



WHAT'S NEW?

Halloween spooks

Annual costume contest and parade planned for Oct. 29
More information, page 6

No trash holidays

Recycling and trash are picked up on time this month

En español:

Información de la Elección Municipal del 2011
Página 3



Ailyn Earle plays dress-up and enjoys a snack at last month's Play Day, Sept. 24. The annual event, held at Takoma Park Middle School, included all sorts of games, for all ages, including Simon Says, jump rope, truck climbing, tennis, floor hockey, singing and art.

Photo: Selena Malott

Artists, dancers and soup-makers open up shop

New Takoma businesses showcase food and the arts

By Kevin Adler and Virginia Myers

The economy may be faltering, but the entrepreneurs in Takoma Park and Takoma, D.C. remain undaunted. Existing businesses are gearing up for the holiday season, with window dressings, increased inventories and plans for the annual open house. And three new businesses have opened their doors in the last month: ArtSpring, an art gallery and shop; Knock on Wood, a dance studio; and Soupergirl, a café and takeout.

"I think there's a momentum building," says Roz Grigsby, executive director of the Old Takoma Business Association. "There's something about critical mass." Business owners considering Takoma Park have taken note of the several new openings around town: Trohv, Takoma Bicycle, the Green Commuter, Mayorga, Cedar Crossings and My Little Bistro among them. Grigsby adds that the community has been shifting toward more young families as well, and it continues to be home to young professionals. "I think that's particularly appealing to a business owner," she says.

Here's what to expect from the newest spots in town:

ArtSpring Pops Up in Old Takoma

This "pop-up" community arts store and gallery, established by artists in 2008, op-

portunistically fills empty retail spaces for as long as a landlord needs a cash-poor, but vibrant, tenant that brings foot traffic to the neighborhood.

When ArtSpring's last short-term lease ended in Silver Spring, Takoma Park entrepreneur, landlord and Arts and Humanities Commission member Charlie Pilzer suggested that it was Takoma Park's turn. He offered ArtSpring a space at 7104B Westmoreland Avenue, wedged between his recording studio, Airshow Mastering, and the Curves gym. "Charlie has made us a very generous deal, and we're excited to be in Takoma Park," says Chris DerDerian, one of the managing partners of the store.

More than 200 artists, most of them from the local area, have sold pieces at ArtSpring. Selections at any given time might include painting, photography, jewelry and works in ceramics, clay, fabric, wood, metal, paper and other media.

Sales help to support Pyramid Atlantic Art Center, a Silver Spring studio devoted to printmaking, papermaking and the book arts. ArtSpring will be open every day except Monday.

After settling in on Westmoreland Avenue, ArtSpring intends to become a hub of activity. In prior locations, the store hosted weekend classes for kids and wine-and-art nights for adults. "We're open to

Commercial districts lend Takoma Park its character

By Carman Lam, Planner
Housing and Community Development

Do you know your local businesses? If you have a favorite neighborhood coffee shop where they know your name and your drink, how much do you know about them? As a way to learn more about our business districts and ways to help them succeed, the City conducted the Commercial District Census (business survey) in 2010. It was also an opportunity to establish baseline data for future surveys. Every known business located in a City commercial district or within the City boundary was mailed a questionnaire. Of the 347 questionnaires mailed out, 141 businesses responded. Only businesses located within the City boundary were surveyed.

Retail, food lead business activities

While the City's commercial districts support a variety of activities, retail trade (25 percent) and food services (12 percent) are the bulk of businesses (37 percent combined). Other household services (personal, repair, community) account for 17 percent; professional and tech services about 13 percent; and health and social services followed close behind with 12 percent.

It is important to note that the City's census targeted commercial districts and included primarily ground-floor level businesses. It excluded non-district businesses such as Washington Adventist Hospital, associated office building businesses, Montgomery College, the Washington Adventist University and home based businesses.

Geographically, the Takoma Langley Crossroads area, near New Hampshire Avenue and University Boulevard, has the most businesses by far, at 48 percent of all businesses located in commercial districts. About 30 percent are located within Old Takoma (including Takoma Junction and Old Town). The rest are distributed in other nodes such as Maryland Gateway (New Hampshire and Eastern), Ethan Allen Gateway (New Hampshire and Ethan Allen) and smaller commercial corners.

Mom-and-Pop shops predominate

Most of the City's businesses are local mom-and-pops. While this creates a strong local identity, it also means that local retail-

NEW BUSINESSES Page 11

BUSINESS SURVEY Page 5

ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

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

PRE-SORT STAN-
DARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TAKOMA PARK, MD
PERMIT NO. 4422

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New online
at the Library
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Dance,
music, art
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Tree
Sale
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DOCKET

TAKOMA TOPICS:

“ Crossroads Farmers Market won the Slow Food Snail of Approval, recognizing its commitment to the quality, authenticity and sustainability of the food in the Washington, D.C. metro area. It will be open through Oct. 26, each Wednesday at the Crossroads, 2:30 – 6:30 p.m. ”

— from www.facebook.com/takoma_park



City Council & Committee Calendar

Official City Government Meetings*

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

City Council

Monday, Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Auditorium

For agendas, see www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/agendas

Nominating Caucus

Tuesday, Oct. 4, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Auditorium

Agenda posted at www.takomaparkmd.gov

Washington Adventist Hospital

Tuesday, Oct. 18, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

Board of Elections

Wednesday, Oct. 5, 7 p.m.

(TPCC Council Conference Room)

Wednesday, Oct. 19, 7 p.m.

(TPCC Azalea Room)

Façade Advisory Board

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 7 p.m.

TPCC Council Conference Room

Recreation Committee

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

Tree Commission

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 6:30 p.m.

TPCC Lilac Room

Emergency Preparedness Committee

Thursday, Oct. 13, 8:30 a.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

Takoma Junction Task Force

Thursday, Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

Arts and Humanities Commission

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Lilac Room

*All meetings are open to the public unless noted otherwise. For the most up-to-date information, check 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.

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 suzannel@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.

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. For additional information, contact the City Clerk at clerk@takomagov.org.

ORDINANCE 2011-37

Adopted (Single Reading Sept. 6, 2011)

Awarding a contract to Excel Tree Service
Excel Tree Service will provide tree removal, maintenance pruning, invasive plant control and pest and disease treatment for City trees under the supervision of the City Arborist.

ORDINANCE 2011-38

Adopted (Single Reading Sept. 6, 2011)

Awarding a contract to Mead Tree and Turf
Mead Tree and Turf will provide tree removal, maintenance pruning, invasive plant control and pest and disease treatment for City trees under the supervision of the City Arborist.

ORDINANCE 2011-39

Adopted (Single Reading Sept. 6, 2011)

Awarding a contract to Arbor Care Tree Services
Arbor Care Tree Services will provide tree removal, maintenance pruning, invasive plant control and pest and disease treatment for City trees under the supervision of the City Arborist.

ORDINANCE 2011-40

Adopted (Single Reading Sept. 6, 2011)

Authorizing the purchase of in-car video cameras
The Police Department will purchase 10 Panasonic in-car camera systems from Brekford Corporation.

ORDINANCE 2011-41

(First Reading Sept. 12, 2011)

Providing for the 2011 City Election
The ordinance sets forth the details of the City's Oct. 4 Nominating Caucus and the Nov. 8 City Election.

ORDINANCE 2011-42

Adopted (Single Reading Sept. 12, 2011)

Authorizing the purchase of replacement radio equipment for the Police Department
The Police Department will purchase ten replacement handheld radios and related equipment and four in-vehicle mounted radios

Candidate Forum to Be Held Oct. 19

A Candidate Forum will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 19, 7 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Candidates nominated at the Nominating Caucus will be invited to participate. The forum will be cablecast live on City TV, streamed live online, and available in the online video archives afterwards (www.takomaparkmd.gov). The event is hosted by the Takoma Voice and sponsored by the City of Takoma Park.

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

from Motorola.

RESOLUTION 2011-42

Adopted (Sept. 6, 2011)

Recognizing and memorializing former Corporation Counsel Vincent Gingerich
Vincent Gingerich served as the City's Corporation Counsel from 1950 to 1982. He passed away on April 18, 2011.

RESOLUTION 2011-43

Adopted (Sept. 6, 2011)

Supporting Mobile Medical Care's Community Investment Tax Credit Project
Mobile Medical Care applied to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Community Investment Tax Credit Program to provide patient education and treatment for chronic and acute conditions, in addition to primary and targeted specialty care, for low-income, uninsured Montgomery County residents.

RESOLUTION 2011-44

Adopted (Sept. 12, 2011)

Authorizing an agreement with the Old Takoma Business Association
The City of Takoma Park is providing a \$30,000 subsidy to OTBA in support of the Main Street initiative for Fiscal Year 2012.

RESOLUTION 2011-45

Adopted (Sept. 12, 2011)

Providing for an appointment to the Façade Advisory Board
The Council appointed Rick Leonard to the Façade Advisory Board.

