

TAKOMA PARK JAZZ FESTIVAL

Sunday, June 14
11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
in Old Town

Takoma Park NEWSLETTER

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

NO TRASH HOLIDAYS

Trash collection
on schedule this
month.

Published by the City of Takoma Park

www.takomaparkmd.gov

JUNE 2009

Crime Down 17.9 Percent for the First Quarter

BY CATHERINE PLEVY

Part 1 crime has declined 17.9 percent for the first quarter of the year (January 1 – April 30, 2009) – this coming on top of the 11 percent drop last year is a 28.9 percent drop in serious crime for the last 16 months. Declines in burglary (51.1 percent), motor vehicle theft (48.7 percent) and robbery (20.0 percent) played a major part in the significant drop.

Takoma Park Police Chief Ronald A. Ricucci attributes these positive numbers to a fully staffed department, a more experienced undercover Tactical Enforcement Unit (TEU) on the street, more closures and arrests by the Criminal Investigations Division (CID) and strong working relationships with surrounding jurisdictions. Although at least three weekends of vehicle vandalism troubled residents in the first quarter, vandalism is still down from last year. In this year's cases, police have made an arrest in one; two others remain open.

Police say the community has responded well to requests for vigilance – to be extra eyes and report suspicious activity in their neighborhoods – and they credit this community involvement, cooperation and support as a fundamental part of the department's successful crime prevention. Ricucci also praises the efforts of the men and women of the department, sworn and non-sworn, whose hard work and effort produced the downturn in crime stats. The department-community partnership continues to grow and improve, he says.



Runner Joelle Ocheltree grins as she crosses the finish line at the first ever Safe Routes to School Takoma Park 5K Challenge, Fun Run and Youth Run. She was one of 300 registrants at the event, which went on without a hitch despite rainy weather. For more photos and story, see page 12.

Photo by Randy Smith

Councilmember Barry Steps Down Replacement expected by late June

BY VIRGINIA MYERS

After three terms representing Ward 6 on the Takoma Park City Council, Doug Barry is stepping down. Barry, a 12-year Takoma Park resident, is moving into the District, where much of his work and family activities occur: his job is in Washington, as is his daughter's school and the family's temple.

"It is with very mixed feelings that we leave," says Barry. "[Takoma Park] is a wonderful community. We've loved it here." But, he adds, "We really feel our quality of life is going to be better by being closer in."

Barry's last City Council meeting was May 26; he leaves Takoma Park May 28.

Because Barry leaves with fewer than 240 days before the next City Council election, the City Council will appoint an interim councilmember. Council is urging qualified applicants to apply only if they are not interested in running for the Ward 6 seat in the November election – that way, the person they appoint wouldn't have the advantage of experience over other candidates, and the election, Council reasons, will be more purely the choice of the residents, not the Council. Applications for the position are due to the City Clerk June 12; Council hopes to make a decision June 22. (For more information on the interim councilmember, see box).

DOUG BARRY continues on page 12

NOTICE OF WARD 6 CITY COUNCIL VACANCY

Ward 6 Councilmember Doug Barry has announced his resignation from the City Council effective following the May 26 City Council meeting. Pursuant to Section 308 of the City Charter, if a vacancy on the City Council occurs less than 240 days before the next regularly scheduled City election, the remaining members of the Council by a majority vote shall, within 60 days, appoint a person who is qualified in accordance with Section 304 of the Charter.

The City Council is seeking qualified applicants who are not interested in run-

ning for the Ward 6 seat in the November election. The City Council will interview qualified applicants at the Council meeting on June 15 and, if necessary, will interview additional applicants on June 22. The Council intends to make its selection on June 22.

Interested applicants should send a letter of interest and resume or statement of qualifications to City Clerk, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912 or e-mail to Clerk@takomagov.org. The application deadline is June 12.

For further information, contact Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, at 301-891-7267.

New Recreation Program Helps Teens to MAN UP

BY SUSAN HOLLIDAY

Nine successful young men, all products of humble households and Howard University, are volunteering each week to help Takoma Park teen boys to "man up" and achieve their goals.

The Takoma Park Recreation Department is sponsoring MAN UP (Making A New United People), a weekly Tuesday evening activity and mentoring group for teens to "set a foundation for them, so they can look at the lives of these guys [the mentors] and say, 'That's the way I want to go,'" says Takoma Park Recreation Department Director Debra Haiduven.

The City Council and Recreation Department had targeted teen mentoring as one of their strategic goals. "I don't care where you live, every kid is at risk at this point in their lives," says Haiduven. "They can be wooed by negative influences. We're thrilled to have these young men working with them."

Many of the MAN UP mentors experienced positive results with a similar volunteer program they ran while undergraduates at Howard University. They called the Howard group of ten mentors the Talented Tenth, based on the writings of W.E.B. DuBois, who said essentially that the most accomplished African Americans hold a responsibility to help the rest of their people to achieve.

The group's goal at Howard, as with MAN

MAN UP
continues on page 9

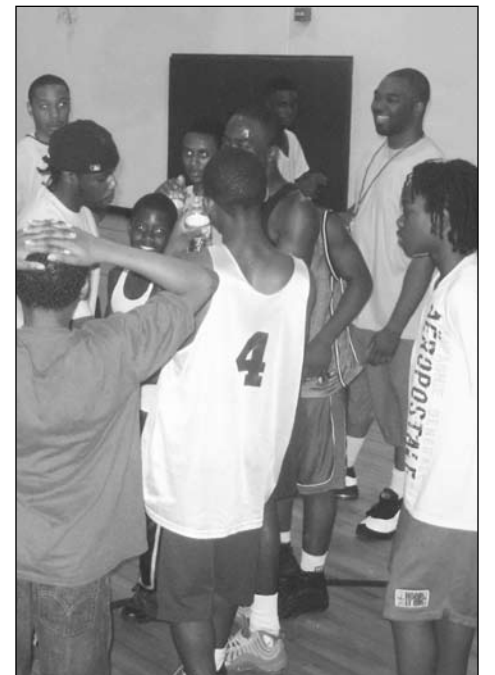


Photo by Debra Haiduven

MAN UP mentors mix it up with local teens at a basketball tournament last month.

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CITY COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE CALENDAR*

Monday, June 1 - City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m.
(CC Auditorium)

Tuesday, June 2 - Emergency Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs hearing (Hampshire Towers Tenant Assoc. V. Tenacity), 7 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

Monday, June 8 - City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m.
(CC Auditorium)

Tuesday, June 9 - Tree Commission meeting, 6:30 p.m. (CC Atrium Room)

Tuesday, June 9 - (Tentative) Committee on the Environment meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Tuesday, June 9 - (Tentative) Takoma Park Board of Elections meeting, 7 p.m. (CC Council Conference Room)

Monday, June 15 - City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium) - Including interviews of applicants for the Ward 6 City Council vacancy

Monday, June 15 - Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Tuesday, June 16 - WAH Land Use Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Tuesday, June 16 - Facade Advisory Board meeting, 7 p.m. (CC Lilac Room)

Thursday, June 18 - Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting, 8:30 a.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Monday, June 22 - Reception to Honor Retired Ward 6 City Councilmember Doug Barry, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. (CC Atrium Lobby)

Monday, June 22 - City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium) - Including additional interviews of applicants for the Ward 6 City Council vacancy and appointment of Councilmember

Tuesday, June 23 - Arts and Humanities Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

June 28 - July 1 - the City Council will be attending the Maryland Municipal League Convention

*For the most up to date information, check www.takomaparkmd.gov. Most meetings are held in the Takoma Park Community Center - Sam Abbott Citizens' Center, 7500 Maple Avenue (CC). Individuals interested in receiving a weekly Council agenda and calendar update by e-mail should contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267 or clerk@takomagov.org.

The City of Takoma Park is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in public meetings. Anyone planning to attend a Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing, and who wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services or accommodations is invited to contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267, at least 48 hours in advance, at the telephone number listed in the notice or through the Maryland Relay Service (1-800-735-2258 TTY/Voice).

City Council Action*

*Only negative votes and abstentions are noted. For additional information, contact the City Clerk at Clerk@takomagov.org.

April 20, 2009 - Special Session

First Reading Ordinance 2009-17 was accepted, authorizing the execution of a contract with a consultant to assist with matters related to the proposed relocation of Washington Adventist Hospital

The Consent Agenda was adopted.
It consisted of:

Single Reading Ordinance 2009-18, authorizing the purchase of replacement computer servers

Single Reading Ordinance 2009-19, authorizing execution of a contract for streetscape improvements on Holton Lane

Single Reading Ordinance 2009-20 amending the contract for the construction of a storm drain outfall at stream channel behind 519 New York Avenue to include replacing a stormwater trench with a pipe

April 27, 2009 - Regular Meeting

The Consent Agenda was adopted.
It consisted of:

Resolution 2009-13 reappointing Julie Boddy and Linda Gunter to the Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee

Resolution 2009-14 reappointing Steve Davies and Kathleen Quinn to the Noise Control Board

Resolution 2009-15 reappointing Alexandra Barrionuevo, Rick Weiss, Sabrina Baron (HTI Representative), and James DiLuigi (HTI Alternate) to the Facade Advisory Board

Resolution 2009-16 reappointing Anne Ludlow to the Emergency Preparedness Committee

Resolution 2009-17 appointing Elena Rosemond to the Arts and Humanities Commission

Second Reading Ordinance 2009-17 was adopted, authorizing the execution of a contract with

a consultant to assist with matters related to the proposed relocation of Washington Adventist Hospital

May 7, 2009 - Special Session

The Consent Agenda was adopted.
It consisted of:

Resolution 2009-18 recognizing Public Service Recognition Week (May 4-10, 2009)

Resolution 2009-19 recognizing National Police Week (May 10-16, 2009) and Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15)

May 11, 2009 - Regular Meeting

Resolution 2009-20 was adopted, acknowledging receipt of the final report of the Health Services Impact Committee

Single Reading Ordinance 2009-21 was adopted, authorizing contract award for development of specifications and construction drawings for the Linden Avenue water quality retrofit and retaining wall replacement

First Reading Ordinance 2009-22 was accepted, amending Takoma Park Code, Title 5 Elections

First Reading Ordinance 2009-23 was accepted, adopting a revised FY09 pay scale for staff who are not covered by a collective bargaining agreement (voting no: Councilmember Seamens)

First Reading Ordinance 2009-24 was accepted, adopting a revised FY09 pay scale for police officers (voting no: Councilmember Seamens)

The Consent Agenda was adopted.
It consisted of:

Resolution 2009-21, recognizing National Public Works Week (May 17-23, 2009)

Single Reading Ordinance 2009-25, authorizing the execution of a contract for services for rents analyst.

