WHAT'S NEW?

Elections pull-out page 7
City TV covers the polls Nov. 8, vote certification Nov. 9 and the inauguration Nov. 21. On cable or at takomaparkmd.gov.

City offices closed Nov. 11, 14, 25
Thanksgiving and Veteran's Day. Community Center closed Nov. 11 - 12; Library open Nov. 12

Trash holiday
No trash pickup Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24 and 25

November 2011

Takoma Park

A newsletter published by the City of Takoma Park, Maryland

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Community grants support commercial improvements, children's programs

Each year, City Council gets a portion of County's federal community development block grant money to allocate to projects it feels will best serve the Takoma Park community. And each year, it attracts applicants trying to convince Councilmembers that their projects are worthy. Projects can include, but are not limited to, property acquisition, housing rehabilitation, commercial revitalization and human services, and must provide direct benefit to low- and moderate-income residents, or be located in an area that serves them.

This year's winners of an estimated $125,000 in Community Development Block Grants include six proposals for improvements to commercial facades, help bringing private properties up to code; food safety classes for low-income entrepreneurs; preschool, homework and summer enrichment clubs for children in low-income housing; and programs for at-risk immigrant girls and middle school students facing possible suspension.

Not more than 15 percent of the total

City elections Nov. 8

Races for three of seven positions sow seeds for change on City Council

There will be at least three new faces on the City Council after the Nov. 8 election, and voters have several choices on the ballot after a lively nominating caucus Oct. 4.

In Ward 1, Seth Grimes, who would be a newcomer to City Council, is running unopposed for the seat being vacated by Josh Wright. In Ward 2, two first-time candidates—Lorig Charkoudian and Tim Male— are competing for the spot left by departing Colleen Clay. In Ward 3, three new candidates—Kay Daniels Cohen, Mike Graul and Jeffrey Noel-Nosbaum—are vying for the seat being vacated by Dan Robinson. And in Ward 6, challenger Barrie Howard is running against incumbent Fred Schultz.

In Wards 4 and 5, where incumbents Terry Seams and Reuben Snipper are running unopposed, no change is expected;

Mayor Bruce Williams is also running unopposed.

Tree canopy suffers after hurricane

Arborist advises preparation for winter weather

When Hurricane Irene's stormy winds ripped through Takoma Park in August, it downed from 65 to 75 trees, according to City Arborist Todd Bolton. And that's the good news, he says. Tree damage would have been much worse without the City's tree ordinance.

Bolton was working in the wee hours of the morning, when the storm was at its height, helping PECO crews clear fallen trees from power lines and roadways. He recounted one instance where a tree crashed through a roof and onto a bed, narrowly missing sleeping residents.

In the storm's aftermath, a number of trees blocked streets, limiting mobility in several neighborhoods, and power outages lasted for days. But overall, impact in Takoma Park was relatively minor. "There was minimal damage, and no one was hurt," Bolton reported to City Council in late September. One City tree failed in Spring Park, and one street tree was lost along Jackson Avenue in the New Hampshire Gardens neighborhood. The rest of the fallen trees were on private property.

"I really think [the ordinance] is working to reduce future failures," Bolton said.

The ordinance, in addition to setting parameters that must be met before trees are cut down, requires that residents protect their trees during construction and other activities that might damage root systems. Most of the trees that fell during the hurricane came down because of root failure, Bolton says.

But root rots can be difficult to detect: telltale signs are failing greenery, or "crown dieback," but sometimes damage goes undetected until the tree falls. Inspectors can sometimes determine problems on close scrutiny, or surmise damage due to circumstances like proximity to buildings or root compaction due to construction or vehicular traffic. If you suspect your

Inside:
Backyard Chickens Page 3
Taiko Drumming Page 6
Street Fest Photos Page 11

For more information on voter eligibility, instant runoff, methodology, early and absentee voting, see insert, pages 7-9.
32 cyclists were recorded Thursday, Oct. 6 on The New Ave at Sligo Creek Trail during the morning commute. Most were using a combination of trail, road and sidewalk with 9 percent cycling only in the roadway. Take the State Highway and the Board of Tourism bike survey: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CycleMaryland.

Inauguration of the City Council

On Monday, Nov. 21, the 2009-2011 City Council will be sworn in and will take its place at the dais.

A public reception will be held after the meeting.

Please watch the website for details about this event to welcome the new City Council and say farewell to departing members.

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/commissions or contact the City Clerk for more information (301-911-7667) or clerk@takomaparkmd.gov.

Arts and Humanities Commission (vacancies)
Board of Elections (vacancy)
Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (vacancy)
Emergency Preparedness Committee (vacancies)
Ethics Commission (vacancies)
Resident Free Takoma Park Committee (vacancies)
Personnel Appeal Board (vacancy)
Recreation Committee (vacancy)
Washington Adventist Hospital Land Use Committee (vacancies)

Public Facilities

NOTICE OF FINAL ACTION on regulation establishing reservation procedures and requirements, fees, rules and guidelines for the use of certain public facilities

The September 2011 edition of the Takoma Park Newsletter included notice of the City’s intention to adopt regulations establishing reservation procedures and requirements, fees, rules and guidelines for the use of certain public facilities. 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 301-891-7287 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 suzanne@takomagov.org at least 48 hours in advance.

City Council Action

*Cities Council Action

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

ORDINANCE 2011-41

Adopted (First Reading Sept. 12, 2011; Second Reading Sept. 26, 2011) Program 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.

RESOLUTION 2011-47

Adopted (Sept. 26, 2011) Establishing a Redistricting Task Force and providing for the appointment of members

The resolution established the Redistricting Task Force to review census block data and provide options for redistricting of the City’s wards prior to the 2013 election. The following members were appointed: Douglas J. Grube (Ward 1), L. Lyndon Wilkes (Ward 1), James C. Roberts (Ward 2) — representing the Takoma Park Board of Elections; Ron Verdronk (Ward 4), Kawar Talaat (Ward 5), Carrie Howard (Ward 6), Donna Victoria (Ward 6).

RESOLUTION 2011-45

Adopted (Sept. 26, 2011) Supporting participation in Sustainable Maryland Certified Municipal Government Certification Program

The resolution is the first step in working to achieve certification through the Sustainable Maryland Government Certification Program. The City will pursue local initiatives and actions in support of its certification.

RESOLUTION 2011-44


The resolution extends the term of the Task Force to Jan. 31, 2012 to allow for time to present its final report to the newly elected City Council. The following members were reappointed: Lorig Charkoudian (Ward 2), William Coulter (Ward 3), Kay Daniels-Cohen (Ward 3), James DiLuigi (Ward 4), Steve Dubb (Non-resident), Megan Gallagher (Ward 3), Seth Grimes (Ward 1), Andrew Kelemen (Ward 1), Howard Kohn (Ward 3), Linnette Lander (Ward 6), Barbara Multibuhler (Ward 2), Katrina Oprisko (Ward 2), Lorraine Pearsall (Ward 1), Susan Robb (Ward 3), Roger Schlegel (Ward 3), Dan Seligman (Ward 3), Jeffrey M. Trunzo (Ward 3), Ellen M. Zavian (Ward 3).

RESOLUTION 2011-50

Adopted (Sept. 26, 2011) Providing for an appointment to the Washington Adventist Hospital Land Use Committee

The City Council appointed Ron Verdronk (Ward 4) to serve on the Committee.

RESOLUTION 2011-51

Adopted (Sept. 26, 2011) Providing for reapPOINTments to the Tree Commission

The City Council reappointed John Hemphill (Ward 1) and Nicolet van Schouwen (Ward 1) to the Commission.

RESOLUTION 2011-52

Adopted (Sept. 26, 2011) Recommending that the Planning Board not approve the Urban Design Guidelines for the Takoma/Langley Sector Plan until they are clear, specific, and detailed.

RESOLUTION 2011-53

Adopted (Sept. 26, 2011) Recommending that the Montgomery County Council not approve the Takoma/Langley Sector Plan unless additional urban design language is included.

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 trenewave@takomaparkmd.gov or newsletter@takomagov.org. The Newsletter is printed on recycled-content paper.
Backyard chickens change the urban landscape

By Virginia Myers

Roscoe the Rooster would be proud.

Takoma Park's town mascot, a once-living rooster memorialized in sculpture, poetry and even a pizzeria, is one hallmark of what many people like to think of as a quirky town. Add another: Takoma Park is becoming a popular spot for raising Roscoe’s kin, backyard chickens.

Except keeping chickens in your yard is not so quirky anymore. The recently renewed interest in all things urban home-stead, from growing intensive gardens to canning and preserving their harvests, is nationwide and has spilled over to include “growing” your own eggs, whether you live in the country, the suburbs, or the city. Concerned about overcrowded, inhumane conditions for commercial chickens, and committed to a more sustainable lifestyle with locally sourced food, families have turned to raising their own eggs—and you can’t get more local than your own back yard. On a practical level, chickens will eat kitchen scraps, provide free fertilizer for the garden and save money (at least if you’re purchasing organic, free-range eggs).

