

# Takoma Park

## NEWSLETTER

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. . ."  
Margaret Mead (1901-1978)

Published by the City of Takoma Park

www.takomaparkmd.gov

September 2006

## Walking the Talk on Pedestrian Safety

By Ilona Blanchard

In 2003 and again last fall, groups of community members walked some of the more heavily trafficked neighborhoods of our community to see what could be done to be able to walk more safely in Takoma Park. They discovered many locations have no sidewalks, no crosswalks, no signals to tell people when to cross. In others, people run across the road to avoid being squashed by a car. The general consensus: It's time to stop talking and start addressing the safety hazards associated with walking and to develop ways to encourage people to walk safely.

The results of these discussions is the Walkable Communities Report. The report highlights the findings of these walking workshops and the recommendations of both community members and nationally recognized pedestrian safety experts Bob Chauncy of the National Center for Bicycling and Walking and Dan Burden of Walkable Communities, Inc. The report addresses pedestrian safety concerns along Piney Branch Road near the Takoma Middle School, on Flower Avenue, in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads area, and in Takoma Junction. A summary of the findings of these efforts and the steps that are being taken to address identified concerns follows.

### Piney Branch Road

Piney Branch Road (MD 320) is a 30-mph State Highway with high pedestrian usage, linking commercial areas, public facilities, the Takoma Metro Station, and multiple schools including Takoma Park Middle School. While the street is mainly residential, traffic is heavy and people often travel above the speed limit. There is no sidewalk on the school side between Philadelphia Avenue (MD 410) and Grant Avenue. There are also cars turning quickly onto and from Piney Branch, and crosswalks without pedestrian signals or incorrect-

ly timed signals. The sidewalk near the elementary school, while adequate, is not shaded and the landscape buffer between it and the road is narrow.

The City and the State Highway Administration are working to make pedestrian safety improvements on and around Piney Branch Road. State Highway will add additional crosswalks and upgrade pedestrian signals at Philadelphia and Piney Branch, and they have been asked to add a no turn on red at Ray Road. The City intends to apply for funding for new sidewalk so children can walk to school without crossing so many streets.

### Takoma Junction

Takoma Junction, despite its ample sidewalks, is decidedly unfriendly to walkers. Wide street crossings and few crossing options create a moat between businesses on either side of the intersection. The four-phase traffic light cycle causes walkers to despair of ever catching a walk signal. Community members also note that car drivers are no happier. The light phasing has been reviewed by SHA, which determined that "the current timing is the most efficient possible given the intersection and congestion."

Workshop discussions revolved around how to make the Junction safer for shoppers, bicyclists, school children, and seniors without decreasing the accessibility or further inconveniencing drivers. Participants suggested crossing design changes that also beautify the area and call attention to businesses at the junction.

In the 2003 workshop, pedestrian expert Dan Burden recommended a roundabout, which was reinforced by the Safe Roadways Committee and supported by resolution of the Council. Residents participating in the walking workshop held this past fall offered several additional proposals for the Junction including the recommended

*continued on page 5*



Photo by Patrick Rittenhouse

**Jean Kerr, who works in Housing and Community Development, and Leicia Monfort, from the Recreation Department, pause dockside before boarding the Bay Lady for a Baltimore Harbor lunch cruise. They joined other City of Takoma Park staff and their guests for the cruise, part of the Annual Employee Appreciation Day August 18. Sunny skies, harbor breezes, and that local specialty, crab cakes, made the event a happy success.**

## Get Your Money Back From Property Taxes

Property taxes in Takoma Park are a continuing source of concern to homeowners, and this season is no exception. Some relief is available, however, through the homeowners' tax credit, a program many residents use to whittle down an often overwhelming tax burden. A total of 145 Takoma Park property owners already received \$306,764 in property tax credits this year through the rebate program. In addition, last year more than 5,100 county residents pocketed an average property tax credit of almost \$900. That's a bundle.

Residents who want to join their

neighbors in taking advantage of the tax credit must apply for the State Homeowner's Property Tax Credit by October 31, 2006 — even if they've applied in the past. The state determines whether property owners receive credits at the state, county and city levels, and also notifies the city if its supplemental tax credit kicks in for individual residents.

To be eligible for the tax credit, homeowners must:

- Use the property on which the application is being made as a principal residence
- Have legal interest in the property
- Have a net worth of \$200,000 or less
- Have a combined gross household income of \$60,000 or less

Further details about qualifications are available on the form, called HTC-60, available, along with other information, at <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/htc.html> or by calling the county at 240-777-8950.

City payments are distributed in late May or June, though this year's checks ran late due to delays at the state level, and were mailed out in July.

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## CITY COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE CALENDAR

**Tuesday, August 1** – Monday, September 4, 2006 – City Council Summer Recess

**Thursday, August 31** – Meeting of the Emergency Preparedness Committee, 8:30 a.m. (Community Center Atrium Meeting Room)

**Monday, September 4** – City Offices Closed for the Labor Day Holiday

**Tuesday, September 5** – Closed Session, Interviews, Special Session and Worksession of the City Council, 6:30 p.m. (Community Center Auditorium)

**Monday, September 11** – Closed Session, Regular Meeting and Worksession of the City Council, 7:30 p.m. (Community Center Auditorium)

**Monday, September 18** – (Tentative) Council Interview of Kenneth Baar, 6 p.m., (Community Center Auditorium)

**Monday, September 18** – Interviews, Special Session and Worksession of the City Council, 7:30 p.m. (Community Center Auditorium)

**Monday, September 25** – Regular Meeting and Worksession of the City Council, 7:30 p.m. (Community Center Auditorium)

**Wednesday, September 27** – Meeting of the Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee, 6:30 p.m. (Community Center Atrium Meeting Room)

**Monday, October 2** – Yom Kippur – City Council Meeting Moved to Tuesday, October 3

For updated schedule information, check the City's web page at <http://www.takoma-parkmd.gov> or contact the City Clerk. If you would like to receive a weekly e-mail of the City Council agenda, or if you would like to receive a weekly agenda by U.S. Mail, contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267.

### Council-appointed Boards and Committee Vacancies

**Arts and Humanities Commission** The commission serves in an official advisory role to the City Council on all matters related to the arts and humanities which promote, coordinate and strengthen public programs to further cultural development of the city.

**Board of Elections** The City Council has established an elections board to plan and conduct future City elections. Registered voters residing in the City of Takoma Park may apply to serve by sending a cover letter and resume and/or statement of qualifications, to Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912 (or via e-mail to [JessieC@takomagov.org](mailto:JessieC@takomagov.org)). Interviews will be conducted in September.

**Citizens Liaison Committee for the Community Center** City residents are invited to participate in the Citizens Liaison Committee for the Community Center. The committee serves to foster communication among interested parties and the Council in the ongoing process for the development of a community center. Information about the committee is available on the City web page. If you are interested in serving on this committee, contact your City Councilmember or the City Clerk's Office to request appointment.

**Committee on the Environment** This committee is charged with advising the City Council on all environmental issues, including but not limited to, tree protection, open space conservation, biodiversity, watershed functioning, energy use and conservation, and recycling; reviewing and providing advice on City actions that affect environmental quality; educating Takoma Park residents, businesses, and government on environmental issues; conveying citizen views on environmental issues to Council and City staff; and working with City staff on environmental issues and projects.

**Emergency Preparedness Committee** The committee was established to provide community input to and assist in the City's planning and preparations for emergency operations and to involve residents in providing appropriate assistance during emergency operations. Applicants should have some professional background in emergency preparedness or operations and be available to perform committee duties during the day when required.

**Ethics Commission** This seven-member commission is charged with overseeing the implementation of and adherence to the City's Ethics Ordinance. (Three current members' terms expire on Sept. 30. Deadline for applications: September 11).

**Nuclear Free Takoma Park Committee** The seven-member committee is responsible for overseeing the implementation of and adherence to the Nuclear-Free Zone Act.

**Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee** The 12-member committee is charged with providing input and advice to the Council and the City's public safety agencies about how the City can better meet the ongoing needs and concerns of residents in the area of police services and public safety.

**Safe Roadways Committee** The Safe Roadways Committee advises the City on transportation-related issues including, but not limited to, pedestrian and bicycle safety, traffic, and transit services.

**Tree Commission.** The Tree Commission is charged with preserving, protecting and promoting the urban forest of Takoma Park. The Commission is responsible for hearing and ruling on tree permit and waiver appeals. (One current member's term expires on September 30. Deadline for applications: September 11.)

Further information is available by contacting the City Clerk's Office at 301-891-7267. To apply, send a letter of interest and resume or statement of qualifications to the City Clerk, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912 or via e-mail to [JessieC@takomagov.org](mailto:JessieC@takomagov.org).



For further information, or to receive a copy of the legislation, contact the City Clerk's office, 301-891-7267 or e-mail [clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:clerk@takomagov.org).

### July 17, 2006 - Regular Meeting

**Ordinance 2006-30** was accepted at first reading, adopting certain articles of the Montgomery County Code and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Montgomery County to administer and enforce the provisions of Chapter 19, Article IV, Water Quality Control, relating to illicit discharge detection and elimination and pollution prevention (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Clay, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Barry, Elrich).

**Ordinance 2006-31** was accepted at first reading, exempting certain properties from rent stabilization (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Clay, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Barry, Elrich).

### July 24, 2006 - Special Session

**Resolution 2006-43** was adopted, recognizing Jillian Hershberger upon her departure from the library staff, for abundant intelligence, energy, and creativity (VOTING FOR: Porter, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Barry).

**Resolution 2006-44** was adopted, supporting House Bill 5680, and human rights and democratic freedom in Ethiopia (VOTING FOR: Porter, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Barry).

**Ordinance 2006-32** was accepted at first reading, establishing a residential permit parking area on Prince George's Avenue, Conway Avenue, Belford Place, Belford Drive, and a portion of New Hampshire Avenue (VOTING FOR: Porter, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Barry).

**Ordinance 2006-33** was accepted at first reading, authorizing one or more speed humps on lower Conway Avenue (VOTING FOR: Porter, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Barry).

**Ordinance 2006-34** was accepted at first reading, authorizing one or more speed humps on the 6800 block of Woodland Avenue (VOTING FOR: Porter, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Barry).

**Ordinance 2006-35** was accepted at first reading, authorizing the purchase of a loader for Public Works (VOTING FOR: Porter, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Barry).

**Ordinance 2006-36** was accepted at first reading, establishing a Board of Elections (VOTING FOR: Porter, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Barry).

**Ordinance 2006-30** was adopted by roll-call vote, adopting certain articles of the Montgomery County Code and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Montgomery County to administer and enforce the provisions of Chapter 19, Article IV, Water Quality Control, relating to illicit discharge detection and elimination and pollution prevention (VOTING FOR: Porter, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Barry).

**Ordinance 2006-31** was adopted by roll-call vote, exempting certain properties from rent stabilization (VOTING FOR: Porter, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Barry, Clay).

