts, beverages and, of course, soup. While free of charge, there is a suggested donation. This event takes place in the Naval ROTC Armory from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## TUESDAY, FEB. 21

### Climate Change Your Behavior

The Student Sustainability Initiative is putting on several climate change themed events this Tuesday. You can use your speed and quick thinking in the Watch Your Footprint climate neutrality race. If trivia is more your speed, you can compete in a round of Atmospheric Breakdown. These events take place in the Student Experience Center from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22

### Water Resource Seminar

Dr. David Purkey of the Stockholm Environmental Institute presents "Lessons from an Athenian Drought." This event is hosted by the Water Resource Graduate Program Seminar Series on Innovations in Water Resource Engineering, and will take place in Owen Hall room 103 from 12-12:50 p.m.

## THURSDAY, FEB. 23

### Virtual Career Fair

If you have an Internet-enabled device, you have everything you need to meet with employers in the Career Development Center's Hospitality and Recreation Virtual Career Fair. You can connect from anywhere to employers everywhere who are looking for students in hotel management, tourism, health and wellness, sports and recreation and more. This event takes place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## FRIDAY, FEB. 24

### 21st Century Marketing Boot Camp

The College of Business invites you to learn Search Engine Optimization and digital marketing by building a website using industry-standard tools. This event takes place in Austin Hall room 270 from 1-2 p.m.

## SATURDAY, FEB. 25

### Beavers Have Babies, Dam It!

The President's Commission on the Status of Women at OSU is organizing a rally to raise awareness about child care on campus and in the Corvallis community. This event will begin at the Memorial Union at 10 a.m., and continue east toward Central Park and back along Jefferson Avenue.

## RENTER'S GUIDE 2017



# CORVALLIS HOUSING FAIR

THURSDAY, FEB. 23, 2017 | 11 AM - 3PM

MU Ballroom

CorvallisHousingFair.com



Accommodation requests can be made to Orange Media Network 541-737-6375 | markie.belcher@oregonstate.edu

# Welcome to the 2017 Renter's Guide

Whether you are looking for housing or a new roommate for next year, the Renter's Guide and the Corvallis Housing Fair have you covered.



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Formal written complaints about The Barometer may be referred to the committee for investigation and disposition. After hearing all elements involved in a complaint, the committee will report its decision to all parties concerned.

Cover design by Natalie Lutz.

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# KEEP SOCIAL AWARENESS FOR EVERYONE

## Affordable housing services available in Corvallis

By Sydney McHale, Keep S.A.F.E. Blog Manager

### Local Corvallis affordable housing programs

#### Community Services Consortium

545 SW 2nd St. A  
(541) 752-1010

#### Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services

257 SW Madison Ave. #113  
(541) 752-7220

#### CARDV

2208 SW 3rd St.  
(541) 738-8323

How is someone supposed to go to school while making enough money to afford a place to live? It is not an easy task. Finding an affordable, safe home at college is hard. However, it is nice to know you have some extra help around you.

Corvallis provides its residents with a plethora of programs and services to help those struggling to afford housing.

Here are three local programs that help provide affordable, safe housing to the Corvallis community.

#### Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services

Many people fall on hard times in their lives, but it is important, even in the toughest of times, to have a place to call home. Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services can help you do just that in a multitude of situations.

In Corvallis alone, WNHS has 12 different housing projects. The housing they offer includes apartments, townhouses and single

family-style homes. They also have group home projects and housing for the elderly and those with disabilities.

If you are someone who makes 50 percent or below of the area median income, you can be eligible to apply for low-income housing through WNHS. Some housing is limited to senior citizens and people with disabilities.

If you are in need of housing assistance you can contact WNHS at their downtown office at 257 SW Madison Ave., or you can visit their website.

#### Community Services Consortium

Finding housing is difficult, and finding affordable housing can be even more difficult.

"Housing instability is one of the greatest challenges in Linn, Benton and Lincoln counties," according to the Community Services Consortium.

The CSC offers a variety of housing support including rental assistance, education about



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College of Liberal Arts  
School of Arts & Communication

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# KEEP SOCIAL AWARENESS FOR EVERYONE

Keep S.A.F.E. is one of the six blogs launched this year on OrangeMediaNetwork.com, and focuses on social justice.

housing and housing for veterans and survivors of domestic abuse.

All of these programs and systems are in place to ensure that individuals are able to keep their homes when they hit the hardest of times.

If you are behind on rent, you can reach out to the CSC's rental assistance. This help allows you to catch up on your rent, as well as learn tools and tips to stay afloat.

The CSC is helpful to those trying to balance a full-time work and school schedule. While going to school, it is hard to get the work hours needed to pay rent. That is where the CSC comes in. When you are hitting those low weeks, you can go to the CSC for assistance. They offer financial help, as well as tips and tricks to make rent.

"Assistance may be for a one-time need or for a longer, transitional period in which participants may work with staff on repairing damaged rental history, finding work or other challenges," according to the CSC.

The CSC is a great resource if you are looking for a place to live next year. You can visit them at their office at 545 SW 2nd St.

## CARDV (Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence)

There are other housing emergencies other than being unable to find and keep affordable housing. Some worry about their safety in their own homes.

CARDV is available to all who are experiencing some type of sexual assault or domestic violence, either at home or elsewhere. They provide a safe space for anyone to go and acquire a new, safe living space.

At CARDV you can either find temporary housing away from a dangerous situation, or they will help you find a new, permanent safe residence.

Corvallis has an advocacy center for those who are in need of this service, located at 2208 SW 3rd St. They also have a 24-hour hotline for those who are in need of immediate help. The local line is 541-754-0110.

Everyone deserves a safe and affordable place to call home. If you are in need of assistance, you should utilize these local housing resources.



SYDNEY MCHALE | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

One of the Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services' projects is located in South-town Corvallis. The WNHS has 12 different housing projects throughout Corvallis.

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ZBIGNIEW SIKORA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

First-year roommates Alyssa Meyer (right) and Natalie Parker (left) enjoy living together. However, not all roommates are satisfied, and UHDS provides services to help.

# UHDS offers services to help students dissatisfied with their roommates

Hundreds of first-years switch rooms each year, university provides resources

By Erin Dose, News Contributor

It happens all the time. When people of any age share a small space, tensions build and conflicts can occur. This is especially prevalent in the lives of college students, mainly for those living in the residence halls.

So what can students do when these problems arise? Often, students involved in these conflicts will decide to seek assistance through their residence halls, but may end up switching rooms altogether.

Hundreds of students move each year, some due to roommate conflict, according to Brian Stroup, associate director of operations at University Housing and Dining Services.

While UHDS offers resources to resolve conflicts, students do occasionally end up moving.

"We offer room changes each academic term," Stroup said. However, UHDS offers many resources to help resolve student conflict in other ways.

"Our residential education staff organize roommate agreements to have a document to serve as a foundation for other issues to work through it," Stroup said. "That's helpful before it becomes an issue."

The residence halls are also equipped with trained staff to help with conflicts. Resident assistants and resident directors

are available for mediation between roommates, as well as one-on-one discussions, according to Stroup.

"The resident directors are a great resource," Stroup said. To avoid conflict, Stroup strongly advises students to use the roommate matching system provided by UHDS.

"We want them to use roommate matching to have the best roommate experience," Stroup said.

However, students who do not use the matching service are paired together by UHDS employees using required questionnaires.

