Utilizing Farnham Programming Space

By Tim Thornton
Contributor

Farnham Hall may seem like a typical dorm, no different than the others at the university. However, underneath the typical dorms and laundry rooms is the Farnham Programming Space, a quiet space for students to either get some work done or just relax.

Open until midnight during the week, and having hours during the weekend as well, it is a space that finds frequent use by students.

"Even though I'm a staff member here, outside of work I teach dance so I like to utilize the space to work on music, choreography and more," Reaunna Bartell, a residence life coordinator, said.

One of Farnham's more common uses for students is a place to get work done without worrying as much about noise.

Due to it being one of few places on campus open on weekends, it gives students who live on campus somewhere to go and study without being cooped up in their dorms all day.

Along with that, Residence Life also offers a tutoring service on weekends, giving students another opportunity for some extra aid when options like the Buley Library are typically closed.

Nursing major Keara DeMatteo, a freshman, said the space's atmosphere is what keeps her coming back.

"I usually find that it is easier for me to focus and complete my work when I am here, compared to the library or my dorm," DeMatteo said.

Along with its typical uses as a study and quiet space, Farnham is often made use of as a popular space for on-campus events.

During the yearly "Hall Olympics" held in the Residence Life Quad, FPS is used as the location for Family Feud, making use of the boards inside as displays for questions and scores.

The space can also be rented out by various clubs and organizations for their own events.

These can range from watch parties to makeshift cafes, to international food nights, all things possible by clubs within the space.

One of the most popular features of the programming center is the available snacks.

In front of the check-in desk is a small basket of snacks that are refilled daily, where anyone just passing through can grab one of their choosing after signing in.

There is also a fridge located behind the desk with stocked drinks for the same purpose.

This gives people simply passing through after a long day to just stop in and grab that little something to give them the energy to finish a tough assignment or boost their mood after classes.

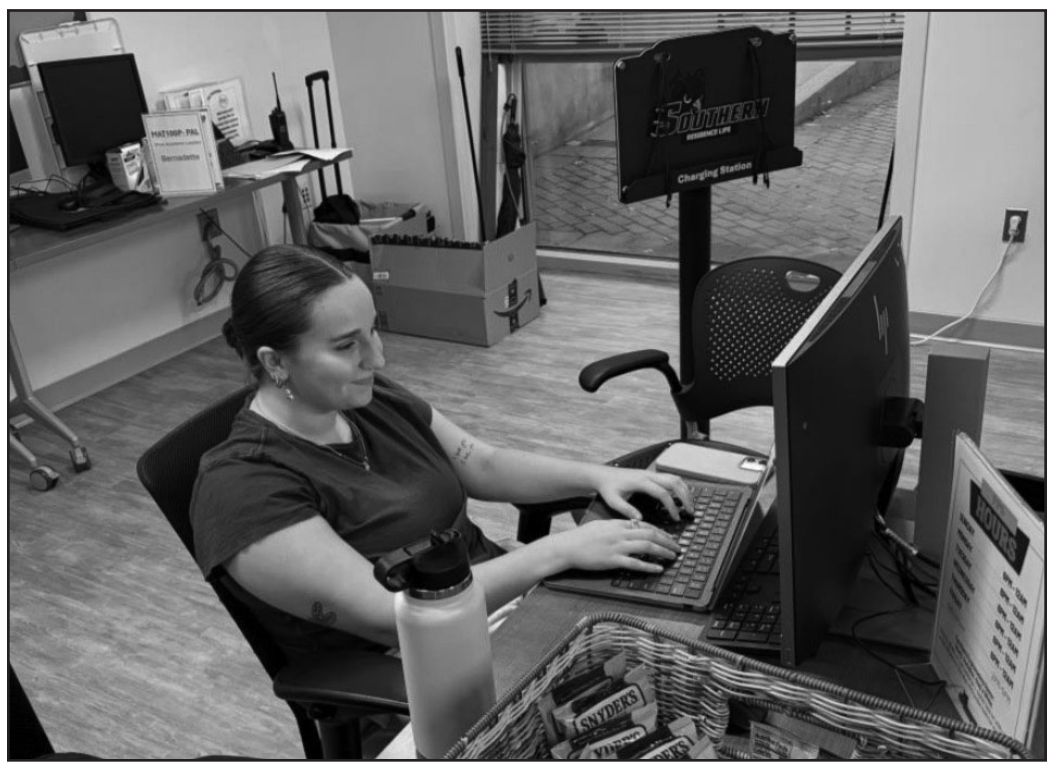
For mathematics and secondary education major Tobias Platt, a freshman, the appeal is simple: the space is just steps from his own residence on campus.

