A Brief History of Graduate and Family Housing

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Resident Spotlights

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Editor's Letter

Welcome to the Fall Villager!

Many of us, including myself, have been met with adversity whilst pursuing their own path, but despite that, we persevere, for what else is there to do? The spirit of humanity is one of resilience, and the more I look around at the world around us, the more hopeful I am despite the fact that these past years have been difficult (to say the least) and have provided us all with more challenges than anyone was anticipating.

The community here at Graduate and Family Housing exemplifies the points made above, and we all are able to learn from each other through being open to communicating and listening to those with differing viewpoints than our own.

The Villager has been actively worked on by Graduate and Family Housing staff since before I was alive, and I sincerely hope I did this historic publication justice. So, please, enjoy this term’s edition of the Villager over the course of these next pages.

— Vivienne Butera, GFH CA and Editor

“I AM NO BIRD, AND NO NET ENSNARES ME; I AM A FREE HUMAN BEING WITH AN INDEPENDENT WILL.”

— Charlotte Brontë, Jane Eyre
"Hope" is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -

And sweetest in the Gale - is heard -
And sore must be the storm -
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm -

I've heard it in the chilliest land -
And on the strangest Sea -
Yet - never - in Extremity,
It asked a crumb - of me.

"Hope" is the thing with feathers
by Emily Dickinson
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Village History:
Corry Village

By Sharon Blansett

Opened: 1959
Total Apartments: 216

William Walden Corry, President of the University of Florida Student Body from 1942-1943, a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, and Florida Blue Key, graduated with honors from the University of Florida’s College of Business Administration and was killed in action in France during the Second World War in February of 1945 following his volunteering for service. Corry Village was named for William Walden Corry, reflecting the decision to honor a former UF student and veteran, and was originally intended to house veterans and their families who returned to school following WWII.

At the time of its opening in March of 1959, rent at Corry Village ranged from $54-$60 per month, and approximately a quarter of the UF student body was married.

Today, Corry Village houses a variety of students, including single students, married students, married students with children, and students who are single parents. Corry Village features 100 one-bedroom and 116 two-bedroom apartments many of which were upgraded in 2009-2010.
Village History:
Diamond Village

By Sharon Blansett

Opened: 1965
Total Apartments: 208

Diamond Village is dedicated to the memory of Emory Gardner Diamond, President of the University of Florida’s Student body from 1950-1951 and Clerk of the Honor Court in 1949-1950. Following his service in the United States Army Air Corps as a fighter pilot during World War Two, Diamond returned to the University of Florida in 1947, and graduated with honors in 1950. As the President of the Student Body, Diamond advocated for more student involvement on campus, and supported the creation of what is now known as the J. Wayne Reitz Union, as well as encouraging the establishment of the Student Traffic Court, which is still in place today.

The facilities of Diamond Village were intended to house married students and their families who were displaced when other on-campus housing closed in 1965, and construction included the creation of 104 one-bedroom apartments and an equal number of two-bedroom apartments. Diamond Village was heavily renovated in 2000, which included new sheet rock, plumbing, drop ceilings, cabinetry, appliances, flooring, and upgraded electrical, sprinklers, central air and heating, and fire alarm systems. The $7.4 million renovation project was completed in 2004.

Much like Corry Village, Diamond Village now houses a variety of students, including single students, married students, married students with children, and students who are single parents.
Village History:
Tanglewood Village

By Sharon Blansett

Opened: 1973
Total Apartments: 208

Prior to this, the University of Florida considered building an additional housing complex for married students, and received $2.88 million in 1969 from the Department of Housing and Urban Development for these means. While the University initially planned on constructing a 220-unit apartment complex, construction costs and inflation resulted in the prediction that the budget could only afford a 140-unit complex with rental rates beyond what the average married student could afford. Due to this, when Tanglewood Manor, a 208-apartment facility, was available for purchase, the University decided to utilize its money to purchase Tanglewood rather than to create a new facility. Tanglewood Village was purchased by the University of Florida in 1973 for $2.675 million.

Located 1.3 miles south of the University, Tanglewood Village contains 89 one-bedroom apartments, 81 two-bedroom apartments, 30 two-bedroom townhouses, and 8 efficiencies. These units were built in two phases, with the first 100 apartments being completed in 1968, and the final 104 units in 1971.

Much like Corry and Diamond Village, Tanglewood Village houses a variety of students, including single students, married students, married students with children, and students who are single parents.
Village History: Maguire & UVS

By Sharon Blansett

Maguire Village
Opened: 1972
Total Apartments: 220

Raymer Francis Maguire, President of the University of Florida’s Student Body from 1914-1915, First Honor Graduate Law School Class in 1915, recipient of the President’s Medal for Service to the University in 1935, and 1953 Outstanding Alumnus. In accordance with dedication materials, Raymer F. Maguire was a legal talent who acted as an attorney for the University at his own expense and lobbied to the Florida Legislature in Tallahassee for appropriations for the University.