Speak with the Mayor

Mayor Bruce Williams welcomes community input and invites you to meet with him during his regular office hours on Tuesdays, 2-5 p.m. (by appointment only) and 5-7 p.m. (for walk-ins), in the third floor Council Conference Room of the Takoma Park Community Center. Walk-ins are requested to check in at the reception desk on the main floor. If a holiday falls on a Monday, office hours move to Wednesday, same time.



Bruce Williams

For appointments, contact Peggy Washington, 301-891-7230 or peggyew@takomagov.org.

For Quick City Service Use My TKPK

Email your questions about city services or find answers on FAQs
www.takomaparkmd.gov/customer_service/index.html

Volunteers Needed

TO SERVE ON COUNCIL APPOINTED BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

There are positions for Takoma Park residents available on many City boards, commissions and committees. Please consider volunteering to serve.

Additional information can be found at www.takomaparkmd.gov or contact the City Clerk for more information (301-891-7267 or Clerk@takomagov.org).

Arts and Humanities Commission (vacancies)

Committee on the Environment (vacancies)

Facade Advisory Board (one vacancy)

Noise Control Board (vacancies)

Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee (vacancies)

Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee (vacancies)

Recreation Committee (vacancies)

Safe Roadways Committee (vacancies)

Play's the Thing

By JOY LAWSON JONES

"Go out and play!"

When was the last time you heard that expression? If the Takoma Park Play Committee has its way, we'll all be saying it *and* doing it, babies and boomers, toddlers and teens, six-year-olds and sexagenarians alike.

Pat Rumbaugh, Maple Avenue resident and founder of the Takoma Park Play Committee, has been thinking about the importance of play since her children were small, nearly 20 years. She's recently written *Let's Play!* (slated for publication next year), a children's book about play with photos by photographer Daniel Nakamura, formerly of Takoma Park.

Rumbaugh got the idea for the Takoma Park Play Committee when she noticed that, for a lot of reasons, children didn't just "go out and play" as much as they used to. An avid tennis player and teacher/coach at Washington International School, Rumbaugh says the lack of open play space, especially in urban areas, competition from screen-time activities like television, movies and video games, and perhaps too much adult-led activity have seriously cut into good, honest, creative playtime.

"Today, play is often too structured," says Rumbaugh. "Children need to have more of an opportunity to practice social skills, use their imagination, exercise their creativity and make decisions about what to get involved in and with whom. Child-initiated play offers all these things, on top of, and in addition to, the fun and joy of simply playing." In her opinion, this is a loss, not only for children, but for everyone.

Maryland author and founder of the National Institute for Play, Stuart Brown, M.D., would seem to agree. In his book with Christopher Vaughn, *Play: How It Shapes the Brain, Opens the Imagination, and Invigorates the Soul* (Penguin) and on a recent Penguin blog he says that "...play is essential to our social skills, adaptability, intelligence, creativity, ability to problem solve, and more. Play is hardwired into our brains—it is the mechanism by which we become resilient, smart, and adaptable people." According to the blog, Dr. Brown's background in psychiatry, and his clinical research into animal and human play and the causes and prevention of violence, have shown him that "play is as important to humans as vitamins or sleep, and that authentic play is a state of being which can be accessed and used by everyone."

Rumbaugh, who says she consulted with



Photo by Sara Daines

Free play — like drawing with chalk, making up games, playing at the park — has a new group of proponents in the Takoma Park Play Committee. These fun-loving folks hope kids and adults will make more time to get out and play.

Brown, says that the Takoma Park Play Committee is on a mission to get everyone to rediscover the benefits of purposeless, joyful play, whatever that means to an individual. Especially for adults, she says that "we have to stop feeling guilty about play. There is more to life than work. We need to give ourselves permission to play—whether it's a ten-minute walk, taking a class you enjoy or a good old romp with the dogs!"

Paula Lisowski is a member of the Takoma Park Play Committee, and likes the idea that Takoma Park could become known as a "playful city." As the Takoma Park Recreation Department's coordinator for the seniors programs, Lisowski says that her "goal for the program is improving the quality of life of older adults [with] a healthful, upbeat and satisfying lifestyle. Play at any age is important for physical and emotional health. Play reduces stress, promotes social interaction and increases physical well being."

Lisowski says that recently, several seniors have discovered, to their surprise,

the many benefits of the seemingly simple but challenging game of table tennis, including increased eye-hand coordination, aerobic exercise, mental fitness through game strategy and social interaction. Most important, she has observed, the game is fun and leads to much laughter and joy. "The more opportunities for play for all age groups, the better quality of life and the growth of a sense of community for everyone in Takoma Park," says Lisowski.

Another local supporter of child-initiated, unstructured play is Karen MacPherson, Takoma Park's children's librarian. In 2002, in a series on play for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, she wrote that "child development specialists say they [unstructured play activities] were crucial in cultivating your creativity and imagination, as well as expanding your intellectual, emotional and social skills. In other words, unstructured child's play — the kind with no rules, few gizmos and little or no adult direction — packs a powerful developmental wallop."

With the benefits of play seemingly gen-

erally acknowledged, the new Takoma Park Play Committee already has several strategies planned for getting residents of all ages to play: getting activities approved for SSL credits for high school students, surveys on how residents use/would like to use local parks and playgrounds, an Intergenerational Day Picnic, Sidewalk Days and other activities that would build on the existing Takoma Park Recreation Department programs that are popular for all ages. A Play Day, with all sorts of activities, is on the calendar for September 26 at Hefner Park. Expect announcements about how you can participate in some of these play activities soon.

Pat Rumbaugh says her dream is that "it becomes okay for all of us to play every day, and that we all play more!"

The Takoma Park Play Committee can be reached via email at pattenn58@aol.com. The Takoma Park Recreation Department can be reached at 301-891-7290.



THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

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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, or letters to the editor will be considered for publication if sent to tpnewseditor@takomagov.org or Newsletter, City of

Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912.

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 neces-

sarily 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.

HOUSING Briefs

Is There A Vacant or Abandoned Property in Your Neighborhood?

Montgomery County's Department of Code Enforcement is maintaining a list of vacant and/or abandoned properties in the county. The purpose of the list is to monitor these neglected properties to prevent them from becoming eyesores in the neighborhoods.

Although it is anticipated that most of these properties will eventually be sold, the maintenance and upkeep of the properties is a concern to the city and

the county governments. If you know of a single family or multifamily property that is vacant or abandoned, please call 301-891-7119 and give the address of the property. Reports of vacant properties can be done anonymously. Thank you for your participation in this program.

Are You Eligible for a Tax Credit?

Homeowners' and Renters' Tax Credit Applications Due September 1, 2009

Homeowner and Renter Tax credit applications are now available for the 2009 tax year and are due September 1, 2009. The tax credit programs are designed to help low income home owners and rent-

ers by limiting the amount that they must pay in property taxes. To receive the tax credit, an application and all supporting documentation must be sent to the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation no later than September 1 of each year.

The maximum property assessment eligible for credit is \$300,000, but even though your home may be assessed for a larger amount, it's only the first \$300,000 of its assessed value that will be counted for this credit.

To obtain an application for the homeowners' or renters' tax credit programs, you can call the State of Maryland at 1-800-944-7403, access it on their website, www.dat.state.md/sdatweb/taxcredits.html#htcrctc or call Linda Walker at

301-891-7222.

Tenant Rights Class June 9

Are you concerned your landlord won't return your security deposit? What is the proper way to give notice when you want to vacate your apartment? What are your rights regarding to a landlord entering into your apartment? These are just some of the questions that will be answered at this Tenant Rights class that will be held on Tuesday, June 9, starting at 7 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland. The class is free, but pre-registration is recommended. Please call 301-891-7222.



BY MOSES A. WILDS, JR.,
LANDLORD-TENANT
COORDINATOR

Housing Mailbox

A real estate agent representing a prospective purchaser of a rental property in Takoma Park contacted the Mailbox regarding what information about the property must be provided to his client by the seller and/or his agent prior to the sales closing date.

Effective April 9, 2007 the seller of any rental facility located within the City of Takoma Park is required to provide any prospective purchaser with the following information:

- A notice of city rental laws including Landlord-Tenant Relations (Chapter 6.16), Rent Stabilization (Chapter 6.20) and Tenant Opportunity to Purchase (Chapter 6.32);
- Copies of the annual rent reports for the rental facility for the previous two years. If the rental facility is exempt from the city's rent stabilization law, a city-issued Certificate of Exemption must be attached to the contract of sale;
- Copies of all rental licensing inspection reports of the rental facility for the previ-

ous two years.

Both the seller and prospective purchaser are required to sign and date a written acknowledgment (Notice of Rental Housing Laws) that the information indicated above has been delivered and received. This notice must be attached to and included as an addendum to the contract for sale.