"It's really close to the residence halls so it's pretty accessible," Platt said.



PHOTOS | TIM THORNTON

The entrance to the Farnham Programming Space on Sept. 21.



Nursing major Kylie Sevigny, a junior and programming assistant, during her shift.

Students share their opinions on the fall season

By Hannah Fuller
Contributor

Fall has arrived, bringing colorful leaves, cozy blankets, scary movies, and good books. Fall has many offerings that can make for an enjoyable season.

"I love to curl up with a blanket and read a good book and have my lemon tea right beside me," English secondary education major Janae Nelson, a junior, said.

Even though the temperatures begin to drop, students look forward to activities like attending local and statewide fairs to visiting apple orchards and picking pumpkins.

There are plenty of ways to enjoy the season.

A new YouGov poll finds that watching scary movies and consuming pumpkin-flavored foods or drinks top a list of 12 activities that the greatest shares of Americans have done or plan to do this fall. Nearly half say they will do each.

"I've got to watch Hocus Pocus at least once," English major Michael Caserta, a junior, said. "Gilmore Girls is also very fall-coded."

Cooler temperatures make walking across campus more comfortable, while the changing leaves add color and beauty to the everyday college experience.

The season also creates the perfect atmosphere for spending time with friends.

"I love going to Clyde's Cider Mill in Mystic with friends or family," healthcare management major Lexi Frascarelli, a junior, said. "I also like to bake a bunch during this time of year, it's so much fun."

Fall gives college students a chance to appreciate the small moments.

Between busy class schedules, assignments, exams and everything else college life brings, the cozy atmosphere of fall can make even the busiest days feel a little more enjoyable.

Baking is another popular way to enjoy the season, with favorites like apple pie, pumpkin bread and cookies.

Fall may only last a few months, but it brings a change of pace that can make college feel more exciting, comfortable and memorable.

Dorm rooms and apartments can also get a seasonal makeover with candles, decorations and small touches of fall.

Students may decorate their rooms, dress up in costumes or participate in campus events and traditions.

With the semester in full swing, these activities give students something to look forward to outside of the classroom.

"One of my fun fall traditions is just decorating the living room and my room with fall decor. We will almost always go to Marshall's or HomeGoods. We love going shopping and going to the craft store," Nelson said.



PHOTO | HANNAH FULLER

English major Michael Caserta, a junior, sitting in Buley Library.

Owls Decide: What is your favorite form of potato?

By Mackenzie Byerlee
Features Editor



PHOTOS | LILY RAND

**"Baked potatoes because I like the sour cream and cheese on them."
- Accounting major Roselin de la Rosa, a junior**



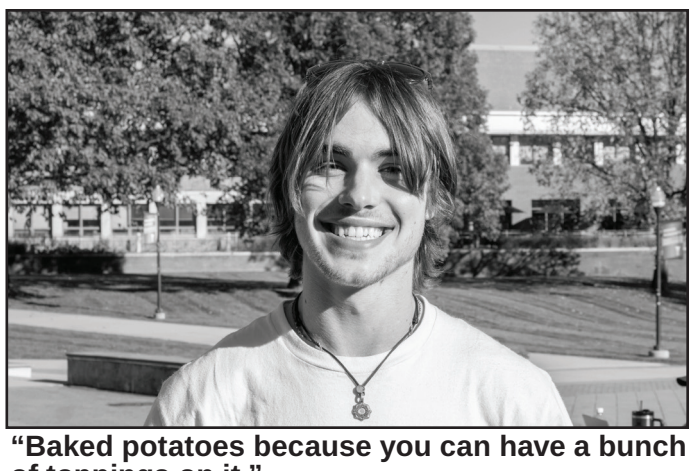
**"Perogis. They're really good and you can put whatever you want in them."
- Computer science major Isaiah Scott, a senior**



**"Baked potatoes because you get more flavor."
- Monserrat Martinez-Garcia, a graduate**



**"Gnocchi because I like things that are different."
- Biology major Gilbert Bergeron, a freshman**



**"Baked potatoes because you can have a bunch of toppings on it."
- Political science major Theodore Parker, a junior**



**"French fries; they're just good."
- Nursing major Katheryn Ramon, a freshman**