RESOLUTION 2011-46

Adopted (Sept. 12, 2011)

Providing for an appointment to the Emergency Preparedness Committee
The Council appointed Patrick Kimvilakani to the Emergency Preparedness Committee.

Resident Volunteers Needed for City Boards, Commissions, and Committees

There are opportunities for Takoma Park residents to serve on a number of City boards, commissions and committees. If you feel you can make a positive contribution, please consider volunteering. Additional information can be found at www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/committees or contact the City Clerk for more information (301-891-7267) or clerk@takomagov.org.

Arts and Humanities Commission (vacancies)

Board of Elections (vacancy)

Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (vacancy)

Emergency Preparedness Committee (vacancies)

Ethics Commission (vacancies)

Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee (vacancies)

Personnel Appeal Board (vacancy)

Recreation Committee (vacancies)

Washington Adventist Hospital Land Use Committee (vacancies)

Informal group explores resources for seniors

Seniors, those who care for them and people who are interested in senior issues are invited to a breakfast meeting on Thursday, Oct. 6 at 9 a.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center to discuss issues important to them.

The idea is to encourage exchange about the needs of seniors, inform the public about available senior services and establish mechanisms for seniors to access them. Organizers also hope to improve interaction between the City of Takoma Park and the Montgomery County office of Aging and Disability Services and hope to establish a monthly or bimonthly series of breakfast meetings to address issues relevant to area seniors.

For information call Wolfgang J. Mergner, 301-587-3050



THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

Editor: Virginia Myers
Production: Electronic Ink
www.takomaparkmd.gov
Vol. 50, No. 10

The Takoma Park Newsletter is published 12 times a year as the official publication of the City of Takoma Park, takomaparkmd.gov.

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 tpnewseditor@takomagov.org or Newsletter, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912.

Name, address and telephone number must accompany all submitted material. Editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, style, spelling and grammar.

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

The Newsletter is printed on recycled-content paper.



ELECTIONS

NOMINATIONS / NOMINACIONES

Nominations of Candidates for Mayor and City Council to be Accepted on Oct. 4

The Nominating Caucus will convene at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 4, to accept nominations of candidates for Mayor and City Council for the Nov. 8, 2011 City of Takoma Park Election. The meeting will take place in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. While open to the public, only registered voters of the City may participate in the meeting. 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 files 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.

Nominaciones de Candidatos para Alcaldía y Miembro del Consejo se Aceptará el 4 de octubre

La Reunión Electoral empezará a las 7:30 p.m. el martes, 4 de octubre. Se aceptará nominaciones de candidatos para el puesto de Alcalde y Miembros del Consejo para la elección de la Ciudad de Takoma Park el 8 de noviembre. La Reunión Electoral se llevará a cabo en el Auditorio del Centro Comunitario de Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. La reunión esta habierta al publico pero solamente votantes capacitados en Takoma Park podrán participar en la Reunión Elec-

toral. Nominaciones de candidatos para el puesto de Alcalde se hará con una moción hecho por cualquier votante capacitado en la Ciudad de Takoma Park, y si la nominación es apoyada por un segundo votante capacitado en 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 candidato. Cualquier candidato nominado podrá rechazar una nominación durante la reunión. Una person podrá aceptar solamente una nominación de un sólo puesto. El nombre da 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 a la Oficina de la Secretaría Municipal dentro de los 3 días después 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.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO VOTE? / ¿SATISFACE LOS REQUISITOS PARA VOTAR?

The Next City of Takoma Park Election is Nov. 8, 2011. Are You Eligible to Vote?

United States Citizen Voters

Voters registered with the Montgomery County Board of Elections at an address in the City of Takoma Park are eligible to vote in City of Takoma Park elections. If you are already registered, you do not need to do anything further.

If you are not registered, but wish to vote in the Nov. 8 City of Takoma Park election, or need to file a change of address, complete a State of Maryland voter registration form and submit it to the Montgomery County Board of Elections no later than Oct. 10, 2011.

Non-Citizen Voters

Residents of the City of Takoma Park who are not citizens of the United States are eligible to vote in City of Takoma Park elections. If you are already registered with the Takoma Park City Clerk's Office, you do not need to do anything further.

If you are not registered, but wish to vote in the Nov. 8 City of Takoma Park election, or need to file a change of address, complete a City of Takoma Park non-citizen voter registration form and submit it to the Takoma Park City Clerk's Office no later than Oct. 10, 2011.

General Registration Information Nov. 8, 2011 Takoma Park Election

To vote in the election on Nov. 8, a voter

must be a qualified voter of the City of Takoma Park and must have resided within the corporate limits of the City of Takoma Park for 30 days immediately preceding the election. The voter registration cut-off date is Oct. 10, 2011. Changes of address must also be filed by this date. Voter registration forms or change of address forms are available from the Takoma Park City Clerk's Office.

For more information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 301-891-7267 or jessiec@takomagov.org

La proxima elección de la Ciudad de Takoma Park es el 8 de noviembre del 2011. ¿Satisface los requisitos para votar?

Ciudadanos Americanos

Votantes registrados con la oficina de Elecciones del Condado de Montgomery con una dirección en la Ciudad de Takoma Park, pueden votar en las elecciones de la ciudad de Takoma Park. Si ya está registrado, no se requiere que haga nada más.

Si no está registrado, y desea votar en la elección de Takoma Park el 8 de noviembre o necesita cambiar su dirección, complete el registro de las elecciones del Estado de Maryland y envíe el formulario a la oficina de Elecciones del Condado de Montgomery antes del 10 de octubre del 2011.

Residents de Takoma Park Que No Son Ciudadanos Americanos

Residentes de Takoma Park que no son ciudadanos Americanos pueden votar en la elección de Takoma Park. Si ya está registrado en la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal de Takoma Park, no se requiere que haga nada más.

Si no está registrado, pero desea votar en la elección de Takoma Park, o necesita cambiar su dirección, llene y envíe el formulario para votar para residentes que no son ciudadanos Americanos a la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal de Takoma Park antes del 10 de octubre del 2011.

Información General Sobre Registración del Votante –Día de Elección de Takoma Park – 8 de Noviembre del 2011

Para votar en la elección el 8 de noviembre, el votante tendrá que ser un votante capacitado en la Ciudad de Takoma Park y debe haber residido dentro de los límites corporativos de la ciudad de Takoma Park por al menos 30 días inmediatamente antes de la elección. El plazo de inscripción del votante es el 10 de octubre. Los formularios de inscripción del votante y los de cambio de domicilio están disponibles en la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal de Takoma Park.

Para más información en Español por favor llame la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal al 301-891-7214 o envíe un mensaje a irmaa@takomagov.org.

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 voting (and on-site voting by absentee ballot) 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, 7:30 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 ausente tardía (y votación por boleta de ausencia en persona)

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 Secretaria 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 Secretaria Municipal.

Miercoles, 9 de noviembre, 7:30 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.

HOUSING



HOUSING MAILBOX



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

Q. I am a city tenant and wonder if the landlord may charge me a 10 percent late rent payment fee and also make me financially responsible for all repairs made in the rental unit. Are these charges permitted by City law?

A. First of all, a landlord may only charge a tenant a late rent payment fee of up to 5 percent of the rent due for the rental period. (See Section 6.16.090 of the Takoma Park Housing Code). A late rent payment fee may not be charged if the rent is received within ten days of the rent due date.

If you are contesting a late rent fee charge, be sure you have written documentation confirming when the rent payment was received by the landlord. The burden of proof is on you if the complaint has to go a hearing before the Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs.

Second, the City's Landlord-Tenant Law indicates that a landlord is responsible for the payment of all repairs and maintenance of the rental unit (See Section 6.16.060.G). The landlord may not transfer this responsibility to the tenant unless the landlord can document that the damage being repaired was the result of negligence or misuse by the tenant.

This is true even if your lease says otherwise: Any lease provisions that conflict with City law are not enforceable (per Section 6.16.020 of the City's law). You may access the city code at www.takomaparkmd.gov on the left side, see "City Code."

Tenants or landlords having questions regarding the city's Landlord-Tenant Law can contact me at 301-891-7215 and/or mosesw@takomagov.org.

Homeowners Property Tax Credit Application Deadline Extended to Oct. 30

Are you eligible for a tax credit? The deadline for filing an application has been extended to Oct. 30.

The tax credit program is designed to help if you are a low or fixed income home owner, by limiting the amount you pay in property taxes. To receive the tax credit, an application and supporting documentation must be sent to the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation every year.

The maximum property assessment eligible for the credit is \$300,000, which means that even though your home may

be assessed for an amount over this amount, it's only the first \$300,000 of its assessed value that will be counted for this credit. Here are the basic requirements for the program:

- Must own or have legal interest in the property
- Must be your principal residence
- Your net worth, not including the value of your home or qualified retirement savings/accounts, must be less than \$200,000
- Your gross household income cannot exceed \$60,000

While you are at it, don't forget to check your tax bill to see if you are getting a Homestead Tax Credit. This credit was automatically applied to your bill each year, but about a year and a half ago, the state made everyone apply again for this credit. You are entitled to it if your Maryland address is your primary residence.