"We ask a lot of questions on our application if we have to

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MIRANDA CROWELL | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

UHDS, housed in the Oxford House, helps freshmen who want to change rooms.

assign roommates," Stroup said.

According to Stroup, students who engage early in the roommate decision process have a better experience living in the residence halls and are far less likely to move.

Roommates Alyssa Meyer and Natalie Parker met online before pairing up as roommates and coming to OSU, according to Parker. The two have an easy, friendly relationship.

"We met on Facebook," Parker said. "We knew general information about the other person, and we're just gonna see how it turned out."

According to Meyer, the two are a successful pair. They share their favorite foods and joined the same sorority.

"We support each other through experiences," Meyer said.

However, not all roommate living situations are as successful as Meyer and Parker's. According to Stroup, some students just want a different environment and end up moving. Pearl Cutting, a first year student currently living in Buxton Hall, had this experience.

Cutting started the year in Wilson Hall. According to Cutting, she had applied too late to participate in roommate and room selection. She ended up in a double room, despite having budgeted for a triple, and did not enjoy the environment.

"I wanted a normal dorm experience with people who shared my interests and I wasn't getting that," Cutting said.

The moving process was efficient, Cutting said. After meeting with the Wilson resident director and being offered a room through email, she gained the approval to move within five days.

Because of her quick move, Cutting had limited time to reach out to her new roommates, but she is enjoying living in Buxton Hall.

"My roommates are both really nice and we get along really well," Cutting said.

However, the moving process is not always easy.

Ryan Alexander is a first year student, and began the year in McNary Hall. According to Alexander, his roommate was designated, as they both selected the same room. Their relationship grew strained over fall term.

"Tension built up with no communication and resolution. I think the tension was from our different upbringings," Alexander said.

According to Alexander, the UHDS room change system hesitated to reassign him to a new room.

"I had to do a protected move because I was no longer comfortable," Alexander said.

According to Alexander, his protected move consisted of unofficially moving into a temporary room until a new one could be assigned. This is done when students need an immediate change, typically for safety purposes.

After the protected move, Alexander was assigned a new room in Sackett Hall. He did not know his new roommate upon moving in, but is in an improved environment.

"We hardly interact, but it's not bad at all," Alexander said.

For more information regarding UHDS roommate resources, visit the UHDS webpage or contact the resident director of your specific residence hall.



Use a QR code reader or Snapchat to access more information about the room change process on the UHDS webpage.

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### Help Wanted

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## NEWS



# benny's beginnings



SARAH BERGE | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

McNary Hall is one of the residence halls on the Oregon State University campus. Freshmen are required to live on campus their first year, but there are exceptions.

## First-years provided with various housing options

### Freshmen have ability to live off campus, prices vary

By Sarah Berge, Benny's Beginnings Blog Manager

As of fall 2016, University Dining and Housing Services reports approximately 5,000 of Oregon State University's 30,354 enrolled students were living on campus in the residence halls, or in other associated campus housing options.

The majority of these students living on campus are first-year students required to do so for three consecutive terms, due to OSU's first-year live-on policy. However, there are exceptions to this policy, and for some students the price and other benefits of off-campus living outweigh the benefits of on-campus living, and vice versa.

For Mitch Salo, a current OSU senior who was a non-traditional freshman, living on campus the first year was a beneficial experience. Salo came to OSU after he took a year after high school to participate in a Future Farmers of America program, and benefited from living on campus his first year.

"It just at that point seemed like a good opportunity," Salo said. "It would have been cheaper elsewhere, yeah probably, but the

benefits of living in the dorm at that time seemed to outweigh the possibilities of living off campus. That and there's several years of school to live off campus and I figured I might as well try it out."

According to Jonathan Stoll, the co-interim assistant dean of Student Life and director of Corvallis Community Relations, the reason for this requirement is that living on campus for the first year has been linked to student success.

"Data throughout higher education indicates that students are more likely to be retained, with higher GPAs, if you live on campus," Stoll said. "You have RAs, you have living-learning communities, you have tutoring, you're on campus, so you're more conveniently accessing resources."

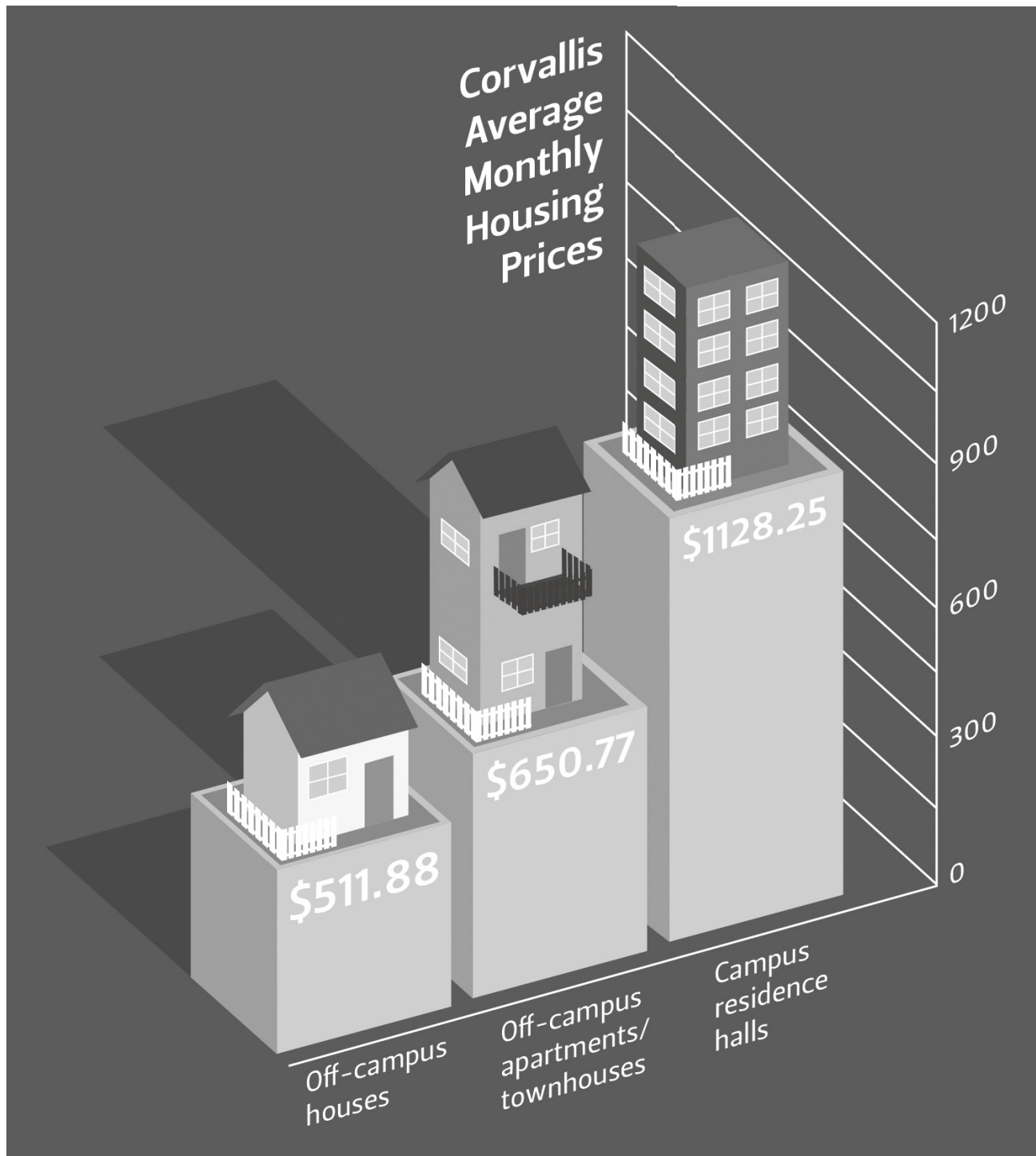
However, not all freshmen decide to live on campus their first year. Jim Siemens, a current non-traditional freshman, is one such student. Siemens took a year between high school and college in order to join the Marine Corps Reserve, and is currently living in a fraternity

