

THE COLLEGE NEIGHBOR

A newsletter from the Campus Community Coalition

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2007

Volume 2, Issue 2

Another school year begins! With the incoming first-year class of 2011 at Franklin & Marshall comprising 587 students from 23 countries, there is a new and diverse group of aspiring young residents in our community, who are ready to learn and ready to get to know Lancaster. Our younger neighborhood students at Wharton and Reynolds head back to school on Aug. 30, right after F&M classes begin. Best wishes to all students in our community for a great year!

College Row comes alive. The 393 juniors and seniors who are the first residents of College Row moved in beginning in mid-August and are enjoying their nice new digs. Contractors continue to work on the retail space on the ground floor, which will be ready later in the fall. Iron Hill Brewery and Fillings will open their doors in October and the realtor is in conversations with a number of other prospective tenants, so more announcements are on the way. Meanwhile the demolition and cleanup of the Armstrong buildings between College Row and Liberty Place has progressed at lightning speed and a very different landscape will continue to emerge there.

Inspiring students to help the local community. Fifty-seven first-year students arrived a week early to participate in the College's *Putting It Together (PIT) in the Community* program. This program, now in its 10th year, seeks to inspire new students to get involved and become leaders in local community service initiatives. It is one of a number of civic programs sponsored by Franklin & Marshall's Ware Institute for Civic Engagement and is one element of the College's mission to develop socially responsible students who will continue to be civically engaged adults. For a week before school starts, students in PIT participate in one of several workshops: working with the Lancaster County Conservancy on environmental cleanup; working with Habitat for Humanity and Tabor Community Services on projects in the city; working with senior citizens in a senior residence or adult day care center; and helping select first grade students from Wharton, Ross, and Fulton Elementary schools get ready for and feel confident about the new school year. Getting students involved with the local community before their first classes even begin is an innovative and exciting way to allow them to get to know and help and enjoy Lancaster from the get-go and our community benefits in many ways.

Your invitation to tour the Franklin & Marshall campus and watch a soccer game on the new turf field. The Campus Community Coalition invites you and your family and friends to a campus walking tour on Sat., Sept. 15 at 11 a.m. (rain or shine, tour should take about an hour, refreshments and soccer game afterwards). Please call Karen Chase at the Admission Office (291-3951) ASAP to sign up for this free tour so that we will have an idea of the number of people attending. Highlights of the tour will be the Shadek-Fackenthal Library, where we will begin our tour (the library is at the top of the steps leading up from College Avenue at James Street; meet on the portico at the front door), the Old Main administration building, the College Bookstore and adjoining Jazzman's Café, the Steinman College Center, the Barshinger Center for Musical Arts, the Roschel Center for Performing Arts, and the brand-new Barshinger Life Sciences and Philosophy building. We will end up at new turf fields on Harrisburg Pike to watch a women's soccer game at noon (vs. Ursinus). There is also a men's soccer game at 3 p.m. (vs. Muhlenberg) if that suits your schedule better. The tour will be informal but informative and should give you an idea of how the campus is laid out and where some of the buildings are. Children are welcome on the tour and at the soccer games. Keep in mind that most sporting events at the Col-

lege during the school year are free and open to the public—a great experience for your kids to get a glimpse of life at a college. For more athletics info visit the College's athletics and recreation website: GoDiplomats.com.

Be more in the know about F&M's cultural events. Put your name on the mailing list to receive the College's cultural events booklet, *Encore*. The new *Encore* has just come out. You can view *Encore* listings of art, dance, film, music, speakers and theater events online and sign up to receive periodic e-mail updates about events and/or to have a hard copy of the booklet mailed to you (published twice a year in late August and January) at www.fandm.edu/encore.xml or call 291-3981. Copies of *Encore* are also available in the Steinman College Center at the main desk.

Upcoming *Encore* events, just to name a few, include the first two concerts of the Sound Horizons fall concert series: The Rodney Mack Philadelphia Big Brass, Fri., Sept. 7, and TREFOIL Early Music for Voice, Lute and Harp, Sat., Oct. 6; both are at 8 p.m. in the Barshinger Center (tickets \$10; call or e-mail the box office 358-4858 or www.fandm.edu/boxoffice.xml). Opera Lancaster will perform *I Pagliacci* on Sept. 13–16 (9/13 at 7:30 p.m., 9/14 and 9/15 at 8 p.m., 9/16 at 7 p.m.) at the Roschel Performing Arts Center (tickets \$22 or \$18 students/seniors, contact the box office at F&M). You can visit the box office at: www.fandm.edu/boxoffice.xml.

