



MSMC Security Quarterly

CAMPUS LIFE ESSENTIALS

Fall 2017



Points of INTEREST

- Sidewalks, “Who would have thought it?”
- Where to go? What to do?
- Living Safely Off-Campus

Sidewalks, “Who would have thought it?”

I’m willing to bet the majority of the college community that reads this newsletter wouldn’t expect the first article of the new semester to be about “Sidewalks”. But why not, sidewalks are great. Did you know that the first sidewalks were built in the 4th century in the Greek city of Corinth. The Roman’s were particularly adept at building sidewalks, calling them “semitas” and probably marveling about how they kept those walking the streets from being exposed to animal waste.

We often see sidewalks for their safety benefit. The essential role they have in keeping us out of the pathway of vehicular traffic. Especially the sidewalks on the upper and lower Kaplan lots traveling between the Kaplan Recreation Center and Aquinas Hall.

With the safety that sidewalks afford us it is important that we take advantage of their availability. We often see students walking in parking lots and roadways around the campus. A great amount of responsibility for vehicular safety is placed on drivers. But in reality, that responsibility

should be shared between drivers and pedestrians, who may take unnecessary risks by walking in the road instead of using available sidewalks.

Another important part of pedestrian safety, with regards to sidewalks, occurs in the phenomena of “distracted walking” due to, you guessed it, cell phones. According to statistics provided by the National Safety Council (NSC) in the years 2000 to 2011 there were 11,101 injuries attributed to “distracted walking” while using cell phones. Talking on the cell phone accounted for 62 percent of injuries. The most common injuries being dislocations or fractures, sprains or strains, and concussions. Nearly 80 percent of the injuries were due to falls. According to the NSC cell phone distractions while walking cause pedestrians to trip, cross roads unsafely, or walk into motionless objects such as street signs, doors or walls.

As we begin a new semester lets take a moment to enjoy walking around this beautiful and vibrant campus doing so from the safety of our ever present friend, the Sidewalk.

Contact us

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Where to go? What to do?

While nearly everyone goes to college for the educational opportunities, a significant part of your education occurs outside the classroom. Your social interactions and activities during your time at the Mount will have a large influence on your friendships and the memories that become important to you now and later in life. One of the many things that make the Mount so special is its commitment to all parts of the “college experience”. One of the best ways we do this is through the Office of Student Activities. Student Activities works tirelessly to create and sponsor activities throughout the year that students find to be fun, challenging, intriguing, and even sometimes educational. They are constantly creating activities, events, and trips that relate to the current interests of our students, while also being open to students’ ideas for planning new events for now and in the future.

You may be asking yourself what relevance an article about activities has in a Security and Safety Newsletter, but it is our belief that if students have college supported activities to choose from they are less likely to participate in activities that may be detrimental to a positive college experience. While you can’t go wrong in

participating in Student Activities events, one or more of the local attractions listed below may be a source of interest.

1. Hudson Valley Rail Trail (845) 691-2066 — This flat and paved trail stretches nearly 4 miles between the Towns of Highland and Lloyd about 20 minutes by car on Rte. 9W heading north from the campus. The trail passes through hardwood forests and under two spectacular stone-arch bridges. The trail also leads to the Walkway over the Hudson River on a redone former railway bridge converted to an expansive pedestrian walkway.

2. Motorcyclepedia Museum, 250 Lake St. Newburgh, (845) 569-9065 — A must see display of motorcycles, whether you are a life long rider or never seen a motorcycle before. Two floors filled with over 500 bikes. Knowledgeable guides or be your own guide, definitely worth a look.

3. Newburgh Waterfront — A short walk from the campus; beautiful view of the river, several great restaurants . Two Hudson River Boat Tours available with reservations, ticket booth on premises.

4. Newburgh-Beacon Bridge — A short walk from the campus with a pathway great for jogging or walking to the City of Beacon.

5. Ann Street Art Gallery — Great gallery for art gazers around the corner from Liberty St. with coffee shops and great eateries.

6. Mount Beacon — Short drive across the bridge and through the City of Beacon to Mount Beacon. Excellent posted hiking trails with easy to moderate difficulty. Spectacular views at the top with easy trail to functioning fire tower which provides an even greater viewing vantage. On a clear day, I have been told, it is possible to view the New York City Skyline.

7. Main St. in Beacon — Great way to spend all or part of the day. Comfortable tree lined Main Street offers something for every taste and age. Classic college town atmosphere. On the second Saturday of each month, shops are open longer, the galleries offer wine (for those over 21) and cheese, and the restaurants offer menu specials.

These are just a small listing of area attractions. If you have any questions about these or other attractions just stop by any of the Security Stations or ask any officer they will be happy to help.

Fire Safety Living Off-Campus

While the majority of our students do live on campus, there are those who choose to live off-campus in rental homes or apartments. While the college does not endorse any particular location or persons with regards to choices in off campus living locations, we would like to make the following recommendations known to students who are considering living off campus in the hope that they are safe and comfortable in their home or apartment.

It would be advisable for those looking to rent a space to ensure all issues are addressed prior to signing a lease.

There should be a functional smoke detector in every bedroom, on each floor level including the basement, and outside each sleeping room. There should be a functional carbon monoxide detector located within 15 feet of each sleeping room.

Each room should have an openable window open to a clear height of 24” and a width of 20”.

Each sleeping room must provide a minimum of 70 square feet of space with 50 feet for each additional occupant and a ceiling height of not less than 7 feet.

All appliances, especially for heating and electricity, should be functional with all safety covers in place and switches and outlets secure.

Do not use extension cords as a permanent source of power. Change power strips annually.

Ensure all safety related repairs are made before signing a lease.

We should also remember that as a tenant we have a responsibility to maintain the house or apartment in a safe manner. If there is a party or other gathering, dispose of all smoking materials 20 feet from the building in a metal container. Clean up after all debris and dispose of it outside before going to bed.

Just as we have designated drivers, we need to have designated party attendants.

In addition, you have a responsibility to your



neighbors to not let your lifestyle affect their quality of life. As a good neighbor, maintain the exterior areas of your property free from garbage. In addition to being respectful of your neighbors with regards to noise from parties, remember not everybody gets to sleep to noon on the weekends.

If you have any questions on any safety practices please call the Safety Office at (845) 569-3503.