



A Publication of
Orchard and Solano
Parks, UC Davis

THE PARK MESSENGER

March 2012

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Orchard Park Office Hours:
Tuesday and Thursday
8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m.—4:30 p.m.

Solano Park Office Hours:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m.—4:30 p.m.

Special points of interest:

- March 30 is a University holiday and all campus offices will be closed. Please contact your on-call RA for immediate assistance during this time.

LEASE RENEWAL 2012 - Preparation is the Key!

Submitted by Joann Wilson

The month of April is the beginning of the lease renewal process for Parks leaseholders. The new lease period will begin August 1, 2012 and ends July 31, 2013.

Leaseholders will receive a lease renewal notification email from Student Housing at the beginning of April and are expected to express interest in renewing their lease by using the online form available on the Housing Channel through MyUCDavis.

Submitting online interest information does not mean that your lease has automatically been renewed. Housing staff will review eligibility status based on student status, conduct, lease violations, and current rent status. Once eligibility has been approved, an email will be sent asking leaseholders to review the new lease, complete required information, and submit an electronic signature to accept the new lease

terms and conditions. It is very important to:

- Review SISWEB [<http://sisweb.ucdavis.edu/>] records to ensure that two emergency contacts are listed in the system.
- Verify address & contact information is current, including cell phone numbers.

This information is necessary to complete the online renewal process.

Leaseholders planning to vacate should use the Renewal Survey to confirm that they will not renew their lease. Any resident electing not to renew their lease is required to submit a vacate notice at the Park Office by June 20, 2012. Park Office staff will provide important vacate instructions once the notice is processed. Please be advised that failure to renew your lease or submit a vacate notice will result in a 42

day notice of termination of tenancy.

Any requests for exceptions to the above-mentioned procedures should be sent to Joann Wilson, Residential Services Manager joannwilson@ucdavis.edu

During the months of May, June, and July, leaseholders will not be allowed to defer their rent. Leaseholders whose monthly rent is in arrears will not be eligible for lease renewal. If you have questions regarding your housing payment, please call Residential Student Accounts [752-2481].

All leaseholders should review the following sections of their leases:
Section 6- Eligibility
Section 7- Lease Renewal.

If you have any questions, regarding eligibility or the lease renewal process, please call Student Housing [752-2033] or e-mail [studenthousing@ucdavis.edu].

Hints for Hassle Free Spring Cleaning

Submitted by Shakeela Kuthubdeen

Spring is almost here. It's time to open the windows and invite the sunshine to chase the winter blues. Spring cleaning is something that's not in our 'fun to do' list. It involves tiresome cleaning. Though it isn't an easy task, it doesn't have to be something that you hate. There are simple methods of cleaning and sprucing up your home, which require minimal effort and provide outstanding results. You'll be happy to see your apartment becoming crisp, fresh and noticeably brighter.

Try these three basic household ingredients instead of expensive chemicals to go green as well as to save money.

- Vinegar is a great natural cleaning product which is a disinfectant and deodorizer. It is an inexpensive easy cleaner that can be used on windows and mirrors. To prevent streaking and extra rubbing, wait overnight to clean your mirrors and windows.
- Lemon juice is another natural substance that can be used to dissolve soap scum and hard water deposits. Lemon is a great substance to clean and shine brass and copper. A whole lime, lemon or orange peel can be used to refresh the closets and shoe racks.
- Baking soda can be used to scrub surfaces in much the same way as commercial abrasive cleansers. It is great as a

deodorizer too.

If you used the humidifier during the flu season, make sure that you check for mold in the bedroom.

During the winter when windows remain closed, carpets and sofas can sometimes take on common household odors. Scented freshening powder is one solution, but the aroma doesn't last very long. Try sprinkling plain baking soda on your carpets. Allow the baking soda to remain on the carpets overnight, and in the morning, vacuum away the odors.

Cleaning out the refrigerator is not easy if you have the habit of throwing leftovers in after a tired day. Make it a habit to clean out spoiled food each time you stuff leftovers in. It only takes a few minutes to clear out space and make cleaning easier. Use a mild cleaning liquid to wipe out without damaging the surface.

To clean the microwave, bring a cup of water to boil in. The steam will help loosen dried on particles and making them easily wiped away.

Do multi tasking. While watching your favorite show or listening to the music you love, make sure to find some time to clear the piled up paper. Sort the papers into categories based on your file names. Don't forget to include trash and recycle. You'll be surprised how much of the pile you won't need.

