

**Contact
Numbers:**

- Housing-1330
- Cashier-1597
- Financial Aid-1190
- Dining-1260
- Library-1311
- UC-1189
- Comp Center-1335
- Tutoring-1675

After 11 pm:

- Village Problems-4227
- Villas Problems-4228

**Upcoming
Events:**

Know your status?
(Free HIV Testing)
2nd and 4th
Tuesday's
4-8 p.m.
Meeting room of
Community
Center

Welcome to
Bollywood!
Experience India
with Henna Art,
Indian foods,
Indian film
November 11th
&
November 19th
8-11 p.m.
Community
Center



Patriot Voices

Volume 1, Issue 3

November 2009

Missed Room Sign-up? Spring 2010 Room Sign-up continues until spaces are filled

Room sign-up for spring 2010 has officially ended, but residents who would like to change spaces and did not take advantage of the week can still visit the housing office for sign-up, limited space available.

As of yesterday, male apartment spaces are filled unto further notice. Males inquiring on changing spaces can sign-up for our waiting list.

Remember, that if you are not changing spaces for spring 2010, you do not have to move your belongings from your apartment. Make sure that your refrigerator is cleaned of items that may spoil,

causing an odor upon your return in January and take out all trash.



If you are changing spaces for the spring 2010, you must clean and remove ALL belongings so that your space can be cleaned for the next resident to occupy.

During the Christmas holiday break, all residents will vacate the apartment areas. No residents will be allowed to stay on campus during that break. If found on campus during this time, you could be charged with trespassing.

NO EXCEPTIONS!

Get ready: Health & Safety Inspections to be conducted

Health and safety inspections will be held from Tuesday, November 17th through Tuesday, November 24th from 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. You do not have to be present in your apartment or

room for the inspection to occur. Make sure you are complying with university and housing policies.



Thanksgiving holiday reminder

The housing office will be closed on November 26th and 27th for Thanksgiving break. We will reopen during normal hours on Monday, November 30th. If you need assistance during these times, please call the RA desk at campus ext. 4672 or Campus Police at campus ext. 1109. The Ervin Dining Hall will also be closed November 26th and 27th, reopening on the 28th. Please note that the Grille will be closed from November 26th-29th.



DON'T FORGET!

Spring 2010 housing and university fees are to be made by December 14, 2009.

Feeling that mid-semester crunch?

Helpful study tips

- Start studying now, so you won't have to cram in December.
- Take breaks between sessions.
- Find a study partner who's better than you in a particular subject.
- Relax while out on Thanksgiving break so you can return with fresh perspectives to finish the remaining of the semester.
- Be courteous to your neighbors while they're trying to study as well...KEEP THE NOISE DOWN!



The Forest Villas Community Center

The Forest Villas Community Center is available for use by all Francis Marion University students. Amenities include a commons room with a large screen television, DVD player, music system, various seating areas, information desk, laundry room, vending, small meeting room, restrooms, and fitness center.

The Community Center can be reserved by on-campus residents and student organizations for various functions. This is also a place where the Resident Assistants hold many of their programs and meetings. To provide service to students after regular business hours, the Office of Housing and Residence Life operates an information and service desk during evening hours throughout the Fall and Spring semesters, staffed by Resident Assistants who are on duty. Students may contact the desk by dialing ext. 4672 (GORA) for assistance with lock-outs, emergency maintenance, noise, or other issues.



Community Center Hours:

Seven Days a Week

Noon-11 p.m.

Think Twice: “Thinking of Living Off Campus?”

Look Before you Lease

From www.collegeboard.com

Living Off Campus: Pros and Cons

The first thing to do before deciding to live off campus is to consider how you live and study. Apartment or house living will involve some trade-offs. For example, the money you save by sharing an apartment might be balanced out by extra money you spend commuting to campus. Here are some things to consider:

Pros:

- Living off campus can be cheaper than university housing.
- You'll probably have more independence, freedom, privacy, and space.
- Private apartments are usually quieter and

have fewer distractions, and therefore, are better for studying.

- Having a rental history will make it easier to get a place after you graduate. Plus, you'll have real world experience.
- You can make your own meals.
- No more shared bathrooms (or at least not shared by as many).

Cons:

- Living off campus can actually be more expensive. You've got the security deposit, first and last month's rent, utilities, furniture, furnishings, appliances, cleaning supplies, groceries, and transportation.

- You're on your own for Internet and cable TV connections.
- You'll have chores: renters usually spend more time grocery shopping, preparing meals, cleaning, and commuting than dorm dwellers.
- You may be more isolated from campus and other students.
- You'll probably have more responsibilities and liabilities.
- For year-long leases, you may need to find someone to sublet your place during the summer.

Think about what's important to you and put together your own pros and cons list.