**Ordinance 2006-37** was adopted by roll-call vote, authorizing additional funds for the FY06 Local Supplement to the State Homeowners' Property Tax Credit Program (VOTING FOR: Porter, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Barry).

**Ordinance 2006-38** was adopted by roll-call vote, authorizing the lease-purchase of six police vehicles (VOTING FOR: Porter, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Barry).

### Notice of Final Action — Regulation Regarding the Process and Procedures for The Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs

The July 2006 edition of the Takoma Park Newsletter included notice of the City's intention to adopt revised regulations that govern the process and procedures for the Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (COLTA). The notice of the City's intention to adopt an administrative regulation was published in accordance with the requirements of the "Administrative Regulations Ordinance" (Authority: Chapter 2.12, Administrative Regulations, of the Takoma Park Code) to allow citizens the opportunity to comment on the proposal. An exact copy of the proposed regulation was available for inspection during regular office hours in the Department of Housing and Community Development, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park. The regulation was also posted on the City's web page.

No comments have been received by the City Clerk's Office since the notice appeared. This notice is to inform residents that the final regulation will become effective ten days following publication of the September 2006 issue of the Takoma Park Newsletter.

### Attention Takoma Park Voters

There have been a number of changes in Montgomery County precinct boundaries within Takoma Park since the 2004 Presidential Election. Some residents have been assigned to vote at new or different polling places. Please be sure to check your Montgomery County Voter Notification Card for your correct voting location.

If you have not received a Voter Notification Card or if you have questions about voting in the September 12 Primary Election or the November 7 General Election, please contact the Montgomery County Board of Elections at 240-777-8500.

Registered voters may apply to vote by absentee ballot. No excuse is needed to use an absentee ballot this year. You can request an application for an absentee ballot at the County Board of Elections phone number (above), or download the application from its web page: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/elections>.

## Living Takoma

# Knitting Together a Community

*This is the first in an occasional series of articles highlighting little-known Takoma Park groups that foster the spirit of community so characteristic of the city.*

By Susan Holliday

Glasses of wine and mugs of tea sit on the coffee shop tables beside skeins of colorful yarns. The click of knitting needles is barely audible above the music and conversation. The people ranged around the room look up from their work to smile and greet everyone who enters to join them.

Knit & Crochet Savory welcomes knitters and crocheters of all ability levels to their gatherings on the fourth Tuesday of every month at Savory Café, 7071 Carroll Ave. While the group is intended for enthusiasts 10 years and older, the July meeting hosted one 7-year-old knitter and his knitting mom and dad — the rest of the needle workers were adults and teens.

The group, which meets on Savory's lower level from 7 to 9 p.m., celebrated its fifth anniversary this year. Founded by Wallace Boyd and Michelle Strange, the group is free of cost and totally ad hoc - no sign-in sheets and no purchases required. "Just show up and we'll be happy to talk and knit with you," says the group contact person Jennifer Woods. Though no lessons are given for complete beginners, "we all help each other," adds Woods.

The July meeting included about 16 first-timers and veterans, though none were total novices at their craft. The projects varied from basic to complicated, from socks and crocheted afghans to cardigans and halter tops. The chat was mostly about patterns and yarns and knitting classes, but not exclusively, touching on people's work and local topics — and sometimes falling into a comfortable silence punctuated by knitting needles pulling yarn in and out, in and out.

"It's a nice community," said knitter Hannah Joyner. "Very welcoming."

*Knit & Crochet Savory, 7071 Carroll Avenue, fourth Tuesday each month. For more information, contact Jennifer Woods, 301-587-7174 or [www.dcknitting.net](http://www.dcknitting.net).*



Photos by Susan Holliday



**Joining with others for knit and wit at the monthly Knit & Crochet Savory in July are, above top left to right, Marley Manjarrez, Anja Arax Manjarrez, and Margaret Powell. Families are also welcome; above bottom are, left to right, David Meyers, Abe Joyner-Meyers and Hannah Joyner.**

**Deadline for Submissions:**  
September 11  
**Next Issue:**  
September 22

**Editor**  
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**Layout**  
Bonnie L. Down

**Production**  
Sligo Computer Services, Inc.

[www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov)  
Vol. 46, no. 1

The *Takoma Park Newsletter* is published 11 times a year as the official publication of the City of Takoma Park, [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov).

The *Newsletter* does not accept commercial, classified, or political advertisements.

Unsolicited materials by Takoma Park residents, including reports by community groups and articles that may contain opinion, will be considered for publication. Name, address, and telephone number must accompany all submitted material.

Pursuant to City Council Resolution No. 1992-36 of June 8, 1992 that sets forth the editorial guidelines of the *Newsletter*, the Editor reserves the right to edit all submitted copy for length, clarity, style, spelling, and grammar.

Published material containing opinions does not necessarily reflect the views of the *Newsletter* or the City of Takoma Park.

The City of Takoma Park is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, or national origin, sex, age, marital status, or physical or mental disabilities that are unrelated in nature and extent to job performance. The *Newsletter* is printed on recycled-content paper.

To contact the editor e-mail:  
[tpnewseditor@takomagov.org](mailto:tpnewseditor@takomagov.org)



Photos by Gretchen Hilburger, CSAFE Community Organizer



**Above left: With a burger and a big smile, Ofc. Joe Butler welcomed participants to the National Night Out celebration in the 7300 block of New Hampshire Avenue on August 1. Above: City Manager Barb Matthews, Interim Chief Ed Coursey and Robert Ulino, a regional supervisor for Parole and Probation, enjoyed the celebration, organized by the Maryland International Corridor CSAFE Initiative and police, to improve crime prevention through community involvement. Left: Tyrone Reed, community manager for Hampshire Towers, and Vivian Hill, a Takoma Overlook resident, were two of many volunteers that made the event a success for several hundred attendees. Crowds also enjoyed food and music by the Positive Vibrations Reggae Band at a Night Out celebration in the 7700 block of Maple Avenue organized by police and Maple Avenue Resident Managers. The WACO Citizens Patrol staffed a booth distributing crime prevention literature.**

## Emergency Training Offered

Proactive citizens, who are interested in becoming front-line assistants during large emergencies and more skilled at assisting their communities at such times, can be Community Safety Advocates by registering in CERT, or community emergency response training. The program is modeled after the FEMA CERT program originally developed by the Los Angeles Fire Department in 1985. Trainees will attend seven classes over a three-week period, meeting two nights a week with one all-day Saturday or Sunday practical and test day.

The next course is scheduled for November. County officials have indicated the class might be offered in the Takoma Park/Silver Spring area if sufficient interest warrants by expression of interest no later than October 1. For more information see the Montgomery County homepage or contact Battalion Chief Brian S. Geraci at 240-777-2202 or [Brian.Geraci@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Brian.Geraci@montgomerycountymd.gov) or Buddy Daniels of the PSCAC at 301/270-5789.

## Takoma Singers Seek New Members

The Takoma Park Singers, a community chorus for mixed voices, is looking for new members.

Rehearsals are every Wednesday evening  
from 7:45 to 9:15 p.m.

For more information, call 301-681-9498.



## COLTA S CORNER

By Moses A. Wilds, Jr.  
Landlord-Tenant Coordinator

### Epstein v. Hall

On July 10 in a case involving the Tenant's allegation that the Landlord wrongfully withheld his security deposit plus accrued interest and sought a refund of his security deposit and punitive damages, COLTA issued a decision that (1) the Landlord properly withheld a portion (\$565)



from the Tenant's security deposit refund based on the Tenant's admission of damage to the floor, written documentation of the tenant's failure to comply with a floor protection lease provision and the reasonableness of the Landlord having the entire floor rather than damaged spots repaired; (2) the Landlord improperly withheld a portion (\$530) of the security deposit refund because in accordance with Section 8-203(g) of the Maryland State Code incorporated by reference at Section 6.16.120A(g)(1) of the Takoma Park Landlord-Tenant Law, the repairs were not completed within 45 days after the tenancy ended; (3) the Commission did not find that the Landlord's withholding of a portion of the Tenant's refund was an intentional violation of the Tenant's rights or an attempt to defraud him. No punitive damages (i.e. three times the amount of the security deposit) were awarded to the Tenant.

## Housing Mailbox

By Moses A. Wilds, Jr.  
Landlord-Tenant Coordinator

*A tenant contacted the Mailbox and wants to know the current rent increase limit, how the annual rent increase limit is established, how often a landlord may increase the rent and how much notice a landlord must provide to tenants before increasing rent.*

Since 1980, following its adoption by the Takoma Park City Council, the Rent Stabilization Law has maintained rents at an affordable level in the city. Rent Stabilization sets a limit on the amount the annual rent may be increased by landlords who have two or more rental units in Takoma Park.

The annual rent increase limit or Rent Stabilization Allowance is established each year by the Department of Housing & Community Development using a formula that is equivalent to 70 percent of the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) for the Washington, DC Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA). The current Rent Stabilization Allowance increase is 2.8 percent effective for one year beginning July 1, 2006.

A landlord may increase the rent on or after 12 months from the date of the last rent increase on an occupied rental unit. This date is known as the "Anniversary Date."

A landlord must provide tenants with two months written notice of a rent increase which must be received

by the tenants before the rent due date. For example, a tenant receiving a rent increase notice on June 28 who has a rent due date of the first of the month would begin paying the increase on September 1.

It should be noted that landlords may secure a higher increase than the amount allowed by the annual Rent Stabilization Allowance by filing and receiving approval of either a Capital Improvement Petition or a Hardship Petition. Capital Improvement Petitions may be filed for building materials and/or labor that have been added to a rental property that are not annually recurring and have a useful life of more than one year. Such improvements are often associated with maintaining a rental property's compliance with the city's Property Maintenance Code. Examples of capital improvements include but are not limited to replacing a roof, windows, a refrigerator or carpeting. Hardship petitions may be filed by landlords who can document that their net operating income in the base year of consideration (usually 1990) is greater after adjusting for inflation than their net operating income in the petition year.

Tenants and Landlords interested in additional information regarding the city's Rent Stabilization Law should review Chapter 6.20 of the city's Housing Code and contact Jean Kerr at 301-891-7216 or JeanK@takomagov.org.



## Montgomery County Housing Fair and Financial Literacy Day

**Saturday, October 7, 2006**  
**10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

**Activity Center at Bohrer Park,  
Summit Hall Farm** (Next to Gaithersburg High School)  
506 S. Frederick Avenue  
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

*Ride-On bus #55 or  
#59 from points  
north and from  
Shady Grove Metro*

### You will learn about:

- Managing Money & Credit
- Home Safety, Utility Assistance & Conservation
- Avoiding Consumer Scams
- Buying or Renting Your First Home

**FREE CREDIT REPORTS!**

**Entertainment, food, prizes and activities for children!**  
**(Six drawings for a \$500 prize towards your rent or mortgage.)**  
**~FREE ADMISSION~**

This Fair is organized by the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs in partnership with the Housing Fair Planning Committee, whose members include: the Cities of Gaithersburg and Takoma Park; Consumer Credit Counseling of Greater Washington; Montgomery County Financial Literacy Coalition; Habitat for Humanity; Housing & Community Initiatives, Inc.; the Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County; the Mid County, Up County and Silver Spring Regional Services Centers and the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. If interested in participating in the Fair, or becoming a sponsor or exhibitor, please call 240-777-3602.



