Residents of Montclair Still Concerned with Sewage Lines for New Dorms

Diana Headl
Scott Warren

Concerns about an update to the town of Montclair’s sewage lines, which are to be funded by Montclair State University, were discussed at a three hour town meeting with about 60 people on April 28 in the Bellevue Library.

The Township Council unanimously voted on March 31 to let the university connect the 2,000 bed campus dormitory to the municipal sewage and water lines. The university will invest $2.4 million, for improvements to a portion of Montclair’s sanitary sewer system.

The main concern of Montclair residents is the impact this new dormitory will have on the town’s system. It will add about 2,000 people to the population.

One attendant expressed worry about the behavior of college-aged students that is already affecting the town and its afterschool. “It is an organization which I, personally, have never trusted,” said one older citizen.

Another chief complaint was not having a say in the matter of residents, though they will be directly affected.

About 15 citizens spoke of the lack of communication and information received about the plan to upgrade the sewage lines. Gary Ossen, director of Montclair Sewer Util., agreed with the citizens.

“We don’t have enough beds for students who want to come to Montclair State.”

Paula McKelvy
University Spokesperson

Rent Books Next Semester for Half Price

Nicole Simonetti
News Editor

Starting Fall semester of 2010, students will be able to rent books as opposed to purchasing them through a program called Rent-A-Text. Montclair State University has become money conscious for the sake of its students.

The ability to rent books will save students half of their money, because the books will be rented out at approximately 50 percent of the retail value.

Follett, the company that provides MSU with books and is in charge of Rent-A-Text, conducted a trial run with seven other institutions and deemed it successful.

As soon as MSU was aware of the success, they jumped on the bandwagon, according to Richard Amerman of the University Bookstore.

Thomas A. Christopher, president of Follett Higher Education Group, stated in a press release: “Helping to reduce the costs of higher education is part of our mission, and we look forward to working with Montclair State.”

Nicole Simonetti | The Montclarion

Rent Books Continued on Page 3

Blanton Workers Being ‘Over Worked’

Kelli Jones
Sports Editor

“Last year when I lived in Clove Road, we had mold problems and a pipe burst. It took months to get fixed,” Sarah Grudzky, a former Clove Road resident said.

Most residents on campus have a story like this. They seem in a work order and waited months to get any response to fixing the problem.

“Some of the problems are serious and require attention, but they still make us wait,” Grudzky said.

Dr. Susan A. Cole, university president, said in an e-mail, “Since the first day of the University’s existence, we have always needed more than we have, but the miracle is that we have managed to do extraordinary things with what we have.”

That has been possible because the majority of people who work in every capacity on this campus are committed to doing their best in support of our mission, and it has been possible because the students have been prepared to work hard to make the most of the opportunity they have here.”

Regardless, students aren’t happy with the situation that has been going on the past few years. Allison Andresini, a Village resident, said, “It’s ridiculous that we have to pay this long for things to get fixed.”

“We pay good money to go here, and we want to live in nice places,” Andresini said.

According to Cole, “It is...
Stephanie Lobasso was charged with possession of CDS marijuana while in Freeman Hall.

Mikko Serrano, Andrew Dizon, Jonathan Seril and Johnpaul Managa were charged with possession of CDS marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia and being under the influence of CDS marijuana while in Bohn Hall. John Ramos was charged with distribution of CDS marijuana, possession of CDS marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia and being under the influence of CDS marijuana while in Bohn Hall.

Brittany Graham was charged with possession of CDS marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia and criminal mischief while in Fenwick Hall.

Steven Ginn was charged with possession of CDS marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia while in Freeman Hall.

A student reported the theft of his wallet and its contents left unsecured in the Recreation Center.

Jonathan Reinhart was charged with criminal mischief while in the Recreation Center.

A student reported being threatened by a known suspect while in Blanton Hall. The victim refused to file criminal charges.

Steven Ginn was charged with possession of CDS marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia while in Freeman Hall.

Anyone who has information regarding these incidents is urged to call the police station from any campus phone at T-I-P-S (8477). All calls are strictly confidential.
State University to deliver substantial textbook savings to students.”

According to a press release, through the pilot program, Follett learned that Rent-A-Text saved students nearly $2 million. When the students of the pilot programs were surveyed, 90 percent of them were more than satisfied with the program.

Ammerman stated in a press release, “We are eager to launch Rent-A-Text, because we are committed to providing students with affordable textbook choices.”

“We are eager to launch Rent-A-Text, because we are committed to providing students with affordable textbook choices.”

Paula Maliandi
University Spokeswoman

Students will be able to rent the book for a semester, and it must be returned on time.

If the book is not returned, students will be charged retail price for the book plus an additional fee which is 7.5 percent.

“If professors have two books to choose from, they have the ability to check and see if the book can be rented. Professors that feel for their students and understand that books are expensive may choose the rentable book,” said Ammerman.

There is a national list of books that can and cannot be rented. Books have to fulfill specific criteria to make it onto the national list. This includes the amount of customers using the book, what type of book it is and the book’s expected life span.

