The Spring 2007 semester is well on its way and we have finally received the much promised snow. Many of us were in any case snowed under with our academic work, but did get out to participate in the many varied programs that were run in the month of February. The black history month saw residents transported via museum trips and cinema to different parts of the world exploring different African Diaspora aspects as well as highlighting environmental concerns with the screening of the Al Gore documentary ‘An Inconvenient Truth’. The conversation sparked by the film screening also had residents talking about how we as a residential community could help. Read more about this on page two.

The Superbowl events in both North and South Area lived up to the big marketing hype and the Mardi Gras event was a big success and showed what a good time could be had by different residents who do not know one another. This month’s programs include a resident initiated and CA collaborative scrapbook workshop, a movie week fest, a nations celebration social, a trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the cinema travel series featuring Canada and Mexico and a host of other events. Please see the backpage of this newsletter for more events as well as the details for the different events in the month of March.

We hope that you will join us and have a good time by participating in some of this month's events! Also get some rest over the Spring Break and come back rejuvenated to tackle the second half of this Spring semester.

Please feel free to write to us or visit us at our various office locations.

North Area - BA 101
South Area - Whittier Hall
Central Office - Whittier Hall

Important TC Dates

March 2nd
Spring Vacate Notification forms Due

March 3rd
Saturday Lecture Series: Arthur K. Spears
African American English: Recent Advances in Understanding the Grammar-Use Interface
Location: 138 Horace Mann
Start Time: 11:00 AM

March 8th
Tax Workshop for International students/scholars
F-1 or J-1 student/scholar are required to file a “tax return” or other tax documents
Location: 277 GD

March 11 –18
Spring Break Holiday

March 23rd
New Housing Contracts distributed

March 29th
Annual Housing Expo
Residential Services offers another opportunity via the Housing Expo which will take place on March 29th, and will offer residents another viewing of rooms for possible transfers.

April 20th
Summer Vacate Notification forms Due
How Convenient

Have you noticed how strange this winter has been in NYC, or perhaps you have heard people talking about how weather in their home towns or countries are very different from previous years? For example in Perú, my home country, right now we are in summertime. So far it has been excessively hot –like the “El Niño” phenomenon was taking place. You’ve probably heard that these are not random or isolated experiences. Our planet is going through huge and very worrying climate changes that are not natural but a consequence of what we’re doing to our environment. To talk about this, and to learn more of what we can do, we met on Feb 1st to watch the movie; “when facing this very complicated problem, people usually go from total denial to being completely overwhelmed and feeling helpless.” It is indeed overwhelming to face the facts that showed us, because of what we’ve been (and of what we’ve been letting others do) we have come to a point were we might not have an environment that allows us, our children and grandchildren to live! We have decided not to feel helpless and to start acting upon it. As the movie claims there are many things that we can do. Some things we came up with were: to use less hot water, take shorter showers, turn lights off when not in use, and use fabric rather than plastic bags for grocery shopping. We also talked about creating a ‘Committee for Environmental Concerns’ that can come up with proposals and/or ideas for our community. Finally, we decided to spread the word! So, if you are interested in participating in a committee like this (mainly over email or with flexible meeting times), please let us know by contacting Nani Pease at nanipease@yahoo.com or your CA. Remember, you can help just by informing the people you know.

An inconvenient truth (by the Nobel Peace Prize nominated, Al Gore). For those watching it for the first time, it was shocking as well as informative, for those of us who have seen it before, it was a great opportunity to meet other people who are also interested in this matter and to discuss with them what we can do about it.

Super Bowl at iHouse

A couple of Sundays ago we took in the Super Bowl game at International House’s Pub (a gorgeous place that shows the inner beauty of this old fashioned building in front of Sakura Park that has drinks from around the world, 2 high definition TV’s, music and a dance floor).

It was a blast! We saw the game on a wall size screen, got free popcorn and snacks, drinks at great prices and the opportunity to talk with people from around the world. Hosting TC residents was a special I-house arrangement set up to receive the special TC guests at the iHouse Pub, which is usually for I-house’s residents only or guests should normally be accompanied by a iHouse resident. Still we are hoping to be able to repeat exchange experiences like this. Next, maybe we’ll invite iHouse residents over to one of our CA arranged programs!

By Nani Pease (Sarasota CA)

Super Bowl Viewing Hall's 10th Floor Lounge

February 4th, titans clashed for Super Bowl XL, where Da Bears from chilly Chicago and the gunslinger Peyton Manning and the Colts met in wet Miami, Florida. It was to be an epic match-up, filled with various storylines to see who would claim the NFL championship.

While most TC residents could not quite get down to Miami to watch the action themselves, there was something equally compelling viewers in Whittier Hall. Organized by the gentlemen of Whittier Suite 8B, the Super Bowl viewing party took over the 10th floor lounge.

Amidst loud groaning and cheering for fumbles (6) and interceptions (3) in the rain-soaked game, residents munched on snacks and talked of Peyton Manning finally breaking the curse of losing big games, and rated each of the Super Bowl commercials.

It was inevitable – one team would lose. While Chicago fans walked away from the Lounge dreaming of missed glory and future seasons, Colts fans had the evening to bask in the glow of victory for the night. But both had a rare chance to relax for a Sunday evening at the 10th floor Lounge, before heading back to their studies.