While doing your annual spring cleaning, consider getting rid of items you no longer use. Get together with a friend or two and have a sale. You will make some money and gain more space too.

Don't let unused items gather dust and dirt over the years.

Take extra time to clear up the clutter in patios. If you haven't used something in the past several months, chances are higher that you never will. Get rid of the clutter. It is the hardest task in spring cleaning. Label various storage containers before you begin to sort your clutter. A label makes placing items in the right category a much easier task. You can easily involve your kids to organize their toys if you have different storage containers. Go through and grab obvious trash as the first step. Once the trash is gone, it makes it easier to see what you want to keep, and just how much stuff you'll need to get rid of.

Encourage your kids to donate some of the toys they don't use anymore. Find a local charity to donate stuff that might be useful to another person. If you find it hard to transport your things to a charity or thrift store, try 'Davis free cycle' to recycle your stuff. You'll be surprised to see the number of people responding within a day.

Think twice before dumping furniture or useful items near the dumpsters which might be of use to a neighbor. Take a few minutes to post a sign on the notice board so that it can be reused within the complex.

When your spring cleaning is finished, you'll be able to sit back and enjoy the fruits of your labor and make this spring a time to start fresh.

Orchard Park Community Garden

Submitted by Kyana Taillon

Friends and fellow farmers, it's that time again! The weather is beautiful and the garden is calling. For those of you who are new to Orchard Park or have not had the chance to garden in the past, now is the year to take advantage of one of our community's most precious treasures. For those of you who have enjoyed a season or two already, welcome back!

The Orchard Park Community

Gardens are located across the bike path on the south end of the complex. There are many plots waiting to be cultivated and harvested by interested residents and now is the time to start planning for the summer growing season. A yearly \$20 plot rental fee and a one time \$20 deposit fee per plot will secure your 10x50' plot for a whole year! You get your deposit back if you clean out your plot when you vacate.

Plots are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact the Garden Committee at orchardparkgardens@gmail.com with any questions. We will be celebrating the coming of spring by planting our first seeds of the season in our "We Love Dirt" program on Tuesday, March 20, the first day of spring, at 4:30pm. Fun, friendship, and home-grown food await!



Community Programs

Dr. Seuss Day

With his collection of nearly 50 classic stories like "The Cat in the Hat," "Green Eggs and Ham," "The Sneetches," and "The Lorax," Theodor Seuss Geisel--or Dr. Seuss--is one of the most-read and beloved authors of our time. March 2nd is his birthday! Let's celebrate by taking turns reading our favorite Dr. Seuss books together.

Many of Dr. Seuss's books express his views on a variety of social and political issues, including environmentalism, equality, anti-consumerism and anti-authoritarianism. I'll read one of my favorite Seuss stories about being a friend with someone (or something) that is different, called "What was I Scared of?" **This program is for all ages.** For questions, please contact Kyana at 530-554-9880.

When: Friday, March 2 at 11am
Where: Orchard Park Community Center

Painting and Decorating Treasure Boxes

Do you have treasure that needs a home? If so, come join us as we decorate these treasure boxes that I will be providing. Use your creativity to make it your own. These would also be great for jewelry storage as well! See you there. If you have any questions, please contact Casey at 707-953-5279.

When: Friday, March 2 at 4:30 pm
Where: Solano Park Community Center

Craft Hour

Spring is in the air! Let's welcome spring with this fun and easy spring craft. Kids under 5 must come with an adult. For questions, please call Shakeela at 530-297-7451.

When: Tuesday, March 6 at 4:30pm
Where: Solano Park Community Center

Persian Cooking Class

Everyone, this month our dear neighbor Atossa Behzadi is going to teach us how to make the Persian cuisine Khoresh-E Baademjaan, a delicious eggplant and chicken stew. Not only that, she is also going to teach us how to make the yummy yogurt dip "Maast-O Kheeyaar." Please come join us and learn how to make some wonderful Persian dishes together! For questions, please contact Tzu-Chi at 530-304-3070.

When: Wednesday, March 7 at 5pm
Where: Orchard Park Community Center

Felt Shamrocks

Kids welcome! Come learn to make a felt 4 leaf clover. They're easier to find than the real ones and fun to make! If you have any questions, please contact Linnea at 530-219-9477.

When: Thursday, March 8 at 3pm
Where: Solano Park Community Center

Animal Origami

Origami is always a very fun art. It is so creative. You can simply use a piece of tiny paper to make a big difference. This month, let's try to use those little papers to make the biggest zoo in our community! Come join us to have some fun time together! For questions, please contact Tzu-Chi at 530-304-3070.