Nationally, the backyard chicken movement supports a publication, Backyard Poultry Magazine, with some 44,000 subscribers, as well as backyardchickens.com, a 15,000-member online community of chicken enthusiasts. In Takoma Park, some households have been raising birds for as long as five years; now more households are joining in.

Say hello to Golyed, Red, and Starlight, pecking around with the rest of their flock of six under the shrubbery on Sycamore Avenue. Their neighbor, “Horsedockapoey,” is part of a five-hen flock (named by the children) chickening quietly around its own coop, a few blocks away, another flock is simply known as “the girls.” No one has a headcount on Takoma Park hens, but limited research suggests more than a dozen households include a handful of layers each.

“There is certainly a trend for this around the country, and I hope we’re just seeing the tip of the iceberg,” says one local chicken owner, who, like a number of his fellow “farmers,” prefers not to be named. (He is unsure of city regulations, when we looked them up, we discovered Takoma Park follows Montgomery County law, allowing chickens but requiring that their coops be located at least 100 feet from any building where people live or work.)

We’ll call our chicken owner “Pete.” He keeps four Rhode Island Reds and one Ancona, and built a coop for them he says is “better than Fort Knox.” Indeed, it has kept the birds safe from the many predators that threaten them, including raccoons, foxes, hawks and neighborhood dogs. His children, ages 10 and 5, have helped care for the chickens from the outset, and they are one of the primary reasons Pete got the chickens. With a mother who was raised on a farm and a tradition of hunting and fishing, Pete wanted to maintain that lifestyle even in the urban/suburban environment of Takoma Park, in part to be sure his kids have a similar appreciation for where food comes from.

The chicks Pete hatched imprinted on the children, and often follow them around the yard. The children are good at putting the birds back in their coop, he says, and sometimes do the feeding and cleaning.

In another household, the teenage daughter and her older brother were committed to sustainable living and suggested getting chickens as an extension of the already thriving vegetable garden. So their parents, Jimmy and Vickey Hoy, now have four chickens, which they purchased from an Amish market in Mechanicsville as pullets — young birds. They each lay about an egg a day, the average from all the flocks we learned about. Vickey has perfected the art of making quiche. A lot of it.

But most owners don’t have the birds solely to produce eggs. They are, first of all, pets. At Gillian Caldwell’s house, we watch her flock of six wander across the lawn, pecking through the grass. Each is a different breed, and each lays a different sort of egg, varying by shape and color. Though sustainability was a big reason for purchasing the birds, for this family of five — Gillian, her partner, children ages 7 and 9, and an au pair — there are store-bought eggs to supplement. The birds really are attractive pets, interacting with the family dog (who briefly chases them and then wanders off) and generally making themselves at home in the bushes and across the lawn of the back yard. “I like looking at them,” says Caldwell. “I think they’re beautiful.” They’re also comical, moving about in a herky-jerky dance across the garden, huddling together then spreading apart — they are fascinating, even during a short visit. “They make you laugh out loud,” says Jimmy Hoy. “They have personalities.”

Neighbors have mostly appreciated the birds; Pete shares upkeep responsibilities and eggs with the next door neighbor, and at the Hoys, the toddler next door has named her favorite birds. Occasionally a note goes out on the lost serve: there’s a loose chicken, who is missing a hen? Once, Justin Hoy answered the front door to a police officer who was holding a chicken under her arm. “Is this yours?” she asked, then helped Justin gather up the rest of the hens and get them back in the coop.

Suburban living also includes dangers. Local wild animals like raccoons, foxes and hawks make it essential that the coops be secure from predators. One of the Hoys chickens was injured by a dog on a leash, though a soft splint on the chicken’s broken leg was enough to allow the bird to survive with only a limp to show for it. Other owners were less fortunate: a local dog who jumped their fence wiped out almost their entire flock, and the episode continues to be sad and difficult for the neighborhood.

Some dogs live companionably with their birds. One household says their Rottweiler is protective of “the girls” in their yard, and has lost weight chasing them to the safety of their coop.

Suburbia does tend to limit the number of roosters in town. Though there is no ordinance against them, owners typically give away chicks that turn out to be roosters and send them to the country. Otherwise, the crowing creates tension among neighbors.

The spirit of Roscoe, of course, silently lives on.
Energy efficient improvements earn low-interest loans

A new green loan program is offering low-interest financing for energy-efficient improvements to commercial buildings and businesses. Called the Be SMART Business Loan Program, the program gives preference to Main Street Maryland communities, including Takoma Park, loan approval is also based upon the applicants' credit score, ability to service the debt, and whether proposed improvements will provide a 15 percent or more energy cost saving. Examples of improvements that would qualify include upgrades to energy efficient appliances, heating and cooling systems, programmable thermostats, ceiling fans, insulation, and windows and doors. Loans are available up to $50,000, at up to 5 percent interest. A total of $20 million is available through the Maryland-sponsored program.

For more information, local businesses can contact Main Street Takoma, which is coordinating the program: Green Team leader Patty Baker, 240-888-1623 or Roe Grigsby at Old Takoma Business Association. Or see www.mdhousing.org/website/programs/besmart/business.aspx.

Residents Give Generously to Neighbors in Need

Takoma Park residents have expressed their generosity by voluntarily contributing more than $5,000 to the City’s Emergency Assistance Fund (EAF), which provides financial assistance to those facing an emergency. This was an increase from last year’s contributions of $4,500.

These voluntary contributions, along with $15,000 budgeted by the City Council, provided 23 City residents with housing assistance in 2010 and 16 from January through September 2011. Housing-related assistance includes rent payment that prevents eviction, utility bill payment to prevent gas or electricity from being turned off, or medical or pharmacy bill payment so that treatment will be received.

Voluntary contributions from City residents remain critical for the continuation of this program. Thank you to all who have already contributed. Please continue to contribute to the EAF, which serves as a viable resource to those in need.

The Emergency Assistance Fund (EAF) is administered by Ministries United Silver Spring-Takoma Park (MUSST), 8818 Georgia Ave., 2nd Floor, Silver Spring, Md. 20910. For more information or to donate, contact Masiki Akwei, 301-495-9454.

Thank you for continuing to support this program and the critical service that it provides to the community.

Emergency Assistance Fund
DONATION FORM

I/We wish to donate $ ____________________ to the Emergency Assistance Fund. Please make your check payable to City of Takoma Park and write EAF on the memo line of your check.

Name(s): _____________________________________________

Mailing Address: _______________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

Please call 301-891-7215 if you have questions regarding the Emergency Assistance Fund

( Please detach and send to: City of Takoma Park Emergency Assistance Fund, Finance Office, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912.)

HURRICANE DAMAGE

■ From page 1

Health has been compromised, have it inspected by a trained, certified commercial or consulting arborist. Consulting arborists don’t do tree work, but do perform inspections and develop management plans for trees.

Protecting trees—and the homes and residents around them—is one thing when the threat is tropical storm-force winds like Irene’s. Enduring winter winds as well as snow and ice is another. Bolton recommends that, in addition to being vigilant about protecting tree roots from impact like construction, parked vehicles and even heavy foot traffic, residents have their trees assessed and cared for on a regular basis. Residents can perform small but important duties such as being aware of when dead limbs appear and having them pruned, keeping English ivy and other invasive vines off of their trees, and mulching as much of the trees’ root zone as works in the landscape.

For more information on how to protect your trees, see http://treesaregood.org.

HOUSING MAILBOX

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

Chasing down a security deposit: How COLTA can help

Q. I recently moved from one apartment to another, but did not return my security deposit back. Can you tell me what the Commission on Landlord Tenant Affairs (COLTA) does and how it can help me?

A. The Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (COLTA) is an administrative body established by the Takoma Park City Council. It hears and issues decisions involving landlord-tenant disputes that the City’s Landlord-Tenant Office has been unable to resolve. COLTA’s 12 members are Takoma Park tenants, landlords and property owners who are approved by the City Council to serve three-year terms. Their hearings are open to the public and held on Tuesday evenings beginning at 7 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center. Involved parties get three weeks advance notice of the hearing date, and decisions are issued about 30 days after the hearing. They may be appealed to the Montgomery County Circuit Court.

In a complaint involving a security deposit, you would need to submit 1) a COLTA complaint form, 2) a copy of your lease, 3) a copy of your notice to vacate and 4) any other correspondence that was sent by you or your landlord that is relevant to the security deposit.

It is always good to take pictures of the unit before you move in and after you move out (with all your belongings removed), so these pictures can be submitted as part of your evidence if you wind up questioning a damage charge that the landlord deducted from your deposit. Photos must be submitted on photographic paper and include a brief written description of what they represent and the date(s) they were taken.

If you forget or don’t have a document available at the time you file a COLTA complaint, you still have 15 days after filing the complaint to submit additional documents. Failure to meet the post-complaint submission deadline, though, may result in exclusion of the late documents. A respondent, or in your case, the landlord, has 20 days to respond to your complaint and file any documents that he/she feels are relevant to the complaint.

When a complaint cannot be resolved and a hearing has to be scheduled before the Commission, it is critical that the complaint file be complete before it is sent to the three commissioners assigned to hear the case.