## Feria de la Vivienda de Montgomery y Día de Educación Financiera

**Sábado, 7 de Octubre, 2006**  
**10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

**Activity Center at Bohrer Park,  
Summit Hall Farm**

(Al lado de Gaithersburg High School)  
**506 S. Frederick Avenue**  
**Gaithersburg, MD 20877**

*Desde el Norte y de la  
línea roja del Metro,  
tomar el bus Ride-On  
#55 o #59*

### Aprender sobre:

- Manejo de Dinero y Crédito
- Seguridad de su Casa, Asistencia y Conservación de Energía
- Cómo Evitar Engaños al Consumidor
- Cómo Comprar o Alquilar su Primera Casa

**¡REPORTES DE CREDITO  
GRATUITOS!**

**¡Entretenimiento, comida, premios y actividades para niños!**  
**(Seis rifas de \$500 cada una, para el pago de su alquiler o hipoteca)**  
**~ADMISION GRATUITA~**

La Feria es organizada por el Departamento de Vivienda y Asuntos Comunitarios del Condado de Montgomery en asociación con el Comité Planificador, cuyos miembros incluyen: las ciudades de Gaithersburg y Takoma Park; Consumer Credit Counseling of Greater Washington; Habitat for Humanity; Housing & Community Initiatives, Inc.; the Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County; Housing Urban Development; the Mid County, Up County and Silver Spring Regional Services Centers and the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Si está interesado en participar, auspiciar, o exhibir el día de la feria, por favor llame al 240-777-3602.



## Walking the Talk on Pedestrian Safety

*continued from front page*

roundabout, suggesting that State Highway compare the impact of a roundabout with that of reconfiguring the roadway and creating a more traditional cross intersection. One benefit of this proposal would be to add more space next to the businesses for residents to walk, talk, and sit at café tables or other sidewalk amenities.

### Flower Avenue

Flower Avenue (MD 787) is a main route in Takoma Park for Columbia Union College, Washington Adventist Hospital, and commercial and residential destinations. The intersection of Flower and Piney Branch is surrounded by four corners of busy retail; three of those corners having street-front parking lots.

Both roads have multiple bus routes resulting in many riders walking across the intersection on a daily basis. The most pedestrian unfriendly features are the uneven and utility-cluttered sidewalks found along this roadway that need to be entirely rebuilt, missing sidewalks on Piney Branch and the Montgomery County side of Flower, and poorly timed pedestrian signals across wide walkways.

### Takoma-Langley Crossroads

The Takoma-Langley Crossroads has a history of danger. There were nine pedestrian injuries there in 2004 and a fatality in the previous year. Busy shopping center parking lots, scores of bus transfers, and day laborer gatherings at University Boulevard (MD 193) and New Hampshire Avenue (MD 650) generate lots of walkers. The planned transit center



Photo by VMK

**Pedestrians get ready to cross at one of the crosswalks in Takoma-Langley Crossroads. With so many bus stops and transfers, this area is packed with pedestrians, and safety features like these are paramount. Other areas of pedestrian safety concern are Takoma Junction, Flower and Piney Branch, and the area around Takoma Park Middle School.**

will help consolidate bus traffic so riders do not have to walk long distances and cross New Hampshire and University for transfers. But the walking environment is dirty, noisy, and subjects people to criminal activity. Many of the community recommendations require City staff and citizens to work closely with the SHA, CASA, property owners, and the Crossroads Development Authority Multi-Jurisdictional Pedestrian Safety Committee toward solutions.

The pedestrian safety issues of the four areas are covered in detail in the Walkable Communities Report along with recommendations and, most importantly, a description of the initial steps that are being made toward making it safer to walk. For more information, see the report on the web by selecting the item on the May 1 City Council Agenda ([www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov)).

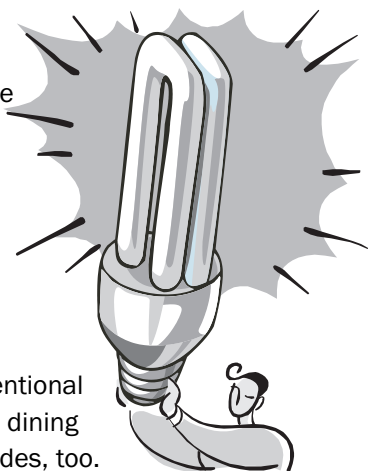
## Tip of the Month

### Let the Light Shine

It's one of the first things the environmental "Ten Things to Do" lists suggest. Change those light bulbs to compact fluorescents. They use 60 percent less energy than conventional bulbs (lasting up to ten times longer), save you money on your electric bill, prevent 300 pounds of carbon dioxide from polluting the atmosphere (according to [climatecrisis.net](http://climatecrisis.net)), and emit plenty of light.

They screw into just about any socket a conventional bulb uses, including that funny light over your dining room table, and they accommodate lamp shades, too.

Locally, you can buy compact fluorescents at the Takoma Park Silver Spring Co-op, Piney Branch Hardware, and some local grocery stores.



## Financial Fitness, Home Ownership Classes Offered

The Department of Housing and Community Development in partnership with the Recreation Department is pleased to announce it is sponsoring two new classes, one on Financial Fitness (budgeting and learning to live within your means) and the other on First-Time Home Buying. The classes will be held in the fall and are being offered at no cost. Pre-registration is required and limited to 40 persons per class. Please see the Fall Recreation Guide for the application or contact Linda Walker at [LindaW@takoma.gov](mailto:LindaW@takoma.gov) or 301-891-7222.

**Financial Fitness.** Learn how to create a budget and live within your means. How many of you truly have a budget that you can stick to? Do you find it impossible to save, but long to eventually buy a house or a car? Staff from The Housing and Community Initiatives, Inc., a local non-profit organization will conduct this informative and helpful class. Learn how to gain control over your spending and attain your financial goals. This class will be offered twice, Thursday, September 21 from 7 - 9 p.m. and Thursday, October 19, from 7 - 9 p.m. Both classes are in English.

**First Time Home Buyer Seminar (Offered in Spanish and English).** Buying a home is one of the most important decisions you will make in your lifetime. The Latino Economic Development Corporation (LEDC), a nonprofit affordable housing organi-

zation, will conduct the class in Spanish on Saturday, September 16 from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and in English on Saturday, October 21 from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Topics to be discussed include the importance of pre-purchase counseling, establishing and maintaining credit, understanding the credit scoring system, how to obtain and understand a mortgage loan, and the role of the real estate agent. The class will also cover the county and state low interest rate mortgage programs.

**Comprar una casa es una de las decisiones más importantes que tomará en su vida.** La Corporación del Desarrollo Económico del Latino (LEDC), una organización quea beneficia a quienes quieren comprar una casa por primera vez ofrecen una clase el 16 de Septiembre a las 8:30 a.m. hasta 1:30 p.m. La clase es gratis pero necesita registrarse usando la aplicacion en la Guia de Recreación. Los topicos en la clase encluiran 1) La importancia de tener consejo profesional antes de comprar una casa; 2) Establecer su crédito, mantener su crédito y una sistema de mantener record de su crédito; 3) Cómo obtener un préstamo y entender los términos del préstamo; 4) El papel del agente de ventas y 5) Información acerca de los programas de préstamo en Maryland y el Condado de Maryland. Para mas información, contacte a Linda Walker a 301-891-7222 o [LindaW@takomagov.org](mailto:LindaW@takomagov.org).

## Accessibility Assured At Takoma Park Folk Fest

By Dana Marlowe

At the heart of the Takoma Park Folk Festival is the core concept of fun for everyone-with an emphasis on everyone. This year's Festival, which will be held on Sunday, September 10, at Takoma Park Middle School, will continue the tradition.

There is a stage solely devoted to child-oriented performances and an area for kids to play games, get their faces painted, and do hands-on crafts. The Community Tables groups cover a huge range of causes and interests, and they connect with all types of audiences, politically, socially, environmentally, and more. Musicians welcome audience participation, and dance instructors practically demand it.

"It's hard to go to the Festival without being swept up in the action," says Kevin Adler, Festival chair. "We try to be as welcoming as possible, with no admission fee and seven performance stages so there's always something new to experience."

Attendees with disabilities will find

the Festival has gone beyond the requisite allotment for accessible parking, and rented wheelchair-accessible shuttle buses for its routes from the Metro and off-site parking, and provided American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters at several stages, and created large-print site maps and schedules for people with vision difficulties. There is also a Braille-embossed program available, and the festival web site, [www.TPFF.org](http://www.TPFF.org), works well with different kinds of assistive technology, such as refreshable Braille displays, screen readers, and screen magnifiers.

"When we say we are celebrating our community, we mean all of our community," says Adler.

The Takoma Park Folk Festival will be held on Sunday, September 10, 2006, from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., rain or shine. It's free to all visitors. It will take place at the Takoma Park Middle School, 7611 Piney Branch Rd, Takoma Park. For more information, go to [www.tpff.org](http://www.tpff.org).

# RECREATION

The Recreation Department has moved to its new permanent home on the Community Center level (where Housing and Community Development used to be). Thank you for your patience while we were located in the trailers. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday.

After office hours and on weekends the public may drop off program registrations at the front desk of the Community Center until 10 p.m., Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Saturdays, and 2 – 6 p.m. on Sunday. Checks and money orders only, please – no cash.

Drop off after hours (checks or money orders, no cash) in the gray mail box at the rear entrance of the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912. Takoma Park Recreation Department phone: 301-891-7290.

## Learn How to DJ

Grades 6 – 12

Have you ever wanted to DJ but did not know where to start? This class covers equipment set up, mixing and scratching, how to mix genres, mixing tricks, ear training, and music theory. Instructor **Simon Moore**, aka Kilo Vibes.

When: **Tues., Sept. 19 – Oct. 24**  
 Time: **7 – 8 p.m.**  
 Location: **Music/Video Lab, T.P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Residents \$30**  
       **Non Residents \$35**

## Jazz Dancing

An introduction to jazz movement including warm-up stretches, isolations, basic steps, and combinations as well as across the floor movement. Six weeks.

When: **Mon. or Fri., Sept. 18 – Oct. 27**  
 Time: **Mon., ages 10 – 12 6 – 7 p.m.**  
       **Mon., ages 13 and Up 7 – 8 p.m.**  
       **Fri., ages 8 – 10 5 – 6 p.m.**  
 Location: **Dance Studio, T.P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Residents \$60**  
       **No Residents \$65**

No Class on Mon., Oct. 9.

## Hip Hop

Ages 12 and up

An opportunity for self expression to today's top 10, Hip Hop and R&B music, this class includes simple warm-up exercises, body isolation, and basic popular dance moves, such as Nellie, B-Boy steps, Top Rock, and slide.

