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 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 also praises the efforts of the men and support as a fundamental part of the this community involvement, cooperation in their neighborhoods – and they credit extra eyes and report suspicious activity – to be well to requests for vigilance – to be.

For full story, see page 12.

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 UP, is to help Takoma Park teen boys to “man up” and achieve their goals.

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

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

**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 running 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.
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 Barrioneuvo, 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.

For appointments, contact Pegguye Washington, 301-891-7230 or peggiew@takomagov.org.

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)

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
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 octogenarians 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 (Penguin) 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 the development of the human brain as food and sleep.” According to Brown, the process of play is fundamental to the growth of a sense of community for every one 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 their 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 generally 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!”

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.
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 renters 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 home owners’ 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/datweb/taxcredits.html#htcrtc 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 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.

Housing Mailbox

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

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.

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.
Local Activists Get Red-Carpet Treatment

By Kevin Adler Board Member, Takoma Foundation

T

here’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 across from 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 included State Sen. Jamie Raskin, State Delegates Hasdan and Tom Hucker, Montgomery County Councilmembers Marc Elrich and George Leventhal, Takoma Park Mayor Bruce Williams, and City Councilmembers Dan Robinson, Terry Seamsen, 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 and 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 education and opportunities.

Green Takoma

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 intertwined with the presentations. Howard Kohn returned with his handwritten sign that roused the crowd into cheers, applause and stumps 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 strolling rendition—and world premiere—of “O, Takoma.” Written by Anne Supplee 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 Bobbi Kimball, who joined Takoma Zone on stage and was obviously the only person who knew the tune start-to-finish.)

Paño: intersection of art and history

The word paño (Spanish for cloth or handkerchief) has come to mean the art form itself—a ball point pen or marker drawing on a handkerchief. But some believe it emerged in the 1940s among Chicano prisoners to share their work with family and friends, and art materials would have been difficult to come by. To the prisoners, paño art created in prisons across America is perhaps even helped in its creation.

Residents Consider Maple Avenue Makeover

By Carman Lam Associate Planner

P

ople 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 Seamsen also participated, and interpreted the French. Rusnian 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 communications 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-serving retail and allow retail development within multi-family residential buildings. The city is seeking an economically 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 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 American population. The area is dominated by lower-income households. About 28 percent of households have children under 18 years old. In 2007, the map shows an increase in the number of African American households.

In the next, a neighbor was in the audience to be sure that the focus was on the area.  Ward 4 Councilmember Terry Seamsen—Associate Planner Dan Robinson, Terry Seamsen and Bobbi Kimball.

Opal Daniels Park is named a Hub. The park, inspired by Opal Daniels, is a place where people can go to be alone or with others. It is a place that is quiet and peaceful. It is a place to relax and read a book. It is a place to exercise and play with children.

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

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
Sat Jiwan Ikle-Khalsa
School Activist
Ray Scannell
Volunteer Superhero
John Hume
Business
Zoe Stern
Educator
Mary Hochkeppel
Mentor
Becky Linfeit

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, penciled or penciled on handkerchiefs and torn sheets, exhibit the creativity that flourishes even America’s prison system.

The opening reception will be held June 12 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. A reception 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, 7700 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 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 tppjazzfest.org.

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

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

Paño continues on page 7
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.

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 2
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. Instructors 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

Photos by Debra Haiduven
Monica Lane proudly wears the silk scarf she made in a class taught by Clara Graves in the art room of the Community Center.
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 9 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

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: tpañohexhibitsdirector@hotmail.com

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 area 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 information 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 Carmain Lam, Associate Planner, at 301-891-7219, or carmain@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 Seams at 301-565-0190. Goods will be collected in Takoma Park, then sent to a professional auction site in southern Maryland for sale.

The annualaffle 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.

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
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. Isolate the patient at home.

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 until the 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

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 of service, and bus frequency were largely avoided by using some of the county’s parking district revenue for the bus system.

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  
Pfc. Matthew Barber  
P/Dfc. Thomas Black  
Pfc. Charles Hoetzel

Supervisor of the Year  
Lt. Richard Cipperly

Civilian of the Year  
Danyelle Gallop

Unit Citation - Tactical Enforcement Unit (TEU)  
D/Sgt. Andrew John  
P/Sgt. Matthew Barber  
D/Pfc. Joseph Butler  
P/Sgt. Angela Donovan  
Pfc. Greg Wolff

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

Memorandum of Commendation  
Lt. Richard Cipperly  
D/Sgt. Andrew John  
P/Sgt. Tina Smith  
Pfc. Doug Roush  
Pfc. Greg Wolff  
Pfc. Nick Carter  
Det. Rick Cananetella  
Det. Matthew Barber  
Pfc. Charles Hoetzel  
Pfc. Joseph Butler  
Pfc. Ernest Atwell  
Pfc. Kyle Robison  
Pvt. Samuel Villegas  
Pvt. Darrell Mathew  
Pvt. Carla Magnay  
Danyelle Gallop  
D/Pfc. Charles Hoetzel  
Pfc. Catherine Plevy  
Pfc. Kyle Robison  
Pvt. Samuel Villegas  
Pvt. Darrell Mathew  
Pfc. Carla Magnay  
Danyelle Gallop  
D/Pfc. Charles Hoetzel  
Pfc. Catherine Plevy

Education Awards  
Dispatcher Ana Cubillo  
Det. Rick Cananetella  
P/Mary Luy  
Gretchen Hilburger  
Pfc. 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
A
s of April 30, the Takoma Park Vol-
unteer Fire Department and the per-
soneel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the Tak-
oma Park station have responded to 258 fire-related incidents. The department han-
dled or assisted with 907 rescue or ambu-
lance-related incidents, for a total of 1,165 this year. Totals for 2008 were 209 and 941 respectively, for a total of 1,150, represent-
ing 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.