To review all the regulations about COLTA, go to www.takomaparkmd.gov, click on Landlord-Tenant and scroll to Landlord Tenant Complaints. If you have questions about the City’s Landlord-Tenant Law or COLTA, contact me at 301-891-7215 or mosesw@takomaparkgov.org.
New speed camera set on East West Highway

A new, fixed-pole speed camera has been set up in the 900 block of westbound East West Highway, just east of New Hampshire Avenue. This new camera began issuing warnings on Sept. 30, to violators driving 12 miles over the speed limit. Citations for violators driving 12 miles over the speed limit began Oct. 15. Citations carry a fine of $40, no points are incurred on violators’ drivers’ licenses.

The Takoma Park Police Department hopes the new camera will help reduce speed, thereby reducing the number of accidents in the area. It was placed in this location, which is an entry point for Takoma Park, based on research regarding trouble spots for speeders in Takoma Park. This location, where the speed limit is 30 miles per hour, showed 12,800 violations in seven days.

Other speed cameras are located as follows: 7200 block of New Hampshire Avenue (southbound); 7100 block of New Hampshire Avenue (northbound); 400 block of Ethan Allen Avenue (eastbound); and 500 block of Ethan Allen Avenue (westbound).

There is also a portable speed camera located in the 900 block of eastbound University Boulevard.

Any questions on the program may be directed to the police department’s Safe Speed program, 301-891-7138.

Texting while driving law strengthened for safety

A prohibition on texting while driving law—that means whether you are stopped in a traffic light or in moving traffic—was strengthened for safety at a traffic light or in moving traffic.

When police get a call that a home burglar alarm has been tripped, they never know what to expect. Officers who respond could find an armed burglar trying to escape through a window; they could find a burglar thwarted and an aggressive suspect ready to fight; or they could find nothing.

In fact, that is often the case, as burglary alarms are tripped mistakenly. These false alarms occur more often than one might think, and take up valuable time police officers could use to respond to real calls for help and crime prevention.

In an effort to prevent such false alarms, the Takoma Park Police Department recently adopted Montgomery County’s false alarm ordinance.

The law lays out fines for false alarms, and procedures for alarm companies to prevent them.

How false alarms play out

Alarm companies must attempt to verify alarm signals before requesting police dispatch; if an alarm is false, the company must attempt to cancel the dispatch. Alarm owners cannot personally cancel the dispatch, only the alarm company can do this. The company must also alert the property owner within 72 hours if they have requested police dispatch.

Fees for false alarms apply only if police are dispatched to an alarm location and the alarm signal is determined by investigating officers to be false. There is one false alarm allowed before fees are charged; then fees go from $25 (for a second occurrence), to $1,000 for the 15th false alarm. Commercial establishments then pay up to $4,000 for false alarms past 15.

To prevent false alarms, be sure your alarm is registered. That way, police can check with the alarm company when false alarms become a problem, ensure that the companies are following proper procedures and prevent recurrences. You can find out if your alarm is registered here.

Maryland officials are crediting the original anti-text-messaging law for a drop in traffic fatalities, from 550 in 2009 to 496 in 2010. “Our new law strengthening the texting while driving ban is another step toward continuing to reduce traffic deaths,” said Gov. Martin O’Malley.

A first texting-while-driving offense carries a fine of $70; a second offense fine is $110.

Spice in burglaries for September

A late-summer spike in burglaries has hit Takoma Park, with 16 cases of home break-ins and one commercial incident recorded in September. Historically, the City has averaged 15.4 such burglaries during the month of September, says crime analyst Andrew Gucciarro, but City police are taking the recent increase seriously. Since they have beefed up uniformed and plain clothes patrols, burglaries have dropped, he says. One arrest has been made.

Almost all burglaries have occurred during the day, between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., and during the week. Target items have varied, but laptops and televisions are the most commonly stolen item. Locations include several different wards of the City.

Police are urging residents to secure their homes and report any suspicious activity in their neighborhoods to 301-270-1100. Home security surveys, with advice about how to make a home more crime-proof, are available free of charge through the Police Department, Carol Magnaye, 301-891-7121, 301-270-1100 or carlamar@takomavmgov.org.

Armed robberies hit in October

Two armed robberies in two different neighborhoods made October an unusually troubling month in Takoma Park. The first occurred in the parking lot of Tijuana’s Mexican Cafe at University Boulevard and Carroll Avenue, when two men assaulted the victim and took his property. The incident took place around 3 a.m. Suspects are described as black males, 20-24 years old, one 180-190 lbs., 6’0”, the other 6’2, 200-210 lbs.

The second incident took place at 9:31 p.m. on Oct. 14 on Hodges Circle near Holly Avenue. The victim, who was walking home from the metro, was confronted by two men wearing face masks, one brandished a handgun. The victim ran, with one of the suspects hanging onto his belt, and eventually the suspects fled on foot and then drove away in an older model, red or gray/black Dodge Charger. Investigations are ongoing.

For more up-to-date information on these and other crimes in Takoma Park, join the Alert Takoma list for email notices, contact Cathy Plevy, cathyptakoma.gov.org, to sign up.

Crime tip by text

You can now use your cell phone to send a tip to the Takoma Park Police Department and remain 100 percent anonymous. Text to 847411 Type TPDPDTP at the beginning of your message.

Your message including as much detail as possible to ensure that your tip is thoroughly investigated. Send your tip, knowing that you are helping to reduce crime in your community while remaining 100 percent anonymous.

You can also now send a tip using the Takoma Park Police Department’s Facebook page. In the left hand column you will find a link to “submit a tip.” Your tip is important and can make a difference! If you see a crime in progress and need to contact the Takoma Park Police, please call 301-270-1100. If you need to report an emergency that involves the need for fire or rescue services, you must call 9-1-1.

An alarming distraction

Police work to prevent false alarms so they can focus on crime.

When police get a call that a home burglar alarm has been tripped, they never know what to expect. Officers who respond could find an armed burglar trying to escape through a window; they could find a burglar thwarted and an aggressive suspect ready to fight, or they could find nothing.

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The Firehouse Report

By Jim Jarboe

Fire, by the numbers

As of September 30, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the station have responded to 567 fire-related incidents. The department addressed or assisted with 2,114 rescue or ambulance-related incidents, for a total of 2,681 this year. Totals for 2010 were 626 and 2,435, representing a decrease of 380 incidents.

Halloween Safety Tips

• Use flashlights or glow sticks in your pumpkins instead of candles.
• Carry flashlights and glow sticks to light the way.
• Walk only on well-lit streets and cross the street at crosswalks.
• Only go trick-or-treating at the homes of people you know.
• Wear costumes made of flame-retardant material.
• Make sure that the costumes are short enough so youngsters do not trip on them.
• Make sure that kids have big eye holes so you’ll be able to see.
• Always take an adult with you when you go trick-or-treating.
• Have an adult check all your treats before letting them.
• Stay away from any flame such as fireplaces, stoves and open fire.

New members join the TPFDV

At the Oct. 12 membership meeting, Trevor Elliott and Jason Manly were voted into membership. If you are interested in joining the department, please contact Mike Livingston at the station (240-773-8954). All we need from you, is some of your time and commitment. The training and uniforms are free!

Christmas tree sales return

Takoma Park VFD will start selling trees the weekend after Thanksgiving. We’ll be at the same location, next to the Takoma Park Silver Spring Co-op on East West Highway and Carroll Avenue. We look forward to your visit.

Your Takoma Park Lions Club

The TPLC serves the people of the Takoma Park area and consists of men and women who live and/or work within the Takoma Park/Silver Spring area. Their major focus is on eye and sight problems and hearing problems. We meet on a regular basis for social activities and to work together on community activities.

Persons who have used eye glasses they would like to donate, are urged to bring them to the Takoma Park Library or to the Takoma Park Fire Station. Your donation will help someone with the gift of sight.

If you have the desire and interest to provide civic service to the community and help your community by joining the Lions Club, please call membership chair Keith Van Ness at 301-593-1506. If you wish to make a financial donation to assist the Takoma Park Lions Club, P.O. Box 11226, Takoma Park, MD 20913.
WE ARE TAKOMA

We Are Takoma series presents
Japanese drumming, American parenting

The We Are Takoma series, presented by the Arts and Humanities Commission and the City of Takoma Park, presents free events in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, at 7500 Maple Ave. in Takoma Park. This month’s offerings are as follows:

Taiko Japanese drumming
Kizuna: Reunion
An evening of Japanese Drumming
Saturday, Nov. 19
7:30 p.m.
Free Event – Suggested Donation $10

Kizuna is a Washington, D.C.-based taiko (Japanese drumming) trio, whose members collectively bring more than 30 years of diverse taiko experience to the stage. At its core, however, Kizuna is simply a few good people who think there is nothing better than playing good taiko with good friends, and then sharing that experience with a good audience. As performers, they seek to pay tribute not only to the awesome synergy of sound and dynamic movement that distinguishes taiko as an art form, but also to the spirit of kizuna, the bonds of friendship, that is the foundation of the taiko community in North America.

