

## College and TP Community Clash on Expansion Plans

By SUSAN HOLLIDAY

**T**hough town and gown representatives from the City of Takoma Park and Montgomery College have tried to persuade each other of the best ways to expand building capacity at the Takoma Park campus, they still disagree on the planned placement and size of new construction. After two recent public meetings, the argument rages on.

At issue is growing college enrollment and the subsequent need to expand beyond 1970s-era buildings. Montgomery College insists expansion can be accomplished "in a manner that respects the neighborhood," but neighbors want expansion to move west, toward Georgia Avenue and away from their residential streets.

Growing enrollment will create a Takoma Park campus space deficit of 95,368 square feet by 2016, the college forecasts, and the state mandates that it adjust its capacity as enrollment projections grow. Many current structures, built in the 1970s, are ill equipped for today's college environment and most will require demolition and rebuilding or extreme renovation, the college maintains.

Several expansion possibilities presented at a July 14 City Council meeting call for the tear down and reconstruction of several buildings currently adjacent to or facing homes in the North Takoma neighborhood on New York, Takoma, and Philadelphia Avenues. Homes of Silver Spring residents on Chicago and Islington Avenues would also be affected.

The college maintains that such construction can be done harmoniously, with "land-



Photo by Lucy Neher

**Students from Takoma Park Middle School clean up the public path behind the school – which is now ready for returning students. See "Kids Pitch In," on page 5.**

scaping to provide screening" for neighbors, said David J. Capp, associate vice president for Montgomery College facilities. Many of the planned new buildings would be erected on "essentially the same footprint to get more square footage," he said, by using denser construction and more set-back upper floors or underground levels.

### Building Controversy

The controversy apparent at the City Council meetings on July 14 and July 28 boiled down to the community and Council seeking to expand the college campus construction westward, along Burlington and Georgia Avenues, rather than enlarging buildings on the campus sites closest to residences. The college contends that, as much as it would

like to buy up commercial properties on the western part of the campus, it must submit plans to the state that show expanded square footage on properties it now owns.

One of the most contentious ideas discussed was building on property at Burlington and Philadelphia Avenues currently owned by the Montgomery College Foundation, a separate private charitable organization. During his presentation Capp explained that the foundation agreed to contribute \$2 million towards the purchase of this parcel, formerly the Giant bakery, on the condition that a section be "partitioned" for a public-private use that will generate a revenue stream for the foundation, whose mission is

**EXPANSION PLANS**  
continues on page 12

## Affordable Housing Goes Green

By MAUREEN SWEENEY SMITH  
MONTGOMERY HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

**W**hen residents of the Houston Apartments in Takoma Park received eviction notices in the fall of 2005, they were understandably upset and apprehensive about their future. The building's owner had decided to convert the apartments to condominiums and many of the long term residents knew they would be priced out of their homes. "It was a slap in the face to the hard-working, long term residents who have lived at Houston for more than 15 years," says Crystal Pittman, a single mother of a teenaged son. "We knew we had to fight if we wanted to stay."

Residents quickly organized and retained pro-bono counsel to represent them. Looking for a permanent solution

**HOUSING**  
continues on page 8

## INSIDE:

### SOCCER STARS

..... page 3

### SWEEP THE CREEK

..... page 8

### BACK TO SCHOOL BOOKS

..... page 10

## Two New Restaurants Slated for Old Town

By VIRGINIA MYERS

**T**his December, downtown Takoma Park is expected to have two new restaurants – and judging from neighbor reactions at a meeting last month, they will be packed.

Some 50 local residents applauded two pairs of restaurateurs at a neighborhood meeting August 21, as they described their concepts for the new eateries. First is Avenue Oven, brought in by chef Gillian Clark and partner Robin Smith, who until recently ran Colorado Kitchen, on Colorado Avenue in the District. Their lease ran out and the property may become condos, according to Clark, who developed her reputation for fine but accessible American-style cooking there over the past seven years.

Taking over the old Taliano's spot at 7001 Carroll Avenue, Avenue Oven will not duplicate Colorado Kitchen, instead featuring American food presented through an Eastern European lens. Expect knishes, roast chicken, chicken pot pie, pastries and the like. Ingredients will be seasonal and locally sourced. Beer and wine will be served, and the restaurant will stay open until 11 p.m., provided there is a customer base for it.

The interior will be completely revamped, starting with gutting the existing structures. A partially open kitchen will allow customers to see the chefs at work, and tables will line the Carroll Avenue windows; the bar will disappear, but the art deco theme of the façade will be carried to the interior. With 90 seats, Clark and Smith hope to open before the year is out.

Not an "occasion restaurant," Clark says dinner at the new spot will come in under \$30. It will be kid-friendly – as long as the children are well-behaved. Clark, who is a mother, went on at length about her feelings that parents should eschew kid's menus and instead expose their children to fine dining, but added that no one is permitted to misbehave in her dining room. As far as the food goes, she said, "This food is accessible and approachable and reachable."

Clark and Smith are also opening a restaurant in the old Forest Glen general store and post office, called The General Store. There they will offer country fare ordered at the counter and a downstairs bar called the Post Office Tavern. Clark says she expects to

**RESTAURANTS**  
continues on page 7

PRE-SORT STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
TAKOMA PARK, MD  
PERMIT NO. 4422

Mayor & Council  
7500 Maple Ave.  
Takoma Park, MD 20912

ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

## CITY COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE CALENDAR\*

**Monday, September 1** - City offices closed for the Labor Day holiday

**Tuesday, September 2** - City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

**Tuesday, September 2** - Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Lilac Room)

**Monday, September 8** - City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

**Tuesday, September 9** - Facade Advisory Board meeting, 7 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

**Tuesday, September 9** - Tree Commission meeting, 6:30 p.m. (CC Atrium Room)

**Tuesday, September 9** - Committee on the Environment meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Room TBA)

**Monday, September 15** - City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

**Tuesday, September 16** - Safe Roadways Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m. (CC Room TBA)

**Thursday, September 18** - Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting, 8:30 a.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

**Monday, September 22** - City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

**Tuesday, September 23** - Arts and Humanities Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Room TBA)

**Wednesday, September 24** - Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m. (CC Atrium Room)

**Monday, September 29** - (Rosh Hashanah Begins at Sundown), no City Council Meeting

**Tuesday, September 30** - Takoma Park Board of Elections meeting, 7 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

\*For the most up to date information, check [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov). Most meetings are held in the Takoma Park Community Center – Sam Abbott Citizens' Center, 7500 Maple Avenue (CC). Individuals interested in receiving a weekly Council agenda and calendar update by e-mail should contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267 or [clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:clerk@takomagov.org).

The City of Takoma Park is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in public meetings. Anyone planning to attend a Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing, and who wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services, or accommodations is invited to contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267, at least 48 hours in advance, at the telephone number listed in the notice or through the Maryland Relay Service (1-800-735-2258 TTY/Voice).

### Speak Up!



Mayor Bruce Williams encourages residents to meet with him over their concerns regarding City business during regular office hours: Tuesdays, 2 -5 p.m., by appointment only, in the third floor Council Conference Room of the Takoma Park Community Center, and Tuesdays, 5 -7 p.m., for walk-ins.

Walk-ins are requested to check in at the reception desk on the main floor. For appointments, contact Peggye Washington, 301-891-7230 or [peggyew@takomagov.org](mailto:peggyew@takomagov.org).

# City Council Action\*

**\*Only negative votes and abstentions are noted.**  
**For additional information, contact the City Clerk at [Clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:Clerk@takomagov.org).**

### July 28 - Regular Meeting

**Second Reading Ordinance 2008-32 was adopted**, establishing the FY09 pay scale for police

**The Consent Agenda was adopted. It consisted of:**

**Single Reading Ordinance 2008-33**, authorizing the purchase of a combination miller and paver

**Single Reading Ordinance 2008-34**, awarding a contract for purchase and installation of a stormwater filtration chamber system for the Public Works Yard

**Single Reading Ordinance 2008-35**, approving the purchase of a leaf collection vacuum

**Resolution 2008-59**, supporting a proposed specialty restaurant at 7040 Carroll Avenue

**Resolution 2008-60**, appointing Andy Kelemen to serve as a PSCAC representative to the Safe Roadways Committee

**Resolution 2008-61**, providing for the City Council's summer recess (July 31 - September 2, 2008)

### Volunteers Needed

#### TO SERVE ON COUNCIL APPOINTED BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS

There are positions available on many City boards, commissions, and committees. Please consider volunteering to serve. Additional information can be found at [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov) or contact the City Clerk for more information (301-891-7267 or [Clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:Clerk@takomagov.org)).

Committee on the Environment (seven vacancies)

Emergency Preparedness Committee (one vacancy)

Ethics Commission (two vacancies)

Facade Advisory Board (one vacancy)

Montgomery College Neighbors Advisory Committee (vacancies)

Noise Control Board (three vacancies)

Nuclear Free Takoma Park Committee (two vacancies)

Police Employees Retirement Plan Committee (one vacancy)

Public Safety Citizens

Advisory Committee (four vacancies)

Tree Commission (one vacancy)

Safe Roadways Committee (one vacancy)

## Police Pension Plan - Call for Resident Expert

There is also a vacancy for a Takoma Park resident on the Police Employees' Retirement Plan Committee. Applicants should have experience or education related to investments and/or pension administration. The committee meets quarterly, 8:30 - 10 a.m. in the Community Center. To apply or request additional information, contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267 or [JessieC@takomagov.org](mailto:JessieC@takomagov.org).