Maguire Village was opened in 1972 and was built to house married members of the student body in its 110 one-bedroom and 110 two-bedroom apartments for a total of 220 apartments, a greater number than any of the other Graduate and Family Housing Villages. Maguire Village’s swimming pool was completed in 1982.

University Village South (UVS)
Opened: 1973
Total Apartments: 128

University Village South, or UVS, is the sister village to Maguire, and is the smallest village of Graduate and Family Housing at 64 each one and two-bedroom apartments.

Much like the other villages, Maguire and UVS house a variety of students, including single students, married students, married students with children, and students who are single parents.
MEET THE STAFF:

Jason Fraser-Nash, Assistant Director

Graduate and Family Housing

My name is Jason Fraser-Nash. I serve as an Assistant Director for Housing and oversee the village offices and staff, programming, and community development for all the Villages. Additionally, I support our public-private partner, The Continuum. I have been blessed to work in GFH for over 10 years. I have a B.S. from Bradley University, a Master’s from UF, and am currently a part-time PhD student at UF. I am from California and have lived in Illinois, Texas, and Florida. I have visited England, Canada, Trinidad & Tobago, Bahamas, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica and most of the 50 US states. I spend any free time I have with my family typically going to the beach, watching movies, fishing, grilling out, or just lounging around the house.

I want to Welcome each of you to Graduate and Family Housing. We are excited for the new academic year and look forward to being in community and supporting each of you through your individual UF journeys! Should you have any questions about Gainesville, UF, or the Villages please reach out to myself or one of the staff and we will do our best to get you answers! The same goes with any concerns – let us know and we will strive to achieve a resolution as soon as possible.

Again, Welcome! And may your Fall be fun and successful!

Kaila Aimino, Area Coordinator

Diamond and Tanglewood

Hello all! I have been working at UF and a resident of Florida since January 2021. I moved here from Utica, New York, but I grew up in central Pennsylvania. I have my bachelors in Sociology with a concentration on Human Services and minor in Child Development and Family Relations. My masters is in Student Affairs Administration.

I have plans to pursue my doctorate in the future, but for now I am enjoying my time in my career and family time. I am an avid reader! I have a goal of reading 80 books in 2022. In my free time I enjoy spending time with friends, reading, exploring the local area or the greater state of Florida, and cooking/baking. I like to learn new things as well and am always willing to hear about what others are passionate about!
MEET THE STAFF:

**Evelyn Jackson, Administrative Assistant**

_Corry_

Hello, I'm the Admin. Assistant for Graduate and Family Housing, I'm originally from upstate New York (Rochester). In my free time I love to listen to audio books and do small crafts; however, my favorite thing to do is spend time with my family.

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**Vivienne Butera, GFH Community Assistant**

Hello! My name is Vivienne, Community Assistant for all of GFH and editor of this edition of the Villager! I'm here at UF to pursue my M.A. in Political Science with a concentration in Public Affairs. For undergraduate studies, I attended Florida State University, where I received my B.S. in Political Science with concentrations in International Relations and Research Methodology. I speak both English and Russian, and outside of school I enjoy cooking and reading (my most recent read was The Catcher in the Rye). The community of graduate students at UF has been so welcoming, and I can't wait to foster an even more positive environment at GFH. Go Gators!

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**Hanane Sanchez, GFH Community Assistant**

Hello! My name is Hanane Sanchez, I am the Community Assistant for Graduate Family Housing. I was born in Casablanca, Morocco, and raised in Spain and the US. My family and I moved to Gainesville, FL for school, and we have fallen in love with this beautiful town. I love spending time with my family, and we enjoy watching all Gator sporting events. I am currently pursuing a Master's in Family, Youth & Community Sciences. I am a strong advocate for helping the youth and have a passion for building teams.
MEET THE STAFF:

Tashfique Choudhury, Community Assistant
Tanglewood

I am doing my Masters at the department of ECE. I am into cars and road trips. Travelling is my favourite thing to do apart from concerts and soccer. Since I have interest in cars I am basically working on a project that would make the security of connected cars stronger in a future connected vehicle application.

Brooke Abzug, Community Assistant
Diamond

My name is Brooke Abzug, and I am a Community Assistant at Diamond Village. I am a Doctor of Occupational Therapy student and am looking forward to working in a pediatric setting once I complete my program. I am a double gator, having majored in Biology and Psychology as an undergraduate student here at UF. I have previous experience working in a research lab on wrongful convictions and have volunteered regularly at the Equal Access Clinic. My country of origin is the USA, and I enjoy going to the pool and taking walks. I have enjoyed hosting events such as the Diamond Village Cook-Out, Mindfulness event, and Rock Painting Party. I look forward to hosting additional events and continuing to strengthen the GFH community this semester!