Some reasons that texts may not be part of the rental list is because the book may come in a package with other items that are not available separately, the materials may not be durable enough to use more than once or if the editions have come to an end.

“I think it’s a great program. There’s a lot of buzz about it,” said Ammerman.

Another perk from Rent-A-Text is that it allows students to get a feel for the book and learn from it throughout the semester. If they feel it will be helpful in the future, they can purchase it.

Also, students will be able to highlight and take notes on the page as well. The process will be virtually the same as buying books.

Students can order what books they need ahead of time online and go into the bookstore to pick them up. They can also get the book in person at the bookstore.

In order to rent books, students must be 18 years of age and have a credit card. The credit card is needed on file in the event that the book is not returned or is returned late.

Currently, in celebration of Rent-A-Text, Follett will be running a contest to win $10,000. The money can be used towards room and board. They are also running a raffle for $100 gift certificates for campus bookstores.

Students can register to rent books either on the internet or in person at the university bookstore. Ammerman advises to register online, because it will be faster than in-store registration.

Ammerman believes that lines at the store will be slow, but it should not create a problem.
MSU Puppy Raisers Gain Charterment with Hopes to Help the Visually Impaired

Katjaeb Bick | The Montclarion

The Student Government Association chartered MSU Puppy Raisers as a Class IV organization.

With the support of MSU’s administration and a national organization called The Seeing Eye, MSU Puppy Raisers intend on educating the campus.

They want to teach the community about service dogs, and ultimately, raise puppies on campus in order to assist those who are visually impaired.

This program has been launched successfully at Rutgers University, Rowan University and The University of Delaware.

After discovering the organization at Rutgers University’s Special Friends Day, president of the MSU organization, Lauren Piper, immediately became interested.

She explained, “The whole purpose of this program is helping the visually impaired.”

If all goes as planned, eventually MSU Puppy Raisers will raise puppies, starting at ages seven to eight-weeks-old, on campus with specific guidelines and training steps.

The puppies will stay within the organization for 12 to 14 months, or what Piper described as “that puppy stage” until they mellow out and you give them back to the company.

The puppies must, then, go through a physical and psychological exam through The Seeing Eye.

The organization plans on taking steps in regards to where the puppies would be trained after working closely with the university administration and through affiliation with The Seeing Eye due to existing rules and regulations.

Knowing that their organization requires extensive planning in regards to who will look after the puppies for periods of time has not deterred the MSU Puppy Raisers at all.

The Seeing Eye has local chapters in all states and throughout the world.

Knowing that their organization requires executive board of five members and 42 interested members who signed the charter packet.

Acknowledging that people often-times sign things and don’t follow through, Piper said, “I know a lot of the people who signed for us. I had people coming up to me at work like, ‘Hey, I heard about the puppy club, how do I help?’

It looks like the campus community has already taken to these puppy lovers.

Look out for Golden Retrievers, Retriever/Lab Mixture, Labs, German Shepherds and hypo-allergenic Boxers.

Smiling enthusiastically McKenna said, “This is new and fresh. The big thing is that it’s not directed to just one group of people, and it’s for anybody.”

Homer and Piper will help the visually impaired function in their everyday lives.
Summer Sessions at Montclair State University

View our summer course schedule online today. Registration opens April 5.

Summer Sessions at Montclair State can keep you on track to graduation or help accelerate your degree program. With undergraduate and graduate courses available, your goals are within your reach. Sessions range from 3 to 12 weeks long and meet on campus or online—giving you a variety of scheduling options to earn up to 15 credits. Plus our convenient, accessible location makes it easy to earn credits en route to graduation and still enjoy your summer.

Visit us at www.montclair.edu/summer or contact us via e-mail at summer@montclair.edu.

No Classes May 31 and July 5 • No Friday Classes

- 1st Three-Week Session: May 17-June 5
- 1st Six-Week Session: May 17-July 5
- 2nd Four-Week Session: June 21-July 5
- 2nd Six-Week Session: June 21-Aug 5
- 3rd Four-Week Session: July 12-Aug 5
- August Three-Week Session: Aug 9-26

1 Normal Avenue • Montclair, NJ 07043 • 973-655-4352 • montclair.edu/summer
neighbors.” Director of Montclair Sewer Utility Gary Obszarny "The university understands that sewage One woman’s concern was pest Street would “disrupt everyone’s anticipated problems with traffic flow being delayed for commuters and upkeep; costs incurred due to construction dust and debris; repair for homeowner believe due to sediment buildup; costs incurred due to disruption of essential services and repair and installation of storm sewer ceramic pipes. Obszarny assured the citizens that all of the costs and responsibility will be shared by Montclair State University, saying that they should schedule an appointment with the Department of Public Works to ensure the clean up of the school’s debris, which should remain on their own property. He also mentioned a flush in areas that may have buildup during construction. A permit has been applied for to protect the greenery through Environmental Protection.

