

# OCL Newsletter

February 9th, 2026

**“Though, February is short, it is filled with lots of love and sweet surprises.”  
—Charmaine J. Forde**

Happy February ‘Cats! We hope you all have been staying warm and staying on course through midterms! Even though the weather is cold, there is still lots to do in and around campus during these winter months. We at the OCL are excited to bring you a number of events that can keep you up and moving through the second half of the quarter.

## OCL Events and Opportunities!

OCL’s Neighborhood of Knowledge series continues in February! Over the course of the Winter and Spring Quarters, you can participate in programs, tabling events, and online/social media activities.

You’ll learn about things like cooking, budgeting, handling pets and service animals, and being a great neighbor! Many programs have individual giveaways, but you can also win great prizes by participating in activities through the Winter and Spring Quarters! See the full schedule of events here. Each in-person event will also be advertised on our Instagram, and our Events page.

Every program and tabling event listed below counts towards the great prizes!

**Housing Hub Lane**

- Winter Housing Fair (2/12)
- How to Find Housing
- OCL’s Housing Listing Service
- Renters Insurance

**Wellness Way**

- Paws ‘n’ Pals (2/5)
- Winter Maintenance
- Fair Housing

**Flavor Street**

- Eat Well, Live Well: Cooking Demo (2/16)
- Community Cookbook

**Money Matters Road**

- Budgeting (with US Bank) (4/8)
- Budgeting
- Good Neighbor Relations

**Halfway Circle**

- Halfway There (4/16)

**Map Key**

- In-Person Events
- Norris Tabling Events

## ***Tabling Events***

On the following Thursdays in February, OCL will be at a table in Norris' front entrance lobby with information to help you live well off-campus, and to share activities you can participate in! All tabling events count for the Neighborhood of Knowledge program!

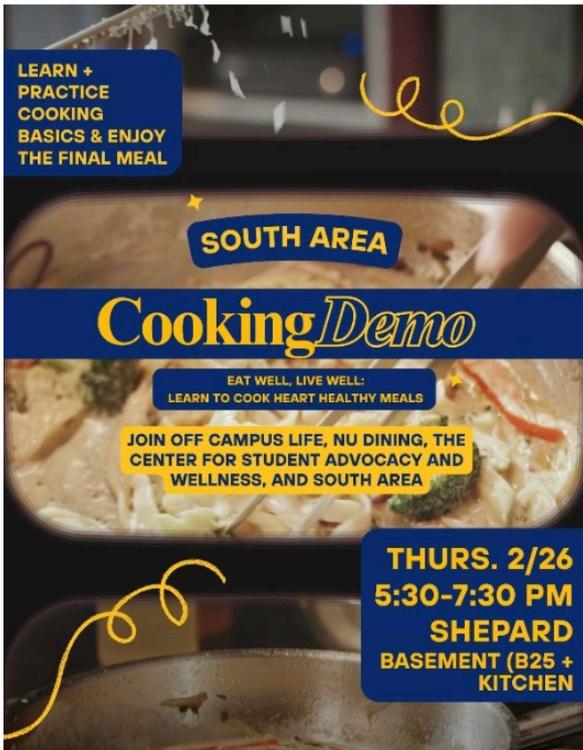
**February 12:** It's the Housing Fair! Stop at our table to spin the wheel for fun OCL swag, and then stop at the Housing Fair in the Louis Room to talk with over 15 housing providers and a bunch of campus and community resources!

**February 25:** In preparation for our Eat Well Live Well program on February 26, stop at this table to make an addition to OCL's Community Cookbook!



## ***Winter Housing Fair:***

Still haven't found the perfect spot to live off campus next year? Don't worry – you are definitely not alone! Come to the Winter 2026 Housing Fair, on February 12, 1-3 PM at the Louis Room in Norris Student Center, to connect with landlords, property managers, and campus/community resources who can assist when problems arise! The many resources available make this a good event to attend even if your housing for next year is secure – you never know when you might need a hand from an advocate, or a city staff person!