When: **Fri., Sept. 22 – Oct. 27**  
 Time: **6 – 7 p.m.**  
 Location: **Dance Studio, T.P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Residents \$60**  
       **Non-Residents \$65**

## Belly Dancing

Ages 11 and older

Learn the foundations of this ancient Middle Eastern art form. Suitable for all ages, shapes and sizes. Belly dancing provides an aerobic workout that's gentle on the body and exhilarating for the spirit! Taught by director of a local dance troupe, Maya Taahira. Maximum of 25, minimum 6. Six weeks. For more information about Belly Dancing e-mail instructor at maya@bodylovebellydance.com.

When: **Tues., Sept. 26 – Nov. 7**  
 Time: **Beginners 7 – 8 p.m.**  
       **Intermediate 8 – 9 p.m.**  
 Location: **Dance Room, T.P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Resident \$65**  
       **Non-Resident \$75**

## Beginning Piano

Ages 6 – 18

The Piano Adventure School of Music consists of 15 minutes of music theory followed by 60 minutes of piano instruction for a group of four students. Structured to teach the fundamentals of music with an emphasis on development skills via a comprehensive curriculum that includes technique, ear training, written theory, and method. A \$20 material fee is due to the instructor on the first day of class to cover piano books and equipment shared by all four students. Four weeks.

When: **Wed., Sept. 27 – Oct. 18**  
 Time: **Ages 6 – 8 6:30 – 7:45 p.m.**  
       **Ages 9 – 12 7:45 – 9 p.m.**  
 When: **Tues., Sept. 26 – Oct. 17**  
 Time: **Ages 13 -15 6:30 – 7:45 p.m.**  
       **Ages 16 -18 7:45 – 9 p.m.**  
 Location: **Rose Room, T.P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Residents \$100**  
       **Non Residents \$110**

## Kids Knitting

Ages 8 and up

Learn to knit or develop your existing knitting skills. Work at your own pace while we pick fun and fashionable projects you'll love to make! Practice yarn and needles will be available for use during class, and additional materials will be available for purchase. Eight weeks. Instructor Amy O'Neill Houck.

When: **Tues., Sept. 26 – Nov. 21**  
 Time: **3:45 – 5 p.m.**  
 Location: **Rose Room, T.P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Residents \$96**  
       **Non Residents \$106**

No Class Nov. 7.

## Baby Sitting Class

Ages 11 – 14

Designed for kids 11 – 14 interested in babysitting. Topics covered will include: CPR, Fire Safety, First Aid, infant and child care and personal safety. A certificate will be issued upon completion of class and exam. Co-sponsored by the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, Fire Chief James Jarboe presiding. Six weeks.

When: **Mon., Sept. 18 – Oct. 23**  
 Time: **7 – 9 p.m.**  
 Location: **Forsythia Room, T.P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **Free, but must register at the Takoma Park Recreation Department**



## Movement for Mommies

Ages 1 1/2 – 2 years

A gentle, motivated, fun atmosphere for adults and babies to explore principals of stretching, yoga, creative movement, and dance. This 45-minute retreat allows everyone to work at their own level while joyfully connecting with others. Please bring extra baby blankets for baby. Maximum 12, minimum six. Six weeks. Instructor: Roxanna Young.

When: **Mon., Sept. 18 – Oct. 23**  
 Time: **9:30 – 10:15 a.m.**  
 Location: **Dance Studio, T.P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Resident \$65**  
       **Non-Resident \$75**

## Do a Little Dance

Ages 3 – 4

A motivated, fun atmosphere for little ones to explore the principals of dance, stretching, and yoga. Explore rhythm, music styles, coordination, and various movement techniques, along with the guided use of props. Parents and care givers will be invited for the last 15 minutes of class to participate and/or observe, depending on the lesson. Maximum 12, minimum six. Six weeks. Instructor: Roxanna Young.

When: **Mon., Sept. 18 – Oct. 23**  
 Time: **10:30 – 11:15 a.m.**  
 Location: **Dance Studio, T. P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Resident \$65**  
       **Non-Resident \$75**

## Read All About It: Bringing Books to Life

Ages 1 1/2 – 3 1/2

Would your child like to create an Eric Carle collage, or Dr. Seuss' red fish blue fish swim? You and your child can try these and other fun activities inspired by favorite children's books. Each week features a different author, with circle story time as well as individual and small group activities. Minimum five, maximum 12. Six weeks. Instructor: Alicia Sar.

When: **Fri., Sept. 15 – Oct. 20**  
 Time: **11 a.m. – 12 p.m.**  
 Location: **Azalea Room, T.P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Resident \$65**  
       **Non-Resident \$75**

When: **Tues., Sept. 12 – Oct. 17**  
 Time: **4 – 5 p.m.**  
 Location: **Heffner Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Resident \$65**  
       **Non-Resident \$75**

## Montessori Morning 1

Ages 1 1/2 -3 1/2

Designed as an introduction to the Montessori environment. A certified Montessori teacher with several years experience guides exploration of sensory, fine motor, pre-reading, pre-writing, and pre-math Montessori materials and activities. Parent education materials provided with each session. There is a \$20 materials fee paid to the instructor the first day of class. Minimum four, maximum 10. Six weeks. Instructor: Alicia Sar.

When: **Fri., Sept. 15 – Oct. 20**  
 Time: **9:45-10:45 a.m.**  
 When: **Sat., Sept. 16 – Oct. 21**  
 Time: **10 – 11 a.m.**  
 Location: **Azalea Room, T.P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Resident \$65**  
       **Non-Resident \$75**

## Bright Minds – Science for Young Explorers

Ages 1 1/2 – 3 1/2

Children will explore cause and effect, how colors change, the magical properties of cornstarch, and much more. Come ready for a fun and messy time. Parent resources will be provided to continue the exploration at home. There is a materials fee of \$15 due to the instructor the first day of class. Minimum five, maximum 12. Instructors: Kirsten Sandberg-Da Silva and Alicia Sar.

When: **Thurs., Sept. 14 – Oct. 19**  
 Time: **10 – 11 a.m.**  
 or  
 When: **Sat., Sept.16 – Oct. 21**  
 Time: **11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**  
 Location: **Azalea Room, T.P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Resident \$65**  
       **Non-Resident \$75**  
 When: **Wed., Sept. 13 – Oct. 18**  
 Time: **4 – 5 p.m.**  
 Location: **Heffner Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Resident \$65**  
       **Non-Resident \$75**

## 1,2,3 Cooking Up Math with Me

Ages 1 1/2 – 3 1/2

Combine a young child's love for hands-on cooking with age-appropriate pre-math skill building activities. Measuring, sorting, proportion, and counting are some of the concepts that we will explore as we cook up fun and tasty foods. Parent resources will be provided each session. Minimum five, maximum 12. Instructor: Kirsten Sandberg-Da Silva.

When: **Wed., Sept. 13 – Oct. 11**  
 Time: **10 – 11 a.m.**  
 Location: **Azalea Room, T.P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Resident \$ 65**  
       **Non-Resident \$75**

or  
 When: **Thurs., Sept. 14 – Oct.19**  
 Time: **4 – 5 p.m.**  
 Location: **Heffner Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Resident \$65**  
       **Non-Resident \$75**

## Arts Alive

Ages 2 -4 1/2

An educator with several years experience in museum-based early childhood classrooms guides you and your child through fun, hands-on, museum-related activities that will enhance your child's creativity and imagination. Includes metro-accessible museum trips to explore themes including movement, "All About Me" and "Our Watery World." Parent resource materials provided. There is a \$15 materials fee due to the instructor the first day of class. Minimum five, maximum 10. Six weeks. Instructor Kirsten Sandberg-Da Silva.

When: **Sat., Nov. 4 – Dec. 16**  
 Time: **10 – 11 a.m.**  
 Location: **Azalea Room, T.P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Resident \$65**  
       **Non-Resident \$75**

## First School Choices

Looking for the right preschool for your child's first learning experience? Your child's first formal learning experience will shape his or her future learning. Session provides guidance on how to find the school that's the best fit for your child and family as well as tools for making that difficult decision.

When: **Wed., Sept. 27**  
 Time: **7:30 – 8:30 p.m.**  
 Location: **Azalea Room, T.P. Community Center**  
 Fee: **T.P. City Resident \$20 per session**  
       **Non-Resident \$25 per session**

## ★ Takoma Park Community Center ★

Fall Hours • August 28 – December 22, 2006\*

Game Room  
 Monday through Thursday  
 2:30 5:30 p.m. Ages 7 12  
 6 9 p.m. Ages 13 19  
 Friday until 9:30 p.m.  
 Saturday Ages 7 19  
 12:30 - 5:30 p.m.  
 Sunday Ages 7 19  
 2 - 5:30 p.m.

Teen Lounge Ages 13 19  
 Monday through Thursday  
 2:30 9 p.m.  
 Friday until 9:30 p.m.  
 Saturday 12:30 5:30 p.m.  
 Sunday 2 5:30 p.m.  
 Hours subject to change.  
 Membership is required.

\* Game Room and Teen Lounge will be closed on September 14 and November 10, 23, and 24



## Kindermusik®

### Kindermusik® Village: Zoom Buggy!

#### Newborn to 18 months

A unique blend of multi-level activities including creative movement, vocal play, object and instrument exploration, and a colorful literature component stimulates your baby's growth and development and engages all the senses. There is a materials fee of \$29, payable to instructor on first day of class (CD, book, journal, art banner, and case). Maximum eight, minimum four. Eight weeks.

**When:** Wed., Sept. 20 - Nov. 8  
**Time:** 11 - 11:45 a.m.  
**Thurs., Sept. 21 - Nov. 16**  
**9:45 - 10:30 a.m.**  
**Location:** Heffner Community Center,  
 42 Oswego Avenue  
**Fee:** T.P. City Resident \$90  
 Non-Resident \$100

### Kindermusik® Our Time: Milk and Cookies

#### Ages 18 months - 3 years

Singing, moving, listening and interacting socially, and playing simple instruments uncovers an engaging musical world while building confidence, self-control, and communications skills. Singing, imitating sounds and rhyming fosters language, creative movement to musical "moods" develops balance, timing, and spatial awareness. With an accompanying parent or care giver. There is a materials fee of \$47, payable to instructor on first day of class (CDs, books, xylophone, and bag). Maximum 12, minimum four. Fifteen weeks.

**When and Times:** Mon., Sept. 18, 2006 - Jan. 8  
 12:30 - 1:15 p.m.  
 Wed., Sept. 20, 2006 - Jan. 3  
 10 - 10:45 a.m.  
 Thurs., Sept. 21, 2006 - Jan. 4  
 10:45 - 11:30 a.m.  
**Location:** Heffner Community Center,  
 42 Oswego Avenue  
**Fee:** T.P. City Resident \$160  
 Non-Resident \$170

No class Nov. 22, 23 and Jan. 1.