To obtain applications for either program, you can call the State of Maryland at 1-800-944-7403, call Linda Walker at 301-891-7222 or access it on their website www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/taxcredits.html.

Energy Efficient Rebate Program Being Offered to Homeowners

By **Linda Walker**
Affordable Housing Manager

Montgomery County has recently received over \$1 million from the U.S. Department of Energy and is making this money available as individual grants to homeowners, to offset the cost of certain energy efficient project and products. It is available on a first come, first served basis

to owner-occupied single family homes, townhouses and condominiums.

Each applicant can apply for a rebate of up to \$3,000 for energy efficient improvements, which can include building improvements such as duct and wall sealing, attic insulation, replacement of central air conditioning and heating systems, purchase of various appliances and installation of solar hot water heating systems.

To apply, you MUST get an energy audit, a scope of the work for the improvement you plan to do, and complete an on-line application. Only new projects are eligible for a rebate. Rebates cannot be granted retroactively.

So far, applications for \$110,000 have been approved. To obtain details and an application go to <http://dev.mcenergy-funding.com/ResidentialRebates/>

First Time Home Buyer Class



Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

at the

**Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Ave.**

- Expert speakers from a lending institution, title company, real estate office and an inspection company
- Learn the entire process for buying a house or condo
- Provided by a HUD-approved housing organization
- Certificate of Completion awarded to attendees

Pre-Registration Is Required
Class is Free to Takoma Park Residents

Contact Linda Walker at 301-891-7222
Sponsored by the City of Takoma Park

Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be served



Credit & Financial Management Classes

Sign up Now! Class size is limited

Sponsored by the City of Takoma Park

Time: Wednesdays - 7 - 9:15 p.m.

- Oct. 5 - Protect and Improve Your Credit
- Oct. 19 - Getting to know the financial YOU
- Nov. 2 - Changing the way you think about \$
- Nov. 16 - Thinking like an Investor

Where: Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Ave.

Cost: Free to TP residents/\$25 non-residents
Pre-registration required - Call
301-891-7222



By Jim Jarboe



POLICE BRIEFS

National Crime Prevention month means more info for residents

In celebration of National Crime Prevention month, which is October, the Takoma Park Police Department will be providing safety and crime prevention tips each week based on themes chosen by the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) and the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The weekly information will include brief tips and facts on the theme, as well as information about related programs and services the police offer to the community.

Information will be distributed through email, on facebook and through the local press. To sign up for email alerts and other information from the police, send a message to Cathy Plevy at cathyp@takomagov.org.

Crime Prevention Month themes are:

- Oct. 1 – 8: Home Safety
- Oct. 9 – 15: Crime Reporting and Community Engagement
- Oct. 16 – 22: School and Campus Security
- Oct. 23 – 29: Drug Abuse Prevention



Gear Up Takoma

Takoma Park Police will be hosting a community event on Oct. 29, called “Gear Up Takoma!” Residents can bring their bicycles, scooters, and skateboards to ride through safety obstacle courses and a crosswalk simulation activity. All ages are welcome. There will also be bicycle and skateboard maintenance workshops, helmet fitting, a raffle for several helmets, and food. The event is free.

Partners for the event include: Takoma Park Safe Routes to School, The Green Commuter, Takoma Bicycle, Montgomery County Safe Kids program, and Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services. The event will be held from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center rear parking lot.

For more information on the “Gear Up Takoma!” event, please contact Officer Carla Magnaye at carlam@takomagov.org.

Bike workshops and helmet fittings will be part of the Gear Up Takoma event Oct. 29. Here, Ava Evans tries one on for size.

Photo by Carey Antoszewski

BUSINESSES SURVEY

From page 1

ers are not benefiting from national advertising or loyalty programs that drive sales or foot traffic past their storefronts—it means these businesses are more challenging to run successfully.

The vast majority (81 percent) of businesses lease their premises, with reported retail space rented at an average of \$30 per square foot, and office space at \$24 per square foot. Most of businesses that reported owning the building in which they operate are construction related.

Most retail and food service businesses lease their premises. These rental rates varied widely within business districts as well as across districts. Ethan Allen Gateway reported the lowest range, hovering around \$18-20 per square foot. While in Old Takoma some rents were reported in the teens and \$30 dollar range, reported rents averaged \$24 a square foot. Takoma Langley Crossroads area retail tenants reported the most extreme variations (from the high teens to the \$50 range), with an average of \$32 a square foot.

Opening and Closing Doors

Perhaps most promising for the health of the City’s commercial districts is the fact that, during the recession, at least nine new businesses opened. It is true, many more businesses closed, but their reasons were due to landlord reconstruction, family related issues and other non-local trends.

Takoma Park commercial districts did experience a reduction in income during the recession, but not uniformly. Between 2007 and 2010, 25 percent of the businesses responding to this portion of the ques-

tionnaire (81) reported an increase in sales, 49 percent reported a decrease, and 26 percent observed static sales. The majority of businesses (at least at the time of the survey in the first half of 2010) were optimistic. Projecting forward three years, 55 percent of businesses anticipated an increase in sales, while only 30 percent of businesses expected a decrease.

Most businesses seemed to be cautious and were not considering any major changes. The majority intended to remain at their location, with 4 percent of respondents anticipating an expansion, 2 percent considering relocation, and 1 percent expecting to close (for personal reasons).

Businesses also had an opportunity to comment. An Old Town business owner felt that “Suitable commercial space in Takoma Park is scarce or absent. By suitable I mean: clean, well maintained, handicapped-accessible, secure (from holdups, break-ins), adequate parking.” While her business is healthy and she expects an increase in sales for the next three years, she finds that the high rent makes the City a less attractive option when Silver Spring and D.C. offer suitable space.

Business Assistance

The City asked what types of public investments would most interest area businesses. The answer: mostly in marketing, with 12 percent of replies favoring marketing and advertising, 10 percent signage and branding visibility, 8 percent website development and 7 percent loyalty programs. One business in Old Takoma commented that “advertising encouraging local residents to support local business would help.”

Eight percent of businesses identified parking as a problem, regardless of busi-

ness location. A Flower Avenue business experiencing increases in sales noted that they felt the “City of Takoma Park is currently losing lots of business because of this.” Consistent with the image of Takoma Park as a green community, 8 percent of businesses would like support on energy-saving and green business practices and 5 percent requested recycling support.

Less than 2 percent of businesses identified lower taxes, storage or co-op purchasing as useful means of City support, although two property owners commented on taxes as too high.

Many businesses also reported obtaining financing from non-commercial sources such as personal loans, credit cards and family, indicating that better outreach and marketing of available financing options may be valuable.

Where Do We Go from Here?

The Takoma Langley Crossroads area houses nearly half of the City’s businesses, and it is clear that the area would greatly benefit from not only improvements to the physical infrastructure but coordinated marketing programs.

Especially along New Hampshire Avenue, the City’s commercial districts are not in great shape. Signage and lighting is often substandard, and shopping areas need updates, maintenance and remodeling. The City has one façade improvement program underway in Old Takoma, which assists property and business owners with signage, remodeling and rehabilitation. A second façade program with a wider reach will be initiated this winter. The City also has three streetscape designs underway—

Fire, by the numbers

As of August 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 508 fire-related incidents. The department addressed or assisted with 1,870 rescue or ambulance-related incidents, for a total of 2,378 this year. Totals for 2010 were 566 and 2,202, representing a decrease of 390 incidents.

Another fire strikes the city

On Sept. 7, at 3:01 p.m., a serious fire occurred in a four unit apartment building in the 6600 block of Poplar Avenue. Units from Takoma Park, Silver Spring and Chillum Adelpia departments responded. The first unit to arrive on the scene was E702, reporting smoke coming out of the window on the first floor. The fire was under control within 30 minutes. It caused moderate damage to a room. No injuries were reported.

Investigators from the county fire marshal’s office determined the cause to be: a lap top computer battery on a cushion. The unit was not plugged in.

TPVFD remembers 9/11, 2001

On Sunday, Sept. 11, members of the Takoma Park VFD held a memorial service to pay tribute to the first responders and the people who lost their lives at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and on Shanksville, PA/Flight 93. Thanks to the following - President Elmer Hamm, Chaplain David Hooker, Past President Robert Jarboe, EMT Leslie deLeon, Mayor Bruce Williams, Captain Ed Coursey and singer Audrey Tchoukoua.

Junk or Old Vehicles Needed

The Takoma Park VFD is looking for vehicles to be used for training by its members. If you have one that you would like to donate, please give Chief Glenn Butts a call at the station 240-773-8954. We’ll be glad to pick it up and dispose of it after we finish training with it.

Hall of Fame inductee honored

On Sept. 15, at the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Rescue Association banquet, President Elmer Hamm was inducted into MCVFRA Hall of Fame. Congratulations!



From left, County Fire Chief Richard Bowers, MCVFRA President Marcine Goodloe, Life Member Robert Jarboe, VP MCVFRA Earl Moore, Elmer Hamm, County Councilman Phil Andrews, and MCVFRA Executive Director Eric Bernard.

