



City of Takoma Park

City Manager Robert DiSpirito

Library:

- The Library wanted to share its FY24 Midpoint (Q1+Q2) Statistics
 - Youth and Family Programs
 - # of programs: 91
 - Program attendees: 2831
 - Highlights include: Winter Solstice Program, Meet the Author programs with Stephan Pastis, Tricia Elam Walker, and Emily Ettinger
 - Adult Programs
 - # of programs: 24
 - Program attendees: 326
 - Circulation
 - 21,804 physical items were circulated between July 1 - December 31
 - 2,277 digital items were accessed via Hoopla, Pronunciator and all subscription databases
- Additional highlights:
 - In October, Library Youth Services staff attended Rolling Terrace Elementary School's Hispanic Heritage Month Event and distributed 250 books in Spanish, English, or bilingual English/Spanish
 - Crochet and Cozies Program: This program meets Monday mornings at 1030am and has built an enthusiastic following. Many of their knitting and crochet projects are donated, including:
 - 54 hand crafted hats that went to Tommy's Pantry
 - 14 scarves to Shepherd's Table

Communications:

- Our Communication Department is rolling out an Employee Newsletter, with the release date of March 18th. It is a quarterly publication, and will be distributed primarily electronically with limited hardcopies for those without email access. Just some of the items included will be:
 - New Staff Introductions- to welcome new team members and provide their bios
 - Internal Committee Groups- highlighting committees and their roles while encouraging participation
 - HR Benefit Insights- this will provide a deeper dive into some of the lesser-known employee benefits and how to access them

We are pleased to offer this new item so that our staff can be informed on topics beyond their own departments!



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PW:

- Pothole Repairs Underway:
The City's on call contractor, NZI Construction, will be performing roadway repairs on several streets this week. The work areas include the following street sections:
 - Maple Ave between Old Philadelphia and Philadelphia Ave, Hodges Lane at Chestnut Ave, 7400 block of Buffalo & 7300 block of Willow Ave, (Ward 1)
 - Erie Ave at Flower Ave (Ward 5)
 - Hancock Ave at Grant Ave & the 200 block of Lincoln Ave near Jefferson Ave (Ward 4)
 - 1300 block of Holton Lane (Ward 6)

Additionally, repairs were completed by in-house staff in the 7500 block of Jackson Ave and 7000 block Aspen Ave (Ward 2) earlier this month.

Police:

- We have vacancies on the Police Chief's Advisory Board for Takoma Park residents and/or business owners in Takoma Park; two for individuals aged 16-21. The Board meets on the third Monday of each month at 7 pm. The meetings are hybrid- in-person and via Zoom. The Board is briefed on all activities of the Police Department, reviews department initiatives and policies, and brings issues and concerns to the Chief's attention. All applicants will be interviewed by a member of the Board and the Chief of Police. If interested, please submit a letter of interest and resume to Cathy Plevy at cathyp@takomaparkmd.gov or mail to Cathy Plevy, Police Public Information Manager, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912. For information about the Board and its current members, please visit www.takomaparkmd.gov/police under community policing.

City Manager:

- Employee Highlights:
 - Police Dept- I wanted to recognize the upcoming retirement of one of the City's longest serving police officers. Captain Richard Cipperly will be retiring this Friday, March 1st. Captain Cipperly has served the City for over 34 years. He started as a dispatcher with the City in 1987. After a brief stint as a police officer in Washington, DC, Captain Cipperly returned to the City as a police officer. Captain Cipperly worked in various positions and held various ranks during his career. These positions include; patrol officer, detective, field training officer, corporal, patrol sergeant, detective sergeant, lieutenant, patrol captain, support operations captain, internal affairs commander, and acting deputy chief.

Captain Cipperly is well respected amongst his peers in law enforcement. He has received numerous awards and recognitions during his career, both internally and from members of the public. The police department will be holding a last call/ walk out ceremony for Captain Cipperly this Friday, March 1st at 1130 in the police department lobby. We wish Captain Cipperly the absolute best as he transitions into the next chapter of his life.



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- The HCD Department would like to congratulate Devin McNally on his work managing the City's Housing Division. Devin and his staff have been hard at work improving the City's rental licensing process, improving resources for landlords and tenants, and developing innovative policies and programs to improve the quality of housing for Takoma Park residents. We thank Devin for all his hard work and constant commitment to Takoma Park!