

For College of Charleston Community Residential Students

STUDENT COMMUNITY WATCH

working together to build community partnerships

February 2003

EMERGENCY 911

Charleston Police
Department 577-7434

College of Charleston
Campus Police 953-5611

*To provide anonymous crime
information:*

Tri-County Area
Crime Stoppers
554-1111

College of Charleston
Crime Action Line
953-4998

C of C Victim Advocacy
C.A.R.E. Program
Non-emergency 953-5522
(Response Team for
emergency only
pager 724-3600)

Charleston Police Website:
www.charleston-pd.org

C of C Website:
www.cofc.edu

Sex Offender Registry:
www.scattorneygeneral.com

Distributed by:
Office of Student Affairs
66 George Street
Charleston, SC 29424
Phone: 843-953-5522
Fax: 843-953-5403
Email: cabotj@cofc.edu

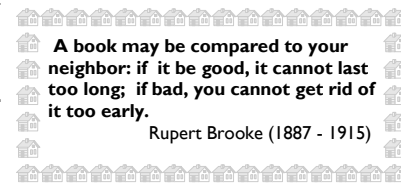
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and produced as part of the
C.A.R.E. Information Series.

Livability Court: Resolving Quality of Life Issues Within the Community

On January 14, 2002, the City of Charleston opened the doors to a new courtroom that addresses concerns outside the regular criminal court system where such issues may have seemed insignificant. The mission of this court is “to create a system that effectively and efficiently enforces applicable ordinances to improve the livability and quality of life of all City of Charleston residents, while being fair and just to the accused and to promote an environment that is receptive to tourism and historic preservation” (City of Charleston Livability Court brochure). Issues within the court’s jurisdiction include: animal control, noise and parking violations, trash and sanitation violations. Sergeant Dan Riccio, whose job it is to investigate violations and enforce judgments, says “the logic behind this enterprise is not to punish but to resolve issues. However, all offenses are criminal offenses and treated as such.”

A review of the first year of court business shows the category of Public Nuisance as the number one issue before the court with Loud and Unnecessary Noise ranked second. Asked what defines Public Nuisance, Officer Riccio defined the majority of these cases as related to trash and sanitation ordinance violations. For example, failure to clean up trash (bottles, cans, etc.), remove trash receptacles by the required timeframe (6:00 p.m. the day of collection), unkempt yards – anything that creates a health and/or safety hazard or presents an eyesore within the community. Loud and Unnecessary Noise violations can range from that noisy muffler or motorcycle that disturbs the peace and quiet of the neighborhood to loud music or conversation during noise-restricted hours. Ordinance violations involving students are, most often, party-related noise and illegal parking.

Complaints are fully investigated. In some instances, violators are issued warnings and have five business days to respond. Failure to respond results in a summons, court action and the potential for a \$1,035 fine or up to thirty days in jail. The success of this court process has not gone unnoticed by national media. Attention to Livability Court and Judge Michael Molony, who worked for over two years to establish this court and who serves on the bench, is ongoing. Other communities are looking to the Charleston model to provide a guide to maintaining the health and harmony within neighborhoods. What does this mean for students living within the community? Be a good neighbor and know the laws that serve to protect the quality of life for all. For more information on Livability Court and the issues and ordinances under the court’s jurisdiction, contact Sergeant Dan Riccio, Court Services, 75 Calhoun Street, 3rd Floor, 973-4864.



A book may be compared to your neighbor: if it be good, it cannot last too long; if bad, you cannot get rid of it too early.
Rupert Brooke (1887 - 1915)

Additional Contact Numbers:	Animal Control	577-7434
	City Ombudsman	724-3745
	Noise Violations	577-7434
	Parking Violations	965-4083
	Property Standards	720-3852

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

SPRING SEMESTER 2003

*Note: This calendar can be changed without notice.

February 2003

19 - Last day to withdraw from classes with a grade of "W"

28 - Midterm grades due

March 2003

2*- Spring break begins

9*- Classes resume, Express II classes begin

April 2003

23 - Last day of classes - all Monday only, MW, MWF classes meet.