When: Thursday, March 8 at 5:15pm
Where: Orchard Park Community Center

West African Dance for Kids

Join us for a fun introduction to West African dance! This class for kids will feature a combination of traditional and modern dance styles from Senegal, West Africa, including Mbalax, Sabaar, and Fula Kunda dance. Please wear comfortable clothes and shoes you can move in!

Hamady Balde, an Orchard Park resident originally from Senegal, will teach the class. Hamady has been a dancer since a young age, competing in dance competitions and participating in festivals throughout Senegal. Since his arrival in the USA in 2007, he has been teaching dance classes in Oregon. **This program is for children ages 2 to 6 with a parent or guardian.**

Community Programs

For questions, please contact Kyana at 530-554-9880.

When: Saturday, March 10 at 11am

Where: Orchard Park Community Center

Adult Jewelry

Join us to make beaded jewelry: bracelets, earrings etc. If you have any questions, please contact Linnea at 530-219-9477.

When: Tuesday, March 13 at 7pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center

Cooking Class

Learn how to make fresh gnocchi with SP Resident Krystal Stover. Her grandma's secret recipe won't be a secret anymore because she is going to share it with us. For questions, please call Shakeela at 530-297-7451.

When: Wednesday, March 14 at 5pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center

Kid's Club

Hi Kid's Club, we are going to be crafting Rainbow Flyers! Then we will be putting our crafts to the test. Have your aeronautical skills ready for this event! If you have any questions, please contact Casey at 707-953-5279.

When: Tuesday, March 20 at 4:30pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center

We Love Dirt!

Today is the first day of SPRING and the perfect time to start some seeds for your garden!

We'll plant sunflowers, snow peas, and marigolds in starter trays and you'll be able to take them home to watch them grow in a sunny window. Transplant them to a large pot or your family garden when they get big enough. We'll make "dirt" pie for a snack, too! For gardening info, contact

OrchardParkGardens@gmail.com. **This program is for all ages.** For questions, please contact Kyana at 530-554-9880.

When: Tuesday, March 20 at 4:30pm

Where: Orchard Park Community Center

Salt Dough Charms

Make charms for Saint Patrick's Day. Salt Dough is white and holds any imprints - lace, fingerprints, or penciled phrases. Kids should have an adult helper. If you have questions, please contact Linnea at 530-219-9477.

When: Thursday, March 22 at 3pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center

Cookie Swap

Cookie time! Spring is here, why don't we have some fun afternoon tea in our community and swap some great cookie making ideas together! **Please**

bring at least a dozen of cookies and your recipe to share! For questions, please contact Tzu-Chi at 530-304-3070.

When: Thursday, March 22 at 5pm

Where: Orchard Park Community Center

Project Night

Come bring your unfinished project to work on. It can be knitting or to finish reading the book that you started long ago (or if you just want to enjoy a kid free zone for an hour). For questions, please call Shakeela at 530-297-7451.

When: Friday, March 23 at 7pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center

Egg Craft

This event is for all residents, we will be learning some new egg decorating techniques to make beautiful eggs to display around your house. I will be providing the eggs and some samples of techniques. Children under 7 years old will need an adult helper. If you have any questions, please contact Casey at 707-953-5279.

When: Thursday, March 29 at 4:30pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center

Monthly Maintenance Tips

By Orchard and Solano Park Maintenance

Bathroom Mold and Mildew Issues

➤ To help reduce incidence of mildew and mold, air exchange is the key. If possible, after you shower or bath, leave the bathroom door open and leave the bathroom fan running to exhaust as much steam and moisture as possible. Also leave the bathroom door open as much as possible, even if you chose not to run the fan.

- If you notice mold and/or mildew starting to form on the shower walls (tile), Student Housing recommends cleaning products labeled specifically for mold and mildew removal. Make sure to follow the directions on the label.
- Also, a 1% to 2% solution of bleach and water will take care of most mold problems. Diluted bleach and over the counter

products actually kill the bacteria causing the mold and mildew if you let them work for a few minutes after you apply them and before you wipe them down.

- If you find that mold and mildew have gotten into the paint to the point where it leaves a stain behind, let us know and we can evaluate the situation and offer additional remedies.

Holidays and Anniversaries

March 1 - Chalanda Marz, Calends of March [Switzerland]

An ancient ceremony marking the end of winter; Calends is the day of a new moon sighting, while the Calends phase begins the day after a full moon, continues through its last quarter and waning period, then past the dark new moon until another lunar crescent is sighted.