## City of Takoma Park Maryland PUBLIC HEARING Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

**Monday, October 6, 2008**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Takoma Park Community  
Center Auditorium**

**7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park MD**

The City of Takoma Park will be holding a public hearing on Monday, October 6, 2008 to solicit community input regarding priority needs and proposed projects for its PY35 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

The CDBG program, initiated in 1974, is one of the oldest programs at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and is designed to fund activities that primarily benefit low and moderate-income residents. CDBG grants are provided on an annual basis to communities such as Takoma Park to ensure decent affordable housing for all, provide services to the most vulnerable, create jobs and expand business opportunities.

For more information on the CDBG program and the upcoming public hearing, please contact the Housing and Community Development Department at 301-891-7224.



# Home Town Soccer Shows Well in Scotland

By ROBERT J. RINI

**T**akoma Park can be proud of its local soccer progeny: a group of area 12- and 13-year-old boys competed successfully in an International soccer tournament in August against some of the best in the world.

The Olney Rangers, affiliated with the Olney (Maryland) Boys and Girls Club, went all the way to the championship game, losing a hard fought battle to a top-ranked Scottish team. Most of the boys live in either Takoma Park or Silver Spring.

Fourteen players, Coach Matt Pilkington and 11 parents and siblings traveled to England and Scotland to compete against teams from 11 countries in the Loch Lomond Youth Soccer Tournament. They also played two "friendly" matches against professional youth academies that help feed the English and Scottish Premier Leagues with local talent. Many of the games were played in the pouring rain one minute and sunshine the next.

The Loch Lomond Youth Soccer Tournament, now in its eighth year, hosts international teams from all around the world and is recognized as Scotland's finest youth soccer festival. The event takes place each year on the campus of Stirling University, which adds to the feeling that the players are staying in an Olympic village.

When not busy playing soccer, the boys took time to visit the nearby historic Edinburgh Castle and see their namesake, the Glasgow Rangers, play a professional match against Liverpool. It turns out that many of the boys are fans of the Rangers



Photo by Robert Rini

**The local team, overseas: left to right (back row) Emilio Rodas, Nick Tait, Braulio Linares, Karl Brown, Ismail Lapp-Kamara, Austin Read, Jony Karahbetyan, Matt Pilkington. Front row, Oliver Zufall, Spencer Glass, Jake Rozhansky, Jacob Rini, Nolan Axenfeld, Gabe Oppler, Matt Kirchoff.**

As the English edition of the "Larousse Gastronomique" puts it, "Although its description is not immediately appealing, it has an excellent nutty texture and delicious savory flavor." It did not win over many of the boys.

More popular with the boys was fish and chips and the large English breakfasts. "Coach Matt" took the boys to his personal favorite "chipper" one night. It was a sight to see the owner of the place smile when a bus

email addresses and phone numbers from the other players and were cheered on by a team of boys from Ireland who befriended the American boys.

The Rangers demonstrated that they could play at the highest level in international soccer. Ranked number two in Maryland and among the best teams in all of America, there was some question if they could carry that success into international competition. Erasing all doubts, they went all the way to the championship match but lost to a team that used its size effectively to stymie the potent attack of the Rangers in a 3-1 decision.

The team was led in scoring by Nick Tait who had four goals and an assist on a goal scored by Jacob Rini (who lives in Takoma Park). Jony Karahbetyan and Emilio Rodas also scored. Austin Read, from Takoma Park; Karl Brown, Oliver Zufall and Matt Kirchoff held down the defense while Ismail Lapp-Kamara and Jake Rozhansky controlled the mid-field with help on the wings from Spencer Glass, Gabriel Oppler and Nolan Axenfeld, who is from Takoma Park. Braulio Linares made several spectacular saves as keeper. Jake Rozhansky was named "Man of the Match" and after the championship, was approached by a Celtic scout who complimented him on his style of play.

Many of the players got their start in Takoma Park Neighborhood Youth Soccer. In

fact, the Rangers were formed and coached by two players' fathers: Stuart Axenfeld and Alex Tait. Some of the boys started playing together as young as 8 years old as the Takoma Park Rangers. They joined the Olney club a few years ago so they could be trained by professional coaches like Pilkington, who attended George Washington University and played soccer there after being raised in England. They train year round, practice three days a week after school, and play in Division 1 of the National Capital Soccer League and in local and national tournaments.

"As a learning experience, the trip exceeded all expectations" said Pilkington. He emphasizes that hard work leads to success on the field. While it's unclear if Americans will ever embrace soccer the way they have other sports, given the dedication of these young boys and so many other youth in America to the sport, there is renewed hope that some day, American men will be able to compete effectively in the World Cup finals and perhaps duplicate the Olympic gold medal won last month by the U.S. women.

*Robert J. Rini is a long-time resident of Takoma Park and has coached boys and girls in the TPNYS league. He played soccer in High School. For more information about the trip, go to [www.rangersuktripblog.blogspot.com](http://www.rangersuktripblog.blogspot.com) where Bob blogged the trip for the benefit of those who could not travel with the team.*



Photo by David Zufall

**Takoma Park resident Jacob Rini, left, shows Scotland what he's got.**

cross-town rival, the Glasgow Celtic. They were cautioned not to wear Celtic gear to the Rangers match or risk being attacked by the locals. If you think the Yankees-Red Sox rivalry is fierce in America, it hardly compares. This rivalry is rooted in the religious conflict between Protestants who favor the Rangers and Catholics who favor the Celtic. It opened more than a few eyes to a new and different form of prejudice.

The boys also sampled many new foods not found in America. Most notable was haggis, a traditional Scottish dish. There are many recipes, most of which have in common the heart, liver and lungs of a sheep mixed with onion, oatmeal, salt and spices.

with over 25 people drove up for "take away" food. Fortunately, he had a large supply of fish ready to fry. Indeed, the boys learned that frying food is very popular in England and Scotland as even the bread served at breakfast with eggs, sausages, beans and mushrooms, is fried, and not toasted.

The organizers promote the tournament as not only a premier soccer experience, but as a way to make new friends. At a teen disco at the event the boys were the life of the party. Player Karl Brown demonstrated his break dancing moves and many of the boys were seen dancing with the girls from Spain and encouraging boys from other countries to join in. They came away with many



**THE TAKOMA PARK  
NEWSLETTER**

Editor: Virginia Myers  
Production: Electronic Ink  
[www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov)  
Vol. 47, No. 9

The Takoma Park Newsletter is published 11 times a year as the official publication of the City of Takoma Park, [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov).

The Newsletter does not accept commercial, classified, or political advertisements. Unsolicited materials by Takoma Park residents, including reports by community groups and articles that may contain opinion, will be considered for publication. Name, address and telephone number must accompany all submitted material. Pursuant to City Council Resolution No. 1992-36 of June 8, 1992 that sets forth the editorial guidelines of the Newsletter, the Editor reserves the right to edit all submitted copy for length, clarity, style, spelling and grammar.

Published material containing opinions does not necessarily reflect the views of the Newsletter or the City of Takoma Park.

The City of Takoma Park is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin, sex, age, marital status or physical or mental disabilities that are unrelated in nature and extent to job performance. The Newsletter is printed on recycled-content paper.



## Landlord-Tenant Cases

By MOSES A. WILDS, JR.  
LANDLORD-TENANT COORDINATOR

### Myers v. Mkakaile

On July 23, the Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (COLTA) issued a decision regarding a tenant's complaint that her security deposit had not been returned. The commission ruled that the landlord did not comply with Section 8-203(g) of the Real Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland when he failed to send to the last known address of the tenant within 45 days of the tenancy termination a written list of damages claimed along with a statement of actual costs incurred. The landlord therefore forfeited his right to withhold any portion of the tenant's security deposit. When a landlord, without a reasonable basis, fails to return any part of a tenant's security deposit within 45 days after the tenancy terminates, the tenant, in accordance with Section 8-203 (e)(4) of the aforementioned



## COLTA's CORNER

Maryland Code Article, may request up to three times the amount of the security deposit. The commission awarded the former tenant her deposit of \$1,500 plus accrued interest of \$112.50 and punitive damages of \$1,500. The commission also order that the prevailing 3 percent interest rate shall continue to accrue until the total amount (\$3,112.50) owed by the landlord is paid to the former tenant.

## Rental Improvements

BY JEAN KERR, HOUSING SPECIALIST

*The Commission on Landlord Tenant Affairs (COLTA) recently approved a rent increase petition for a rental property in Takoma Park.*

### Capital Improvement Petition

**7517-7521 Maple Avenue (2006-55L)**

On June 30, 2008, a Supplemental Preliminary Administrative Decision (PAD) was issued to a future capital improvement PAD rendered on January 17, 2007. The rent increases granted ranged from \$145.90 to \$243.17 for all the units (10) at the property. Section 6.20.060(D)(10) of the Takoma Park law states that "a landlord may petition for an upward rent adjustment in advance of the improvement. Such petition will be based upon the anticipated future cost of the capital improvements. If the increase is granted in whole or in part, it shall not take effect until the capital improvement is completed and its completion is documented to the Commission on Landlord-Tenant Af-

fairs (COLTA)."

The landlord submitted documentation on April 28, 2008 requesting a Supplemental PAD showing completion of all petitioned capital improvements under future capital improvement approved on January 17, 2007. The improvements included electrical upgrades, new drains and sump pump, new plumbing and pipes, building supplies, new cabinets and tops, new roof, furnaces, kitchen appliances, new flooring and repair and patch drywall. Some improvements were disallowed due to filing date deadlines and lack of documentation submitted.

The landlord, however, has objected to the decision so a hearing will be scheduled for COLTA to hear the matter.

All rent increases for capital improvements are in addition to the annual Rent Stabilization Allowance in effect at the time the increases are taken. If a rent increase exceeds 15 percent, the increases will be phased in over a term of more than one year until the full increases have been taken (e.g. 20 percent approved increase would be divided as 15 percent the first year and 5 percent the second year).