Note: Weds. only classes do not meet

24 - Reading day

25 - Final exams begin

30 - Reading day

May 2003

3 - Final exams end

6 - Final grades due

10 - Graduate Commencement

11 - Undergraduate Commencement

MAYMESTER 2003

*Note: This calendar can be changed without notice.

May 2003

13 - Classes begin, Drop/Add & Late Registration, 9am - 4:30pm

20 - Last day to withdraw with a grade of "W"

26 - Memorial Day Holiday - no classes

28 - Last day of classes

29 - Final exams, 8:30am - 11:30am

Top 10 Stolen Vehicles in Charleston and North Charleston*:

Honda Accord

Jeep/Grand Cherokee

Dodge Caravan/Grand Caravan

Dodge Neon

Ford Explorer

Olds Cutlass/Supreme/Ciera

Ford Taurus

Cadillac Deville

Plymouth Voyager/Grand Voyager

Chevy Full Size Pickup

*Vehicle thefts reported by law enforcement to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC)

ALWAYS -

Turn off vehicle and remove keys.

(Did you know it's a fine of up to \$240 to leave a vehicle running unattended on a street or in any police jurisdiction parking lot?)

Lock your vehicle.

Close your windows completely.

Lock all items in the trunk out of sight.

Call the police if you see someone acting suspicious.

CITY OF CHARLESTON POLICE DEPARTMENT KICKS OFF AUTO-THEFT PREVENTION PROGRAM

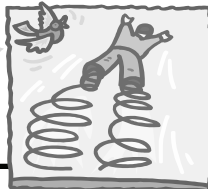
The City of Charleston has initiated a Do Your Part to Prevent Auto-Theft Campaign to reduce the growing number of auto thefts in the downtown area. In addition to the safety tips regarding auto theft prevention (highlighted in the bottom left box), the City of Charleston Police Department is recommending the use of "The Club," a steering wheel locking device that is both a physical and visual deterrent. "The Club" is available at auto parts and discount stores. "The Club" is also available at Public Safety and the Charleston Police Department Crime Prevention Office for \$15.

Need more information?

Charleston City Police 720-2436

GETTING READY FOR A GREAT

Spring



BREAK ?

Whether you're cruising to Cancun, skydiving in Sarasota, rock climbing in the Rockies, or just relaxing on the nearest beach don't forget to take along some best friends — safety precautions and common sense. If you're leaving the area, make sure to stop the mail and the newspaper, keep the blinds pulled down, use light timers in various rooms throughout the house, and store valuables (such as jewelry, bank statements, credit cards and that itemized list with serial numbers, if appropriate, of all personal property) in a bank safety deposit box. If you live in an area patrolled by City of Charleston officers, you may want to contact the Charleston Police Dispatch Center (577-7434) to participate in the "Keep A Check" Program while you are away. The dispatcher will need the following information: your name, address, when you will be leaving, when you will return, a telephone number where you can be reached, a telephone number for a local contact person with a key to your residence and your landlord's telephone number.

Traveling to a foreign country? Know the laws. As visitors, we do not have diplomatic immunity and are subject to the laws of the country. Our Constitution is not their constitution. And remember that the blood alcohol content (BAC) level used to

determine DUI (driving under the influence) is set at lower readings than in the United States (less drinks= higher risk=arrest).

Spring break is a well-known tradition. As much as you're looking to have a good time, there are others who are looking to use your good time to their advantage. Acquaintance rape and robbery top the list of crimes committed against college students on Spring break. Don't set yourself up to become a statistic.

- Know the difference between making new friends and allowing yourself to be alone with a stranger.
- Stay in groups. Keep your designated "buddy" with you at all times. For the most part there is strength in numbers—alone you're vulnerable and an easy target.
- Know your limit with regard to alcoholic beverages. Staying in control can save lives — yours and/or someone else's.
- DON'T ACCEPT ANY DRINKS OR FOR ANY REASON LEAVE YOUR DRINK UNATTENDED. There are a number of drugs currently used in date/acquaintance rape that are, unknowing to the intended victim, mixed in a beverage. These drugs render the victim unconscious and produce a number of side effects that include short-term amnesia.
- Leave your valuables at home and carry travelers checks or debit card instead of cash.
- Let someone know your plans for the day/evening.
- Carry identification and emergency contact information.

Play it safe—play it smart— and enjoy your
Spring fling.