Describing the helicopter parent
“How to Helicopter: How Past Factors Explain Parents’ Anxieties”
Lecture and discussion with historian Peter N. Stearns
Thursday, Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m.
Free event

This lecture is presented by renowned historian Dr. Peter N. Stearns, Provost of George Mason University. Stearns has been described as one of the most prolific historians of all time, having personally written or edited more than 100 books on a wide variety of world historical topics. In this lecture, Stearns will challenge us to revisit how many of us raise our children. He will offer evidence of a connection between American parental anxieties, including the famous impulses of “helicopter” parenting, and two waves of historical change in American childrearing, one that emerged in the 1920s and another in the 1980s— with the most recent disruption revealing increased differences in anxiety levels between American and non-American parents. Stearns will argue that all of us need to confront what he calls the “problems and advantages of current anxiety levels.”

Running with Scissors: Japanese Taiko drumming
Free Event – Suggested Donation $10
Thursday, Nov. 19
7:30 p.m.

Running with Scissors features cut paper artwork from Greenbelt resident Sherill Anne Gross, who says, “My artwork is made only with paper, glue, and patience.” The exhibit highlights intricately detailed, layered, elemental shapes of color created over the course of one year. The subject matter varies, with many of Gross’s pieces inspired by daily life—depicting everything from sneakers, flowers, and food to process, technology, and more. Running with Scissors can be viewed this month through Nov 23 in Gallery 3 on the third floor of the Community Center. The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The Apricot Tree: A Fruitful Alliance
Annual Holiday Art Sale — Call for Vendors
Are you interested in participating in the sixth annual Holiday Art Sale on Saturday, Dec. 10? The event, held at the Takoma Park Community Center, features local artists and their work, and is widely advertised as a way to shop locally right in town. 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, 301-270-2323.

For General Info: 301-891-7100
For Recreation Programs: 301-891-7101 ext. 5605
2011 ELECTION CALENDAR

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, 1 DE NOVIEMBRE, 4 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 voto ausente en persona)

VIERNES, 4 DE NOVIEMBRE, 5 P.M.
Fecha límite para cualquier candidato autonomizado para el puesto de Alcalde o Miembro del Consejo que desee ser pre-registrado como candidato autonomizado y para tener su nombre colocado en la cabina electoral para identificarlo como candidato, tendrá que someter su nombre a la Oficina de la Secretaría Municipal.

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

MIÉRCOLES, 9 DE NOVIEMBRE, 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.

Inauguración de la Ciudad
ELECTION ‘11

FOR MAYOR
Bruce R. Williams, incumbent, unopposed

I’m running for re-election as Mayor — I’ve served as Mayor for four years, and as Councilmember for fourteen years before that. Under my leadership, the Council created our first Strategic Plan, and important elements of that plan include financial and environmental sustainability. We’ve tightened our belts, reduced the size of City staff, paid off some debts, and fought for fair reimbursements from both Montgomery County and the State. We’ve renovated the Council Chambers into a multi-purpose Auditorium — on time and under budget. We’ve renovated the Public Works facility within our stated budget, and both projects will be LEED certified. We’ve contracted installation of solar panels on all major City buildings, which will result in lower energy costs without capital investment. We’re ready to rebuild our building into a green street — with other people’s money.

I enjoy serving as your Mayor, and look forward to continuing to serve.
Bruce R. Williams, 240-676-6234
brucev@takomagov.org, www.tmayorbruce.com

Election Day is Tuesday, November 8

WARD 1
Seth Grimes, unopposed

It’s a privilege getting to know so many Takoma Park residents, City employees, and other City stakeholders over the years. My family has lived here since 1996 — my wife, Franca Brilliant, and our sons Raphael and Ezra — and I work in Takoma Park too, as a management consultant out of an office above the Middle East Restaurant — also in Ward 1! I’ve done what I can to make ours a better community for residents and businesses, with more effective city government, responsive to important environmental, livability, public-safety and economic concerns. This is work I’ve done as a member of four City committees and a variety of community groups, work I hope to continue as Ward 1’s City Council representative. I’ve done my best to get out and hear community voices, and I plan to do my best to make Takoma Park even better in the years to come.

Seth Grimes, 301-873-8225
grimes@altaplana.com, http://sethgrimes.org

WARD 2
Tim Male

“Ability to get things done” I help lead a national environmental non-profit, manage a multi-million dollar budget and have served on committees in Takoma Park for eight years, working on safe roads, our environment and health. I am effective at building realistic solutions that solve problems. I know how to work with staff, Councilmembers and residents. I know how to listen to you. I am excited to bring those strengths to the Council.

“Priorities” We need greater transparency and should continuously update residents about achievements and service improvements — few residents know what the City is doing or why. Safer roads, better sidewalk infrastructure and more local restaurants are high priorities. Our sustainability commitment must be about more than trees — we should expand renewable energy use, restore Sligo Creek, and build a better recycling program.

My wife, two children and I love Takoma Park. I’d be honored to serve you.
Timothy Male, PhD, 240-274-0341
timfortakoma@gmail.com, www.timmale.com

WARD 3
Kay Daniels-Cohen

My parents moved to Takoma Park in 1946 so I am “home grown” and have always participated in community activities. I believe that engaging people in thoughtful and affordable decisions is the best way to build “community.” I also believe in taking action. In the past few years I’ve revitalized the S.S. Carroll Neighborhood Association, helped start a youth basketball league and a youth garden and also successfully pushed for a year-long study of the Takoma Junction that should be a first order of business for the new Council.

I am a people-first person and believe in making things happen through teamwork. I know what it takes to get the job done and I bring years of experience and civic leadership to the Council. I am asking for your vote.
Kay Daniels-Cohen
301-270-1084
kdcward3@gmail.com
www.KayDanielsCohen.com
WARD 3 Mike Graul

The key issue confronting residents of Ward 3 and all of Takoma Park is whether we are resigned to accepting “good” government or whether we should demand “exceptional” government. I believe it is reasonable to insist on the latter, because living in Takoma Park doesn’t come cheap. Talking to residents throughout Ward 3, the most frequent question asked is “What am I getting for my tax dollars?” For many families living in Takoma Park the question is not a rhetorical one, but a question based on economic realities. To spur the transformation from good to exceptional government I will strongly advocate, if elected, the following:

• Better council oversight of City government operations.
• Better decision-making to address issues and problems.
• Better, more responsive action by City staff to residents’ concerns.

See my website for specifics on each of these proposals. Thank you for your consideration of my candidacy.

Mike Graul, 301-537-1191
Mike4ward3@gmail.com, Mike4ward3.wordpress.com

WARD 4 Terry J. Seamen, incumbent, unopposed

As Ward 4 Councilmember, my focus for the coming term will be to support City residents’ grassroots economic and social development aspirations and actions. We have a very diverse community, with people born in many different places around the world. They have differing education and experiences, and differing skills and desires. Unfortunately, many of our neighbors lack the resources and opportunities to realize their full potential and make use of their education and skills. Many are out of work. Many more don’t earn enough to be self-sufficient. The City Council in partnership with the county and state must focus on crafting community driven policies that facilitate community engagements for sustainable social and economic development. I will also support continuing Council work on environmental sustainability, and building a world-class recreation department. Please contact me if you have suggestions or questions, and don’t forget to vote Nov. 8! Together we accomplish more!

Terry J. Seamen, 301-565-0190
TerryS@takomagov.org

WARD 5 Reuben Snipper, incumbent, unopposed

I am a candidate for City Council because I want to work with you to protect and strengthen what makes our community special. Over the 20 years my family and I have lived in Ward 5, I have developed deep roots in our community. I have worked with many of you on local issues: the Flower Avenue Green Street project, preserving Sligo Creek, appropriate development at Takoma Metro, affordable housing, and the hospital expansion. Together, we’ve achieved some real results. I know the big and small community issues from my own experience and from working and talking with you. You’ve told me to focus on concrete steps to make our neighborhood better, whether it’s preserving the environment, getting a fair rebate from the county, supporting affordable housing, controlling traffic, improving bus service, ensuring safety, or supporting our youth. I have the neighborly know-how to do it and I will.

Reuben Snipper, 301-585-4183
ReubenS@takomagov.org
http://reubensnipper.org

WARD 6 Barrie Howard

I’m Barrie Howard, and I’m running for my first term as Ward 6 Councilmember. Since 2007, I have worked on significant issues ranging from land use policy to traffic calming. Over the next two years I’ll continue working with Ward 6 residents and the broader community to sustain all that is good about living in Takoma Park and discover ways to make it better. Community service and public participation are paramount, and I will be the conduit for Ward 6 residents on the Council so they have a seat at the table.

Barrie Howard
301-377-2222
howard4ward6@gmail.com
http://howard4ward6.wordpress.com

WARD 6 Fred Schultz, incumbent

I’m running for re-election in Ward 6 because, first, I love the job. It’s interesting, challenging and I think I’ve served my constituents and the City well in my first two years. Second, the City continues to face serious challenges and this is not the time to change horses in midstream. We will have three new members on the City Council for sure. While change is good and welcome, continuity is also important.

What are the challenges?