“The key to a successful relationship is open communication before any conflicts or problems arise.”

Roommates and Communication: “Talk to me!”

Successful living with another individual requires communication, cooperation and compromise. For many college students, this is the first time they have shared a room with another person on a semi-permanent basis. A roommate/suitemate relationship, like any other, needs each individual to work at and care about making the relationship work. The key to a successful relationship is open communication before any conflicts or problems arise. It is a good idea to discuss issues and set basic standards that establish a re-

spectful atmosphere in the room. Some issues you may wish to discuss include guest visitation times and behavior, noise level/study time, cleanliness, taking messages, borrowing personal belongings, sharing (food, stereo, TV, etc.), privacy, smoking/substance use, “morning” vs. “night” orientation.

A few minutes of discussion, sharing thoughts and feelings, and consideration for the other person early in the roommate relationship can often avoid hours and days of heartache and frustration later.

If conflict arises between roommates/suitemates, the individuals should discuss the situation. If the situation is not resolved, it should then be addressed with the RA. The RA will facilitate more open discussion and assist in a resolution of the disagreement. Continued difficulties may be referred to a professional staff member in the Office of Housing and Residence Life. The director may require other action or the relocation of students if necessary.

Community Standards: “How should I live on campus?”

Everyone in the community must respect the rights of others and make choices to maintain a safe and secure environment that allows all residents to pursue their academic goals. There are also some standards in the form of established policies that have been set forth for which you will be accountable. These include, but are not limited to, University and Residence Life Policies, the Code of Student Conduct, and the University Alcohol and Drug Policy. These policies can be found in the FMU Student Handbook and other university publications.

What happens when standards are not met or a policy is violated?

Ideally, all members of the community encourage one another to live by the standards and policies set forth. However, when infractions occur, individuals must take responsibility for their choices. A disciplinary process exists by which individuals are held accountable for their choices and actions that violate policies. Typically, RAs become initially involved in



responding to policy violations. The RA then makes a report to the Assistant Director of Housing and Residence Life, who determines what actions should be taken (which may include referral to the Office of Student Affairs-see Code of Student Conduct in the FMU Student Handbook). When an RA or other university official, confronts a possible violation of university policy, everyone involved is expected to comply with their requests. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.





Francis Marion University
Office of Housing
and Residence Life

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Residence Life since 1986

The Office of Housing and Residence Life promotes academic success by providing safe, comfortable, attractive, modern, well-maintained residential facilities and quality management operations. The department strives to maintain a campus living and learning environment that fosters student learning, promotes active engagement and collaboration with others, motivates and inspires students to devote time and energy to activities that enhance academic and community living skills. In support of the mission of the Office of Student Affairs and Francis Marion University, opportunities are provided for positive, educational and social experiences, both inside and outside the classroom.

For more information about housing and residence life, please contact Cheryl Tuttle, director of housing and residence life.



Meet your Resident Assistants (RAs) for the fall 2009



Fall 2009 Resident Assistants after our welcome and introduction session of RA training August 12, 2009 at the Heyward Community Center in the Forest Villas.

IMPORTANT

- Between 5-11 p.m. (7 days a week contact the Villas Community Center at ext. 4672 (GORA).
- Lock outs after 11 p.m. **Forest Villas** residents call: 317-4228
- Lock outs after 11 p.m. **Village** residents call: 661-4227

A Resident Assistant is a student staff member who works for Housing and Residence Life. RAs are trained to provide support, oversight, and guidance to residential students, while enforcing University policy and coordinating activities designed to positively enhance the campus community. When acting in accordance with their job responsibilities, Resident Assistants are considered University officials, and students are expected to comply with request made by an RA.

Resident Assistants are on duty during the evening hours and on weekends. Residents may contact Resident Assistants to report any crisis situation, to request information, to report violations of policy, or to report maintenance needs.

Village Apartments

- (A) Anderson & (B) Baxter: LaRobin Lee-4535
(D) Dalton: Levar Greer-4540

- (E) Ervin: Alicia Montgomery-4400
(F) Ferguson & (I) Ingram: Chasity Golden-4555
(G) Gallington & Baxter: Pratik Patel-4402
(H) Henderson & (I) Ingram: Adrianna Lovato-4475
(J) Johnston & (K) Kidwell: Kamille Parker-4520

(L) Logan: Bartou Wilson-1782

(M) Moultrie: Ashley Leamon-4597

Forest Villas Apartments

- O203: Amanda Morales-7064
P204: Matthew Cote-7065
Q201: Fredrick Patterson-7066
R204: Ben Miller-7188
S301: Nick Walker-7189
T204: Alaina Lowery-7158
U301: Robbie Robinson-7166
V201: Krishshina Morrow-7067
W201: Angel Parson-7190