

September  
2011

# TAKOMA PARK

A newsletter published by the City of Takoma Park, Maryland

Volume 50, No. 9 ■ takomaparkmd.gov



## WHAT'S NEW

### Fresh look

We've redesigned the newsletter to keep residents informed in the best way possible. And at no extra cost to our taxpayers! Tell us what you think: tpnewseditor@takomagov.org.

### City offices closed for Labor Day

Sept. 5

### Trash holidays

No yard waste pickup  
Labor Day  
Sept. 5

### En español:

Calendario de la Elección  
Municipal del 2011  
Pagina 4



Ground was recently broken for Takoma Central, an apartment development going up on Carroll Street NW near the D.C./Takoma Park border. This artist's rendering shows what it will look like upon completion.

Illustration courtesy of SGA Architects

## Apartment construction begins on Carroll Street

### Newly named development echoes original building plans

By Rick Henry

Construction has finally begun on one of the most visible projects in the area, the property at 235 Carroll Street, NW, between the Takoma Metro station and Old Town. And with the new construction, comes a new name: once known as Ecco Park, the property is now called Takoma Central.

For more than six years the echoes emanating from the project have been anything but harmonious. False starts, redesigns, and just plain bad luck (in the form of the financial crisis in 2008) have been associated with the project since it was conceived.

However, the developers believe those echoes have been silenced and that there is no better way to send the message loud and clear than by renaming the project. They have settled on Takoma Central, an apt name given its central location and potential role in bringing new residents and business to the area. Because of its prime location, Takoma Central has been arguably the most visible and watched project in the City since it was begun in 2004.

Changing the name of the complex signifies "new action, a new process—a sign that the project is really getting started," says co-developer Jeff Blum of Level 2 Develop-

ment in Washington, D.C. Blum and Level 2 are new to the project themselves, having signed on as partners in March 2011. Given that they came into the project fresh and did not have to endure the previous six years of frustration, might their enthusiasm be unfounded?

Not at all, says Blum's co-developer and the principal project architect, Sassan (Sas) Gharai of SGA Architects. As the project founder, Gharai could be forgiven if he didn't share Blum's optimism. Yet he is convinced that this time the project is going to proceed.

"There have been so many false starts and I know people are wondering if this is another," he says. "But as we progress, people are going to see that this is it. It is finally happening."

That's good news not only for Blum and Gharai, but for residents, city officials and business owners in both Takoma Park and Takoma, D.C., who have waited anxiously for the property to be developed.

One of them is Ben Homola, owner of Trohy, the housewares store that opened last year directly across the street from Takoma Central.

"Being a retailer in the community, I'm obviously excited to see anything that brings in new residents," he says. Homola says he expects that many of those residents will frequent Trohy looking to furnish their new apartments. In fact, knowing an apartment complex was being built on the site was a

## Takoma Park named most walkable city in Maryland

Residents who walk to the farmer's market, to Metro, to the video store, library, grocery store, bank and restaurants may not be surprised: Takoma Park was recently named the most walkable city in Maryland.

Ranked by Walk Score, a Seattle-based non-profit organization that rates the walkability of 2,500 cities and 10,000 neighborhoods across the nation, Takoma Park was judged for proximity to and accessibility of amenities like grocery stores, restaurants, schools, parks and public transit. Locals might add that they can walk to two different farmer's markets (depending on their neighborhood), numerous banks, gift shops, hair salons, doctors, dentists, therapists, a hardware store and more.

Statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau support the walkability claim: about 15 percent of the City's residents do not own a car, 6 percent walk to work and another 30 percent use public transportation (presumably walking to bus stops and the metro station).

Also significant are the pedestrian safety and pedestrian-friendly development initiatives supported by City government. Tako-

WALKABLE □ Page 11

## Councilmembers announce they won't seek reelection

### Nominations for Council will be taken at nominating caucus, Oct. 4

As of August 31, three members of the City Council have announced that they will not seek reelection: Josh Wright (Ward 1); Colleen Clay (Ward 2); and Dan Robinson (Ward 3). Residents interested in running for office to represent any of the six wards, or for the office of mayor, should review the information on page 4 regarding nominations and deadlines, and contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267 for additional information.

The Newsletter will continue to provide general information about the Nov. 8 City election, and the November issue will include more on the candidates nominated by that time. It is the policy of the Newsletter, as set by the City Council, to limit its coverage of candidates to the printing of the formal statements they are requested to submit for that issue. Look at other local media and neighborhood list serves for supplementary information.

CONSTRUCTION □ Page 11

Mayor & Council  
7500 Maple Ave.  
Takoma Park, MD 20912

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Inside: Biking into DC  
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Arts Events  
Page 10



Tree Sale  
Page 12



TP Folk Festival  
Special pullout



# DOCKET

## TAKOMA TOPICS:

“ To historic district homeowners:  
If your property suffered damage (often chimney damage) from last week's earthquake and/or Hurricane Irene, you are eligible for expedited permit approval. Contact county Historic Preservation Staff at 301-563-3400 for more details. ”

— Aug. 29, [www.facebook.com/takomapark](http://www.facebook.com/takomapark)

## City Council & Committee Calendar

Official City Government Meetings\*  
TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

### City Council

Tuesday, Sept. 6, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, Sept. 12, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, Sept. 19, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Auditorium  
For agendas, see [www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/agendas](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/agendas)

### Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee

Tuesday, Sept. 6, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

### Board of Elections

Wednesday, Sept. 7, 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, Sept. 21, 7 p.m.  
TPCC Council Conference Room (third floor)

### Emergency Preparedness Committee

Thursday, Sept. 8, 8:30 a.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

### Recreation Committee

Monday, Sept. 12, 7 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

### Façade Advisory Board

Tuesday, Sept. 13, 7 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

### Tree Commission

Tuesday, Sept. 13, 6:30 p.m.  
TPCC Lilac Room

### Washington Adventist Hospital Land Use Committee

Tuesday, Sept. 20, 7 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

### Arts and Humanities Commission

Tuesday, Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

\*All meetings are open to the public unless noted otherwise. For the most up to date information, check [www.takomaparkmd.gov/committees/calendar](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/committees/calendar). Most meetings are held in the Takoma Park Community Center – Sam Abbott Citizens' Center, 7500 Maple Ave. (TPCC). 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](mailto:clerk@takomagov.org).

Notice on ADA Compliance  
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 City of Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing, and who wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services or accommodations is invited to contact the Deputy City Manager at 301-891-7229 or [suzanne@takomagov.org](mailto:suzanne@takomagov.org) at least 48 hours in advance.

## City Council Action

\*Only negative votes and abstentions/recusals are noted. For additional information, contact the City Clerk at [Clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:Clerk@takomagov.org).

### City Council Action

All actions take place in scheduled legislative meetings of the City Council. Only negative votes and abstentions/recusals are noted. Adopted legislation is available for review online at [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov). For additional information, contact the City Clerk at [clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:clerk@takomagov.org).

#### ORDINANCE 2011-27 Adopted (Second Reading July 25)

Amending Ch. 2.12 "Administrative Regulations" of the Takoma Park Code to specifically include city boards, commissions and committees in the development of external administrative regulations

*The amendment provides a period of time for applicable boards, commissions and committees to comment on regulations before the general public comment period.*

#### ORDINANCE 2011-28 Adopted (Second Reading July 25)

Amending Ch. 12.12 "Urban Forest" of the Takoma Park Code to allow for pre-planting of replacement trees and to require notification of the Tree Ordinance prior to the sale of real property in the City

*Property owners may now follow a process to pre-plant replacement trees required when they take action on an existing tree or trees. Also, the City's tree preservation and replacement requirements will be attached to all real estate contracts.*

#### ORDINANCE 2011-29 Adopted (Second Reading July 25)

Amending Ch. 13.04 "General Provisions" and 13.28 "Traffic Calming Devices" to establish guidelines for installation and placement of speed humps and other traffic calming devices

#### ORDINANCE 2011-32 Adopted (First Reading July 18; Second Reading July 25)

Authorizing a contract with Solar Solution, LLC for installation of a solar power system through a power purchase agreement

*Solar Solution will install, maintain and own the solar panels for the agreed upon contract period in exchange for the City's purchase of the electricity generated by the panels.*

#### ORDINANCE 2011-33 Adopted (First Reading July 18; Second Reading July 25)

Amending Ch. 11.12 "Permits and Improvements," Ch. 11.16 "Obstruction and Protection of Streets," and Ch. 13.40 "Fines, Late Payment Penalties and Service Charges," and Repealing Ch. 8.32 "Licenses and Permits"

*Increases fees for driveway apron, utility and dumpster permits and increases fines and penalties for parking violations.*

#### ORDINANCE 2011-34 Adopted (First Reading July 18; Second Reading July 25)

Rescinding Ordinance 2010-44 which authorized the installation of a speed hump on the sloped

section of the 100 block of Sherman Avenue

#### ORDINANCE 2011-35 Adopted (First Reading July 18; Second Reading July 25)

Authorizing a contract for professional consulting services with PDA, Inc. associated with the Certificate of Need application of Washington Adventist Hospital before the Maryland Health Care Commission

*PDA will continue to work with the City in response to the hospital's certificate of need application.*

#### ORDINANCE 2011-36 Adopted July 25 (Single Reading)

Awarding a contract with Security Equipment Company for the purchase of a wood chipper to be used by the Public Works Department

#### RESOLUTION 2011-35 Adopted July 18

Urging the Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners to deny the request for the Class B alcoholic beverage license to be used for an expanded Come to Africa Restaurant

*Come to Africa, at 6834 New Hampshire Ave., currently has a Class B beer, wine and liquor license. The City Council urged the Board of License Commissioners not to approve the applicant's request to expand.*

#### RESOLUTION 2011-36 Adopted July 25

Adopting the Design Guidelines for Commercial Buildings in the historic district, prepared by the Façade Advisory Board

#### RESOLUTION 2011-37 Adopted July 25

Authorizing the City Manager to sign a debris management memorandum of understanding with Montgomery County

*The debris management MOU will allow the City to participate in the County's debris management plan when activated after a disaster.*

#### RESOLUTION 2011-38 Adopted July 25

Appointing Cindy Vordenbaum to the Ethics Commission

#### RESOLUTION 2011-39 Adopted July 25

Appointing Joshua Prentice and Ellen Chenoweth to the Arts and Humanities Commission and reappointing Sally Brucker

#### RESOLUTION 2011-40 Adopted July 25

Setting forth the City Council's summer recess (July 26 – Sept. 5)

### Proposed regulation to establish reservation procedures and requirements, fees, rules and guidelines for the use of certain public facilities

An Administrative Regulation is being proposed to establish reservation procedures and requirements, fees, rules and guidelines for the use of certain public facilities in accordance with Takoma Park Code, Chapter 14.20 Public Space and Public Buildings. This regulation governs use of the following public facilities: Takoma Park Community Center -- Sam Abbott Citizens' Center (7500 Maple Ave.), Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Ave.), Heffner Community Center (42 Oswego Ave.), Belle Ziegler Park (Takoma and Albany avenues), Forest Park (Prince George's and Elm avenues), Heffner Park (42 Oswego Ave.), Spring Park (Poplar and Elm avenues), Ed Wilhelm Field (Darwin Avenue) Lee Jordan Field (Piney Branch Road /Takoma Park Middle School), and Hodges Field (Holly and Grant avenues).