## Crossroads Farmers Market

### Free Transportation

**Take advantage of the City's new FREE BUS SERVICE to the Crossroads Farmers Market.**

The Crossroads Farmers Market is an open air market with fresh produce, ethnic food and live music. Located on Holton Lane, just south of University Avenue, near the Langley Post Office the Market is open every Wednesday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. through October 29.

### DATES OF SERVICE

FREE transportation is available to the Market on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month during the remainder of the season.

**Wednesday, September 3**

**Wednesday, October 1**

**Wednesday, September 17**

**Wednesday, October 15**

### PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF POINTS

**Takoma Park Community Center**, 7500 Maple Avenue  
(leaving 3:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.)

**Victory Tower**, 7051 Carroll Avenue

**Franklin Apartments**, 7620 Maple Avenue

**Park Ritchie Apartments**, 7600 Maple Avenue

**Crossroads Farmers Market**, 1300 Block Holton Lane  
(leaving at 4:20 p.m. and 6 p.m.)

DON'T FORGET to bring your Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition coupons, Food Stamps or WIC coupons to spend at the market!  
For more information, please contact [crossroadsmarket@gmail.com](mailto:crossroadsmarket@gmail.com)



## HOUSING Mailbox

By MOSES A. WILDS, JR.,  
LANDLORD-TENANT COORDINATOR

A tenant contacted the Mailbox regarding how often landlords are required to paint rental units, whether landlords are required to replace door locks when a tenant vacates and if landlords are required to provide tenants with emergency contact information.

In accordance with Section 6.16.050. F. of the Takoma Park Landlord-Tenant Law, landlords are required to paint all rental

units in their entirety at least once every five years. While repainting is not required between tenancies, all painted surfaces must be in clean condition and free of any peeling or chipping paint at the beginning of the tenancy.

Section 6.16.050. H of the Takoma Park Landlord-Tenant Law indicates that landlords must re-key every lock on each door which provides access to a rental unit between tenancies.

Landlords, in accordance with Section 6.16.050. (J) of the Takoma Park Landlord-Tenant Law, must post a durable notice in the rental facility containing the name(s) and telephone numbers (day and evening) of the landlord or agent who can be reached in an emergency situation. The notice must be posted in an accessible and conspicuous place in a common area in each rental facility and distributed to all tenants at the beginning of the tenancy and whenever there is a change in the emergency contact information.

Tenants or landlords having questions regarding the city's Landlord-Tenant Law are requested to call 301-891-7215 and/or contact me at [MosesW@takomagov.org](mailto:MosesW@takomagov.org).

## Takoma Park Recycles Plastic

Takoma Park now recycles all plastics except resin #1 and #6  
(see bottom of containers).

Narrow-necked #1 bottles are recyclable.



# Takoma Park Folk Festival Returns on September 14

By Nancy Nickell

Performers and crafters, both familiar and new, are getting ready for the return of the Takoma Park Folk Festival on Sunday, September 14, at Takoma Park Middle School (7611 Piney Branch Road). The 31st annual festival will be held from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and it's free.

Music and dance are at the heart of the Festival, with performances ranging from traditional American folk styles to songwriters who comment on current events. The Festival features "roots" music from Ruthie and the Wranglers, Radio Caroline, the U-Liners, the New Misty Crystals, as well as local favorites Chopsteeth, LEA, and others. International music and dance at the World Stage will showcase traditions from Africa, Russia, India, Brazil, Central Asia and Latin America.

Festival goers can dance all day long at the Lenore Robinson Dance Stage. And they can vote for their favorite new performer at the Showcase, which will be at the Seventh Heaven Stage from noon to 2 p.m.

At the juried craft fair, visitors are encouraged to shop the booths of 44 artisans offering work they designed and made. More than 100 community groups will also

be on hand to share information about their activities. And food, from healthy to decadent, will be available from 20 vendors.

Little ones can play games for small prices in the children's game area, operated by Cub Scout Pack 33. Nearby, some of Takoma Park's up-and-coming youth musicians will perform at the Grassy Nook Stage, doing originals and familiar cover songs.

Ramping up its efforts to "go green," the Festival is using soy-based inks for printing T-shirts, recycling vendors' leftover cooking oil into biodiesel, ending its purchase of bottled water and encouraging recycling of bottles and cans.

The Festival is also reducing impact on the surrounding neighborhood by emphasizing use of free shuttle buses from the Takoma Metro station and the Montgomery College parking garage. Walking directions from each of those sites will be on the Festival website, and walking routes will also be marked.

The Festival is a volunteer enterprise, and uses about 300 volunteers on Festival day. To volunteer for a two-hour shift, please send an email to [volunteer@tpff.org](mailto:volunteer@tpff.org) or leave a message at 301-589-0202.



photos by Eric Wolinsky



Thursday, August 14 marked the end of the innovative exhibit - iWmOaRgDe - which featured the work of 14 poets and artists who, working in pairs, collaborated on a single work around the theme "Creation." The reception included live music, spoken word and dance, highlighting the theme of the exhibit. Roughly 50 people attended. Additional information on the exhibit and participating artists and poets can be found online at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/iwmoargde/index.html](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/iwmoargde/index.html). The exhibit moves from Takoma Park's Atrium Gallery to Space 88 at 8211 Mayor Lane in downtown Silver Spring (behind Plaza Art) where it will be exhibited later this year.

## Kids Pitch in to Clean Up School Pathway

By Lucy Nehrer  
SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL COORDINATOR

"Two roads diverged in a yellow wood . . ."

Safe Routes to School addressed the concerns of parents and community members by choosing to rehabilitate one of the trails through the woods between the soccer fields and the back of Takoma Park Middle School. There were two wooded paths, overgrown and eroded at parts and littered with evidence of drug and alcohol use. Naturally, parents worried about students using the paths as a short cut to school. Safe Routes to School (SRTS), the City of Takoma Park Public Works Department and the Takoma Park Middle School worked together to make one safe trail for student and community use.

Thanks to Matt Madeira with Branches Tree Experts, dead and low-lying limbs and brush were cleared from one path and used to block off and shut down the other, more eroded path. Limb segments and chipped mulch were left to construct the trail.

Beginning one Saturday in March, students from Takoma Park Middle School hauled and spread countless wheelbarrows full of mulch onto the trail. A supply of garden tools from the Public Works Department made the work go much faster. Donuts and cookies provided by SRTS kept the kids going. They put down six inches of mulch, pulled weeds and picked up litter. School staff, including Artie Brown, assistant principal and Alain Perron, maintenance supervisor did their share alongside the students. The trail started to take shape.

A community service-themed day lent many sixth graders to the task in early June. Groups of students earned student service learning hours (SSL) as they rotated through several projects during the day, including the trail. The work carried on into the summer when campers from a program at Silver Spring International School earned SSL hours and learned skills from the Takoma Park gardening staff. Working together they got the job done.

"And that has made all the difference."

## Help Support Takoma Park's Emergency Assistance Fund

You can make a difference, right here in Takoma Park. The Takoma Park Emergency Assistance Fund was created by the City Council in 2001 and helps residents who are experiencing a crisis such as a health issue, a pending eviction, or a notice of a utility cut off, often due to loss of employment or financial circumstances beyond their control.

Last year, through the generosity of many Takoma Park residents, more than \$8,500 was contributed to the Takoma Park Emergency Assistance Fund. Donations are tax-deductible and are sent by the City to a designated non-profit organization which distributes the money, based on the availability of funds and the presented need. Since 2003, the city has maintained an agreement with the Adventist Community Services of Greater Washington, Inc. to administrate and distribute these funds. This past year, 24 families received financial support, which helped pay for prescriptions, rent and utility costs.

Now, you can help as well, by sending in whatever you can afford to send. Please use the form provided below to send in your contribution. A letter acknowledging your donation will be sent to you. We thank you for supporting this program and the service that it provides to the community.

.....

**please detach and send to City of Takoma Park  
Emergency Assistance Fund, Finance Office,  
7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland, 20912.  
For questions, call 301.891.7222.**

I wish to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_to the Emergency Assistance Fund.  
Check should be made payable to "City of Takoma Park"

Name and Address of Contributor: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

You will receive a letter acknowledging your donation within 30 days of receipt.



# RECREATION

## SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

**The Community Center and Computer Learning Lab will be closed on August 30 – September 1.**

### JumpBunch Kids- Sport and Fitness for Young Children

#### Ages 2 - 6

JumpBunch is a fun-filled, structured, fitness and sport program geared toward young children that incorporates music, games, parachutes, balls and more.

Maximum 10, minimum five. Eight weeks.

**When:** Thurs., Sept. 18 – Nov. 11  
**Time:** Ages 2-3 1/2: 10 - 10:45 a.m.  
 Ages 3 1/2- 6: 11 - 11:45 a.m.  
**Location:** Azalea Room - T. P. Com. Ctr.  
**Fee:** T.P. Res. \$75  
 Non-Res. \$85

### Toddler Specialty Days

#### Ages 2-4

Come join us for a fun-filled morning where all activities are centered around the FROG! Activities include story time, singing, creative movement, sounds, etc. Parents should be prepared to participate. Please bring a snack for your child. Maximum 10, minimum five. Volunteer instructor Kay Daniels Cohen.

**When:** Sat., Sept. 20  
**Time:** 10 a.m.-noon  
**Location:** Azalea Room – T. P. Com. Ctr.  
**Fee:** T.P. Res. \$15  
 Non-Res. \$20

### Little Star's Fun, Fitness and Movement

#### Ages 3 - 5

Designed to promote the development of the five life success skills which are concentration, self-esteem, relaxation, cooperation and imagination through physical activities. Maximum 20, minimum six. Eight weeks. Co-sponsored by Montgomery County Recreation.