### Kindermusik® for the Young Child

#### Ages 5-7

A group approach to music education. Vocalize and sing, move and dance expressively, listen actively, play instruments (simple pre-keyboard and others), and learn musical concepts. Students are introduced to the glockenspiel and explore playing this instrument based on key concepts they have learned. At-Home materials include a glockenspiel with mallets, games bag, songbook, and CD. Maximum eight, minimum four. Materials fee of \$70 paid to instructor on first day of class. Fifteen weeks.

**When:** Mon., Sept. 11 - Jan. 8  
**Location:** Forsythia Room,  
 T.P. Community Center  
**Fee:** T.P. City Resident \$190  
 Non-Resident \$200

There will be no class on Oct. 2, Dec. 25, or Jan. 1.

### Kindermusik® Imagine That: Hello Weather, Let's Play Together

#### Ages 3 - 5

A musical journey of discovery and exploration limited only by the power of imagination. Parents are invited to participate in the last 15 minutes for Sharing Time of the 45-minute class. There is a materials fee of \$58, payable to instructor on first day of class (pretend play component, book, ankle bells, rain shaker, activity book, CDs, and backpack). Maximum eight, minimum four. Fifteen weeks.

**When:** Thurs., Sept. 21, 2006 - January 11  
**Time:** 2 - 3 p.m.  
**Where:** Forsythia Room,  
 T.P. Community Center  
**Fees:** T.P. City Resident \$180  
 Non-Resident \$190

No class November 23.

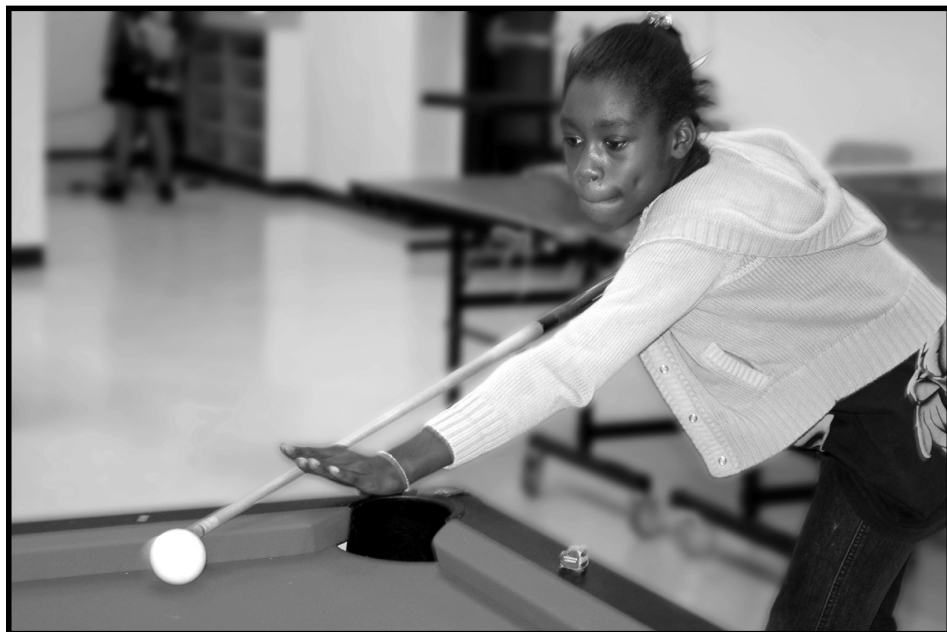
### Kindermusik® Family Time: Our Kind of Day

#### Multiple Ages, Newborn - 7

A one-room schoolhouse approach to music. With older children ready to show the little ones how it's done and the younger ones eager to learn, Family Time becomes a multi-layered learning environment. There is a materials fee of \$60, payable to instructor on first day of class. (CDs, books, egg shakers, family guide, hand puppet and finger puppet, domino game). Maximum 10, minimum six. Ten weeks.

**When:** Tues., Sept. 19 - Nov. 28  
**Time:** 2 - 2:45 p.m.  
**Where:** Heffner Community Center,  
 Oswego Avenue  
**Fees:** T.P. City Residents  
 \$120 for family with one child  
 \$190 for family with two children,  
 each additional child \$75  
 Non-Residents  
 \$130 for family with one child  
 \$200 for family with two children,  
 each additional child \$85

No class Nov. 7.



Photos by Debra Haidtven

### Morning Addition

#### Grades K-6

New this year! This before school program is designed for those families that need early morning options before the school day starts. Staff will be available to provide informal recreation activities and will escort the children to Takoma Park Elementary School and Piney Branch Elementary School. Children will also have time for homework assignments, breakfast (not provided) or to prepare for their day at school. For more information call Carey Antoszewski at 301-891-7233.

**When:** Mon. - Fri.,  
 Aug. 28, 2006 - June 14, 2007  
**Time:** 7 - 9 a.m.  
**Location:** T.P. Community Center,  
 7500 Maple Avenue  
**Fee:** T.P. City Resident \$700  
 Non-Resident \$850

- Payments are made in four equal installments, unless otherwise arranged with the Recreation Director: #1 due at time of registration, #2 due November 3, 2006, #3 January 26, 2007 and #4 March 30, 2007.

- On half days of school, the After School Program will be open from 1 - 6:30 p.m. The Recreation Department provides Fun Day Programs on half days and some holidays for an additional fee.

- The Morning and Afternoon Addition will not operate on the days schools are closed: holidays or other school closings (including inclement weather, professional days, winter or spring breaks or school emergency closings).

- Recreation Staff will escort children who attend Takoma Park Elementary School and Piney Branch Elementary School to and from Takoma Park Community Center on whole and half days.

A discount will be offered to those who register for both Morning and Afternoon Addition.

**T.P. City Resident \$1,600**  
**Non-Resident \$1,950**

## AbraKadoodle Art Education

There is an \$18 materials fee to be paid to the instructor the first day of class. Maximum 10, minimum four. Six weeks. Each session in \$68 for T.P. Residents and \$78 for Non-Residents.

### Twoosy Doodlers

#### Ages 20 - 36 months

Featuring all new lessons from the newly released 2006 curriculum, this is an art class just for toddlers and a parent or care giver. This is an "I Can Do It!" class that is fun, creative and filled with learning opportunities for both the child and care giver!

**When:** Tues., Sept. 19 - Oct. 24  
**Time:** 10:30 - 11:15 a.m.  
**Location:** Art Room, T.P. City Community Center  
**When:** Wed., Sept. 20 - Oct. 25  
**Location:** Art Room, T.P. Community Center  
**Time:** 3:15 - 4 p.m.  
**When:** Fri., Sept. 22 - Oct. 27  
**Location:** Heffner Community Center,  
 42 Oswego Avenue  
**Time:** 10:15 - 11 a.m.

### Mini Doodlers: Around the World

#### Ages 3 - 5

Inspire the artist in your little one with AbraKadoodle! Travel to exotic places with AbraKadoodle using paint, printing, sculpture, collage and color. Come with us as we explore Ecuador to create beautiful birds, Africa to create masks, India to create festival elephants, Mexico to create sun sculptures, and more! Get your ticket today.

**Session 1: Wed., Sept. 20 - Oct. 25**  
**Location:** Art Room, T.P. Community Center  
**Time:** 4:15 - 5 p.m.



Photos by Debra Haidtven

# THE CRIME REPORT

*This blotter is not intended to be inclusive of all crime and arrests reported to the Takoma Park Police Department*

Prepared by: Det. A/Lt. T. Collington

## Robbery

**On July 14 at 2 a.m. in the 7700 block of Maple Ave.,** an adult male was standing outside talking to friends when he was approached by four subjects. One began arguing with the victim and tried to take his duffel bag. When the victim punched the subject, the subject pulled a handgun out of a bag he had hidden in a bush and began firing at the victim as the victim ran away. The victim was not injured.

**On July 17 at 3:55 a.m. in the 1300 block of University Blvd.,** an adult male was waiting at a bus stop when he was approached by two subjects who asked for money. After the victim gave them one dollar and refused to give more, the subjects dragged him behind some shrubbery, took his wallet, pushed him into a bush and fled on foot. The victim was not injured.

**On August 13 at 3:20 a.m. in the 7600 block of New Hampshire Ave.,** an adult male was attacked while

walking and robbed of his cell phone. He received minor injuries.

## Assault

**On July 28 at 2:30 p.m. in the 7600 block of Carroll Ave.,** two adult males began arguing and one punched the other. The victim was not injured.

## Burglary

**On August 2 at 4:26 a.m. in the 7000 block of Carroll Ave.,** officers responding to an alarm found the front glass door smashed. A review of security video showed a subject kicking the glass door then throwing an object at the glass, breaking it. He then stepped inside, removed property and fled on foot.

**On August 16 at 2:38 a.m. in the 6800 block of Eastern Ave.,** a commercial burglary occurred. A window was broken to gain entry, property was taken.

**On August 16, time unknown, in the 7400 block of Glenside Dr.,** a residential burglary occurred. Entry was

gained through an open window. Property was taken.

## Auto and related theft

**On July 19 at 3:46 p.m. in the 6400 block of 5th Ave.,** a 2000 Toyota Camry was stolen by unknown method.

**On July 23 at 8:30 in the 7300 block of Maple Ave.,** a vandalism to an auto occurred. A witness saw a subject smash the windshield of the 2003 Honda Accord with a baseball bat.

**On August 2 between 6 p.m. and 9:56 pm in the 7500 block of Maple Ave.,** in an attempted auto theft, the ignition to a 2005 Dodge Caravan was damaged by unknown means.

**On August 14 at approximately 10 a.m. in the 500 block of Belford Place,** a 1993 Ford pick-up truck was stolen by unknown method.

**On August 13 at 4:12 a.m. in the 400 block of Beech Ave.,** two juvenile males were arrested and charged with multiple counts of attempted arson and two counts of arson. The arson

attempts on vehicles occurred on August 12 at 3:44 a.m. and 3:53 a.m. in the 100 block of Elm Ave. and two at 4:11a.m. in the unit block of Hickory Ave. The successful arsons occurred at 4:12 a.m. in the 400 block of Beech Ave. and 7100 block of Sycamore Ave. at 3:15 a.m. A third juvenile male was charged on August 14.

## ARRESTS

**On July 14 at 3:38 a.m. in the 7600 block of New Hampshire Ave.,** two adult males were arrested and charged with intoxication in a public place, trespassing and resisting arrest.

**On July 15 at 10:21 a.m. at the intersection of New Hampshire and Erskine Aves.,** an adult female was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated, driving under the influence and several traffic related charges.

**On July 15 at 12:20 a.m. in the 1300 block of University Blvd.,** an adult female was charged with attempted theft under \$500, forgery and uttering.

**On July 17 at 5:29 a.m. in the 7400 block of New Hampshire Ave.,** police responded to a call for an injured and disorderly subject. An adult male with a cut hand was found with CDS in his possession. He was transported to a hospital for treatment. A warrant for possession of CDS and vandalism will be obtained by police.

**On July 19 at 2:40 a.m. in the 600 block of Houston Ave.,** a criminal citation for possession of CDS paraphernalia was issued to an adult female.