Pursuant to the requirements of the "Administrative Regulations Ordinance" (Authority: Chapter 2.12 "Administrative Regulations," of the Takoma Park Code), notice of the City's intention to adopt an administrative regulation must be publically noted, allowing residents the opportunity to comment on the proposal. The proposed regulation is available for review online at [takomaparkmd.gov/clerk](http://takomaparkmd.gov/clerk). To obtain further information about the proposed regulation, contact Sara Anne Daines, Director, Housing and Community Development Department, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912, 301-891-7224, [sarad@takomagov.org](mailto:sarad@takomagov.org). Written comments on the proposed regulation may be sent to the City Clerk, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912, or e-mailed to [clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:clerk@takomagov.org). The deadline for receipt of public comments is Friday, Sept. 23.

### STAY IN TOUCH WITH THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL!

The Mayor and City Councilmembers of Takoma Park welcome your comments and suggestions.

#### Mayor Bruce R. Williams



Office hours: 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. To schedule a meeting with the Mayor, contact

Peggye Washington, 301-891-7230 or [peggyew@takomagov.org](mailto:peggyew@takomagov.org).

#### City Council

Josh Wright, Ward 1: 301-312-2717, [joshw@takomagov.org](mailto:joshw@takomagov.org)

Colleen Clay, Ward 2: 301-270-6888, [colleenc@takomagov.org](mailto:colleenc@takomagov.org)

Dan Robinson, Ward 3: 301-908-3504, [dandr@takomagov.org](mailto:dandr@takomagov.org)

Terry Seamens, Ward 4: 301-565-0190, [terrys@takomagov.org](mailto:terrys@takomagov.org)

Reuben Snipper, Ward 5: 301-585-4103, [reubens@takomagov.org](mailto:reubens@takomagov.org)

Fred Schultz, Ward 6: 301-434-7090, [freds@takomagov.org](mailto:freds@takomagov.org)

“The Fall 2011 Takoma Park Recreation Program Guide is out and on-line registration for programs starts today! See [takomaparkmd.gov](http://takomaparkmd.gov).”

— Aug. 29, [www.twitter.com/TakomaParkMD](http://www.twitter.com/TakomaParkMD)

# Taking the two wheeler to the city

## Biking into D.C. may be easier than you think

by Bob Guldin

For years, I was afraid to bicycle into DC. Even though I was a regular weekend biker, the idea of bicycling through unknown territory made me nervous. “What if I get lost?” I wondered. “What if dangerous youth gangs stalk the streets?”

I finally asked for advice from some neighbors who *did* bike to work, studied some maps, mustered my courage, and found out it wasn't that hard.

Since then, I've biked to work in Dupont Circle, Metro Center, the National Mall, even to Crystal City in Arlington, Va. Despite a few flat tires and bruises, I've always made it home in one piece.

So if you've been thinking about bicycling to work, or for that matter, to the movies, the Smithsonian or a friend's house in D.C. but have hesitated, here's some practical info that may smooth those bumps in the road.

Your first question may be, ‘Is it safe?’ Generally, yes. If you use the bike routes outlined here, you'll find that the streets are wide enough to accommodate both cars and bikes, and that traffic is fairly light, even during rush hour.

As for street crime, it's quite rare, especially during daylight. (It's safer in all ways to bike during the day.) In addition, most types of street crime have been gradually decreasing in the District in recent years. Of course, you should keep a careful eye on cars, obey traffic laws and wear a helmet.

For people biking downtown for the first time, you may want to try out your route on a weekend when you can take your time. That way you can scope out the terrain, and if you make a wrong turn, you've got plenty of time to get back on track.

It will take most people about 35-40 minutes to go from Takoma Park to Metro Center, and perhaps five minutes more coming back, because of the uphill climb.

### The Best Bikeway

Experienced Takoma Park bikers tend to agree that the best routes into the city start with a simple but non-obvious combination of D.C. streets — 3rd Street, N.W. and



Bikers head off to work from the Gazebo on Carroll Avenue on Bike to Work Day last May. Many Takoma Parkers commute by bicycle, using a couple of favorite routes; others ride into D.C. for recreation.

Photo by Laurie Stepp

Kansas Avenue. Together, these two streets get you more than halfway to downtown.

If you're starting from Takoma Park Old Town, ride south on Maple (or Laurel or Willow) to Aspen Street. Turn right on Aspen, go under the railroad tracks (never mind the construction) and make an immediate left onto Blair Boulevard.

Go south on Blair just 20 yards, then make a gentle right turn onto 3rd Street. Third is a great biking street. It takes you due south, has bike lanes part of the way, and has little through traffic. Also, much potential cross traffic is blocked, first by the Takoma Recreation Center, Coolidge High School, and a few blocks later by Fort Slocum Park. Streets without cross traffic are prized by bikers.

Go around a mile and a half on 3rd, cross the wide Missouri, then make a gentle right turn (about two o'clock) onto Kansas Avenue. You are now on another wide street with little traffic and with some bike lanes marked on the pavement.

On Kansas, after the first ¼ mile, bikers will start to split off on different south-bound streets.

### To Capitol Hill and the Mall

If your destination is in or around Capitol Hill, turn left from Kansas onto 5th Street, N.W. Fifth is wide enough, has little traffic, and is surprisingly scenic.

Proceed carefully through Grant Circle (New Hampshire Avenue) and continue due south on 5th. Fifth Street turns into Park Place, N.W., and you'll see two nice lakes on your left on the grounds of the National Soldiers' and Airmen's Home.

Continue south and you'll pass through a busy intersection with Irving Street and Michigan Avenue. Stay in the bike lane as it curves around, and you'll find yourself going south again on Park Place, with scenic McMillan Reservoir on your left, Howard University on your right, and very little cross-traffic.

You'll soon be on 4th Street, N.W., in the old neighborhood, Ledroit Park. At U Street, turn right, go two blocks, and turn left onto 6th Street, the smoothest sailing through big avenues like Florida, Rhode Island and New York.

At this point, you can continue on 6th to go past Chinatown, right down to the Mall and the National Gallery. You're not far from the Hirshhorn, Air and Space and all the rest.

### A COUPLE OF FINAL THOUGHTS:

If you're new to urban biking, watch other cyclists and see what they do.

If they all cruise through one intersection and come to a full stop at the next, there's probably a reason for that. You can also ask other cyclists for advice (like how do I get around 395?).

But if you're headed to the business side of Capitol Hill and its numerous federal agencies, your best move from 6th St. is to turn left on G Street, go two blocks, and then right on 4th Street, N.W. Fourth will take you into the belly of the beast, including the Capitol itself.

### To Metro Center, Dupont Circle

If you're headed toward Metro Center and downtown D.C. (as in K Street), instead of turning left onto 5th from Kansas, continue down Kansas, gliding smoothly through Sherman Circle, getting back on Kansas, and going through Georgia Avenue. Kansas ends at 13th Street, N.W.

Caution: 13th is not a fun street to bike on. It's fine for cars, but it's too narrow and busy for bikes. Instead, when you get to 13th, go south (left) on 13th for just one block, turn left onto Spring Road and after one block turn right onto 11th Street. Eleventh is wider, greener and safer than most north-south alternatives.


If Dupont Circle is your goal, try this: When you get to the end of Kansas, make a right onto Spring Road, which will take you to 16th. Surprisingly, even though 16th is a major arterial, it's a good bike route because it has wide sidewalks and lots of curb cuts. It's a smooth ride on either side of 16th between Spring and P Street.

### But Wait, There's More!

For bicyclists between Takoma Park and downtown D.C., there are other possibilities, too. The most publicized is the Metropolitan Branch Trail (MBT), which will someday provide a good eight-mile bike route from Union Station through Takoma Park to Silver Spring.

Right now, a smooth, off-road, three-mile section of the trail between Catholic University and a half-mile north of Union Station is complete. But this biker has found the on-street, interim MBT between Takoma Park and Catholic University hard to follow. It's easy to wind up on Blair or North Capitol--no fun to ride--and there

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|  <p><b>THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER</b></p> <p>Editor: Virginia Myers<br/>Production: Electronic Ink<br/><a href="http://www.takomaparkmd.gov">www.takomaparkmd.gov</a><br/>Vol. 50, No. 9</p> | <p>The Takoma Park Newsletter is published 12 times a year as the official publication of the City of Takoma Park, <a href="http://takomaparkmd.gov">takomaparkmd.gov</a>.</p> <p>The Newsletter does not accept commercial, classified, or political advertisements. Reports by community groups, letters to the editor, calendar items and other submissions will be considered for publication; send to <a href="mailto:tpnewseditor@takomagov.org">tpnewseditor@takomagov.org</a> or Newsletter, City of Takoma Park, 7500</p> | <p>Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912.</p> <p>Name, address and telephone number must accompany all submitted material. Editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, style, spelling and grammar.</p> <p>Published material containing opinions does not necessarily reflect the views of the Newsletter or the City of Takoma Park.</p> <p>The Newsletter is printed on recycled-content paper.</p> |
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# ELECTIONS



## Out of Town on Election Day?

Apply to receive an absentee ballot by mail. The application is now available online at [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov).

## ¿Va Estar Fuera de a Ciudad el Día de la Elección?

Solicite una aplicación para recibir una boleta de ausencia por correo. La aplicación ahora esta disponible en la pagina web de la Ciudad de Takoma Park [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov)

### 2011 ELECTION CALENDAR

Tuesday, Oct. 4, 7:30 p.m. - Nominating Caucus

Friday, Oct. 7, 5 p.m. - Deadline for candidates nominated at Caucus to withdraw.

Monday, Oct. 10 - Voter registration cut-off date.