• Finishing the fight with the County over the Takoma-Man-Langley Sector, in which I’ve been deeply involved, which I think we’re on the way to winning
• Restoring “Tax Duplication Payments” and HUR Revenues to the City
• Dealing with the MHCC’s final decision on the future of Washington Adventist Hospital

Responding to the pending TJFF Report and its manifold complexities. I bring experience, deep knowledge of the issues and also resources and opportunities to realize their full potential and make use of their education and skills. Many are out of work. Many more don’t earn enough to be self-sufficient. The City Council in partnership with the county and state must focus on crafting community driven policies that facilitate community engagements for sustainable social and economic development. I will also support continuing Council work on environmental sustainability, and building a world-class recreation department. Please contact me if you have suggestions or questions, and don’t forget to vote Nov. 8! Together we accomplish more!

Fred Schultz, 301-434-7090
www.FredSchultz.org, fschultz@starpower.net

WARD 3 Jeffrey Noel-Nosbaum

Hi. I’m Jeffrey Noel-Nosbaum and have been a Takoma Park resident nearly my entire life, always as a Ward 3 resident. I’m running to provide new and important perspectives to the Council. As Ward 4 Councilmember, my focus for the coming term will be to support City residents’ grassroots economic and social development aspirations and actions. We have a very diverse community, with people born in many different places around the world. They have differing education and experiences, and differing skills and desires. Unfortunately, many of our neighbors lack the resources and opportunities to realize their full potential and make use of their education and skills. Many are out of work. Many more don’t earn enough to be self-sufficient. The City Council in partnership with the county and state must focus on crafting community driven policies that facilitate community engagements for sustainable social and economic development. I will also support continuing Council work on environmental sustainability, and building a world-class recreation department. Please contact me if you have suggestions or questions, and don’t forget to vote Nov. 8! Together we accomplish more!

Jeffrey Noel-Nosbaum @JeffForWard3 on twitter
http://jeffnnforward3.webs.com

WARD 2 Amy Lane-Langley, incumbent, unopposed

As Ward 4 Councilmember, my focus for the coming term will be to support City residents’ grassroots economic and social development aspirations and actions. We have a very diverse community, with people born in many different places around the world. They have differing education and experiences, and differing skills and desires. Unfortunately, many of our neighbors lack the resources and opportunities to realize their full potential and make use of their education and skills. Many are out of work. Many more don’t earn enough to be self-sufficient. The City Council in partnership with the county and state must focus on crafting community driven policies that facilitate community engagements for sustainable social and economic development. I will also support continuing Council work on environmental sustainability, and building a world-class recreation department. Please contact me if you have suggestions or questions, and don’t forget to vote Nov. 8! Together we accomplish more!

Amy Lane-Langley, 301-434-5961
email: amy.langley@takomagov.org
http://amy.langley@takomagov.org

WARD 1 Mark Lipman, incumbent, unopposed

I’ve served my constituents and the City well in my first term as Ward 1 Councilmember. Since 2007, I have worked on significant issues ranging from land use policy to traffic calming. Over the next two years I’ll continue working with Ward 1 residents and the broader community to sustain all that is good about living in Takoma Park and discover ways to make it better. Community service and public participation are paramount, and I will be the conduit for Ward 1 residents on the Council so they have a seat at the table.

Mark Lipman
301-209-1181
marklipman@takomagov.org
http://marklipman.com

WARD 4 Fred Schultz, incumbent

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Fred Schultz, 301-434-7090
www.FredSchultz.org, fschultz@starpower.net
MUNICIPAL ELECTION □ Page 7

ELECTION ’11

INSTRUCTIONS

- Vote for candidates by indicating your first-choice candidate, your second-choice candidate, and so on. You are free to rank only a first choice if you wish, but ranking additional candidates cannot help defeat your first-choice candidate.
- Do not fill in more than one oval per column. Do not fill in more than one oval per candidate. Do not skip numbers in the ranking sequence.
- To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the name in the space provided and fill in one box in the column indicating your ranking of the write-in candidate.
- Do not make any identifying marks on your ballot.
- When you mark a box to rank a candidate, a code will be revealed that you may later use to verify your vote online.
- If you make a mistake on your ballot, return it to the judge and get another.

INSTANT RUNOFF VOTING

The City of Takoma Park will have its second election with more than two candidates elected by instant runoff voting (IRV) in November. IRV was adopted by the Takoma Park City Council in 2006.

This year three candidates are running for Ward 3 City Council. Voters have the opportunity to rank candidates by order of choice in all of our elections, but this is most important in races with more than two candidates in order to avoid the so-called “spoiler” problem—meaning a candidate winning only because the majority of the vote was split among competing candidates.

In an election with IRV, voters rank candidates in order of their choice: 1, 2, 3. Your second and third choices are back-up choices and will never hurt your first choice. As a voter, your best strategy is to rank as many candidates as you prefer in sincere order of preference. Ranking fewer or just one candidate does not benefit them at all. It takes a majority to win. If most voters (50 percent plus one) rank a candidate as their first choice, that candidate is elected. If nobody has a clear majority of votes on the first count in Ward 3 this year, a runoff will be simulated. The candidate who received the fewest number of first choices will be eliminated, reducing the field to two candidates. Voters who ranked the eliminated candidate first will have their vote added to the totals of their second ranked candidate. The candidate with more votes will win the instant runoff.

VERIFIED VOTING

The Takoma Park Board of Elections is again working with Scantegrity to provide voters the opportunity to verify online that their votes were counted. The system was introduced in Takoma Park elections in 2009.

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. 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 this system can be found at: http://scantegrity.takomaparkmd.gov

INSTRUCCIONES

- Vote por los candidatos indicando que sea su primera opción, el candidato que sea su segunda opción, y así sucesivamente. Si lo desea, puede limitarse a seleccionar solamente al candidato que sea su primera opción. Seleccionando candidatos adicionales no ayudará derrotar su candidato de primera opción.
- No rellene más de un ovalo por columna. No rellene más de un ovalo por cada candidato. No saque números en la secuencia de clasificación por orden.
- Para votar por una persona cuyo nombre no esté impreso en la boleta, escriba el nombre en el espacio provisto y rellene un ovalo en la columna para indicar el orden de preferencia del candidato que se ha seleccionado.
- No haga ninguna marca el la boleta que pueda identificarla.
- Cuando llene el ovalo, aparece un código al lado del nombre de los candidatos que seleccionó en orden de preferencia. Puede usar los códigos después, para verificar su voto.
- Si comete un error en su boleta, regrese su boleta a un juez electoral y pida otra boleta.

VOTACIÓN EN ORDE DE PREFERENCIA

La Ciudad de Takoma Park tendrá su segunda elección con más de dos candidatos elegidos por votación en orden de preferencia en noviembre. En el 2006, la Votación en Orden de Preferencia fue adoptado por el Consejo de Takoma Park.

Este año hay tres candidatos para el cargo de miembro del consejo para el distrito 3. Votantes tienen la oportunidad de seleccionar candidatos por orden de preferencia y este sistema es especialmente importante en una carrera donde hay más de dos candidatos para poder evitar que un candidato gane tan solo porque el resto de los votos es la mayoría de votos y son divididos entre los otros candidatos basado por quien vota el votante.

En una elección con el sistema de Votación por Orden de Preferencia, votantes eligen a candidatos por orden de preferencia: 1, 2, 3. Su segunda y tercera opción cuentan como su voto de sustitución en caso que su primera opción no reciba la mayoría de votos. Seleccionando más de un candidato no ayuda a derrotar su primera opción no derrotará su primera opción. Como votante, su mejor estrategia es clasificando a más de un candidato en orden de preferencia.

Tomó la mayoría de votos para ganar. Si la mayoría de votantes (el 50% más uno) clasifican a un candidato como su primera opción, ese candidato gana. Si este año, nadie recibe la mayoría de los votos en la primera vuelta de votos contados en el Distrito 3, se usará el sistema de Votación por Orden de Preferencia. El candidato que recibió el menor número de votos como primera opción será eliminado. El voto de primera opción para al candidato que fue eliminado será agregado al total de votos de segunda opción.

VERIFICANDO SU VOTO

La Junta Electoral de Takoma Park ha colaborado con Scantegrity de nuevo para brindarles a los votantes la oportunidad de verificar su voto a través de Internet que su voto ha sido contado. Este sistema fue introducido a Takoma Park en 2009.

Cuando marquen la boleta, los votantes recibirán un código de confirmación que pueden anotar, llevarlo 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 votante 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. La única diferencia es que cuando van a votar, los votantes verán un número de confirmación en vez de una marca completamente negra. Anotar y revisar el número de confirmación es opcional.

Puede encontrar más información sobre este sistema en la siguiente dirección de Internet: http://scantegrity.takomaparkmd.gov

hacer la solicitud en persona y votar con boletas de votante ausente. Los votantes podrán votar en la Oficina de la Secretaría Municipal que se encuentra en el 7500 Maple Avenue, en los siguientes horarios:

Miércoles, 2 de noviembre: 9 a.m. a 6 p.m.
Jueves, 3 de noviembre: 9 a.m. a 6 p.m.
Viernes, 4 de noviembre: 9 a.m. a 6 p.m.
Lunes, 7 de noviembre: 9 a.m. a 6 p.m.