Within five days of receipt of the required information from the seller, a purchaser has the right to rescind a sales contract and to have his/her deposit returned. If the seller fails to provide the required information, the purchaser has one year to seek from a court a declaration that the sale is void.

The disclosure requirements described above do not apply to the following rental facility transactions:

- A sheriff's sale, tax sale, deed in lieu of foreclosure or foreclosure sale, partition or by court appointed trustee;
- A transfer by a fiduciary as part of the administration of a decedent's estate, guardianship, conservatory or trust;
- A transfer of the rental facility or any interest therein, to a spouse, former spouse, domestic partner, former domestic partner, parent, sibling, child or grandchild; or
- A transfer of a single-family rental facility to a purchaser who indicates in the sales contract that the property will not be used for rental purposes.

Sellers and/or prospective purchasers of city rental facilities should call 301-891-7222 for additional information.

Tenants or landlords having questions regarding the city's Landlord-Tenant Relations Law are requested to call 301-891-7215 or contact me via the web at MosesW@takomagov.org.



Digital TV Starts June 12th!

If you have a TV that is not connected to cable or satellite, you will not be able to watch TV with "rabbit ears" without a converter box. For more information, visit www.dtv.gov or call 1-888-225-5322.

Takoma Langley Crossroads Sector Plan



Community Meeting! Urban Design Guidelines

Tuesday, June 30, 7:30 p.m.
Community Center
7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park

Learn about and discuss
urban design guidelines for
future development

The Takoma Langley Crossroads Sector Plan is a M-NCPPC planning project in partnership with the City in preparation for the Purple Line. It will guide future redevelopment and public investment. For more information, see www.montgomeryplanning.org/community/takoma_langley_crossroads or call 301-891-7205.



Local Activists Get Red-Carpet Treatment

By KEVIN ADLER
BOARD MEMBER,
TAKOMA FOUNDATION

There's always something happening in Takoma Park. One month, the Piney Branch Elementary pool re-opens. The next, a neighborhood pocket-park gets refurbished. A month after that, a mosaic project begins. Throughout the year, festivals, house tours, concerts and parades mark our calendars. Meanwhile, kids have access to mentoring programs and after-school tutoring, and seniors enjoy daytime programs. It's all part of life in Takoma Park.

On April 25, the 5th Annual Azalea Awards honored the most outstanding activists who have helped to create and sustain this array of local programs and projects. More than 1,000 votes were received online in 10 categories, and the winners were announced at a ceremony attended by honorees, family, VIPs and scores of other guests.

The Awards evening began with a reception that filled the lobby of the Community Center. Visitors viewed new artwork purchased with the help of the Takoma Foundation (Diane Tuckman's silk banners and Mary Ittner's enlargement of a century-old glass-negative photo of ice skating on Sligo Creek) and paintings by Takoma Park artist Sheila Blake.

After the VIPs arrived, everyone walked along the red carpet into City Council chambers where Eric Bond, publisher of the *Takoma Voice*, and Pam Larson, past chair of the Takoma Foundation, were masters-of-ceremony.

Tom Perez, a Takoma Park resident, was the first of several guest speakers. He praised Takoma Park's deep social commitment, and applauded the Takoma Foundation for providing seed money to programs that serve a wide range of populations. Other political leaders in attendance in-

The 2009 Azalea Award honorees:

Takoma Spirit

Youth Basketball League and Takoma Park Street Festival (tie)

Takoma Activist

Kay Daniels-Cohen

Coach

Monica Ettinger

Arts

Sam and Bobbi Kittner

Green Takoma

SatJiwan Ikke-Khlasa

School Activist

Ray Scannell

Volunteer Superhero

John Hume

Business

Zoe Stern

Educator

Mary Hochkeppel

Mentor

Becky Linafelt

cluded State Sen. Jamie Raskin, State Delegates Sheila Hixson and Tom Hucker, Montgomery County Councilmembers Marc Elrich and George Leventhal, Takoma Park Mayor Bruce Williams, and City Councilmembers Dan Robinson, Terry Seamens and Josh Wright.

The presentation of the 2009 Azalea Awards made clear the dedication of the honorees, who have helped to create a new children's basketball league, bring new activity to Old Town Takoma, inspire new environmental programs and enhance artistic energy—among other achievements. The winners' comments reflected their passion for the community:

Kay Daniels-Cohen, resplendent in red, white and blue, was named the Takoma Activist of the year. It might be more proper to say she's a second-generation Takoma Park activist, as Opal Daniels Park is named after her mother. A driving force behind recreation projects, community associations and more, Daniels-Cohen declared, "Takoma Park is the only place I ever want to live."

Ray Scannell, School Activist, explained that keeping pressure on school officials is necessary to ensure that students continue to get superior

educations and opportunities.

Sam Kittner, Takoma Artist, said that public spaces can and must be revitalized through art, such as the mural he is facilitating on his downtown Takoma Park building.

Light and serious moments were intermingled with the presentations. Howard Kohn returned with his handwritten signage that roused the crowd into cheers, applause and stomps at appropriate times. Raffle drawings kept people running up and down the aisles for their prizes. On a more somber note, the audience watched video tributes to two beloved community members lost in the last year: Jillian Raye (Lumina Theatre) and Belle Ziegler (Recreation Department and July 4th parade).

To wrap up the evening, musicians from Takoma Zone led the audience through a stumbling rendition—and world premiere—of "O, Takoma." Written by Anne Suplee to honor the memory of another local leader, Dean Hoge, "O, Takoma" is sung to the tune of "Oklahoma." (A special Azalea Award should be created for native Oklahoman Robbi Kimball, who joined Takoma Zone on-stage and was obviously the only person who knew the tune start-to-finish.)



Takoma Mosaic Project

You've been watching its progress on the library wall — perhaps even helped in its creation. Now it's time to celebrate the completion of the Takoma Mosaic! Join the party on Friday, June 5 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center. For more information on this inaugural project that involved so many different segments of the community, go to www.takomamosaic.org.

Paño in the American Tradition

Paño art, created in prisons across America, will be featured at Gallery 3 in the Takoma Park Community Center, from June 12 through July 25. Part of the collection of the Safe Streets Arts Foundation, which operates the Prison Art Gallery in Washington D.C., the paños, penned or penciled on handkerchiefs and torn sheets, exhibit the creativity that flourishes even in America's prison system. The opening reception will be held June 12 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and will feature live music by former prisoner and guitarist Dennis Sobin, who has performed at the Kennedy Center.

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

It's open mic at this month's poetry reading! Please join us on Thursday, June 18 and share your poetry with us. The reading begins at 7:30 p.m. and will be held in Gallery 3 on the third floor of the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. A reception follows the reading.

Jazz Fest Tunes Up June 14

The 14th Annual Takoma Park Jazz Festival takes to the streets of Old Town on Sunday, June 14 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. With "Swing's the Thing" as its theme this year, there will be plenty of danceable music from 12 different bands on two stages, plus food and crafts, rain or shine. For more info, go to tpjazzfest.org.

For more information on these and other activities sponsored by the Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission, please contact Sara Anne Daines at 301-891-7224, by email at ach@takomagov.org or check online at www.takomaparkmd.org.

Paño Prison Art at Gallery 3

An art show featuring "paño" art created in prisons across America will be featured in a special show at Gallery 3 in the Takoma Park Community Center from June 12 to July 25. The art is part of the collection of the Safe Streets Arts Foundation, which operates the Prison Art Gallery in Washington, D.C. The opening reception, June 12 from 6 to 9 p.m., will feature live music by ex-prisoner guitarist Dennis Sobin, who has performed at the Kennedy Center.

Paño art draws on the deepest emotions of prisoners whose artistic expression is limited only by the materials at hand. The word paño (Spanish for cloth or handkerchief) has come to mean the art form itself — a ball point pen or colored pencil drawing on a handkerchief.

Scholars have yet to determine the origin of paño art but some believe it emerged in the 1940s among Chicano prisoners in the Southwestern United States. Since finding art materials would have been difficult, they drew instead on handkerchiefs or torn bed sheets.

Such portable, economical "canvases" make it easier for prisoners to share their work with family and friends, use it to barter, and create a mental escape from the grind of prison life. Today paño art is associated with Chicano inmates around the country, both male and female, who neatly fold paños into envelopes and mail them to loved ones.

Residents Consider Maple Avenue Makeover

By CARMAN LAM
ASSOCIATE PLANNER

People care about the future of Maple Avenue. This was evident last month, when some 25 community members — home and condo owners, apartment tenants and apartment management staff — gathered at the Community Center for an evening workshop about the area. Ward 4 Councilmember Terry Seamens also participated, and interpreters in Amharic, Russian and Spanish were on hand to be sure everyone could be included in the conversation.

As the first of a series of three workshops funded by a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Workshop 1: What Do You Want? was designed to open a communication channel between the City and

the community, and among community members to discuss the future of Maple Avenue between Philadelphia Avenue and Sligo Creek Parkway. Outreach input will be used to develop a plan and decide how best to spend improvement funds available through the CDBG.

The Big Picture

The planning team started off with a slide show on land uses, development regulation and demographic information. Many public recreation facilities and green spaces are accessible from Maple Avenue — some obvious, like the stream valley hike and bike trail, and others tucked away, like Opal Daniels Park. Things that are not visible to the naked eye were also discussed: For instance, existing zoning regulations that encourage neighborhood-serv-

ing retail and allow retail development within multi-family residential buildings.

A predominately multi-family residential area with many public uses, such as the Takoma Park Library and the Piney Branch Elementary School, the area between Piney Branch and Carroll Avenue south of Sligo Creek and north of Philadelphia Avenue is home to about a quarter of the residents in the City and has a quarter of its housing units.