Tuesday, Nov. 1, 4 p.m. - Last day to make application for regular absentee ballot

Wednesday, Nov. 2 - Late absentee balloting begins

Friday, Nov. 4, 5 p.m. - Any write-in candidate for Mayor or Council Member

who wishes to be pre-registered as a write-in candidate and to have his/her name posted in the voting booth for the purpose of identifying him/her as a candidate for office, must file his/her name with the City Clerk by this deadline.

Tuesday, Nov. 8, ELECTION DAY, Polls open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Community Center. Absentee ballots must be received by the City Clerk prior to the closing of the polls.

Wednesday, Nov. 9, 6:30 p.m. - Special meeting of the City Council to receive the certification of the election results.

Monday, Nov. 21, 7:30 p.m. - Inauguration - Mayor and Councilmembers take office

### EL CALENDARIO DE LA ELECCIÓN MUNICIPAL DEL 2011

Martes, 4 de octubre, 7:30 p.m. – Reunión Electoral

Viernes, 7 de octubre, 5:00 p.m. – Fecha límite para retirarse como candidato nominado en la reunión electoral.

Lunes, 10 de octubre – Fecha límite para registrarse para votar.

Martes, 1 de noviembre, 4:00 p.m. – Fecha límite para solicitar papeleta regular de voto ausente.

Miércoles, 2 de noviembre – Comienza la votación de emergencia por boleta en ausencia.

Viernes, 4 de noviembre, 5:00 p.m. – Fecha límite para cualquier candidato autonominado para el puesto de Alcalde o Miembro del Consejo

que desee ser pre-registrado como candidato autonominado y para tener su nombre colocado en la cabina electoral para identificarlo/la como candidato, tendrá que someter su nombre a la Oficina de la Secretaría Municipal.

Martes, 8 de noviembre, DIA DE LA ELECCIÓN MUNICIPAL, las urnas de votación estarán abiertas desde las 7:00 a.m. a 8:00 p.m. en el Centro Comunitario de Takoma Park. Esta es la fecha y hora límite para someter boletas en ausencia a la Secretaría Municipal.

Miércoles, 9 de noviembre, 6:30 p.m. – Junta especial del Consejo de la Ciudad para recibir certificación de los resultados de la elección.

Lunes, 21 de noviembre, 7:30 p.m. – Inauguración – Alcalde y Miembros del Consejo tomarán su puesto.

## CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND NOTICE OF 2011 NOMINATING CAUCUS

### (TO ACCEPT NOMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR AND CITY COUNCILMEMBER FOR THE NOV. 8, 2011 CITY ELECTION)

The Nominating Caucus will convene at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 4, to accept nominations of candidates for Mayor and Councilmember. The Nominating Caucus will be held in the Auditorium of the Takoma Park Community Center—Sam Abbott Citizens' Center, 7500 Maple Ave. Only qualified voters of the City may participate in the Nominating Caucus. To participate in the caucus, your registration or change of address form must be in the hands of the Montgomery County Board of Elections, or for non-U.S. Citizens, voter registration applications must be received by the City Clerk, by the close of day (5 p.m.) on Monday, Oct. 3.

Nominations of candidates for Mayor shall be made on motion by any qualified voter of the City, and if such nomination is seconded by a qualified voter of the City, the person so nominated shall be considered a candidate. Nomination of each candidate for Councilmember shall be made on motion of any qualified voter of her/his ward, and if such nomination is seconded by a qualified voter of his/her ward, the person so nominated shall be considered a candidate. Any nominated candidate may decline a nomination during the nomination meeting. A person may only accept a nomination of one City office. The name of each eligible person nominated for the office of Mayor and Councilmember shall be placed upon the official ballot unless he/she shall file a declination with the City Clerk within three days after his/her nomination.

Any person nominated as a candidate must meet the qualifications of the office for which she/he is nominated.

### Registered to Vote Yet?

Voter registration cut-off date for the election -- Monday, Oct. 10. U.S. citizen residents register through the Montgomery County Board of Elections. Residents who are not U.S. citizens may register through the City Clerk's office (call 301-891-7267 or e-mail [clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:clerk@takomagov.org)).

### Election Judges Needed

The Takoma Park Board of Elections is seeking election judges to serve during the November election. Expect long hours and hard work that will prove to be both rewarding and exciting! Persons who have experience as judges or have bilingual abilities are urged to apply. For further information or to request an application, contact the City Clerk's Office by phone at 301-891-7267 or e-mail [clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:clerk@takomagov.org)

[takomagov.org](http://takomagov.org). Application deadline: Sept. 16.

### Voter Registration

Don't miss out on your opportunity to vote! In 1992, the City Council amended the City Charter to allow those City residents who are not citizens of the United States, and who are at least 18 years old or will be 18 years old by the next City Election, the right to vote in Takoma Park's mayoral and council elections.

All Takoma Park residents wishing to vote in the Nov. 8, 2011 City Election must be registered to vote at an address in the City by Oct. 10. United States citizens should be registered with the Montgomery County Board of Elections. Non-citizens should register with the City Clerk's Office. The same rule applies to changes of address. Participants in the Nominating Caucus must be registered to vote prior to the Caucus.

For further information regarding registering to vote or to confirm your registration status, contact the City Clerk's Office at 301-891-7267 or 301-891-7214.

### CIUDAD DE TAKOMA PARK

### ANUNCIO DE REUNIÓN ELECTORAL DEL 2011 (PARA ACEPTAR NOMINACIONES PARA EL PUESTO DE ALCALDÍA Y MIEMBRO DEL CONSEJO PARA LA ELECCIÓN DEL 8 DE NOVIEMBRE DEL 2011)

La Reunión Electoral empezará a las 7:30 p.m. el martes, 4 de octubre para aceptar nominaciones de candidatos para el puesto de Alcalde y Miembros del Consejo. La Reunión Electoral se llevará a cabo en el Auditorio del Centro Comunitario de Takoma Park – Sam Abbot Citizen's Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. Solamente votantes capacitados en Takoma Park podrán participar en la Reunión Electoral. Para participar en la Reunión Electoral, su aplicación de registración para votar y cambio de domicilio tendrá que haber sido recibido por la oficina de Elecciones del Condado de Montgomery, o para los que no son ciudadanos Americanos, aplicación de registración para votar tendrá que haber ser recibida por la Secretaria Municipal, con fecha límite del lunes, 3 de octubre antes de las 5:00 p.m.

Nominaciones de candidatos para el puesto de Alcalde se hará con una moción hecho por cualquier votante capacitado de la Ciudad de Takoma Park, y si la nominación es apoyada por un segundo votante capacitado de la Ciudad de Takoma Park, la persona nominada será considerada como candidato. Nominaciones de cada candidato para Miembro del Consejo se hará con una moción por cualquier votante capacitado en el distrito de tal

cualquier candidato nominado podrá rechazar una nominación durante la junta de nominaciones. Una person podrá aceptar solamente una nominación de un sólo puesto. El nombre de cada persona que satisface los requisitos y que sea nominado por el puesto de Alcalde y Miembro de Consejo será nombrado en la boleta oficial a menos que esa persona entregue una carta por escrito rechazando la nominación en la Oficina de la Secretaria Municipal dentro de los 3 días despues de su nominación.

Cualquier persona nominado como candidato para el puesto de Alcalde o Miembro del Consejo tendrá que satisfacer los requisitos de tal puesto.

### ¿Esta Registrado Para Votar?

Fecha límite para registrarse para votar --lunes, 10 de octubre. Ciudadanos Americanos deben registrarse para votar a través de la Junta Electoral del Condado de Montgomery. Personas que no son ciudadanos Americanos pueden registrarse para votar en la Oficina de la Secretaria Municipal (llame al 301-891-7267 o mande un mensaje electrónico - [clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:clerk@takomagov.org))

### ¿Va Estar Fuera de a Ciudad el Día de la Elección?

Solicite una aplicación para recibir una boleta de ausencia por correo. La aplicación ahora esta disponible en la pagina web de la Ciudad de Takoma Park [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov)

### Inscripción Electoral

¡No se pierda la oportunidad de votar! En 1992, el Consejo enmendó la Carta de la Ciudad para otorgarle a aquellos residentes de la ciudad que no son ciudadanos estadounidenses y que tienen por lo menos 18 años o que cumplirán 18 años antes de las siguientes elecciones municipales, el derecho a votar en las elecciones para alcaldía y consejo de Takoma Park.

Todo ciudadano de Takoma Park que desee votar en la elección municipal del 8 de noviembre del 2011 debe estar registrado en una dirección municipal para el 10 de octubre. Ciudadanos Americanos deben estar registrados para votar con la oficina de la Junta Electoral del Condado de Montgomery. Residentes de Takoma Park que no son ciudadanos Americanos deben estar registrados para votar con la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal. Esta misma regla se aplica para cambios de dirección. Participantes en la Reunión Electoral deben estar registrados para votar antes que se lleve a cabo la reunión.

Para mayor información sobre Solicitudes de Inscripción Electoral para residentes de Takoma Park que no son ciudadanos Americanos, por favor comuníquese con la Oficina de la Secretaria Municipal al 301-891-7204 o 301-891-7214.



By Jim Jarboe

### Fire, by the numbers

As of July 31, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the station have responded to 419 fire-related incidents. The department addressed or assisted with 1,644 rescue or ambulance-related incidents, for a total of 2,063 this year. Totals for 2010 were 469 and 1,954, representing a decrease of 360 incidents.

### Evening fire damages Hickory Avenue home

On July 24, at 5:45 p.m., a serious fire occurred in the unit block of Hickory Avenue. The fire caused major damage to the first, second floors and attic of the house and to a neighboring house as well. Two fire fighters received minor injuries. Upon arrival of the first unit, they noticed heavy smoke coming from the rear. When they reached the rear, they found fire from the porch to the attic. The fire was under control within an hour. The cause was a possible discarded cigarette in the mulch.

### Lightning Strikes House

On August 21, at 4:21 p.m. during a serious storm, lightning struck a house in the 7700 block of Garland Avenue. When fire fighters from the Takoma Park station arrived on the scene within minutes, they found smoke showing from the roof. Units also from Silver Spring, Chillum-Adelphia and Hyattsville responded.

The fire quickly spread from the attic to the second floor. An additional alarm was sounded for more units: Hillandale, Kensington, Wheaton Rescue Squad and Walter Reed responded. Fire was under control within an hour. The fire caused major damage. No injuries were reported. The last unit cleared the scene at 8:15 p.m.

