College and TP Community Clash on Expansion Plans

By Susan Holliday

ough 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 city of Takoma Park is expected to have two new restaurants – and judging from neighbors reactions at a meeting last month, they will still disagree on the planned placement and size of new construction. After two recent public meetings, the argument rages on.

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 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 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 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.
## City Council Action*

*Only negative votes and abstentions are noted. For additional information, contact the City Clerk at Clerk@takomagov.org.

### Calendar *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, September 1</strong></td>
<td>City offices closed for the Labor Day holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, September 2</strong></td>
<td>City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, September 4</strong></td>
<td>Regular Meeting of the Mayor in Chair (7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium))</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, September 9</strong></td>
<td>Committee on the Environment meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Room TBA)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, September 15</strong></td>
<td>City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, September 17</strong></td>
<td>Arts and Humanities Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Room TBA)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, September 17</strong></td>
<td>Arts and Humanities Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Room TBA)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, September 19</strong></td>
<td>Regular Meeting of the Mayor in Chair (7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium))</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, September 22</strong></td>
<td>City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, September 23</strong></td>
<td>Arts and Humanities Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Room TBA)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, September 24</strong></td>
<td>Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m. (CC Atrium Room)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, September 28</strong></td>
<td>Regular Meeting of the Mayor in Chair (7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium))</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, September 29</strong></td>
<td>City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Room TBA)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, September 30</strong></td>
<td>Regular Meeting of the Mayor in Chair (7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium))</td>
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*For the most up to date information, check www.takomaparkmd.gov.

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### 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.

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### 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 or contact the City Clerk for more information (301-891-7267 or Clerk@takomagov.org).

| Committee on the Environment (seven vacancies) | Nuclear Free Takoma Park Committee (two vacancies) |
| Emergency Preparedness Committee (one vacancy) | Police Employees Retirement Plan Committee (one vacancy) |
| Ethics Commission (two vacancies) | Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee (four vacancies) |
| Facade Advisory Board (one vacancy) | Tree Commission (one vacancy) |
| Montgomery College Neighbors Advisory Committee (vacancies) | Safe Roadways Committee (one vacancy) |
| Noise Control Board (three vacancies) | |

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### 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.

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### 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.
Home Town Soccer Shows Well in Scotland

By Robert J. Rini

Takoma 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 Edinbourg Castle and see their namesake, the Glasgow Rangers, play a professional match against Liverpool. It turned out that many of the boys are fans of the Rangers, a 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 a dish called "Larousse Gastronomique" which 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 pulled up, 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 Mary-land 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 Karabetyan 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 midfield 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 boys 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 someday, 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 TPNYSS league. He played soccer in High School. For more information about the trip, go to www.rangersuktripblog.blogspot.com where Bob blogged the trip for the benefit of those who could not travel with the team.

The Takoma Park Newsletter is published 11 times a year as the official publication of the City of Takoma Park, www.takomaparkmd.gov. The Newsletter does not accept commercial, classified, or political advertisements. Unpublished material by Takoma Park residents, including reports by community groups and articles that may contain opinions, 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.

THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER
Editor: Virginia Myers
Production: Electronic Ink
www.takomaparkmd.gov
Vol. 47, No. 9

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

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

By Moses A. Wilds, Jr.
Landlord-Tenant Coordinator

Myers v. Makakalle

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 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 $311.25 and punitive damages of $1,500. The commission also ordered that the landlord pay to the former tenant interest of $112.50 and punitive damages of $1,500. The commission awarded the former tenant her deposit of $1,500 plus accrued interest of $311.25 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-SL)

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 Affairs (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
(leave at 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
(Leave 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

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 Mystic Crystals, as well as local favorites Chopteeth, 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 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 prizes 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 or leave a message at 301-589-0202.

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:

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__________________________________________________________________________

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You will receive a letter acknowledging your donation within 30 days of receipt.
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, 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 Springfield High School, and she followed it up with organized practices. Their skepticism faded quickly.

Anderson is a full-time business analyst/developer for the computer department’s YES League this summer. 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 Springfield High School, and she followed it up with organized practices. Their skepticism faded quickly.

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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 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 will 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

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 cafe 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 Pinney 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.
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 (TPNYSL). On-line registration is at 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@eol.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”

On 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.

