Hey Gophers! We're in the home stretch of our Spring semester, so make sure you finish strong in your subjects and don't forget about any incoming final projects! This part of the semester may be hard when trying to be motivated to do your work, but don't let your laziness stop you from succeeding. Take your homework or computer outside to get things done while enjoying the weather!

-Your Off-Campus Liaisons

Spring Safety

As warming weather, Spring Jam, and other outdoor activities/events are upon us, check out these tips to stay safe on and off-campus! There's never enough measures to take to ensure your own personal safety. So please, make wise decisions, don't get ahead of yourself, and don't make yourself vulnerable to crime!

In the instances of sexual harassment or sexual assault, call the Aurora Center anytime through their 24-hour helpline: 612-626-9111
Social Media Cookbook: Turkey Tacos

For this edition of our Social Media Cookbook, we have Turkey Tacos! All ingredients are found at the Target in Dinkytown, so there is no excuse for preparing these healthy and cost effective foods! Also, check out the taste test from our mascot, S'more the rat!

**Time:**
20 min (2 min of prep).

**Serves:**
2 people.

**Ingredients:**
- Ground Turkey - 1 pound (can also do ground beef)
- Taco Seasoning - 1 packet
- Salsa - 1.5 cups
- Onion (yellow preferred) - 0.5 cup
- 6-inch Tortillas - 6 shells or more
- Cheese (optional) - use as a topping
- Lettuce (optional) - use as a topping

**Utensils:**
- 8-inch Frying pan, frying spatula (flippy guy), cutting board, knife, stovetop

**Directions:**
1. First, use a cutting board and knife to dice half an onion.
2. Then, turn stovetop to medium-high and put ground meat in the frying pan. Use the spatula to chop up the meat into small chunks. Cook and stir until meat is browned.
3. Add onion once meat is browned. Stir until onions become translucent. Then add salsa and packet of taco seasoning and stir. After, mixing well, allow 2 minutes for the salsa to get hot.
4. Serve the meat in tortilla shells and top with cheese, lettuce as you want! Enjoy!
Adopt a Street: Marcy-Holmes

Marcy-Holmes has adopted University Ave. SE and 4th St. SE for 2019-2020! With this being said, it is Marcy-Holmes ultimate goal to cleanup these major streets and make our community more clean and beautiful!

We are teaming up with Marcy-Holmes, the UMN Greek Community, and local business and residents to help clean up University Ave. and 4th St. four times a year. The first clean-up is scheduled on Sunday, April 28th, from 1-3pm, so come and volunteer your time to make our community blossom! Garbage bags and gloves will be provided.

For more details, please contact the Marcy-Holmes Community Organizer, Natalie Townsend, or follow updates on the Facebook event page.

CLEAN UPS in SE COMO and STADIUM VILLAGE TOO!

We will be hosting additional clean ups in SE Como and Stadium Village areas at the same time. Please consider joining us from 1pm-3pm on Sunday, 4/28/19 to help the near neighborhoods look great this spring. A few minutes of your time can make such a difference!

Check in for SE Como will be at Van Cleve Park (901 15th Ave SE, Minneapolis). Check in for Stadium Village will be at Punch Pizza (802 Washington Ave SE, Minneapolis). Garbage bags and gloves will be provided.

For more details, please check the OCL page on Facebook.

What Will Greater Dinkytown Be Like in 10 Years?

The shape the area Dinkytown has changed with private businesses, bars, and restaurants. Marcy-Holmes and UMN Greek Community together can make a huge difference in these areas and make the streets cleaner and more beautiful!
Throughout the years, Dinkytown has changed with private businesses, bars, restraints, and housing. If you are curious to see what direction our little college town will be going, come to the forum, “What Will Greater Dinkytown Be Like in 10 Years?” on April 30th, from 7:00-8:30pm at the University Baptist Church, located on 1219 University Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

At this event, you will:

- Hear the results of the Visioning Workshop and Community Survey from Fall 2018.
- Join with others to brainstorm events, activities and programs that will bring new life and vibrancy to Dinkytown.
- Help determine the future of your community!

All are welcome to attend, so RSVP if you are interested, and look for more information for this event on the Marcy-Holmes forum page.