### Sept. 11 Remembered

On Sunday, Sept. 11, at 8:30 a.m., the TPVFD is planning a 10th anniversary ceremony to pay tribute to the first responders and the people who lost their lives at the World Trade Center, Pentagon and Shanksville, Pa./Flight 93. It will be held at the fire station.

### TPVFD members honored for service

- Jerry Sanford was awarded a TPVFD Lifetime Membership at the August 10 membership meeting.
- Life member Richard "Rusty" Willey was recognized for his 30th anniversary with TPVFD at the August 10 membership meeting.
- TPVFD Chaplain Dave Hooker was appointed assistant chaplain for the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Rescue Association at its July 21 meeting.

### New member joins theTPVFD

At the August 10 membership meeting, Brian Jagat was voted into membership. If you are interested in joining the fire department, contact Mike Livingston at the fire station (240-773-8954).

## Preparing for Hurricane Season 2011

Just before Hurricane Irene hit the East Coast, NOAA issued its updated 2011 Atlantic hurricane season outlook, predicting frequent and intense hurricane activity from August through October. The prediction until Nov. 30 is for 14 to 19 named storms (with top winds of 39 m.p.h. or higher), including seven to ten hurricanes (74 m.p.h. or higher), of which three to five could be major hurricanes (Category 3, 4 or 5, at least 111 m.p.h.).

What does this mean for residents of Takoma Park? Hurricanes cause damage through extensive rains and floods, through high winds and through associated weather events such as tornadoes and thunderstorms. These forces of nature may threaten homes and most frequently will result in prolonged power outages in our area. These outages may be accompanied by other emergencies, such as impassable streets, and lack of water and food.

### What can residents of Takoma Park do?

#### Step 1: Build A Kit / To-Go Bag

Get or create an emergency supply kit, which includes items like non-perishable food, water, a battery-powered or hand-crank radio, extra flashlights and batteries, clothes, a mechanical can opener, a first aid kit and medicines. You may want to prepare a portable kit and keep it in your car in case you are told to evacuate.

#### Step 2: Make a Plan

Create a family emergency plan. Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to know how you will contact one another, how you will get back together and what you will do in case of an emergency. You should consider: evacuation plans, family communications, utility shut-off and safety and safety skills. Have an out-of-town communication number to leave messages.

#### Step 3: Be Informed

Hurricane hazards come in many forms: lightning, tornadoes, flooding, storm surge, high winds, even landslides or mudslides can be triggered in mountainous regions. Look carefully at the safety actions associated with each type of hurricane hazard and prepare your family disaster plan accordingly. But remember this is only a guide. The first and most important thing anyone should do when

facing a hurricane threat is to use common sense.

### Special Needs

Get your children involved in preparation, think of people with disabilities and other access and functional needs and prepare care for pets.

### What sort of hurricane is coming?

Familiarize yourself with the terms used to identify a hurricane as follows:

A hurricane watch means a hurricane is possible in your area. Be prepared to evacuate. Monitor local radio and television news outlets or listen to NOAA Weather Radio for the latest developments.

A hurricane warning is when a hurricane is expected in your area. If local authorities advise you to evacuate, leave immediately.

### Hurricanes are classified into five categories:

Category 1: Wind speed 74 – 95 m.p.h., dangerous winds will produce some damage, minor damage to exterior of homes, toppled tree branches, uprooting of smaller trees, extensive damage to power lines and power outages.

Category 2: Wind speed 96 – 110 m.p.h., extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage, major damage to exterior of homes, uprooting of small trees and many roads blocked, power outages for long periods of time—days to weeks.

Category 3: Wind speed 111 – 130 m.p.h., devastating damage will occur, extensive damage to exterior of homes, many trees uprooted and many roads blocked, extremely limited availability of

water and electricity.

Category 4: Wind speed, 131 – 155 m.p.h., catastrophic damage will occur; loss of roof structure and/or some exterior walls; most trees uprooted and most power lines down; isolated residential due to debris pile up; power outages lasting for weeks to months.

Category 5: Wind speed more than 155 m.p.h., atastrophic damage will occur; a high percentage of homes will be destroyed; fallen trees and power lines isolate residential areas; power outages lasting for weeks to months; most areas will be uninhabitable.

### Plan to Protect Property

Cover all of your home's windows with pre-cut ply wood or hurricane shutters to protect your windows from high winds. Bring all outdoor furniture, decorations, garbage cans and anything else that is not tied down inside. Keep trees and shrubs well trimmed so they are more wind resistant, and close shutters.

Turn off utilities as instructed. Otherwise, turn the refrigerator thermostat to its coldest setting and keep its doors closed. Turn off propane tanks. Consider a generator for emergencies. Reinforce your garage doors; if wind enters a garage, it can cause dangerous and expensive structural damage.

### Water and Food

Ensure a supply of water for sanitary purposes such as cleaning and flushing toilets. Fill the bathtub and other large containers with water. Find out how to keep food safe during and after an emergency by visiting [www.foodsafety.gov](http://www.foodsafety.gov).

For further information: [hurricanes.gov/prepare](http://hurricanes.gov/prepare) and at FEMA's [ready.gov](http://ready.gov).

## Police Department Hosts National Night Out

The Takoma Park Police Department's National Night Out hosted special guest, Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley on Aug. 2. The event, a combination of activities like moon bounce, face painting and games, with informational services on safety and crime prevention, drew a lively crowd of residents to Piney Branch Elementary School. The nationally celebrated event is designed



to strengthen ties among police, residents, local businesses and other organizations. From left, Maryland State Police Col. Marcus L. Brown, Gov. Martin O'Malley, Takoma Park Mayor Bruce Williams and Takoma Park Police Chief Ronald Ricucci. Photo by Cathy Plevy

# RECREATION



Photo by Zengig/Zengigi Design

## Takoma Park Day of Play - Come Play!

The TakomaPlays Committee invites everyone the third annual Play Day, Saturday, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., Sept. 24 at the Takoma Park M... people of all ages. Join us for over 25 different activities including floor hockey with the Recreation Department, Touch a Truck w... much more. Don't miss the opportunity to play Simon Says with Senator Jamie Raskin! Rain or shine: we will play both inside and... p.m. For more information and to find a list of the activities go to the web site, takomaplays.org.

Takoma Park has been renamed A Playful City USA by KaBoom.org and we hope to be a model city where everyone comes out to... Committee, a group of volunteers who encourage everyone to play. For more information, contact Pat Rumbaugh, the Play Lady,

## TP YOUTH CHORUS

Ages 8 – 12 and 13 – 16

In this "Glee"-like ensemble, Master Teaching Artist Lisa Shaw teaches fun, fast-paced songs and light choreography, weaving true and/or fictional stories from participants' lives and imaginations into an end-of-session sharing with family and friends. \$10 materials fee to be paid to the instructor on the first day of class. No experience or audition required.

Lilac Room, TP Community Center

Wednesdays, Sept. 14 – Dec. 14

Ages 8 – 12, 4 – 4:45 p.m.; ages 13 – 16, 5 – 5:45 p.m.

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| TP resident  | \$125 |
| Non-resident | \$145 |

## INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC PRODUCTION

Ages 12 – 18

Future production engineers and lovers of music can learn the basics of song composition through Garage Band in Takoma Park's new multi-media lab, which includes MIDI keyboards and software to record, arrange, edit and mix beats and songs. Participants will compose their own songs to contribute to a class project/CD. Work may also be used for school portfolio, and as preparation for more advanced classes. Six weeks.

Multi Media Lab, TP Community Center

Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 13 – Oct. 20

Ages 12 – 15, 3 - 4:30 p.m.; ages 16 – 18, 4:45 – 6:15 p.m.

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| TP resident  | \$20 |
| Non-resident | \$30 |

## KILO VIBES D.J. TRAINING

Ages 12-17

Learn how to use D.J. equipment, prepare for rotation, and learn about the multiple methods to record set. Class also includes music theory related to sound, sound quality, basic mixing and scratching.

Multi Media Lab, TP Community Center

Tuesdays, Oct. 18 – Nov. 22, 5 – 6 p.m.

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| TP resident  | Free |
| Non-resident | \$30 |

## OUTDOOR STREET HOCKEY

Ages 7 – 13

Based on ice hockey, street hockey is played on foot, with a ball made especially for street play. Develops motor skills, concentration and sportsmanship, but mostly it's played for fun.

Outdoor basketball court  
TP Community Center

Thursdays, Sept. 29 - Oct. 27, 3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

|              |                             |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| TP resident  | Free, registration required |
| Non-resident | \$10                        |

For more information contact Lew McAllister  
301-891-7284 or lewm@takomaparkmd.gov

## DRAWING

Ages 16 and older

Explore "seeing" as an active, individual process and "drawing" as a thoughtful and intuitive response. Develop your skills in representation, perspective and proportion, while experimenting with personally expressive mark making and color. Includes black/white and color drawing materials, wet and dry media, still life, floral and interior subject matter with studio lighting. Beginners and experienced students. All basic materials

will be provided. \$20 materials fee due on the first day of class.

Art Room, TP Community Center

Thursdays, Sept. 14 – Oct. 19, 6 – 9 p.m.

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| TP resident  | \$195 |
| Non-resident | \$225 |

## CROCHET 101/BEGINNING CROCHET

Ages 18 and older

Crochet basics including a variety of stitches, patterns and a final project. For beginners or those who want to refresh their skills. A supply list is sent after registration; basic materials provided for a fee, due the first day of class. Includes a field trip to craft yarn stores.

Rose Room, TP Community Center

Saturdays, Sept. 10 – Oct. 15, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| TP resident  | \$60 |
| Non-resident | \$70 |

No class on Sept. 24 and Oct. 1.

## EMBROIDERY 101

Ages 8 – 12

This beginner class includes a variety of embroidery stitches, from basic to specialty. Participants create their own projects and take home a stitch guide for future reference.

Lilac Room, TP Community Center

Mondays, Sept. 12 – Nov. 7, 3:35 – 4:45 p.m.

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| TP resident  | \$40 |
| Non-resident | \$50 |

No class on Oct. 31

## CARTOON DRAWING

Ages 12 – 16

Use color pencils and markers to create cartoon characters, with instruction on

drawing eyes, clothes and backgrounds. Work on developing characters and incorporating them in a story, visually depicting time and sequence of events.

Art Room, TP Community Center

Mondays, Sept. 19 – Oct. 24, 3:45 – 5 p.m.