Cindy Lee Community Assistant
Maguire, UVS

Hello! I am Seungji( Cindy) Lee, Maguire/UVS Community Assistant. It is very nice to meet you all! I am an international student from South Korea and here to study Tourism, Hospitality & Event Management in UF master's degree. Since my major is tourism, I love to travel and do water sports such as snorkeling, surfing, freediving, water-ski in natural water resources And, I like to have communication with various people! Also, I am always willing to help your community life in Maguire/UVS Villages! Thank you!
Skyler Moreno, Community Assistant

Corry

Skylar Moreno was born in Miami and grew up in Key West, Florida. She majored in food science at the University of Massachusetts Amherst before transferring and finishing the rest of her bachelor’s degree in food science at the University of Florida. She is currently pursuing her master’s degree in food science under the mentorship of Dr. MacIntosh and Dr. Sims in Gainesville, Florida. She is an avid gardener and enjoys sharing her plant collection with anyone.

Jennie Jiunn-Yiung Kung, Community Assistant

Tanglewood

My name is Jennie Jiunn-Ying Kung. I’m a Community Assistant for Tanglewood Village. I’m from Taipei, Taiwan and Kansas, United States. I’m fluent in both English and Mandarin, and can also understand Taiwanese. I’m currently a doctoral student in the College of Education. I like enjoying my spare time with cats and I’m also excited to have joined the team of UF Graduate and Family Housing!

Chloe Millich, Community Assistant

Diamond

Hello Everyone!! My name is Chloe Millich and I am one of the Community Assistants for Diamond Village. I am a third year Doctorate of Physical Therapy student at UF and a Florida native. In my spare time I enjoy long distance running, cooking, and reading! I look forward to meeting everyone in the GFH community and at Diamond Village!
MEET THE STAFF:

Alec McGregor, Desk Assistant
Diamond, Tanglewood

Hello everyone, my name is Alec McGregor and I am a Desk Assistant with Graduate and Family Housing! I am currently majoring in Biomedical Engineering with a focus in Musculoskeletal Biomechanics, and I will be going into my third year of undergrad. I was born and raised in Tampa, Florida here in the US and some of my hobbies include playing the violin, soccer, and video games! I'm excited to continue serving and working with this wonderful community!

Abi Arumugan, Desk Assistant
Corry, Maguire, UVS

I’m a second year international graduate student at the Dept. of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. I hail from the beautiful & cultural city of Chennai, India. I speak Tamil and English. I’m currently working towards a graduate degree in Aerospace engineering at UF focusing on Design and Robotics. After school, I spend most of my free time exploring new food and cultures in Gainesville. I aspire to help humans become multi-planetary and I hope to go to Mars one day!

Dawa Yangzong, Desk Assistant
Tanglewood, Diamond

My name is Dawa. I am a desk assistant for Tanglewood and Diamond Village. I am from Tibet, China. I'm a double gator, I got my master's in Anthropology in the UF, and I am now a doctoral student in the Literacy Education in the School of Teaching and Learning. I speak English and Mandarin. An interesting fact about me is that I play the piano. Nice to meet you all!
MEET THE STAFF:

Jiajun Lee, Desk Assistant
Corry, Maguire, UVS

I am a graduate student studying analytical chemistry. During my free time, I like to explore nature and play basketball.

Lance Trejo, Desk Assistant
Corry, Maguire, UVS

I am studying political Science on the premedical track. I like to study, play instruments, go to the gym and skateboard. I am passionate about animal safety and I'm planning on doing well on the MCAT.

Jiameng, Desk Assistant
Corry, Maguire, UVS

I’m a PhD student in ESOL/Bilingual education. I like cooking and I share my recipes on my Instagram account: Ms. Gao’s Family Kitchen.
MEET THE STAFF:

Emily Locke, Desk Assistant

Diamond, Tanglewood

Hello! My name is Emily Locke, I am a second-year undergraduate student. I am studying public relations and I will likely get a dual degree in marketing. I am a desk assistant at the Diamond and Tanglewood offices. I am from the Florida panhandle, and I enjoy reading in my spare time. It has been very nice meeting everyone in the past couple months!

Ethan Page, Desk Assistant

Diamond, Tanglewood

My name is Ethan Page, a desk assistant at the Diamond and Tanglewood offices. I am a fourth year undergraduate student in business graduating this December, and I grew up in South Florida. I plan to attend law school after I graduate and will be starting the application process soon.

Justin Vela, Desk Assistant

Corry, Maguire, UVS

I study Biochemistry, am on the UF chess team, like to be active on my free time or binge-watch action comedies, am passionate about integrating high level education to form a complex understanding of the world. I’m currently not working on any projects as an undergraduate student but hope to find research in an Organic chemistry lab soon.
Igor Savin, Desk Assistant

Corry, Maguire, UVS

My name is Igor Savin, a resident of Corry Village. I’m doing my Master’s Degree in International Business. Originally, from Kazakhstan, speak English and Russian. Love traveling around the world and in the USA. The concentration I like – is supply and logistics management. The interesting fact is that the winter of 2022 was the first winter in my life without snow and -30F outside.