**When:** Sat., Sept. 20 – Nov. 8  
**Time:** 11 a.m. – noon  
**Location:** T. P. Rec. Ctr.,  
 7315 New Hampshire Avenue  
**Fee:** \$30

### Fun with M and M!

#### Ages 3 – 5

Recreation staffers Melanie Tepsick and Matt Poorman break out their bag of tricks for your tot to play with in an outdoor environment. M an M will be offering plenty of fun and active games including playground games and modified sports, to introduce your child to new experiences and friends. Six weeks. Maximum of 12, minimum of six.

**When:** Thurs. Sept. 18 – Oct. 30  
**Time:** 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Ed Wilhelm Field  
 (behind Piney Branch Elementary)  
**Fee:** T.P. Res. \$40  
 Non-Res. \$45  
 No class on October 16.

### Fun Day Program

#### Grades K – 5

The Fun Day Program offers exciting field trips on scheduled whole day school closings and activities and performances on scheduled half day closings. Participants will meet at the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. On half days only, students attending Takoma Park Elementary will be picked up in the cafeteria and children attending Piney Branch Elementary will be picked up in the gym by a Recreation staff member. Pack a lunch for full day trips and a snack for half day programs. Trips, activities and performers are subject to change. Space is limited, sign up early.

**Date:** Monday, September 29  
**Activity:** Bluesman - History of Blues - Musician  
**Time:** 1 - 5 p.m.  
 T.P. Res.: \$15  
 Non-Res.: \$20

**Date:** Tuesday, September 30  
**Activity:** Reston Zoo, Vienna, VA  
**Time:** 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
 T.P. Res.: \$25  
 Non-Res.: \$30

### Extended Care Option

Extended care is available for those families who require or desire additional activities beyond the program hours.

**Time:** 5 – 6 p.m.  
**Fee:** T.P. Res. \$10  
 Non-Res. \$15

### Morning Addition

#### Grades K – 5

This before-school program is designed for those families that need early morning options before the school day starts. Staff will be available to provide informal recreation activities and will escort the children to Takoma Park Elementary School and Piney Branch Elementary School only. Children will also have time for homework assignments, breakfast (not provided) or prepare for their day at school.

**When:** Mon. – Fri., Aug. 26, 2008 - June 16, 2009  
**Time:** 7 – 9 a.m.  
**Location:** Azalea Room - T.P. Com. Ctr.  
**Fee:** T.P. Res. \$850  
 Non-Res. \$1,000

### Afternoon Addition

#### Grades K - 6

Emphasis is on providing leisure and recreation programs utilizing our facilities to include but not limited to the computer learning center, dance studio, art room, game room, athletic fields, library and more. We have some exciting activities planned this year including: drama, music, art, special guests, sports, field trips, study time and playtime that will enlighten, empower and enrich minds and imaginations.



Photo by Debra Haidunen

Jennifer Anderson coaches her Takoma Park Recreation YES League team to the championship.

## Coach Leads Team to Championship

Jennifer Anderson remembers playing basketball for the Takoma Park Recreation Department – in the fifth grade. Now 26, she is back on the courts, this time as a coach. Anderson's team of fifth- through eighth-grade boys took the championship in the Recreation Department's YES League this summer.

It was a thrill capped off by a surprise gift from one of the parents: new shoes for each of the players. The generous gesture built on the idea that dedication and commitment – showing up to practices and games, staying focused – can bring great rewards.

Anderson's team was the top team of four; last year, they missed the championship by one point, in a field of six or eight teams. Her game plan for victory is simple: as a coach, she shows up to every practice and game. And she is organized: there are drills and lessons in the basics, focus on offense and defense.

Anderson grew up in Takoma Park playing basketball. After the Rec Department, she played for Montgomery Blair High School, then Montgomery College and Bowie State. She started coaching when her cousin, Jalen Oliver,

12, joined the YES League, and just completed her third year. At first, she says, the kids looked at her differently, because she was a young female coach for a league that includes just a small handful of girls. But she handed out a letter to parents and players outlining her background, which includes a stint as assistant coach at Springbrook High School, and she followed it up with organized practices. Their skepticism faded quickly.

Anderson is a full-time business analyst/developer for the nonprofit American Council on Education, and also goes to school part time. But she still finds time for her team.

"I really like to be there for the kids," she says. "I see so many kids going in the wrong direction, or not really doing anything with themselves. Some kids think that because of where they live or what's going on in their area, that they have to get that same type of attitude and be the same kind of kids that are around there." Instead, Anderson shows them that basketball can take them somewhere;

**COACH**

continues on page 7



## SICK OF SIGNS WEEK September 20 - 27

**Final Count and Ice Cream Social - Noon to 1 p.m.**  
**Awards Ceremony - 1 p.m.**  
**Saturday, September 27**  
**Takoma Park Community Center**  
**7500 Maple Avenue**

### Free our community of "street spam"!

Illegal signs - known as "bandit signs" or "street spam" - are becoming an increasing problem not only in Takoma Park but nation-wide. What is street spam? Illegal signs, often posted on utility poles, offer to buy your house, tow your unwanted car, mow your lawn or encourage you to enroll your kid in camp, or inform you of yard sales or lost pets.

### What can you do to eliminate "street spam"?

From September 20 - 27, residents are encouraged to remove signs illegally posted on utility poles, transformer boxes, bus shelters and other public property in Takoma Park. Illegal signs include the free standing signs displayed in the public right of way (the grassy area between the sidewalk and the curb). Signs displayed in someone's front yard are legal and should be left in place. The signs will be collected and included in the national count.

To be considered in "the count," the signs you collect must be turned in to the Takoma Park Community Center during the week of September 20 or on Saturday, September 27 when the signs will be tallied. Free ice cream will be served, with door prizes awarded for the most signs, the wackiest sign, the most colorful sign (and more) collected during the week.

For more information, please contact Code Enforcement staff at 301-891-7255 or check online at [www.takomaparkmd.org](http://www.takomaparkmd.org)



**Councilmembers Doug Barry, Colleen Clay, and Dan Robinson invite you to join them in cleaning up New Hampshire Avenue.**

Join your neighbors at the Takoma/Langley Crossroads, Ethan Allen Gateway, Maryland Gateway on Saturday, September 27 from 10 a.m.-noon. Refreshments, T-shirts and afterwards, a SOS party at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. To register, please call 301-891-7220 or email [PaulW@takomagov.org](mailto:PaulW@takomagov.org).

## RECREATION

continued from page 6

**When:** Mon. - Fri., Aug. 26, 2008 - June 16, 2009  
**Time:** 3:30 - 6:30 p.m. on full days  
 1 - 6:30 p.m. on early release days  
**Location:** Azalea Room  
 T.P. Com. Ctr.  
**Fee:** T.P. Res. \$1,500  
 Non-Res. \$1,700

A discount will be offered to those who register for both Morning and Afternoon Addition

T.P. Res. \$2,100  
 Non-Res. \$2,300

For more information please call Carey Antoszewski at 301-891-7233 or see inserted Program Guide. Enroll today, space is limited.

### T3 - Teen TV

Age 14 - 17

In a partnership with Takoma Park Cable, teens learn what goes on in front of and behind the scenes of producing

a cable ready program. Teens will write and produce stories and interviews of local interest.

**When:** Tues. and Thurs., starting Sept. 16  
**Time:** 4 - 5:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Music/Video Lab  
 T.P. Com. Ctr.  
**Fee:** Free, reading audition and registration required

### Touch a Truck

For all those who love trucks It's back! Check out the bobcat, street sweeper, dump truck, trash truck and many more. See how they work, climb inside. This program is geared toward children ages 1 - 6. The first 175 truckers will receive a construction hat.

**When:** Sat., Sept. 27  
 Rain date Sept. 28  
**Location:** Public Works Garage Area, 42 Oswego Avenue  
**Time:** 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
**Fee:** Free  
 Park at Heffner Community Center or Ritchie Avenue near public works gate.

## RESTAURANTS

continued from page 1

cook some at the Takoma Park restaurant, but will also train staff to carry on her style in each restaurant.

Across the street, where the House of Musical Traditions was, Murat Uzuntepe and Cenk Duzturk are welcoming the rooster back into town by naming their new enterprise "Roscoe's Neopolitan Pizzeria," after the late resident bird that once ruled the streets. The restaurant will offer wood-oven, gourmet pizza with thin crust, an array of Turkish-influenced appetizers, panini and salad, as well as a full bar. (Uzuntepe promises mojitos and margaritas.) There are also plans for café tables on the sidewalk.

In total, Roscoe's will include seating for

about 96 in two dining rooms plus a bar. Owners Uzuntepe and Duzturk are originally from Istanbul, and Uzuntepe has experience managing an Italian restaurant in England. He plans to hire a chef.

The City Council voted in July to support the pizzeria by recommending a parking waiver, supporting the liquor license, and supporting their bid for funding from Maryland's Neighborhood Business Works program. Several comments from the gathering last month indicated other nearby neighbors wanted to help facilitate the opening of both restaurants, and it was clear the community was ready to welcome them to Carroll Avenue.

Construction at Roscoe's will begin this month; it should be ready to open in December.

## COACH

continued from page 6

they can develop skills that could earn them scholarships, they can learn about motivation and the success it can bring. "These kids need someone to look up to, to see that they were able to stay in the area, they were able to go to college."

Anderson hopes to see the YES program grow to what she remembers from her own childhood. This year's championships were played in the small Takoma Park Elementary School gymnasium with little room for parents and friends to watch, and high school level players skipped the season entirely (the Piney Branch gym, YES's usual venue, was closed for repair). Anderson believes if there were more support for the

program a better venue would have been found. Parent Karen Mendez agrees. Her older son, now 23, played when he was in 9th grade in what was then a very competitive program. "The games were the talk of the community every week," she says. "The gym was always full." Her younger son, 13, had a great experience playing this summer. But Mendez says the lack of high school level competition is, "a huge loss."

"Adults talk about keeping teenagers off the streets and out of trouble," she says. "YES League can help in that effort. It is a positive way for our sons and daughters to spend their summer, having fun, exercising, challenging themselves, developing skills and making friends."

