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The Bark | November 14, 2022

The VPSL Column:



Vice President of Student Life, Evette Castillo Clark

Hello Students,

Welcome to the Thanksgiving edition of The Bark! Whether you are headed home for the holiday, spending it off-campus, or remaining on-campus and spending it with friends, I hope you find time to relax as well as give thanks for the people and opportunities that have made a positive difference in your life. For those of you who will be remaining on campus over the break, Bon Appétit will be hosting a "friendsgiving" on Tuesday, November 22, 5-8 pm. On Thanksgiving Day, our RAs and Campus Living (sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Student Life) will host a Thanksgiving meal in one of the halls. Please inquire with your RA or Area Director for the location or look out for signage.

Finally, it is critical to bring to your attention the concerns that our neighbors have raised about increased disruptive behavior in the neighborhood surrounding campus. Please see the below message from Jessica Carron, our student rights and responsibilities director, for details and more information.

Have a great upcoming break, and a joyous and restful Thanksgiving holiday. We'll see you back on campus next week and for the homestretch of the fall term!

Evette Castillo Clark Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students

Hello, Students!

This is Jessica Carron from the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. I'm reaching out through today's Bark to talk to you all about a concern raised by our neighbors about increased disruptive behavior happening in the local neighborhood.

Recently, neighbors have reported students trespassing, damaging property, urinating or defecating on lawns, smoking and drinking on their property, making a lot of noise late in the night while they or their kids sleep, and yelling or being rude to neighbors who try to engage them about their concerns. The college is working with neighbors to identify these students by reviewing private property security footage and by sending more Campus Safety patrols into the neighborhood to help address concerns. The college's Code of Conduct applies to all students, whether on or off campus, so we hold conduct meetings with students who are identified as taking part in the behavior of concern.

That being said, my hope is that you will reconsider participating in this behavior for more than just avoiding a conduct meeting. I would like you to reconsider participating in this behavior due to the impact it has on an important group that is a part of our community: our neighbors. It can sometimes be hard to see how our neighbors are a part of the LC community, but the fact is that they contribute in a lot of ways. Many of our neighbors are alumni and donors. Many come to campus to share in the beauty and support initiatives. And finally, many just enjoy sharing their neighborhoods with students who are out exercising or to living in their rental homes. As a part of our community that supports us in our success, it is equally important that we show that respect and support in return as being good neighbors ourselves. It is also great practice for when you need to engage with neighbors in other communities you live in in the future.

Sometimes we just need to get off campus and to have fun—I don't want to discourage that. Sometimes that can be hard to do in our location when you don't have a vehicle or other avenues for getting off campus. My office and other offices in Student Life would love to work with you to find other options for you to engage. However, if you do continue to go out into the neighborhood, we ask that you be thoughtful, respectful, and receptive to our neighbors when they raise concerns.

Thank you, Jessica Carron Student Rights & Responsibilities Director