ADDITIONAL STAFF:

Benjamin Lima, Community Assistant – Corry
Beatrice Leger, Desk Assistant - Corry, Maguire, UVS
Aayush Srivastava, Desk Assistant – Diamond, Tanglewood
Roshan Kurien, Desk Assistant – Diamond, Tanglewood
Daphne Bricker, Desk Assistant – Diamond, Tanglewood
RESIDENT SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to all of our residents who filled out our survey! Here are our results:

What village do you live in?
10 responses

- Corry: 50%
- Maguire/UVS: 50%
- Diamond: 10%
- Tanglewood: 10%
- The Continuum: 40%

Are you an International Student?
10 responses

- Yes: 50%
- No: 50%

Our International students who filled out our survey are from: India, Ghana, China, Colombia, and Armenia.
RESIDENT SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to all of our residents who filled out our survey! Here are our results:

What is your favorite thing about living in Graduate and Family Housing?

- Making friends from all over the world
- Proximity to campus
- Affordability
- Good location close to UF
- Family-friendly environment
- Very safe and affordable
- Good environment for children
- Convenience and friendly community
- The community-building events

How long have you been living in Graduate and Family Housing or The Continuum?

10 responses

- 40% Less than a year
- 20% 1-2 years
- 10% 2-3 years
- 10% 3-4 years
- 10% 4-5 years
- 10% More than 5 years
RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT:

Shajib Ghosh

Shajib Ghosh joined the department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Florida as a Ph.D. student and a Graduate Research Assistant under the supervision of Dr. Navid Asadi in January 2021. In this role, he develops and implements different intelligent physical inspection methods using machine learning and computer vision. He also serves as a mentor to some OPS students who are interested in computer vision and machine learning applications.

Shajib was born and raised in Dhaka, Bangladesh’s capital city. He used to participate in several project contests in elementary school, which pushed him to pursue a career in science and technology. Those experiences, in particular, motivated him to prepare for admission to the country’s top engineering university, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering. Shajib has always wished, not just as a student but also as a human being, to pursue a career in which he can employ his knowledge and abilities for the benefit of humanity. Keeping this in mind, after finishing his undergraduate studies in 2017, he began his master’s degree in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Dhaka. After successfully completing that in 2019, he began working as a research assistant in the mHealth Lab in the department of Biomedical Engineering at BUET. During that time, he worked on detecting cerebral hemorrhage from brain CT scans using deep learning techniques and created a web-based tool to aid in diagnosing procedures. Working on these projects helped Shajib realize that he had a great enthusiasm for exploring as well as implementing advanced and cutting-edge technologies in computer vision and machine learning. Consequently, he decided to pursue his Ph.D. in the United States to perform comprehensive research in these areas.

Before coming to UF, Shajib served as the secretary of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (EMBS) Bangladesh chapter, where he gave technical talks on biomedical engineering research and innovation and worked as the Lead Technical Volunteer on the development of smart healthcare systems for smart city initiatives in Bangladesh. He was able to broaden his perspective on innovation and interpersonal skills through these experiences.
On Campus Resource: Student Legal Services

University of Florida Student Legal Services (SLS) wishes to welcome all of our Gator students back to Gainesville for the fall semester. SLS provides free, confidential, professional legal assistance to UF students on matters such as landlord-tenant disputes, consumer cases, criminal and traffic law issues, notarization of documents, property damage, and insurance disputes. The office consists of four full time attorneys who are available to offer students assistance in understanding and solving their legal problems. The most commonly encountered areas for SLS are criminal and traffic tickets, sealing and expunction of criminal cases, landlord-tenant matters, divorces, and property damage. All matters are handled with complete confidentiality, and in accordance with the highest standards of the legal profession. Although SLS can represent students in court on certain types of cases, most disputes are resolved outside of the courtroom.

SLS has been providing services to UF students since 1977. Educating students so that legal matters are addressed before they become a crisis is a particular focal point of the office. SLS attempts to aggressively educate students on specific areas of the law and enable them to make good decisions by understanding both their legal rights and responsibilities. To this end, SLS attorneys are available to give presentations to student groups across campus on a variety of subjects. SLS also offers several direct learning experiences such as ambassadors, internships, externships, working in the office and a shadowing/mentorship program.

The attorneys of SLS would counsel students not to panic when they find themselves in the midst of a legal problem, but instead to feel comfortable getting in touch with Student Legal Services to get legal help. While they are attorneys, they are also problem solvers and very approachable for UF students. Whatever legal problem a student is experiencing is something that SLS attorneys have likely already encountered; and they can usually suggest practical solutions that can make it manageable. Having proper legal services can reduce the stress and conflict of the situation, and allow the student to focus on their studies and other endeavors.

Please feel free to contact UF Student Legal Services if you have any legal issues and determine how they can help you. All you do is visit our website, www.studentlegalservices.ufl.edu, and fill out a form to apply for services. The website also contains important information about eligibility for services and the other applicable rules involved.

The four attorneys working at SLS are Jon Adcock, Director; Ray Cauthon, Associate Director; Marina Prado-Steiman and Yong Oh. They can be contacted at (352) 392-5297 or www.studentlegalservices.ufl.edu.
Counseling and Wellness Center
Events for International Students:

**UFCWC GROUP**

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUCCESS**

counseling.ufl.edu/groups

**UFCWC GROUP**

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUCCESS**

**CROSS-CULTURAL TRANSITION WORKSHOP**

**FALL 2022**
**TIME:** TUESDAYS, 9/13, 10/11, 11/8
**ZOOM:** HTTPS://UFL.ZOOM.US/S/96886808242

The purpose of this interactive session is to assist international students in the process of adjusting to a new culture and life at UF. We will review the common challenges during cross-cultural transition, discuss research-based healthy coping strategies, and identify helpful resources on UF campus.

