



WHAT'S NEW?

City offices closed

12:30 p.m. Dec. 23
All day Dec. 26

No Yard Waste collection

Monday, Dec. 26
and Monday, Jan. 2

Food Composting

Pilot program to
collect food scraps
See page 11.



The new City Council: from left, Kay Daniels-Cohen, Tim Male, Mayor Bruce Williams, Seth Grimes, Terry Seamens and Fred Schultz. Reuben Snipper was not present. Inset, Outgoing Councilmember Colleen Clay helps daughter, Piper present a short list of advice for incoming "Council kids" Nov. 21, when the new councilmembers took over. She also distributed small gifts to the children -- to keep them busy during "boring meetings."

Photos by Patrice Gilbert

Three new members join City Council

Inaugural evening also celebrates outgoing members

By Virginia Myers

After a close election Nov. 8, Takoma Park welcomed three new City councilmembers to the dais.

Pulling ahead of their opponents by just 17 and 23 votes respectively, Tim Male

won the Ward 2 seat with 351 votes, compared to opponent Lorig Charkoudian's 334; and Fred Schultz won Ward 6 with 134 votes, compared to opponent Barrie Howard's 111.

In Ward 3, Kay Daniels Cohen won with 290 votes, compared to candidates Mike Graul, with 90, and Jeffrey Noel-

ELECTION □ Page 11

Community kitchen could promote micro-enterprise, food education

Organizers continue to search for a suitable location

By Rick Henry

The holiday season is a powerful reminder that a kitchen is much more than just a place to prepare food. It's a vehicle to bring communities small and large together—from the immediate family at the dinner table to the groups of the less fortunate who gather for a hot meal.

In that spirit, a trio of Takoma Park organizations, the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Co-op, Crossroads Community Food Network (formerly Crossroads Farmer's Market) and the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church, has taken the first steps toward what it hopes will be the establishment of a commercial community kitchen that can serve as an incubator for micro busi-

nesses, and a resource to address hunger in the community.

A \$2,960 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), approved by the Takoma City Council at an October meeting and submitted to the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs for final approval, will allow the coalition to start offering classes for individuals to become certified food inspectors. The classes are important because Montgomery County law mandates that neither prepared foods, such as pupusas, nor "value-added" foods such as canned salsas and jams, can be sold at markets unless they are prepared under the super-

COMMUNITY KITCHEN □ Page 9

City, Hospital Await Decision on Move

By Suzanne Ludlow
Deputy City Manager

After years of consideration, a decision over whether Washington Adventist Hospital will move out of Takoma Park is expected in the next three months.

The Maryland Health Care Commission has completed hearings on the request by the hospital for a Certificate of Need (CON) to permit it to move to White Oak. A recommended decision by the Hearing Officer, Maryland Health Care Commissioner Randall P. Worthington, Sr., is expected within the next couple of months. After a 30-day period for parties' response to the recommendation, the full Health Care Commission will make the final decision on the CON request. The Commission usually adopts the recommendation of the Hearing Officer.

The Commission may approve the request to move, may approve the request to move with conditions, or may deny the request to move. Persons knowledgeable about the process and the testimony submitted during recent hearings indicate that any of the three outcomes is possible.

The impact on Takoma Park

The Takoma Park City Council has expressed concern that the hospital's move will leave Takoma Park residents without adequate primary and urgent care health care services. The Council is particularly concerned with access to health care for residents who depend on public transportation. Public transit access to the White Oak/Fairland location or other area hospitals would be more difficult and more costly for Takoma Park residents.

Washington Adventist Hospital has said that, if it is allowed to move to White Oak/Fairland, it would create a Village of Education, Health and Wellbeing at the Takoma Park hospital site. The proposal is to rent space to an urgent care/primary care center (to be operated by Mary's Center), and other health or education uses. Although the proposed Village is included in the hospital's CON application, the hospital has argued

WASHINGTON ADVENTIST □ Page 7

We want your ideas. Fill out the questionnaire, inserted in this Newsletter, and tell us what you think about Washington Adventist Hospital's plans and its place in our community.

