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Block Talk (December 1985)

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block talk

A SPECIAL WISH TO ALL FOR A
HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY
from
THE MCGINNIS CENTER STAFF



December 4, 1985

HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST

The Christmas spirit has again arrived in the Off Campus area. On December 10th at 6:00 p.m., an experienced group of judges converge on the hopefully snow white area in search of the house with the best exterior Christmas decorations. Last years winners, including John O'Donnell, Tim McKelvy and Ray Schmidly, are going to be a tough act to follow. Their house, decked out with lights, luminaries and Christmas joy won them a trip to the Pine Club. First prize will again be a trip to the Pine Club, with a second prize being a trip to Westward Ho, courtesy of Off Campus Housing.

To register for this traditional Christmas event, simply fill out the form below and return it to the McGinnis Center by December 6th. Judges consisting of University employees, a WVUD media personality, a Dayton newspaper staff writer, and a 2nd District Police Officer will evaluate the entries on three categories: effort, aesthetic value and originality. Help show UD's Christmas spirit and win a free trip to the Pine Club.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST

ADDRESS _____

NAMES _____

PHONE NO. _____

RETURN TO MCGINNIS CENTER

BY DECEMBER 6, 1985

Congratulations Mrs. McGinnis

On November 13, 1985 at the annual award dinner of the Dayton Chapter of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Marie-Louis McGinnis was honored for her philanthropic and civic commitments that have contributed immeasurably to the quality of life of all Daytonians. Currently Mrs. McGinnis is chairman of the Board of the St. Elizabeth Medical Foundation, a Board member of the University of Dayton, the Dayton Catholic Women's Club, the Dayton Ballet Associates and the Muse Machine and a past Board member of Womenline. The NCCJ honored Mrs. McGinnis for her personal and public life of good works and compassion that provides an exemplary model for all who would dedicate themselves to service for others.

CHRISTMAS ON CAMPUS

Don't forget that the 22nd annual Christmas on Campus is this Sunday, December 8. If you're adopting a kid, they will be arriving in "C" lot at 5:45 p.m. The festivities begin at 6:00 p.m. with the traditional live nativity scene and tree lighting ceremony in KU plaza. Then from 6:30 till 9:00 p.m. there will be entertainment and games in KU, the PAC, Marycrest and several other buildings throughout campus. Alumni Hall will feature a Senior Citizen annex this year. The evening will end with a mass in the Fieldhouse. The theme for this year is: Christmas, for the Child in us All. So come and let the child in you have fun at Christmas on Campus - 1985.



Newspapers And Mail

To those students who will be leaving for Christmas vacation, be sure and temporarily stop newspaper and mail delivery. Mail delivery may be stopped by contacting the Post Office and to stop the delivery of the Dayton Daily News and Journal Herald call 222-5700.

LOCK IT UP!

The McGinnis Center has put together a few tips that should be checked before the last resident leaves your house. Following just one or two of the guidelines will decrease the likelihood of your house becoming a target for a thief:

- Make sure all doors and windows are locked and secured tightly.
- Stop all newspaper and mail deliveries for the period you are away.
- Leave several lights on inside your house. Also leave the porch light on. (Free porch light bulbs are available at the McGinnis Center.)
- Make the house look lived in. Keep drapes and blinds partially open.
- Engrave all your valuables left behind, then store them in a closet.
- Complete the enclosed form and return it to the McGinnis Center prior to your departure.

Feature on...
Linda Mercuri.

Each month the McGinnis Center Office of Community Relations will use this space to feature people who live in this area and/or make an important impact through their concern and service to the off campus area.

This month's feature story focuses on Linda Mercuri, Director of Womenline, Inc. Linda has been the Director of Womenline since 1982 and was a volunteer since 1972. Womenline, Inc. is a group of caring people, including some University students, who are available for anyone, men or women, in times of need of advice.

Linda was born in a small coal mining town outside of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania called Renton. Most of her relatives were coal miners, including her father before he moved on to work at Westinghouse. Linda went to elementary school in Renton but because the town population was approximately 1000 she had to be bused to the town of Plumcreek for high school. While in high school she was very active in extra curricular activities. She was a cheerleader, in the Girls Athletic Association, plays, the Honor Society and worked on the school newspaper.

Upon graduating from Plumcreek High School Linda decided she wanted to go to a Catholic College. She had always wanted to go to a Catholic High School but none were located near her town. She came to UD and lived in Marycrest for her first three years. While at the University she worked at the bookstore. Coming from a small town Dayton was a real change. As Linda said, "It opened my eyes a lot, but helped strengthen my values. It was very enlightening, living in a small Democratic town I had never met a Republican until I came here."

