



# Business Beat

December 15, 2011

The Business Beat is a bi-monthly newsletter prepared by the City of College Park Planning, Community and Economic Development Department covering local business news including openings, closings, expansions, leases signed, and other information of interest to College Park businesses.

## New Business Openings

Fishnet	Berwyn	5010 Berwyn Rd
Phở Thom	Downtown	7313 Baltimore Ave
The Tech Spot	Downtown	7319 Baltimore Ave
Austin Grill Express	Lower Midtown	8150 Baltimore Ave
Shanghai Tokyo Café	Lower Midtown	8300 Baltimore Ave
Mario's Warehouse Furniture	Upper Midtown	9300 Baltimore Ave

## Business Closings

Ollie's Grill	Downtown	7313 Baltimore Ave
Wynn Studio	Downtown	7313 Baltimore Ave
California Tortilla	Downtown	7419 Baltimore Ave
Halloween Central	Upper Midtown	9300 Baltimore Ave

## Coming Soon

Big Play Sports Grill	Downtown	7313 Baltimore Ave	Early 2012
District Dumplings	Downtown	7313 Baltimore Ave	Opening Soon
Hookah Café	Downtown	4433 Lehigh Rd	Opening Soon
Johnny's Carry Out	Hollywood	9823 Baltimore Ave	Opening Soon
Phở D'Lite	Lower Midtown	8147 Baltimore Ave	Early 2012
ChiDoGo's	Lower Midtown	8150 Baltimore Ave	Opening Soon
Roti	Lower Midtown	8150 Baltimore Ave	Lease Signed
The Frame Mender	Lower Midtown	8150 Baltimore Ave	Opening Soon
YoLove Frozen Yogurt	Lower Midtown	8150 Baltimore Ave	Opening Soon
Sweetgreen	Lower Midtown	8300 Baltimore Ave	Spring 2012
Nawaabsaab Kabobs	Lower Midtown	8900 Baltimore Ave	February 2012
Teppanyaki Grill & Buffet	Lower Midtown	9031 Baltimore Ave	Early 2012
Auntie Anne's Pretzels	Univ. of Maryland	Stamp Food Court	January 2012
Fox's Pizza Den	Upper Midtown	9204 Baltimore Ave	Late December
Chipotle	Uptown	10260 Baltimore Ave	Early 2012

### **New Business Spotlight**

- *Fishnet* – Operated by the former general manager of Corduroy, a top restaurant in Washington, DC, Fishnet opened in November and focuses exclusively on fresh seafood offerings, including soups, sandwiches, and fish tacos. The restaurant is receiving positive reviews from food critics including the Washingtonian’s Todd Kliman, who has added Fishnet to his weekly list of “Where I’m Eating Now.” Fishnet is a casual, counter-service restaurant that is located in the former Berwyn Café space.
- *Phở Thom* – Recently opened in Downtown College Park, Phở Thom offers Vietnamese and Thai cuisine with table service or take-out available. The restaurant specializes in Phở, a Vietnamese noodle soup, and a wide variety of traditional Thai dishes for under \$10.
- *Shanghai Tokyo Café* – Joining its other location in Columbia, Shanghai Tokyo Café recently opened and offers a diverse menu of Chinese, Japanese, and Thai choices. The restaurant is located in the University View II building and provides counter-service and take out options.

### **Business Renovations/ Expansions/Etc.**

- The Campus Village Shopping Center has completed renovations, with several tenants recently installing new storefront signs.
- Naked Pizza no longer anticipates opening a location at 7413 Baltimore Avenue, as they will instead try to sublease the space to a new tenant.

### **2011 Holiday Shopping Guide**

According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, there were nearly 28 million small businesses in the United States last year. Over the past two decades, they created 65 percent of net new jobs. Their importance to local communities extends even further. For every \$100 spent in locally-owned, independent stores, \$68 returns to the community through taxes, payroll and other expenditures.

In order to promote our own small businesses, the City of College Park created a [2011 Holiday Shopping Guide](#) that provides a list of several independent businesses offering great gifts. As the holiday season approaches please consider these local businesses, along with the other unique retailers in College Park, as part of your shopping plans

### **Available Commercial Property Information**

The City of College Park publishes information on commercial properties that are available to buy, lease, or assemble as part of a larger development. The information is available on the City’s economic development website and is updated bi-monthly. If you would like your property to be included on the list please contact the economic development department.

### **College Park Farmers Market**

The City’s two farmers markets have closed for the year, but will return to their respective locations in the spring. At the City Council Worksession on January 17<sup>th</sup>, the first-year experience of the College Park City Hall Farmers Market will be a topic for discussion as the City looks at ways to improve the downtown market.

### **College Park Neighborhood Business Alliance News**

Formed in an effort to bring local independent businesses together, CPNBA aims to promote College Park businesses and maintain a strong, local economy. CPNBA formally incorporated as a non-profit organization in the state of Maryland and joined the American Independent Business Alliance, which helps communities successfully operate local alliances and “buy local” campaigns. CPNBA has hosted free networking and educational events in November and December, while the group plans on holding their next event in February. For more information please visit their [website](#).

### **College Park Community Library**

Started by a handful of volunteers, the College Park Community Library expects to open by late January in one of the basement rooms at the College Park Church of the Nazarene, which is located at 9704 Rhode Island Avenue in Hollywood. At this point, the library has collected over 1,000 books and continues to expand through donations. If anyone is interested in volunteering to help the library prepare for its opening, to run the library during operating hours, or to simply donate books please contact Joe Smith at 301-910-2433 or [cpcomlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:cpcomlibrary@gmail.com). More information regarding the library can be found on their blog: <http://www.ncpinformant.com/>

### **College Park Business Incentive Signage Grant Program**

The City of College Park operates a business signage grant program which assists businesses in installing new signs. The city offered up to \$2,500 in dollar for dollar matching grants to city businesses for design, production, and installation of storefront signs. The funds for Fiscal Year 2012 have been exhausted with grants provided to The Barking Dog, Pizza Autentica, Adidas 3 Stripe, Cluckster's, College Park Liquors, Pizza Boli's, Pandora's Cube, DP Dough, Hanami Japanese Restaurant, and Fishnet. The program is expected to receive additional funding for Fiscal Year 2013, which begins in July 2012.

### **Shop College Park Website**

The City run website <http://shopcollegepark.org> is being updated to include special offers and coupons from local businesses. The website is hosted through a cooperative effort between the City of College Park Department of Planning, Community and Economic Development and local merchants in an effort to market all that College Park has to offer. The special offers will be promoted by both [shopcollegepark.org](http://shopcollegepark.org) and [cpnba.org](http://cpnba.org) to help promote College Park's great independent businesses.

### **Pay Stations in College Park Shopping Center**

The parking meters in the College Park Shopping Center have all been replaced by electronic pay stations. The meters have been removed and every parking space numbered. Shoppers will now pay for parking at one of five pay stations located throughout the lot. The cost of parking remains the same, 25 cents per 20 minutes with a 2 hour maximum.

If you have questions about the Business Beat, news to contribute, or want to be removed from the mailing list, please contact: Michael Stiefvater, Economic Development Coordinator. (240)487-3543  
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