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

PRE-SORT STAN-
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Inside:

Dance
Afire
Page 3



Poetry, art,
song
Page 6



Leaf
collection
Page 12



DOCKET

TAKOMA TOPICS:

“ Eat Takoma

For a list of local cuisine from Bolivian to Pakistani and from butchers to vegan, pick up a copy of Takoma Park's dining guide, *Eat Takoma*. Available at the Community Center. Call 301-891-7119 for more info. ”

City Council & Committee Calendar

OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS*

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

CITY COUNCIL

Monday, Dec. 12, 8 p.m.

TPCC Auditorium

For agenda, see www.takomaparkmd.gov/clk/clk/agendas

TAKOMA JUNCTION TASK FORCE

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, Dec. 8, 8:30 a.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

COLTA HEARING (Tentative)

Thursday, Dec. 8, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Monday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m.

TPCC Lilac Room

WASHINGTON ADVENTIST HOSPITAL

LAND USE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

*All meetings are open to the public unless noted otherwise. For the most up-to-date information, check www.takomaparkmd.gov/committees/calendar. 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.

ORDINANCE 2011-43

Adopted (First Reading Oct. 10, 2011; Second Reading Oct. 24, 2011)

Authorizing the installation of traffic calming measures on Hilltop Road

A combination of traffic calming measures will be installed to slow traffic on Hilltop Road; the project will be done in coordination with planned sidewalk work.

ORDINANCE 2011-44

Adopted (First Reading Oct. 10, 2011; Second Reading Oct. 24, 2011)

Appointing judges for the 2011 City Election

Judges appointed to serve for the election on November 8, 2011: Theodore A. Deppner (Ward 6), Patricia Shaw (Ward 1), Roberta D. (Robbi) Kimball (Ward 3), Beverly Toler (Ward 1), Jeff Megayo (Ward 4), Achamma S. Vedamony (Ward 6), Mary Ellen Payne (Ward 4), Wilmatine Slaughter (Ward 5), and Board of Elections members Marilyn Abbott (Ward 1), James Roberts (Ward 2), April Kissel (Ward 4), Anne Sergeant (Ward 3), William Lawson (Ward 4), and Jose Zambrana (Ward 6).

ORDINANCE 2011-45

Adopted Oct. 17, 2011

Awarding a contract for Public Works security access system

The ordinance awards a contract for purchase and installation of proximity card access units for various Public Works facility gates and doors.

ORDINANCE 2011-46

Adopted (First Reading Oct. 17, 2011; Second Reading Oct. 24, 2011)

Amending Takoma Park Code, Ch. 2.12, Administrative Regulations

The Administrative Regulations Ordinance has been improved for readability and to clarify a number of sections.

ORDINANCE 2011-47

Adopted (First Reading Oct. 17, 2011; Second Reading Oct. 24, 2011)

Authorizing FY 2012 Budget Amendment No. 1

The ordinance is the first amendment to the Fiscal Year 2012 Budget

Ordinance 2011-48

Adopted Oct. 24, 2011

Awarding a contract for purchase of a leaf grinder for the Public Works Department

A replacement leaf grinder will be purchased from Mid-Atlantic Waste Systems at the cost of \$155,900. The grinder is used in the City's leaf composting process.

ORDINANCE 2011-49

Adopted Oct. 24, 2011

Authorizing purchase of a combination miller and paver for the Public Works Department

The machine, which will allow the City to perform small- to medium-size pavement repairs on City streets, will be purchased from LeeBoy at the cost of \$107,500.

ORDINANCE 2011-50

Adopted Oct. 24, 2011

Authorization to purchase police body armor

The ordinance authorizes the City Manager to

enter into an agreement with Atlantic Tactical for the purchase of 15 replacement units of body armor.

ORDINANCE 2011-51

Adopted Oct. 24, 2011

Authorization to enter into a rental contract for photocopiers

The ordinance awards a three-year rental contract to Océ Document Printing Systems for photocopiers. The cost is \$38,887 per year.

RESOLUTION 2011-54

Adopted Oct. 10, 2011

Endorsing Community Development Block Grant projects

The Resolution designates the following projects to be considered for funding: Commercial Kitchen for the Community; Community Life; Jump Start Girls ¡Adelante Niñas!; MissionServ Takoma Park 2012; Smart Choices with Emotions and Takoma Park Commercial Façade Easement Program. (See November 2011 Newsletter for more information)

RESOLUTION 2011-55

Adopted Oct. 24, 2011

Requesting state approval of the sustainable community plan and requesting designation as a sustainable community

The resolution supports the designation of Montgomery County's Priority Areas, including the City of Takoma Park and those portions of Prince George's County included in the Takoma/Langley Sector Plan and the New Hampshire Avenue Corridor, as a Sustainable Community. This designation will ensure that these areas are eligible for targeted State of Maryland funding.