With more coaches like Anderson, it's likely that trend will continue.

Montgomery County

# Housing Fair & Financial Fitness Day

**Saturday, September 27, 2008**  
**10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Activity Center at Bohrer Park, Summit Hall Farm (next to Gaithersburg High School)  
 506 S. Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877

Ride On Bus #55 or #59 from points north and from Shady Grove Metro Red Line

**FREE ADMISSION!**  
**FORECLOSURE PREVENTION COUNSELING!**  
**FREE CREDIT REPORTS!**  
**RESOURCES FOR RENTERS!**

First Time Home Buyers Class 12-3 p.m.  
 (You Must Pre-Register, 301-590-2765)

Over 90 Exhibitors: businesses, banks, community organizations, government agencies.

Learn about managing money and credit, preventing foreclosure, increasing earning power, home safety, utility assistance, and energy saving.

**Entertainment, Food, Prizes  
Activities for Children**



The fair is organized by the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs in partnership with the Housing Fair Planning Committee, whose members include: the cities of Gaithersburg, Rockville and Takoma Park; The Dwelling Place, HomeFree USA; LEDC; Housing and Community Initiatives, Inc.; the Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County; Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development; the Mid-County, Silver Spring and Up-County Regional Services Centers; and the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services.

For information, call 240-777-3602 or visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dhca](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dhca)





**BRIEFLY in the News****Neighborhood Soccer Begins**

Boys and girls from age three through high school can sign up now to play outdoor soccer in the Takoma Park Neighborhood Youth Soccer league (TPNYS). On-line registration is at [www.takomasoccer.org](http://www.takomasoccer.org)

Games begin the weekend of September 13 and 14 and end in early November. The fee is \$50, but scholarship help is available for those in the free lunch program. Preschoolers and kindergartners have weekend sessions, while first-graders and older have a weekday practice plus a weekend game. For more information contact Howard Kohn ([kohn@erols.com](mailto:kohn@erols.com)).

**Recycle Computers and Electronics Year 'Round**

Takoma Park will now offer a drop-off location for certain electronic equipment. These items can be taken to the Public Works facility, 31 Oswego Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910 between the office hours of 8:30 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday. This drop-off will replace the annual electronics recycling event that the City has hosted.

The City will accept the following items: computers and all their related equipment (CPU, monitor, printer, keyboard, modem, mouse, speaker) cameras, TVs (non console type only), electric typewriters, fax machines, answering machines, telephones, VCRs, radios, stereos, CD and tape players, scanners, copiers, fax machines and other small electronic equipment.

Most electronic equipment contains hazardous metals such as lead, mercury, cadmium and chromium. These materials need to be handled properly and not released into the environment. Recycling electronic equipment keeps hazardous metals out of the environment.

For questions or additional information call the Public Works Department 301-891-7633.



# Friends of Sligo Creek Announces Seventh Annual "Sweep the Creek"

**O**n National Public Lands Day, Saturday, September 27, 2008, Friends of Sligo Creek will hold the Seventh Annual "Sweep the Creek" litter clean-up throughout the Sligo Creek watershed. From 9-11 a.m., the group will sponsor litter collection at nine locations along the eight-mile stream. Some locations will clean up Sunday, September 28, from 1-3 p.m. This year's event will be held rain or shine. Detailed directions to clean up sites available at [www.fosc.org](http://www.fosc.org).

In past years Friends has enlisted more than 300 adults and children to help with the one-day Sweep effort. The Spring 2007 clean-up in conjunction with Earth Day netted a record 600-plus volunteers in Sligo Creek. "We see the annual Sweep the Creek as a way for all who enjoy the park to help keep it clean," says Friends of Sligo Creek Litter Chair and Sweep organizer Wendi Schnauffer. "Litter and dumped items are unfortunately a chronic problem. We hope to welcome a record number of environmental heroes to our meeting sites on September 27 and 28."

Schnauffer notes that this year's event has been scheduled to coincide with National Public Lands Day, an annual "fix-up day" for parks across the nation. Sponsored by Toyota and the Clif bar company, the experience helps to keep alive a legacy left by the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s. As a part of the effort, Toyota is urging people to carpool to the event, and the company will be encouraging employees to turn out and lend a hand at Sligo and many other sites across the United States.

Friends will provide gloves and bags, and drinking water will be available at the clean-up. Students at some local schools will be able to use their volunteer time for community service credit, too.

Sligo Stewards, volunteers who lead Sligo Friends' work year-round in the various sections of the park, will guide those who come to help in the Sweep. There will be sign-in and supply locations at 11 points throughout the park.

Again this year Friends of Sligo Creek plans to thank its volunteers by hosting a big celebration one week after the clean-up. Food, fun and entertainment are on the agenda. All of the volunteers who work on September 27 and 28 will be given tickets to this free event, but the public is welcome



Photo: Frank Sheehan

**Greg Seekins was one of the many volunteers to haul trash during the spring cleanup at Sligo Creek. Another is scheduled for September 27 and 28.**

and encouraged to attend. Details about the event will be on the website soon, [www.fosc.org](http://www.fosc.org).

Sligo Creek runs from Wheaton south into Silver Spring, through Takoma Park into Prince George's County, and eventually to the Anacostia River. It is a beloved urban stream and in many ways forms the green backbone of this urban area. On al-

most any day of the week you can find many people jogging, walking their dogs, spending time with their children and generally enjoying the park. But like any other green oasis, Sligo suffers when trash is allowed to accumulate along its banks.

Information about National Public Lands Day is available at [www.publiclandsday.org](http://www.publiclandsday.org).

**HOUSING**

continued from page 1

to their housing problem, one resident, Pat Powell, called Montgomery Housing Partnership (MHP), a private non-profit, and asked for help.

Within a year, MHP had purchased the 28 units at 641 Houston Avenue. Over the course of the next six months, it also acquired 20 units at 1001, 1003 and 1005 University Boulevard, and 27 units at 8624 and 8626 Flower Avenue. MHP named the acquisitions the Takoma Park Preservation (TPP) Project.

Since 1989, MHP has been developing and expanding affordable housing in Montgomery County. To date, it has developed more than 1,000 units of affordable housing,

mostly in older apartment buildings. MHP recently completed renovations of University Apartments at the corner of University Boulevard and Carroll Avenue, rehabbing each unit entirely with new plumbing and electrical systems as well as new kitchens and bathrooms.

MHP has also gone "green" at the TPP Project sites with many new environmentally friendly features. Awarded a \$50,000 Enterprise Communities Green Grant for the sites, MHP was able to install Energy Star appliances and lighting fixtures; individually metered, in-unit HVAC systems; and low-flow toilets, faucets and showerheads. These features will save energy and reduce utility bills for residents. The exterior of University has also received a "green" makeover with native landscaping and rainwater

collection barrels for watering gardens and lawns.

Renovations have begun on 8624 Flower Avenue and at 641 Houston Avenue and residents at these sites will receive the same green features. These properties are expected to be completed by October 2008.

Crystal Pittman looks forward to moving back into her newly renovated apartment that she has called home since 1993. "I'll admit, in the beginning we were suspicious about MHP's motives until they demonstrated they really cared about the issue of affordable housing and the people who live there," explains Pittman. "It has been a roller coaster experience not knowing if we had to go or could stay." In the end, though, she says she is grateful for the opportunity to stay in her home.



## 9-1-1, What is Your Emergency?

While we all think that dialing 9-1-1 is just that simple, there are things you should take into consideration and know before punching in those digits.

### How do I use 9-1-1?

Dial 9-1-1 for police, fire and medical services in an emergency situation only! To ensure rapid emergency response at all times, it is essential the 9-1-1 system be used only in a real emergency (when life or property are in immediate danger).

Remember these rules:

- Dial the three numbers 9-1-1
- Remain calm
- Speak clearly
- Describe the emergency (crime in progress, fire, medical emergency)
- Give location of the emergency
- Do not hang up until directed to do so
- Remember – 9-1-1 is only a telephone number. A quick response depends on the information you give when you call.

### How NOT to use 9-1-1

Do not use 9-1-1 for anything other than a real emergency. For example, do not use 9-1-1 for traffic information or general information such as directions. Do not use 9-1-1 for complaints such as a barking dog. These types of non-emergency calls should be made on normal seven digit telephone numbers.

For instance, the following is a real 9-1-1 call that was taken by dispatch:

Dispatcher: 9-1-1 What is your emergency?

Caller: Hi, is this the Police?



By CATHERINE PLEVY

Dispatcher: This is 9-1-1. Do you need police assistance?  
 Caller: Well, I don't know who to call. Can you tell me how to cook a turkey? I've never cooked one before.

While the dispatcher is busy taking the above VERY non-emergency call, someone else may have a real life and death emergency.

However, if you dial 9-1-1 by mistake, do not hang up! Tell the emergency call taker that you dialed 9-1-1 in error. If you hang up, the call taker will call you back. If you do not answer, we must assume that you are

unable to answer and a police unit will be sent to your location.

### How Can I Help?

First, take heed of the following adage: YOU may know where you live And GOD may know where you live But if WE [dispatchers] don't know where you live... YOU and GOD better be on good terms!!

Make sure your house number is clearly visible to a vehicle passing by on your street. Four-inch numbers (not spelled out) are preferred. Since emergency responders use one address to find another, you will not only be helping yourself, you will be helping your neighbors.

Educate small children about what to do in an emergency. Even very young children can use 9-1-1 to get help. As long as the child can dial 9-1-1, the system will display the address that the child is calling from for the dispatcher to send help.