*Benny's Beginnings is one of the six blogs launched this year on OrangeMediaNetwork.com, and focuses on freshman life on campus.*





# benny's beginnings



TRACY SOKALSKI | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

In order to compare the prices of various housing options around Corvallis, a sample of 23 houses, 27 apartments and townhouses and all campus residence hall rates were taken. The results have been broken down into an average monthly rate for houses and apartments, based on the assumption that only one person will be living in each room of the housing options and that the total rent would be split evenly between the number of people that would be living there, as determined by the number of bedrooms available. Any application fees, utility charges, security deposits, grocery charges and other fees are also not included in these calculations. Residence halls have also been broken down to an equivalent monthly rate, but the amount of people living in each room varies.

house with his brother. According to Siemens, he decided to live off campus because the benefits of living in the dorms were not worth the price for him.

"I didn't want to have to deal with the dorms and the dorms are really expensive too, so I wanted to save some money and live off campus," Siemens said. "We had the opportunity to live in a fraternity where the cost of living was cheap and they're getting a chef, so the cost of food will be pretty cheap as well. So generally it was just the whole idea of not paying as much and getting housing near campus still."

There are exceptions to the first-year live-on policy, which can be found on the OSU First-year Experience Webpage.

According to Brian Stroup, the associate director of Operations at UHDS, most students exempt from the live-on policy are living at home or in affiliated housing.

"We definitely have students that take advantage of the exceptions to the live-on requirements, but it's not as many as folks would think," Stroup said.

According to Stroup, over the last several years, about 93 percent of the first-year students live on campus. Out of the 7

percent that don't live on campus, the majority live in a 30 mile zipcode radius of campus with family or in affiliated housing.

The students living off of campus, either their first year or after, should be aware of the extra responsibilities it entails, according to Stoll.

"I think there's a desire for increased independence and freedom, you don't have RAs, you do what you like, you have roommates and you move off campus," Stoll said. "That increased freedom comes with increased responsibilities. If you live in Corvallis, whether on campus or off, you're expected to adhere to the city ordinances and laws."

According to the data shown in the graph above, housing prices in Corvallis vary by type.

According to Katie Gonzalez, the resident manager at Whitham Village Apartments, housing prices also depend on the distance from campus.

Companies do take distance from campus into account while doing price comparisons, according to Gonzalez.

"We [Whitham Villages Apartments] don't check within a mile of the university," Gonzalez said. "We figure we're not in direct competition with them."

The average monthly rent for 16 apartments and townhouses sampled in about a mile radius of campus is approximately \$685.06. Of the 11 houses sampled in this radius, the average monthly cost is \$477.42.

For the properties more than a mile away from campus, 11 apartments and townhouse prices were sampled and priced at an average of \$596.36. The average of the 11 houses also sampled in this distance is \$535.53.

According to Stroup, the prices for on-campus housing also vary.

"It really depends on what a student wants their experience to look like because our triple, quad and economy triple are our lowest room rate options, and then we obviously have singles that are at a much higher rate," Stroup said.

According to Jennifer Viña, the associate director of Marketing and Communications at UHDS, there are several options for housing available on campus.

"And if, as a first-year student, all you've ever known is a double room with a communal-style bathroom at the end of the hallway, we encourage them to look into some of our other more semi-private communities and bathroom options, because we certainly have a wide variety within our entire hall inventory," Viña said.

After dividing all of the full-year rates for the various room and hall types and averaging the costs, the equivalent per month rate of living in a residence hall for one academic year is \$1,128.25 per student.

According to Stoll, one reason for the price of on-campus living being higher than off-campus living is that it includes a number of other amenities available to the students living on campus.

"I think oftentimes it may be cheaper to move off campus because the reality is that those services that UHDS provides, such as RAs and the meal plan and all of those things, come at a cost," Stoll said.

Salo said that the benefits of living on campus make up for the extra cost.

"It is expensive, but when you factor in that all of your utilities are taken care of, and you can't really put a price on the management that goes into a dorm setup," Salo said. "Somebody else is taking care of the other tenants. Somebody's in charge of the facilities, the utilities. Everything else that's just kind of taken care of is so nice and you don't really think about it in the cost breakdown."

Regardless of where students decide to live, the Office of Student Life provides resources dedicated to helping students be responsible renters through the creation of the Corvallis Living Guide. In association with this guide, they have created a test on the content which can help reduce one of the other fees associated with renting off campus. Students could get a discount of anywhere between \$50-250 on their security deposit at participating housing providers, if they get a certain number of questions correct on the the test.



# IS FAITH RATIONAL?

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**Speaker:** Todd Miles,  
Professor of Theology  
at Western Seminary  
in Portland

Oregon State  
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## NEWS



AARON TRASK | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

The seventh floor of Bloss Hall is designated specifically for graduate student living.

# Bloss Hall provides graduate-student housing

## Seventh floor offers perks to residents

By Jack Steindorf, News Contributor

Beginning this year, Oregon State University graduate students have been given the opportunity to relive the residence hall experience.

This year, OSU designated the seventh floor in Bloss Hall for graduate students only. The floor offers a variety of perks tailored to fit the specific needs of graduate students.

The implementation of this graduate student-only program is in part due to the varying needs of different students, according to Kathryn Magura, the assistant director of operations at University Housing and Dining Services, who has been working with students to perfect this program in its earliest stages.

"Some of the feedback we're getting from students is that the needs are different, so someone coming in as a transfer student who has been at a different institution, their needs are different from someone who has already been at Oregon State for a year and they're not the same as a first-year incoming student," Magura said. "Graduate students have a whole plethora of different needs too, so we're trying to identify ways that we can support students through specific programming, staffing in the

building and whatnot."

In working with students, the UHDS staff has been able to provide first year students, upperclassmen and graduate students with the tools they need to be effective during college. Jennifer Vina, the director of marketing at UHDS, sees the amount of students that want to live on campus starting to change.

"We're seeing more and more students wanting to stay on campus another year. We're even seeing students who live off campus their first year wanting to come on (campus) their second year," Vina said.

With these trends changing, UHDS has been implementing sophomore-and-above housing in most dorms and within specific living-learning communities. UHDS is making a push to cater to the needs of different students living in the dorms, according to Vina.

"Living with peers that are at that same point as you (creates) that sense of connectedness," Vina said.

There are many examples of these communities across campus, but certain communities are expanding and changes are being made for next

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Marlan Carlson, Music Director

## Alpine Journey

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—Tom Service, *The Guardian*

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- Finding a place to live
- Your rights as a tenant
- Explaining the application process
- Budgeting/paying utilities
- Safety/theft/fire hazards
- Living with roommates/pets
- And much more at:

[CorvallisLivingGuide.com](http://CorvallisLivingGuide.com)

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Sample tips and resources from the **Corvallis Living Guide**. Access the full guide online for the chance to save up to \$250 on your security deposit.

