NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS
From the Office for Off-Campus Living

June 2019

Being that the summer is now underway, take some time to explore the Minneapolis and UMN area. Use your free time to your advantage by attending local events and activities, and exploring communities and nature in the area! Also make sure to keep up with Off-Campus Living for recommendations and guidance towards your leisure! Stay safe, Gophers!

-Your Off-Campus Liaisons

Explore Community Gardens In Your Neighborhood!

If you are interested in gardening and public beautification, get involved with public gardens in surrounding UMN communities this summer! In local neighborhoods and communities such as SE Como, Prospect Park, and Marcy-Holmes. You will find certain gardening areas designated for creative/emotional outlets for residents, community meeting places, and relaxation areas.
Prospect Park Gardens
- **Arthur Garden**: 185 Arthur Street SE
- **Towerside Garden**: Located at the former site of Boeser Sheet Metal in Minneapolis, situated next to Prospect Park light rail stop.
- **Yale Garden**: 1401 Yale Ave SE
- Bed wardrobe
- Franklin Garden
- Seymour Garden
- The Hanging Gardens of Towerside

For more information regarding Prospect Park Gardens, check out their website or email them at info@ppcgmn.org. They are also hosting a fun Garden Walk & Plant Sale on June 22, 10am-3pm. Get info at Tower Hill Park that day for your self guided tour.

SE Como Gardens
- **Fairshare Farm**: 22nd Ave SE & Fairmount Ave SE
- **Talmage Crossing**: 21st Ave SE & Talmage Ave SE
- **Como Corner**: 22nd Ave SE & Como Ave SE
- **Accord Garden**: 15th Ave and Como Ave SE
- Gateway Garden: 12th Ave SE & E Hennepin Ave
- Van Cleve Youth Gardens in Van Cleve Park
- Tuttle Schoolyard Garden

You can find more information regarding SE Como Gardens on their website, or if you are interested in helping with SE Como gardening, request to be added to their gardening e-list.

Marcy-Holmes Greening
The Marcy-Holmes Neighborhood Association has a new and very active Urban farming pilot, matching gardeners and landowners with space. Here’s a schedule of the upcoming volunteer opportunities with contact info at the bottom if you want more info on the urban farming pilot.

- **Sixth Ave Greenway**: sign up to help for 2 hours or so on days in summer and fall
- 8th St SE Community Garden
- 5th St SE Bumpout Gardens
- **Save our Shade Trees**: help water shade trees near your home
- **Fr. Hennepin Park Stewards**: help clean up the shoreline for 3 hours on various days in summer and fall

Find more info on the Marcy-Holmes Greening Committee site.

Become More Mindful This Summer!

Being that most students are working over the summer more than the school year, there is the perfect summer course that is pertinent to the students with strong and adaptive work ethics.
Lynda.com is a website provided by LinkedIn that helps students or the students you teach learn technology, creative, and business skills from industry experts. The website holds a library of online training videos that are available at no cost to current University of Minnesota students, faculty, and staff systemwide on all campuses. Lynda.com offers certain learning paths in order for students or staff to become more successful in certain career subjects such as Business, CAD, Audio + Music, IT, Marketing, Education, and much more. With learning paths titled "Become a Content Marketer", "Become a Programmer", "Improve Your Microsoft Excel Skills", and "Produce Audio for Film and Video Projects", Lynda.com hits every single platform of developing your career skills and professionalism. Check out the UMN's IT page on Lynda.com for more information, and how and why to sign up.

Also, if you're interested in more mindful exercises to help you personally and professionally, come to the "Mindfulness Retreat" on June 30th, from 1-5pm at the Meditation Space in the Mayo Building. Here, you will participate in practice periods to intentionally step away from daily routines and the busy-ness of everyday life for the purpose of renewal. A skilled mindfulness teacher will provide guided instruction related to sitting meditation as well as gentle mindful movement. Components of these retreats include silent retreat, guided activities by the instructor, as well as small group discussions facilitated by the teacher.

More information and registration for the Mindfulness Retreat can be found on the Center for Spirituality & Healing's website.

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Exploring Off-Campus: The Wienery

Welcome to Off-Campus Living's new social media campaign, titled "Exploring Off-Campus"! This campaign is aimed specifically for those who are staying at UMN over the summer, and are looking for new places to explore, eat at, and visit!

For our first edition of Exploring Off-Campus, I visited The Wienery, a local hot-dog and burger joint located on the West-Bank of campus on 414 Cedar Ave. S. With a strong taste for hot-dogs and a strong will to explore local businesses, I made sure to go into The Wienery hungry and curious.

The Wienery is not like your ordinary restaurant. Having a hole-in-the-wall like appearance, The Wienery also has a very vintage and hipster-like feel to it, hung with multiple newspaper articles and odd photos. The retro vibe is accompanied by one worker, who was simultaneously cooking, waiting people, and playing tunes off of a stereo set that looked straight from the 1990's. If you are interested in visiting places that make Minneapolis itself, then this place is for you.

