If you recently moved into SUV, Welcome! We’re glad you are here! Don’t forget to return your completed apartment condition report to the office if you have not already done so. The SUV Voice is a monthly newsletter provided electronically to SUV residents to keep you informed on happenings, updates, and events around the community and also Iowa State. Be sure to read it each month so you don’t miss important information!!!

Cross-cultural communication is something I rarely stop to think about and believe that, as a CA, I should ponder on more often. After watching the TEDx talk on ‘Cross-cultural Communication’ by Pellegrino Riccardi I realized that every person views the world through a different lens as a consequence of our different background, nationality, age, race, and culture. In today’s globalized world this topic is very relevant and should be something we take into consideration every time we interact with a person. It is my belief that people, to a certain degree, are the result of their upbringing; this can look very different for someone, let’s say, raised in Guatemala compared to someone who has lived all his or her life in Greece.

As a CA it is my responsibility to treat everybody with utmost respect, which entails respecting people’s upbringing every time I interact with them. I believe that my position as a CA has already taught me to appreciate human differences but I still have much to learn.

From interacting with other people, I have learned two valuable things that have worked well in improving my cross-cultural communication. The first one is to be curious. If we are curious about other people, especially where they are coming from, we will be amazed about all the things we will learn. The more we learn about somebody’s culture the better we can interact with him or her by knowing what’s acceptable to say or do.

The second lesson I have learned is that it is always best to be on the conservative side. My parents would always say to me in Spanish, ‘being polite will never fight with anybody; on the other hand, if one isn’t polite there is a great chance that somebody will be offended.’ That has always stuck with me and I have tried to live by following their advice; therefore, I try to be as conservative as possible with my way of speaking and acting in front of others; but, especially when I meet somebody new. In that way, I believe that I could greatly decrease the chance of offending whomever I am interacting with.

Steven Way (Schilletter Village Community Advisor)
**SUMMER HOUSING**

The convenience of living on campus during the summer can’t be beat! On-campus housing and dining options are available to ISU students every summer to provide convenient and economical summer accommodations. Information on contracting for summer housing should be arriving in your inbox soon.

**Electric Rate for next year**

For those of you returning to SUV next year, your rent will have a slight increase. This is due to the electric rate being rolled into your rent. Additionally, the option for monthly billing will be removed.

Pending Board of Regents approval.

**SPRING IS COMING**

Please do your part this spring to help the ISU campus and especially SUV in remaining beautiful. Pick up trash, make sure your own trash makes it to dumpsters or even better, participate in the RECYCLING program. Together we can keep SUV looking nice. The spring is also the perfect time to do some cleaning and work on beautifying patio spaces.

**SPRING BREAK**

Spring Break is right around the corner!!! March 16-20th. Enjoy your time away from classes: Watch your email inbox the week of March 9th for more specific details about how to prepare your apartment if you plan to be away for a significant portion of the break period. The SUV office will remain open during the spring break period from 7:30-4pm Monday-Friday, For after-hours assistance in the evening and on weekends the CA on Duty will be available.

**2015 Iowa State Conference on Race and ethnicity:**

The Iowa State Conference on Race and Ethnicity (ISCORE) is a comprehensive forum on issues of race and ethnicity at Iowa State University and beyond. The local conference is designed to model the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education (NCORE). This year’s conference will be held on Friday, March 6th from 9:00am-5:00pm in the Memorial Union.

**RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT  EMMA DOSTAL**

I started Cyclone Martial Arts my freshman year of college here at Iowa State. As a kid, my parents put me in taekwondo but a busy schedule and some family issues forced me to quit. This year, I have served as the president of the taekwondo club and captain of the collegiate nationals team, which will be traveling to Denver in April to represent Iowa State. If I could give any advice to students who feel like they are struggling to find their place in the world (or on this campus) it would be to try a martial art (we offer taekwondo, judo, and hapkido). It’s a fantastic work out, but you also get to network and meet new friends/family” and even professors or potential employers. In addition to participating in clubs, I also work in the EEOB department and am finishing up my degree in biology. But taekwondo has definitely given me the necessary tools to be the best I can be in all aspects of my life.

To nominate someone from the community for future issues, email your nominations to mdorning@iastate.edu.