## TENANTS' RIGHTS

The city of Corvallis has recently enacted a municipal code aimed at protecting public health, safety and welfare in regards to real property.

Are you afraid of rent hikes or being evicted during Finals!? Read the Corvallis Living Guide to understand your rights.



### Exclusive possession

The landlord owns the property, but you have a right to privacy. Your landlord must give you at least 24 hours' notice before entering unless there is an emergency, you have requested maintenance without a designated time or the contract permits the landlord to enter the grounds (but not the dwelling unit) for yard maintenance.

### Eviction for cause

If you cause intentional damage to or commit a criminal act on the property, your landlord can give you a 24-hour written notice to move out. This notice must tell you why you are being evicted. The landlord cannot evict you for illegal and/or discriminatory reasons.

### Deposits

If you pay a deposit for your rental, the landlord must account for it within 31 days after tenancy is terminated. The landlord may keep only the part of the deposit that is needed to pay for damage directly caused by you, beyond normal wear and tear, unless your rental agreement states otherwise.

### Rent increases

In a month-to-month tenancy, your landlord may not increase rent the first year. After that, your landlord may increase the rent with 90 days' written notice. Unless you can show that the rent increase is retaliatory, discriminatory or imposed in bad faith, you must pay the new rent. A fixed-term lease may list a method for increasing rents during the term. If it doesn't, your landlord may not increase the rent.

## RENTAL PROCESS

Are you stressed about finding a rental? Read the Corvallis Living Guide to learn the ins and outs of the application process.



### Application Process

- You and each of your roommates may be asked to fill out an application, and there can be a fee of \$30 to \$75 per person.
- The landlord may run your credit report and/or a criminal background check.
- Once your application is approved, you will sign a lease. Make sure all tenants and co-signers sign and submit at one time. You could be held responsible for the total rent for the entire lease term if your roommates don't sign.

### Free Lease Review

- ASOSU Student Legal Services offers free lease reviews. This is a great opportunity to learn everything about your lease, a legally binding contract, before you sign it.

### Scams

- Beware of rental housing scams. Here are some red flags:
  - » Requests to wire funds via Money-Gram or Western Union
  - » Long-distance landlords
  - » Requests of personal banking information
  - » Requests for verification codes



# PARTY SMART

If you decide to host a party or just have a few friends over, be safe and respectful of your neighbors. Below are some tips:

Want to host a safe party? Read the Corvallis Living Guide.



## Respect Thy Neighbor

- Notify your neighbors and give them a phone number to call if noise becomes excessive. They have no obligation to call you before calling the police.

## Noise and Trash

- Keep the party inside to keep the noise low. Can you hear music from outside? If so, turn down the music and close the doors and windows.
- Clean up after yourself and your party. You may have had a party, but it shouldn't look like it the next morning.

## Alcohol

- Don't allow open sources of alcohol or premixed drinks such as jungle juice. Their alcohol content varies and can be masked with high levels of sugar.
- Don't overserve alcohol, especially to guests who appear intoxicated.

## Respect the Law

- Don't let your guests drink and drive. Even riding a bicycle when impaired is considered a DUII. As the host, you may also be liable if someone at your party receives a DUII. Call a taxi or use ASOSU SafeRide to get your guests home safely.
- Don't provide alcohol or marijuana to anyone under 21. This is illegal and will result in a hefty fine.

# THEFT PROTECTION

Corvallis is a safe place to live, and the crime rate is relatively low. Break-ins and bike thefts are the most common infractions, so learn how to keep your home, car and belongings safe:

Want to protect your possessions from theft? Read the Corvallis Living Guide.



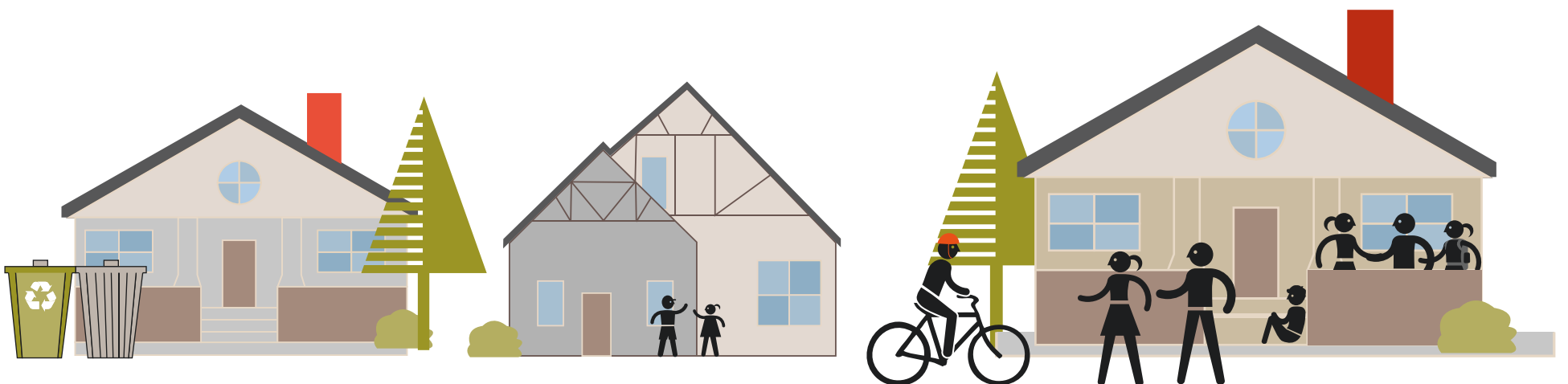
## Home Protection

- Keep all doors and windows locked, including garage doors. A surprising majority of burglaries are reported as unforced entry.
- Prevent "window shopping" by closing curtains and blinds.
- Be bright. Connect an automatic timer plug to an interior lamp and turn on your porch light to deter burglars.
- Burglars often target homes when they see mail piling up on the doorstep. Use the free hold mail service offered by the U.S. Postal Service if you're going away.

- Getting to know your neighbors can greatly reduce the chances of a break-in.

## Bike Protection

- Use a U-lock or other sturdy lock to secure your bike.
- Don't leave it parked in a public place overnight.



[CorvallisLivingGuide.com](http://CorvallisLivingGuide.com)

# Participating Housing Providers

The following property managers/properties are participating in the Corvallis Living Guide program. Each housing provider offers either one \$50 discount per rental unit (only one student in the rental until must pass the quiz), or a \$50 discount to each student within a rental unit who passes the quiz (i.e., 5 students = \$250 discount).

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<b>Homeport Property Management</b>	541-758-1173	carl@homeportrentals.com	homeportrentals.com
<b>The Retreat Corvallis</b>	541-368-5061	corvallis@edrtrust.com	retreatcorvallis.com
<b>Trilliant Property Management LLC</b>	541-207-7776	Team@TrilliantNW.com	TrilliantNW.com
<b>Trinity Property Management</b>	541-258-7870	info@beaverpads.com	beaverpads.com

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<b>Windermere Willamette Valley Property Management</b>	541-754-6102	sydne@windermere.com	windermere.com

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AARON TRASK | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Bloss Hall has had an increase of graduate students living on the seventh floor.

year. According to Vina, next year the first floor of Cauthorn will be open only to returning OSU students and transfer students. This is due to the amount of returning students that want to live on the west side of campus.