**Wednesdays 3:00PM-4:30PM - English (via ZOOM)**
**Tuesdays 1:00PM-2:30PM - Mandarin**

Discuss cultural, career, educational, and relational concerns unique to international students and receive support in a safe space.

CALL 352-392-1575 (8am-5pm) to arrange a brief consultation or email Dr. Shu-Yi Wang (shuyiwang@ufl.edu)
LifeSouth is Gainesville’s blood center.

*Give local, save local.* This is LifeSouth’s motto, and it means that the blood donated in Gainesville stays in the local community to help your neighbors in need. LifeSouth has been a vital part of Alachua County since opening in 1974. **LifeSouth is the sole provider of blood to:**

- HCA Florida Lake City Hospital
- HCA Florida North Florida Hospital
- Lake City VA Medical Center
- Malcom Randall VA Medical Center
- Starke Emergency Room
- Suwannee Emergency Room
- UF Health

**Give blood at a LifeSouth Gainesville donor center today or visit lifesouth.org to find a bloodmobile near you!**

4039 Newberry Road  |  1221 NW 13th Street

**Monday:** 9 a.m.  –  5:30 p.m.
**Tuesday:** 10 a.m.  –  7 p.m.
**Wednesday:** 9 a.m.  –  5:30 p.m.
**Thursday:** 10 a.m.  –  7 p.m.
**Friday:** 9 a.m.  –  5:30 p.m.
**Saturday:** 9 a.m.  –  2 p.m.
**Sunday:** 9 a.m.  –  2 p.m.

All donors receive a **$10 e-gift card!**

Platelet, plasma and red blood cell donors receive an **additional $20 e-gift card!**
On Campus Resource: Food Pantry

The Alan and Cathy Hitchcock Field & Fork Pantry is a free resource for University of Florida students, staff, and faculty facing food or financial insecurity. Food insecurity can impact anyone at any time; maybe a classmate, coworker, neighbor, or friend could be facing a lack of access to food in the amount and nutritional value for an active and healthy lifestyle. Leading to feeling fatigued, distracted, lack of focus, elevated stress, and physical hunger sensations. According to the National College Health Assessment (2020), 38.6% of UF students reported low or very low food security. Thus, the Hitchcock Field & Fork Pantry strives to build a more food-secure campus community by providing safe and wholesome food and education to ensure campus members can thrive.

This past Spring 2022 semester, the Field & Fork Pantry saw 7,544 visits and distributed over 81,000 pounds of food. With over 15,000 pounds donated by the UF community! Food drives and monetary donations are essential to the pantry’s success, and we are grateful to our generous donors. They help keep the shelves stocked!

A collaborative project between the Dean of Students Office, the Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences/College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Hitchcock Field and Fork Pantry is located near McCarty Hall A facing the North Lawn. It is open to anyone with a valid UFID. The Field & Fork Pantry is open 20 hours a week, and updated hours can be found at pantry.fieldandfork.ufl.edu. If you haven’t visited already, please stop by to see what we have to offer! If you are interested in donating or hosting a drive, contact fieldandfork@ufl.edu or 352-392-1261.
Office of Victim Services

The Office of Victim Services was developed in September of 1993 by the University of Florida Police Department to provide a civilian support person for anyone who may become a victim of a crime while on the University of Florida campus. A victim advocate is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to provide support for victims of actual or threatened violence. All services are free and confidential. OVS may be contacted via phone, email, walk-in, or Zoom; (352) 392-5648, ovs@mail.ufl.edu, and 1515 Museum Road, UF Police Department Gainesville, Florida, respectively.

The victim advocate will accompany and support victims through all stages of the criminal justice process such as law enforcement interviews, line-ups, testimony, deposition, trial, sentencing, injunction hearings, etc.

The victim advocate can also assist with referrals for counseling and other services that may be required. The victim advocate will refer the person to appropriate resources, and accompany the person if requested to all appointments as necessary. The advocate will also write letters of support for persons who were a victim of a crime.

Most importantly, victims may use the services of an advocate even if they decide to not officially report the crime to a law enforcement agency.

Our community partners are available, a crime is out of UF jurisdiction and off-campus and occurs on properties that are not affiliated with UF. The person may contact the Alachua County Rape Crisis Center for Support @ 1 800-656-4673 or (352) 264-6720, an advocate will be able to assist you. https://alachuacounty.us/depts/css/victimservices/Pages/VictimServices.aspx

The hours of operation for OVS are 8 am – 5 pm Monday – Friday. Afterhours, holidays, and weekends, for all non-emergencies, (352) 392-1111. For all emergencies, 911.
Reitz Union
Arts and Crafts Center

Looking to pencil some fun into your fall schedule? The Reitz Union’s Arts & Crafts Center kicks off the fall season with a full array of creative activities tailored for the UF community. Most are geared for beginners so no need to feel like you need to be crafty to take advantage of the programs the Arts & Crafts Center has to offer! Please check out our newsletter for in-depth information. The hours of operation are Monday – Friday 1pm – 10pm and Saturdays from 12 pm – 5:00 pm. It is closed during home football games and UF holidays.