Si el/s solicitante/s no puede hacer la solicitud, un/a votante inscrito/a en la Ciudad para que sirva como su agente y recoja y envíe su boleta (los candidatos y aquellas personas que representen a los candidatos, ya sea formal o informalmente, no pueden servir como agentes). La solicitud debe ser rellenada y enviada a la Secretaría Municipal antes de que se le expida la boleta al agente. Al igual que ocurre con las votaciones regulares de votante ausente, no podrá emitirse una boleta hasta que no se determine si el votante cumple con los requisitos, y la boleta debe ser enviada de vuelta a la Secretaría Municipal antes de que cierren las urnas el día de las elecciones.

ELECCIÓN MUNICIPAL □ Page 7

application a registered voter of the City to act as agent in picking up and delivering the ballot (candidates and those representing candidates, either formally or informally, 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.

ELECTION MUNICIPAL □ Page 7

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Dia de Los Muertos/Day of the Dead comes to Takoma

Dia de Los Muertos, a traditionally Mexican holiday on All Saints Day, is dedicated to the remembrance of one’s departed and beloved family and friends. Shrines are built, stories told, dances danced. This year, Takoma Park offers an opportunity for residents to celebrate the life of someone they’ve loved.

**Dia de Los Muertos Workshop**
Saturday, Oct. 29
1 – 3 p.m.
TP Community Center Art Room
Free

Create your own personal shrine to acknowledge a loved one, special pet, time of life, memory, or anything that holds meaning and deserves remembrance. The basics will be provided, though participants are encouraged to bring small photographs, charms, bottle caps, images, shells or other curios that hold meaning for the purpose of their shrine. A sample of the resulting work will be displayed in the Community Center in November.

**Dia de los Muertos Dance**
Saturday, Oct. 29
7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
Free Event / Donations Welcome

The De Colores Mexican Folk Dance Company pays tribute to all hallows with “Dia de los Muertos,” updating the Mexican Day of the Dead tradition with a mix of pre-Columbian and Old World rituals of decorating cemeteries and home altars to greeting returning spirits and dancing through the streets. Accompanied by the acoustic guitar-led strains of mariachi and norteño and clothed in a variety of vivid, traditional gear from fringed jackets with Aztec motifs to fanciful home-crafted masks, the dance troupe is set to impress with its speedy foot-stomping and intricate paired choreography.

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**Takoma Park Takes to the Streets**

Despite drizzly weather, the crowds came out again for this year’s Takoma Park Street Festival music, crafts, food and games.

*Photos by Laura Banley*

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November 2011
Takoma Park News
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 http://www.fpml.org.

Cooking by the book
Library offers a plethora of cookbooks for adults and children

By Karen MacPherson

Thanksgiving and the December holiday season are coming up soon, so let the cooking begin!

Whether you’re a seasoned chef or a beginning cook, the Library’s extensive cookbook collection has something for you. Checking out cookbooks from the Library is an economical way to try out some recipes from all types of cuisine, and also might inspire you to try something new.

In the Library’s adult section, we have 18 shelves of cookbooks—everything from Julia Child’s classic “Mastering the Art of French Cooking” (641.5944 CHILD) to actress Gwyneth Paltrow’s cookbook, “My Father’s Daughter: Delicious, Easy Recipes Celebrating Family & Togetherness” (641.597 PALTROW).

We’ve also got some wonderful reference books focused on food and cooking, such as the two-volume “Oxford Encyclopedia of Food and Drink in America” (R-641.3 OXFORD) and “Food In History” by Reay Tannahill (R-641.3 TANNAHILL). In addition, the much-talked-about “Modernist Cuisine,” a six-volume, 2,438-page set, is on order for our reference section.

Our kids’ section also has several dozen cookbooks, including ones that focus on specific cuisines, like Mexican or Chinese. One of our newest kids’ cookbooks is “The Silver Spoon for Children: Favorite Italian Recipes” by Amanda Grant (J 641.5 GRANT), adapted from the best-selling Italian cookbook, “The Silver Spoon, which we have in the adult section (641.5945 CUCCIAT).”

You can even find some great recipes in our magazine section. In addition to “Cooking Light” magazine, you can check out magazines that offer recipes each month: “Better Homes & Gardens,” “Working Mother,” “Family Fun,” and others.

Under the Dewey Decimal System, which we—like public libraries everywhere—use to order our shelves, cookbooks can be found under the general number of 641. From there, further decimal points are used to specify types of cookbooks; for example, books of writing about food are found in 641.3 and French cookbooks are found at 641.5944.

If you look in the catalog, check under the subject heading “cookery.” You can also look up cookbooks by title and author (last name first). Of course, feel free to ask us for help!
LIBRARY BRIEFS

A Native American celebration

Join us on Monday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. as Eaglebear, aka Tomas Shash, returns for our annual celebration of American Indian traditions. Eaglebear, joined by family and friends, will talk about their Navajo and Apache traditions, then lead us in songs and dance inspired by those traditions. As the program concludes, participants are invited to come up and talk with Eaglebear and try out some of the musical instruments and other artifacts spotlighted in the program.

No registration required for this program, which is great for all ages!

New online resources

Thanks to the Friends of the Library, we have some wonderful new online resources, including some for kids. Come and get a look on Saturday, Nov. 19 at 2 p.m. in a special program during which we will read some of our online books together via the special program during which we will read some of our online books together via the big screen. We’ll also explore some of the musical instruments and other artifacts spotlighted in the program. No registration required for this program, which is great for all ages!

Caldecott favorites

Our Caldecott Club will meet on Monday, Nov. 21 to continue our look at some of the best-illustrated books of the year. We’ll read the books together on the big screen, then talk about what we like—and don’t—about each title. We’ll end each meeting with a vote. The Caldecott Club also will meet once in December, and then have a final meeting in January to discuss the book that actually wins the 2012 Caldecott Medal. Registration encouraged, but not required.

National Gaming Day

Come play, or learn to play, the creative role-playing game “Dungeons & Dragons” at the Library on Saturday, Nov. 12, from 2 — 4 p.m. Our D&D program is designed to highlight National Gaming Day, an American Library Association initiative now in its fourth year.

“National Gaming Day is to reconnect communities through their libraries around the educational, recreational and social value of all types of games,” says the ALA. D&D programs for kids are best for kids ages 8 and up. Families are welcome to come and play together! Spaces are limited, so registration is required.

Veteran’s Day closing

A reminder to parents of school-age children: City of Takoma Park offices, including the Community Center and the Library, will be closed on Friday, Nov. 11 for Veteran’s Day. If your child usually comes to the Library after school, please remember to have them make alternate plans for that day.

COOKBOOKS

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To give you a bit more flavor of our bountiful cookbook offerings, here’s a run-down of just a few selected titles:

- “Gourmet Today,” edited by Ruth Reichl, includes more than 1,000 recipes “for the contemporary kitchen” from the pages of Gourmet magazine (641.59 GOURMET);
- “One Big Table: A Portrait of American Cooking” by New York Times food columnist Molly O’Neill showcases 600 recipes from across the nation. (641.59 ONEILL);
- “The Organic Cook’s Bible” by Jeff Cox has 230 recipes focused on organic ingredients (641.302 COX);
- “The 50th anniversary edition of “The I Hate To Cook Book” by Peg Bracken, an updated and revised version of the classic cookbook (641.5 BRACKEN);
- “Super Natural Every Day” by Heidi Swanson, vegetarian recipes from a well-known food blogger (641.563 SWANSON);”
- “Joan Nathan’s Jewish Holiday Cookbook” (641.567 NATHAN);
- “The Gluten-Free Gourmet Cooks Comfort Foods” by Bette Hagman (641.5 HAGMAN) (Note: we also have Hagman’s original book, “The Gluten-Free Gourmet”);

KIDS & TEENS:

- “Family Fun Cooking With Kids” (J 641.5 FAMILIY);
- Three cookbooks for kids by “Mousewood” chef Mollie Katzen: “Salad People,” “Honest Pretzels” and “Pretend Soup” (all J 641.5 KATZEN);
- “Teen Cuisine” by Matthew Locricchio (J 641.5 LOCRICCHIO);
- “The Star Wars Cookbook: Wookiee Cookies and Other Galactic Recipes” by Robin Davis (J641.5 DAVIS)
RECREATION

Fun Day Program

- Ages 5 - 12: Field trips on scheduled whole day school closings and activities and performances on scheduled half day closings. Pick-up is in the Azalea Room in the TP Community Center. On half days only, students attending Takoma Park Elementary will be picked at school and children attending Piney Branch Elementary will be picked up in the hallway by the pool by a Recreation staff member. On half days, bring a snack! Trips, activities and performers are subject to change. Space is limited, sign up early.
  - Thursday, Nov. 10, 1 – 5:30 p.m.

Nicolo Whimsley, a juggling jester
  - TP resident: $25
  - Non-resident: $35

Friday, Nov. 11, 1 – 5:30 p.m.
  - Learn about African culture

TP resident: $25
  - Non-resident: $35

Teen Talent Showcase

Come and be a part of our Second Annual Teen Talent Showcase on Dec. 9, from 7 – 9 p.m. The Talent showcase will be in the TP Community Center Auditorium and is free and open to the public. Demonstrate your skills with music, dance, drama, step, comedy or any other diverse talent. Auditions are Nov. 13, 20, 27 from 6 – 7 p.m. For more information contact the Recreation Department, 301-891-7100.