*Excerpts taken from  
 Nye County Sheriff's Office.*

### A Message from the Chief

## Bicyclists Warned of Safety, Legal Risks

By RONALD RICUCCI

I write this article as a very upset Police Chief who respects the rights of bicycle riders in our City. Every day in our City, I observe bicyclists failing to obey traffic rules, including but not limited to running stop signs and red lights. Bicyclists are considered vehicle operators; they are required to obey the same rules of the road as other vehicle operators, including obeying traffic signs, signals, and lane markings.

When cycling in the street, cyclists must ride in the same direction as traffic. I have pulled over several bicyclists and have spoken to them about violating the law and the

danger it poses to them.

We continue to emphasize to drivers of motor vehicles that they must respect bicyclists' rights on the roadway. In our City, we have a large group of residents who use bicycles to commute to and from work. Failure to observe the rules of the road can lead to accidents and serious injuries. I strongly urge bicyclists to obey the rules of the road and admonish those who do not.

We can only give so many warnings before we start issuing citations. We are seeking voluntary compliance. In years past, the bicyclists have complained about motorists, but now it is the bicyclist who must practice good safety habits. Drive safely!

## CHILDREN: Stay Safe as You Go Back to School

By PFC. PAULA GASKIN

Here are some important tips to keep you safer:

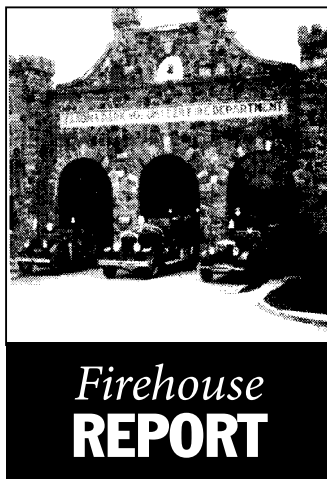
1. Always let your parents know where you are.
2. Always try to play or walk with friends.
3. Say NO if a stranger offers you gifts or asks you to help find something, like a lost dog.
4. If anyone, even someone you know, tries to do something that makes you feel "funny" or unsafe, say NO. And always tell someone you trust about it, like your

parents or a teacher.

5. Never get into a car with a stranger or with someone you don't trust.
6. Never go anywhere with a stranger or with someone you don't trust.
7. Never believe a stranger until you have checked what he or she has said with someone you trust.
8. Never open the door to a stranger when you are home alone or to someone you don't trust.
9. Never give any information to a stranger over the Internet or telephone.

Hopefully these are a few tips to help you stay safe.

As of July 31, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the Takoma Park station have responded to 431 fire-related incidents. The department handled or assisted with 1,661 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 2,092 this year. Totals for 2007 were 577 and 1,757, respectively, for a total of 2,334, representing a decrease of 242 incidents.



By JIM JARBOE

### Ten Tips for Fire Safety

#### 1. Keep an eye on the stovetop

Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. Always have a lid nearby to slide over a pan in case of fire. Clean up food and grease from burners and the stovetop.

#### 2. Give space heaters space

Keep fixed and portable space heaters at least three feet away from anything that can burn.

#### 3. Smoke outside

Ask smokers to smoke outside. Provide sturdy, deep ashtrays and make sure cigarette butts and ashes are out before emptying the ashtray.

#### 4. Keep matches and lighters up high, out of the sight and reach of children.

#### 5. Inspect electrical cords

Inspect electrical cords to make sure they are not pinched behind furniture, under rugs, or stretched. Replace cords that are cracked or frayed, have broken plugs, or have loose connections.

#### 6. Be careful when using candles

Keep candles at least one foot away from anything that can burn and put them out when you leave the room or go to sleep.

#### 7. Have a home fire escape plan

Make a home fire escape plan and practice it at least twice a year so everyone knows what to do in a fire emergency.

#### 8. Install smoke alarms

Install smoke alarms on every level of your home and outside all sleeping areas. Make sure everyone knows the sound of the alarm. For the best protection, install interconnected smoke alarms in each bedroom and throughout the home. When one sounds, they all

sound.

#### 9. Test smoke alarms

Test alarms at least once a month and replace their batteries once a year or when an alarm "chirps" to tell you the battery is low. Replace any smoke alarm that is more than 10 years old. Replace smoke alarms when that use "long-life" (10-year) batteries when the alarm chirps. The batteries in these units cannot be replaced.

#### 10. Get low and go

If you must escape through smoke, get low and go under the smoke to your exit. Once out, never go back in. Go to a neighbor's house and call 9-1-1.

### Something for the youngsters

When It Comes To Safety...Are You Just As Smart As Your Big Brother or Sister?

1. I always cross the street at a mark cross walk or corner.
2. I always look both ways before crossing the street.
3. I always wear my seat belt when riding in a car.
4. I always wear a helmet when I ride my bike.
5. I always wear safety pads and a helmet when riding my skate board.
6. I never go swimming unless an adult or life guard is present.
7. I never touch matches or lighters. If I find them, I'll tell a grown up.
8. I never play in the street.
9. I never play in the kitchen.
10. I always wear a life jacket when riding in a boat.
11. I never play in, under, or around vehicles.
12. I never talk to strangers or get into their car.

It's a fact, if you do all of the above, you are as smart and safe as your big brother and sister.

### Blood Drive

The Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, in partnership with the Takoma Park Lions Club, will be sponsoring a Blood Drive in October at the Takoma Park Community Center. Please mark the month. Look for date and time in the next issue.

### Volunteers Are Needed

The Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department is looking for volunteers to be fire fighters or EMS providers. Training and uniforms are provided free of charge, but we need you time and commitment. Please contact Mike Livingston, Membership Chair at the fire station, 301-270-8209.



# Books Celebrate Back-to-School Season

By Karen MacPherson

**W**e've got some great new books to celebrate back-to-school:

- In "Off to First Grade," author Louise Borden uses poetry to capture the joy and nerves of heading into a new school year. Borden organizes her free-verse poems alphabetically, and focuses each one on someone different, from various students to the teacher to the principal. In the poems, Borden provides just the right touch of friendly reassurance to young readers anxious about school. Joan Rankin's clever watercolor illustrations, featuring a variety of animal characters, add further fun. (Ages 4-7).

- Full of lively illustrations and a cheerful rhyming text, "Keisha Ann Can!" by author/illustrator Daniel Kirk is perfect for little ones nervous about what to expect at school. From the time she catches the school bus to the time she gets home to her waiting parents, Keisha Ann is a full of enthusiasm about playing and learning at school. Kirk's text consists mainly of a series of questions, punctuated every few pages with the refrain "Keisha Ann Can!" which kids will quickly pick up and repeat. Kirk's gouache illustrations, showing Keisha Ann as a lively African-American girl in the midst of a diverse group of classmates, are bright with color and energy. (Ages 3-5).

- Anne Rockwell offers young readers a cheerful look at their first school experience in "My Preschool." While Rockwell's young narrator loves his preschool, his good friend Melissa has difficulty saying goodbye to her mother and settling in. By the end of the day, however, Melissa cries when she has to leave. Rockwell's illustrations, created using a traditional Japanese woodblock printing method, have the simplicity and energy of children's drawings. (Ages 3-5).

- Looking for a way to make reading fun for a beginning reader? Try a riddle book like "Silly School Riddles," where author Lisa Eisenberg and illustrator Elwood Smith team up to create some goofy entertainment. Yes, these riddles ARE really silly (ex. "Why did the toothbrush wander into band practice? It was looking for a tuba toothpaste!"), but that means they're just right for early elementary-age kids. (Ages 5-8).

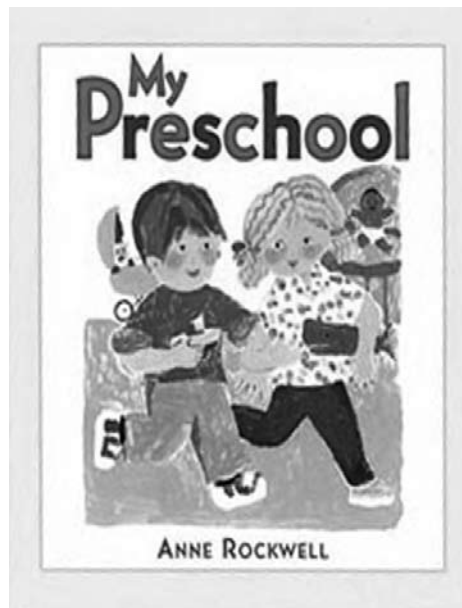
- Each day, John Patrick Norman McHen-



nessy sets off "along the road to learn." And each day, something bizarre happens, from a crocodile snapping at his school satchel to a lion tearing his trousers. Of course, he's late to school and faces increasingly stiff punishments. In "John Patrick Norman McHennessy - the boy who was always late," acclaimed author/illustrator John Burningham presents a brilliant riff on the clash between creativity and conformity. First published in 1987, this book remains fresh and wickedly funny. (Ages 5-8).

- Violet has a great new backpack, which is perfect for all the homework she hopes to get. But Violet discovers that the backpack might be a bit too big when she can't find her homework one night. In "Zip, Zip... Homework," author/illustrator Nancy Poydar spotlights the thrill very young students feel at having homework assignments, while providing a gentle lesson on telling the truth. (Ages 4-6).

- Author/artist Serge Bloch gives readers a comical look at the first day of school in "Butterflies In My Stomach and Other School Hazards." In this small-size picture book, Bloch tells his story using a string of clichés paired with hilariously literal illustrations. For example, when the young narrator is told to hurry up "because we'd be in a real pickle if we missed the bus," Bloch shows a photograph of a pickle as a school bus, complete with wheels and passengers that he's drawn in. The illustrations, a combination of collage and pen-and-ink drawings, are wonderfully appealing and will



have elementary-age kids (and their parents) laughing out loud. (Ages 5-8).

- Judy Moody has lots of trouble with math. But - in true Judy Moody fashion - she strenuously resists the idea of a math tutor until she finds out that her tutor is a hip college student. In "Judy Moody Goes to College," author Megan McDonald shows how the irrepressible Judy Moody adopts the college lifestyle, much to the amusement of her family and the envy of her friends. As usual, Peter Reynolds' line drawings add another layer of humor. (Ages 6-9).