**On July 19 at 12:57 p.m. at the intersection of 5th and Westmoreland Aves.,** an adult female was charged with possession of CDS and possession of CDS paraphernalia.

**On July 22 at 9:16 p.m. in the 600 block of Houston Ave.,** an adult male was arrested on an open Montgomery County warrant for 2nd degree assault.

**On July 21 at 6:07 p.m. in the 7500 block of Maple Ave.,** an adult male was arrested on an open Prince George's County warrant for theft over \$500 and a violation of probation.

**On July 22 at 8:02 p.m. in the 600 block of Houston Ave.,** police responded to a call for a theft in progress. Police found two adult males and two adult females in possession of CDS and CDS paraphernalia. One male was arrested on an open warrant. A criminal citation for possession of CDS paraphernalia was issued to an adult female. Officers have applied for warrants for the other two suspects for possession of CDS and possession of CDS paraphernalia.

**On July 23 at 12:10 a.m. in the 7600 block of Maple Ave.,** a criminal citation for loitering was issued to an adult male.

## The Firehouse Report

As of June 30, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the Takoma Park station responded to 522 fire-related incidents. The department handled or assisted with 1,247 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 1,769 incidents this year. Totals for 2005 were 509 and 1,296 respectively, for a total of 1,805 representing a decrease of 36 incidents.



## In The Lions Den

*Used Eyeglasses and Hearing Aids Needed*

The Takoma Park Lions Club over the years, has collected thousands of eyeglasses, as well as hearing aids. With your support we can help the needy here and in developing countries. The Lions are still taking donations. Used eyeglasses and hearing aids can be dropped off at the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, the Takoma Park Maryland Library, or the Takoma Park Post Office. The club also is accepting financial donations for eye exams and other eye care services. P.O. Box 11226, Takoma Park, MD 20913. We thank you.

## Blood Drive

The Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department in partnership with the Takoma Park Lions Club will sponsor a Blood Drive to be held on Thursday, August 31, at the City Community Center from 2-8 p.m. Should you have any questions, please contact Pam Taylor or Chief Jim Jarboe at the fire station, 301-270-8209.

## Fill the Boot

The members of the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department will again be collecting money for Muscular Dystrophy. This will be held on Friday, September 1, in front of the fire station from 4-7 p.m.

## Welcome New Member

At the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department August 9 membership meeting, Jason Judd was voted into membership. Over the past six months, the department has voted in several new members. At present, they are coming along great, taking their training and starting to ride the emergency equipment. If you are interested in joining, stop by the station and pick up an application. Questions, please contact Membership Chair Mike Livingston at 301-270-8209

## New Volunteer Deputy Fire Chief

At the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department July Board of Directors meeting, the board appointed member Daniel Blankfeld as it's Deputy Fire Chief. Congratulations to Deputy Chief Blankfeld!

## Cooking Safety and Food Fires

Stove burners, ovens, and micro-waves can cause severe burns and start fires. The same is true of counter top appliances such as toasters, coffee makers, and toaster ovens. Be sure all your kitchen appliances bear the label of an independent testing laboratory and are in proper working order. Never cook when you are drowsy, intoxicated, or taking medication that makes you sleepy. In the kitchen, follow these basic fire safety practices.

- Never leave cooking unattended, and keep potholders, towels, food packaging, and other clutter away from burners.

- Keep you stove top and oven clean. Grease and other food residues can catch fire.

- Wear short, close fitting, or tightly rolled up sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and catch fire.

- Always use fire resistant oven mitts or potholders. Caution: Using a wet oven mitt can cause a steam burn.

- Turn pot handles inward so pots can't be knocked off the stove or pulled down by small children.

- Maintain a kid-free zone three feet around your stove, and keep pets away while you cook.

Cooking is still one of the major causes of home fires, mostly due to occupants leaving their cooking unattended.

**Special note:** Over the past few months, there have been several major fires throughout the County. In the interest of your safety, please make sure that you have working smoke alarms on all levels of your home. In further, that you have a home escape plan for the entire family.



# Finding a Few Good Police Takes Time

*Second in a series on city police recruitment*

By Carol Bannerman

Some jobs are simple to fill and to obtain. A waitress can see a help wanted sign in a window, walk into a café and be making tips by dinner time. Obviously, not every job is that easy and policing certainly is an example of that.

The process for recruiting, hiring and training officers can take up to nine months, depending on their background and experience. For an officer already certified in Maryland, the process can take just a few months, but he or she will spend at least 90 days in field training with an experienced TPPD officer in order to learn agency policies and practices and the layout and characteristics of the City itself. An experienced officer from another state would also have to attend a month-long "compliance academy" to become familiar with Maryland laws and practices.

A raw recruit, with no police experience, would need to attend a police academy, sanctioned by the state, most of which last 18 to 26 weeks. Once sworn in as a Takoma Park officer, the candidate will complete field training, before beginning solo patrol.

Aspiring police officers begin the process by competing in a three-hour written police exam and signing a statement of eligibility for employment. (In the last year, Takoma Park has waived the written exam for currently certified officers or those who have completed a Maryland police academy.) With success in the exam and subsequent oral panel interview, applicants complete a lengthy application packet and ride-along with a Takoma Park officer, which is essentially an informal peer interview. This also acquaints the candidate to the City.

Viable candidates then enter the background investigation, which covers at least 10 years of the candidate's neighborhood, employment, and educational history. If the person remains a potential officer, he or she then undergoes medical, truth verification, and psychological exams. Only after successful completion of these will an employment offer be made.

Certified officers can be on patrol in a few weeks after this point. Rookie candidates will be sent to police academies, which are offered occasionally in varied locations throughout the state. Some academies are offered only once a year, others twice. The process from initial application to hiring generally takes five to seven months. The rookie may need at least 10 months to progress to patrolling.

Unlike some smaller police departments in the area, TPPD has long required a truth verification exam as one of the final steps to hiring, which has been a hurdle for some candidates. The Department uses either a polygraph exam or, more recently, a CVSA

or computer voice stress analysis. Within the past year, the state began requiring all departments to administer truth verification exams to applicants. Due to the nature of police work, honesty and integrity are paramount characteristics for officers.

The Maryland Police and Corrections Training Commission currently sets the standards for officer certification. Among these are that the applicant must be at least 21 years old and have U.S. citizenship and a high school diploma or GED. The MPCTC sets other standards related to criminal, driving, and drug use history. An applicant's history stands as a deterrent to many potential applicants, which is why TPPD begins its process with the Statement of Eligibility (see chart). Applicants who don't meet the basic state requirements should not take the exam. Occasionally if such an applicant has taken the exam, the deviation from the state's requirements comes up during the background investigation or in the truth verification or physical exams.

A successful candidate is paid a cadet salary during the academy, which is paid for by the Department. These officers sign a three-year contract with TPPD.

The Takoma Park Police have several candidates in various stages of the applicant process to fill openings. The Department continues to seek both certified and untrained candidates. Bilingual and minority (including female) candidates are encouraged. Interested candidates should contact Ofc. Paula Gaskin at 301-891-7128.

## POLICE NEWS

### Pirated Music Seized in Joint Operation

Assisting an investigator from the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), the Takoma Park Police confiscated more than 3,400 pirated and fraudulent music CD's in August. Another RIAA investigator, working with Prince George's County Police, took possession of thousands of additional music discs at a nearby business, which also contained equipment used to copy music.

Illegal production and distribution of sound recordings is estimated to cost the music industry more than \$300 million annually.

The Takoma Park team, supported by Andy Pappas of the RIAA, seized the materials at four shops on University Boulevard and New Hampshire Avenue. Additional investigation was required for music CDs located at a fifth site. The shopkeeper was advised on the requirements for sale of recorded music.

Pappas was accompanied in the five-hour process by officers from Criminal Investigations, Patrol, and the Community Oriented Police (COP) Team, A/Sgt. Richard Poole, Cpl. Rick Cannatella, and Cpl. Tina

Smith. Throughout the operation, Pappas provided on-the-job training to the officers on elements used to identify fraudulent electronic music, which the officers say will be valuable in their regular patrols.

The operations began with a tip to TPPD from a confidential source. Criminal Investigations contacted the RIAA for assistance in addressing the concern.

The Recording Industry Association of American is the trade group that represents the U.S. recording industry with the mission to foster a business and legal climate that supports and promotes its members' creative and financial vitality. RIAA members are the record companies that create, manufacture and/or distribute approximately 90 percent of all legitimate sound recordings produced and sold in the United States. In addition to enforcement efforts such as the Takoma Park foray, the association conducts education programs at legitimate CD duplication companies and for educators. For more information, visit [www.riaa.com](http://www.riaa.com)

#### Statement of Employability

To meet the Preliminary Selection Standards for Police Officer with the Takoma Park Police; an applicant must:

##### Controlled Dangerous Substances:

1. Have not had a lifetime maximum of 20 uses or ingestion of marijuana.
2. Have not used or experimented with marijuana within the past three years.
3. Have not used any Controlled Dangerous Substance, other than marijuana, within the past three years.
4. Have never used Cocaine or Cocaine Metabolites, PCP, LSD, heroin or any other hallucinogenic drug, experimentally or otherwise.
5. Have not sold, offered for sale, induced or attempted to induce another person in the use of illegal drugs

##### Driving:

6. Have not been convicted of driving a motor vehicle while intoxicated in the past three years.
7. Have not been convicted of two or more traffic violations involving motor vehicle accidents in the past three years.
8. Not currently have six or more points on his/her driving record.
9. Have or can obtain a license to drive in the applicant's jurisdiction of residence or Maryland

##### Domestic Violence:

10. Have never been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.

##### Criminal History:

11. Have not committed a felony crime as a juvenile after age 15.
12. Have not been convicted of a felony crime.
13. Have not been convicted of a misdemeanor involving "moral turpitude" — that is, involving commission of an act contrary to the moral conscience of the general public.
14. Have not been dishonorably discharged from the Armed Services of the United States (if having served).
15. Have not committed any serious undetected crimes for which they have not been arrested.

# Turning to Non-fiction For Kids

By Karen MacPherson

Is your child looking for a good book to read? Send them to the non-fiction shelves in the Children's Room. On those shelves, kids will find books about all kinds of subjects, from ants to knights to cooking to soccer.

In fact, non-fiction books often are a great answer for reluctant readers. Unfortunately, well-meaning adults tend to equate "reading" with "reading fiction," and forget to offer non-fiction to kids.

That's what prompted children's librarians to establish the Robert F. Sibert Medal, given to the most distinguished non-fiction book of the year as chosen by a panel of librarians.

Although overshadowed by the better-known Newbery and Caldecott Medals, the Sibert Medal is raising awareness about the importance of non-fiction for young readers and has helped establish a core collection of well-written non-fiction for kids. For a list of past Sibert Medal winners, go to: [www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/sibertmedal/Sibert\\_Medal.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/sibertmedal/Sibert_Medal.htm).

