It is that time of year again! The MPTSS hosts the Off-Campus Housing Fair every spring. This year it is being held March, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the Capital Room of the Holmes Student Center. The housing fair is a tabling event for property companies to come and show you their housing layouts, pricing and details regarding their rental property units. This is a highly populated free event. If you are looking for a new place to live, want to learn the perks and compare companies, we highly recommend coming.

The Holmes Student Center (HSC) is gearing up for a massive renovation as highlighted in last month’s Paw Prints Newsletter. With the renovation will come a major change for Military and Post-Traditional Student Services.

Starting March 19, the MPTSS’ Lounge and Support Services office will be relocating to the Campus Life Building Room 170. The Lounge will be on the first floor nestled in between the Student Involvement and Leadership office and the Student Association. CLB will be the home of the Lounge for the duration of the HSC renovation.

With the relocation, our office will still offer the same services students have always enjoyed. We will have a kitchen area complete with refrigerator, toaster oven, microwave and coffee maker. We will be gaining a sink area in the new lounge. The Lounge will continue to officer an area for students watch television and eat.

The Lounge will continue to have space for students study. The three computers currently in the Lounge will move with us as well as our printer allowing us to continue to offer some free printing.

Make sure to visit our page on the NIU website to learn more about our housing fair and upcoming events!
Now that you are interested in the Off-Campus Housing Fair here are some great things to ponder as you get excited about your upcoming apartment and year at NIU! Finding an apartment is stressful, but it doesn't have to be! Attending the fair will help you see all the layouts and think of more questions to ask while you go on tours and find your future roommates.

With that excitement it is easy to forget some critical information. Even though you love your bests friends, do they spend money wisely? Will they be clean or messy? Do you have the same study and lifestyles? If you answered no to any of these, you should consider your lifestyle before you choose a roommate or an apartment.

For instance, there are a few apartment companies that allow for pets, but do they have a single pet deposit and the more important questions...is it refundable. There are companies that charge pet fees to move the pet into the property and are NOT refundable upon leaving. This may sway your opinion. Do you have to pay an extra fee every month for your pet?

What happens if you decide to be brave and adventurous and want to spend the semester studying abroad? Are you able to sublease? Keep in mind that even if you sublease you are still on the lease so you need to find a responsible person to rent that won’t crash your security deposit. This may sound stressful, but think of all the great memories and adventures study abroad will give. (here is a great opportunity to bike around South America!) Planning rids anxiety, so the sooner you plan the more exciting your year will be!

If you do decide to move out of your dorm, or your apartment at the end of this semester make sure to contact your property manager and request the itemized list of what will be inspected upon move out. No one wants to be blindsided because they didn’t use magic eraser on the walls scuffs!

**Great Move Out tips!**

1). Start with the simple stuff! You can start packing things that are not a necessity and getting them ready to transport to your new rental. This could include decorations, old books, etc.

2). Start looking at your apartment with a critical eye, have you ever clean your ceiling fan blades? Depending on how long you lived at your current rental, you may have some serious deep cleaning to do.

3). This may be the grossest information, but I previously heard that people never vacuum, vacuum people! Winter gets dirty! (But not late at night, or first thing in the morning, you still want your neighbors to like you)

4). Clean that fridge, yes, top to bottom and take the drawers out. So many times people don’t clean behind the drawers and then get charged BY THE HOUR to clean simple crumbs! Hint: a vacuum will help you here too!

5). Thaw the freezer with all that freezer burn and throw out that old food.

6). Start using magic eraser on the walls, I once got charged for fingerprints. Need I say more!?
Yay Spring Break! If you are lucky enough to go somewhere special, we envy you! If you are homebound like the rest of us, spring break can be a rewarding time to catch up with those most important to you, friends and family and also get some much needed sleep!

If you are staying in the DeKalb area for spring break, get out and explore. DeKalb has a lot to offer, and people actually live here that aren’t related to NIU. I know surprising! There are beautiful houses, trails and restaurants. You can have your own stay-cation.

With that in mind, here are some of DeKalb’s best of trip advisor.

Ellwood House Museum

The Egyptian Theater

River Heights Golf Course

Star Worlds Arcade

MUST READS

There are endless books to fulfill your curiosity and you can find them all here on GoodReads.