In 2000, the racial characteristics of the area were distinct from the City's. According to the Census, this area has 15 percent less White population than the City as a whole, 15 percent more Black/ African

MAPLE AVE.
continues on page 7

JUNE RECREATION

Tremendous Trips

Grades 1 – 5 (as of September '09)
Each day offers a different experience. Sign up for one trip or pre-register for them all. Minimum enrollment must be met. Trips are subject to change. Meet in the Azalea Room, TP Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave.

When: Wed., June 17
Trip: Splashdown Water Park, Manassas, Va.
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Fee: TP resident \$25
Non-resident \$30

When: Thurs., June 18
Trip: Port Discovery, Baltimore, Md.
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Fee: TP resident \$25
Non-resident \$30

When: Fri., June 19
Trip: Water Park and Mini Golf, Gaithersburg, Md.
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Fee: TP resident \$25
Non-resident \$30

Camp Takoma

Grades 1 - 5 (as of September '09)
Join us on a new adventure each week with plenty of opportunities to discover arts and crafts, games, swimming, nature activities, special events and trips to various fun locations. The fee includes all field trips, special events and a camp t-shirt. No camp on July 3.

When: Mon. – Fri., June 22 – Aug. 7
Time: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Before Care: 7 – 9 a.m. (additional fee)
After Care: 4 – 6 p.m. (additional fee)
Location: TP Community Center

Fee, weeks 1, 3-7:
TP residents \$110/week
Non-residents \$125/week

Fee, week 2:
TP residents \$95/week
Non-residents \$110/week

Special offer!
Get week #2 FREE if enrolling for all seven weeks.



Monica Lane proudly wears the silk scarf she made in a class taught by Clara Graves in the art room of the Community Center.

Photos by Debra Haiduven



Photos by Debra Haiduven

Jason Miskiri motivates kids at the YES Basketball League kick-off event held in the Recreation Center on NH Ave. He is running a basketball camp in partnership with the Recreation Department in June.

Jason Miskiri's Basketball Camp

Ages 7 - 17
Be a part of something big this summer with Takoma Park native Jason Miskiri, who attended Blair High School, Montgomery College and George Mason University and moved on to the Charlotte Hornets. In partnership with the Takoma Park Recreation Department, this co-ed camp focuses on building strong skills for everyone regardless of experience. Registration forms are available in the Recreation office and at www.miskiricamp.com. For more information call 202-369-7116 or email Jason at jmiskiri@hotmail.com. Choose one or two weeks. Cost includes t-shirt, awards and prizes. Bring your lunch. Before and after care are not offered for this camp.

When: Mon.-Fri.
Session 1: June 22 - 26
Session 2: June 29 - July 3
Time: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Location: Montgomery Blair High School
51 University Blvd. East,
Silver Spring, Md.
Fees: \$175/week or \$330 for both weeks

Digital Bridge - Technology Camp

Ages 13 - 17
Learn how to shoot and edit videos and upload them to YouTube. Create videos with still photos, music and voice. Research and purchase a domain name and create your own website. Learn how to take digital photos and transfer images to t-shirts, mugs, write and post stories on web. For more information or if you have any questions please contact Digital Bridge, Martha Ocheing at 301-598-0604 or 240-330-7857. Co-sponsored by Montgomery County Recreation Department.
Session 1: Mon. - Fri., June 22 - 26
Session 2: Mon. - Fri., Aug. 10 - 14
Time: 8:30 a.m. - noon
Location: TP Recreation Center
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Fee: \$75

Extreme Horizons

Grades 6 – 8 (as of September '09)
Try your hand at rock climbing, horseback riding,

mountain biking and swimming. Each week will have a trip to a theme park. Fee includes a camp t-shirt, all field trips and special events.

When: Mon. – Fri., June 22 – Aug. 7
Time: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Before care: 7 – 9 a.m. (additional fee)
After care: 4 – 6 p.m. (additional fee)
Location: TP Community Center

Fees weeks 1, 3-7:
TP Residents \$180/week
Non-residents \$200/week

Fee week 2:
TP residents \$165/week
Non-residents \$185/week

Visual Arts Camp

Ages 11 – 14
Two hours of drawing in the morning using graphite, pen and ink, colored pencils, pastels, or conte crayon, etc. followed by two or more hours of painting and/or collage and assemblage in the afternoon. Media such as watercolor, painting, sumi-e, mixed media painting, texture and found-object assemblage will be explored. Trips to the pool, art-related movies, access to the game room during the day and outdoor art adventures are all included. All materials are included in fee. Maximum 12, minimum nine. Instructor Katie Dell Kaufman. No camp on July 3.

When: Mon. – Thurs.
Session 1: June 29 – July 2
Time: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Location: Art Room, TP Community Center
Session 1 Fee:

TP residents \$240
Non-residents \$260

When: Mon. - Fri.
Session 2: July 6 – 10
Time: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Location: Art Room, TP Community Center
Session 2 Fee:

TP residents \$300
Non-residents \$320

Remember, you can register Online: Visit activenet.active.com/takomaparkrecreation

RECREATION

continued from page 6

Movie Under the Stars Saturday, June 13

All ages

Come watch the movie, *Night at the Museum* under the stars!

Location: Ed Wilhelm Field
behind Piney Branch
Elementary School

Time: Takoma Park Community Band
begins playing at 8 p.m.
Movie begins at 8:30 p.m.

Fee: Free

New Seniors Class:

Learn to Play Bridge

Registration is required to participate. Please call 301-891-7280 for more information and to register.

When: Thursdays, June 4 to July 9, 2009

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Location: Senior Room, TP Community Center

Fee: \$10 TP residents, \$15 Non-residents



Photos by Debra Haiduven

Participants in Leslie Sapp's (right) ESOL Through Theater program use their improv skills to express themselves.

MAPLE AVE.

continued from page 5

American, and about 5 percent less Hispanic/Latino.

The housing characteristics of this area were also unique. Less than 25 percent of the housing units here are owner-occupied, compared to almost 50 percent across the City. The common demographics here are in household and average family size: in both the Maple Avenue area and the City household size is 2.5 people, and average family size is three.

Although certain sections of Maple Avenue were perceived as unsafe by many participants at the planning meeting, based on police department crime statistics Ward 4 (Maple Avenue area) has the lowest share of crime among all five wards — 11 percent of the City's 2008 total. This revelation drew a large whoop and smiles from participants.

Envisioning the Future

Equipped with background in-

formation on land use and area demographics, participants at the May meeting divided into four teams to take part in two hands-on exercises. The exercises gave each team member an opportunity to identify what he or she felt were the area's strengths and weaknesses, and to describe a vision of Maple Avenue in five to ten years. Each group took turns presenting its findings to the entire audience.

Through the teams' reports, common interests and concerns became evident, such as the need for pedestrian lighting, the condition of the area around neighborhood retail stores and loitering.

In the visioning exercises, the groups used maps, drawings and lists to come up with ideas to improve Maple Avenue. Group 1 envisioned a clean-up day that would bring residents together and instill a sense of neighborhood ownership, while improving the physical appearance of the area. Some seniors from the Franklin Apartments suggested a designated area for a community vegetable garden, where residents could enjoy the

outdoors and be self-sustaining. A homeowner on Sherman Avenue suggested day-lighting a stream in the Takoma Woods area.

Upcoming workshops

The planning team will present the summarized findings and identify areas for further study and potential improvement at Workshop 2: Review Options, to be held on Wednesday, May 27. Development options will also be presented for discussion.

Workshop 3: Revise Final Concept will be held on Wednesday, June 10 at 7 p.m. in the Lilac Room at the Takoma Park Community Center. Staff will refine development alternatives based on comments received at Workshop 2 and present the revised final concept plan.

For more information or to arrange individual meetings in other languages, please contact Carman Lam, Associate Planner, at 301-891-7219, or carmanl@takomagov.org.

Independence Day Honors Belle Ziegler

The annual Independence Day Parade is on for Saturday, July 4, and this year its theme, "The Belle of Takoma," will honor long-time community organizer Belle Ziegler, who was instrumental in organizing the event — and many other community activities — until her death last December.

The parade begins at 10 a.m. at Takoma Junction, and continues along Carroll Avenue, down Maple to Ritchie Avenue.

NBA basketball star Steve Francis is hosting a community barbecue on Ed Wilhelm Field, behind Piney Branch Elementary School, immediately following the

parade. Everyone is invited to enjoy the food, and there will be moon bounces and a train ride for the kids.

Then the fireworks program begins at 7 p.m. on Lee Jordan Field, next to Takoma Park Middle School. People will want to arrive early this year for an expanded entertainment program.

To raise funds for the day's events, the planning committee is auctioning furniture and household goods. To arrange to contribute items to the auction, call Joyce Seamens at 301-565-0190. Goods will be collected in Takoma Park, then sent to a professional auction site in southern Maryland for sale.

The annual raffle ticket sales will again be a major fundraiser for the events. Please call Howard Kohn at 301-270-8187 to assist in selling tickets in your neighborhood.

Rain date for all events is Sunday, July 5.

PAÑO

continued from page 5

Paños typically depict prison life, loved ones, dreams, memories or personal experiences. The artists take much of their imagery and inspiration from the larger visual arts vocabulary of Chicano art conspicuous in murals, posters, low rider cars, graffiti and tattoos.

Most prisons offer handkerchiefs for sale in the commissary and tacitly sanction the art. Paños are collected in great numbers by convict patrons. Even the Smithsonian Institution has a paño collection, recognizing the uniqueness of this art form.