Open Gym

- Ages 12 – 17
  - Open gym is not just for basketball. Double Dutch ropes, flag football and other game supplies are provided.
  - Every other Friday and Wednesday, Nov. 4, 9, 18, 23, 6 – 9 p.m.

Pinney Branch Elementary School Gym
  - Free

Ski/Snowboard Night Club

- Ages 13-17
  - This club is for beginners who would like to learn how to ski or snowboard and for the experienced riders who want to discover the thrill of alpine skiing and snowboarding at night. The Night Club Card includes unlimited use of lift access, lessons, equipment rental and five escorted roundtrip visits to one of three mountains (Liberty, Roundtop, Whitetail). In addition, members can use their Night Club Cards on their own any night of the week beginning January 2, 2012. Take advantage of the early bird discount by making your payment no later than Nov. 4, 2011. Contact Faye Wright, 301-891-7283, fayew@takomamail.gov.
  - Saturdays Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 11, 25 and March 3
  - TP residents: $275
  - Non-residents: $305

College Life Tours

- Ages 13-18
  - This fall, the Takoma Park Recreation Department will escort students to a variety of colleges and universities in and outside Maryland, and to the annual Historically Black College and University expo. Teens will get a first-hand look at campus life, and learn about academic programs, extracurricular activities, living in dorms and financial options. A different college is featured each Saturday.
  - Saturdays, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.; Expo, Nov. 12
  - Meet at the T-Zone, TP Community Center Free, but registration is required.

Fitlites

- Ages 16 and older
  - A combination of precision body toning, stretching and core strengthening, Fitlites is a mind-body exercise for anyone who wants to tone, streamline, and realign the body. Students must bring their own mats and hand weights. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department.
  - Wednesdays, Nov. 2 – 30, 6 – 7 p.m.
  - TP Recreation Center $40/session
  - No class Nov. 23

Zumba

- Ages 16 and older
  - This fusion of hypnotic Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves helps achieve long-term benefits during an hour of calorie-burning, body-energizing movements. Routines feature interval training sessions and resistance training to tone and sculpt while burning fat. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Instructor Unique Fitness.
  - Mondays and Wednesdays, 6 – 6:55 p.m.
  - Saturdays, 9:15 – 10:10 a.m.
  - Nov. 30 – Dec. 29
  - TP Recreation Center $40
  - No class Dec. 24

Drawing and Watercolor

- Ages 11 – 14
  - Learn to draw with black, white and colored drawing materials, paint with watercolors, use pen and ink and explore mixed media approaches to representing imagery. Subjects include still life, portrait, landscape (weather permitting) and floral studies. Beginning students welcome. The focus of the class is appropriate for students interested in developing a portfolio entry into the Visual Art Center at Albert Einstein High School.
  - TP residents: $210
  - Non-residents: $240
  - No class Nov. 22

Drawing

- Ages 16 and older
  - Relax and recharge by engaging your creative mind. Develop your skills in representation, perspective and proportion, while experimenting with personally expressive mark making and color. Black/white and color drawing materials including both wet and dry media will be presented. Instructor will provide still life, floral and interior subject matter with studio lighting. Suitable for beginners as well as more experienced students. All basic materials will be provided. $20 materials fee due first day of class. Instructor Katie Dell Kaufman.
  - Tuesdays, Nov. 1 – Dec. 13, 11:30 – 5:15 p.m.
  - TP residents: $140
  - Non-residents: $160
  - No class Nov. 22

Collage

- Ages 18 and older
  - Using a variety of collage and paper altering processes, students explore new ways of combining materials like found and altered papers and lightweight three-dimensional materials. Includes principles of color and design, such as limiting the color palette, structure, balance, repetition, value and gradation. This class is suitable for beginners as well as more experienced students. Basic materials will be provided. $30 materials fee due the first day of class. Instructor Katie Dell Kaufman.
  - Art Room, TP Community Center
  - Tuesdays, Nov. 1 – Dec. 13, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
  - TP residents: $210
  - Non-residents: $240
  - No class Nov. 22

Make Your Own: Felt Ornaments

- Ages 8 – 12
  - Brighten up your holidays with a set of handmade wool felt ornaments! Choose from a variety of themes (winter, Christmas, or Hanukkah). Perfect for display on your tree, mantle or window or to give as a treasured gift. You will learn basic embroidery stitches with plenty of hands-on help. A wonderful way to start your homemade holiday collection. Materials included. Instructor Karen Krueger.
  - Saturdays, Nov. 5 – Dec. 17, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Lilac Room, TP Community Center
  - TP residents: $50
  - Non-residents: $60
  - No class Nov. 12

TO REGISTER ONLINE FOR RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS Go to http://takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/index.html
For more information by phone, call 301-891-7100

November 2011
November 2011

SILVER FOXES

Safety for Seniors Presentation Series
55 and older
Officer Carla Magnaye, of the Takoma Park Police Department will present six sessions covering a variety of timely topics regarding senior safety. Each presentation will be one hour with ample time for questions. For more information, call Officer Magnaye, 301-891-7121 or Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager, 301-891-7280. All programs are held in the Lilac Room, TP Community Center.

Home Safety and Security Monday, Nov. 7, 11:30 a.m.
Security on the Go Monday, Nov. 21, 11:30 a.m.
Identity Theft Protection Tuesday, Nov. 29, 11:30 a.m.
Internet Safety Wednesday, Dec. 7, 12 noon
Frauds and Cons Monday, Dec. 12, 11:30 a.m.
Phone Scams Wednesday, Dec. 14, 12 noon

Chinese Checkers Tournament
55 and older
Back by popular demand, this is the second annual Chinese Checker Tournament. Open play times can be arranged for those who want to practice, or learn to play, before the event. Open to adults age 55 and older. For more information, contact Paula Lisowski, 301-891-7280.

Tuesday, Nov. 15, 12 – 2 p.m.
Senior Room, TP Community Center
Free

Meals on Wheels Presentation Series
55 and older
Join Jill Feasley, director, Meals on Wheels, for a half hour presentation on the services this organization provides the residents of our City. Perhaps you, or someone you know will need a hot meal this holiday season and throughout the year. For more information, call Paula Lisowski, 301-891-7280.

Friday, Nov. 4, 11:30 a.m. – 12 noon
Dance Studio, TP Community Center
Free

Poets Laureate and Poetry Readings
55 and older
The seniors open poetry reading welcomes the past and present Takoma Park poets laureate, Anne Becker and Merrill Lefler, who will join us for this first-time special senior event. Drop-in, no registration is required. We will meet in the Senior Room for an informal hour of words, thoughts and creativity. Sit back, relax and enjoy listening to the poetry. If you feel like it, you are welcome to join in with a poem of your own. For more information, please contact Paula Lisowski, 301-891-7280.

Wednesday, Nov. 2, 12 – 1 p.m.
Senior Room, TP Community Center
Free

Tai Chi Workshop
55 and older
Kirk Talbott will introduce the ancient Chinese internal martial art of t’ai-chi ch’uan, a gentle moving meditation that improves health and restores balance and calm. The class will emphasize relaxation, posture, and breathing through the slow, integrated exercise of the traditional Yang-style short form.

Monday, Nov. 14, 11 a.m. – 12 noon
Dance Studio, TP Community Center
Registration is required.
Call Paula Lisowski, 301-891-7280.
Registration forms are due by 11/10/11 or earlier.
Free

Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton, Virginia
55 and older
A project of the Lorton Arts Foundation, this center was once a prisoner rehabilitation facility, then a correctional facility and now is a center for arts, culture and history. Visitors can tour the grounds, learn about the history of the complex, visit the artist studios and gallery, participate in art classes and workshops, and attend musical and theatrical performances. Bring your lunch or bring spending money to purchase lunch in the café. The site is wheelchair accessible.

Wednesday, Nov. 9, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Meet at TP Community Center
Bus pick up at Franklin, Mapleview and Victory Tower apartments only.
Free, but registration is required, from Nov. 1 – 7

Amish Market, Laurel, Maryland
55 and older
Back by popular demand! Start your shopping at one of the best thrift stores around, with a big Dollar Store next door. Afterwards, have lunch in The Old Country Buffet a few doors down, or you may choose to spend the entire day shopping and having lunch at the Dutch Country Farmer’s Market. Fresh food at good prices. Bring spending money for lunch and shopping. Stores are wheelchair accessible.

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Meet at the TP Community Center
Bus pick up at Franklin, Mapleview and Victory Tower apartments only.
Free, but registration is required, from Nov. 1 – 10.

CDBG ■ From page 3
allocation may go to community or public service projects, the rest must be in capital improvement.

For that reason, the largest chunk of funding, $60,000, goes to a City-sponsored commercial façade easement program, to renovate building façades at Takoma Junction, the Maryland Gateway at New Hampshire and Eastern avenues, Long Branch and Takoma Langley Crossroads. A minimum of five façades will benefit.

The second largest allocation, $40,000, goes to MissionServ Takoma Park 2012. A project of the District of Columbia Baptist Convention, this program uses supervised volunteers and construction specialists who make repairs so that homeowners can address code violations on their homes. It will assist about 15 homeowners and cover materials necessary for repairs.