Paint-a-Pot
Ideal for most ages are the paint-a-pot ceramics. Check out our inventory of preformed unglazed ceramic pieces and drop in at a time convenient for you. Once fired the pieces are microwave and dishwasher safe. Most pieces are under $10 and the ceramic glazes are an additional $3. It’s great fun for the family; children under the age of 16 must be supervised by an adult. It’s an ideal way to socialize in a relaxed atmosphere and larger groups may reserve table space for socials. For information to reserve studio space for a group visit our website www.union.ufl.edu/acc.

Free Craft Events for UF Students
The Arts & Crafts Center hosts a variety of free crafting events for UF students throughout the semester. The crafting events are designed to provide students with opportunities to learn new creative techniques and develop their artistic expression in a fun and safe environment. There are welcome back crafts and Crafty Gators free to UF students. Sign up for our newsletter on our website to learn about upcoming crafting events.

Creative Classes
Looking for in-depth instruction in crafts? The Arts & Crafts Center offers a variety of six week non-credit art classes that run from September 12 – October 21. Classes are taught by local artisans and the Arts & Crafts Center’s Arts Specialist. Registration takes place in person only at the Arts & Crafts Center starting Friday, August 26, at 4:30 pm. Ceramics classes include beginning wheel throwing, hand building, and animal sculpture. Additional offerings are sewing, silver jewelry making and acrylic canvas painting. To view prices and course descriptions check out the Creative Classes listed on our website or call (352) 392-2378.
Reitz Union Continued

Studio Memberships
If you’re already a seasoned crafter and need a place and supplies to work, membership to the Arts & Crafts Center may be ideal for you. A studio membership provides you access to all the tools and equipment in the studio when a class is not in session in that area. There are also member workshops offered throughout the semester. Clay must be purchased from the Arts & Crafts Center and the glazes and firings are included in your membership. Painting canvases and silver jewelry materials are also available for purchase. Memberships are available to everyone 16 years of age or older regardless of UF affiliation.

The Arts & Crafts Center provides a unique space on campus where anyone can explore their artistic side in a fun and welcoming environment. Located on the Lower Level of the Reitz Union, the Arts & Crafts Center’s purpose is to provide members of the UF community with opportunities for relaxation, creative expression, community building, and personal growth. Drop by and check it out. Visit our website at www.union.ufl.edu/acc for more information about our facility and programs. Current prices for studio membership are listed on our website. You can also reach us by email at ReitzUnionACCStudio@ufsa.ufl.edu and by phone at (352) 392-2378
Santa Fe Teaching Zoo

The Santa Fe College Teaching Zoo, a unique 10-acre zoo in Gainesville, Florida, is the only zoo on a college campus accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA).

The SF Teaching Zoo is coordinated by ten full time staff members, home to over 70 different species of animals and is maintained by about 100 students enrolled in the college’s premier Zoo Animal Technology program.

The zoo showcases a diverse array of both native and exotic animals including a bald eagle, white-throated capuchin monkeys, American alligators, Matschie’s tree kangaroo and Asian small-clawed otters to name a few, for everyone to enjoy. These species and many other mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians are on display in a naturally shaded environment. The 1/4 mile trail through the wooded environment is lined with mulch and is stroller and/or wheelchair accessible.

Transport your class from the classroom to the great outdoors and learn about our extraordinary animals, or book a guided tour of the Zoo for your family. With advanced registration, you can reserve a private meet-and-greet with our animal ambassadors or get a behind-the-scenes tour. The Zoo offers a safe, fun place to learn about wildlife and explore the natural world.
Santa Fe Teaching Zoo

MORE TO DO AT THE ZOO

There's so much to see and do at the Santa Fe College Teaching Zoo!

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Celebrate your birthday with an educational outdoor adventure! Enjoy a picnic lunch, a scavenger hunt through the zoo, and meeting some of our animal ambassadors behind the scenes.

ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS

Come meet our ambassador animals up close and leave with a unique, once in a lifetime memory.

GUIDED TOURS

Join us for a one hour zoo visit with a passionate tour guide from the Zoo Animal Technology program. Combination zoo tour and planetarium shows are available for social and school groups.

SCHEDULE YOUR ADVENTURE TODAY!

sfcollege.edu/zoo/experiences

ZOOKEEPER FOR A DAY

Work alongside a zookeeper for a morning and learn the ins and outs of zooskeeping. This includes cleaning, feeding, observations and preparing enrichments.
Brown Center for Leadership & Service

Are you interested in making an impact in the Gainesville community? Want to use your skills, passion, and leadership for positive change? Connect with the Brown Center for Leadership & Service (BCLS) through our leadership development programs & community engagement opportunities. Programs range from leadership retreats, direct service opportunities, funding for community focused projects, and service-learning trips.