RECREATION

OCTOBER FEATURED EVENTS

CANINE COSTUME CONTEST

Halloween is going to the dogs. Dress your dog up for this event. Categories include cutest, scariest, funniest and most original, with two divisions: little dogs and big dogs. Dogs must be leashed and under control by handler.

Sat., Oct. 29, 3 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center

ANNUAL COSTUME CONTEST

The FREAKS come out in the afternoon. Get all decked out and strut your stuff. Categories include most original, funniest and scariest. Ages 2 and under; 3 - 4; 5 - 7; 8 - 10; 11 - 12; Teen and Adult and Overall group category. Join in the Fun!

Sat., Oct. 29, 5 p.m.

Intersection of Carroll and Laurel Avenues,

Old Town Takoma Park

HALLOWEEN PARADE

All are welcome to participate in this walking parade. Follow the Takoma Park Fire Department Fire Truck as it escorts you down the parade route. Beginning at Carroll and Laurel Avenues, following Carroll Avenue to Fire House, left onto Philadelphia Avenue and ending at Piney Branch Elementary School.

Saturday, Oct. 29

Approximately 5:45 p.m. (Immediately following the Costume Contest)

HALLOWEEN AWARD CEREMONY

Join us for refreshments, live music by RTT's, and awards following the Halloween Parade, at Piney Branch Elementary School Multipurpose Room. This event is sponsored by the Recreation Department and is suitable for all ages; special thanks to co-sponsors, the Takoma Park Lions Club, which has graciously served the Takoma Park community for several decades.

Saturday, Oct. 29

Approximately 6:15 p.m. Immediately following the parade
Piney Branch Elementary School, 7510 Maple Ave.



FUN DAY PROGRAM

Ages 5 - 12

The Fun Day Program offers exciting field trips on scheduled whole day school closings and activities and performances on schedule half day closings. Participants will meet at the Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave. Pack a lunch. Trips are subject to change. Space is limited, sign up early.

Laugh Out Loud Station, Greenbelt, Md.

Friday, Oct. 21

8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

TP resident \$35

Non-resident \$45

Baltimore Zoo, Baltimore, Md.

Monday, Oct. 31

8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

TP resident \$35

Non-resident \$45

TGI FRIDAY ROAD TRIPZ

Takes teens on adult supervised trips. All trips depart from the T-Zone.

Lazer Tag

Oct. 14, 5 p.m.

\$15

Halloween Corn Maize

Oct. 5 p.m.

\$10

HAIR BRAIDING WORKSHOP

Ages 13 - 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 styles and hair extensions. Combs, pins and synthetic hair included.

Lilac Room, TP Community Center

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4 - 5 p.m.

Oct. 25 - Nov. 17

Free, but must pre-register with the Recreation Department

KILO VIBES D.J. TRAINING

Ages 12 - 17

Learn how to use equipment and the art of being a DJ. The class will prepare teens for rotation, as well as becoming knowledgeable in the multiple methods to record set. Participants will also become familiar with music theory in terms of sound, sound quality, basic mixing and scratching. Six weeks.

Multi Media Lab, TP Community Center

Tuesdays, 5 - 6 p.m.

Oct. 18 - Nov. 22

TP resident Free

Non-resident \$30

ADVANCED VIDEO EDITING WITH FINAL CUT PRO

Take advantage of the more powerful tools of Final Cut Pro, including Motion, Soundtrack Pro and DVD Studio Pro, to create 3D graphics. Cover some of the more advanced concepts to compose your music and author your own DVD. Six weeks. Participants MUST bring his/her own hard drive.

Multi Media Lab, TP Community Center

Wednesdays, 7:45 - 9:15 p.m.

Oct. 26 - Nov. 30

TP resident \$110

Non-resident \$130

BASIC DOG OBEDIENCE

Dogs 6 months and older

Start to socialize your dog and begin training with basic obedience commands: sit, stay, down and stand. Learn loose leash walking and husbandry and teach your dog a new trick

or two. Problem behaviors such as nipping, barking and jumping will be addressed to help reduce or stop this behavior. Must have proof of rabies vaccine. This class is not appropriate for aggressive dogs. Six weeks.

Heffner Community Center

Tuesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 18 - Nov. 22

TP resident \$85

Non-resident \$105

ADVANCED DOG OBEDIENCE

Adult dogs 6 months and older

Prepare your dog to successfully complete the canine good citizen test. Learn how to refine your dog's basic obedience class to increase the dependability of the commands. Teach your dog new tricks. Problem behaviors such as nipping, barking and jumping will be addressed to help reduce or stop this behavior. Must have proof of rabies vaccine. This class is not appropriate for aggressive dogs. Six weeks.

Heffner Community Center

Tuesdays, 8 - 9 p.m.

Oct. 18 - Nov. 22

TP resident \$85

Non-resident \$105

SILVER FOXES

RHYTHM ON THE RAILS SPECIAL EVENT

Ages 55 and older

The New Dimension Singers want to take you on a musical tour across America. You will enjoy many familiar tunes including *Georgia on My Mind*, *Oklahoma*, *New York-New York*, *Nothing Could Be Finer than to be in Carolina*, and many other favorites. For more information, call 301-891-7280.

TP Community Center Auditorium

12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 18

Free

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORY PRESENTATION SPECIAL EVENT

Courtney Hobson, the new Outreach and Tour Coordinator for the Darnall's Chance House and Museum in Upper Marlboro, will be dressed in period costume, and will offer a 45 minute PowerPoint presentation on the colonial history of Prince George's County. The program, entitled "Prince George's County: An 18th Century Perspective" covers the founding of Maryland as a colony, the types of people who made up the colony, it's economy, the founding of Prince George's County, and some of the 18th Century architecture that still stands in the county. There will be ample time for questions and answers during the presentation. This history presentation precedes our trip to Darnall's Chance House Museum in December 2011. Open to adults age 55 and older.

Lilac Room, TP Community Center

12-1 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 12

Free

AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES LIAISON

Ages 55 and older

Anita A. Joseph, Client Assistance Specialist, Montgomery County Aging and Disability Services, will be on site at the TP Community Center to talk about the services and resources available to seniors. Pick the day and time that fits your schedule. For more information, please call 301-891-7280.

Senior Room, TP Community Center

11:45 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 11

11:15 a.m., Thursday, Oct. 13

Free

TABLE TENNIS BASICS

Ages 55 and older

Mary Beth Hatem, a Takoma Park resident with more than 20 years of experience teaching, coaching and competing in tennis and table tennis will cover the game basics using multi-ball training and game strategy. No experience

is necessary. Beginner and intermediate skill levels welcome. Registration is required to participate in this class. Registration form is due by 10/7/11 or earlier. For more information, please call 301-891-7280.

Game Room, TP Community Center

Mondays, 12 - 1 p.m.

Oct. 10 - Nov. 14

\$25

OPEN ART STUDIO IS BACK!

Ages 55 and older

Expand your art skills or learn new techniques. Be creative in a relaxed atmosphere. The studio classes are free; however, a registration form is required to participate. For more information about registration, please call 301-891-7280.

Art Studio, TP Community Center

11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 10

Free



Photos by Rec Department

ZUMBA

Ages 16 and older

The Zumba program fuses hypnotic Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves to create a one-of-a-kind, body-energizing fitness program. Co-sponsored by Montgomery County Recreation Department. Instructors from Unique Fitness. Four weeks.

TP Recreation Center, New Hampshire Ave.

Wednesdays, 6 – 6:55 p.m.

Saturdays, 9:15 – 10:10 a.m.

Oct. 26 – Nov. 19

\$40

CROCHET 102

Ages 18 and older

Learn new techniques and refresh your skills reading patterns to create and develop a final project. A supply list will be sent to you after you have registered. Basic materials will be provided for a fee, paid directly to the instructor on the first day of class. A field trip is scheduled to a variety of craft yarn stores. Four weeks.

Rose Room, TP Community Center

Saturdays, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Oct. 29 – Dec. 3

LEESBURG CORNER PREMIUM OUTLETS

Ages 55 and older

We will visit the outlet shopping center in Leesburg, Va., with 110 outlet stores to start holiday shopping early. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Meet at TP Community Center. Bus pick up at Franklin, Mapleview and Victory Tower apartments only. Registration required. Registration begins on 10/3/11. Call 301-891-7280 to pre-register, then fill out form by 10/12/11 or earlier.

Leesburg, Va.

9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Friday, Oct. 14

Free

THE BREWMASTERS CASTLE

Ages 55 and older

Oktoberfest is celebrated this month, and we will honor it with a tour of the Brewmaster's Castle, the late-Victorian style home of German-American beer baron Christian Heurich. Heurich's home, built in 1892 and

TP resident \$70

Non-resident \$80

No class on Nov. 12 and 26.

FACE PAINTING WORKSHOP

Ages 12 – 16

Just in time for Halloween. This class is for beginners only. Learn how to buy brushes, paint, safety techniques, how to properly clean your tools and of course face painting. All students will be able to re-create 10 to 15 different cheek art designs by the end of class. All materials and snack are included in price.

