Apartment Reminders
As the weather becomes warmer, residents are tempted to hang laundry to dry off on their balcony, on trees, and on handrails. It does not make the community look like the beautiful, nice place that it is. Please use the laundry facilities to dry your items. In addition, please refrain from storing items in and under the stairway in your building. It makes our buildings appear messy, and Family and Graduate Housing is not responsible for any stolen items. Thank you for your cooperation!

Do You Have Housing Plans for Next Year?
All current Family & Graduate Housing standard leases end at 12:00 noon on July 31, 2016. If you would like to return to a Family & Graduate Housing Apartment next year, online Lease Renewal for 2016-2017 begins April 1, 2016. The online Lease Renewal site will allow you to request to return to your current apartment or transfer to another apartment within the Family & Graduate Housing community. If you do not want to renew your lease for next year, you will also need to visit the Lease Renewal site to decline your lease renewal. Lease Renewal will be available through April 30, 2016.

Please note your University account may not have an overdue balance and you must provide proof of University affiliation for the 2016-2017 academic year to renew your lease. You will need to meet one of the following criteria to be eligible to renew your lease for next year:

- enrolled for the 2016-2017 academic year as an upper-division undergraduate or graduate student
- employed by the University of Illinois as a full-time faculty/staff member or a post-doc for the 2016-2017 academic year
- enrolled for the 2016-2017 academic year as an undergraduate student and will have immediate family members (spouse, child, or parent) living with you in your University apartment
- classified as a University Visiting Scholar for the 2016-2017 academic year

Further information about Lease Renewal will be sent to your email address during the month of March. Please contact the Family & Graduate Housing office if you have any questions regarding the Lease Renewal process.

ECO-Family Fest
In honor of the 6th Annual Campus Ecofeminism Summit on campus, Orchard Downs and the Women’s Resources Center invites you to the Eco-Family Fest for an afternoon of activities for the whole family. These activities are designed to celebrate our planet and connect students and their families to green living! The Eco-Family Fest will be held at the Orchard Downs Community Center on Sunday, March 13 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.
Community Programs

Please note that we often take photographs during community events, and these photographs may be used in a gallery online. If you do not wish to have your photograph taken, please inform the staff member at the event or contact the Family & Graduate Housing office at apartments@illinois.edu or 333-5656.

Sewing Room
The Sewing Room is open on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Learning Resource Center (Orchard Downs apartment 2044-A). Sewing machines and other equipment including scissors, pins, measuring tape, and thread are available for residents to use. The Sewing Room monitor is Tyra Brown (email tlbrown3@illinois.edu).

Welcome to the World
Babies are a sign of hope and bring much joy to our lives. At Family & Graduate Housing we would like to welcome your newborn to our community with a small gift. This is our way of saying, “Welcome to the World!” If you have recently welcomed a new baby into your family, please contact Brittney Walker at bwalker3@illinois.edu or the Family & Graduate Housing office at (217) 333-5656.

Spring Story Time
Join us at the Orchard Downs Community Center on Wednesday, March 30 at 6:30 p.m. for a spring story time and craft night. This event for young children and their families is in partnership with The Center for Children’s Books, and will be a fun night for all who attend! Please contact Joy Sugihara at sugihar2@illinois.edu with any questions.

Spring St. Louis Trip
Join Family & Graduate Housing on a trip to St. Louis on Saturday, April 16! Registration will begin on Monday, March 28 at 9:00 a.m. The trip will include both kid and adult-friendly venues. If you are interested in this opportunity, please register at http://go.illinois.edu/StLouisBusTrip. For more information, contact Brandi Binder at blbinde2@illinois.edu.

March Birthday Bingo
Were you born in February or March? Due to the blizzard in February, which canceled our event, we will be having a big party to celebrate all February and March birthdays! Come out to the Community Center on Wednesday, March 16 at 6:30 p.m. to enjoy some birthday cake, play bingo, and win prizes. All residents are welcome. Please contact Joy Sugihara with any questions at sugihar2@illinois.edu.

Great Egg Hunt
Come out to the Orchard Downs Community Center on Saturday, March 26 at 1:00 p.m. to join us in our annual Great Egg Hunt. Make sure to bring a bag, basket, or bucket to collect your eggs and candy! The egg hunt will be for children 13 years and under, but everyone is welcome to come. Please contact Joy Sugihara at sugihar2@illinois.edu with any questions.

Middle School and Teen Night
Middle school and high school students are invited to the Orchard Downs Community Center on Friday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m. Community Aide Dorothea Sudibyo will be in attendance to teach students about fruit arrangements. Students will then have the opportunity to make their own delicious fruit arrangement, and enjoy the dinner provided! This event is only for middle school and high school students. Please contact Joy Sugihara with any questions at sugihar2@illinois.edu.

Parent-Child Playgroup
Come play and learn with us! Parent-Child Playgroup will meet on Mondays and Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Family Resource Center (Orchard Downs apartment 1834-A). There will be no play group on Monday, March 21 and Tuesday, March 22. Caregivers and children ages five and under will participate in fun and educational activities such as crafts, music, story time, and snacks. Contact Brittney at bwalker3@illinois.edu with any questions.

Zipcars Available at Orchard Downs
Did you know that Zipcars are available at Orchard Downs? Grab a Zipcar for a few hours to run errands, the whole day, or a weekend getaway. Every trip includes gas, insurance and 180 free miles per day. One Zipcar is parked at the North Laundry Parking Lot and the second is parked at the South Laundry Parking Lot. Join Zipcar for $15.00 at https://members.zipcar.com/apply.
Hot Topics

Family Housing Council Social Nights
The Family Housing Council (FHC) invites all Orchard Downs residents to join us on Saturday, March 5 and March 19 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Orchard Downs Community Center for socializing and fun! Pizza and drinks will be provided.