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**GopherWatch Monthly Safety Report: March**

*Prepared by the Office of Off-Campus Living and neighborhood partners.*

**Crime Highlights:**

- Auto Theft Crime Alert issued by the Minneapolis Police Second Precinct
  - Auto thefts are occurring at a higher than average rate in the Second Precinct
  - Honda vehicles have been especially targeted.
  - Multiple methods of theft have been reported including idling vehicles, as part of a home burglary, spare keys left inside the car, and cars in which the car was taken without signs of forced entry.
  - Prevention Tips:
    - Do not leave your keys anywhere in your vehicle (the ignition, on/in the center console, the glove box, on the seat, on top of the visor, etc.).
    - Have your license plate number and/or VIN number ready for responding officers.
    - Consider using a steering wheel lock or other anti-theft device.
- An assault with great bodily harm involving a knife occurred in Marcy-Holmes on Sunday, March 17th.
  - The incident occurred near the intersection of 5th Street and 2nd Avenue SE
  - A male victim was found with a serious stab wound to the neck..
  - A suspect has been arrested and charged in connection with the case

**Safety Notes:**

- As the weather warms and walking becomes a preferred method of transportation, remember to walk safe and aware this Spring.
  - Prevention Tips:
    - Walk in groups of two or more individuals.
    - Use well-lit routes and avoid short-cuts such as woods or parking lots.
    - Do not use distractions such as electronic devices or headphones while walking.
Renting

Renting an apartment or house off-campus can be very different than living in the residence halls. Are you prepared for the increase in responsibilities? Are you aware of your obligations as a renter and what you can expect from a landlord?

In particular, we'd like to remind students still looking for housing to be careful & vigilant in their housing search. Although time is running a little low, it is still crucial to do your research about the property & the landlord prior to signing your lease.

And as always, feel free to check out our other resources on our website as well.

Questions about your lease or landlord?

If you're a U of M student, be sure to get your potential lease looked at by Student Legal Services before signing. They can point out any red flags and help you in making your choice.

Make an appointment

Social Media

That's right! If the newsletter is not for you, give us a follow on our 5-star rated Facebook page, our beautifully photographed Instagram page, or our newly revamped Twitter page! They offer frequent updates for those living off-campus to stay noticed on upcoming events for students.

Facebook: @offcampusgopher
Instagram: @offcampusgopher
Twitter: @OffCampusGopher

Suggestions?

Have you ever had an idea of a way the Neighborhood Liaisons could help improve the community? Please reach out to us! We are always looking for opportunities to improve the area we live in. Contact us by email, and a liaison will be in contact with you ASAP!

Volunteer Opportunities

SE Seniors Taste of Southeast event
Volunteers needed to help Southeast Seniors host annual event. Help needed with set up, take down, check in, kitchen help, auction help, etc.
Saturday, May 4, event 12 to 3 p.m. (shifts available 9am-5pm on Saturday, and help needed Friday, 4pm-6:30pm as well).
Please contact Ann Carter at 612-331-2302 or ann@seseniors.org to sign up!

Doors Open Mpls- Prospect Park Water Tower Tours
Water Tower Hosts at the Top of the Tower provide information and safety alerts to visitors. NOTE: Volunteer will need to be able to climb the 120 steps to the top of the tower. Water Tower Hosts at the Entrance to the Tower manage visitor access. A tower information handout that highlights key facts and historical information will be provided to volunteers.
Join us May 18-19 at Tower Hill Park (55 Malcolm Ave SE), 1 hour shifts available.
Sign up today!

Pratt Ice Cream Social
Volunteers needed to set up/take down, staff tables, facilitate witch's hat tower tours, serve food, staff games, etc.
May 31, 2019, 5:30pm-8:30pm event time (set up and take down before/after)

Use the request form to contact us for other local opportunities to volunteer!

Local and University Held Events

Ever find yourself twiddling your thumbs on the weekend, wishing you were experiencing the Twin Cities like you should?

Then look no further than these resources that can get you familiar with the area and experience within the Minnesotan culture!

University Events

Minneapolis and St. Paul Events
OCL Mission:

Off-Campus Living empowers students to build connections on and off campus, and live with intent.

OCL Goals:

- Off-Campus students will make meaningful connections to other students, neighbors and the community.
- Off-Campus Living will provide educational and programmatic opportunities that promote student involvement, academic success, retention and positive community engagement.
- Off-Campus Living will collaborate with other university departments and local neighborhoods and towns to raise awareness of the specific needs and concerns of off-campus and commuter students.

Won't you be our neighbor?

@OffCampusGopher