Art Room, TP Community Center

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 15

TP resident \$25

Non-resident \$35

on the National Register of Historic Places, features original, hand-carved fireplace mantles, gilt furniture, bronze statuary, an onyx and marble staircase, decorative arts, musician's balcony, oak-paneled dining room, bierstube, gardens and much more. Bring spending money to purchase lunch at a local restaurant. Meet at TP Community Center. Bus pick up at Franklin, Mapleview and Victory Tower apartments only. Registration required. Registration begins on 10/3/11. Call 301-891-7280 to pre-register, and then fill out the form by 10/17/11 or earlier.

Dupont Circle, Washington, D.C.

9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Friday, Oct. 21

\$5 per person

SILVER FOXES SENIORS ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

Ages 55 and older

Senior Room, TP Community Center

1 – 2 p.m., Friday, Oct. 7

Free

ANY REGISTERED VOTER MAY VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

Regular Absentee Ballot. Registered voters may request an application for a regular absentee ballot from the City Clerk or download the application from www.takomaparkmd.gov. Applications are now being accepted. Completed applications must be filed with the Clerk not later than seven days prior to the election (4 p.m., Nov. 1). Upon verification of a voter's eligibility, an absentee ballot will be issued—either by mail or in person. The completed ballot must be received by the Clerk prior to the closing of the polls at 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Late Absentee Ballot Requests and On-Site "Absentee Voting"

Beginning Nov. 1 and continuing through Nov. 7, on weekdays between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., voters may apply in person for a late absentee ballot and may vote on site if they wish. If the applicant cannot apply and vote in person, he or she may designate in the application a registered voter of the City to act as agent in picking up and delivering the ballot (candidates and their families may not act as agents). The application must be completed and filed with the City Clerk prior to issuance of a ballot to the agent. As with regular absentee voting, a ballot cannot be issued until the voter's eligibility has been established, and the ballot must be returned to the City Clerk prior to the closing of the polls on Election Day.

Instant Runoff Voting

The City Council amended the City Charter in 2006 to adopt an instant runoff voting system for elections. Voters will have the opportunity to rank candidates by order of choice. The candidate receiving a majority of votes for Mayor shall be declared

elected. The candidate for Council receiving a majority of votes in each ward shall be declared elected.

The first choice marked on each ballot shall be counted initially as one vote. If any candidate receives a majority of the first choices, that candidate shall be declared elected.

If no candidate receives a majority of first choices, the judges of election shall conduct an instant runoff consisting of additional rounds of ballot counting. In every round of counting, each ballot is counted as one vote for that ballot's highest ranked advancing candidate. "Advancing candidate" means a candidate for that office who has not been eliminated. A candidate receiving a majority of valid votes in a round shall be declared elected.

Scantegrity Verified Voting

Again this year, the Board of Elections is working with Scantegrity to provide voters the opportunity to verify online that their votes were counted.

When marking their ballot, voters will receive a confirmation code that they can write down, take home, and check online to make sure their votes were counted. The confirmation number does not say how the voter voted, and the vote remains private. What it does say, however, is that the vote is included in the final tally and that the scanner read the vote correctly. The system is paper-based and works like an optical scan voting system, making it easy to use. The only difference is that when voting, voters will see a confirmation number instead of a completely black mark. Writing down and checking the confirmation number is optional.

More information about Scantegrity can be found at www.takomaparkmd.gov.

VOTANTES REGISTRADO PUEDEN VOTAR CON UNA BOLETA DE AUSENCIA

Boletas de Ausencia Regular: Votantes registrados pueden solicitar una aplicación para una boleta de ausencia regular de la Secretaria Municipal o bajarla aplicación en la página web www.takomaparkmd.gov. Se acepta aplicaciones ahora. Aplicaciones completas tienen que estar registradas con la Secretaria Municipal no mas tardar de siete días previos a la elección (4 pm., 1 de noviembre). Sobre verificación de la elegibilidad del votante, una boleta de voto ausente será emitida-por correo o en persona. La boleta completada tiene que ser recibida por la Secretaria antes de cierre de urnas a las 8 p.m en el Día de Elección.

Boletas Tardia para Votantes Ausentes

Comensando el 1 de noviembre y continuando hasta el 7 de noviembre, se puede aplicar en persona por una boleta tardia para votantes ausentes y votar en ese momento. Si el votantes no puede aplicar en persona, el o ella podrá designar un persona, registrada como votante en la Ciudadada de Takoma Park, como su representante para poder recibir la boleta y entregarla boleta (candidatos y familiares no podrán ser representantes). Después de llenar la aplicación, tendrá que someter la aplicación a la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal antes de que se entregue la boleta al representante. Con la boleta regular para votantes ausentes, la boleta no se podrá enviar hasta que se verifique la elegibilidad del votante. La boleta tendrá que ser sometida a la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal antes que cierre las urnas electorales el Día de la Elección.

Segunda Vuelta de Elecciones Inmediata

El Consejo de la Ciudad enmendó la Carta Municipal el 2006 aceptando un sistema de segunda vuelta de elecciones inmediata para las elecciones. El sistema permitirá a los votantes elegir candidatos en orden de preferencia. El candidato para el cargo de Alcalde que reciba la mayoría de los votos será

declarado como elegido. El candidato para Miembro del Consejo que reciba la mayoría de los votos en cada distrito será declarado como elegido.

La primera selección marcada en la boleta será contada inicialmente como un sólo voto. Si un candidato recibe la mayoría de esas primeras selecciones, ese candidato será declarado como elegido.

Si ninguno de los candidatos es elegido por la mayoría como primera opción, los jueces conducirán una segunda vuelta de elecciones inmediata que consiste en vueltas adicionales para contar las boletas. En cada vuelta donde se cuenta las boletas, cada boleta se cuenta como un voto para el candidato avanzado que fue seleccionado. "Candidato avanzado" se refiere a un candidato que no ha sido eliminado. Un candidato que recibe la mayoría de votos validos en una vuelta será declarado como elegido.

Votación Verificada

De nuevo este año, la Junta Electoral ha colaborado con Scantegrity para brindarles a los votantes la oportunidad de verificar a través de Internet que su voto ha sido contado.

Cuando marquen la boleta, los votantes recibirán un código de confirmación que pueden anotar, llevárselo para la casa y revisar por Internet para asegurarse de que su voto fue contado. El número de confirmación no dice por quién votó el elector y el voto seguirá siendo privado. Lo que sí dice, no obstante, es que el voto se incluyó en el conteo final y que el escáner leyó el voto correctamente. El sistema utiliza papel y funciona como un sistema de votación con un escáner óptico, lo cual hace que sea fácil de usar. La única diferencia es que cuando vayan a votar, los electores verán un número de confirmación en vez de una marca completamente negra. Anotar y revisar el número de confirmación es opcional.

Puede encontrarse más información sobre este sistema en la siguiente dirección de Internet: www.takomaparkmd.gov.

CALENDAR

Neighborhood Circle Time

Every Tuesday
Two times: 10 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

Spanish Circle Time

Every Thursday
10:30 a.m. with Señora Geiza

Bedtime Stories

Tuesday, Oct. 3, 7 p.m.
Come in p.j.s, bring your teddy bear for songs and rhymes in this half-hour program.
Perfect for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups.

Comics Jam

Tuesday, Oct. 4, 4 p.m.
Kids and grownups read comics on the big screen with our graphic novel guru, David Burbank.
No registration.

College Bound: Community College Option

Tuesday, Oct. 4, 7 p.m.
Camille Scott will discuss Montgomery College and the community college option.
Please register.
In the Library

Friends "Big Book" Reading Group

Wednesday, Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m.
Dr. Kelly Cresap will kick off the first of three discussions on "Daniel Martin" by John Fowles.
Refreshments start at 7 p.m.
All welcome.

College Bound: College Selection Process

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 7 p.m.
Dr. Lori Potts-Dupre gives an overview of the college selection process.
Please register.
In the Library

French Circle Time

Saturday, Oct. 15, 10:30 a.m.
Sing songs and rhymes in French with Madame Marie.

Caldecott Club

Monday, Oct. 17, 7 p.m.
Read and discuss some of the picture book possibilities for the 2012 Caldecott Medal.
Registration encouraged.
In the Library

Friends of the Library Board Meeting

Tuesday, Oct. 18, 7:45 p.m.
In the Library.

Friends "Big Book" Reading Group

Wednesday, Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m.
Continuing discussion of "Daniel Martin" by John Fowles.
Community Center, Third Floor Atrium
All welcome.

Library Book Sale

Saturday, Oct. 22, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Library Lawn
Semi-annual sale to benefit Library programs
To volunteer email ellenr@takomagov.org

Junior Banned Books Club

Monday, Oct. 24, 6:30 p.m.
Our book is "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets"
Open to all 3rd, 4th and 5th graders.
Registration required.

Banned Books Club

Monday, Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m.
Our book is "The Sun Also Rises"
by Ernest Hemingway.
Open to all middle school and high school students.
Registration required.