RESOLUTION 2011-56

Adopted Oct. 24, 2011

Proclaiming November as Municipal Government Works Month

The resolution recognizes the vital role that municipalities play in the lives of their residents.

RESOLUTION 2011-57

Adopted Oct. 24, 2011

Providing for appointments to the Recreation Committee

The resolution appoints Abe Coleman (Ward 5), Cherwanda V. Oliver (Ward 4), Sharon Denise Reed (Ward 4) and Pat Rumbaugh (Ward 1) to the Recreation Committee.

RESOLUTION 2011-58

Adopted Oct. 24, 2011

Providing for an Appointment to the Emergency Preparedness Committee

The resolution appoints Bernadette Smith (Ward 4) to the Emergency Preparedness Committee.

RESOLUTION 2011-59

Adopted Oct. 24, 2011

Authorizing a Grant Agreement with the Crossroads Community Food Network, Inc.,

The resolution authorizes execution of a grant agreement with the Crossroads Community Food Network, Inc. and the provision of grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.

ELECTION RESULTS

MAYOR:

Bruce R. Williams (elected): 1663
Write-Ins: 92

CITY COUNCIL

Ward 1

Seth Grimes (elected): 247
Write-Ins: 9

Ward 2

Lorig Charkoudian: 334
Tim Male (elected): 351
Write-Ins: 1

Ward 3

Kay Daniels-Cohen (elected): 290
Mike Graul: 90
Jeffrey Noel-Nosbaum: 67
Write-Ins: 3

Ward 4

Terry Seamens (elected): 195
Pre-Registered Write-In Eric Mendoza: 4
Write-Ins: 2

Ward 5

Reuben Snipper (elected): 75
Write-Ins: 1

Ward 6

Barrie Howard: 111
Fred Schultz (elected): 134
Write-Ins: 0

ELECTION COMMENTS?

We'd like to hear from you about the City Election that was held on Nov. 8. If you have comments or suggestions, please send them to the City Clerk, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Maryland or email tpselections@takomagov.org.



THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

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

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 (vacancy)
Washington Adventist Hospital Land Use Committee (vacancies)

Notice to Community Organizations Who Plan to Request Funding from the City of Takoma Park for Fiscal Year 2013

Application Deadline: Jan. 20, 2012

The City Council has adopted a formalized process for review of requests for funding in amounts over \$2,500. The process is intended to ensure that requests are reviewed by the Council prior to consideration of the budget for the next fiscal year. Funding decisions will not be made until the Council has discussed the budget and determined whether sufficient funds are available.

Schedule for FY 2013 requests for funding:

- Deadline for applications: Jan. 20, 2012
- Council review of applications and potential interviews of applicants: January/February 2012
- Council selection of priorities for funding for FY 2013: February 2012
- City Manager's proposed budget released: April 2012
- Council discussion of budget and determination of availability of funds: April/May 2012
- Adoption of FY 2013 Budget: May 2012

If requests for funds are granted, funds will be available after July 1, 2012. Complete information and the application materials will be available Dec. 9 at www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk.

Small Community Grants

The Small Community Grant funding guidelines for the spring of 2012 will be released January 3, 2012. Check www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk for information.

Stay in Touch with the Mayor and the City Council

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

Mayor Bruce R. Williams

Office hours: Tuesdays, 2–5 p.m. (by appointment only), and 5–7 p.m. (for walk-ins), in the third floor Council Conference Room of the Takoma Park Community Center. To schedule a meeting with the Mayor, contact Peggye Washington, 301-891-7230 or peggyew@takomagov.org.

City Council and Mayor

Mayor Bruce R. Williams, 240-676-6234
brucew@takomagov.org

Ward 1, Seth Grimes, 301-873-8225
sethg@takomagov.org

Ward 2, Tim Male, 240-274-0341
timm@takomagov.org

Ward 3, Kay Daniels Cohen, 240-478-8463
kaydc@takomagov.org

Ward 4, Terry Seamens, 301-565-0190
terrys@takomagov.org

Ward 5, Reuben Snipper, 301-585-4103
reubens@takomagov.org

Ward 6, Fred Schultz, 301-434-7090
freds@takomagov.org

Dance Afire Lights Up the Night



Photo by Pixie Vision Productions

By Kevin Adler

Spinners, burners, and steampunk mavens. Dance, contact movement, juggling, martial arts. Add flame—lots of flame—and you've got Dance Afire, Takoma Park's fire dance troupe that's attracting increased attention across the region for its intricate and dramatic performances.

