**Holiday Office Hours**

The Family & Graduate Housing office will be closed on November 23 and November 24 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

**What is Thanksgiving?**

Thanksgiving is an important public holiday celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November. It originated as a harvest festival that traces its origin back to a celebration in the early 1621 shared by early American settlers (the Pilgrims) and native American Indians in Plymouth, Massachusetts. In many American households, the Thanksgiving celebration centers on cooking and sharing a bountiful meal with family and friends. Traditionally, the meal includes a roast turkey and side dishes such as bread stuffing or sweet potatoes. Parades are popular on Thanksgiving, the largest and most famous is the Macy's department store parade in New York City. This year, Thanksgiving is celebrated on Thursday, November 24.

**Dia de Los Muertos Celebration**

Wednesday, November 1 at 6:30 p.m.
Orchard Downs Community Center (510 W George Huff Dr., Urbana)

Join us for crafts and snacks to celebrate Dia de Los Muertos! Contact Alexis Gatses at agatses2@illinois.edu if you have any questions.

**Winter is Coming: Preparedness Program for Residents**

Sunday, November 5 at 2 p.m.
Orchard Downs Community Center (510 W George Huff Dr., Urbana)

“Winter is Coming” – says House Stark from Game of Thrones. And there is no better time to prepare for it than now! Join us for a discussion on how to prepare for the season which can include snow storms, wind chill, and emergencies. Learn about campus and local resources and what to do in case of a severe weather situation. And of course, snacks are on us.

**Pre-School Accepting Students for Fall**

The Orchard Downs Pre-School is still accepting registrations for the 2017-2018 school year. For questions and information please email Debbie Collins at dcollns@illinois.edu or call (217) 333-5659. You may also contact the FGH office at (217) 333-5656.
November 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.

*Note: All programs are in the Orchard Downs Community Center, 510 George Huff Drive unless noted.

Family Housing Council Social Night

**Saturday, November 4 from 6 to 7 p.m. and Saturday, November 18 from 6 to 7 p.m.** Please join the Family Housing Council (FHC) for our monthly resident social. Suggestions for future social themes are appreciated!

Birthday Bingo

**Tuesday, November 7 at 6:30 p.m.** Join us to celebrate all November birthdays with cake, prizes, and bingo. Everyone is welcome to come, and children must be supervised. I hope to see you there!
Contact Alexis Gatses at agatses2@illinois.edu if you have any questions.

Family Service Night

**Wednesday, November 8 at 6:30 p.m.** Join us for a day/night of volunteering. We will be baking cookies for a local soup kitchen, making care packages for local homeless shelters, and writing letters to nursing homes. This is a perfect opportunity to volunteer and give back to the community!
Contact Morgan Baker at mmbaker4@illinois.edu if you have any questions.

Thanksgiving Dinner

**Saturday, November 11 at 6:30 p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church Great Hall (1203 W Green St, Urbana)**
Join us for a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner at Wesley Church. We will be serving dinner and doing fall themed crafts. Also, we will have a photographer and a backdrop to take family pictures.
Contact Alexis Gatses at agatses2@illinois.edu if you have any questions.

Thanksgiving Story Hour

**Thursday, November 16 at 6:30 p.m at Orchard Downs Community Center.** A volunteer from the Center for Children's books will be reading us Thanksgiving stories and we will also be making a turkey craft. All children and parents are welcome to attend and snacks will be provided.
Contact Morgan Baker at mmbaker4@illinois.edu if you have any questions.

Illini Union Turkey Bowling Night

**Monday, November 27 from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Illini Union Bowling Alley.** Come out for a fun, free night of bowling! Transportation is not provided; buses and street parking are available near Illini Union. Children MUST be supervised. All residents are welcome, but registration is required to play.
Please register by Friday, November 10 online at GO.ILLINOIS.EDU/TURKEYBOWLING.
Contact Morgan Baker at mmbaker4@illinois.edu if you have any questions.
Lending Room
The Lending Storeroom will be open on Saturdays from 9 to 11 a.m. The Lending Storeroom is located at 2044-A Orchard Street (entrance to Lending Room is located on the West side of the building/street side).

Sewing Room in the Learning Resource Center (Orchard Downs apt. 2044-A)
November 4 and November 18 from 9 to 11:00 a.m.
Sewing Room Coordinator Balqees will be opening the sewing room on the first and third Saturdays of the month from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Sewing machines and other equipment including scissors, pins, measuring tape and thread are available for residents to use. Email Balqees at fnubalqees@gmail.com if you have questions.

Coffee House in the Learning Resource Center (Orchard Downs apt. 2044-A)
November 11 and November 25 from 9 to 11:30 a.m.
The International Hospitality Committee sponsors a Coffee House at the Learning Resource Center. The purpose of this program is to have morning coffee and get to know your neighbors. It is an opportunity for international discussion and casual conversation, and a way to share your culture and make friends. The Coffee House will be held on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Saturdays of the month from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Parent-Child Playgroup in the Family Resource Center (1834-A Orchard Place)
Every Monday and Wednesday from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
Please come and join us! Caregivers and children ages five and under participate in fun and educational activities, such as crafts, music, story time, and snacks. This month, there will be no Playgroup on Wednesday, November 22. Contact Daniela at dmvidal2@illinois.edu with any questions.

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 one of our ways of saying, “Welcome to the World!” If you have recently welcomed a new baby into your family, please contact Daniela Vidal at dmvidal2@illinois.edu or call the Family & Graduate Housing office at (217) 333-5656.

Women’s Tea Time Support Group in the Family Resource Center (1834-A Orchard Place)
Tuesdays from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
Come join us for tea and conversation. The Women’s Tea Time Support Group is a comfortable space for women to bond and learn new skills while supporting each other. There will be weekly workshops on a variety of topics such as art, cooking, stress-management, parenting, and many more. For more information, contact Daniela at dmvidal2@illinois.edu.

Yoga and Meditation Happy Hour at the Orchard Downs Community Center
Mondays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
The Art of Living - UIUC Chapter works to promote the mental, emotional and physical well-being of members of the campus community with the help of yoga, meditation and breathing techniques. This is based on the belief that a stress-free individual builds a stress-free and violence-free society. The Yoga and Meditation Happy Hour will be a fun-filled session where you will practice yoga, meditation and breathing techniques to help the overworked mind settle down and let your inner peace shine through. Come, be happy!

International Women’s Connection
The International Women’s Connection (IWC) is a friendship & cultural exchange group that was started in 1987. Since then, hundreds of women have had the opportunity to practice English, make friends and learn about American culture. The group meets every Wednesday from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. for a free English class and from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. for various activities to help you adjust to American life. The location for the meetings is Twin City Bible Church, on the corner of Lincoln & Michigan Avenue, Urbana (approximately 6 blocks northwest of Orchard Downs). The IWC welcomes women of all nationalities or religious background and any level of English fluency. Childcare is also provided. For more information, visit www.iwc-tcbc.wix.com or email Ruth at ruth.krehbiel@gmail.com.
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.

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

**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.

WIC services will no longer be offered at the Family & Graduate MultiCultural Health Center. For services and resources, please visit Champaign-Urbana Public Health Department’s website at c-uphd.org/wic.html.

**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: ccchc2003.org.