LIBRARY CALENDAR □ Page 9

LIBRARY



The Friends of the Takoma Park, Maryland Library give generously of their time and resources. Many of the programs listed on these pages are made possible through their efforts, including Spanish Circle Time, Comics Jam, reading groups, online resources, Summer Quest, the College Bound series and more.

For more information about supporting the Friends, see www.ftpml.org.

Library offers new online tools for kids big and small

By Rebecca Brown
and Karen MacPherson

After a \$5,000 donation from the Friends of the Library, library users now have five new online resources available to try out, including streaming audiobooks, language learning for kids and adults, and e-books for kids in English, Spanish and French. We are captivated by these online treasures and hope you will enjoy them as much as we do.

Here's a brief run-down of what's available. For more information, check out our blog post of Sept. 5 (just go to www.tinyurl.com/tpml-toys), where you will find loads more information. If you still have questions, we are always happy to answer them. Just call us at 301-891-7259.

LANGUAGE LEARNING RESOURCES

Little Pim is our language learning program for small children. It's free for all of our library cardholders. The award-winning program features a cheerful animated panda named Little Pim, and is designed specifically to introduce foreign languages to young children, ages one through five.

You can choose one of 10 languages: English, Spanish, French, Chinese, Italian, Japanese, Hebrew, German, Russian and Arabic. Little Pim is the star of the programs, which feature native speakers and nicely-paced, entertaining activities to make it fun and easy for kids to learn a language.

Mango is our offering for older children and adults. Like Little Pim, it is free if you have one of our library cards.

Currently, there are 34 languages offered on Mango; in addition, there are separate English lessons available for speakers of 26 languages.

E-BOOKS

We offer two different collections of e-books: the Tumblebook Library, which offers story books and more for elementary school children and TumbleReadables, online e-books for middle and high school students.

Both require a more-or-less up-to-date version of flash and an Internet connection, but you need only a computer – not

How it works:

- To get started, just go to website: www.takomapark.info/library and look for the "Online Resources" box at the right-hand top of the page. There are five separate new "toys" to play with.
- Click on the first arrow in the box (under "Books, Magazines and Newspapers") and you'll find three new reading resources: Tumblebooks for Children, which has storybooks for children up to ages 9 or so; then Tumble Readables, online e-books for kids and young adults; and Audiobookcloud, a great source of streaming audiobooks. Click on the second arrow in the box (under "Learning and Research Tools"), and you'll find a shortcut to our language page.
- NOTE: You need to enter all of our online subscription services through our website, so remember to bookmark our pages, not Mango or Tumblebooks directly.

a dedicated e-reader – to access these resources. They work just as well on Linux computers/pads as they do on Windows and Mac computers.

The Tumblebook Library collections come in three languages: English, Spanish and French. In addition to the picture book and non-fiction titles, our version of the Tumblebook Library includes some chapter books and graphic novels. These are labeled "read-alongs" and have a different user interface.

Tumblebook features differ somewhat from book to book, but in general you will be able to turn audio on and off, turn pages automatically or manually, assemble your own collections of favorite books, write book reviews, and search by author, subject area and so on.

TumbleReadables includes chapter books and novels, ranging from a book like "The Sleepover Squad" to a classic like "The Dubliners." The text is adjustable, and the books often include some combination of extra features, such as audio narration, summaries, explanations, definitions and the chance to add highlights or notes.

This resource is perfect for reluctant readers and ESOL students, but many good and experienced readers will enjoy these books as well. The collection also includes a few graphic novels, which are all narrated.

STREAMING AUDIOBOOKS

Our AudioBookCloud resource is mostly for teens and adults. It offers more than

ONLINE RESOURCES □ Page 9

LIBRARY BRIEFS

Summer Quest success

Our 2011 Summer Quest program set a new record this summer, as our participants read 1,900 books – 400 more books than last year.

Seven Summer Quest participants read at least 50 books. Our top two finishers were Camden Roberts, who read 95 books, and Kierra Norris, who read 76 books. Our two youngest participants were two-year-olds who each read eight books (with some help, we assume).

Thanks to the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library, who once again sponsored our Summer Quest program – the most unique summer reading program in the state. And thanks to Dave Burbank, our comics expert and artist extraordinaire, who creates our Summer Quest program each year.

College Bound talks community college and overview

The second and third programs in our annual College Bound series will take place on the first two Tuesday evenings in October. On Oct. 4 at 7 p.m., Camille Scott will talk about the community college option, focusing specifically on Montgomery College. On Oct. 11, noted college counselor Dr. Lori Potts-Dupre will wrap up the series with an overview of the college selection process. All of the programs are free and open to the public, but registration is required. To register, please go to: www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or call us at 301-891-7259.

Caldecott Predictions

What book will win the 2012 Caldecott Medal as the best illustrated children's book of the year? No one will know for sure until the American Library Association announces the winner in January. But there are numerous possibilities already, and our Caldecott Club will read and discuss some of those books each month.

Our first Caldecott Club meeting of the year will be Monday, Oct. 17 at 7 p.m.

Book group reads "Cutting for Stone"

Join the Friends Reading Group on Thursday, Oct. 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Hydrangea Room for a discussion of "Cutting for Stone" by Abraham Verghese.

"I will not cut for stone," runs the Hippocratic oath, "even for patients in whom the disease is manifest; I will leave this op-

ONLINE RESOURCES

■ From page 8

1,000 streaming, unabridged audiobooks. Unlike downloadable audiobooks available elsewhere, our AudioBookCloud program allows our patrons unlimited simultaneous access – with no waiting time and no need to put a reserve on an item. You just need a device (a computer will do)

LIBRARY CALENDAR

■ From page 8

Scary Stories

Wednesday, Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m.
Come hear master storyteller Candace Wolf tell some spine-tingling tales.
Registration required.
Best for ages 5 up.

eration to be performed by practitioners, specialists in this art."

"These words provide an epigraph part-way through Abraham Verghese's novel, 'Cutting for Stone,' and also explain the surname of its narrator, Marion Stone, along with his twin brother, Shiva, and their father, the almost entirely absent surgeon Thomas Stone. Absent in body only: in spirit, Thomas's disappearance after their birth haunts and drives this book... This is a first novel that reveals the author's willingness to show the souls, as well as the bodies, of his characters." [New York Times]

A well reviewed novel and book club favorite, "Cutting for Stone" is certain to sure to evoke stirring analysis and animated discussion. Reading Group meetings are open to all, whether or not they have read the selections. Merrill Leffler returns as group facilitator as the group launches its fall series. All welcome, but please register by going to: www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or call us at 301-891-7259.

Comics Jam continues

The Library's monthly "Comics Jam" program will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 4 p.m. Come read comics on the big screen with Dave Burbank, our comics expert and artist extraordinaire. Bring a comic to read with Dave, or just come to enjoy the program. As always, the program will end with Dave taking drawing requests from the audience. No registration required.

Book Sale Returns

The ever popular Friends of the Library Book Sale will be held on Saturday, Oct. 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the library lawn.

The book sales, held twice a year, in spring and fall, represent the second most significant source of fund-raising for the Friends, and all proceeds go to the Library in the form of gifts – including programs like Spanish and French Circle Time, and the new online resources introduced in this issue of the Newsletter.

Books for sale include the very best of donations given to the Library throughout the year, as well as some new review copies of children's books.

Like all Friends activities, the book sales depend on volunteers for their success. Adult volunteers are needed to set up and tear down before and after the sale, and to assist with sales. Service learning hours are also available for teens. Those interested in volunteering for two (or more)-hour shifts between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. the day of the sale should contact Ellen Robbins at ellenr@takomagov.org.

with an Internet connection, a browser with a fairly up-to-date flash plug-in, and headphone or speakers.

The recordings are professional and come from some of the major audiobook producers. The emphasis is on classic literature, although you will also find non-fiction, children's books and a substantial collection of books narrated in Spanish.

Friends Reading Group

Thursday, Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m.
The Friends Reading Group will discuss Abraham Verghese's "Cutting for Stone." Community Center. All are welcome.



At left, Eric Rasch, a Takoma Park recreation manager, outside the Community Center. Rasch uses his Council of Governments training to hone his leadership skills and network with other recreation professionals in the region.

Photo by Miguel Dean

City staff an important COG in regional government

By Rick Henry

Given the current contentious national political climate, collaboration within government may seem like an elusive concept. Yet, for those who work on the front lines of local government—police, fire and rescue personnel, recreation managers and other public officials—collaboration can be embraced, particularly in a multi-jurisdictional location such as the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

Recognizing this fact, Takoma Park officials have for many years sent selected employees to participate in the Regional Executive Development Program, a year-long leadership and management program sponsored by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) in partnership with the Center for Excellence in Public Leadership at The George Washington University.

The program brings local government managers from throughout the Metro area together for three days each month, with each three-day session focusing on a different leadership and management topic, such as ethics, effective communication, budgeting and financial management and project management. The structure of the program allows participants to not only enhance their leadership skills, but to build networks with their professional peers from other jurisdictions.