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 and encouraged to attend. Details about the event will be on the website soon, 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 almost 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.

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.

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 environmental-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” make-over with native landscaping andrainwater 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 expect-ed 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

**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?

**Dispatcher:** Yes, 9-1-1. Is this a true emergency?

**Caller:** Yes, it is.

**Dispatcher:** What is your emergency?

**Caller:** I need police assistance.

**Dispatcher:** What is your location?

**Caller:** I am at 123 Main Street.

**Dispatcher:** Do you have a phone number?

**Caller:** Yes, it is 555-1234.

**Dispatcher:** What is your emergency?

**Caller:** I have a burglar in my house.

**Dispatcher:** I see, I will send a unit to your location.

**Caller:** Thank you.

**Dispatcher:** You’re welcome.

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 may know where you live, AND GOD better be on the same page.

Make sure your house number is clearly visible to a vehicle passing by on your street. Four-inch numbers (not spelt 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 little as a 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.

Children: Stay Safe as You Go Back to School

**By Ptc. 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.

**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 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 marked 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 skateboard.
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.
Books Celebrate Back-to-School Season

By Karen McPherson

I'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 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 goshae 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 a traditional Japanese woodblock printing method, have the simplicity and energy of a traditional Japanese woodblock printing method. (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/illustrator Naomi HIrt-Walker前来, and creates wacky new words. For example, “Smelly Locker: Silly Dilly Songs.” As usual, Peter Reynolds’ line drawings add tend the humor even further. (Ages 5-8).

- Each day, John Patrick Norman McNen
ness 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 McNennessy – 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 hilarious 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. (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 Bathtub,” author Alan Katz uses familiar songs, and creates wacky new words. For example, “Smelly Locker” uses the tune of “Freddy Jacobs” but words like these: “Smelly locker! Smelly locker! Poor hygiene! Foul and mean! Meant to do it sooner? Is this a glove or tunta? 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

On 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 2008 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-

ing the reign of the dictator Trujillo. Diaz’s beloved characters look to the supernormal for explanations and hope, from fuka, 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

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 0 8

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.

Twee 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, 7-7:30 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 the listing. You can register online by going to www.takomapark.library.org/registration.html
Or by calling 301-891-7259
**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 join us.

Go to takomaparkmd.gov/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 will find 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 timeline, 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 Peterson’s 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 College Entrance Counseling (CEC) designation in 1997. She is a certified college consultant and the director of a College Consulting Service in Takoma Park.

**Tuesday, October 28 at 7:30 p.m.:** Dr. Karen Winger will discuss the importance of legal services for college students. The law school and legal professionals will help you understand the impact of legal issues in higher education.

**Tuesday, November 1 at 7:30 p.m.:** Dr. Mark Pender will present a seminar on “Financial Aid for Special Needs Students.” The session will focus on the college financing available for students with disabilities.

**Tuesday, November 8 at 7:30 p.m.:** Dr. Karen Peking will discuss the topic of “Financial Aid for Transfer Students.” The session will provide an overview of the financial aid options available to transfer students.

**Tuesday, November 15 at 7:30 p.m.:** Dr. Linda Pollar will discuss the topic of “Financial Aid for International Students.” The session will provide an overview of the financial aid options available to international students.

Library Program Helps Kids and Parents Prepare for College

**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.folkfest.com for more information.

New programming airing this month will include the Independent Day Parade; Chopteeth, 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**
- **JwMoArGDe**

Verizon is scheduled to attend the City Council meeting on September 8 to brief the City Council on the introduction of a new high-speed internet and phone service 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 for program descriptions, times and more information.

All Council meetings and Snapshots episodes are also available for patrol 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 email to: cabletv@takomaparkmd.gov for more information.

**City TV Programming - September 2008**

**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 – 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. Check them out — they’re hanging on the rack above our children’s book CDs.

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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 will find 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 timeline, 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 Peterson’s 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.

**Morrisey Mulligan**

**Madness Golf Tournament Returns**

The seventh annual charity golf tournament in honor of former resident Mike Morrisey 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 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 Sha- piro will contribute their skills, resilience and good humor as a foursome in the tournament.

Registration information is available at the Library 301-891-7259.
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 saying 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 soon 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 divert 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;
- 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 Montgomery 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."

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**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 Nursery, 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.

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

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