Join Franklin & Marshall's Library. Did you know that you can join Franklin & Marshall's library? There are actually two libraries at the College, the Shadek-Fackenthal (main) Library and the Martin Library of the Sciences, which together house over half a million volumes. A Friends of the Library membership allows borrowing privileges to all circulating library collections for anyone 21+ years old with a paid, calendar year membership (initial membership beginning after July will run through the second succeeding year; rates range from just \$5 for senior citizens to \$25 for a single active member or \$35 per couple). Larger donations are gladly accepted and are tax deductible. The primary use of membership dues is for books and manuscripts whose acquisition would not normally be possible using the funds supplied by the College for regular library purchases. Library hours during the school year are Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat.–Sun., 11 a.m.–9 p.m. For more information call 291-4223 or visit online: library.fandm.edu.

Introduce the world of reading to local kids. The Lancaster Reach Out and Read Coalition is part of a national program (www.reachoutandread.org) that targets children growing up in poverty and without books, and features three key elements: volunteers read with children in pediatric clinic waiting areas, child health care providers educate parents about the importance of reading with their children every day, and children receive a new book when they come in for a well-child check-up. The Reach Out and Read Coalition is seeking volunteers to read to pediatric patients in clinics, maintain book donation locations, run a book drive for new or used children's books, and donate funds. On Sept. 15 and 16, the Lancaster County Reach Out and Read Coalition will be partnering with Dutch Wonderland in a special event. Anyone who donates a new or gently used children's book will receive one ticket to the October Happy Hauntings event per person (regardless of how many books are donated). Happy Hauntings at Dutch Wonderland takes place Oct. 12–14, 19–21, and 26–28. For more information contact Sandi Mauer, Program Coordinator, at 299-6371 ext. 6217 or ror@selhs.org.

A new and ambitious Lancaster City Strategic Plan. If you attended one of the mayor's meetings recently, you might have picked up a copy of the City of Lancaster Strategic Plan, which is an unassuming little document that is packed with very interesting information about the direction our city is going. It is available online at the city's website (www.cityoflancasterpa.com). The city's goal is "provid-

ing the ideal urban experience for our residents and visitors.” No one can argue with that as a goal! The plan outlines seven strategic focus areas: arts and entertainment, a customer-centered culture for city government, housing improvements of all kinds, better mobility for pedestrians as well as vehicles, improving neighborhoods, better public amenities and ambience, and committing to the retail sector to support and improve the retail experience for residents and visitors. Our city is undergoing a renaissance as it becomes branded as an arts destination “Edge of the East” to visitors and develops a nicer, prettier, more vibrant side that attracts and holds onto residents. This is all great stuff. For anyone who is discouraged about city life—take heart, do what you can to improve your residence, your block, your neighborhood park or schoolyard and don’t hesitate to call the police (664-1180 for non-911 calls) or the James Street Improvement District bike squad (394-9522) about problem properties and issues.

Great, informative Lancaster City Police website. The Lancaster City Bureau of Police has a new and improved website (www.lancasterpolice.com) that will tell you what sector you live in (likely either 11 or 12 if you are receiving this newsletter), the names of the officers assigned to your sector, and how to contact them. If you click on your (or any) sector under “Recent Incidents” you can also read through an up-to-date and detailed table of all incidents the police have responded to in that sector for the past month or two. You may learn some things that surprise you and it feels almost like you’ve gone on calls with the officers when you read through it. There are also links to view local crime statistics, as well as information about crime prevention, the LCPD’s missions, how you can volunteer at the LCPD (contact Lt. Stephen Skiles at 735-3411) and a phone number for the graffiti hotline (735-6661). The site even has the current Terror Threat Level Color Code, should you want to know.

Loving and promoting City Life. Have you heard of Lancaster City Living? This small but dynamic organization, located at 308 E. King Street, got its start in late 2005 as an effort by several agencies to promote home ownership in the city. Since then it has grown and is doing a great job of getting the word out about city life and home ownership. Executive Director Michael Sprunger was hired in 2006 and hopes to increase home ownership in the city from its current level of 47% to 60% in the coming years. Visit the LCL website at www.lancastercityliving.org and check out their clickable neighborhood map that features neighborhood names and histories you may not have heard. For instance, most of us receiving this newsletter live in Chestnut Hill or College Park. Look for the first edition of *Lancaster City Living* magazine in October at a variety of city businesses and events, as well as in newcomer welcome kits, Chamber of Commerce information, and a number of other locales. One innovative program LCL is implementing is a neighborhood ambassador program that asks people who love their neighborhood to volunteer to be ambassadors to talk with prospective home buyers and tell them about the area. Realtors can ask LCL for an ambassador contact for their prospective buyer in a specific neighborhood and LCL will give the ambassador the contact information, choosing the best match possible (the bigger the pool of ambassadors, the better). It’s a great way to make new friends who might become new neighbors. You can sign up to be an ambassador on LCL’s website (click on “Explore Lancaster” and then “Neighborhood Ambassadors”) or call Michael Sprunger at 358-9340.

Read *The College Neighbor* online. We are pleased to announce that you can now read this newsletter online! Visit www.fandm.edu/collegeneighbor.xml to read current or back issues. We will continue mailing hard copies too. Look for the next issue in October....

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E-mail us at:
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or call 291-3981
(College Communications Office)
to add a name to our mailing list.

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