"I feel fortunate to participate in a program like this," says Eric Rasch, Takoma Park recreation manager who is currently enrolled in the program. "I have expanded my knowledge base about leadership and regional issues and I have expanded my network, because I can call on anyone in my cohort to get their input or advice."

Deputy City Manager Suzanne Ludlow, who was one of the City's two original participants (in 2001), shares Rasch's sentiments.

"I still network with the other participants from my class," she says.

Ludlow says another benefit of the program is learning how other juris-

dictions operate.

"I enjoyed having as classmates people from other jurisdictions that were high up in government," she says. "That gives you a great sense of not only how other jurisdictions do things, but who to go to for information when you need it, both of which benefit the City tremendously."

Beyond just interacting with their peers, participants also work together on team projects, with each project focused on addressing a regional issue that the COG has identified as important. Starting with Cohort 9 in 2010-2011, the projects are focused on helping the region reach the targets set in the Region Forward Report, which is preparing the Greater Washington Area Region for the year 2050. The results are then presented to the Chief Administrative Officers Committee, which convenes monthly at COG.

This year, Rasch and his fellow team members examined ways to preserve tree canopy throughout the region, a fitting topic given Rasch's affiliation. Not surprisingly, the team's research into best practices in preserving tree canopy led to a familiar place—Takoma Park.

"I obviously knew that preserving tree canopy was important in Takoma Park, but I didn't know that it was the leader in the entire region," he says.

Ludlow is not surprised that Takoma Park was used as an example for one of the projects, adding that the program allows both the city and its officials to shine. "Participants from the bigger jurisdictions learn that there are officials from smaller towns and areas that are highly skilled," she says.

Natalie Houghtby-Haddon, Associate Director of the Center for Excellence in Public Leadership, agrees. "We have had a long history with participants from Takoma Park and they bring a vital perspective into the program. They really showcase the diversity of the region and its municipalities," she says.

THE ARTS



Roxie Doniphan Thomas is part of Eureka Dance Festival, showcasing emerging choreographers Oct. 23 at the Community Center. See below for details.

Photo by Maggie Picard

TAKOMA FOUNDATION HOSTS THIRD ANNUAL BEERFEST

Community activists and beer lovers will mix again this year for the Third Annual Takoma Foundation Nuclear Free Beer Fest, from 4 to 8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 15 at the historic Cady-Lee Mansion, 7064 Eastern Ave. N.W. in Takoma, D.C.

Beer will come from nine area microbrewers and brewpubs; food will include snacks and grilled bratwurst, and entertainment features Sciatica as well as a fire-dance performance at dusk.

The annual event raises funds for Foundation grants, to support community programs.

Tickets are \$30 per person advance sales, \$40 at the door. For more information, see www.takomafoundation.org.

Musical memoir, modern dance and roots rock headline We Are Takoma Series

Three shows are featured in this month's We Are Takoma series line-up. All shows are at the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Ave. in Takoma Park.

DROP THE KNIFE: A MEMOIR-IN-SONG

Written by Jeanne Mackey; performed by Jeanne Mackey and friends

Friday, Oct. 14, 7:30 p.m.

Free Event - Suggested Donation \$10 to \$15

Singer/songwriter and former Takoma Park resident Jeanne Mackey's "Drop the Knife: A Memoir-in-Song," has been called "disarmingly honest and wryly funny," by critic Daniel Ladinsky. Written to mark her 60th birthday last year, the musical chronicles Mackey's search for personal and ancestral healing and it takes audiences from the dry desert of the Eastern Sierras to the green countryside of Ireland.

"Mackey, who rocked the 1970s East Coast topical music circuit as a young mu-

sician advocating feminist values and social justice, explores the meaning of magic, homeland, curses and death in a memoir-in-song that draws on her deeply personal experiences of transformative change in an era that taught Americans to celebrate their differences," writes Ladinsky, who explains the title this way:

"The show's title comes from 14th century Persian mystic Hafiz. According to legend, Hafiz was asked, 'What is the sign of someone who knows God?' He replied, 'Dear, they have dropped the knife. They have dropped the cruel knife so often use upon their tender self and others.'"

THE EUREKA DANCE FESTIVAL

Sunday, Oct. 23, 7 p.m.

Free Event - Suggested Donation \$5

This works-in-progress performance by Eureka 2011 choreographers Hayley Cutler, Marissa Guerrero, Sara Herrera and

WE ARE TAKOMA □ Page 11

ARTS & Humanities

The Wild Vine: The Untold Story of American Wine

Author Todd Kliman's book, "The Wild Vine" has been described as being "about far more than a grape, a vine, or a wine. It's a story about things hidden and transformed,



about connections missed and made, and about the indomitable, ineffable American spirit." (The Book Studio, WETA-TV). Join us on Thursday, Oct. 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the TP Community Center Auditorium if you believe, like Todd, that "wine in America is a bigger, more interesting picture than most people realize."

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

The work of Takoma Park Poet Laureate Merrill Leffler and poets Kathleen O'Toole and Bonnie Naradzay is featured at this month's poetry reading on Thursday, Oct. 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the TP Community Center Auditorium.

Holiday Art Sale – Call for Vendors

Are you interested in participating in the sixth annual Holiday Art Sale? The sale will be held on Saturday, Dec. 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the TP Community Center and will feature a variety of fine art including paintings, photography, pottery, jewelry, textiles, furniture and glass. All work included in the sale must be created and produced by the artist. Deadline for applying for a table is Friday, Nov. 18. Application forms are available online at www.takomaparkmd.gov. For more information, please contact Rob Rudick at robrudick@yahoo.com or 301-270-2323.

Exhibits Opportunity

The Arts and Humanities Commission is seeking proposals from individual artists or groups of artists or artisans interested in exhibiting their work in the Galleries at the TP Community Center in 2012. For more information on how to submit your work for consideration, please contact the Exhibits Director at exhibitsdirector@takomagov.org, 301-891-7645.

We are Takoma – Call for Proposals

The Arts and Humanities Commission is seeking programming proposals for its 2012 "We are Takoma" series. The program is designed to provide a diverse offering of free cultural events to the public. Programming options are limited only by the size of the space, its availability and the technical demands of the event. For more information, contact Sara Anne Daines at sarad@takomagov.org, 301-891-7224.

Exhibit includes fairytales, mental health

“The Apricot Tree” opens Oct. 21

In an exhibit that includes both fairy tale art and reflections on living with schizophrenia, “The Apricot Tree, A Fruitful Alliance,” brings two very different worlds together in the Atrium Gallery at the Takoma Park Community Center. The show, presented by Studio Downstairs, an art therapy program of CREATE Arts Center in Silver Spring, opens Oct. 21 and runs through Nov. 23.

Shannon Gerrity and Claudia Krizay, Studio Downstairs members, are the artists exhibiting original paintings from their children’s fairy tale, “The Apricot Tree.” Copies of the book will be on display and available to order.

The opening reception is Friday, Oct. 21 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Gallery.

Krizay will also exhibit works created at Studio Downstairs reflecting her experiences of living for many years with schizophrenia. Her original poetry will accompany the paintings.

The work will be for sale via silent auction on the night of the opening. Sales will benefit the non-profit Studio Downstairs program, as well as the individual artists.

Studio Downstairs works to enhance community awareness of mental health issues through the arts by providing art studio programs that serve as a bridge to help people overcome psychological difficulties. Public exhibits showcasing members’ work utilize the visual arts and poetry to fortify individual potential and strengthen bonds of humanity among program members and the community at large.

The gallery is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 10 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public. Contact sarad@takomagov.org, 301-891-7224, exhibitsdirector@takomagov.org or sbrucker2@gmail.com.

NEW BUSINESSES

■ From page 1

almost anything,” adds Jose Dominguez, executive director of Pyramid Atlantic, and a former member of the Arts and Humanities Commission. “We can stay open if there’s an event at House of Musical Traditions or Roscoe’s, and we can be a space for small fundraisers and concerts—anything that ties to art. We want to be part of what’s going on in Takoma Park.”

Valerie Dulk-Jacobs, store manager, says a grand opening is planned for November. Information will be posted online at www.artspringsilver.com.

Knock on Wood Returns

For Knock on Wood tap studio, moving to Takoma Park is not only a return to its roots but a resurrection. Hit hard by the recession, the studio closed in March 2011. “It was a tough decision, but our Board was committed to finding a new space, and our teachers were very loyal,” says Ruth Silverstein, a board member. “When space became available in Takoma Park, we took it.”

In mid-September, after a frenzy of painting and remodeling, Knock on Wood returned to the city where it was launched 16 years ago by Yvonne Edwards. Classes are being held at 6925 Willow Street in Takoma, D.C. (across from CVS Pharmacy), and students can register at any time. Classes are available for tappers of all ages (kid, teen, adult) and abilities (beginner, intermediate, advanced).

Edwards, who is 77 years old, also founded the Tappers With Attitude Youth Ensemble. She still performs, and she’s made Knock on Wood one of the few studios in the nation that focuses solely on teaching “rhythm tap.”