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| TP resident  | \$100 |
| Non-resident | \$120 |

## POTTERY

Ages 18 and older

Participants learn the fundamentals of hand building and throwing, wedging, centering and trimming. Other skills include cylinders, bowls, pulling handles, coil building, pinch pots and slab building. Wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty. Supplies fee of \$25 is paid on the first day of class.

Art Room, TP Community Center

Wednesdays, Sept. 14 – Oct. 26, 7 – 9 p.m.

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| TP resident  | \$130 |
| Non-resident | \$150 |

## T.G.I. FRIAY ROAD TRIPZ

Ages 12 – 17

Adult-supervised trips for teens to various destinations. All trips depart from the T-Zone in the Takoma Park Community Center.

Dave n Busters

Sept. 16, 5 p.m.

\$20

## HAIR BRAIDING WORKSHOP

Ages 10-17

This is a hands-on interactive workshop teaching basic and advanced techniques of hair braiding, including the three strand classic, three strand French braid, a variety of

# SILVER FOXES

## INTRODUCTION TO MAC COMPUTERS

Age 55 and older

Instructor Akili Brown's new, six-week course provides guidance, support and inspiration to learn the basic functions and terminologies of the Mac OS X, plus helpful tips and tricks, and the basic skills to start many creative projects. In addition, this course will prepare students for a more advanced course covering how to make family photo albums, family movies and more. Registration form required. 301-891-7280.

Multi Media Lab, TP Community Center

Wednesdays, Sept. 7 – Oct. 21

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

\$35

## THE SENIOR CONNECTION PRESENTATION

Age 55 and older

A lively presentation on services and volunteer opportunities for seniors in Montgomery County. Services include driving seniors to medical appointments and errands, grocery shopping, friendly visits and telephone reassurance. The Senior Connection's mission is to "provide mobility by linking older adults to services and resources so they can live as independently as possible and remain integral members of our community." 301-891-7280.

Senior Room, TP Community Center

Tuesday, Sept. 13, 12 – 1 p.m.

Free

## SPRING BIRTHDAY PARTY

Age 55 and older

Bring your friends and join us to celebrate July, August and September birthdays with cake, ice cream and party games. All seniors welcome! Drop-in.

Lilac Room, TP Community Center

Friday, Sept. 16, 12 – 1:30 p.m.

Free

## GENTLE YOGA

Age 55 and older

Carol Mermey, RYT, introduces the ways yoga can help increase flexibility, strength and balance, using a series of seated and standing poses as well as breathing and relaxation techniques. Beginners and experienced students welcome, students work at their own levels. Participants must bring a yoga mat. Registration required. 301-891-7280.

Dance Studio, TP Community Center

Alternate Fridays, Sept. 9 - Dec. 16, 12 – 1 p.m.

Free

## BRAIN GAMES

Age 55 and older

An apple a day may keep the doctor away, and brain games may keep Alzheimer's away! Includes a variety of cognitive puzzle

challenges and games. Drop-in.

Senior Room, TP Community Center

Tuesday, Sept. 6, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Free

## FRYING PAN FARM PARK

Age 55 and older

This working demonstration farm recreates the era of 1920 – 1950, when dairy farms blanketed the landscape. Greet the friendly farm animals, take a wagon ride, or watch the farm hands at work. Includes a farmhouse and barns, dairy, smokehouse, corn cribs, chicken house, "outhouse," schoolhouse, blacksmith shop, farm equipment and more. Bring spending money to purchase lunch at a nearby restaurant. Wear comfortable clothing and walking shoes. The park is not wheelchair accessible. Meet at TP Community Center; bus pick up at Franklin, Mapleview and Victory Tower apartments only. Registration required. Registration begins on Sept. 1 at 8:30 a.m. 301-891-7280 to pre-register.

Herndon, Virginia



# HOUSING

## HOUSING MAILBOX

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

**Q** I am a new landlord, and while I am aware of the rent stabilization laws in Takoma Park, I'm fuzzy on the details. I plan on increasing my tenant's rent in November. What are the guidelines I must follow?

**A** First of all, a landlord can only increase the rent once within any 12-month period, unless there is a vacancy. You must also provide a written notice of any increase at least two months before the rent goes up. These rules apply to all properties, including those that don't fall under the rent stabilization law (rent stabilization does not apply to single family rentals and accessory apartments or owner-occupied homes with one rental unit).

Landlords who have properties subject to rent stabilization may only increase the rent by the rent stabilization allowance established by the City each year. This year (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012), the rent stabilization allowance is 3 percent. Here's how it works: if the rent is \$850, a 3 percent increase would bring the rent to \$875.00 ( $\$850.00 \times .03 = \$25.00 + \$850.00 = \$875.00$ ). The rent stabilization allowance is always equal to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) established by the federal government. The rent stabilization allowance is always equal to 100 percent of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

*For a full explanation of the rent stabilization law, go to [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov), left column "City Code." Landlords or tenants with further questions about rent stabilization can contact Jean Kerr at 301-891-7216 or [jeank@takomagov.org](mailto:jeank@takomagov.org). Questions about the landlord-tenant law can be directed Moses Wilds, Jr. at 301-891-7215 or [mosesw@takomagov.org](mailto:mosesw@takomagov.org).*

## Punitive damages charged to landlord for entry without notification

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

*The Commission On Landlord-Tenant Affairs hears complaints alleging violations of the City's landlord-tenant law.*

**Brown-Thomas v. Deauville Associates LLP et al (11-3T)**

On August 2, 2011 COLTA ruled that the landlord at this property twice entered the tenant's apartment without giving advance written notice, and on one of these occasions did not provide a report of entry, all in violation of Section 6.16.140 (Entry) of the Takoma Park Code. In addition to the complaint of

illegal entries, the tenant also requested that the landlord reimburse her for items stolen from her apartment during a burglary, and for moving expenses.

COLTA ruled that the tenant failed to prove that the burglary was the landlord's responsibility, and denied her request for moving expense reimbursement. The Commission did, however, award the tenant punitive damages of \$100 for each of the unannounced entries and incidences of failing to leave the required report of entry. The complete decision can be found at [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov) under the City Code, under Housing, Landlord-Tenant Division, in the left column.

## Credit/Financial Management and First Time Home Buyer Classes Free for Takoma Park Residents

### Understanding Credit,

Wednesday, Sept. 21, 7 – 9:15 p.m.  
Credit: How it all began, understanding your credit report and score, case studies

### Protecting and Improving Your Credit,

Wednesday, Oct. 5, 7 – 9:15 p.m.  
Establishing credit, credit repair (fact or fiction), credit management skills, case studies

### Getting to Know the Financial You,

Wednesday, Oct. 19, 7 – 9:15 p.m.  
Developing a financial plan, setting goals, keeping good records, case studies

### First Time Home Buyer Seminar (English),

Saturday, Oct. 22, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
A HUD-approved nonprofit affordable housing organization will conduct class that will include: expert speakers from a lending institution, title company, real estate and inspection firm; information about how to obtain a mortgage and understand the terms of the loan; the role of the real estate agent and how to identify a good one; certificate of

completion which allows access to state and county low interest loans

### Changing the Way You Think about Finances,

Wednesday, Nov. 2, 7 – 9:15 p.m.  
Learning cash flow pattern, needs versus wants assessment, budgets, case studies

### Thinking Like an Investor,

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 7 – 9:15 p.m.  
Identify different forms of income, move from savings to investing, case studies

Pre-Registration Required (\$25/class for non-Takoma Park residents), by mail or walk-in at Takoma Park Recreation Department, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md., 20912

Application at: [https://s3.amazonaws.com/recreation\\_takomapark/public/forms/Recreation\\_Registration\\_Form.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/recreation_takomapark/public/forms/Recreation_Registration_Form.pdf)

All classes are held at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, 301-891-7290

Middle School. There will be more than 20 activities for with the Public Works Department (11 a.m. – 1 p.m.) and out. Teens and adults may volunteer from 10 a.m. – 3

o play. The Play Day is sponsored by the TakomaPlays at [pattenn58@aol.com](mailto:pattenn58@aol.com).

styles and hair extensions. Combs, pins and synthetic hair included. Learn the secret to making money in the business of hair braiding including marketing your skills, business cards and flyers.

Lilac Room, TP Community Center

Ages 10 – 12, Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 13 – Oct. 6, 4 – 5 p.m.,

Ages 13 – 17, Tuesdays and Thursdays, Oct. 25 – Nov. 17, 4 – 5 p.m.,

Free, but must pre-register, 301-891-7100

### COLLEGE LIFE TOURS

Ages 13 – 18

This fall, the TP Recreation Department will escort students to a variety of colleges and universities in and out of the state of Maryland, and to the annual Historically Black College and University expo. Teens get a first-hand look at campus life, a variety of academic programs, extracurricular activities, living on site in a dorm and financial options. A different college will be visited during each Saturday listed. This activity is free; registration is required.

Howard University

Meet T-Zone, TP Community Center

Saturday, Sept. 24, 9 – 3 p.m.

### FLU SHOT CLINIC

Adventist Healthcare will provide early flu shots. Walk-in, no appointment necessary. Only cash, check and Medicare Part B will be accepted as payment.

Seasonal Vaccine: \$25, free for Medicare Part B; Pneumonia: \$35.

For adults 18 and older.

Lilac Room, TP Community Center

Monday, Sept. 19, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 8, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Free

### BLACK HILLS REGIONAL PARK/ PONTOON RIDE/PICNIC

Ages 55 and older

A naturalist-led tour aboard a boat on Little Seneca Lake. Wheelchair accommodation with advance notice. Bring lunch for a picnic by the lake. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes, bring a light jacket, it may be chilly on the water. Don't forget the sunscreen. Meet at the TP Community Center; bus pick up at Franklin, Mapleview and Victory Tower apartments only. Registration required. Registration begins on Sept. 1 at 8:30 a.m. 301-891-7280 to pre-register.

Boys, Maryland

Thursday, Sept. 15, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

\$5



*You are Invited to a class*

## “Tenant Rights in Takoma Park” Tuesday, Sept. 13 • 7-8:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center  
7500 Maple Ave. • Takoma Park, Md.

*Meet Your Neighbors!*

**Light Refreshments • RSVP-301-891-7215**

# LIBRARY



## College Bound: Financial Aid

Herm Davis, author of "College Financial Aid for Dummies," presents the first in a series of talks on college prep for Takoma Park residents, Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. at the Library. The event is free, but registration is requested, [www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html](http://www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html).