1). *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins

2). *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë

3). *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding

4). *Dracula* by Bram Stoker

5). *The Princess Bride* by William Goldman

6). *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger

7). *A Game of Thrones* by George R. R. Martin

8). *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss

9). *Lolita* by Vladimir Nabokov

10). *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini (Goodreads Author)
Job Interests

**Writer/Editor at the Brookfield Zoo, Chicago**

The mission of the Chicago Zoological Society is to inspire conservation leadership by connecting people with wildlife and nature.

The Creative Services department is responsible for the narrative, brand, and visual presentation of the Society and Brookfield Zoo. It is mainly through the efforts of this department—which includes signage, advertising and public relations materials, printed materials, content development, and electronic communications—that the Society is able to impart its messages of conservation leadership and animal care and welfare.

The Writer/Editor contributes to the success of the Chicago Zoological Society (“CZS”) by producing effective and engaging communications to increase awareness of CZS and its mission and drive attendance. This position will write, edit, and proof assigned communications.

Education Programs in Africa

Co-op, Full Time, Internship, Part Time, Temporary/Seasonal

Art in Tanzania focuses on helping educational tasks in nursery, primary and secondary schools in Tanzania as well as adult vocational training. The schools we help are mostly poor village schools. Interns help to develop the primary education and also conduct advocacy work.

Art in Tanzania Educational program is part of our Children’s Agenda approach implemented by a coalition including UNICEF, Save the Children and others.

We work in village nursery, primary and secondary schools but we also run adult vocational training where the focal point are the women. Program also includes classes for children living with disabilities.

Participants are specifically needed to cover subjects where the schools are weak.

Areas of development include English, arts and music, mathematics and sports teaching. Interns also advocate in subjects as HIV/AIDS, health and hygiene. Debate based English training is very popular subject.

We also highlight teacher-training activities.

Tools in the classrooms are scarce also the classrooms size can be 40 students up. Energetic and innovative teachers are needed.
**EVENTS**

The Annual Off-Campus Housing Fair

The office of Military and Post-Traditional Students Services will host its ninth annual Off-Campus Housing Fair on Thursday, March 8, in the Capitol Room of the HSC from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. All current NIU and incoming students are welcome to join us. The Housing Fair will offer students the opportunity to speak with properties from the DeKalb/Sycamore area and plan ahead for the 2018-19 academic year.

**How to Develop a Healthy Relationship with Food**

March 14, 12 - 1 pm.

Learn how to honor your hunger and make peace with food. This presentation will help you view food in a new way and understand the importance of mindful eating. Presented by Amanda Bakko, Nutrition & Dietetics GA. To attend, please register at employeeassistance@niu.edu

**Facts & Snacks Workshop**

Wednesday, March 7 and 21 at 12 - 12:45 p.m.  
**Campus Life Building, 100**  
545 Lucinda Ave, DeKalb, IL 60115

Join MPTSS in a series of workshops designed to best help students who identify as a military veteran, adult learner, commuter, lives in apartments off-campus and/or transferred to NIU!

These workshops will feature Roommate 101 and have a panel discussion regarding the benefits, challenges and processes of study abroad.

Food will be provided. This Workshop is approved by NIU Honors Engaged and the College of Business Passport Program.

Government, Public and Social Service Job Fair

Join Career Services for its final job fair of the spring semester. This fair is open to all majors. The job possibilities will include government jobs as well as public and social services. Bring your resumes and dress nicely! If you need help preparing, you can visit Career Services on the second floor of the Campus Life Building.

Wednesday, March 21 at 4:30 p.m.  
Holmes Student Center, Regency Room
Joke of the Month

In case you were wondering how the Marines embraced the Bulldog….  

According to stories, the Marines fought with such tenacity and valor that the Germans nick named the Americans Teufelhunden or “Devil Dogs.” In Bavarian folklore, devil dogs were wild mountain dogs. The battle at Belleau Wood was real, but the German nickname was based on mythology. However, it wasn’t long before a recruiting poster painted by Charles Falls appeared showing a dachshund wearing a spiked helmet and Iron Cross running from an English Bulldog wearing a helmet with the globe and anchor insignia on it. Written on the poster was “Teufelhunden – Devil Dog Recruiting Station.” The poster was embraced by the Marine Corps and the public.

-Linda Cole

When I was growing up, my dad was in the Marines and every time I had the opportunity to go to a military ball and hang out in the hotel with my grandparents, I was always so excited to see the fun loving bulldog get walked down the hallways. I still consider bulldogs to be one of the coolest dogs, cover your ears Mission!