Rhythm tap has roots in English clogging, Irish step dancing and African slave dances, says Silverstein. It emerged at about the same time as jazz. “Rhythm tap is described as making music with one’s feet,” Silverstein says, in contrast to “Broadway” or “show” tap, which incorporate ballroom dance or ballet steps.

Registration for classes was strong in the fall, and Silverstein says the studio

has been “embraced” by a community that supports the arts. “It feels as if the stars have aligned for us,” she says.

Capitol Tap, a new youth performance ensemble, is joining Knock on Wood as a resident company. Capitol Tap was established last year by Lisa Swenton-Eppard, former assistant director of Tappers With Attitude, with support from Baakari Wilder, who performed on Broadway in Bring in Da Noise, Bring in Da Funk.

Knock on Wood will have an open house in October; check www.knockonwood.org for information.

Soup to go comes to stay

From the street, customers can see kettles of soup steaming through the windows; inside, they can either sit down and enjoy a bowl, or grab something from the refrigerator to take home. This is Soupergirl, where the menu includes three different soups at a time—selections like red pepper carrot puree, peanut vegetable and mung bean tomato—and two salads, such as barley, black bean and corn—on a rotating basis. The frig has a larger selection.

All soups are homemade, vegan and kosher, and rely heavily on organic ingredients and locally grown vegetables from places like Tuscarora Farms and Twin Springs Fruit Farm.

The two-year-old, family-owned (mother-daughter) business evolved from a D.C. basement to a soup delivery business working from an industrial kitchen. Now the soups are concocted at the Takoma site. Deliveries continue, but the café, which opened Sept. 7, gives the enterprise a new direction. Located across from the Takoma Metro station, at 314 Carroll Street N.W., the idea is that Takoma Park commuters will stop by on their way home from work and grab dinner, or meet for lunch if they’re among the many who work at small home offices and other enterprises around town.

Soupergirl is open Monday – Thursday, 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., closed Saturdays and Jewish holidays.

WE ARE TAKOMA

■ From page 10

Orit Sherman, will also feature the work of nationally recognized modern dancer Lauren Putty White, a Eureka regional guest artist from Philadelphia.

Eureka highlights eight emerging D.C.-area choreographers. Beginning with the selection process in May, and culminating with a Dance Place debut in December, the Festival provides support to artists embarking on the journey of creating a brand new work. Now in its third season, it continues to work toward connecting dancers and audience members through choreography and conversation.

Interested in getting a chance to hone your dance skills? Start your evening out with a master class with Cassie Meador, Artistic Director of Dance Exchange.

Class begins at 5 p.m. in the TP Community Center dance studio. Suggested donation \$10. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

THE U-LINERS

Saturday, Oct. 15, 7:30 p.m.

Free

This band has played in D.C.’s finest venues and shared the stage with artists as diverse as Pete Seeger and Tom Morello. Described as “Woody Guthrie meets Merle Haggard meets Jerry Garcia,” the U Liners play roots rock music and songs of our time. Performing in this Takoma Park-based band are Joe Uehlein on guitar, Avril Smith on the guitar and mandolin, Mindy McWilliams on the fiddle, Barry Warsaw on bass, and percussionist Larry Ferguson.



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 _____

OCTOBER '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 City of Takoma Park residents, and we'll consider it for inclusion in the calendar. Deadline for the November issue is October 17.

To submit calendar items, email tpnewseditor@takomagov.org.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

City Council Meeting

Every Monday, 7:30 p.m.
No meeting Oct. 31
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
See takomaparkmd.gov for schedule

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.

Takoma Langley Crossroads Urban Design Guidelines

Oct. 6
For more information contact Ilona Blanchard, ilonab@takomagov.org, 301-891-7205

CITY BUSINESS

2011 Takoma Park Election Voter Registration Deadline

Oct. 10
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.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Takoma Park Street Festival

Oct. 2
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
18 bands on three stages, over 200 artists, community groups and food vendors
www.takomafestival.com
Free

Charity Walk, TP Seventh Day Adventist Church

Oct. 9, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Begins at the church, 6819 Eastern Ave. N.W.

Takoma Foundation Third Annual Nuclear-Free Beerfest

Oct. 15, 4 – 8 p.m.
Cady-Lee Mansion, 7064 Eastern Ave., N.W.
Nine microbrewers and brewpubs plus food, music and fire dance
Benefits the Takoma Foundation
\$30 advance, \$40 door
www.takomafoundation.com

Main Street Takoma Fall Clean-Up

Oct. 22, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Pick up trash, mulch tree boxes, weed and plant
www.mainstreetakoma.org

Canine Costume Contest

Oct. 29, 3 – 5 p.m.
TP Community Center outdoor basketball court

Halloween Costume Contest and Parade

Oct. 29, 5 – 7 p.m.
Beginning on Laurel Ave., down Carroll to Piney Branch Elementary School
301-891-7100

Gear Up Takoma!

Crime prevention event, with children's activities
Oct. 29, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
TP Community Center rear parking lot

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

Grace Pettis

Folk music
Oct. 12, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
IMT-sponsored concert
301-754-3611, www.imtfolk.org
\$15 advance, \$18 door, \$12 students

The Wild Vine: A Forgotten Grape and the Untold Story of American Wine

With author Todd Kliman
Thursday, Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
See page 10
Free

Drop the Knife: a Memoir in Song

With Jeanne Mackey
Friday, Oct. 14, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
See page 10
Free Event - Suggested Donation \$10 to \$15

The ULiners in Concert

Woody Guthrie meets Merle Haggard meets Jerry Garcia
Saturday, Oct. 15, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
See page 10
Free

"Third Thursday" Poetry Reading

Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
Featuring Takoma Park Poet Laureate Merrill Leffler, Kathleen O'Toole and Bonnie Naradzay.
Free

"The Apricot Tree"

Opening and Artist's Reception
Oct. 21, 6 – 8 p.m.
The Galleries at TP Community Center
Original paintings by Shannon Gerrity and Claudia Krizay from their children's fairy tale, "The Apricot Tree."
See page 11
Free

"Washington Music Viva" Chamber Music Concert

Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
Nicholas Currie, violin, Adam Gonzalez, cello, Carl Banner, piano.
\$15 door, 12 and under free with adult Washington Musica Viva!
<http://dcmusicaviva.org>

Lily Henley

Singer, songwriter and fiddler
Oct. 22, time TBA
Dance Exchange, 7117 Maple Ave.
301-754-3611, www.imtfolk.org

Eureka Dance Festival

Sunday, Oct. 23, 7 p.m./Master Class 5 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
Works-in-Progress modern dance
Free Event - Suggested Donation \$5
See page 10

Ruthie and the Wranglers

American country, clever lyrics, hillybilly harmonies
Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
\$12 advance, \$16 door, \$8 / \$12 student
301-754-3611, www.imtfolk.org

"Washington Music Viva" Chamber Music Concert

Oct. 28, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
Kathy Judd, violin, Adam Gonzalez, cello, Carl Banner, piano.
\$15 door, 12 and under free with adult Washington Musica Viva!
<http://dcmusicaviva.org>

Dia de los Muertos Dance

DeColores Mexican Dance Company
Saturday, Oct. 29, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
Free

KIDS ACTIVITIES

Children's Story Time

Every Wednesday, 10:30 – 11 a.m.
TPSS Co-op, 201 Ethan Allen Ave.
Mr. Gabe
Every Friday, 10 – 10:40 a.m.
Roda Movements, 7005 Carroll Ave.
Children's entertainment

International Walk to School Day

Oct. 5

SENIORS

Rhythm On the Rails Concert

Ages 55 and older
The New Dimension Singers
Oct. 18, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
Free

Prince Georges's County History Program

Ages 55 and older
An 18th Century Perspective
Oct. 12, 12 – 1 p.m.
Lilac Room, TP Community Center
Free

The Brewmasters Castle

Ages 55 and older
Oktoberfest at an historic Dupont Circle home
Oct. 21, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
\$5 per person
See page 6

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 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.

BUSINESSES SURVEY

■ From page 5

two that will be implemented over the next several years and one for individual property owners to install as they redevelop their properties.

City planners suggest that Takoma/Langley Crossroads Commercial District Authority, Main Street Takoma and the City can further raise awareness of and access to local businesses with a number of additional elements, such as shared parking, energy efficiency, recycling, financing, loyalty programs and links to training and seminars on websites.

Also, many business owners have indicated that they need help with branding

and marketing. With so many businesses nearby in Silver Spring and D.C., Takoma Park needs to build an image and stand out from its competitors.

Main Street Takoma has been doing just that. With an online website, a facebook page with a loyal following, a revolving loan and a calendar filled with events, the organization, in partnership with the City and the State of Maryland, has worked hard to increase Old Takoma's profile as the place to be. The City's New Ave initiative and website provide a similar service to New Hampshire Avenue businesses (including the Crossroads), establishing an



online identity and one-stop shop to learn about loans, grants and resources needed to start a business.

That sort of branding will help Takoma

Park stand out as a unique and desirable commercial district, and draws just the sort of business shops need to thrive.