Follow the BCLS on Instagram and Facebooks @UFBCLS
Connect with nature at the UF Natural Area Teaching Lab!

Nestled in the southwest corner of campus, the Natural Area Teaching Lab (or NATL) is one of the greatest resources that UF has to offer! NATL was established in 1993 by a small committee of faculty led by Dr. Tom Walker (now an emeritus professor in the Entomology & Nematology Department). Their goal was simple– to create a natural space on campus to educate UF students and the general public about ecology, biodiversity, and conservation. Today, NATL is one of the largest conservation areas on campus and attracts thousands of visitors from the Gainesville community (and beyond) each year. Since its founding, NATL has expanded to a total of 60 acres and includes representations of four ecosystems that are characteristic of North-Central Florida: an upland pine forest, an upland hardwood forest, wetlands, and an old field. And all of this is right here on campus!

There are many fun and educational things to do at NATL for visitors of all ages! Approximately half of NATL is open to the general public year-round, from sunrise to sunset each day (the other half is restricted to UF faculty, staff, and students who are conducting research or teaching in NATL). The public portions of NATL include numerous nature trails that take visitors through each of the four key ecosystems, including a scenic boardwalk that extends over the main wetland (known as SEEP– the Stormwater Ecological Enhancement Project). Along these trails are numerous educational photo signs with information about the plants and animals that visitors may see while hiking. There are also educational games posted throughout the area– including plant/animal trivia and “Wetland Bingo.” Visitors who want to learn more about the area can opt for a self-guided audio tour of NATL by scanning the QR codes placed throughout the trail system; this audio tour will tell you more about each of the four ecosystems of NATL, including the plants and animals that live there and how each area is managed to promote native biodiversity. For a more personalized experience, school groups can also request a guided tour with one of our knowledgeable NATL staff or volunteers.

One of the most exciting developments at NATL is the new Native Wildflower Garden, which was generously funded by the Florida Wildflower Foundation in 2021. This garden was recently seeded with over 60 species of native flowers, which are scheduled to bloom later this year and into 2023. This is just one of our recent efforts to enhance native plant diversity in NATL, which in turn will attract native pollinators and other animals to the area. The garden is still in development, but we encourage everyone to come see it once it is ready later this year!

Throughout the year, NATL also hosts several educational events for the general public, such as our annual celebration of National Moth Week in July (which invites visitors to explore NATL after dark and observe the diversity of moths in the area). You can follow NATL on social media to learn more about these events! There are also many volunteer opportunities in NATL– we regularly ask for volunteers to help us plant native plants in NATL, help remove invasive species, and keep the area clean so that everyone can continue to enjoy it.

NATL is located near the UF Cultural Plaza on Natural Area Drive (the main entrance is at 2042 Natural Area Drive). More information about NATL can be found at our website, https://natl.ifas.ufl.edu. You can also follow NATL on Facebook (facebook.com/NATL.UF), Twitter (@UFNATL, and Instagram (@natl.uf) to hear more about what we’re up to in NATL, including upcoming events and volunteer opportunities. To request a tour for your group or to join our volunteer mailing list, please send a message to NATL@ufl.edu.
NATL Visitor Information

PARKING

The two main parking areas for NATL are the UF Cultural Plaza parking lot (south of Hull Road, directly across from Southwest Recreation Center) and the Entomology & Nematology Department parking lot (surrounding the north end of the building). These parking lots are designated by a green “P” on the map.

Parking for these lots is open to the public at 3:30pm. If you have a UF Park & Ride permit or higher, you can park in these lots at any time (except for the east portion of the Entomology & Nematology Department parking lot, which requires a UF Orange parking permit).

Bike parking is available at Natural Area Park (black tree on the map) and the NATL pavilion (red star on the map).

IMPORTANT NOTE: Do not park a vehicle within the premises of NATL. This is reserved for authorized vehicles only and you may be subject to a parking ticket.

WHAT TO BRING

When visiting NATL, it is important to wear closed-toe shoes and long pants. These will make navigating the terrain much easier and help protect against poison ivy and thorny plants. Other recommended items include hats, sunscreen and insect repellent.

For volunteer events, the above items are an absolute must. The NATL TAs may have their own repellent on hand in case you forget, but it could be a limited amount, so be sure to bring your own!

Water and snacks will also typically be provided at these events. Unfortunately there are no bathrooms at NATL, but if you ask a TA they will be glad to direct you to either the Entomology & Nematology Department or the Florida Museum of Natural History to use their bathrooms.

MORE INFO

Additional information about NATL, including maps and nature trail descriptions, can be found on our website: natl.ifas.ufl.edu

If you have any questions or concerns, please email us at: nati@ufl.edu

BUS INFO

There are eight bus routes that will bring you within close walking distance of NATL. They are grouped below based on where the bus drops off.

