The 8th Annual Taste of Atlanta is coming to Technology Square October 10 & 11. Even though Taste has been nearby at Atlantic Station, this year will be the first time at Technology Square. “When the people from Taste of Atlanta approached us about having it at Technology Square, I was excited because I knew that it would be a great opportunity for the campus community,” said Lara Sexton, retail manager, Student Center. With restaurants like ONE Midtown Kitchen, TAP, and PARISH, people who attend Taste of Atlanta will get to enjoy five-star restaurants that many have never visited. There will be more than 70 different restaurants from all over the metro Atlanta area and a wide range of different flavors to enjoy. Because Atlanta is such a diverse city with so many cultures, Taste of Atlanta creates a unique blend of activities and restaurants with a great atmosphere for everyone. “Our vision of Taste of Atlanta continues to evolve,” said Dale DeSena, founder, Taste of Atlanta. “We are making the move to Spring Street to embrace the grand plan of a true cosmopolitan street festival. Technology Square will provide an ideal landscape for us to offer patrons unique new festival memories along with innovative additions, enhancements and the ability to grow the festival even more.”

There will be a multitude of activities including lessons on sustainable eating, interactive kids’ activities, expert culinary advice as well as a full schedule of live entertainment. There will also be beer and wine tastings and chef demonstrations. “Having Taste of Atlanta in Technology Square is an amazing opportunity for Georgia Tech students especially for those students who do not have cars and haven’t been to these restaurants. It is a great cultural opportunity as well as an opportunity to see what Atlanta has to offer just a short walk away,” Sexton said. For more information including ticket sales and a list of restaurants, visit TasteofAtlanta.net Taste is also on Twitter (http://twitter.com/tasteofatlanta) and Facebook http://www.facebook.com/pages/Taste-of-Atlanta/74992360448

Get $110 in BuzzCard “Welcome Home” promo

by Andrea Preininger

Calculate how much you plan to spend during fall semester for daily lunches and holiday gifts from the bookstore and you may want to participate in the BuzzCard Welcome Home promotion. The Welcome Home promotion gives $110 in added bonus items when people make a single $500 BuzzCard deposit on their BuzzCards by Friday, Aug. 21.

The bonus items are:
- $20 bonus BuzzCard deposit
- $25 bonus Einstein Bros. Bagels deposit (good through 12/11/09)
- 20% off Georgia Tech spirit items with the purchase of $300 in textbooks at Barnes & Noble @ Georgia Tech (good through 10/15/2009)
- $35 coupon for initial dental examination at Stamps Health Services (students only, expires 12/11/2009) - One free BuzzCard replacement ($30 value, expires 5/7/2010).

Deposits may be made in person at the BuzzCard Center or online, www.BuzzCard.gatech.edu, Manage Your Account. Looking to save more money? Sign up for Buzz Dining Rewards at www.BuzzDiningRewards.com; then, every time you use your BuzzCard to purchase food at any of the 20-plus GT Dining campus locations, you will receive a five percent dining reward to be used later at any GT Dining location. Deposits are made to Buzz Dining Rewards accounts by the 10th of the following month.

Options Classes Registration

Want to learn to Tango, draw still life images, create pottery, speak Korean, French, or Arabic or learn to sail? All of these courses and more are offered through the Student Center Options Classes. Registration is Tuesday, Aug. 18, through Friday, Sept. 18, online at the BuzzCard eMarketplace, www.BuzzCard.gatech.edu. Check out some of the Options classes at the Options Sampler, Tuesday-Thursday, Aug. 18-21, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., along Skiles Walkway.

For a complete list of classes, visit www.fun.gatech.edu/Options or pick up a copy of the Student Center Fall Guide in the Student Center.
Welcome to Georgia Tech Auxiliary Services!

Renovations/Upgrades

Typically, Auxiliary Services works during summer semester when fewer students are on campus to clean, renovate and upgrade its facilities, services and programs.

The same can be said for the summer of 2009. Much of this summer’s renovations were aimed toward parking structures. 

Campus visitors may have seen our construction upgrades in the Student Center Deck, Curran Street Deck and North Campus Deck.

We are making more changes and upgrades during fall semester.

People who like Dunkin Donuts’ coffee, pastries, donut holes and all the other Dunkin Donuts’ food will be happy to visit the Student Center Food Court -- a Dunkin Donuts location is being constructed now, scheduled to open fall semester.

Technology Square is also opening a new restaurant spring semester. People who like their hashbrowns smothered, covered and chunked with their waffles will be excited to see a Waffle House with all the same type menu items and 24/7 service one would find in other Waffle House restaurants.

Some of the restaurant decor will be unique to Georgia Tech. Look for gold and white Georgia Tech seating.