"We dance with staffs, torches, hoops, poi [chains with wicks] and other objects as if they are our partners," said Lou Valentine, Dance Afire's director and one of three co-founders. "Think of it as kinetic sculpture, but with the added impact of fire."

Fire dance is a spectacle. Dancers move fluidly, arcing balls of flame and tall flares through the darkness. But they must be precise, too, in order to keep those flames inches from their bodies. "It's dance, it's movement, it's acrobatics—it's cool," said Sean Gee, another

co-founder of Dance Afire. "It takes a lot of work to develop the muscle memory to master a tool."

According to many fire dancers, the contact staff is the hardest tool to master. A wood or metal rod about shoulder height, the staff is lit on each end. The dancer moves it around his or her body, rolling it across the wrists and arms, behind the neck, and under the legs. "You've got to time it right, keep your grip in the middle and release it at the right time and then move in the right way," Gee said, showing the marks on his arms from unwanted contact with the end of the staff.

While fire dance can be enjoyed for graceful and daring movements, Dance Afire has moved beyond those displays of skill. Valentine, Gee, and Aaron Pendergrass, the third co-founder, believed that they could tell stories through dance, music, and costuming. "We all lived in Takoma Park, and we met through the

local fire dance community in about 2007. Lou was hosting weekly spins, and we'd also spin in the parking lot behind where the Elektrik Maid is located," said Pendergrass. "The three of us were always there. Pretty quickly we decided that we should do something together."

The trio decided to choreograph a dance to music by Dr. Steel, a popular steampunk musician. That first short piece evolved into *Nacho Fuego*, which tells the tale of a toymaster who gives life to his creations through fire. However, he uses his power to control their every motion. Eventually, they rebel when they realize that they can live without their master's control. "It's about the nature of oppression," said Pendergrass. "By imbuing the toys with fire, the toymaster brings them to life. But fire can and should be shared. As fire dancers, we think about sharing fire: I have fire, and I can give you fire, but it doesn't diminish what I have."

In *Nacho Fuego*, Gee is the master, commanding animatronic toys with his fiery staff. Pendergrass, Valentine and fellow troupe members Bronwen Cox, Patricia Leeb, and Stanley Moore, as well as up to a half-dozen other fire dancers in supporting roles, weave in and out of close spaces with their flame tools. Each dancer wears a variation of steampunk garb: Victorian-era corsets, stockings, and long skirts for women, and vests, high-collared shirts, top hats, and boots for men. The overall effect is otherworldly when the fire illuminates the dramatically dressed characters. It looks like a spooky circus with a crazed ringmaster.

Credit for the costuming goes to Cox, who is the artistic director. An experienced dancer with a wide repertoire, she also has a major hand in choreography, which references African dance, belly dance, and other dance traditions.

In addition to world dance traditions, Dance Afire (and other fire dancers) take their inspiration from Burning Man, the weeklong artistic and hedonistic celebration every year in the Black Rock Desert in Nevada. "Conclaves" of fire dancers from around the country send audition tapes to be allowed to perform during the highlight ceremony at Burning Man, the burning of a giant effigy in a bonfire. Dance Afire has not auditioned, but both Valentine and Gee

HOUSING



Landlord Training - Fair Return Rent Increase Petition

If you are a landlord who is subject to the rent stabilization law and have found that your net operating income has decreased over the years, you can attend one of the following workshops to learn more about the Fair Return Rent Increase Petition process.

Thursday, Dec. 8, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 2, 7 – 9 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave.

Pre-registration required: contact Jean Kerr, 301-891-7216, jeank@takomagov.org.

HOUSING MAILBOX



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

Providing access

Q I have lived in the same building since 2001, but now have an impairment which affects my mobility. My landlord has refused to let me park my car in front of the building entrance, and says that all parking is unreserved.

A Your landlord is required to give you a reserved parking space in front of the building entrance, even if “all parking is unreserved.” The landlord can contact a local sign maker with ADA-compliant, Montgomery County-approved signs, and mount the signs to clearly designate your spot.