This year's Sibert Medal winner is *Secrets of a Civil War Submarine: Solving the Mysteries of the H.L. Hunley* by Sally M. Walker. A fascinating, carefully-documented look at how scientists are piecing together the story of the *Hunley*, which disappeared after it became the first submarine to sink an enemy ship on Feb. 17, 1864, the book is filled with color photographs and maps.

Walker first tells how and why the *Hunley* was built during the Civil War, then switches gears to recount how scientists have worked painstakingly to unearth the *Hunley* from the bottom of the sea and learn her secrets.

The 2006 Sibert committee also chose one honor book, *Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow* by Susan Campbell Bartoletti. Bartoletti shows young people as an important force in helping Adolph Hitler rise to power, focusing on 12 individuals — some true believers, some fearful of the consequences if they didn't go along, and some who eventually

defied the regime.

Filled with photographs, Bartoletti's powerful, thought-provoking book spurs young readers to ask themselves what they would have done had they lived in Germany at the time of Hitler. *Hitler Youth* makes fascinating reading for kids ages 12 up.

Other new non-fiction books in the Children's Room:

• *Freedom Riders*, by Ann Bausum, chronicles the efforts of a group of black and white civil rights activists to desegregate interstate transportation in the Deep South in the 1960's. (Ages 12 up)

• Author Louise Borden and artist Robert Andrew Parker combine talents to tell a riveting tale of World War II through the eyes of a schoolgirl in *Across the Blue Pacific*. (Ages 7-10).

• A lost bird finds a wonderful new home in *The True Story of Stellalina*, written and illustrated by Matteo Pericoli (Ages 5-10).

• Kids get fun, interactive history lessons in *How To Be An Egyptian Princess* by Jacqueline Morley and *How To Be a Revolutionary War Soldier* by Thomas Ratliff. (Ages 7-12).

• Author Trudee Romanek offers an up-close-and-personal look at blood in *Squirt!* (Ages 8-12).

• New how-to books include: *Knotting* (with projects great for both boys and girls, including a basketball net and guitar strap); *Junk Drawer Jewelry*; *Quick Knits*; *Horse Crafts*; *Chock Full of Chocolate*; and *Birdfeeders*. (Ages 8 up.)

• Got a bit of time and a cardboard box? Create something special with the help of *The Cardboard Box Book*, written by Danny Walsh and his two sons, Jake and Niall. (Ages 7 up, or younger with adult help).

• In *The Forbidden Schoolhouse*, author Suzanne Jurmain tells the story white woman named Prudence Crandall, who fought a lonely battle against racism when she opened the first New England academy for young African American women in Canterbury, Connecticut in 1833. (Ages 10 up).

# Spanish Storytime Begins

Join us for our first monthly family storytime — in Spanish — on Saturday, Oct. 7. The program will be led by Laura Kleinmann, a bilingual storytelling expert and the media specialist at Oyster Bilingual Elementary School in Washington, D.C. The hour-long program will begin at 10:30 a.m.

## Employment Opportunity

Immediate opening for HS graduate with one year work experience or 1 year college as Library Shelves. 15 hours/week, every weekday morning. Familiarity with books and libraries preferred. Submit resume and letter of interest to Ellen Robbins; call 301-891-7259.

# LIBRARY

## For College Bound 2006

Thursday, October 5, 7:30 p.m.  
Financial Aid for College  
Herm Davis

Dr. Herm Davis, author of *Financial Aid for Dummies*, will discuss the financial aid timetable, scholarships, loans, work-study, college savings plans, the FAFSA application and more. One of the nation's foremost college aid authorities, Davis heads the National College Scholarship Foundation, a non-profit organization providing information to students, and directs College Financial Aid Counseling and Education Services, Inc. He is a 30-year veteran in providing financial aid and scholarship information.

Wednesday, October 11, 7:30 p.m.  
Going to College: An Overview  
Lori Potts-Dupre

Dr. Lori Potts-Dupre will help you get started on the selection process. Which schools might provide the right fit — academically, financially and personally- for you? Topics include sorting out your personal criteria and goals, the admissions process, competitiveness, where do I go from here? Potts-Dupre has a private counseling practice in Takoma Park. She advises students and families on college options and choices. A former faculty research associate at

the University of Maryland, where she taught in the honors undergraduate scholarship program, Potts-Dupre has visited and evaluated more than 300 colleges nationwide. She enjoys helping students define and achieve personal and educational goals.

Wednesday, October 18, 7 p.m.  
How to prepare for SATs/ ACTs  
Ilhan Cagre

Dr. Ilhan Cagre returns with her son Yahya Mokhtarzada to demystify the dreaded SATs. They have spent the past two years preparing students for the new SAT that was introduced in the spring of 2005, and they will bring along their experiences and insights on this new format. Cagre is a linguist who has taught and designed SAT preparation classes for Montgomery County Public Schools, in private schools and as a private tutor. Parents and students have found her insights, as well as those of her sons, practical and helpful.

You may call 301-891-7259 or stop by the Takoma Park Maryland Library, 101 Philadelphia Avenue, to pre-register for these scheduled programs, which are free and open to the public.

Brought to you with support from the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library.

## Library Programs for Fall

### Summer Quest Party

Monday, September 11 at 7:30 p.m.  
Young readers celebrate the end of the summer's reading program  
Raffle for the resident stuffed bear • Prizes, crafts  
Please sign up at the desk

### Neighborhood Circle Time

Each Tuesday at 10 a.m. • Open to all preschoolers and their adults  
Informal sing-alongs, poetry, finger games, and nursery tales  
Participant-leadership welcome  
All ages; no preregistration required

### Twosies

Four Wednesdays at 10 a.m. • October 4, 11, 18, 25  
For two-year-olds and parent or caregiver  
Preregistration required: group-size limited  
Sign up at the desk starting September 1

### Friends of the Library Reading Group

Wednesday, October 4  
Discuss *The Life of Pi*, by Yann Martel  
All are invited • Call 301-891-7259 for time and place

### Spanish Storytime

Saturday, October 7 at 10:30 a.m.

### College Prep Series

Three dates in October (see story)  
Financial aid, SATs and overview

### Morrissey Golf Tournament

Monday, October 16  
Fundraiser in memory of Mike Morrissey  
Sign up to play, or sponsor a player  
Details and entry forms at the Library

### Shivery Stories

Monday, October 30 at 7:30 p.m.  
With storyteller extraordinaire Candace Wolf  
Recommended for ages six up.

Call 301-891-7259 to pre-register for programs or for more information.





## Police News *continued from page 9*

# Takoma Park Opens Child Sex Abuse Investigation

A routine patrol stop and follow-up investigation in Takoma Park led to a wider probe that garnered area-wide attention in early August. A bus driver, also a volunteer football coach, eventually was arrested for child sexual abuse and drug distribution.

The event began in late July when a resident mentioned that strangers were parking late at night in an apartment building parking lot in the 7600 block of Maple Avenue. When Sgt. Mark Hammond routinely cruised the area at about 4 a.m. on July 31, he saw a car with a Virginia license plate occupied in the rear seat by two individuals.

After running a computer check on the vehicle, he confronted the occupants, a man and woman. After providing identification and receiving a warning for trespassing, the man was released. Officers questioned the identity of the woman, who initially claimed to be an adult, and transported her to the station.

As time and interviews progressed, A/Sgt. Richard Poole of Criminal Investigations recognized the potentially broader implications of the case, having just completed training on prostitution investigations with the Montgomery County Police Vice and Intelligence

Unit. Poole contacted investigators in that unit, who recommended involving federal law enforcement.

The female admitted to Poole she was a 15-year-old high school student and reported that she had been in the car working as a prostitute. She said this was at the direction of a man she knew as a coach at her Bowie school. Based on the work of FBI Special Agent William McDormott, the Washington Metropolitan Police arrested the bus driver/coach, Anthony Burroughs that evening. Also arrested later was a police officer with another jurisdiction, who is charged with child sexual abuse.

Based on information developed in interviews with the juvenile, Takoma Park officers have charged the male in the Maple Avenue stop with pandering and fourth degree sex offense.

This event is another example of the necessary partnership for controlling crime and improving public safety. A resident's concerned report to the police prompted patrol at a suspect location. Patrol officers acted on potentially suspicious behavior, while criminal investigators used their training and expertise to address the crimes in an efficient and effective manner.

## School Opens: Drive Safely

The after-school hours of 4-8 p.m. are the most dangerous time of day for young pedestrians, especially those in elementary school (ages 5 to 9). As school starts, parents should review basic pedestrian rules with their children and identify the routes the parents consider most safe. September's "back to school" also signals the start of a coordinated campaign among law enforcement throughout the region focusing on traffic enforcement in school zones and on bus routes.

If they are unable to walk with their children every day, parents should set aside a few days to walk with their young students to model safe behaviors and set the family's own rules for safe routes and habits. The safer routes are those with the most pedestrian traffic, sidewalks, and crossings controlled by a guard or signal. Children should use sidewalks whenever they are available and cross streets only at corners or in crosswalks.

Takoma Park Police urge parents to encourage their children to use sidewalks whenever possible: A walking lane has been created in the city lot behind the library and community center. Traffic there coincides with school starting times and pedestrians should use either sidewalks on Maple and Philadelphia or the walkway, rather than the parking lot itself.

The police receive numerous complaints about students walking in the street and in parking lots, both dangerous practices. If a child bikes or rides a scooter, safety rules should be reviewed.

Takoma Park school crossing guards

are posted at Philadelphia Avenue and Piney Branch (two guards), on Maple Avenue at Sherman, Grant and Philadelphia, and on Philadelphia at Holly and Cedar. All of these posts are staffed during the elementary school hours (8:20-9:20 a.m. and 3:20-3:50 p.m.). The corners of Philadelphia at Piney Branch and Maple at Grant are also staffed during the middle school periods (7:20-8 a.m. and 2:40-3:00 p.m.).

### For Motorists

The 2006 "Back to School" enforcement campaign, sponsored by the Council of Governments, begins in September. In past campaigns, police cited thousands of motorists for speeding in school zones from Prince George's County to Gaithersburg and Fairfax.

The speed limit in city school zones is 15 m.p.h. when controls are displayed and fines are doubled for exceeding the limit. In general, the maximum speed for most city streets is 25 m.p.h. The fine for passing a stopped school bus is \$270 and two points. All vehicles must come to a complete stop when encountering a school bus with its manual stop extended and lights flashing.

Takoma Park includes seven school zones and numerous bus routes. Use caution when traveling in these areas. If driving children to school, parents should consult the school's own plans for entrances, exits and drop-off points.

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Government (COG) operates five coordinated regional traffic enforcement campaigns annually.

## Takoma Park City TV Events in September 2006

### Folk, Jazz and Candidates on Cable

City TV staff will be covering the Takoma Park Folk Festival on Sunday, September 10. Special Events playing this month will include replays of the Takoma Voice-sponsored Candidate's Forums held during June and July. Look for new shows from Independence Day, the Takoma Jazz Fest and the most recent poetry reading held at the Community Center.

**Takoma Snapshots** will feature replays of your favorite episodes over the last year. Please see the City web site for a specific schedule.