Children served by the preschool, homework club and summer enrichment programs of Community Life will get $8,000 of the $25,000 requested for this program, administered by Montgomery Housing Partnership (see photo). Designed for children ages 3 to 12 living in the affordable-housing MHP properties at 7610 Maple Ave. and on Flower Avenue at Gilbert Highlands, these programs offer affordable care, academic support and a safe environment for children whose parents sometimes work two and three jobs to support the family. MHP currently operates several of these programs from six community centers in their rental properties in Silver Spring, Wheaton and Takoma Park.

For older children, there will be $7,000 (of a $20,000 request) for the SmartChoices with Emotions program at Takoma Park Middle School. Run by the YMCA of Metropolitan Washington DC – Youth and Family Services, the weekly therapeutic sessions will serve students at risk of suspension or other disciplinary action at a school with one of the highest rates of suspensions in the county.

Also at Takoma Park Middle School is Jump Start Girls (adelante Niñas! Council recommended granting $6,000 of the $11,475 requested by Community Bridg-}

es, Inc. to run this out-of-school program. It serves at-risk girls with low-income and immigrant backgrounds. It will serve a minimum of six students from grades six through eight.

Finally, there is the commercial kitchen grant of $4,000, which goes to Takoma Park Presbyterian Church, partnering with the Takoma Park Silver Spring Food Co-op and the Crossroads Farmers Market. With an eye on an eventual commercial kitchen for residents to use to make food to sell at local farmers markets, this grant will kick-start the idea by offering food safety classes for about eight people in the church kitchen.

Each application was reviewed by a committee of residents and City staff, and will be given final approval by the County before funds are distributed.

THE GIFT OF GIVING: ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR KICKS OFF HOLIDAYS WITH CHARITY GIVING

The 13th Annual Takoma Park Alternative Gift Fair will once again offer residents and visitors the opportunity to honor loved ones and friends with charity donations in their name. This year’s festival also features holiday-flavored activities to enjoy while “shopping.”

The event takes place on Saturday, Dec. 3 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church, 310 Tulip Ave. in Takoma Park. Co-sponsored by Alternative Gifts of Greater Washington, and Friends of Sligo Creek, it will feature 14 to 18 charities from which to choose. Last year’s donations ranged from a food box for a breastfeeding mom or an infant being weaned, through the African Mothers Health Initiative, to a bodywork session for a local wounded service member, family member, or caregiver, through Crossings HealingWorks, or a pint of paint for weekly classes at a homeless shelter, through locally-based Art for the People.

The event will also include live music, raffles, supervised children’s activities, a sweet and savory bake sale and refreshments.

In 2010, Gift Fair donors contributed nearly $26,000 to local, national and international charities. To volunteer at this event, contact Mimi Ikle-Khalsa at aggw_inc@yahoo.com.
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 December issue is Nov. 21.

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

**PUBLIC MEETINGS**

City Council Meeting  
Most Mondays, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
See takomaparkmd.gov for schedule

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

City Elections  
Tuesday, Nov. 8, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
TP Community Center  
See insert

City Offices Closed  
Veteran’s Day, Nov. 11  
Thanksgiving, Nov. 24, 25  
Community Center closed  
Sat. & Sun., Nov. 12-13

Inauguration of the City Council  
Monday, Nov. 21, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
Swearing in of new City Council

Getting Your Garden Ready for Winter  
Thursday, Nov. 10, 7 p.m.  
Takoma Park Branch (DCI) Library, 5th and Cedar Streets, NW  
Kathy Jentz, Washington Gardener Magazine editor  
Free  
202-576-7252

**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

Fall leaf collection program  
Loose leaf collection will be provided by the City from Nov. 21 through Dec. 23 this year. The program will take place over five weeks. Residents can rake leaves to the curb at their convenience during the five week period. Most streets do not have an assigned collection day. The goal of the program is to collect leaf piles within two weeks of their appearance at the curb. Leaf collection is dependent upon the weather and rain or freezing conditions can slow collection.

This year, the five streets that are State Highways will have two collection days. These streets have an assigned collection date due to the heavy volume of traffic on the streets.

Carroll Avenue, from the 7000 to 7800 block, Ethan Allen Avenue, and Flower Avenue, from the 7900 to 8600 block, will have collection on Monday, Nov. 28 and Friday, Dec. 16.

Piney Branch Road and Philadelphia Avenue will have collection on Friday, Nov. 18 and Monday, Dec. 19.

There will be no collection on the Thanksgiving holiday which is observed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24 and 25. Also no other streets will receive collection on the dates when the posted streets are collected (Nov. 18 and 28 and Dec. 16 and 19). During the collection in November, the crews will concentrate on picking up large piles of leaves. In December, when the crews are making the last collection on each street, they will thoroughly collect all remaining loose leaves from the gutter and grassy strip along the curb.

The Public Works Department welcomes your comments and suggestions about the service we are providing. Please contact Public Works by phone: 301-891-7653. You can also call the leaf collection hotline at 301-891-7626 to notify us when your leaves have been raked out. We plan to collect reported piles from the hotline calls within 30 days of the call.

Please follow these guidelines:

- Rake leaves into a pile at the edge of the curb. Do not rake leaves into the street.
- Leaf piles can create traffic hazards.
- Do not park your car in front of a leaf pile and when raking please try to avoid piling leaves where cars are likely to be parked.
- The vacuum leaf collection is for leaves only. Do not include branches, brush, vines, rocks or debris. These items can seriously damage equipment and delay collection.
- Do not pile leaves near storm drain inlets. Leaves can block the drains and cause flooding problems.

The City also provides weekly Monday collection for bagged grass, leaves, branches and brush all year long. The Monday collection requires leaves and loose yard materials to be in paper bags, trash cans or stiff-sided containers. Plastic bags cannot be used for yard material because these items are composted and the plastic interferes with the composting process. Branches must be less than four feet long and less than three inches in diameter and tied into small bundles or stacked in a trash can. The Monday yard waste collection is cancelled when a holiday is observed on Monday.

The weekly loose leaf collection program will continue on Nov. 21 through Dec. 23.

Residents can rake leaves at their convenience, there is no assigned collection day. (Except for the five state highways in the City which have assigned collection days)

- Place leaf piles inside the curb – not in the street.
- Do not put branches, brush, vines, rocks or other debris in the leaf piles.

Vacuum leaf collection will end Dec. 23, if weather has not delayed collection.

Snow and freezing rain can significantly delay collection.

Call the Leaf Collection Hotline to report when your pile is at the curb, 301-891-7626.

**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, 7003 Carroll Ave.  
Musical entertainment  
$6 per child in advance  
http://www.mrgabemusic.com

T.G.I. Friday Road Tripz  
Friday, Nov. 18  
Teen trip to Medieval Times for ages 12 – 17  
See page 6

Open Gym  
Lots of games for kids ages 12 – 17

**LEAF COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS**

- Collection will occur continuously from Nov. 21 to Dec. 23.
- Residents can rake leaves at their convenience, there is no assigned collection day. (Except for the five state highways in the City which have assigned collection days)
- Place leaf piles inside the curb – not in the street.
- Do not put branches, brush, vines, rocks or other debris in the leaf piles.
- Vacuum leaf collection will end Dec. 23, if weather has not delayed collection.
- Snow and freezing rain can significantly delay collection.
- Call the Leaf Collection Hotline to report when your pile is at the curb, 301-891-7626.

**EVENTS**

Dia de Los Muertos Workshop  
Saturday, Oct. 29, 1 – 3 p.m.  
TP Community Center Art Room  
Create your own personal Day of the Dead shrine  
Free  
http://www.facebook.com/#!/TakomaParkMD

Dia de los Muertos Dance  
Saturday, Oct. 29, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
A celebration of the Day of the Dead with the De Colores Mexican Folk Dance Company  
Free, donations welcome  
http://www.facebook.com/#!/TakomaParkMD

Washington Musica Viva - Chamber Music  
Friday, Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
Claus Boelling’s Suite for violin plus jazz trio, and “Bukowski Liked Mozart” by Charley Gerard  
$15 door / children under 12 free with adult  
http://dcmusicaivia.org/

KIZUNA: Reunion  
Saturday, Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
An evening of taiko - Japanese drumming  
Free, suggested donation $10  
www.facebook.com/#!/TakomaParkMD

History and Helicopteraging: How Past Factors Explain Parents’ Anxieties  
Thursday, Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m.  
Lecture and Discussion with Historian Peter N. Stearns  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
Free  
http://www.facebook.com/#!/TakomaParkMD

Takoma Park Farmers Market  
Sundays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Laurel Ave.

13th Annual Alternative Gift Fair  
Dec. 3, 12 – 4 p.m.  
Takoma Park Presbyterian Church, 310 Tulip Ave.  
Purchase gifts of honor for loved ones and support local and international charities.

An Evening of Favorite Sacred Songs  
Saturday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
The DC Labor Chorus, an affiliate of the Labor Heritage Foundation, includes a number of Takoma Park singers.

Free, donations appreciated  
www.imtfolk.org