## CALENDAR

### Neighborhood Circle Time

Every Tuesday  
10 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

### Spanish Circle Time

Every Thursday  
10:30 a.m. with Señora Geiza  
Sponsored by Friends of the Library

### Bedtime Stories

Tuesday, Sept. 6, 7 – 7:30 p.m.  
Babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups  
Wear p.j.s, bring your teddy bear or other stuffed favorite  
Stories, songs and rhymes

### Friends Reading Group

Wednesday, Sept. 7, 7:30 p.m.  
Community Center Hydrangea Room  
Graham Greene's "The Quiet American"  
See story

### Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Monday, Sept. 12  
See story

### Comics Jam

Tuesday, Sept. 13, 4 p.m.  
Kids and grownups  
Comics on the big screen with David Burbank  
No registration  
Sponsored by Friends of the Library

### Summer Quest Party

Monday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m.  
Celebrating the end of summer's reading program, lemonade and cupcakes  
Registration required  
Sponsored by Friends of the Library

### Friends of the Library Board Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 20, 7:45 p.m.  
In the Library

### Writers Rock!

Monday, Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m.  
Ages 5 and up  
Three children's novelists discuss and sign their latest books  
Registration encouraged  
Sponsored by Friends of the Library  
See story

### College Bound: Financial Aid

Tuesday September 27, 7 p.m.  
In the Library  
First session of College Bound series  
Please register  
See story

### Community Read Out

Saturday, Oct. 1, 10 a.m.  
Community Center Auditorium  
Listen or read in honor of Banned Books Week  
Includes pizza lunch (See story)

## Writers Rock the middle grades in Takoma Park

Three children's novelists will tell us about their work and then sign their books at "Writers Rock!" on Monday, Sept. 26 at 7:30 p.m.

All three authors—Tami Lewis Brown, Katy Kelly and Uma Krishnaswami—write "middle grade" novels, aimed at readers ages 8 to 12, although younger and older readers also might enjoy their books.

The authors also either live in the D.C. area, or have ties here. Krishnaswami's new book, "The Grand Plan to Fix Everything," opens in Takoma Park, while the latest book in Kelly's popular "Melonhead" series, "Melonhead and the Undercover Operation," is set, as always, on Capitol Hill. Brown's new book, "The Map of Me," marks her debut as a children's novelist; her first book, "Soar, Elinor," is a picture book biography of aviatrix Elinor Smith.



Tami Lewis Brown



Katy Kelly



Uma Krishnaswami

Each author will speak briefly about her work, and then take questions from the audience. We'll finish up with a book signing. Books will be available for purchase by cash, check or credit card, courtesy of Politics and Prose Bookstore.

This event is best for children ages 5 and up. Registration is encouraged. To register, go to [www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html](http://www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html) or call 301-891-7259. Thanks to our Friends of the Library for sponsoring this program.

## Favorite books honor the memory of a beloved child

Ian Thompson loved to read, having essentially taught himself to read at the age of four. So it's not surprising that he loved going to the library, especially the Takoma Park Maryland Library.

Sadly, Ian died in May, at the age of 7, after a valiant fight with an illness that appeared out of the blue. Now, in Ian's memory, his parents, Corey and Kenann Thompson and his younger sister, Ayo, have donated copies of some of his favorite books to the Library. Other friends also have donated books in Ian's memory; all of

the books will include book plates noting that they were given to honor Ian.

While each child is special, Ian stood out for his gentle spirit, which was paired with an unmatched determination. As his mother Kenann Thompson recalled in a piece included in his funeral program: "Ian had a serene countenance unlike his years. He embraced love, harmony and well-being with his actions, behavior and relationships."

She added: "One day Ian came home from school, kissed the floor and announced, 'I just love my family, my house and my parents!' Even though that sounds remarkable, that is the kind of thing Ian would utter constantly.

"The night before he took ill, he took his sister Ayo to the store and said, 'Pick

anything you want because I have saved my allowance.' He generously bought her a book and then told her he loved her."

One of Ian's last projects was creating a non-profit with his family, Kenann Thompson said. The goal of the non-profit is to "create strong communities and healthy families," she said, adding that it's called Janyo, after Ian and his sister. The family plans to continue on with the non-profit as a way to honor Ian; those interested can read more on the Janyo blog that Kenann Thompson writes, [www.granny-wasgreen.com](http://www.granny-wasgreen.com).

For those interested, donations for the purchase of children's books in Ian's memory can be made to the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library (FTPML) at the Library.

## Reading Out for Banned Books

Banned Books Week is Sept. 24 - Oct. 1 this year and the Library is celebrating with its second annual Community Read Out, Saturday, Oct. 1 from 10 a.m. to noon in the Community Center Auditorium. The program will be followed with pizza lunch for all attendees in the Azalea Room.

Last year, our Library was as one of seven groups to receive the first-ever Judith Krug Memorial Fund grants from the American Library Association's Freedom to Read Foundation. We had such a good time – and such a good turnout, with 100-plus attendees – that we've decided to do it again this year.

The Read Out focuses on picture books and novels for kids through age 12. We will



read passages from some of the novels, and read entire challenged picture books together with a projector. Adults are welcome

to listen, or read from one of the books on our list; participants may also perform a scene from one of the challenged books on our list.

We do ask that participants register, at [www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html](http://www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html) or 301-891-7259. If you are interested in reading, contact Karen MacPherson, children's librarian, at 301-891-7259 or [karenm@takomagov.org](mailto:karenm@takomagov.org). We ask participants to read from the picture books or children's novels on our booklist so that we can keep the program focused on books for kids under age 12. To see the lists of challenged picture books and children's novels, go to [www.takomapark.info/library](http://www.takomapark.info/library) and click on the Children's Room blog on the left-hand side of the page, or come and pick up a printed copy of the list at the Library.



# LIBRARY BRIEFS

## Banned book clubs continue

Mark your calendars: our next Banned Books club events will take place on Monday, Oct. 24. Our Junior Banned Books Club, for readers in grades 3, 4 and 5, will meet at 6:30 p.m. and discuss "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets." Our Banned Books Club, for readers in middle school or high school, will meet at 7:30 p.m. to discuss "The Sun Also Rises" by Ernest Hemingway. All are welcome, but registration is required. To register, go to [www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html](http://www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html) or call 301-891-7259.

## Summer Quest celebrates

We'll conclude our Summer Quest summer reading program with a party on Monday, Sept. 19 at 7 p.m. Come and discuss what books you loved – or didn't like – in this year's Summer Quest. We'll have cupcakes, lemonade and free books for everyone to take home. Registration required so we can have enough food for all. To register, go to [www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html](http://www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html) or call 301-891-7259. Thanks to the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library for sponsoring our Summer Quest program.

## Tenth Morrissey golf tourney planned

Monday, Sept. 12 is the date of the tenth annual charity golf tournament in memory of book lover and library aficionado Mike Morrissey. The all-day event will be followed by a post-tournament party and auction at Rumors Restaurant. Gene Miller, Dave Burbank, Nic Fontem and Liz Ferry of the Library staff will be participating in the tournament.

The past nine tournaments have raised more than \$40,000 for the Takoma Park Library. Funds have been used by the Friends of the Library to provide books, equipment, programs and other resources to the Library and the Computer Center. In 2009, the Library's children's room was named after Mike Morrissey, in recognition of the continuing and energetic support of the Library by his friends and family.

There is still time to support the tournament, held at the Redgate Golf Course in Rockville. You may sponsor a hole, tee, green or make any other donation. For information, contact Ellen Robbins at 301-891-7259 or [ellenr@takomagov.org](mailto:ellenr@takomagov.org)

## College-bound speakers' series returns

This year's popular College Bound Speakers Series will be held on Tuesday evenings in September and October. Dr. Herm Davis kicks off on Sept. 27 with a comprehensive discussion of financing college. He will discuss the financial aid timetable, scholarships, loans, work-study, college savings plans, the FAFSA application and more. Davis heads the National College Scholarship Foundation and directs College Financial Aid Counseling and Education Services, Inc. He is a consultant for Peterson's financial publications and author of "College Financial Aid for Dummies."

Camille Scott will speak Oct. 4 about

Montgomery College and community colleges in general. She will discuss programs of study, student life, college entrance, transfer opportunities, costs and financial aid. Montgomery College, with campuses in Germantown, Rockville, Takoma Park/Silver Spring, and off-site centers around the county, is second in the state, just behind the University of Maryland, in total number of undergraduate students. Scott is Coordinator of Admissions Recruiting at Montgomery College and has more than 20 years experience working in higher education.

On Oct. 11, Dr. Lori Potts-Dupre returns with an overview of the college selection process. Which schools might provide the right fit—academically, financially and personally—for you? Topics will include sorting out personal criteria and goals and the admission process. Potts-Dupre is a certified educational planner and former faculty research associate at the University of Maryland. She has a private counseling practice in Takoma Park, and has evaluated more than 350 campuses nationwide.

Please pre-register for these free programs for college-bound students and their parents, 301-891-7259 or at [www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html](http://www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html). The series is presented with the support of the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library.

## Friends Reading Group kicks off fall

On Wednesday, Sept. 7, readers will meet in the Hydrangea Room at 7:30 p.m. to discuss "The Quiet American" by Graham Greene; the discussion will be led by Tim Rahn.

Published in 1955, this thinly veiled indictment of America's cold war aroused controversy in its reviews. Nonetheless, the *Chicago Sun-Times* called it "the best novel written about the war in Indo-China," and the *London Daily Express* reviewer wrote: "Unless I am very much mistaken, 'The Quiet American' is as near a masterpiece as anything else I have ever read in the last 20 years."

On Wednesday Oct. 5, at 7:30 p.m., the Friends Reading Group begins a series of discussions on John Fowles' ambitious 1977 novel, "Daniel Martin." Educator and Fowles scholar Kelly Cresap will lead this exploration of what *Time* magazine called "...both a startlingly provocative novel and a courageous act of willed humanity."

"Daniel Martin is a middle-aged Englishman. A successful playwright turned screenwriter, who is summoned from Hollywood to Oxford by the imminent death of a long-estranged friend, a Catholic philosopher named Anthony..." (*Newsweek*)

"In Fowles' hands, [Martin's] pilgrimage becomes thoroughly absorbing, intellectually challenging – and not at all the snappy read his admirers have come to expect... Few novels in recent years have been more thoroughly textured with contemporary history or more rigorously reluctant to offer pat solutions... Like Henry James before him, Fowles has created rarified creatures free enough to take on the toughest questions that life offers: How to live?" (*Time*)

Friends Reading Group discussions are open to all without pre-registration.



Alvaro Calabia, left, has worked with City TV's *Snapshots* program since its inception; now it is celebrating its 100th episode. Here, Calabia films children at Takoma Park's Halloween parade.