Visit our Web site at [www.TakomaParkMD.gov/cable](http://www.TakomaParkMD.gov/cable) to access show listings and times and other specific programming information.

Community and neighborhood groups may submit non-commercial notices regarding meetings or special events to City TV for inclusion on the bulletin board.

Many City TV programs, including Council meetings, Snapshots, Special Local Events and the bulletin board, are now available on the City website as a live and archived webstream. All Council meetings and Snapshots episodes are also available for patron check out at the Takoma Park Maryland Library. VHS Tapes of these shows, as well as other Takoma Park City TV events, may be purchased for \$15 (pick up) or \$18 (mail). Some programs are now available in DVD. Call 301-891-7118 or send an email to: [cabletv@takomagov.org](mailto:cabletv@takomagov.org) for more information.

## Takoma Park City TV September 2006 Programming Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7:00 AM	Community Bulletin Board	The Road to Recovery	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Community Bulletin Board	Takoma Snapshots	Community Bulletin Board	Community Bulletin Board
8:00 AM	Takoma Park Snapshots	PreSchool Power!		Takoma Park Snapshots	Community Bulletin Board	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Takoma Park Snapshots
9:00 AM	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Takoma Park Snapshots	National Gallery of Art	Coffeehouse	NASA Programming		Haiti a Suivre
10:00 AM		Coffeehouse	City Council Meeting (REPLAY) or Special Events	Music da camera	Government Focus	Takoma Park Snapshots	Coffeehouse
11:00 AM	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	CaribNation		Takoma Park Folk Festival	National Gallery of Art	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Media Watch on Hunger
NOON		Community Bulletin Board			City Council Meeting (REPLAY) or Special Events		
1:00 PM	The Road to Recovery	Takoma Park City TV Local Events		Takoma Park City TV Local Events			Takoma Park Folk Festival
2:00 PM	Media Watch on Hunger		Takoma Park Folk Festival			Media Watch on Hunger	
3:00 PM	Takoma Park Snapshots	NASA Programming		Music da camera			Takoma Park City TV Local Events
4:00 PM	PreSchool Power		Takoma Park Snapshots	Coffeehouse	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Haiti a Suivre	
5:00 PM	Music da camera	Takoma Park Snapshots	Government Focus	Haiti a Suivre		Takoma Snapshots	
5:30 PM	Chinese News						
6:00 PM		Community Bulletin Board	Chinese News	Community Bulletin Board	Takoma Park Snapshots	Community Bulletin Board	Community Bulletin Board
7:00 PM		National Gallery of Art		Takoma Park Snapshots	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Coffeehouse	Takoma Park Snapshots
7:30 PM	City Council Meeting/City TV Special Events	Coffeehouse	City Council Meeting (REPLAY) or Special Events	Takoma Park Folk Festival		Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Takoma Park Folk Festival
8:00 PM		Takoma Park City TV Local Events		Haiti a Suivre	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Haiti a Suivre	Coffeehouse
9:00 PM							
10:00 PM		CaribNation		Takoma Park City TV Special Events	Coffeehouse	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Takoma Park City TV Local Events
11:00 PM	Takoma Park Snapshots	NASA Programming	Takoma Park Snapshots		Haiti a Suivre		
12:00 Midnight							
1:00 AM	Road to Recovery		Community Bulletin Board				

Programming subject to change without notice.

**Takoma Park City TV**  
7500 Maple Avenue  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
301-891-7118

Email: [cabletv@takomagov.org](mailto:cabletv@takomagov.org)  
Web: [www.takomaparkmd.gov/cable](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/cable)

## Official Notice of Designation of Residential Permit Parking Area 5

The City Council adopted Ordinance 2006-32 on July 31, 2006, designating the 6700 block of Prince George’s Avenue, the 400 and 500 blocks of Belford Place, the 6700 block of Conway Avenue, the 6800 block of Belford Drive, and 6800-6806 New Hampshire Avenue, as part of a new Residential Permit Parking Area 5.

The days and hours for the “parking by permit only” restrictions in Area 5 will from 7 p.m. to 8 a.m., seven days a week. Only vehicles displaying a valid Area 5 parking permit or visitor permit may park in the area during posted hours.

Persons residing within the boundaries of the designated area may obtain a parking permit from the City if they wish to park their vehicle in the restricted zone. One permit may be issued for each registered motor vehicle within the designated area. Two-year permits will be sold to permanent residents at a cost of \$20. One-year permits will be sold to tenants with less than a two-year lease at a cost of \$12.50.

Attest: Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk

## Grant Money Available

Now is the time for brilliant ideas that will benefit the entire community: it is the season for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) proposals. The City of Takoma Park is currently accepting proposals for neighborhood revitalization, economic development, and improvements to community facilities and services — all directed at ensuring the residents of the city have decent housing, a suitable living environment, and plenty of economic opportunity. Among projects funded in the past: health assessment visits for Victory Towers residents, food distribution for low-income residents on Maple Avenue, sports programs for at-risk youth, streetscape improvements at Takoma Langley Crossroads and Maple Avenue, and assessment of city sidewalk access for people with disabilities. Any resident can apply.

Applications are due Monday, September 11, 2006 and are available online. For more information, please contact the Housing and Community Development Department at 301-891-7224 or SaraD@takomagov.org.

## Official Notice of Council Action on Traffic Calming Petitions

On July 31, 2006, the City Council voted to authorize the installation of one or more speed humps on the following blocks:

Lower Conway Avenue (Ordinance 2006-33)  
6800 Woodland Avenue (Ordinance 2006-34)

Attest: Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk

## Recreation

continued from page 7

### Doodlers: Castles and Dragons

#### Grades 1 – 5

Abakadoodle welcomes lads and lasses to explore the medieval world of castles, dragons, family crests, and shields. Create castles, shields, crests, crowns, magic wands, banners, and more with foam, paint, glitter, and sparkles! There is an \$18 materials fee to be paid to the instructor the first day of class. Maximum 10, minimum four. Six weeks.

**Session 3: Wed., Sept. 20 – Oct. 25**  
**Location:** Art Room, T.P. Community Center  
**Time:** 5:15 – 6 p.m.

### Drawing and Painting for Adults

Elements of art will be reviewed by beginners and advanced students together, with an emphasis on color relationships. Instructor-provided, still-life set-up inspires subject matter. Instruction is individualized for each student’s personal needs. Possible media include color pencil, pen and ink, pastels, acrylic and watercolor (no oils please). A sketchbook and pencil along with your chosen media will get you off to a good, productive start. Maximum 10, minimum five. Ten weeks. Instructor Joan Samworth.

**When:** Wed., Sept. 27 – Dec. 13  
**Time:** 7 – 9:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Art Room, T.P. Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue  
**Fee:** T.P. City Resident \$300  
Non-Resident \$320

### Painting Class for Adults

All levels, with instructor-provided set-ups and inspiration. Emphasis on the elements of art with particular attention to color relationships. Bring sketch book and pencil to first class along with desired medium (no oils please). Maximum 10, minimum five. Ten weeks. Instructor Joan Samworth.

**When:** Fri., Sept. 29 – Dec. 8  
**Time:** 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
**Location:** Art Room, T.P. Community Center  
**Fee:** T.P. City Resident \$325  
Non-Resident \$345

### Drawing and Watercolor

#### Ages 11 – 14

Learning techniques of black and white and color drawing, watercolor painting, pen and ink, and mixed media. Subjects include still life, portrait, landscape (weather permitting), and floral studies. Develop observational skills and explore personal expression through color, texture, light, form, and movement. Materials/model fee of \$25, paid directly to the instructor, will be due on the first day of class. Maximum 12, minimum seven. Six weeks. To receive \$15 to \$25 discount, must register for both sessions at time of registration. No exceptions. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman.

**Session I**  
**When:** Tues., Sept. 26 – Oct. 31  
**Session II**  
**When:** Tues., Nov. 14 – Dec. 19  
**Time:** 3 – 5 p.m.  
**Location:** Art Room, T.P. Community Center  
**Fee:** T.P. City Resident \$130  
Non-Resident \$140

### Advanced Drawing and Portfolio Development

#### Ages 15 – 18

Explore landscape, portrait, self portrait, figure, still life, floral and interior. Katie Dell Kaufman (former Director of Admissions at the Corcoran College of Art and Design) will instruct in graphite, charcoal, trois crayons, oil and chalk pastels and give demonstrations, critiques, and individual instruction appropriate to each student’s level. Materials/model fee of \$30, paid directly to the instructor, will be due on the first day of class. Maximum 12, minimum seven. Six weeks. To receive \$15 to \$25 discount, must register for both sessions at time of registration. No exceptions. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman.

**Session I**  
**When:** Mon., Sept. 25 – Oct. 30  
**Session II**  
**When:** Mon., Nov. 13 – Dec. 18  
**Time:** 3 – 5:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Art Room, T.P. Community Center  
**Fee:** T.P. City Resident \$175  
Non-Resident \$185

### Collage

#### Ages 18 and older

Explores ways of combining collage materials and art media with a variety of collage techniques; work with found and altered materials and explore creative two and 3-D assembly. Suitable for beginners as well as more experienced students. Basic materials (adhesives, supports, papers and paints) will be available (some personal or found collage elements may be desirable in addition to materials provided) A materials fee of \$30, paid directly to the instructor, will be due on the first day of class. Maximum 12, minimum seven. Six weeks. To receive \$15 to \$25 discount, must register for both sessions at time of registration. No exceptions. Instructor Katie Dell Kaufman.

**Session I**  
**When:** Tues., Sept. 26 – Oct. 31  
**Session II**  
**When:** Tues., Nov. 14 – Dec. 19  
**Time:** 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Art Room, T.P. Community Center  
**Fee:** T.P. City Resident \$200  
Non-Resident \$220

### Beginning Ceramics

#### Ages 16 and older

The basics of ceramic art, including hand building or throwing on the potter’s wheel. Space is limited for the potter’s wheel so sign up quickly. All students will learn about wedging, correct use of tools, and glazing. Make sure you wear clothes that you don’t mind getting dirty. Price includes instruction, one 25-lb bag of clay, and open studio time on Sundays from 2 – 5 p.m. Seven weeks. Instructor: John Baker.

**When:** Mon., Sept. 18 – Oct. 30  
**Time:** 7 – 9 p.m.  
**Location:** Art Room, T.P. Community Center  
**Fee:** T.P. City Resident \$135  
Non-Resident \$145

## Special Events

### Touch a Truck

For all those who love trucks — Breaker, breaker we got us a convoy. Check out the Takoma Park Recreation Department and Public Works Touch A Truck, featuring a Bobcat, Street Sweeper, Dump Truck, Trash Truck, and many others. Step inside each monster truck and dig it! This program is geared towards children ages 1-6. The first 175 truckers get a construction hat.

**When:** Sun., Sept. 17  
(rain date September 24)  
**Location:** Public Works Garage Area, Oswego Avenue  
**Time:** 1 – 3 p.m.  
**Fee:** Free!



Photos by Debra Haidtven