According to Ben Medeiros, the assistant director of residential education, other communities are uniquely designed to fit students' needs.

"The first floor of Poling and Buxton are for our sophomore-and-above engineering students, because it's within the engineering living-learning community," Medeiros said.

When speaking about the first-year implementation of the graduate-student-only floor in Bloss Hall, Medeiros was satisfied, but knew that changes will come.

"I think that there have been a lot of learning experiences, but there have been a lot of successes as well. Graduate housing is so new

to us; we are still figuring it out," Medeiros said.

Next year, this graduate-student-only floor will be moving to Halsell, the current upperclassman residence hall.

"I think moving to Halsell will serve that community well. (There will be) the ability to form a sense of community and that was more designed for an older student in mind. I think that will better support them and give them features that they don't currently have like the kitchen suites," Medeiros said.

According to Vina, the program has been well-received and the UHDS team is excited to find new ways to continue to grow the graduate student population that lives on the OSU campus.

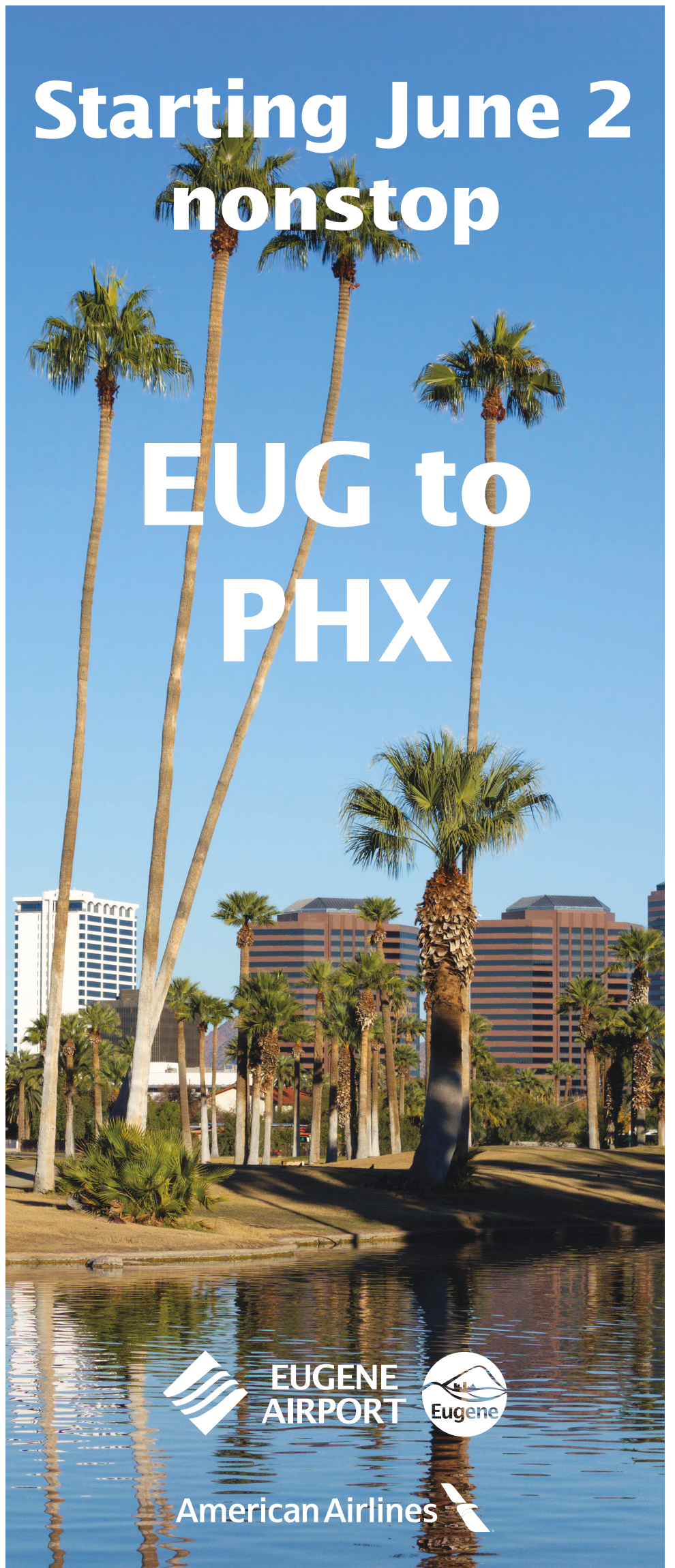
Students looking to live in a graduate or sophomore-and-above specific floor can apply through the UHDS webpage.



Use a QR code reader or Snapchat to access more information about graduate or sophomore-and-above specific housing on the UHDS webpage.

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## OPINION



# How to find furniture without emptying your wallet

## Inexpensive furnishing options available on, off campus

By Gareth Baldrice-Franklin, Screengaze Blog Manager



GARETH BALDRICE-FRANKLIN | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

The OSUsed Store sells surplus from throughout OSU buildings and facilities for low prices. Located on 13th Street near Tebeau Hall, OSUsed is open Tuesdays and Fridays.

Furniture is generally important.

Sometimes it isn't necessary, but most of the time it's nice to have places to sit or to put potted plants. One of the biggest challenges when first moving off campus is furnishing a previously unfurnished space. There's a lot to coordinate—from tables to chairs, sofas, TV stands and coat racks—and it's hard to know how much furniture is necessary to actually fill a room. Plus, even if you have roommates, furniture purchases can be very expensive. Is college the time to realize deep-seated interior design fantasies? Probably not. But if you're willing to let go of grand visions of style, there are plenty of cheap furniture options that will help your living space avoid the look of a desolate wasteland (unless that's your thing).

Depending on what resources you have available, there are two major sources of inexpensive furniture throughout the Corvallis area—the Internet and thrift stores.

The "Craigslist Killer" gave Craigslist a bad name. Really. Well, don't get me wrong, if you're going to buy something from Craigslist, don't go alone. But all in all, Craigslist can be

a great place to find a solid deal, and Corvallis happens to have an active Craigslist community. This is particularly true around graduation when a lot of people are leaving town.

Old furniture is plentiful and cheap. Free listings aren't uncommon either. If you do decide to go for something free, expect to have to do some cleaning. A few years back my roommates and I got a free couch off Craigslist; the only downside was having to vacuum about 150 leaves from beneath the cushions. It always had an...earthy smell after that, but it was clean enough for sitting on, and it saved us the trouble of actually having to pay for a couch.

Thrift shopping can also be a good way to pick up cheap furniture, and who doesn't love the comforting must of a thrift store? I'm not joking, I actually do find that thrift store scent very comforting.

Looking for best selection and best value? Turn your eyes toward the OSUsed store. Located on 13th Street behind Tebeau Hall, the OSUsed store sells surplus from throughout OSU for some of the lowest prices around.



# SCREENGAZE

Screengaze is one of the six blogs launched this year on OrangeMediaNetwork.com, and focuses on media, art and entertainment



GARETH BALDRICA-FRANKLIN | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Along with office supplies, OSUUsed sells used furniture, including office chairs. Desks and couches are usually priced under \$20.

Desks and couches can usually be picked up for under \$20, and they're known for having a good selection of office chairs. Also, if you're in need of stuff to fill empty walls and don't mind academic/OSU event posters, well, they've got those too.

Goodwill is another classic thrift store. However, the Corvallis Goodwill does lack consistency in its furniture department. While there's a chance there's a wicked-cool writer's desk, you're just as likely not to find anything.