24 Hours Jazzman’s Cafe (Library)

Beginning Tuesday, Sept. 8, Jazzman’s Cafe in the Library will be open 24 hours from Sundays at 4 p.m. until closing on Fridays at 3 p.m. The only day there will not be service is Saturday.

Stamps Health Services

Stamps Health Services keeps its web site updated with appropriate links and announcements concerning the H1N1 flu. Read www.health.gatech.edu.

In the meantime, remember to wash your hands frequently and cover your coughs in the curve of your arm (elbow).

For more news and information about Auxiliary Services programs, services and facilities, read www.importantstuff.gatech.edu.

See you on campus!

Everyone is getting ready for football games by making sure their BuzzCards are working properly, including the Chick-fil-A cow.
GT Dining enhances conservation programs

by Andrea Preininger

GT Dining is working to make Brittain and Woodruff dining halls zero waste dining facilities. If GT Dining accomplishes its goal of being zero waste, it will be one of the first zero waste dining facilities in the State of Georgia which includes more than 100 higher education institutions.

On June 1, Brittain Dining Hall began implementing the new zero waste process which includes 35-gallon residential style containers to discard its organic waste materials. Food waste is put in these containers and collected by a company called GreenCo, a professional food composting service. It is then taken away and turned into “nutrient-rich soil amendment.”

Georgia Tech Facilities “will reuse the amendment as a landscaping soil conditioner on our campus,” said Maria Linderoth, program coordinator, Office of Solid Waste Management & Recycling.

Becoming a zero waste dining service is another sustainable program GT Dining has embraced much like its trayless, water conservation program.

“We are so excited to not only be a zero waste facility, but to be one of the first in the State of Georgia using cutting edge environmental technologies,” said Dori Martin, marketing director, GT Dining.

In addition to the composting containers, the elimination of Styrofoam in the dining halls will reduce waste and help the environment. Styrofoam cups cannot be decomposed and they accumulate in landfills.

GT Dining is eliminating these from its dining halls as part of the zero waste initiative and will provide washable, reusable cups instead of Styrofoam.

GT Dining is also working to use less energy with the goal of decreasing its carbon footprint by 26 percent.

GT Dining is also educating its employees and concentrating on things like turning off ovens and stoves when not in use, changing filters more often, replacing old equipment and researching practices now in place and how they can be improved from an energy standpoint.

“Reducing our carbon footprint is important to GT Dining and people will continue to see more environmentally friendly programs as part of our services,” Martin said.

The first 50 people to e-mail melissa.moore@gatech.edu the answer to this calculation win a 2010 Auxiliary Services T-shirt, add the number of Taste of Atlanta restaurants with the value of a BuzzCard replacement and the student discount for eye examinations at College Optical Express. Good luck!

Students, faculty, staff all welcome at College Optical

by Andrea Preininger

College Optical Express is the place to go on campus for optical needs. With three licensed optometrists at College Optical Express, people have time to have their questions answered and spend one-on-one time with individual doctors.

“We really strive to meet the needs of students, faculty, staff and alumni and make sure they are happy,” said Dr. Acker, optometrist, College Optical Express.

Some of the services offered include eye examinations, contact lens orders and education on how to properly care for eyes.

College Optical Express works toward fun experiences for students too and lets students use their computers while they wait for service.

College Optical Express offers frequent specials, including a continual offer that gives a free frame with every pair of lenses ordered. Other offers include: (1) buy four or more boxes of contact lenses and get a rebate from $30-$100, and (2) students receive 15 percent automatically off contact lens orders just for being a student and $25 off eye examinations.

With less than 20 universities that offer optical services around the nation, Georgia Tech students have a great asset and convenience with College Optical Express conveniently located on campus.

From now until September 30, College Optical Express is offering 50 percent off polarized sunglasses and a $100 rebate when eight boxes (a year’s worth) of Acuvue Oasys contact lenses are purchased.

“I encourage students to get their vision screened once a year, to not overextend the wear of their contacts, and to not wait to get their eyes checked,” Dr. Acker said.

“These are some of the major issues I see with students, and when there are such great resources available right here on campus, students should take advantage of them!”

MARTA increase Oct. 1

Effective Oct. 1, MARTA will increase its fares. Those people purchasing monthly MARTA passes at the Student Center Box Office need to plan for the increase.

Georgia Tech subsidizes MARTA passes $10 each, making the new rates $35.50 for Georgia Tech students (up from $30) and $46.50 for faculty/staff (up from $39.50).
New Pilot Evening Transportation Service begins

Georgia Tech Parking & Transportation is temporarily adding a pilot transit program for off-campus transportation to two areas where Georgia Tech students live, Home Park and Centennial Place Apartments.