**Keep Candles Safe**

Never leave a burning candle unattended!

- Use candle holders that are sturdy, won’t tip over easily, and 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 hold-
er 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 light-
ing.
- 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 — va-
cation time! Here are several things you can do to minimize the risk of having your home burglar-
ized while you are on vacation.

Put your newspaper on hold or have some-one pick it up for you daily.

Put your lights on a timer. Timers come in a wide variety from a pro-
grammable, computerized home to a simple plug-in for a lamp. Have two or three or 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 heat in the room that tends to have lights on most.

Don’t leave a message on your an-
swering 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 va-
cant 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.takomapark.md.gov/propertyprotection.html. The form can be faxed to the Dispatch Office at 301-891-3284 or be mailed to the police department, or can be returned to the police station.

**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 Huetzel 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.

**M A N U P**

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 men-
tors 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 impact-
ing the lives of youth in underserved com-
unities through the principles of history, education, social responsibility and knowl-
edge of self.”

“We hope to help today’s youth ‘man up’ in life, and by doing that, they will be ac-
complishing whatever goal it is that they set forth to achieve,” the MAN UP state-
ment 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 grounds and rose through academics,” says Anthony Goodson, one of the mentors whose day job is at the American Chemi-
cal 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. To-
sin 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, 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.”
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 Eligible McDoodle books, which offer an interesting, somewhat more complex alternative to the Wimpy Kid books. Perhaps the most outstanding literary example of a hybrid book is The Invention of Hugo Cabret, the ground-breaking Caldecott Medal winner written and illustrated by Brian 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 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 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."

Dads and Teachers

Kids, show your dad or teacher how special they are by making them a handmade 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 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 puppet 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 worried. As always, the sale was a spirited community event—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 all the many helpers and volunteers who made the sale a success. In no special order, they are: Chris Hinton, Alex Aguilar, Sol Logan Braithwaite, Presny, Annette Stroud, Bob and MaryAnn Annis, Walter and Sterling Mulbury, Charles Walton, Michele Morgan, Clair Garman, Suzanne Morgan, Dan and Nancy Kunkle, Sonja Kuypers, 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 Lefler.

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.
**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. The book was 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. Petersburg 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 child- hood, Lisa reveals a buried event from her early years that has profoundly af- fected 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.dtpml.org.

**BOOKS FOR BABIES**

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 like a story to read about.” 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 ex- periences, 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 cele- brate 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 Books For Babies list. We are working to make sure we have all of these books on our Library shelves.

Here is a 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 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 the familiar nursery 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 “encour- age communication between babies and their parents.”

- *Calm & Soothe*, illustrated by Sanz Jilescek. In this book, “sweet pictures and clear instructions accompany simple rhymes and lullabies....”

- *Halku 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 Dedria Bryfonski. This book “gives 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.”

- *Peekabo Bedtime*, written and illustrated by Rachel Isadora. Peekabo is “the perfect game for bedtime” as a toddler demonstrates with help from family mem- bers.

- *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 in which babies from all over the world are different — and alike.”

- *Toddle Toot Beep Beep* All kinds of vehi- cles “speed, chug and slide through this imaginative peek at a perennally popular topic.”

- *You & Me, Baby*, written by Lynn Reiser, with photographs by Penny Gent- lieu. “This book offers “engaging photos of babies and their parents” and tells the “fun to be found in everyday activities.”

**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 Sun- day, June 14 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. We’ll be covering both stages because we know you can only be in one place at a time. While you’re wait- ing for the Jazz Fest, be sure to check out Band Brawl and Jazz Fest performances from 2002, 2003 and 2004 in our new Takoma Jazz Night series, Tues- days at 11 a.m. and Fridays from 7-11 p.m.

Other City TV will cover in June include the Takoma Mosaic project on Fri- day, 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 functions, 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 Commit- tee* Takoma Police Award Ceremony

Community and neigh- borhood groups may submit non-commercial notices regarding meetings or special events to City TV for inclu- sion 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 web- page at www.TakomaParkMD.gov/cable for more information.

All Council meetings and Snapshots epi- sodes 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@ta- komavog.org for more information.
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 has introduced a Permit-by-Mail program available as of 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 limited number of Area B permits (one year only) are available to residents who live farther than .75 miles from the Takoma Park Metro station. Nine Area B permits are 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 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.

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

Permits will be mailed 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.

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.

DOUG BARRY

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Barry says whoever winds up taking his place may be saddled with a list of accomplishments that 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 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, 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 circles that greet people entering and leaving the neighborhood.

"If anything, the City 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.

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.

Permit-Area Parking

(please print legibly)

Name: ____________________________________________
Street Address: ____________________________________________
City: Takoma Park State: MD Zip Code: _________ Total Enclosed $__________
Home Phone: ( ) _________ Work Phone: ( ) _________

Vehicle #1 __________(license plate #)
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 #2 __________(license plate #)

Vehicle #3 __________(license plate #)

TPPD USE ONLY:

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