Commuter Center Article Awards Committee

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By this point in the semester, most of you are probably tired of your regular route to school and home, day after day. If you have a reliable car and a desire to do something out of the ordinary, now is the time. All around us are opportunities to get away from the routine; Rhode Island is conveniently located not far from appealing attractions.

For those of you who prefer short day trips or overnights, Block Island is just the place. A short drive to Galilee will bring you to the ferry, which runs four times a day and costs $10.50 if you return that day, $12.70 if you stay longer. After an hour and ten minute long boat ride, you’ll arrive upon a peaceful and charming getaway that loses no appeal in the off-season. Some restaurants and taverns you’ll find still open, and many students chose to remain the night in one of the more frequently advertised bed and breakfasts. The New Shoreham Inn, a quaint old island house offers two nights double occupancy including a continental breakfast for $60. The rooms are tiny but the price is right. For more information, call 466-2261. Or if you enjoy horseback riding as the weather continues to get warmer, the Island Manor offers an adventurous two days of riding and a complimentary hayride for $125 each. For more information, call the Manor at 466-5060.

Cape Cod, too, is a getaway easily reached provided you don’t mind a longer drive. Another quaint region of New England, Cape Cod’s off-season offers empty beaches, quiet harbors, secluded back roads and bike trails. Chatham, located along Route 28 mid-Cape, is especially appealing because of its ocean scenery and picturesque village town. All along the Cape many motels and bed and breakfasts offer special rates for spring weekends through Memorial Day. More information may be obtained by calling the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce at (508) 362-3225.

And for those who really want to get away, Maine is the answer. Springtime’s bloom in the hill hugged towns colors the rugged rock-bound coast as US 1 winds north paralleling the Maine Turnpike. Seventy miles north of Boston, Kennebunkport’s rocky cliffs soon give way to Portland, where you’ll find the snug seaport of Maine’s largest city. If you’d like to shop at L.L. Bean and hundreds of other factory outlets, continue on until Freeport, just further north. Students on a budget can enjoy a night at the Maine Stay for $75 double occupancy, including breakfast and afternoon refreshments. For directions and other information, call the Chamber of Commerce at (207) 772-2811.

If these options don’t excite you, or you’d rather not risk Kingston homesickness, don’t overlook the Kingston Youth Hostel. Always quaint and charming, a mere $3 will reserve you a cot and a blanket. Just make sure you’re in by 10 p.m.! Have fun!

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Internships are still available for next semester in the Commuter Center. We have a variety of projects dealing with either Commuter or Judicial issues (or both). Please contact Suzanne Sullivan in 351 Memorial Union, 792-2828 for more information. Another commuter has won the President’s Award for Student Excellence, CONGRATULATIONS to Jennifer Roberts for winning the award for the German department!! COMMUTER APPRECIATION DAY is Friday, 4/23, look for the free car wash in the Fine Arts lot between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

COMMUTER FRIENDLY AWARD: This week’s award goes to the Committee to Eliminate Heterosexism and Homophobia for scheduling one of their Safe Zone kick-off events (the movie, Pink Triangles) during commuter friendly hours at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, 4/13.