### ***Eat Well, Live Well: Cooking Demonstration***

Love to cook or want to learn? On Thursday, February 26th from 5:30-7:30 PM, joins Off Campus Life, the Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness, NU Dining, and Residential Community for a cooking demonstration! In the Shepard Hall demonstration kitchen, you'll learn about healthy cooking at home, including talk about ingredients and a hands-on demonstration. Sign-up to prepare and enjoy heart healthy turkey chili. Attendees will receive a free starter spatula, and one lucky guest will win a pizza-making kit! Register here!

## **Other Campus Events!**

### ***Valentine's Card Crafts & Candy***

Friday, February 13, 2026 | 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

ARTica Studios | Norris University Center Basement

Create some cards for the people you love and enjoy some candy at ARTica on February 13. Stop by this drop-in event any time from 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. to create some festive crafts, while supplies last. Learn more here.

### ***Managing Student Loans While Saving For the Future***

Online event with two dates to choose from!

- Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm CST
- Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm CST

Wondering about how to manage your student loans, and start saving at the same time? Join US Bank staff to learn about strategies and options for the repayment of college loans, plus things to consider saving for as you apply your strategy. We'll also review "the

rule of 72” and briefly touch on some savings vs. investing comparisons. Register at <https://cvent.me/a4eyLe>, and you’ll be given a link to join the session!

## What Else To Look Out For:



### *Argyle Lunar New Year Celebration:*

Join Uptown United and the local business, non-profit, and cultural organizations on Argyle Street in 2026 as we continue the annual tradition going back 40+ years of celebrating the Lunar New Year along the Argyle commercial corridor in Uptown! To welcome the Year of the Horse, we’ll be hosting the Lunar New Year Parade on Saturday February 21st (kick-off at 1:00pm sharp at Argyle & Sheridan) featuring 20+ local community groups, cultural institutions, dancers and performers! In addition, a number of local organizations are planning pop-ups with family-friendly activities between 10:30am-4:00pm.



### *The Orchid Show*

Enjoy a [mindfulness journey](#) while strolling through the display to help start the new year on a tranquil note with prompts to slow down, take a deep breath and experience nature with all the senses. Quotes about orchids from Confucius, Charles Darwin, Lydia M. Child, Thich Nhat Hanh and others are included on graphics throughout the Orangery.

## NU Sports

Are you a sport fan? Are you hoping sports become one of the things making your life exciting? Keep your eyes on the calendar (<https://nusports.com/calendar>) and news (<https://nusports.com/>)! Remember to wear purple to show your support!

*Women's Lacrosse vs. Army West Point*

Feb 14 (Sat)—1 p.m. CT—Ryan Field

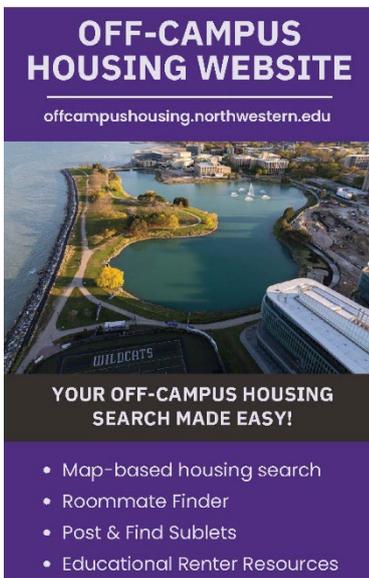
*Men's Tennis vs. Marquette*

Feb 14 (Sat)— 10 a.m. CT—Combe Tennis Center

## Need to Find Housing? New Service Coming Soon!

**Northwestern**

STUDENT AFFAIRS  
Off-Campus Life



You may be looking for a new place or hoping to sublet your current place. OCL partners with [Places4Students](#) to provide rental listings for students, as well as options to post sublets, and to find roommates, all for free to students.

However, as of March 13, OCL will begin teaming up with *Off Campus Partners* to provide all those services, and more – still all free to for students to use. [Take a look today at what will be available to you in a few short weeks!](#)

## Want to Discuss Your Off-Campus Life Experience?

### Survey:

How has your experience been living off-campus? We want to hear from you! Fill out [this survey](#) to suggest any improvements, events, or any other ideas our office could implement to make your experience better.

Whether you have a leasing, sub-leasing, landlord, roommate, or community question, we are happy to connect!

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