Photo by Angie Calabia

## City TV snapshots airs its hundredth episode

*Takoma Park Snapshots*, Takoma Park City TV's bi-monthly montage of local issues and interests, will air its 100<sup>th</sup> show in September, displaying yet another slice of life in Takoma Park.

Founded by former Takoma Park Communications Director Lonni Moffet and Producer Paula B. Rehr, *Snapshots* first aired in January 2001 as a monthly magazine, presenting local issues and events not covered by mainstream TV. Moffet and Rehr came up with the name *Snapshots* to signify a program that would be "like a time capsule, an archive that would represent the community in a positive way." The show continues to be what staff calls, "a small portrait of the history of Takoma Park."

Alvaro Calabia, City TV's video production manager, has been with the program since it started. Early emphasis was on Community Oriented Policing, he says, a hot topic at the time. Rehr later won an international award in 2006 for a *Snapshots* Community Policing segment called "Going to the Dogs," highlighting the canine team handlers and their dog, the late "Diesel."

All 100 *Snapshots* segments were produced and filmed by City TV, which has collaborated with some 50 organizations—non-profits; local, county and state governments; and organizations for art, environment, health and education—to bring bits of City life to the screen. In keeping with the community outreach orientation of the station, interns from local high schools and Montgomery College often help produce, film and edit the shows, which are typically between five and ten minutes. Segments have featured everything from Walking City Councils, when councilmembers walk around their wards to meet and listen to residents, to the clear staff favorite: the annual Halloween parade.

In 2009, City TV won an award



from the Alliance for Community Media's Hometown Video Festival for the *Snapshots* segment, "WordImage: Fusion of Poetry and Art" ([http://takomapark.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish\\_id=91](http://takomapark.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=91)), as well as awards from the Festival's Government Programming category (one in the Visual Arts category and one in the Arts and Entertainment category for the Jazz Band Brawl, [http://takomapark.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish\\_id=94](http://takomapark.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=94)).

Ideas for the segments come from staff, organizational collaborators and the public. "*Snapshots* are an informative, 'this is who we are' type of thing," says CityTV producer/director Rick Jenkins. "Takoma Park is an extremely active community," says Calabia, "like a small butterfly. Its wings generate a ripple effect that hurricanes the world." The 100th episode of *Snapshots* will air in early September.

## Air times for Snapshots are:

- Mondays, 8 a.m., 3 p.m. and midnight**
- Tuesdays, 9 a.m. 5 p.m.**
- Wednesdays, 4 p.m. and midnight**
- Thursdays, 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.**
- Fridays, 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.**
- Saturdays, 10 a.m., 6 p.m. and midnight**
- Sundays, 9 a.m. 7 p.m.**

View the complete CityTV schedule at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/cable/schedule.html#program](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/cable/schedule.html#program).

# THE ARTS



"Celebrating Green Leaves" by Seleshi Feseha

## Art for a Green World

The Galleries at the Takoma Park Community Center present an exhibit, Art for a Green World, Sept. 9 to Oct. 14, with an opening reception on Friday, Sept. 9 from 6 – 8 p.m.

Ethiopian artist and Takoma Park resident Seleshi Feseha's works focus on themes of the environment and global warming. The artist works in mixed media with environmentally friendly materials and a unique 'thread on canvas' process he developed as an alternative to chemical-laden oil paints.

Feseha has chosen to do this 'eco-fiber' painting to raise awareness about our personal and community responsibilities towards the Earth. "It's a thrill for me to have my art exhibited in this community where I have such a strong personal connection," he says. "In some ways, it's more meaningful for me to share my art locally in this community center than it would be at a downtown museum. I feel blessed that I can live here and do my art in this area."



## "We are Takoma" presents full roster of art, lectures

The We Are Takoma series has two events scheduled for September, and a full line-up throughout the fall. The events, some free and others with a suggested donation, are sponsored by the City's Arts and Humanities Commission. They are held in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Ave. in Takoma Park.



### LAUGH IT UP, FUNNY GIRL

**Saturday, Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Free; suggested donation, \$15**

Actor-vocalist Gia Mora takes the audience through a funny survey of love and life in the Internet age, musing on online dating, digital surveillance and everything in between. Her show has been called "delightful" and "hilarious" by the Washington Post, and DC Theater Scene praises her for "Lucille Ball-like comic timing." The original jazz cabaret also features composer and pianist Charlie Barnett.

### THIRD THURSDAY POETRY READING

**Sixth season**  
**Thursday, Sept. 15, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Free**

The Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission's popular "third Thursday" poetry series, hosted by Martin Fitzpatrick, begins its sixth season this month. As in the past, the series will feature some of the finest poets in Takoma park and in the region.

### BEAUTIFUL HILLS OF BROOKLYN

**Film and discussion on aging in America with playwright Ellen Cassedy**  
**Thursday, Sept. 22, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Free**

This award-winning film is based on a true story, drawn from the diary of Jessie Singer Sylvester, an elderly woman living on a pension, confronting the changes in her life and her beloved Brooklyn neighborhood. The film moves from present time to reverie and is told entirely in the words of the diary, interwoven with the Walt Whitman poem "Crossing Brooklyn Ferry."



Playwright Ellen Cassedy won a Moon-dance Festival Award in 2002 for her play, upon which this film is based. Cassedy was a founder of 9 to 5, the working women's organization that inspired the film Nine to Five. She is a frequent speaker, sharing the story of her great-aunt's diary and encouraging dialogue about the ways in which individuals and society can respond to the unique needs of the elderly.

### Upcoming We Are Takoma events

*Read the Newsletter for more information as the dates approach.*

### THE WILD VINE: A FORGOTTEN GRAPE AND THE UNTOLD STORY OF AMERICAN WINE

With food critic Todd Kliman  
**Thursday, Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m.**

### DROP THE KNIFE: A MEMOIR IN SONG

With Jeanne Mackey  
**Friday, Oct. 14, 7:30 p.m.**

### THE ULINERS IN CONCERT

**Saturday, Oct., 7:30 p.m.**

### EUREKA DANCE FESTIVAL

**Sunday, Oct. 23, 5 p.m.**

### DECOLORES MEXICAN DANCE COMPANY

**Saturday, Oct. 29, 7:30 p.m.**

### HISTORY AND HELICOPTERING: HOW PAST FACTORS EXPLAIN PARENTS ANXIETIES

With historian Peter N. Stearns  
**Thursday, Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m.**

### DC LABOR CHORUS HOLIDAY CONCERT

**Saturday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m.**

### DOLLARS AND SENSE: A DISCUSSION OF U.S. ECONOMICS

With Wall Street Journal correspondent David Wessel  
**Thursday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m.**

### WINTER SOLSTICE CONCERT

With Jennifer Cutting  
**Saturday, Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m.**

# DEVELOPMENT

## TAKOMA TOPICS:

“As the City Council election season heats up, you’ll want to determine what ward you live in. Go to [www.takomaparkmd.gov/council/wardmap.html](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/council/wardmap.html) or call 301-891-7267 to find out.”

## Development updates around town

By Ilona Blanchard  
Community Development Coordinator  
Housing and Community Development

Several development projects are underway in Takoma Park. Here, in our occasional series, we update readers on a few that are of particular interest.

### Takoma/Langley Crossroads

Work on the sector plan, which will guide the future development and revitalization of the Takoma/Langley Crossroads area, continues with the Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee (PHED) of the Montgomery County Council reviewing the current draft of the plan. The PHED recently added language that allows large property owners more flexibility in meeting development standards; it is also considering changes in the zoning map.

The community has expressed an interest in establishing specific design guidelines for Takoma/Langley, which support walkability and higher quality and green-

er development. The City is working with the PHED to incorporate these objectives. For more information visit [www.the-NewAve.com](http://www.the-NewAve.com) or contact Ilona Blanchard at 301-891-7205 or [ilonab@takomagov.org](mailto:ilonab@takomagov.org).

The Federal evaluation of the Purple Line, which will eventually connect the Takoma/Langley Crossroads and Long Branch with Silver Spring, College Park and Bethesda, is nearing completion. Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) expects to receive approval to enter the next phase, Preliminary Engineering, by the end of September. This upcoming stage will take approximately two years to complete. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2015, with operations beginning in 2020. MTA is planning outreach meetings for October 2011. For more information see [www.purpleline.com](http://www.purpleline.com) or contact Michael Madden, [mmadden@mtamaryland.com](mailto:mmadden@mtamaryland.com) or 410-767-3694.

MTA continues work on the development of construction documents for the transit center, at the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue and University Boulevard (where the Taco Bell is currently located). Once these are approved and the project has gone out to bid, the State is expected to begin construction in the right-of-way, installing an additional traffic light at the shopping center entrance near Rite Aid.

### The Ethan Allen Gateway

A new streetscape is planned for Ethan Allen Avenue at New Hampshire Avenue extending along East-West Highway to Prince George’s County. This project will improve pedestrian safety and access. The City is gathering information needed for community outreach, including structural and environmental surveys. For more information, contact Carman Lam at 301-891-7219 or [carmanl@takomagov.org](mailto:carmanl@takomagov.org).

The owners of 6822 New Hampshire Ave. (the former site of Guissini Shoes) have submitted construction drawings to the Department of Permitting Services for review.

### Long Branch

8435 Piney Branch Road, at the intersection of Flower Avenue, is under construction. Work includes the reconstructing of the garage building into a storefront and office, new sidewalks and landscaping.

Work on the Long Branch Sector Plan continues and will contain recommendations for future redevelopment around proposed purple line stops on Piney Branch Road at Arliss and at University Boulevard. For more information contact Jacob Sesker, Montgomery County Plan-

ning Staff, 301-650-5619 or [jacob.sesker@mncppc-mc.org](mailto:jacob.sesker@mncppc-mc.org).

### Maryland Gateway

Along the border of Maryland and D.C. and on New Hampshire Avenue, the 6450 New Hampshire Ave. laundry project has been tentatively scheduled for Planning Board review Oct. 15.

Meanwhile, Maggio Roofing, a roofing and solar energy installation company on Sligo Mill Road, has proposed the construction of a building at 6413 Orchard Ave for storage of materials. For more information, contact Carman Lam, 301-891-7219 or [carmanl@takomagov.org](mailto:carmanl@takomagov.org).

Nearby, 6530 New Hampshire Ave. has been sold, and the new property owner proposes to rehabilitate the building for reuse as a care facility for physically disabled adults.