- Kids can learn all kinds of academic basis, from the alphabet to the days of the week, in "Richard Scarry's Great Big Schoolhouse." Originally published in 1969, the new, oversized edition features Scarry's trademark watercolor illustrations filled with animal characters having fun as they learn. (Ages 3-5).

For a kid-pleasing back-to-school book, you can't beat "Smelly Locker: Silly Dilly School Songs." As he did in his previous books, including "Take Me Out Of the Bath-tub," author Alan Katz takes familiar songs and creates wacky new words. For example, "Smelly Locker" uses the tune of "Frere Jacques" but words like these: "Smelly locker! Smelly locker! Poor hygiene! Foul and mean! Meant to do it sooner! Is this a glove or tuna? Time to clean! Time to clean!" The words don't always scan perfectly, but that's a quibble given the fun factor of this book. David Catrow's exuberant illustrations extend the humor even further. (Ages 5-8).

## Friends Reading Group to discuss 2008 Pulitzer Prize Winner

**O**n Thursday September 18 at 7:30 p.m. the Friends of the Library Reading Group will meet at the Takoma Park Community Center to discuss "The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao" by Junot Diaz, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 2008 and the National Book Critics Circle Award in 2007.

"Paralleling his own experiences growing up in the Dominican Republic and New Jersey, Diaz has choreographed a family saga at once sanguinary and sexy that confronts the horrific brutality at loose dur-



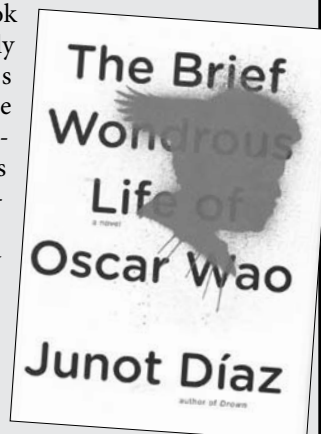
Junot Diaz

ing the reign of the dictator Trujillo. Diaz's besieged characters look to the supernatural for explanations and hope, from fuku, the curse unleashed when Europeans arrived in Hispaniola, to the forces dramatized in the works of science fiction and fantasy so beloved by the chubby ghetto nerd Oscar Wao, the brilliantly realized boy of conscience at the center of this whirlwind tale." [Booklist]

"Funny, street-smart and keenly observed...An extraordinarily vibrant book that's fueled by adrenaline-powered

prose...a book that decisively establishes [Diaz] as one of contemporary fiction's most distinctive and irresistible new voices." [New York Times]

Copies of the book are available at the Takoma Park Maryland Library, donated by the Friends of the Library. For information call 301-891-7259.



## TAKOMA PARK LIBRARY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2008

### Neighborhood Circle Time Every Tuesday

Two times: 10 a.m. OR 11 a.m.  
At the Library.

**Lapsit** A program for babies 12 months and under and their grown-ups.  
Wednesdays, 10 a.m. at the Library.  
Space is limited, so you must register.

### Bilingual Circle Time

Saturday, Sept. 6, 10:30-11 a.m.

Come sing songs, do rhymes and hear stories in Spanish and English.

No need to register - just come!

### End of SummerQuest Party

Monday, Sept. 8, 7 p.m.

Please register so we have enough treats and prizes.

### Tween Craft Club

A monthly program for crafty middle-schoolers

Friday, Sept. 12, 3:30-5 p.m.

### Banned Books Club

For kids grades 6 and up.

Monday, Sept. 15, 7:30 p.m.

Our book is "The Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger.

Copies are available at the Library desk.

Space is limited; please register.

### Friends Reading Group

Thursday, Sept. 18, 7:30 p.m.

Our book is "The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao" by Junot Diaz

All welcome - see article for more information.

### Bedtime Stories

Monday, Sept. 22, 7 p.m.

Come in p.j.s, bring your teddy bear or other stuffed favorites as we read some stories and sing some songs and rhymes. Perfect for babies, toddlers, pre-schoolers and their grown-ups. No need to register - just come!

### Mike Morissey Charity Golf Tournament

Monday, Sept. 22

See article, page 11, for more information.

### Friends of the Library Board Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 23, 7:30 p.m.

**Registration required for some events, as indicated in listing. You can register online by going to [www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html](http://www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html) Or by calling 301-891-7259**





## LIBRARY Briefs

**SummerQuest** participants: it's time to celebrate your incredible reading achievements! Come to our End of SummerQuest Party on Monday, Sept. 8 at 7 p.m. We'll have treats and prizes. We'll talk about your favorite and least favorite books this summer, and discuss possible themes for next year's SummerQuest. And we'll have a "show and tell" of the creations SummerQuest participants made for reading challenge Number 7. Please bring yours to the party – if it's portable – to share with everyone. See you there!

We have updated our guide to the Children's Room. In this four-page brochure, you'll get a brief introduction to

our collection, including a guide to the stickers we put on the book "spines" to give you a better idea of what's inside. For example, these stickers can help you quickly find a humorous novel, a Spanish board book or an easy non-fiction book. We've also got a map of the Children's Room on the back to make it easier to find books. The guides are available in the brochure rack on the librarian's desk in the Children's Room.

**We've got wonderful new non-fiction CD/book sets** for kids. Published by Candlewick Press, these sets comprise paperback editions of some long-popular non-fiction books, like "Growing Frogs" by Vivian French plus a CD featuring a reading of the book, complete with music and extra facts. Other titles include: "Bat Loves the Night," "Big Blue Whale," "Surprising Sharks" and "One Tiny Turtle," all by Nicola Davies, as well as "A Field Full of Horses" by Peter Hansard. Come check them out – they're hanging on the rack above our children's book CDs.

## Library Program Helps Kids and Parents Prepare for College

Join us at the Library on Tuesday evenings in October, when nationally recognized experts offer guidance to students applying to college in a series of free programs. Please register! Go to [takomapark.info/library/registration.html](http://takomapark.info/library/registration.html) or call 301-891-7259. All programs are presented by the Takoma Park Maryland Library with the support of the Friends of the Library.

**Tuesday, October 7 at 7 p.m.: Dr. Ilhan Cagri will demystify the dreaded SATs.** [note earlier time!] Cagri and a trained colleague will share their experiences and insights on both the verbal and math components of the current SAT format, introduced in 2005.

Cagri received her PhD in linguistics at the University of Maryland. As a faculty research associate at the University of Maryland School of Languages, she is currently conducting a research project on second language acquisition. She has taught and designed SAT preparation classes for Montgomery County Public Schools, in private schools and as a private tutor. Parents and students have found her insights practical and helpful.

**Tuesday, October 14 at 7:30 p.m.: Dr. Herm Davis will discuss college financing options,** including the financial aid timetable, scholarships, loans, work study, college savings plans, the FAFSA application and more.

One of the nation's foremost college aid authorities, Davis heads the National College Scholarship Foundation and directs College Financial Aid Counseling and Education Services, Inc. During his 35 years of working in the field of financial aid he has

authored several financial aid publications including "College Financial Aid for Dummies." He has also developed a computer scholarship database, and consulted for several scholarship foundations and for the Petersons' financial publications. Davis has undergraduate degrees in business and education, a Masters Degree in guidance and counseling, and a PhD in Higher Education from George Washington University.

**Tuesday, October 21 at 7:30 p.m.: Dr. Lori Potts Dupre will present an overview** of the college selection process. What schools might provide the right fit – academically, financially and personally – for you? Topics include sorting out your personal criteria and goals and the admissions process.

Potts-Dupre grew up in the Washington, D.C. area. She earned B.S. and M.Ed. degrees at the University of California, Davis in applied behavioral sciences, and her PhD in education at the University of Maryland, College Park.

In 1994 she was appointed as faculty research associate at the National Center for Postsecondary Governance and Finance, where she investigated governance issues in higher education. She opened her college consulting practice in Takoma Park, Maryland in 1997. She has evaluated more than 350 campuses nationwide, and continues to evaluate colleges every year. She attained the CEP (Certified Educational Planner) designation, the highest standard in the profession, in 1999. In the fall of 2003 she was appointed as a commissioner to the American Institute of Certified Education Planners.

through the Friends of the Library. More than \$27,000 has been raised through golf sponsorships and a charity auction over the last six years.

This year Library staffers Gene Miller, Dave Burbank, Nic Fontem and Phil Shapiro will contribute their skills, resilience and good humor as a foursome in the tournament.

Registration information is available at the Library 301-891-7259.

## City TV Features Folk Fest, Jazz

Be sure to join City TV crews at the annual Takoma Park Folk Festival, to be held this year on September 14th at the Takoma Park Middle School. Visit [www.tpff.org](http://www.tpff.org) for more information.



New programming airing this month will include the Independence Day Parade; Chopsteeth, Louis Ford Trio, Little Falls Jazz Quartet and the Kendra Holt Trio from the JazzFest in June.

### Takoma Snapshots in September will feature:

National Night Out  
Unveiling the Mural Part Two  
Fusion of Poetry and Art: IwMoArGdE

Verizon is scheduled to attend the City Council meeting on September 8 to brief the City Council on the introduction of cable TV, high-speed internet and phone services which launched in Takoma Park in August.

This means City residents may choose from three providers for cable service, featuring Takoma Park City TV on channel 13 on the Comcast and RCN/Starpower systems and channel 28 on the Verizon FIOS system.

Community and neighborhood groups may submit non-commercial notices regarding meetings or special events to City TV for inclusion on the bulletin board.

Many City TV programs, including Council meetings and Snapshots, are available for on-demand viewing from the City website. Be sure to visit City TV's award-winning webpage at [www.TakomaParkMD.gov/cable](http://www.TakomaParkMD.gov/cable) for program descriptions, times and more information.

