



CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

City Manager Comments

Report for City Council Meeting of April 3, 2019

Information to Share

TKPK5K is Coming!

This year's TKPK5K will be held on Sunday, May 5. Registration is now open, and the early-bird special closes on April 1. Learn more about the annual event and register here:

<https://www.tkpk5k.com/>

iCan Shine Bike Camp

The City of Takoma Park Safe Routes to School, in conjunction with the Maryland State Highway Administration, is pleased to once again offer the iCan Shine bike program to Maryland residents free of charge. We look forward to helping 30 riders with disabilities learn to ride a two-wheeled bicycle independently. The program will run from June 24-28 and will take place at Takoma Academy.

More information can be found here: <https://takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/safe-routes-to-school/ican-shine-bike-camp/>. And you can register to participate or volunteer here: Follow this link to register: <https://icanshine.org/ican-bike-takoma-park-md/>.

Independence Day Festivities

The Takoma Park Independence Day Committee has been unsuccessful in finding a suitable alternative location for the evening fireworks display this year, which would need to be relocated due to construction activity at Takoma Park Middle School. The committee is now planning a musical celebration on Maple Avenue during the July 4th evening. While logistics still need to be worked out, the Committee envisions one or two stages for musicians along a closed section of Maple Avenue from Philadelphia Avenue to about Ritchie Avenue. The usual street vendors will be invited.

It is worth noting that some community members have asked the Committee to consider replacing the fireworks celebration in the future with another format for various reasons, including environmental impact, and/or harmful effects on children and animals. We believe that the proposed alternative this year will be a good opportunity to measure community reception of a non-fireworks program – and we hope to see a great turnout!

Light It Up Blue

In honor of Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month, the City of Takoma Park Recreation Department, Montgomery Parks and the City of Rockville Recreation and Parks, have collaborated to host "Light it Up Blue," an all-inclusive event to increase the understanding and acceptance of autism. The family-friendly event will take place Saturday, April 6, from 5–8 p.m. at the Agricultural History Farm Park in Derwood, Md. Javonte McDonald, our Youth Success Coordinator, served on the planning committee will be coordinating a variety of hands-on activities. The cost of attendance is \$8 per person, ages 5 and up. Participants can register on-site the day of the event (cash only). For more information or to register, visit montgomeryparks.org

Summer Youth Employment Program

The City of Takoma Park is pleased to announce the return of the City's Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). Since 2014, The Summer Youth Employment Program has

provided hands-on work opportunities for our youth. Young people ages 16-21 receive a unique opportunity to explore their interests and discover new ones through the work program. For eight weeks (June 24th to August 17th) participants are placed in jobs around the community and paid through the program. The Recreation Department provides on-site training, resume-building and workshops in an effort to better prepare our youth to find jobs outside of school.

Over 40 parents and teens attended the Interest Meeting last Friday, March 29. Leicia Monfort, along with the support of Javonte McDonald, provided an overview of what is to be expected. The next steps will be the selection process, followed by professional development classes. The Summer Youth Employment Program provides young people with a summer-long adventure that is more than just a job, but a true learning experience.

Kudos

Kudos to officers and detectives in the Takoma Park Police Department for a series of arrests made over the past few days for:

- attempted theft from auto on Hodges Lane;
- multiple thefts from autos on Carroll Avenue;
- a commercial armed robbery of Silver Spring Jewelry on University Boulevard immediately followed by an armed carjacking; and
- for their assistance to the Montgomery County Police Department in apprehending suspects in a robbery and attempted carjacking who fled on foot into Takoma Park.

Congratulation and thank you to all of the officers and detectives for their outstanding teamwork!

Hiring Update

We are currently advertising and/or interviewing for a number of positions including Custodial Crew Leader, Recreation Program Leader, Contract CDL Driver, Public Works Intern for Special Projects, Communications Officer (Police Dispatcher), and Police Officer-Lateral.