### Takoma Junction

The Takoma Junction Task Force, charged by the City Council to make recommendations on redevelopment, revitalization, outreach, traffic patterns, pedestrian safety and use of public space in the Takoma Junction area, is requesting community feedback September 8 and plans to present its report to the City Council near the end of September.

## CONSTRUCTION

■ From page 1

factor in deciding where he would locate the store.

“I would not have signed my lease if that property was going to be developed into anything like a storage facility that wouldn’t have brought in new residents,” he says.

City officials are also excited to see construction on the site begin. “It is really important [that the property is being developed], because it is one of the first things people see when they get off the Metro and come towards town,” says Carman Lam, associate city planner for the City. “And it has been vacant for so long. Having something finally go up in that spot is a great thing.”

What’s going up is different than what was originally planned, however. Originally a condo project, nearly half of the units were purchased. But when project financing fell through in the wake of the financial crisis in 2008, the developers were forced to return the money to the buyers.

Now the complex is being repurposed as a rental property, a change both Blum and Gharai feel is positive given the changing housing market. “I have no concern about the market. There is a limited amount of Class A housing in the area and Takoma Park is a very desirable area,” says Blum.

Indeed, Lam says the City frequently gets calls requesting information about rental properties. And developers are counting on

the convenience of Metro and proximity to downtown D.C. to draw new residents who prefer a condo lifestyle.

The new plan involves two buildings connected at the lobby level. Construction on the 84-unit Phase I is scheduled for completion in late 2012/early 2013. Construction of Phase II, on the existing PMI public parking lot behind the 7-11, is slated to begin later this year and be completed near the end of the first quarter of 2013, Blum says.

The first building will be longer in design, with four stories, including 84 rental units, 70 underground parking spots and 6,500 square feet of ground floor retail. Phase II will rise up five stories, and will feature 60 residential units and 35 parking

spaces behind the building.

Currently no retailers or renters have committed to the complex, but Gharai says that is not unusual given the scheduled completion date. “It’s hard to get someone to commit to something more than a year out. But as the buildings get completed and people can see them, businesses and renters will show up,” he says confidently.

That Gharai is so confident is a testament to his commitment and dedication to the project.

“It took a lot of perseverance to get to this point. I didn’t know if we would ever recover [after the previous setbacks,]” he said. “It has been a very long process, but I feel really good.”

## WALKABLE

■ From page 1

Takoma Park’s Safe Routes to School sponsors educational programming for children walking and biking to school, and supports “walking school buses,” groups of parent-supervised children who walk together to school. And redevelopment at the intersection of Piney Branch and Flower Avenues focuses on pedestrian-friendly elements such as broad sidewalks and attractive streetscapes.

Walkability would fit into Takoma Park’s aim toward livability and quality of life; Walk Score gets more specific in measuring its value. Homes in walkable neighborhoods, it claims, are generally worth more than those in a suburban sprawl; walkable neighborhoods with easy public transit access save energy and money; and residents in walkable neighborhoods weigh eight pounds less than those who live in other areas, it claims.

For more information, and for other city rankings, see [www.walkscore.com](http://www.walkscore.com).

## TWO-WHEEL COMMUTE

■ From page 3

are some rough patches of road. Last spring, there was also a robbery along the trail between R and T streets.

Other bikers like the trail, including the editor of the Newsletter, who finds that the industrial scenery, newly commissioned public art and earnest attempts at cleaning up this corridor make for an intriguing and uniquely D.C.-flavored ride to the Union Station neighborhood.

Another well-known route into the city

is Rock Creek Park, with bike paths much of the way. Be aware that, if you bike it during the week, you will have to share the road with cars for a couple of miles, and the shoulders are narrow to non-existent. It’s more pleasant on weekends, when cars are excluded from large parts of the Parkway. In addition, because the bike path curves so much, it does add miles to your trip.

Lastly, bike maps can provide a good guide to area pedaling – though some computer-generated routes can be confusing. WABA has online and hard-copy maps available: see [www.waba.org](http://www.waba.org) for more information.

# SEPTEMBER '11

## Do you have an item for the City calendar?

Let us know if you have a non-profit event that would be of interest to most City of Takoma Park residents, and we'll consider it for inclusion in the calendar. Deadline for the October issue is September 12.

To submit calendar items, email [tpnewseditor@takomagov.org](mailto:tpnewseditor@takomagov.org).

### PUBLIC MEETINGS

#### City Council Meeting

Every Monday, 7:30 p.m.  
Sept. 5 meeting held Sept. 6  
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium  
See [takomaparkmd.gov](http://takomaparkmd.gov) for agenda

### ARTS AND LITERATURE

#### Open Mic Sundays

Sundays, 6 – 9 p.m.  
Capital City Cheesecake, 7071 Carroll Ave.  
House of Musical Traditions-sponsored showcase  
Sign-ups, 5:30 p.m.  
Free

#### All Student Art Show

Through Sept. 9  
Montgomery College Department of Visual Art and Design  
Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus - The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Fine Art Center  
930 King Street  
240-567-6821

#### Acosta and Clark CD Release Party

Thursday, Sept. 8, 7:30 – 9 p.m.  
Capital City Cheesecake, 7071 Carroll Ave.  
\$8

#### Azalea City Recordings 15th Anniversary

Concert/ CD release  
Friday, Sept. 9, 7:30 p.m.  
Seekers Church, 276 Carroll Street, NW  
Five performers, see page 5 for details  
\$15 donation

#### Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, Sept. 15, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center  
Free

#### Beautiful Hills of Brooklyn

Film  
Thursday, Sept. 22, 7:30 p.m.

TP Community Center  
Film and discussion with playwright Ellen Cassedy  
Free

#### Laugh it Up, Funny Girl

Jazz cabaret  
Saturday, Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center  
Free, suggested donation \$15

#### The Kitchen Quartet

Irish music and dance  
Wednesday, Sept. 28  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
\$17 advance / \$20 door, student discounts with ID: \$12 advance / \$15 door  
301-754-3611, [www.imtfolk.org](http://www.imtfolk.org)

### COMMUNITY EVENTS



#### Takoma Park Folk Festival

Sept. 11  
10:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Takoma Park Middle School  
7611 Piney Branch Road  
Multiple musicians, dance, crafts, food  
Free

#### Clothes give-away

Saturday, Sept. 17, 12 – 4 p.m.  
God Glorified Church of God In Christ  
111 Geneva Ave.  
For Takoma Park residents  
Sponsored by In Pursuit of Destiny Women's

Support Ministry

#### Flu Shot Clinic

Monday, Sept. 19, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Sept. 19  
Lilac Room, TP Community Center  
Adults 18 and older  
\$25, or free for Medicare Part B; Pneumonia, \$35.

#### Annual Play Day

Sept. 24  
Takoma Park Middle School  
7611 Piney Branch Road  
Two hours of games, music, dance and play  
[Takomaplays.org](http://Takomaplays.org)  
Free

### KIDS ACTIVITIES

#### Comics Jam

Tuesday, Sept. 13, 4 p.m.  
Takoma Park Library  
Read comics on the big screen  
Free

#### Library Summer Quest party

Monday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m.  
Celebrating the end of summer's reading program. Lemonade and cupcakes  
Registration required

### SENIORS

#### Frying Pan Farm Park

Thursday, Sept. 8, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Meet at Community Center  
Active adults age 55 and older  
Working demonstration farm in Fairfax County  
Page 8 for more info  
Free

#### Black Hills Regional Park/ Pontoon Ride/Picnic

Thursday, Sept. 15, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Meet at Community Center  
Active adults ages 55 and older

Pontoon boat nature tour of Little Seneca Lake  
Page 8 for more info  
\$5

### ONGOING

#### Takoma Park Farmers Market

Sundays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Laurel Ave.

#### Crossroads Farmers Market

Wednesdays, 2:30 – 6:30 p.m.  
7676 New Hampshire Ave.  
Near the corner at University Blvd.

### UPCOMING



#### 2011 Takoma Park Election Nominating Caucus

Oct. 4  
For information about registering to vote, running for office, or voting in City of Takoma Park elections, contact Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, 301-891-7267 or [jessiec@takomagov.org](mailto:jessiec@takomagov.org).

#### Citizens' Police Academy

Thursdays beginning Oct. 6, 7 – 9:30 p.m.  
Takoma Park Community Center  
Ten weeks to learn about Police Department operations  
301-891-7121, [carlam@takomagov.org](mailto:carlam@takomagov.org)  
Free

#### 2011 Takoma Park Election Voter Registration Deadline

Oct. 11 For information about registering to vote, running for office, or voting in City of Takoma Park elections, contact Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, 301-891-7267 or [jessiec@takomagov.org](mailto:jessiec@takomagov.org).

#### 2011 Takoma Park Election Day

Nov. 8 For information about registering to vote, running for office, or voting in City of Takoma Park elections, contact Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, 301-891-7267 or [jessiec@takomagov.org](mailto:jessiec@takomagov.org).



## DISCOUNT TREES AVAILABLE TO BEAUTIFY YARDS, REPLACE THE CANOPY

The season is right to plant trees, and in Takoma Park that means residents can help replenish the aging tree canopy in the City. This year, as an extra incentive to plant, City Council voted to offer a \$100 discount on one tree per property owner (unless it is a replacement tree required as part of a Tree Removal permit). Residents can add a tree to their yards for just \$95 plus 6 percent sales tax, a total of \$100.70. Add a second tree and the bill is still only \$307.40, planted and guaranteed for one year.

Established discounts still apply as well, through the City's annual bulk buy tree sale. As a purchasing agent with Arbor Landscapers, the City is making five species available at wholesale prices. Black gum, white oak, willow oak, red maple and Princeton elm—all native shade trees that usually retail for about \$350—are available to residents at \$195, installed.

Sale dates run through Oct. 17.

#### Order Form

Please include check, including tax, written to the City of Takoma Park and be sure to draw a map of the property and locations for installation. **Submit to: Todd Bolton, Takoma Park Department of Public Works, 31 Oswego Ave., Silver Spring, Md., 20910 by close of business Oct. 17** Someone will be in touch regarding installation dates.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please include a map of property/  
tree installation locations.

| Species                                 | Price | Quantity | Species                                     | Price | Quantity |
|---|-------|----------|---|-------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red Maple (2") | \$195 | _____    | <input type="checkbox"/> Willow Oak (2")    | \$195 | _____    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White Oak(2")  | \$195 | _____    | <input type="checkbox"/> Black Gum (2")     | \$195 | _____    |
|   |       |          | <input type="checkbox"/> Princeton Elm (2") | \$195 | _____    |

+ 6% sales tax

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_