The Safe Streets Arts Foundation, incorporating both the Prisons Foundation and the Victims Foundation, is the sponsor of the annual From Prison to the Stage Show at the Kennedy Center and the Prison Art Gallery in Washington, D.C. It is supported through the generosity of Lloyd S. Rubin, ex-prisoner and international arts consultant.

For more information about the Paño Art Show, contact Stéphan Janin at: tpahcexhibitsdirector@hotmail.com



Knit Your Socks Off!

WORLD WIDE KNIT IN PUBLIC DAY

Saturday, June 13 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

B. Y. Morrison Park at Takoma Junction
(intersection of Carroll and Ethan Allen Avenues)

Come stitch blankets and cushions for shelter animals. Knitters, crocheters, weavers, sewing enthusiasts, and other fiber artists welcome!

Meet area dyers, spinners and weavers.

Rain or Shine

Sponsored by The Big Bad Woof and Now & Then

How You Can Prepare for Pandemic Flu

By Wolfgang Mergner
Emergency Preparedness Committee

The future course of the current H1N1 Influenza outbreak, also known as Swine Flu, is hard to predict. Although it has been mild in most cases, it is sporadic and could still become a real pandemic in the United States, affecting the operation of the City of Takoma Park and impacting many households.



To address this possibility, the Emergency Preparedness Committee offers the following guide. Also important to note: the City of Takoma Park will provide continuous services and continuity of operations (COOP), such as police protection, garbage removal, etc., should a pandemic occur.

Preventing the spread of influenza

How do you recognize signs of flu? Swine flu is often characterized by sudden onset of symptoms: chills and fever above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, a stuffy nose, feeling of weakness, cough, sore throat and muscle aches. Diarrhea and abdominal pain may be present. People with the flu should remain at home.

How does the infection spread? The infection spreads from human to human by contact, often through contaminated hands and by aerosol droplets of coughing and sneezing.

What can everyone do? Recognize symptoms in members of the household or in yourself. The general rule to contain the spread of infection is social distancing. Stay home and/or maintain at least six feet distance from people if you have to interact in public.

The second rule is strict hygiene. Wash your hands with soap and water frequently. This is the single best preventive measure. Do not touch your eyes, nose and/or mouth. Wash dishes and laundry often. Dispose of tissues in plastic bags and discard. Clean counters and surfaces. It is imperative for people to "cover the cough" – cover mouth and nose with tissues or cough into your elbow.

Taking care of those who are sick.

Isolate the patient at home. If you have



to take care of a sick person at home it is reasonable to segregate the sick person from the rest of the household. One person should be assigned to provide care. Infected persons can be contagious up to 48 hours prior to showing symptoms, and perhaps as much as seven or more days after feeling better. This is why preventative measures (hand washing, social distancing and sneeze/cough etiquette) should be employed whenever possible when dealing with other members of the public, not only when in the presence of a symptomatic person.

Provide patient care. This involves making the person comfortable by providing food and liquids, and monitoring the patient — tracking temperature, observing skin color, recording approximate quantity of liquids consumed, recording how many times the person urinates, recording the color of the urine and recording all medications. To relieve symptoms of flu and to reduce fever, over-the-counter drugs like Advil, Motrin or Tylenol can be given. Do not give adult aspirin to children – use proper children's medications. Liquids are important and should be given if the sick person is not vomiting. Do not give liquids to a person who is actively vomiting; wait some time and then try again.

When is hospital care needed? Finally, it is important to watch for complications of influenza: difficulty breathing, coughing up blood, signs of dehydration, confusion, convulsions, etc. In these circumstances,

the care taker should call his or her regular healthcare provider. The Montgomery County Public Health Information line can also be consulted at 240-777-4200.

Strengthening households

Stock up. A pandemic flu may affect the delivery of food and other essential items in stores. Therefore, it will be important to stock the household with all essential items for longer isolation of about five days to a week.

Create an influenza stay-at-home tool kit. Include: thermometer, alcohol wipes, or cotton balls with 70 percent Isopropyl alcohol, fever-reducing medication (Tylenol, Motrin and Advil, to be taken as directed), juices and liquids, bleach (diluted bleach for disinfection - 1/3 cup of bleach with 3 cups of water- label how to use it for disinfection – DO NOT use straight bleach), plastic/paper cups, napkins, tissues, soap and water, hand sanitizer, trash bag for all waste, surgical masks and lists of resources for delivery of goods to your home. The kit should also include supplies for pet care, i.e. food, water, identification, first aid kit and cleaning supplies.

Don't believe the myth. You cannot contract the H1N1 Influenza through eating pork or pork products.

Reference: Stay at Home Toolkit, Montgomery County, Maryland, Department of Health and Human Services, 2008

Annual Police Department Awards, 2008

Officer of the Year
D/Pfc. Charles Hoetzel

Meritorious Service Medal
Pfc. Angela Donovan

Life-Saving Medal
D/Sgt. Andrew John
Cpl. Cynthia Conrad
Cpl. Greg Wolff

Supervisor of the Year
Lt. Richard Cipperly

Civilian of the Year
Danyelle Gallop

Unit Citation - Tactical Enforcement Unit (TEU)
D/Sgt. Andrew John
D/Pfc. Matthew Barber
D/Pfc. Thomas Black
D/Pfc. Charles Hoetzel

Command Recognitions
Sgt. Tyrone Collington
D/Sgt. Richard Poole
D/Sgt. Andrew John
Det. Rick Cannatella
Det. Matthew Barber
Cpl. Kristian Pedersen
Cpl. Keith Largent
Pfc. Derek Fields
Pfc. Walter Smith
Pfc. Joseph Butler
Pvt. Abigail Gaines-Brown
Catherine Plevy

Memorandum of Commendation
Lt. Richard Cipperly
D/Sgt. Andrew John
Sgt. Tina Smith
Cpl. Fred Roush
Cpl. Jerome Erwin
Cpl. Greg Wolff
Cpl. Nick Carter
Det. Rick Cannatella
Det. Matthew Barber
Det. Charles Hoetzel
Pfc. Joseph Butler
Pfc. Ernest Atwell
Pfc. Kyle Robison
Pvt. Samuel Villegas
Pvt. Darrell Mathew
Pvt. Carla Magnaye
Danyelle Gallop
Demetrice White
Kyleen Luy

Education Awards
Dispatcher Ana Cubillo
Det. Rick Cannatella
Kyleen Luy
Gretchen Hilburger
Cpl. Michelle Holmes
Pfc. Angela Donovan
Pfc. Joseph Butler

First Place Shooter Award
Pfc. David Quante

Letters of Appreciation:
Minnie Johnson
Doris Rodgers
Ethel Sutton
Liz James
Carolyn Pinkard
Emma Garcia de Reyes
Pamela Sprouse

County Won't Cut Ride On Bus Service

The Montgomery County Council has found a way to avoid most of the proposed cuts to Ride On bus service this year. Seniors and school children (in the after school hours) may continue to ride without charge on Ride On buses. Cuts to routes, hours of service, and bus frequency were largely avoided by using some of the county's parking district revenue for the bus system.

Cuts to Ride On service in the Takoma Park area would have been minimal, due to the area's high use of public transportation, but frequency of service would have been reduced.

Embedded in the cost-cutting proposals was a change requested by Takoma Park residents. This change, the rerouting of Routes 18 and 25, would have allowed residents of Victory Tower on Carroll Avenue to travel more easily to the Takoma Park Community Center, Piney Branch Swimming Pool and Washington Adventist Hospital. Also, it would have allowed the residents of the

apartment buildings of Maple Avenue to reach Takoma Old Town more directly. The change to Routes 18 and 25 is still likely to take place, but will be delayed until early September when the Ride On system makes its regular schedule changes.

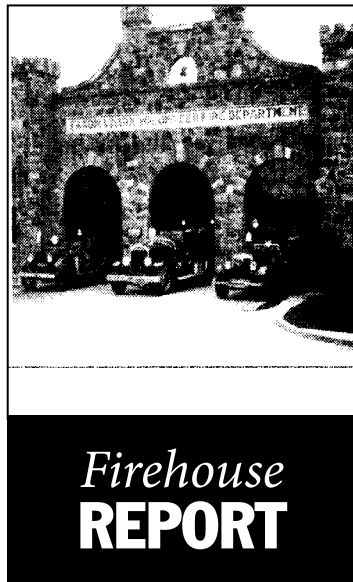
Decisions on Ride On bus service are not final until the County Council votes on the Fiscal Year 2010 budget and Ride On assesses those decisions. Information will be posted on the City's web page at www.takomaparkmd.gov/rideon, as it becomes available.

As of April 30, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the Takoma Park station have responded to 258 fire-related incidents. The department handled or assisted with 907 rescue or ambulance-related incidents, for a total of 1,165 this year. Totals for 2008 were 209 and 941 respectively, for a total of 1,150, representing an increase of 15 incidents.

Summer Days are Critical

This year's 108 "critical days" of summer 2009 are here. From May 23 until September 7, including Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day, safety is especially important as residents head out outdoors to enjoy seasonal activities.

You'll be swimming, fishing, skiing and boating; you'll be in your SUVs, RVs, trucks and on your bicycles. For summer fun, keep "safety" on your travel checklist. Remember to wear seat belts in vehicles and helmets on bicycles, and always obey the rules of the road. If you're headed toward the water, be sure swimmers are supervised and stay alert and cautious if you're boating or fishing. Enjoy the summer. Drive, work and play safely.



By JIM JARBOE

Keep Candles Safe

Never leave a burning candle unattended!