One of the citizens mentioned an "The university understands that they have not been good neighbors." Gary Obszarny Director of Maintenance (Date Unclear)

participated problems with traffic flow being delayed for commuters and their school-aged children, stating that a detour to Route 3 from Grove Street would “interrupt everyone’s lives.” One woman’s concern was pest control from a previous experience with sewer construction, “The rats and mice came out and ate the bottom of my car.” Obszarny explained that this usually occurs when a storm sewer is being worked on and that these are main lines. He also said, “During the initial set up, there might be smell.” Obszarny said that all of the streets and curbs will be repaved as a result of this, and that the town should see it as a positive change. The 100 year old sewage lines will be replaced with wider lines that will be used by the town of Montclair also. Construction will not inconvenience the usage of water in private homes for more than a day-long break. Obszarny said these new lines will last a century more, and they’re really a benefit to the town without the direct funding. In light of these events, Mayor Jerry Fried mentioned the creation of the "Tir-Town Ward." It’s made up of the mayors and two council members of each town from Little Falls, Clifton and Montclair which are directly affected by the university. Fried said that they are currently drafting a mission statement which would bring coordination between the towns and the university. “We feel like the amount of people they have right now is fine […] more people would be an issue that really goes beyond [this issue],” said Fried. "This project may not even happen.” Most of the school’s students commute, and the university has always looked to build more dorm space on campus. Two hundred students live off-campus in La Quinta hotel on Route 3. The new dorms are planned to be built in Lot 24 A, a parking lot behind the Recreation Center and Lot 22, a parking lot north of it. "We don’t have enough beds for students who want to come to Montclair State and have a full college experience,” said university spokeswoman Paula Malandi in a recent interview with The Montclarion. “We’ll be able to reach out to students who might not consider coming here, because they live too far away. Now, it’s less likely they’ll get turned down for housing.”

"We’ll be able to reach out to students who might not consider coming here, because they live too far away.”

Paola Malandi University Spokesperson

Some events he would like to incorporate for next year include a “Movie in” day concert and JazzyComedy in Café Diem as well as a continuation of Montclairfest, Spring Bash and Winter Ball.
the audience cutting a student’s foot. “We think people know we are here,” Senator One said. “I don’t think it will be a big shock to everyone.”

The fraternity is trying to clear their name as the organization that was once portrayed in news organizations as the “Animal House” of MSU. “There’s a lot of reformation going on just trying to get rid of the stigma that goes along with the name of Senate,” Senator One said.

This past year, each member participated in 100 hours of community service, have donated toys to a boys orphanage in Totowa, and have participated in dozens of other charity events.

Senator Two explained how they also had two professors speak to the fraternity. “One professor came to talk about the healthcare reform and how it is going to affect us,” he said. “It was a four-hour discussion that was held in a secret location.”

There was also another occasion where a professor talked about history and ancient civilization. “[Most professors are unaware of the situation, they don't know about Senate],” Senator Two said. “They usually ask why are you doing this as a student, and we tell them its just for simple conversation.”

All of MSU’s Greek organizations are currently working on changing how they have been portrayed in the media over the last few years. The Greek organization, the senators, is currently working on changing its name to reflect how it has changed in the last few years. Senator Two has been an active member of the Senate for over 40 years, and he is hoping to see the Senate come back.

“I always think, Senate has been the best at what it does,” Senator One said regarding the change of the fraternity’s name. “During the 40’s and 50’s, we were like a gentleman’s club and at times bigger than the Student Government.”

At MSU, Greek life and the culture began to change in the 70’s, the focus was on Greeks to party the hard way and who can throw the wildest events and that’s what they excelled at.”

Senator Two is currently working on opening up a line of communication with the administration and the faculty and staff at MSU. “We are also hoping to find a faculty member to be their adviser to help guide them and start the process of opening up the discussion,” he said. “We want to open up the discussion and find out if there still is even a place for us here.”

Senator Three added, “Dr. Pennington said she would be willing to look at what the fraternity has to offer when they decide to approach the administration about it.”

Senator Three said. “We spend a lot of time feeling them out and seeing if they are the right type of person before we make our decisions. Once we become close enough friends, we explain our situation and see how they feel. Very few people are active members.”

Senate’s history was once something that the university and members could be proud of. “Over 70 years ago, several members used to be involved with the Student Government, which is were they got their name. Also, Senate alumni have campus buildings named in their honor.”

“We think people know we are here,” Senator Three said. “I don’t think it will be a big shock to everyone.”

Camacho also said, “Sometimes [job] just don’t get done, and it doesn’t just affect us, it affects the students too.”

Montclair State’s campus is not the only thing that is expanding. Cole said that the facilities staff is as well. “For example, when we opened University Hall, we hired 17 additional facilities staff to provide housekeeping and maintenance for the building.”

Cole also said, “But in the end, we never have as much of anything as we would wish to have.”

Cole is also planning on hiring nine new staff members when Senate Hall opens next September. A new dorm building will be built in the upcoming years, and they have arranged for an outside company, Capstone, to maintain it.

An MSU employee serves food to the students in Blanton’s dining hall for dinner.