That's not to disparage Goodwill. They do good work. Plus, if you're looking for home decor, Goodwill can't be beaten. Ceramic plaid kitten? Yes. Wooden birds with Sharpie mouth? Yes. Clown baby with vacant, dirty, dead eyes? Also yes. Whatever suits your particular fancy.

Across 9th Street from Goodwill is The Arc. The Arc usually has a good selection of couches and other assorted furniture items. If it's style you're looking for, The Arc has it. It might be the style you were looking for, but

it's probably the style you didn't know you needed. It's also a little pricier than Goodwill, so it might be advantageous to split cost if you have housemates.

There's a degree of variability with each of these furniture selection options, so if you're interested in getting the best bang for your buck, it's going to take some persistence and commitment. The rewards are nice, though. After all, who wouldn't want to lounge down on a comfy couch after a long day.



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## NEWS

# GREEK PEEK



ANNA WEEKS | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Tau Kappa Epsilon is one of the six fraternities within the Affiliated Housing Program.

## Greek chapters participate in Affiliated Housing Program

AHP allows first-year students to  
reside in alternative living situations

By Anna Weeks, Greek Peek Blog Manager

First-year students at Oregon State University typically reside in the residence halls, however the Affiliated Housing Program makes it possible for a select few to live elsewhere, including certain fraternity and sorority houses.

The Affiliated Housing Program allows first-year students the option to reside in an alternative living situation registered within the program, that would remain a similar living-learning environment when compared to living on campus. In other words, it is an exemption from the first-year live-on requirement by Oregon State. At the moment, the only houses in the program are housed chapters in fraternity and sorority life.

Leslie Schacht, director of The Center of Fraternity and Sorority Life, is one of four on the committee that oversees the AHP and approves applications.

"The requirement for first-year students to live on campus was something that could negatively impact housed fraternities," Schacht said. "If part of their population that live in their home was no longer going to be able to live there, what

would that do for their, in a sense their business model. Would they be able to still afford the same level of amenities? Could that impact their living arrangement?"

The AHP began getting drafted by alumnae of the organizations and Oregon State University during fall of 2013 in order to "increase retention and success for all students and student groups through an integrated living and learning environment," according to the Center of Fraternity and Sorority Life website. It was fully implemented in fall of 2014.

Currently, there are six fraternities, including Tau Kappa Epsilon, Acacia, Kappa Sigma, Phi Gamma Delta, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and Sigma Phi Epsilon, and one sorority participating, Sigma Kappa.

While Madison Smith, president of Tau Kappa Epsilon, lived in Hawley-Buxton residence hall as a freshman, he has seen firsthand the program being implemented in his chapter, as there are roughly eight freshmen living in TKE this year.



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# GREEK PEEK



ANNA WEEKS | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Sigma Phi Epsilon participates in the Affiliated Housing Program. The AHP allows first-year students to reside in an alternative living situation registered with the program.

"You come in as a freshman and you can move in after your fall term or if you rushed in the summer you can come in then," Smith said.

The application process for the AHP requires proof of the program requirements, which includes ten areas: fire safety expectations, kitchen health and sanitation, livability code, proof of liability insurance, property insurance, indemnity clause, OSU Policy of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability and other requirements.

"Nationally, statistics show that students who live on campus for their first year are more successful students," Schacht said. "They are retained at the institution, they have better grades, and they report a higher sense of belonging at the institution"

Due to this, there are educational standards that must be met, as well. Examples of programs would be workshops from the Academic Success Center, or other workshops that are approved by the AHP Review Committee. This year, this specific requirement has been increased to nine programs per year.

"We just try to encourage the freshmen to go and study more and have more participation on campus since they aren't getting the dorm experience, being that they are first-year students. We just want to make sure that they're keeping up with their classes, essentially," Smith said.

Graeme Weir is a freshman and holds the position of house secretary and the president's assistant in TKE. He is currently an AHP participant.

"The best part about living in the house is definitely the convenience, since I spent most of my time at the house anyway, it just means I don't have to commute 20 minutes each way from the dorms," Weir said. "Also being able to hang out with my brothers and bond with them more closely."

Another TKE AHP participant, Brian MacInnes, found out about AHP through a meeting with his old president.

"I enjoy being able to live with my friends

and make a positive impact on the community," MacInnes said.

The application operates on a three-year cycle. Applications are currently open for the second three-year cycle and will be due April 1. The organizations will be announced June 1, after the AHP Review Committee has reviewed the applications.

The committee is made up of Schacht, Jonathan Stoll, director of Corvallis community relations, Robert Reff, director of prevention and health promotion at Student Health Services, and Willie Morgan, assistant director of student conduct and community standards.

"These are things our chapters are already doing. It's just proving it," Schacht said.

None of the housed fraternities or sororities are owned by the undergraduate student organization, but rather are owned by a variety of private groups including a private non-profit organization (housing corporation board), national organization, one private person, or a management company that leases to the local chapter.

"I think everyone should look in a Greek house at some point if you are Greek affiliated," Smith said. "It's a lot of fun and it is definitely a unique experience. It's also a good way of finding future roommates for when you decide to move out of your Greek affiliated housing."

Currently the only houses involved are within the Greek community, but Schacht said she would love to see it expand. With typically 50 to 60 first-year students living in the AHP chapters, the cohort is a sizable cohort, according to Schacht.

"What is the value in this program? I think we could come up with a lot, but honestly what it comes down to is you get penalty-free contract breaks with the residence halls," Schacht said.


To learn more, visit Oregon State's Center of Fraternity and Sorority Life: Affiliated Housing Program.

*Greek Peek is one of the six blogs launched this year on OrangeMediaNetwork.com, and focuses on campus Greek life.*



ANNA WEEKS | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Phi Gamma Delta is a part of the Affiliated Housing Program. The AHP began getting drafted by alumnae of OSU to increase retention and success of students.



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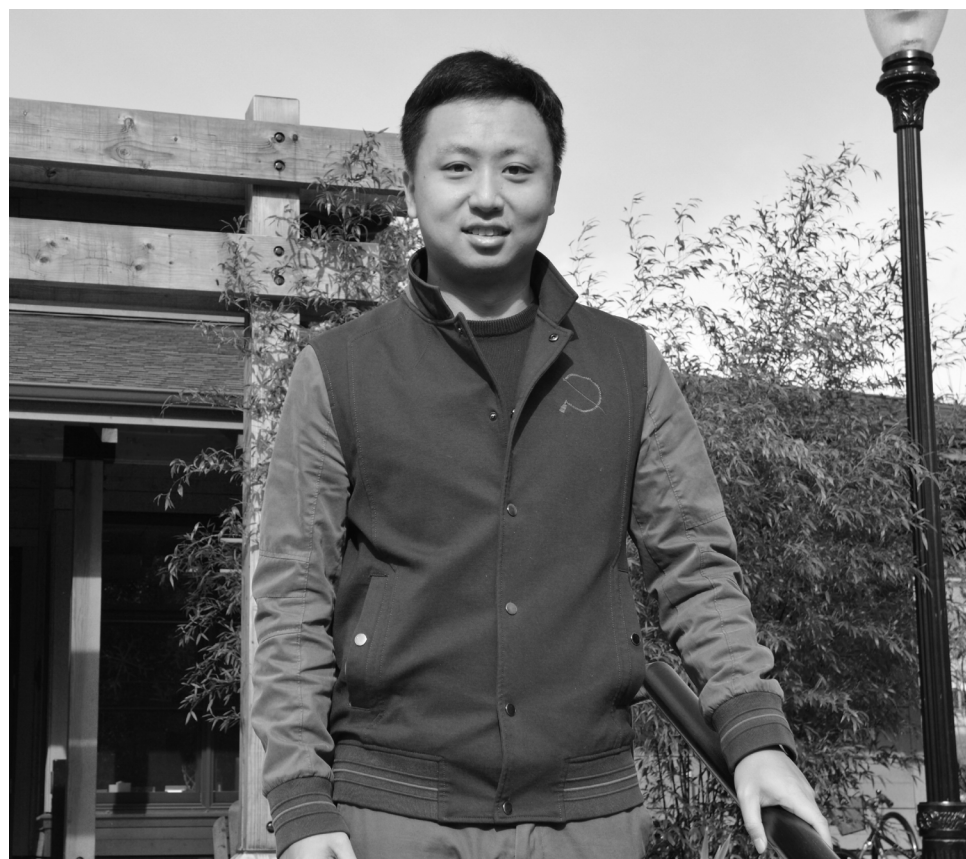
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**NEWS**