- Use candle holders that are sturdy, won't tip over easily, are made from a material that can't burn and are large enough to collect dripping wax

- Place candle holders on a sturdy, uncluttered surface - away from edges and any place where they could be knocked over by children or pets.
- Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and loose clothing away from the flame.
- Keep candle wicks trimmed to one-quarter inch.
- Extinguish candles when they burn down to within two inches of their holder or any decorative material.
- Extinguish candles carefully. Do not leave the room until wicks have stopped glowing.
- Do not leave young children unattended in a room with a candle.

During Power Outages

- Avoid using candles for emergency lighting.
- If your electrical service goes out, use flashlights and battery-powered lamps when possible.
- Don't carry lit candles.
- Extinguish all candles when you leave the room or go to sleep.

Securing Your Home During Vacation

By CATHERINE PLEVY

Summer is approaching — vacation time! Here are several things you can do to minimize the risk of having your home burglarized while you are on vacation.

Put your mail on hold or have someone pick it up for you daily.

Put your newspaper on hold or have someone pick it up for you daily. Newspapers accumulating in your driveway or on your porch indicates your absence.

Put your lights on a timer. Timers come in a wide variety from a programmable, computerized home to a simple plug-in for a lamp. Have two or three rooms equipped so the lights go on and off at various times. Also leave the light over the stove on all the time, as the kitchen is one room that tends to have lights on most.

Don't leave a message on your answering machine that you are away.

Let a neighbor know where you are going and leave a contact number. If you feel comfortable, leave a key with that neighbor.

In addition, if no one will be staying at your house while you are away, you are eligible to request a vacant house check. In this program, a Takoma Park police officer will visit your home once a day during your absence and inspect the premises for any signs of suspicious activity. Only single-family dwellings, duplexes and town homes will be checked. Occupants must be absent for at least four or more days with a maximum of 30 days. No vacant houses without furniture or other property will be checked. No rental houses occupied by other renters will be checked.

You can pick up a copy of the Vacant House Check Form from the police department, or find it at www.takoma-parkmd.gov/propertyprotection.html. The form can be faxed to the Dispatch Office at 301-891-3284 or you may call in your request at 301-270-1100.



Takoma Park Lions Club Honors Emergency Workers

At the Takoma Park Lions Club's dinner meeting held on April 21, President Mike Bigler, middle, presented the Takoma Park Lions Club Fire Fighter of the Year Award to Captain Fred Probst, left, Station Commander (Montgomery County Fire Rescue Service) assigned to the Takoma Park fire station. The TPLC Police of the Year, Officer Charles Hoetzel of the Takoma Park Police Department was unable to attend; Captain Ed Coursey accepted the award on his behalf.



The Lions Club Everyday Heroes Award

At the 64th Annual District 22-C Night Banquet, held on April 25, at the Greater Waldorf Jaycees Center, Lions Club International Director Edward Lecius presented Takoma Park Lions Club President Mike Bigler with the District 22-C Everyday Heroes Award for community service. Pictured left to right: Lecius, Bigler and Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department Chief Jim Jarboe.

MAN UP

continued from page 1

UP, was "to connect with community, to give back," explains Brandon Johns, one of the mentors. Johns, a Takoma Park resident who by day serves on the staff of the House Judiciary Committee, had approached Haiduven to propose the teen mentoring program for the City. He knew some teens from his apartment building and could see how the program could help them.

Haiduven then met with all of the mentors to work out the details. They pointed to the Talented Tenth's successful programs, which included partnering with a District of Columbia elementary school as after-school mentors and running Bowling for Blankets with teens, to raise money and awareness for homeless people.

"Our mission," asserts the MAN UP Concept Statement, "is to develop the next generation of successful leaders by impacting the lives of youth in underserved communities through the principles of history, education, social responsibility and knowledge of self."

"We hope to help today's youth 'man up' in life, and by doing that, they will be accomplishing whatever goal it is that they set forth to achieve," the MAN UP statement continues.

MAN UP plans weekly meetings with the teens at the Community Center's teen lounge to hang out, talk, and arrange trips into the community. The mentors hope for a combination of excursions - to sporting events, museums, and other fun events. In May MAN UP sponsored a well-attended basketball tournament and had scheduled laser tag and paint ball trips. The Recreation Department will help underwrite some of the cost of the events.

At a Tuesday evening rap session with the teens in May, Recreation Department Teen Director Faye Wright drove a van load of teens from the rec center on New Hampshire Avenue to the Community Center and

helped out with pizza and drinks. As the boys ranged around the room, the mentors were almost indistinguishable from them, which is part of the idea.

"We all came from inner city backgrounds and rose through academics," says Anthony Goodson, one of the mentors whose day job is at the American Chemical Society. "We want to give them not just ambition, but the tools to get it. And they can relate to us because we're not too far removed from where they are right now."

As the mentors talked with the teens, they shared who they were and what they saw happening with MAN UP. Darryl Perkins works for the Hip Hop Caucus, and talked up the idea of internships for the teens. Keith Monroe agreed, saying he started as an intern at the U.S. Treasury Department and now enjoys his finance job there. Tosin Osho does construction management, and told anyone with interest in building to speak with him. Andrew Barnor's an electrical engineer who also had worked

as a pre-engineering teacher. Christopher Chukwueke, who got some good-natured grief for showing up in a suit (no tie), is in hotel/hospitality management. One of the two mentors absent that night was a lawyer, the other a video editor.

The mentors acknowledge that it may seem crazy to the teens to be thinking about a profession now, but the men want the boys to explore. "What you're going through," says Osho, "we've been through already. Tell us what you want to do and we'll help you get there."

The mentors understand many of the pressures the teens are experiencing. They can talk about the issues that the boys face first hand and show them that they have different choices they can make. "I was in a lot of trouble as a youth," says Johns. "My father was my positive role model. He showed me that this is how you conduct yourself as a man. Because of that, I ended up in a better place."



LIBRARY Briefs

Dads and Teachers

Kids, show your dad or teacher how special they are by making them a hand-made gift. Come on Monday, June 8, from 6:30-8 p.m., to make a gift or two, as well as a card. All craft materials will be provided by the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library – all you have to do is provide the creativity! Registration is required so we can be sure to have enough craft materials for all. To register, go to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or call us at 301-891-7259.

Saturday Circles

This month, we're offering two different Saturday morning programs for young children and their grown-ups. On Saturday, June 13, from 10:30-11 a.m., we'll be hosting a traditional Circle Time filled with songs, rhymes, fingerplays and a simple story. Then, on Saturday, June 27, from 10:30-11 a.m., Madame Marie DeFeche Mackler offers a French Circle Time, filled with songs and rhymes. No need to register; just come!

Shadow Puppets

On Monday, June 29, from 7-8:30 p.m., master shadow puppeteer Daniel Barash brings his magic back to our Library for another special program. Participants will watch Daniel do a shadow puppet show, then create their own puppets and put on their own show. This program is geared to kids ages 5 and up; registration is required. To register, go to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or call us at 301-891-7259.

Book Sale Scores Indoors

The Friends of the Library book sale on May 16 was counted a success by all, despite a last minute relocation to the Community Center lobby. The sale netted \$1,600 after a rainy weather forecast made organizers decide that the Library lawn was just too risky with more than 80 cartons of used books to unpack and display.

As always, the sale was a spirited community event – with volunteers and eager book buyers mingling and visiting as they eagerly scanned tables filled with an impressive array of reading choices for all ages and interests at bargain prices.

The Friends and the Library staff wish to thank the many helpers and volunteers who made the sale a success. In no special order, they are: Chris Hinton, Alex Aguilar, Sol Logan Braithwaite Prensky, AnneMarie Stroud, Bob and MaryAnn Annis, Walter and Sterling Mulbry, Charles Walton, Michele Morgan, Clair Garman, Suzanne Morgan, Dan and Nancy Kunkle, Sonja Kueppers, Sam McCollin, Malik Brooks, Tim Rahn, Luca Longo, Rebekah Zanditon, Jenny Apostol, Judy Treible, Alanna Natanson, Karen Boyer, Patty Ghezzi, Davida Carr, Maurice Belanger, Mary Jane Muchui – and especially Dave Burbank of the Library staff who worked all year sorting books in addition to helping at the sale, and tireless book sale coordinator Merrill Leffler.

The Friends book sale returns in October. September 21 is the date scheduled for the Mike Morrissey golf tournament – our next major fundraiser.

Software Update

The Library is updating the software that controls its circulation and catalog records. Library users will see a new set of screens when they access our catalog. The new interface may look very different at first, but Library staff is happy to provide help in using it to look for materials. In time, it will enable patrons to renew their books and place reserves on-line.

Best Books For Babies and Toddlers

By KAREN MACPHERSON

Choosing good books for babies and toddlers isn't an easy task.

Books must be age-appropriate, which generally means bold colors and simple, or no, text for the youngest readers. Books also must be sturdy so that tiny hands and teeth can't destroy them; board books are a particularly good choice for babies for this reason. And, because parents will be reading – repeatedly – these books to their little ones, the text and illustrations should be interesting enough to make read-aloud time fun for adults as well as children.

Fortunately, there's a wonderful guide to the best books for babies and toddlers for parents, the annual Best Books for Babies list published by a Pittsburgh literacy group called Beginning With Books (www.beginningwithbooks.org).

Each year, a group of children's literature and child development ex-



perts sponsored by Beginning With Books sifts through the thousands of books published for each year to come up with a "Top 10" list for babies and toddlers. Beginning With Books began the Best Books For Babies lists ten years ago, with inspiration from the

late Fred Rogers, a Pittsburgh native.

Today, the Best Books For Babies list remains the only American literary award devoted specifically to

BOOKS FOR BABIES
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New Spine Sticker Helps Hybrid Books Stand Out

As the only small, city-run library in Maryland, our library already is special. Now, we've created our own unique spine sticker to denote a category of kids' fiction that is increasing in number and popularity – "hybrid" books. Perhaps the best – and definitely most popular – example of these books is the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series by Jeff Kinney.