Linda's senior year at UD was very eventful mainly because she got married and moved into an apartment by the Dayton Art Institute. For the next thirteen years she was a homemaker. She had four children, Amy, Joe, and the twins, Molly and Nathan. During these thirteen years Linda's thirst for more knowledge never stopped. Following graduation from UD in 1969 she enrolled at Sinclair Community College where, in 1973, she received her nursing degree. She then came back to UD in 1978 and began working toward her counseling degree, which she received in 1982. The day after graduation she accepted her present position as Director of Womenline, Inc., her first full time position, "which was a shock to go from being at home to being in the office full-time."

As Linda explained, Womenline is a pro-life organization that gives women and men the opportunity to talk with someone who will listen in a non-judgemental way. People come in for many things not just advice on pregnancies. Among Womenline's many offerings are emergency housing, referrals, divorce counseling, information concerning the Miami Valley Adoption Coalition and some assistance to families in need of such things as cribs, canned food and some furnishings. Although there is a donation box all these services are at no cost, and all information and discussion is confidential.

Linda has nothing but praise regarding the University and the student population many of whom come to Womenline for advice. "The students are a big help. They donate items such as couches, sofa beds and food stuffs that are not out of date. In addition many University students volunteer time to come down to Womenline to help answer phone calls, distribute the Womenline Newsletter, and assist in anyway possible."

Linda is also on the Brown Street Business Association which is presently planning a Fourth of July Ceremony focusing on the 1890's. Among the days festivities will be a fun run, a parade, ice cream social, an antique car show, several live bands, appearances by local celebrities, some golf demonstrations from L.P.G.A. members and demonstrations of rugby, soccer and lacross.

Having lived near the off campus area for almost twenty years Linda has become well acquainted with it. Over the past twenty years she has noticed many improvements in the Off Campus. Most notable are the "tremendous clean-up" efforts, no more porch furniture, the maintenance and upgrading of University Houses and the landscaping.

Linda can generally be found at Womenline located at 1106 Brown Street. The hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Thursday and Friday; 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday; and 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays. It is always best to make an appointment before you stop down.

Come Decorate the McGinnis Center Christmas Tree

Christmas is again upon us. But because we are away from home just before Christmas day, we often miss the yearly celebrated tradition of trimming our tree. This year will be different for the first time. On December 6th at 6:00 pm., the McGinnis Center invites everyone to decorate the McGinnis Center Christmas Tree. The live tree will be illuminated by lights but will need decorations of most any kind from the student body. The tree, located on the McGinnis Center front lawn, will be put up on December 4th for anyone who would like to get an early start.

McGinnis Center Late Study Hours

During final exams the McGinnis Center will have extended hours for anyone wishing to get out of their house in search of a better study atmosphere. The building will be kept open from 9 a.m. until 3 a.m. on December 11, 12, 16 and 17. In addition **free** study refreshments (coffee, tea, milk, and donuts) will be available for the taking.

Also please note that the McGinnis Center will officially close for the Christmas recess on December 20 at 5 p.m. and reopen January 5 at noon.



**Best Wishes
from
Student Development
to
December Graduates**

Upcoming University Events

DECEMBER

- 8 Christmas Open House at McGinnis Center, followed by Christmas On Campus
- 10 Off Campus House Decorating Contest
- 12 Final Exams begin
- 18 Final Exams end, Christmas Vacation begins following last exam
- 21 Graduation Exercises for December Graduates

JANUARY

- 6 Second Semester classes begin
- 15 Last day for late registration, change of grade options, and/or schedules
- 20 No classes, Martin Luther King Day
- 21 Last day to change First semester grades

FEBRUARY

- Housing Fair (Date to Be Announced)
- 2 Groundhog Day
- 7 Turnabout Dance, 10 pm - 2 am at Wampplers Ball Room
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 17 No Classes, Washington's/Lincoln's Birthdays observed
- 18 No classes, Midterm Break
- 21 Friendly Floyds

MARCH

Dates to be announced:

- Clean Sweep (3-22 or 3-15)
- Housing Lotteries
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 26 Last day to withdraw with a record of W
- 27 Easter Recess begins
- 30 Easter Sunday
- 31 Classes resume, 8:00 am

APRIL

- 18 Last day of classes
- 21 Final Exams begin
- 23 Senior grades due
- 25 Final Exams end
- 26 Final Exams for Saturday classes
- 27 Graduation Exercises

Block Talk and its opening edition, *Off Campus News*, are published monthly during the academic year by the University of Dayton's McGinnis Center Office of Community Relations, 301 Lowes Street, Dayton, Ohio 45409, 229-2047 or 2531. The McGinnis Center and Student Development Staff welcome your comments regarding the newsletter.