**JACKIE CORPUS | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK**

Chinese international student Jianwen Yin is a student success peer facilitator at the Asian Pacific Cultural Center. Yin faced challenges coming from China to OSU.

# INTO OSU houses international students

Program helps members adjust to college

By Joe Wolf, News Contributor

Figuring out where to live can be an incredible burden on any Oregon State University student, but international students specifically face a unique set of challenges.

The biggest problems for international students include not being in the U.S. when they have to find housing, high costs of living, the prevalence of scammers, language barriers and process barriers, according to Julianna Betjemann, the director of student experience at INTO OSU, located in the International Living and Learning Center, or ILLC.

"Maybe they've never found housing before," Betjemann said. "Because they're 18 and they've lived at home until now just like American kids."

INTO OSU is a partnership between Oregon State and INTO University Partnerships which provides both English language and academic preparation for around 1,000 international students. Students take part in the program during their first year at Oregon State and eventually matriculate and become degree-seeking students. The OSU Office of International Services provides international students support after they leave the INTO OSU program, according to Betjemann.

While students are in the program, Betjemann focuses on the non-academic aspects of the college experience.

"The student experience does take into account cultural adjustment, social engagement, living and arrival and orientation," Betjemann said.

Betjemann explained that INTO OSU has a first-year living program called the Pathway, similar to the first-year on-campus living requirement most domestic students are subject to.

"Most of the students in our center are Pathway students or Pathway-bound, and they're going to live on campus for three terms," Betjemann said. "International students can live anywhere on campus."

Despite the variety of options, Betjemann explained that around 50 to 60 percent of international students live in the ILLC, where the INTO OSU program is located.

"Many students choose this building because it has a suite-style restroom type, and a higher level of privacy for the restroom is often preferred among international students," Betjemann said.

Jianwen Yin, a student success peer facilitator at the Asian and Pacific Cultural Center and an international student himself, explained some of the challenges he faced coming to OSU from China.

"I figured out there are lots of barriers between the international group and the



JACKIE CORPUS | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

The INTO OSU program provides housing and resources for international students, including English language and academic preparation.

OSU community," Yin said. "It's really hard to get engaged with the events or activities of the OSU community and sometimes, especially in the first year I came here, I had a lot of problems communicating or establishing friendships with domestic students."

In regards to housing, Yin stressed the difficulty he faced trying to do research from behind the Great Firewall of China, a restriction on which sites the people of China can access.

"We have very limited access to get the information about the housing stuff," Yin said. "Just to be convenient for me, I reserved an apartment from INTO OSU."

Yin feels the university charges international students too much to live on campus, and could do more to ease the financial burden many students face.

"The university could collaborate with the outside housing agency to help international students get access to the information about cheaper rental (options)," Yin said.

Mohammad Pakravan, a current Ph.D. student in humanitarian engineering, first came from Iran to Ohio for his master's degree. In an email, he explained his experiences finding a place to live in Corvallis as an international student.

"When I was checking housing prices here online, I couldn't believe it...even though Corvallis is a small town relative to Dayton, Ohio, I had to pay as much as I used to pay for a two-bedroom apartment there for a master bedroom or a sketchy shared room depending

on the location here," Pakravan said.

Pakravan also echoed the concern Betjemann raised, that international students were being taken advantage of.

"One other problem I have seen in Corvallis is that landlords usually do not pay back the deposit for very nonsense reasons. I have seen couple of friends and myself that different landlords refused to pay back our deposits because of cleaning fees," Pakravan said. "The landlord didn't pay me back even half of my deposit, while I was able to refund my deposit from the Dayton landlord easily."

Oregon State offers many programs to help international students adjust to life in the U.S. However, Betjemann believes there is more to be done, especially when domestic and international students are paired together in the residence halls.

"Living with other people is hard, even when you have everything in common. It can be hard to live with your best friend, your own sibling," Betjemann said. "These are hard situations to navigate for anybody. They're going to be hard for the international student, they're going to be hard for the roommate."

Betjemann explained that UHDS has been working on a curriculum this year to help international and domestic students learn to understand each other.

"I think we can enhance the living experience by supporting roommate pairs, by helping people learn to have those conversations," Betjemann said.

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# CORVALLIS HOUSING FAIR



**Thursday, Feb. 23, 2017 - 11 am - 3pm**  
**MU Ballroom**

## Features & Activities

- Photo Booth
- Popcorn
- Cotton Candy
- DJ by KBVR-FM
- DIY Picture Board

## Schedule

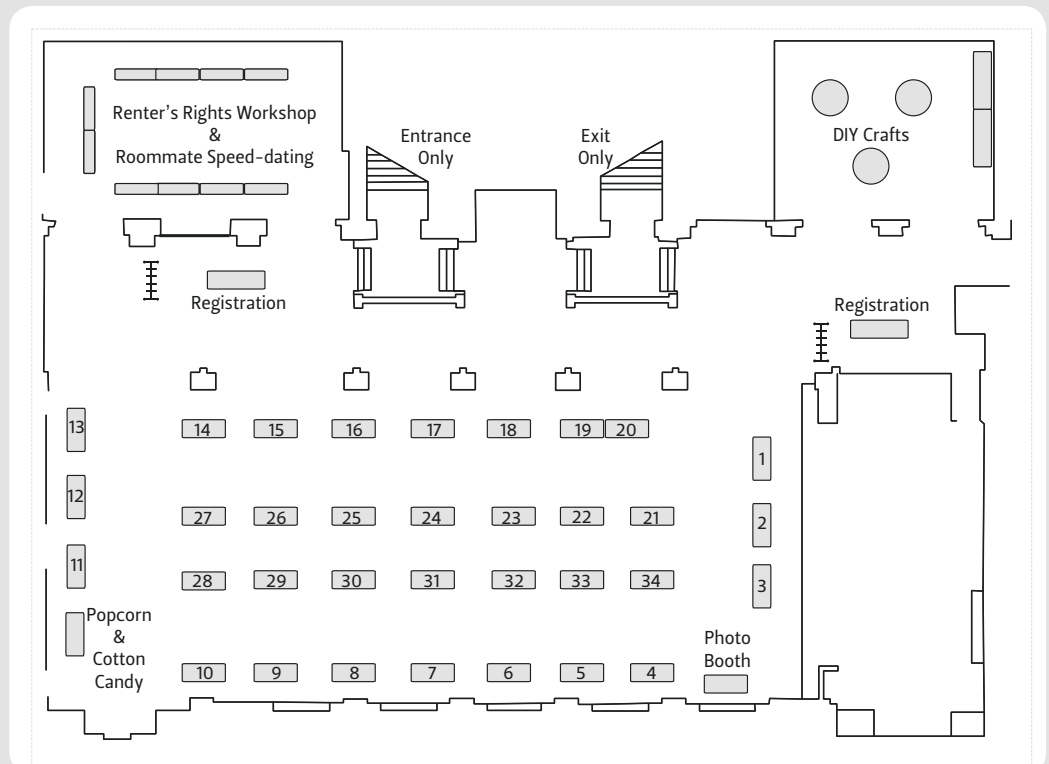
- 11:30 pm - 12:30 pm**  
DIY Crafts & Key to a Happy Home
- 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm**  
Renter's Rights Workshop
- 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm**  
Roommate Speed-dating
- 2:30 pm - 3:00 pm**  
Drawing and announcing of gift card winner