We developed the name "hybrid" because these books are a blend of words and text. The books have too many words to be graphic novels, but they also have too many illustrations to be traditional novels. They are a hybrid of the two literary forms.

Since we're always being asked by kids for "more books like the *Wimpy Kid* ones," we took a look around

our shelves and realized that we already have lots of hybrid books, most of them collected in series. Among these are: the *Magic School Bus* series by Joanna Cole; the *Amelia* books by Marissa Moss; the *Little Wolf* books by Ian Whybrow; and the *Dear Max* books by Sally Grindley.

Of course, the ever-popular *Captain Underpants* and *Ricky Ricotta* books by Dav Pilkey are hybrids, as are author Ruth Barshaw's new *Ellie McDoodle* books, which offer an interesting, somewhat more complex alternative to the *Wimpy Kids* books. Perhaps the most outstanding literary example of a hybrid book is *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, the groundbreaking Caldecott Medal winner written and illustrated by Brian O.

Selznick.

At the moment, we've gathered many hybrid books and put them on display on a shelf in our Children's Room. Eventually, however, they will be dispersed to their normal homes in the fiction section. To make the hybrid books easy to spot on the fiction shelves, Library Assistant Dave Burbank designed a special spine sticker for them. We had the sticker, which has a black illustration and letters on a white background, manufactured by one of our suppliers, making us the only library in the world with such spine labels. Once the hybrid books are put back in their regular places, all kids will have to do is look for the sticker and they'll easily find another book "like the *Wimpy Kid* ones."

TAKOMA PARK LIBRARY CALENDAR

Registration required for some events, as indicated in listing. For a few events, it is encouraged, but not required, as noted. You can register online by going to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or by calling 301-891-7259. Events take place in the Library unless otherwise noted.

Neighborhood Circle Time
Every Tuesday
Two times: 10 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

Spanish Circle Time
Every Thursday, 11-11:30 a.m.
Come sing songs, do rhymes and hear stories in Spanish and English in this program led by Señora Maria.

Lapsit
For babies from birth through 12

months, and their grown-ups.
Wednesdays in May, 11 a.m.
Registration required.

Bedtime Stories
Monday, June 1, 7 p.m.
Come in p.j.s, bring your teddy bear or other stuffed favorites as we read stories and sing songs and rhymes in this half-hour program. For babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups.

Make Gifts for Dads and Teachers
Monday, June 8, 6:30-8 p.m.
Registration required.
(See article, page 10)

Summer Quest Kick-Off
Monday, June 15, 7:30 p.m.
Launch our latest Summer Quest reading program. Registration encouraged.

Banned Books Club
For kids grades 6 and up.
Monday, June 22, 7:30 p.m.

Harriet the Spy by Louise Fitzhugh.
Copies are available for check-out, thanks to the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library.
All welcome; registration required.

Saturday Circle Time
Saturday, June 13, 10:30 a.m.-11 a.m. Ages: Babies, toddlers and preschoolers.

Friends Reading Group
Thursday, July 30, 7:30 p.m.
The White Hotel by D.M. Thomas.
All welcome.

French Bilingual Circle Time
Saturday, June 27, 10:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. Stories, songs and rhymes in French and English. For babies, toddlers and preschoolers.

Shadow Puppets
Monday, June 29, 7-8:30 p.m.
Learn to make shadow puppets and then put on a show.
Ages 5 up; registration required.

Warming Up for Summer Quest

Our 2009 Summer Quest reading program kicks off with a gala event on Monday, June 15, at 7:30 p.m. At that time, Library Assistant Dave Burbank, who writes and illustrates our Summer Quest program each year, will present his latest creation, in which readers will journey around a sunken city as they complete a series of ten fun – and unusual – reading challenges. We're the only library in Maryland to create our own Summer Quest program, which is funded by the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library.

Our Summer Quest program consists of an adventure story and a game board, both created by Dave. Here's how it works: when kids enroll in Summer Quest, they choose a bookmark-sized character from a dozen or more choices. Kids then name their character and, if they want, color it in. Kids take home one copy of the character; a smaller copy of their character is used to record their progress on the giant-sized Summer Quest game board in our Children's Room. In addition to their character, kids also take home a smaller version of the game board, plus a copy of the story.

Kids use the story to play the Summer Quest game and find out what types of books they need to read to move their character along the board. At each point in

the story, there is a different type of book to read. Among the challenges readers may face are: "read a book that shows you how to make or do something, then make or do it;" "read a novel by an author whose last name begins with the same letter as your last name;" and "read a book about someone who is different than you."

Books on tape or CD, or books that are read to kids, count as reading in our Summer Quest program, which means parents can do the program with younger kids. The main rule is that, for books to count in our Summer Quest program, they must be checked out from our library.

Each time kids finish a book from a certain part of the story, they should come and tell us so we can update our computer file and move their character along the giant board. In some parts of the story, kids also can pick up special "powers" that will allow them to survive various challenges in the story.

How do kids win the Summer Quest game? They win by challenging themselves. Some readers will want to try to finish as quickly as possible, while others will want to read an enormous number of books. Still other kids win just by enjoying themselves. In any case, all Summer Quest participants are invited to a party at the end of the summer to share the books they've enjoyed.

BOOKS FOR BABIES

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books for the youngest readers. The Caldecott Medal, for example, is given each year to the best illustrated book for children, but committee members must consider books suitable for children ages birth through age 14. As a result, many Caldecott Medal winners just don't work for babies and toddlers.

On its website, Beginning With Books offers valuable tips for books that do work for the youngest readers. For example, the group's experts say that "a story should sound good when read aloud," "a book should encourage reader participation and interaction," and "the illustrations should be a perfect match for the text."

Two other important considerations: children's books "should be free from gender, ethnic, racial and religious stereotypes" and children should have access to books that "reflect their own lives and experiences, as well as books depicting the diversity of the larger society."

Beginning With Books has just released its 2009 Best Books For Babies list. To celebrate the list's 10th anniversary, the group also has published a list of 25 favorites over the past decade, collected in a Best of the Best Books For Babies list. We are working to make sure we have all of these books on our Library shelves.

Here's a closer look at this year's top 10 list. The books are listed alphabetically. Comments about the books are taken from the group's website; the four books with an asterisk also were chosen for the Best of the Best Books For Babies list:

*** 1, 2, Buckle My Shoe**, written and illustrated by Anna Grossnickle Hines. This book offers "beautiful quilted pictures" to illustrate a familiar rhyme.

All About Me! by Dawn Sirett. "Sturdy

flaps flip up, down and sideways to reveal endearing photos of babies and toddlers showing off their skills."

Baby Signs: A Baby-Sized Guide to Speaking with Sign Language, illustrated by Joy Allen. This book is a "cheerful collection of basic signs" that will "encourage communication between babies and their parents."

Calm & Soothe, illustrated by Sanja Rescek. In this book, "sweet pictures and clear instructions accompany simple rhymes and lullabies..."

Haiku Baby, written and illustrated by Betsy Snyder. "Brief, imaginative poems are matched with cheerful illustrations to celebrate the natural world and introduce young listeners to poetic images."

Just Like You, written and illustrated by Emma Dodd. This book provides a "gentle reminder that adults serve as role models for their children" as the author "catalogs the strengths that a young bear admires in his parents."

*** Peekaboo Bedtime**, written and illustrated by Rachel Isadora. Peekaboo is "the perfect game for bedtime" as a toddler demonstrates with help from family members.

*** Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes**, written by Mem Fox and illustrated by Helen Oxenbury. "Adorable infants smile, giggle, and play across the pages of this delightful book about the ways that babies from all over the world are different – and alike."

Toot Toot Beep Beep. All kinds of vehicles "speed, chug and slide through this imaginative look at a perennially popular topic."

*** You & Me, Baby**, written by Lynn Reiser, with photographs by Penny Gentieu. This book offers "engaging photos of babies and their parents" showing the "fun to be found in everyday activities."

Friends Reading Group

The next meeting of the Friends Reading Group will discuss D.M. Thomas's *The White Hotel* on Thursday, July 30 at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

First published in 1981, this provocative novel, which is set from before WWI through WWII, stirred a great deal of literary excitement, in part because of the unique narrative forms that Thomas employed in exploring the Holocaust and controversial themes of a psychosexual nature. The protagonist Lisa Erdman, whose mother is a Polish Catholic and father a Russian Jew, grows up in Odessa and moves first to St. Pe-

tersburg and then Vienna shortly before WWI — there she marries an Austrian German. They soon separate and Frau Lisa, who is an opera singer, begins to suffer physical pains that conventional doctors are unable to cure—she seeks out Sigmund Freud who takes her as a patient. In telling Freud about her childhood, Lisa reveals a buried event from her early years that has profoundly affected her relationship with her mother and father and others. Written in both realistic and "magical" modes, *The White Hotel* has been described as "nightmarish" and "transcendent." For more, visit the Friends website: www.ftpml.org.

Jazz Night Series Previews June JazzFest on City TV

Join City TV crews at the annual Takoma JazzFest to be held in Old Town on Sunday, June 14 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. We'll be covering both stages because we know you can only be in one place at a time. While you're waiting for the Jazz Fest, be sure to check out Jazz Band Brawl and Jazz Fest performances from 2002, 2003 and 2004 in our new Takoma Jazz Night series, Tuesdays at 11 p.m. and Fridays from 7-11 p.m.

Other events City TV will cover in June include the Takoma Mosaic project on Friday, June 5 and the Third Thursday Poetry Series June 18.

New releases this month will include Tastes of Takoma, artists including Billy Coulter and two other highlights programs featuring various performances, from Tastes of Takoma 2009.