118: This route is the one taken most often by UF students. The dropoff point for this bus is located in the UF Cultural Plaza parking lot. Upon getting off the bus, walk south alongside the parking garage until you reach Natural Area Park (black tree on the map). From there, follow the wooden fenceline further south until you reach the pavilion (red star on the map).

1 and 12: These buses both drop off at the intersection of Archer Road and Surge Area Drive. You will see a blue sign that says “Surge Area” on the edge of Archer Road to let you know it is the right stop. From here, simply walk north along Surge Area Drive/Natural Area Drive until you see the pavilion on your left (red star on the map).

36 and 117: For these buses, exit at the last stop east of the Southwest Recreation Center. Walk south across Hull Road and continue south on Natural Area Drive until you reach the pavilion on your right (red star on the map).

20, 119 and 125: These buses drop off on Bledsoe Drive on the west side of Southwest Recreation Center. Upon getting off the bus, walk south across Hull Road and then head toward the bus dropoff for route 118. From there, walk south past Natural Area Park (black tree on the map) and follow the wooden fenceline further south until you reach the pavilion (red star on the map).
Natural History Museum

Conveniently located on the University of Florida campus across from the Southwest Recreation Center, the Florida Museum of Natural History has been inspiring people to value and protect life on earth for more than a century.

The museum features a variety of paid and free permanent exhibits covering diverse topics like Florida’s native people in “South Florida People & Environments” and our latest research in “Exploring Our World.” Temporary galleries are installed and replaced multiple times a year to cover additional themes like insects, hurricanes, red tide, humpback whales and many more.

Our most iconic exhibit, the “Butterfly Rainforest,” displays more than 50 butterfly and moth species from around the world at any given time, including the blue morpho from Central and South America and the tree nymph from Southeast Asia among others. See hundreds of free-flying butterflies and moths in this lush landscape featuring tropical trees and colorful flowering plants amid waterfalls and a walking path. Skilled interpretive staff are available to help answer questions and provide visitors with a personal and highly engaging experience. View the live butterfly spotlight Monday through Friday at 2 p.m., weather permitting.

The “Discovery Zone” exhibit is free and perfect for families with children 8 and under, using touchable objects and activity stations to spark curiosity about the natural world and science. Navigate a small fishing boat, assemble replicas of ancient pottery, participate in an archaeological excavation and more in this interactive experience.

General admission to the museum is FREE, although donations are gladly accepted. There is a cover charge for special exhibits and the “Butterfly Rainforest.” Admission is free for UF students with a valid Gator 1 Card and museum members.
Natural History Museum’s “Fantastic Fossils” Exhibit

Travel through the gravel and take a unique look at life as a paleontologist in the Florida Museum of Natural History’s collections!

“Science Up Close: Fantastic Fossils” is a family-friendly exhibit designed and built by the museum’s exhibits and paleontology divisions. A working lab staffed with curators, collection managers, students and volunteers provide visitors a special first-person look at their daily lives, from cleaning and rebuilding fossils to sorting through sediment and creating digital reconstructions.

“We rarely get the chance to see the process of science unfold right in front of us, and I think that will be inspiring for visitors of all ages to experience,” said Jonnie Dietz, Florida Museum exhibit developer.

The exhibition also displays more than 100 fossils, casts and replicas from our collections, including some that had never been on public display before, offering a fresh, new look at the world of fossils across a variety of themes. Create your own piece of prehistoric life to take home in the exhibit’s paleoart interactive and share your story on the comment wall.

The exhibit will be on display through Jan. 1, 2023. Admission is free for UF students with a valid Gator 1 Card and museum members. Complete ticket pricing is available online at www.floridamuseum.ufl.edu/visit/plan.

For more information on the exhibit, visit www.floridamuseum.ufl.edu/exhibits/fantastic-fossils.
Additional Resources
In and Around Campus:

DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE
dso.ufl.edu
- CARE Team
- Newell Hall
- Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution
- Veterans Success Center

COUNSELING AND WELLNESS CENTER
counseling.ufl.edu/resources
- Individual Counseling
- Self-Assessments
- Crisis Support
- Group and Couples Sessions
- Psychiatry
- Workshops

DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER
disability.ufl.edu
- Academic Accommodations
- Housing Accommodations
- Accommodated Testing
- Scholarships

GEORGE A. SMATHERS LIBRARIES
uflib.ufl.edu
- Seven locations across UF
- Subject/Area Specialists
- Access to online databases, journals, etc.

SOUTHWEST REC CENTER AND STUDENT REC AND FITNESS
recsports.ufl.edu
- Group Fitness
- Personal Training
- Massage Therapy
- Nutrition Services
- Intermural Sports

REITZ UNION
union.ufl.edu
- Arts and Crafts Center
- Game Room
- Gallery
- Reitz Union Hotel

IN AND AROUND GAINESVILLE
- Devil’s Millhopper Geological State Park
- Carson Springs Wildlife Conservation Foundation
- Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
- Paynes Prairie
- Sweetwater Wetlands Park
- Depot Park
- La Chua Trail
- Hippodrome
Find upcoming community events by visiting facebook.com/UFGraduateAndFamilyHousing.