## Featured Tables

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 City of Corvallis                     | 17 Preferred Properties Northwest      |
| 2 Pinion Property Management            | 18 Income Property Management          |
| 3 7th Street Station                    | 19 & 20 The Retreat at Corvallis       |
| 4 OSU Transportation Services           | 21 The Athena House                    |
| 5 Scott Centerpointe                    | 22 Principle Property Management       |
| 6 Summerset Village                     | 23 Corvallis Fire Department           |
| 7 The Park at 5th Street                | 24 Spring Creek & Creekside Apartments |
| 8 Chateau Management                    | 25 Trilliant Property Management       |
| 9 Crest Properties, Inc                 | 26 Trinity Court Apartments            |
| 10 Merry Maids                          | 27 College Housing NW (GEM)            |
| 11 University Housing & Dining Services | 28 Beaver Lodge                        |
| 12 AG Campus Housing                    | 29 The Union Apartments                |
| 13 Corvallis Transit System             | 30 Orange rewards                      |
| 14 Sterling Management Group            | 31 Recreational Sports - OSU           |
| 15 Arc Thrift Store                     | 32 ASOSU Student Legal Services        |
| 16 Century Link                         | 33 Corvallis Police Department         |

## MU Ballroom



Accommodation requests can be made to Orange Media Network 541-737-6375  
 markie.belcher@oregonstate.edu

## Joke of the Week

# Why did the house go to the doctor?

It had shingles.

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	8					3	6	
	9	1						
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		6	8	5		7		



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## HOROSCOPE

**Monday, Feb. 20 – Sunday, Feb. 26, 2017**

**Aries: March 21 – April 19**  
You'll want to take the initiative in your love life as Mars increases your confidence levels. Ask someone out for a simple cup of coffee if you're not ready to propose a date just yet. You'll be rewarded for your courage, so get out there and circulate.

**Taurus: April 20 – May 20**  
Your romantic life is due for a change. If you're single, you could find yourself in a relationship soon. If you're dating someone, you might consider dating somebody else who has recently turned up on your sensual radar. The moon encourages you to take a chance.

**Gemini: May 21 – June 21**  
You could receive some great invitations this week. Don't just work and sleep all the time. Make room in your schedule to party, visit friends or have romantic

evenings with somebody special. Mercury is boosting your social life.  
**Cancer: June 22 – July 22**  
You need to be more confident that your ideas and perceptions are correct. A moon opposition has you questioning your life, which is fine. But don't doubt that you're a good person and that you are on the right path in life and love.

**Leo: July 23 – Aug. 22**  
Someone could be pressuring you to make a romantic commitment or a financial promise, and it's OK to say no. Mars is warning you to take super good care of yourself and to look after your own interests. It's time to set some boundaries.

**Virgo: Aug. 23 – Sept. 22**  
Mercury is going to be opposite your sign for a little while, telling you to slow down. Don't ask a guy to marry you if you've only been out on a couple of dates. Don't assume that nice girl you've been

seeing is ready to have your kids just yet.  
**Libra: Sept. 23 – Oct. 23**  
You'll want to shake things up in the bedroom this week as the moon encourages you to be more creative. If you and your honey have fallen into a boring routine, come up with a way to have more fun. As an inventive Air sign, you'll figure something out.

**Scorpio: Oct. 24 – Nov. 2**  
Your words will carry a lot of power over the next few weeks as communicator Mercury enhances your language skills. You could find yourself at a crossing point in a relationship. Instead of giving up, focus on speaking honestly to your honey.

**Sagittarius: Nov. 22 – Dec. 21**  
You're feeling a bit anxious and nervous as the moon zaps you with extra energy. Burn off that extra stress with exercise and avoid sugar, alcohol and caffeine, because they will only make it worse.

Enjoy some sexy times with your partner, too.  
**Capricorn: Dec. 22 – Jan. 19**  
You could discover that you have outgrown a friendship. Maybe you shouldn't feel obligated to stay in touch with everybody you knew at school on Facebook. Venus says it's OK to disconnect from people you don't resonate with.

**Aquarius: Jan. 20 – Feb. 18**  
You'll be a positive force this week, so it's time to play guardian angel. The moon is helping you to see beneath the surface of things, so you can better understand people's problems. Offer some advice, kindness and love.

**Pisces: Feb. 19 – March 20**  
Sometimes it's hard for you to express yourself because you are a shy Water sign. You don't like the idea that you might hurt somebody's feelings. But an eclipse is increasing your confidence, and so you should risk being honest.



Dr. Kurt S. Black

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## C R O S S W O R D

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68					69						70			

### Across

- Soothsayer
- Quick fix for an elbow hole
- Underwater vessel
- Cuba libre fruit
- Lorena of LPGA fame
- Phony
- Votes in favor
- "My mistake"
- Rice field draft animals
- Panama Canal nickname
- Robotic maid on "The Jetsons"
- Inherently
- Where to find Lima and llamas
- Like farm country
- Thanksgiving tuber
- When baseball closers usually shine
- They're often big in showbiz
- Sparkle
- "I'm hungry enough to horse!"
- NYC thoroughfare that becomes Amsterdam at 59th Street
- Vert. counterpart
- Gandhi's land
- Garbage email
- "Get moving!"
- Wash or spin

### Down

- Not as forthright
- "Old MacDonald" letters
- Webzines
- Mail again, as a package
- Fancy-schmancy
- Have \_\_\_: freak out
- Pulsate
- Like grandpa's jokes, probably
- Contemporary of Mozart
- Jazz combo horn
- Don Ho's instrument
- "Gone Girl" co-star
- Affleck
- Mint of money
- High school junior, usually
- Merit
- Dickens villain Heep
- Totaled, as a bill
- "Pomp and Circumstance" composer
- Capital of Latvia
- Sch. near the Strip
- "Abominable" critters
- Insurance rep
- Paris newspaper
- Le \_\_\_
- Golfer's starting point
- \_\_\_ Christian Andersen
- "Still sleeping?" response
- Regular payment
- Precipitation stones
- A pop
- Rescued damsel's cry
- Enlighten
- Throat dangler
- Bicycle feature
- Encrypted
- Monday, in Le Mans
- Use the delete key, e.g.
- El \_\_\_: weather phenomenon
- Throw away
- Mensa nos.
- Billiards stick
- Breakfast grain

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