When exploring the menu, I had hit crossroads on what to order. With almost 20 hot dogs, burgers, and even a breakfast menu to choose from, I felt as if I was obligated to pick from the hot dogs, hence the name "The Wienery". With that being said, I also stuck to my
Chicago roots by ordering two Chicago dogs, and a side of fries, and boy let me tell you, they did not disappoint.

The Chicago hot dogs were some of the best I've ever had, and the fries tasted even better than they looked. With this being said, I had wished I had tried some of their more unique entrees to get a real taste of the unique foods they prepare, such as the Manhattan dog, which comes with Wienery chili, cheese, and onions. You can also order any hot dog “Mexican Style” for $1.50 extra, which wraps your hot dog in bacon.

Overall, this place is perfect if you want to submerge yourself in Minneapolis culture, as well as pay less than $15 for a full meal. However, be aware that The Wienery operates on short hours, being open from 11AM-3PM from Sunday to Thursday, and open 11AM-8PM on Fridays and Saturdays. However, that should not stop you from going there, as it has appeared on Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives with Guy Fieri, as well as being voted Best Hot-Dog by City Pages in 2017.

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-Communication Liaison, Evan VorBroker

Farmers Markets In Minneapolis...And Where To Find Them!

If you're staying in Minneapolis over the summer, or if you live in the midwest, there will be a good chance you'll see some Farmers markets around! Farmers markets are a staple of midwestern culture, and there are plenty around Minneapolis and St. Paul for the UMN Community to use and abuse!
On the UMN Campus, you will find the 2019 University of Minnesota Farmers Market every Wednesday from 11am-2pm starting July 10th and going until September 25th. Located on Gateway Plaza, right outside of the McNamara Alumni Center, the market features vendors who sell a variety of fresh seasonal produce, including, berries, sweet corn, tomatoes, apples, and pumpkins. The market also features produce from Cornercopia, a University of Minnesota student-managed organic farm.

You can also find the Dinkytown Farmers Market close to the UMN Campus, located on 601 13th Ave. SE at the University Lutheran Church of Hope. Since opening June 5th, the Dinkytown Farmers Market will be open each Wednesday from 4pm-7pm.

The Minneapolis Farmers Market, provided by the Central Minnesota Vegetable Growers Association, has three locations supporting about 200+ vendors who alternate the use of our 170 stalls. The locations and dates are:

- Minneapolis Lyndale Market, open daily from 6am to 1pm
- Nicollet Mall Market, open Thursdays from 6am to 6pm
- Government Center Market, open Tuesdays from 10am to 2pm

The St. Paul Farmers Markets also operates around St. Paul and surrounding suburbs, having 19 locations that operate on different days each week. Check out their calendar of events to know what days each location is open!

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GopherWatch Monthly Safety Report: *May*

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

Crime Highlights:

- An aggravated robbery occurred at the East Bank Light Rail Station on Wednesday, May 15th.
  - The incident occurred around 1:00 AM.
  - Two suspects verbally harassed, demanded the valuables of, and physically assaulted two University of Minnesota students.
  - The two victims were transported to the hospital.
  - Metro Transit Police Department is investigating this incident.
- A group of individuals threatening to commit bodily harm were reported at the East Bank Light Rail Station on Friday, May 17th.
  - The incident occurred around 9:45 PM.
  - Multiple 911 calls were received reporting that a group of juveniles between 8-10 in number were threatening people with weapons at the location.
    - Two metal pipes were recovered by police at the East Bank Light Rail Station.
  - According to the incident report, upon police arrival the suspects fled.
  - Two juvenile suspects were arrested and charged in connection with the incident.
    - They were arrested on charges of disorderly conduct, fleeing police, and providing false information to a police officer.

Safety Notes:

- High-profile incidents at public transit stations remind individuals to remain vigilant.
Prevention Tips
- Be aware and alert. Keep headphones out of ears and put away your phone while waiting for transit.
- Wait in well-lit areas and near other customers. At a bus stop without a shelter, wait under a street light or near a business with a lighted window.
- During off hours, ride as near to the operator as possible.
- If someone harasses you, yell or run away. Call 911 and notify the operator.

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

Volunteer Opportunities
Pack & Give Back is a program to collect reusable items when students move and recycle them back into the community.

We're looking for volunteers to help sort items at the Reuse Program in June, July and August and help tidy up the Free Store throughout the days of the sale. This mainly includes picking up fallen items and rehanging them, restocking clothes, and other miscellaneous tasks. Volunteers will have "first dibs" and be able to take away a full bag of clothes from their shift!

Sign up for a single or recurring shift!

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

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!

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

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
**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