The newest edition of Takoma Snapshots will feature:

- What's In It For Me?



- Safe Routes to Schools 5K Run
- Safe Roadways Committee
- Takoma Park Police Award Ceremony

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 and Snapshots, are available for on-demand viewing from the City website. Much of City TV programming is streaming live on the website as well. Be sure to visit City TV's award-winning webpage at www.TakomaParkMD.gov/cable for more information.

All Council meetings and Snapshots episodes are also available for patron check out at the Takoma Park Maryland Library. Dubs of Takoma Park City TV events may be purchased on VHS or DVD. Call 301-891-7118 or send an email to: cabletv@takomagov.org for more information.

CITY TV PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE - JUNE 2009

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7:00 AM	Community Bulletin Board	PreSchool Power!	Education TV	PreSchool Power!	Takoma Park Snapshots	National Gallery of Art	Deja vu: Takoma Music Revisited
8:00 AM	Takoma Park Snapshots	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Takoma Park Snapshots	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Takoma Park Folk Festival	
9:00 AM	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Takoma Park Snapshots		Coffeehouse			Takoma Park Snapshots
10:00 AM		Coffeehouse	Takoma Park City Council Meeting (Replay)	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Takoma Park Snapshots	Coffeehouse
11:00 AM	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Takoma Park Folk Festival				Road to Recovery	Takoma Park Folk Festival
NOON				Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Takoma Park City Council Meeting (Replay)	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	
1:00 PM	Education TV	Takoma Park City TV Local Events					
2:00 PM	NASA 360		Takoma Park Folk Festival			Media Watch on Hunger	Music da Camera
3:00 PM	Takoma Park Snapshots	Music da Camera		Road to Recovery			Takoma Park City TV Local Events
4:00 PM	Preschool Power	National Gallery of Art	Takoma Park Snapshots	Coffeehouse	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Preschool Power	
5:00 PM	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Takoma Park Snapshots	NASA 360	Takoma Park City TV Special Events		Education TV	
6:00 PM		Takoma Park Folk Festival	Takoma Park City TV Special Events		Takoma Park Snapshots	Takoma Park Snapshots	National Gallery of Art
7:00 PM				Takoma Park Snapshots	Takoma Jazz Night	Coffeehouse	Takoma Park Snapshots
7:30 PM	Takoma Park City Council Meeting (LIVE)	Coffeehouse	Takoma Park City Council Meeting (Replay)	Takoma Park Folk Festival			
8:00 PM		Takoma Park City TV Local Events				Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Takoma Park Folk Festival
9:00 PM							Coffeehouse
10:00 PM		Takoma Jazz Night		Takoma Park City TV Special Events	Coffeehouse	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Takoma Park City TV Local Events
11:00 PM			Takoma Park Snapshots		Deja vu: Takoma Music Revisited		
12:00 Midnight	Takoma Park Snapshots		Takoma Park Folk Festival			Deja vu: Takoma Music Revisited	
1:00 AM	Takoma Park Folk Festival						

TP Runs For Fun and Safety

The rain on Sunday, May 3 did not dampen the spirits of more than 300 runners who came out to participate in the Safe Routes to School Takoma Park 5K Challenge, Fun Run and Youth Run. Most runners were from Takoma Park and Silver Spring, and local resident Ben Naughton, of Takoma Park, finished first overall in 18 minutes and 39 seconds.

Safe Routes to School introduced the race concept to area schools as a way to promote pedestrian safety while encouraging students, parents and school staff to form walking and running training regimes to prepare for Race Day. PTA representatives from each school — Fred Hargrove, Tim Johnson, Karen Paul-Stern, Nicole Pauls and Parry Wilson — joined the planning process last September. A committee dedicated to the fun part of running, one member brought his ukulele to the meetings, and serenaded City staff on race day as they set up water stations.

In-school programs ranged from a par-

ent-led running club at Piney Branch to a teacher training group at Takoma Park Elementary. Rolling Terrace organized a daily walking routine and the whole school hit the pavement. Local runners heard about the race on running web sites, through neighborhood list serves and the Recreation Department and the race roster grew to more than 350 registrants. So many teachers and students from Takoma Elementary participated, even the school's Principal Zadia Gadsden, not normally an early morning runner, showed up to register Sunday morning.

The schools were well supported by the City, local businesses and organizations. Mayor Bruce Williams welcomed the overflow crowd. Shops, restaurants and individuals donated money and in-kind contributions. City residents and individuals from Montgomery College, the Takoma Foundation, Adventist Hospital, the YMCA and the schools volunteered at registration.

Finish times for the 5K ranged from the front runner, at 18 minutes and 39 seconds, to walkers, who finished in 54 minutes and 36 seconds. The top female time was 21



Runners get ready for Takoma Park's first 5K race and fun run for Safe Routes to School. The event drew many children as well as adults, encouraging fitness and building community.

Photo by Randy Smith

minutes; the mile and quarter-mile runs were not timed. While rain held off for the 5K, there was a steady downpour during the one-mile Fun Run. Participants hardly seemed to notice as children dashed from one end of Maple Avenue to the other. The youngest runner in the quarter mile Youth Run was a mere 2 years old.

The Safe Routes to School Program wishes to thank the many people who made the Takoma Park 5K Challenge a success, especially the runners who came out in the rain to run and cheer in the streets. Preliminary planning has begun for next year, and organizers point out, it is never too early to start training.

Parking Permits Offered by Mail

Parking permits for designated permit-parking areas throughout the city expire on June 30. To ease the process and to encourage early registration, the Police Department will offer permits by mail, as well as in-person purchasing. New parking permits will be distributed beginning Monday, June 1.

Residents need only to complete the attached form and return it, with payment, to the Police Department. Photocopies of the current vehicle registration card for each vehicle and a driver's license for at least one owner must be submitted with this form. These attachments must show a current Takoma Park address in the requested permit area.

A decal and year sticker for each registered vehicle will be mailed back within three business days of receipt. Two visitor parking permits will be included for each address. An additional \$1 will be charged for permits sent by mail.

Citizens in several neighborhoods throughout the city requested that street parking be limited to residents, to ease a problem of commuter parking on residential streets.

The Permit-by-Mail program is available

only to residential addresses. Be sure to include day and evening phone numbers in case any questions arise in processing.

Those operating a business in the permit areas should submit the names of employees on a company letterhead with their request. Not more than three employee permits are allowed. A home-based business must show evidence of a currently-operated business, which is current on payment of personal property taxes.

A limited number of Area B permits (one year only) are available to residents who live farther than .75 miles from the Takoma Metro station. Nine Area B permits are available only through in-person application at the Police Administration window, on a first-come/first-served basis, beginning Friday, June 26, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Applicants will need to show all normal identification and vehicle registration.

Questions regarding permit parking can be answered at 301-891-7102 during regular business hours. The form may also be found at www.takomaparkmd.gov/police/documents/permitap.pdf.

speed cameras and a pedestrian fence, a purple line station earmarked for the location, and plans for parks, open spaces, and new housing on top of retail establishments. After years of neglect, says Barry, his effort, in collaboration with many others, has helped draw county attention to these areas.

Other milestones include the completion of the Community Center and hiring City Manager Barbara Matthews: "If anybody deserves credit I think it is her and her very able management team," he says. Matthews hired Police Chief Ronald Ricucci, another significant and successful change during Barry's tenure, he says.

Barry is also proud of the City's stance

on immigration; when challenged about its sanctuary city status, the City "stood fast to its principles, which is not to discriminate against anyone."

On a personal note, Barry says he learned to focus when faced with so many important issues. He chose to concentrate on the Ward 6 infrastructure, and now points to several nicely planted traffic circles that greet people entering and leaving the neighborhood.

A reception celebrating Barry's service and marking his retirement from Council will be held on Monday, June 22, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Atrium Lobby of the Community Center. The public is invited to attend.

Permit-Area Parking

(please print legibly)

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: Takoma Park State: MD Zip Code: _____ Total Enclosed \$_____

Home Phone: () _____ Work Phone: () _____

- ☐ A photocopy of the current registration card for each vehicle is attached.
☐ A photocopy of the current Driver's License for at least one resident is attached.

Vehicle #1 _____(license plate #)

☐ One-year permit (\$12.50) ☐ Two-year permit (\$20)

Vehicle #2 _____(license plate #)

☐ One-year permit (\$12.50) ☐ Two-year permit (\$20)

Vehicle #3 _____(license plate #)

☐ One-year permit (\$12.50) ☐ Two-year permit (\$20)

Postage and handling for Permits by Mail, add \$1.

List additional vehicles on a separate sheet. Current registration showing the address in the permit parking area must be attached for each.

Two Visitor Permits will be included per household that purchases a permit.

Return this form to TPPD, Permit Parking, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912. Permits will be mailed within three business days of receipt.

TPPD USE ONLY: ☐ Area 1 ☐ Area 1A ☐ Area 2 ☐ Area 2A ☐ Area 3 ☐ Area 4

DOUG BARRY

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Barry says whoever winds up taking his place may be surprised at how much impact a City Councilmember can have. "This position is more important than you think it is," he says. Among his most significant accomplishments, he says, are the beginnings of redevelopment along New Hampshire Avenue and Takoma Langley Crossroads. "We've put some things in place that have already had a very positive effect," he says, noting new assistance for people with public drinking problems and the new day laborer center at the Crossroads. The area now has

RECEPTION FOR RETIRED CITY COUNCILMEMBER DOUG BARRY

The City Council will host a reception to honor retired Ward 6 City Councilmember Doug Barry on Monday, June 22, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Atrium Lobby. The public is invited to attend. Following the reception, the City Council will adopt a resolution recognizing Councilmember Barry for his service to the City of Takoma Park and Ward 6.