- By Daniel Kim (Whittier Hall CA)
The date has been set for the much anticipated Columbia University indoor soccer tournament that the TC United team has been gearing up for, for the past few months amidst major injuries along the way. The date is set for Saturday, March 3rd, from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm and will take place at the Dodge Fitness Center.

A strongly worded and stern message went out from TC United team management and stated: “Stop smoking, drinking, and eating all those Cheese Doodles and start stretching, exercising and … update your insurance policies.

The TC United soccer team (which has applied for resident initiated programming funding) is made up of TC residents from the various buildings and they normally get together to play on a Saturday and Sunday. They normally meet at 1:40 PM in the Bancroft lobby to then walk over to Riverside Park’s two soccer turfs.

Anybody interested in playing should contact either Fabio (fsaesilva@yahoo.com.br) or Matt (mjh2128@columbia.edu).

Beginning this year, Daylight Savings Time (DST) will start a month earlier (on the second Sunday in March) and end later (on the first Sunday in November). In 2007, the start and stop dates for DST will be March 11 and November 4, respectively. This change requires updates to your personal computers and other electronic devices in order for them to display correct times for your calendars and emails. Teachers College will be taking the necessary steps to update all of our computers and servers with the appropriate patches. However you will need to manually update your home computers and software, as well as any other devices that will be affected by this change, including PDAs, VCRs, DVRs, etc.

This e-mail includes important information on steps you must take to ensure that your computers and other electronic devices will continue to function correctly in conjunction with the new DST. More detailed info is available here. The information is divided into two sections: Computers (Windows and MAC) and PDAs and also provides links to official sites for additional help.

Indoor Soccer Tournament...football finally happening

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March 2007 Calendar of Events

Thursday, March 8th, 2007
Happy Hour!
Meeting Location: NRH Lobby
Event Location: Soundz Lounge
Meeting Time: 7:30 PM
Contact: Jo-Ellen jam2132@columbia.edu

Thursday, March 8th, 2007
Cinema Travels
Meeting Location: Whittier Café
Meeting Time: 9:30 PM
Contact: Aisha aeb56@columbia.edu & Vickie vmn4@columbia.edu
We will be screening the Oscar-nominated Best Foreign Film in 2006, “Water”. This film is directed by Deepa Mehta and concludes her linked trilogy of films.

Wednesday, March 14th, 2007
Trip to The Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art
Meeting Location: Whittier Hall Lobby
Meeting Time: 12:30 PM
Contact: Daniel danielikim@hotmail.com

Thursday, March 19th, 2007
International Film Week- Focus on Women
Meeting Location: Varies
Meeting Time: 8:00 PM
Contact: Leaing, JoEllen, Jessica, Matt
As a lead-up to the Nations Celebration and a recognition of Women’s History Month, films that feature women will be shown in various residential halls.

Thursday March 22nd 2007
Wellness Fair - Stress Management and Self-Care
Event Location: TC Cafeteria
Meeting Time: 8:00 PM
Contact: Greg Payton gjp2005@columbia.edu & Nani Pease nanipease@yahoo.com

Thursday March 22nd 2007
Is Sustainable Development Feasible?
Meeting Location: Whittier Lobby
Event Location: Lerner Hall, 5th Floor Room 555
Meeting Time: 3:30 PM
Contact: Vickie vmn4@columbia.edu & Aisha aeb56@columbia.edu

Friday, March 23rd 2007
Cinema Travels Mexico
Meeting Location: Whittier Café
Meeting Time: 8:00 PM
Contact: Aisha Burrell & Vickie Ndibo aeb56@columbia.edu / vmn4@columbia.edu

Saturday, March 24th, 2007
Nations Celebration
Event Location: New Residence TV lounge or Patio
Meeting Time: 12:00-3:00 pm
Contact: Avina gupta@tc.edu Greg gjp2005@columbia.edu Jessica cjc51@columbia.edu Nani nanipease@yahoo.com Paul miklaup@hotmail.com

Saturday, March 24th, 2007
Welcome back Brunch
Event Location: Whittier Café
Meeting Time: 11:00am
Contact: Rebecca rep2106@columbia.edu

Monday, March 26th, 2007
Disability Awareness Week Movie Night “Sling Blade”
Event Location: Whittier Café
Meeting Time: 7:00 p.m.
Contact: Aisha & Vickie aeb56@columbia.edu / vmn4@columbia.edu
We will be moderating a discussion on the topic of Disability Awareness and Integration. Light refreshments will be served.

Tuesday, March 27th, 2007
Free Ballroom Dancing Instruction
Meeting Location: Whittier Café
Meeting Time: 7:30 - 9:00pm
Contact: Marcus mjj2108@columbia.edu

Wednesday, March 28th, 2007
Scrap booking and Wine
Meeting Location: 517 TV Lounge
Meeting Time: 6:30pm
Contact: Janine jam2132@columbia.edu JoEllen jam2132@columbia.edu Julia (resident)

Saturday, March 31st, 2007
Potluck For NRH floors 12-18 only!
Meeting Location: New Hall TV Lounge
Meeting Time: 6:30pm
Contact: Avina Gupta gupta@tc.edu
Please Note: Floor Program Only