March 3 - Hina-matsuri, Girls' Festival, Doll's Festival [Japan]

Hinamatsuri is a seasonal festival (called sekku) considered as a day for girls; most families with girls celebrate it by praying for their health and happiness. People display Hina-ningyou (special dolls displayed only for this festival), offer hishi-mochi (red, white, and green lozenge-shaped rice cakes) and peach blossoms, and celebrate the festival by drinking shiro-zake (sweet white sake).

March 8 - International Women's Day

A day to honor working women is widely celebrated throughout the world—especially in UN member countries as the counterpart to Mother's Day. In the United States, the day commemorates a march of women garment and textile workers in New York City in 1857. International Women's Day is a national holiday in Russia, People's Republic of China, Afghanistan, Cape Verde Islands, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, and Nepal, where women are given special recognition.

March 10 - Harriet Tubman Day [U.S.A.]

An American abolitionist born into slavery, Harriet Tubman escaped from slavery to the North in 1844 and helped lead other slaves out of slavery through the underground railroad. In all, she is credited with helping more than 300

slaves win freedom. Between trips, Harriet Tubman worked as a cook, spoke in Boston at antislavery meetings, and supplied material to the National Anti-Slavery Standard in New York.

March 17 - Saint Patrick's Day [Christian]

A Roman slave brought to Ireland on a slave ship at sixteen during the Fifth Century, Saint Patrick brought Christianity to many pagans in Ireland.

March 20 - Ostara Vernal Equinox [Pagan/Wiccan]

Date changes with the vernal equinox. This festival celebrates the rejoining of the Mother Goddess and her lover-consort, who spent the winter months in death.

Calendar of Events

March 2012

All residents are welcome to attend all programs, regardless of location. All events held in the Community Center unless otherwise noted.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 <u>Dr. Seuss Day</u> OPCC 11am <u>Painting & Decorating Treasure Boxes</u> SPCC 4:30pm	3
4	5	6 <u>Craft Hour</u> SPCC 4:30pm	7 <u>Persian Cooking Class</u> OPCC 5pm	8 <u>Felt Shamrocks</u> SPCC 3pm <u>Animal Origami</u> OPCC 5:15pm	9	10 <u>West African Dance for Kids</u> OPCC 11am
11	12	13 <u>Adult Jewelry</u> SPCC 7pm	14 <u>Cooking Class</u> SPCC 5pm	15	16	17
18	19	20 <u>Kid's Club</u> SPCC 4:30pm <u>We Love Dirt</u> OPCC 4:30pm	21	22 <u>Salt Dough Charms</u> SPCC 3pm <u>Cookie Swap</u> OPCC 5pm	23 <u>Project Night</u> SPCC 7pm	24
25	26	27	28	29 <u>Egg Craft</u> SPCC 4:30pm	30 HOLIDAY PARKS OFFICES CLOSED	31



The Parks at UC Davis

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Your doorway to campus life & academic achievement

We're on the Web!

http://www.housing.ucdavis.edu/housing/apartments_orchard_solano.asp

The **Park Messenger** is published by Student Housing, at the University of California, Davis. Our goal is to communicate with Park residents, campus departments and the community of Davis. We encourage reader suggestions, criticisms and articles. Let us hear from you.

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The Park Messenger online:

http://www.housing.ucdavis.edu/current/park_messenger.asp

Did you know?

- Apartments on University owned land are exempt from California State Property Tax. Therefore, students living in these facilities are not eligible for renter's credit.
- Need assistance while walking home at night? Call 752-1727 if you would like a safety escort while walking alone on campus at night. A Cal Aggie Host will meet you and escort you to your destination on campus.
- **Registration Reminder** ~ Student Housing requires all students to meet our eligibility requirements to continue living in The Parks Apartments. **Student must**

have full-time registered status during all regular academic sessions (summer is excluded). Students who do not meet the requirement are required to register for additional classes or submit a notice to vacate with their Park Office. Please be aware of these requirements when you register for classes in the coming months. Please contact Student Housing at 530-752-2033 or your Park Office if you have any questions.

- Planning to vacate after finals? Remember to turn in your Notice to Vacate with your

Park Office at least 42-days prior to when you want to move out.

- Smoking is not allowed within any apartment, or within 25 feet of any building, courtyard, or exterior walkway, patio, or balcony. Smoking is also not allowed near any playgrounds or outdoor seating areas that other residents may typically use. Smoking will only be permitted along the outside perimeter of the Orchard and Solano Park property line. Please be aware that anyone violating this policy is subject to a lease violation.