

Report of March 31, 2021

COVID-19 Related Information

COVID-19 cases are increasing again in Takoma Park! This is no time to decline to be vaccinated if you are eligible for one, or to not wear a mask!

Vaccination appointments have been opening up faster than ever. Please work to get vaccinated as soon as you can! Refer to both the <u>Maryland Vaccine Website</u> and the <u>Montgomery County Vaccine Information</u> page to learn more and to pre-register if you are in a category that can do so. There are more mass vaccination sites opening up and there is an effort to also do other outreach to those who have more difficulty in getting to a mass vaccination site. If you are unsure what to do, call one of these phone numbers: State of Maryland: 1-855-MD-GOVAX, or Montgomery County: 240-777-2982.

COVID-19 testing in Takoma Park

Even though all of the attention is on vaccinations right now, it is still important to have regular COVID-19 testing. Without regular testing, we won't know if there are increases in COVID-19 cases or new variants in the area until people need to come to a doctor's office or hospital. Free, no appointment COVID-19 testing is being held on Saturdays at the Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue from 10 am to 5 pm. For this and other testing options, please see the information here: <u>Montgomery County Testing Sites.</u>

COVID-19 Dashboard

Each week, the City's COVID-19 Dashboard is updated. The most recent one is here: <u>COVID</u> <u>19 Dashboard.</u>

Eggstravaganza !

This Friday and Saturday, in place of the annual Egg Hunt, is a different way to have "eggcelent" fun: the Eggstravaganza! Thanks to many businesses in Takoma Park and our wonderful Recreation and Economic Development staff for coming up with this fun way for children and their families to find eggs around town! Friday, April 2 and Saturday, April 3, from 1-4 pm each day, visit a participating business, say the magic words (psst: it's "Hippity Hop!") and get an egg with a treat inside. Bring your basket! Then have a virtual party on Saturday at 6 pm, complete with magic show and bunny dance party! Check out the Eggstravaganza! web page for more information.

A very busy six weeks ahead!

From now until mid-May, the City Council and many key staff will be involved in Council work sessions and meetings on the next fiscal year budget, the Takoma Junction project, and several other efforts. There are also efforts to get the Montgomery County Council to approve increased municipal tax duplication payments. Information on these topics is or soon will be on the City's website so that residents can learn about them and share their thoughts.

A Personal Note

Thank you to those who have reached out with comforting messages regarding the illness and then passing of my brother.