Home Park/Centennial Ride Home Service
Elements of the new pilot program, Home Park/Centennial Ride Home Service, are:
- Students may use this evening service for travel from campus to the Home Park and Centennial Place neighborhoods 6 p.m. to 6:30 a.m.
- A 10-Ride Punch Card is required. Punch cards will be sold for $40.
- One punch for each ride.
- Cards may be purchased M-F in the Parking & Transportation Office between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Restrictions for the Home Park/Centennial Ride Home Service include:
- For this pilot, only the Home Park and Centennial Place neighborhoods will be served.
- Off-campus rides will be provided from campus to Home Park or Centennial Place.
- No rides will be provided from these neighborhoods back to campus nor will it provide rides solely within the neighborhoods. If needed, the Parking & Transportation Office will assist by calling a taxi service for rides not covered by the Home Park/Centennial Ride Home Service. The taxi fare must be paid by the user.

The success of the program will be evaluated during fall semester based on the demand levels for the extra service and the impact of the program on the existing on-campus Stingerette service.

Stingerette Escort Service
Parking & Transportation will continue its on-campus Stingerette Escort Service from 6 p.m. to 6:30 a.m., Monday through Sunday during regular campus operation days for those people needing safe transportation on campus.

Taxi Service
By calling 5-RIDE (404-385-7433) patrons will be assisted in facilitating a taxi cab ride to and from off-campus destinations. General user fees are $2.50 initially, $2/mile, and an additional $2 per person for more than one person, plus gratuity.

Evening and Weekend Parking Permits
Parking & Transportation sells Evening and Weekend Parking Permits. These permits are:
- $185 per year ($15.42 per month), or $100 for the Fall 2009 semester.
- Allows permit holders to park in non-residential, un-gated lots between 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. Monday through Thursday and from 5 p.m. Friday to 8 a.m. Monday:
  - If Stingerette Escort Service is required while using an Evening and/or Weekend Parking Permit, please park in one of the preferred designated lots, Peters Parking Deck (E52), or the surface lot behind GT Police (W25).

Technology and Stingerette Escort Service
The Tech Trolley serves areas beginning at the Trolley stop across from the Campus Recreation Center (CRC) and travels to Technology Square and the Midtown MARTA Station. The Stingers (buses) travel the campus interior.

Evening Hours:
- The Tech Trolley operates until 11:15 p.m. with the last trip departing the CRC turnaround at 11 p.m.
- Stinger Red Route operates until 12:30 a.m. with the last trip departing North Avenue Apartments, 12:10 a.m.
- Stinger Blue Route operates until 12:15 a.m., the last trip departing Fitten Hall, 11:54 p.m.
- Stinger Green Route (Night) operates until 9 p.m. with the last trip departing Tech Parkway, 8:40 p.m.

Parking Office Hours
All permits must be purchased at the Parking Office, 828 West Peachtree Street, N. W. (across from Barnes & Noble @ Georgia Tech). Extended hours, Aug. 17-19, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

How To Save Money on Textbooks

How To Save Money on Textbooks

by Andrea Preininger

With many ways to get books for class, the best option is Barnes & Noble @ Georgia Tech.

Barnes & Noble @ Georgia Tech offers savings on used textbooks and has the books that professors order in advance for students.

The top five reasons to choose Barnes & Noble @ Georgia Tech according to Jade Roth, vice president of books, Barnes & Noble College Bookstores are:
1. Barnes & Noble @ Georgia Tech has many books for Georgia Tech courses.
2. Every student has access to the books.
3. There is a large selection of used books.
4. Digital textbooks are offered with increased savings.
5. Students who sell their textbooks back to the bookstore during Buy Back receive up to 50 percent return on the original textbook price.

Keeping up with the times, Barnes & Noble @ Georgia Tech uses many new and different ways to get information to students. Cell phone text messages, Facebook fan pages, an interactive website, and print (flyers, campus newspapers, etc.) are some of the ways in which it connects to students.

“We really strive to meet the needs of the students and faculty,” Roth said. “That is our primary goal and we have done a lot to achieve our goal.”

Barnes & Noble has conducted national focus groups with faculty and students, finding out what they want from a bookstore and continues to create ways to help students and faculty find the resources they need in the most efficient way possible.

Faculty have a Faculty Center Network that allows them to see a list of books other universities are using for the same course, a list of books that have been used for that particular class at that university over the past two years and ranking of textbooks.

“We listen and respond to anything we hear students say,” Roth said.

“We are constantly evolving and we are always looking for the best way to help students with their textbooks.”

Not only do students have the convenience of Barnes & Noble @ Georgia Tech right on campus, but they also have the convenience of ordering books from Barnes & Noble @ Georgia Tech online.

When books are ordered online, there are two shipping options, to the bookstore or to the student’s residence. People who don't want to travel with their books can pick them up at the bookstore or students who want to get a head start can start reading them at home.

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