Tom Boyle
Coordinator, McGinnis Center

Joseph Belle
Director, Off Campus Housing

Clyde Wisch
Associate Dean of Students

DID YOU KNOW THAT . . .

- A burglar will generally pass by a house if it looks like someone is home. Make your house look lived-in whether you are there or not.
- Window pins may be obtained at the McGinnis Center FREE!
- Porch light bulbs may be obtained at the McGinnis Center. Remember be bright, turn on a light and turn off a burglar.
- The Official Student Handbook can be picked up at the McGinnis Center. It is every student's responsibility to be aware of the information contained in the publication.
- It is the responsibility of the residents to shovel their own walkways to their house. So, next time it snows, come down to the McGinnis Center and borrow a shovel.

As this semester rapidly comes to a close, the Student Development staff would like to commend all students who live in the Off Campus area for their fine behavior and demonstrating a responsible attitude while living in this area. The University is committed to improving the Off Campus area with continued services and upgrading of our properties.

In general, the Off Campus area is cleaner and the automated trash containers have been an added plus for us to have. At times, some of these containers have been overturned and set on fire and we ask everyone's cooperation in trying to eliminate this problem.

The Off Campus area continues to be a unique and fun place for students to live. However, residing in the Off Campus area places a higher responsibility on all students so everyone can enjoy living in a house or apartment.

Best of luck with upcoming exams and we wish everyone a safe and pleasant upcoming holiday.

Christmas Break 1985

Address _____

Phone _____

Residents Names _____

Any Authorized persons with access:

Name _____ Phone _____

Purpose _____

In Case of Emergency, Contact: _____

Phone: _____

Last Person to Leave: _____

Date and Time: _____

First Person to Arrive: _____

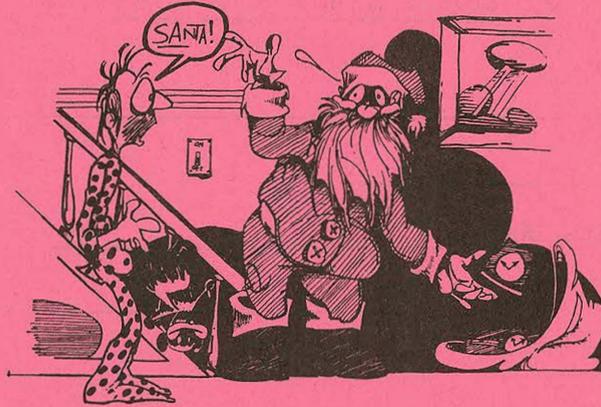
Date and Time: _____

Area where lights are on: _____

Any Problems in Securing the House: _____

**** Light bulbs and window pins may be obtained at the
McGinnis Center (301 Lowes St.)

DON'T LET THE "HOLIDAY SPIRIT" RIP YOU OFF



Help the Campus Police and Dayton Police protect you against thefts: Take a few minutes to better secure your valuables.

As you know, during the Christmas Holiday, the off-campus area has few or no student residents. This is an invitation to burglars and thieves.

In the past we have experienced burglaries during Christmas break due to the residents not taking a few minutes to secure their valuables and houses. By following the precautions listed below, you can better secure your valuables, and also assist the Dayton Police and Campus police in patrolling the off-campus area.

1. Turn on all front and back porch lights.
* Porch light bulbs can be obtained from the McGinnis Center.
2. Leave all blinds and window shades open.
3. Leave an inside light on, preferably in a hallway.
4. Lock all doors and windows (use window pins).
* Window pins may be obtained from the McGinnis Center.
5. Place all valuables left in the house out of view; use closets or upstairs attics.
6. Stop all deliveries, or have a friend pick up newspapers, mail, etc. on a daily basis.
7. Fill out the form on the reverse side and return it to the McGinnis Center (301 Lowes) before you leave.

Thank you for your cooperation and have a safe and fun-filled Christmas Holiday!!!!

Ptl. Mike Armocida

Inv. Louis Laquaglia

Dayton Police Central
Crime Prevention Unit

University of Dayton Police
Crime Prevention Unit