All Council meetings and Snapshots episodes are also available for patron check out at the Takoma Park Maryland Library. VHS tapes of these shows, as well as other Takoma Park City TV events, may be purchased for \$15 (pick up) or \$18 (mail). Some programs are also available on DVD. Call 301-891-7118 or send an email to: [cabletv@takomagov.org](mailto:cabletv@takomagov.org) for more information.

### CITY TV PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE - SEPTEMBER 2008

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7:00 AM	Community Bulletin Board	The Road to Recovery	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Community Bulletin Board	Takoma Snapshots	Community Bulletin Board	Déjà vu: Takoma Music Revisited
8:00 AM	Takoma Park Snapshots	PreSchool Power!		Takoma Park Snapshots	Community Bulletin Board	Takoma Park Folk Festival	
9:00 AM	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Takoma Park Snapshots	National Gallery of Art	Coffeehouse	NASA Programming		Takoma Park Snapshots
10:00 AM		Coffeehouse	City Council Meeting (Replay)	Music da camera	Government Focus	Takoma Park Snapshots	Coffeehouse
11:00 AM	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	CaribNation		Takoma Park Folk Festival	National Gallery of Art	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Media Watch on Hunger
NOON		Community Bulletin Board			City Council Meeting (Replay)		
1:00 PM	The Road to Recovery	Takoma Park City TV Local Events		Takoma Park City TV Local Events			Takoma Park Folk Festival
2:00 PM	Media Watch on Hunger		Takoma Park Folk Festival			Media Watch on Hunger	
3:00 PM	Takoma Park Snapshots	NASA Programming		Music da camera			Takoma Park City TV Local Events
4:00 PM	PreSchool Power		Takoma Park Snapshots	Coffeehouse	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Déjà vu: Takoma Music Revisited	
5:00 PM	Music da camera	Takoma Park Snapshots	Government Focus	Government Focus			
5:30 PM	Chinese News						
6:00 PM		Community Bulletin Board	Chinese News	Community Bulletin Board	Takoma Park Snapshots	Takoma Snapshots	Community Bulletin Board
7:00 PM		National Gallery of Art		Takoma Park Snapshots	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Coffeehouse	Takoma Park Snapshots
7:30 PM	City Council Meeting (LIVE)						
8:00 PM		Coffeehouse	City Council Meeting (Replay)	Takoma Park Folk Festival		Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Takoma Park Folk Festival
9:00 PM		Takoma Park City TV Local Events			Takoma Park Folk Festival		
10:00 PM				Government Focus		Takoma Park Folk Festival	Coffeehouse
11:00 PM		CaribNation		Takoma Park City TV Special Events	Coffeehouse		Takoma Park City TV Local Events
12:00 Midnight	Takoma Park Snapshots	City Council Meeting (Replay)	Takoma Park Snapshots		Déjà vu: Takoma Music Revisited	Takoma Park Snapshots	
1:00 AM	Road to Recovery		Community Bulletin Board			Déjà vu: Takoma Music Revisited	

## WATCH CITY TV ON LINE

Live Feed,  
Archived City Council Meetings,  
Snapshots and More

[www.takomaparkmd.gov/cable](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/cable)

## Morrissey Mulligan Madness Golf Tournament Returns

The seventh annual charity golf tournament in honor of former resident Mike Morrissey will be held at the Redgate Golf Course in Rockville on September 22 beginning at 9 a.m. All proceeds directly benefit the Takoma Park Maryland Library



# EXPANSION PLANS

continued from page 1

to aid the college. Some possibilities for building on the site, which is zoned for as many as nine stories, could include ground-floor retail with residences or academic offices above, according to Capp.

Though the use of that site for a future academic building was clearly marked on one of the presentation's schematic options, planned building on the site cannot be included in the master plan update because the property doesn't belong to the college. Brad Stewart, vice president and provost of the Takoma Park campus, said the college must submit options, which are due to the state in February 2009, using available property or risk having the entire master plan for all of its campuses rejected, translating into the loss of state funding.

Nevertheless, councilmembers and community representatives urged the college to obtain and build on the Burlington Avenue property and both commercial public storage properties on Fenton Avenue to relieve the density of renovations to the existing campus building. "For the long term, the only way to go is acquisition" of commercial property, said Mayor Bruce Williams, and other councilmembers echoed the idea. Ward 1 Councilmember Josh Wright, who represents residents in the campus neighborhood, offered his assistance in talking with the Montgomery College Foundation to acquire the property as soon as possible, in order to make the February 2009 master plan submission deadline.

Another controversial community request is for the college to demolish its Pavilion 3, formerly the fine arts building, and the adjoining building on New York Avenue and leave the land open as a park. At the July 28 council meeting, the council heard many comments from residents describing the pavilion's negative impact on the neighborhood. The North Takoma Citizens Association (NTCA) quoted an anonymous college representative calling the building "an old mistake that would never be constructed today" because of its proximity to housing.

But Capp said he would not recommend turning Pavilion 3 into open space because it represents nearly 20,000 square feet of usable space. "Where would we get it?" he asked.

Stewart concurred. "I don't like having a building that close to my neighbors," he said. "Nobody likes it. But it has needed space."

Stewart pointed out that, though the square-foot increase for the campus will remain constant on the master plan update, the square footage noted on the various options are rough estimations and will change as the designers listen to the various stakeholders, including the community, in drawing up specific plans. He pointed to the new student center at Fenton and New York Avenues. The building's huge glass wall now facing Fenton was originally designed to front New York Avenue. When the community objected, the design was completely realigned.

Stewart noted that the increased square footage plan for current buildings wouldn't necessarily encroach on neighbors' homes. Some of the added space can go underground. "I know that what I'm saying sounds a lot like, 'Trust me,' but we have a good track record to run on," said Stewart. However, he meant the college's recent record and acknowledged that the college is still dealing with the community distrust that was sown 30 years ago when the campus was first built.

"We're trying our darndest to take the community into consideration, but we can't do it all," added Stewart.

All of the college's plans included the removal of the college child care center from its current location in a house on Takoma Avenue. The college intends to divest the single family home and relocate the child care center, possibly into the renovated site of the wellness and fitness centers. The citizens association asked that the old site only be designated for single-family residential use.

## City Action

The strong community response to the July 14 college presentation prompted the City Council to draw up and unanimously accept a formal resolution regarding its positions on the college expansion alternatives reflected in the master plan update. Many community residents and representatives from NCTA, Historic Takoma, Montgomery Preservation and the Montgomery College Neighborhood Advisory Committee testified in favor of the resolution which:

- Recognizes the college's great value to the community;
- Supports westward college expansion into South Silver Spring;
- Requests the college to obtain from the Montgomery College Foundation the Burlington and Georgia Avenues property for development;
- Asks the college to purchase the remaining commercial properties on Fenton Avenue for development;
- Urges that the college return the current child care facility to single-family use;
- Supports demolishing Pavilion 3 and the adjoining structure and using the land to create passive open space;
- Supports low-scale, low-density campus redevelopment that reflects the adjoining neighborhood and historic district; and
- Applauds the college's commitment to sustainability and a pedestrian-oriented campus.

## What's Next?

Stewart said that the Montgomery College president and Board of Trustees will choose one of the three Takoma Park campus master plan options currently under consideration to submit to the Maryland Higher Education Commission by

February 2009. His understanding is that the City and community comments will accompany the submission.

Funding for any of the construction proposed in any of the master plan options has not been allocated, Stewart emphasized. The master plan updates are only plans. Money for Takoma Park campus construction has only been slated for the projects already under construction plus the Commons Building on Takoma Avenue, due for completion in 2009. Additional construction projects through 2013 will occur on the Rockville and Germantown campuses.

Most likely the college will need to present another five-year master plan update before any money is approved for additional construction on the Takoma Park campus, according to Stewart, giving everyone the opportunity to go through this process again.

While the Montgomery College representatives told the council that they would take the request for acquiring the foundation property at Burlington and Georgia Avenues to the foundation board, none of them sounded optimistic. Capp told the Council that he disagreed that building on that site would be using the land most efficiently. Stewart said that while the college has been very willing to listen and has heard loud and clear the community's desire to off-load density from the eastern side of campus, "We've got to ask what's in the best interest of the college," said Stewart. "Every time we put a shovel in the ground, that's what we have to consider."



# MAKE A DIFFERENCE PLANT A TREE

## Discount Trees Available to Beautify Yards, Save the Canopy

The season is right to plant trees, and in Takoma Park that means you could be saving the aging tree canopy in the City. If you're interested in replacing old growth in your yard, or adding to greenery outside your door, you can save through the City's bulk buy tree sale.

Acting as a purchasing agent with Stadler Nurs-

ery, the City is making a number of species available at wholesale prices. Residents can purchase black gum, sweet gum, willow oak, red maple, white oak or sycamore — all native shade trees that usually retail for about \$400 — for \$240 to \$295, installed. Sale dates run through October 17, with installation toward the end of the month.

## ORDER FORM

Please include check written to City of Takoma Park and be sure to draw a map of the property and locations for installation. Submit to Todd Bolton, Takoma Park Department of Public Works, 31 Oswego Avenue, Silver Spring, MD, 20910 by close of business October 17. Someone will be in touch regarding installation dates.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Include map of property with tree locations on separate piece of paper.**

Species	Price	Quantity	Total
Sweet Gum (2")	\$275 x _____	=	_____
Black Gum (1.5")	\$250 x _____	=	_____
Willow Oak (2")	\$295 x _____	=	_____
Red Maple (2")	\$240 x _____	=	_____
White Oak (2")	\$295 x _____	=	_____
Sycamore or London Plane (2")	\$270 x _____	=	_____
Tax 6%	_____		_____
<b>Total enclosed</b>			<b>\$ _____</b>