Family Housing Council Public Meeting
The FHC Public meeting will be held on Friday, March 11 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Orchard Downs Community Center. All residents are warmly invited to discuss issues of interest in our community. Food and drinks will be provided.

Health and Wellness Programs

MCHC Health Center Call for Volunteers
The MultiCultural Health Center is looking for members in the community who are willing to serve as volunteers for the health center. We are looking for people who are doctors, nurses, dentists, or any form of health professional from their native homeland or the U.S. who would be interested in participating in our health clinics. Please contact the MCHC GA Kelechi Lamberts at klamber4@illinois.edu if you are interested or have questions.

MCHC Health Club Registration
Registration for the MultiCultural Health Club is still going on! The Health Club is a group of residents who are interested in improving health and wellness awareness for themselves and their neighbors. Residents will participate in special programs designed to improve their health and physical activity. If you are interested, contact the MCHC GA Kelechi Lamberts at klamber4@illinois.edu.

Free Nutrition Workshops
Learn how to plans meals on a budget and prepare healthy meals for you and your family. Come out to our nutrition workshops for free food, incentives, recipes, and to earn a certificate from the U of I Extension Office. This 9-week course is running now through March 31 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Learning Resource Center (Orchard Downs apartment 2044-A). Registration is required. Contact Brittney Walker at bwalker3@illinois.edu with any questions.

Health Insurance Services Office Hours
Planned Parenthood of Illinois in Champaign will be partnering with the MultiCultural Health Center (MCHC) to help individuals sign up for health insurance through the Affordable Care Act Marketplace and Medicaid. We will be located in the MCHC (2040-A Orchard Street) bi-weekly from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. During the month of March, we will be available on Friday, March 11 and Friday, March 25. Come and see us if you need help with your Marketplace/Medicaid application. For more information, contact Kelechi Lamberts at klamber4@illinois.edu.

Flowers and Planting
Soon it will be time to think about flowers and planting. Please remember to talk to your neighbors before you plant to avoid any miscommunications about planting in your neighborhood. The following information was pulled from the Family & Graduate Housing resident handbook. Residents may plant flowers or other ornamental plants in approved locations. Residents are responsible for following all policy regulations:

- Vegetables may not be planted in flower bed locations. If you want to plant vegetables, garden plots will be available in April. See the April Neighborly Newsletter for more information.
- Residents are responsible for maintaining, cleaning, and weeding their flower beds.
- Flowers and plants must be within two feet of the building.
- Residents must remove their plants prior to moving out.
- Residents may not plant flowers that will grow more than two feet high.
- Vines (such as ivy) may not be planted.
Family Housing Council

The Orchard Downs Family Housing Council (FHC) is an organization created to safeguard the interest of the residents of Orchard Downs Family & Graduate Housing. The FHC meets monthly at the Orchard Downs Community Center.

For FHC resources such as meeting minutes, constitution, job descriptions, and more at www.housing.illinois.edu/FHC.

For information about the FHC please contact:

President: Changyi Zhang
cyz@illinois.edu

Vice President: Ahmed Orabi
aorabi@illinois.edu

Treasurer: Tooba Umar
toobaomar@gmail.com

Executive Secretary: Hao Wang
edwardwh@illinois.edu

Recording Secretary: Xiuling Zhu
xlzhu1005@gmail.com

MultiCultural Health Center

The MultiCultural Health Center hosts a free medical clinic every Thursday from 6:00-8:00 p.m. This is a walk-in clinic staffed by volunteer medical students and supervised by a licensed medical professional. For several years, HeRMES has operated in partnership with area health clinics that serve the uninsured and underserved of Illinois.

Clinic Hours

Clinic hours are posted on the monthly calendar, and are also updated on a weekly basis on the MCHC voicemail. Please call (217) 265-6267 to make an appointment (walk-ins also welcome).

HeRMES: Every Thursday from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Doors open at 5:30.

WIC Hours: Friday, March 4 & Friday, March 18 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Health Insurance Clinic Hours: Friday, March 11 & Friday, March 25 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

CCCHC Services: Champaign County Christian Health Center is a non-profit clinic in our community located at Presence Community Resources Center on Wright St. on the Presence Hospital Campus, with a satellite office at the MultiCultural Health Center by appointment only. Please contact CCCHC through the appointment line, (217) 402-LOVE (5683), if you need assistance with primary care. For more information, visit http://ccchc2003.org.

Woman, Infants and Children (WIC) Services: WIC services are provided for women, infants and children and are offered by the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District. Services for WIC participants include supplemental nutritious foods, nutrition education, counseling, screenings and referrals to other health services, welfare and social services, and immunizations for children. (Note: Clients who are receiving coupons can only pick up their coupons from the MCHC office on the 6th and 12th months. The coupons sent on the first 3rd month and the 9th month must be picked up at the C-UPHD office. Clients must also make sure to register on the WIC website in order to make themselves eligible to pick up WIC coupons when available at the MCHC prior to pick up so it can be delivered to the MCHC for pick-up.)

Office Hours: Office hours at the MCHC will be on Mondays and Wednesday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Feel free to stop by for baby weigh-ins or come and pick up some beneficial health information handouts on winter safety, pre-natal health, or common health questions, or for stress-management consultation email klamber4@illinois.edu.

For stress-management consultation email klamber4@illinois.edu.