Federal laws, including the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Fair Housing Amendments Act, require all landlords to do this for any person with a disability. That would be defined as anyone with physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, with a record of such impairment or being regarded as having such an impairment. Major life activities include walking, talking, hearing, seeing, breathing, learning, performing manual tasks and caring for oneself.

A landlord, property manager, seller or lender may NOT ask if you have a mental or physical disability, seek information about the nature of your disability, ask you to provide your medical records or have you sign documents allowing others to see them.

All housing providers are required to make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, and they must make exceptions to rules, policies, practices or services (like the “no reserved parking” rule) so that a person with a disability will have an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling unit or common space. Reasonable accommodations may be necessary at any stage of the housing process: during application, during your tenancy or to prevent eviction.

If your landlord refuses to comply with this federal law, you should consider contacting the Montgomery County Office of Human Rights located at 21 Maryland Ave., Suite 330, Rockville, Md. 20850, 240-777-8450; TTY 240-777-8480.

Celebrating home: 7610 Maple Ave. is reborn

By Linda Walker
Affordable Housing Manager

Rain failed to dampen spirits at the Nov. 16 grand opening of 7610 Maple Avenue, a newly renovated, hi-rise rental property in the heart of Takoma Park. That's because there was a lot to celebrate: Montgomery Housing Partnership has again accomplished what was deemed to be an insurmountable challenge. They acquired the long-vacant, deteriorating and condemned property (MHP president Robert Goldman called its condition “deplorable”) from an owner who did not seem intent on selling. And they transformed it.

MHP's made-new property now provides a comfortable, safe, environmentally friendly home to 26 families, with room for 10 more.

The \$5.75 million renovation includes a community center, computer lab with a kitchen and public restrooms, and 36 apartments that include energy star appliances, green label certified carpets, individually metered HVAC systems, increased interior lighting, water-conserving appliances and fixtures and a reflective Thermoplastic Olefin roof. Units, which include one efficiency, 20 one-bedrooms, 12 two-bedrooms and three three-bedrooms, offer a mix of rental rates, from market-rate to rents targeting families who earn 30 percent of the area



County executive Ike Leggett, fourth from left, is joined by MHP officials, county and city councilmembers and the mayor during the ribbon cutting at 7610 Maple Ave., an affordable housing project recently completed with the help of policy makers and housing advocates.

Photo by Betty Adler

median income (AMI). Rents range from \$530 a month to \$1,575.

As many mentioned during the event, it takes a village to create and then to maintain affordable housing. Those taking the lead included MHP's Goldman and project manager Praj Kasbekar; plus financiers Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, Capital One Bank, and NeighborWorks America. The City of Takoma Park provided a PILOT agreement that abates municipal property taxes for ten years. Officials in-

cluding Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett, County Councilmembers Marc Elrich and Nancy Floreen and Takoma Park Mayor Bruce Williams were present to celebrate another affordable housing collaboration.

Former NBA star and Takoma Park resident, Steve Francis was also there to say a few words about Takoma Park and his joy in giving back to the community where he grew up. Nationally known blues artist Warner Williams, another native Takoma Parker, and Hoss, a harmonica player, provided background music for the following reception.

Make the New Ave Your Street!

A NEW AVE STREETScape STANDARDS WORKSHOP

You and your neighbors are invited to a kick-off workshop to help the City develop standards for future sidewalks, lighting, landscaping, stormwater infiltration, and furniture.

Tuesday, Dec. 13, 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Ave.
For background material, online maps and to be added to the project contact list visit www.theNewAve.com or call 301-891-7119.

This project is funded through a Transportation Land Use Connection technical assistance grant from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

AT YOUR SERVICE



THE FIREHOUSE
REPORT

By Jim Jarboe



POLICE BRIEFS

Public CompStat Meeting

Chief Ronald Ricucci and Crime Analyst Andrew Gucciardo will be holding a public CompStat meeting on Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Ave. CompStat, short for Computer Statistics, is a multilayered dynamic approach to crime reduction, quality of life improvement, and personnel and resource management. It employs Geographic Information Systems to map crime and identify problem areas. Chief Ricucci will also have an open discussion with residents on crime in the City, with a question and answer period.

Nationwide Prescription Take-Back Day

Chief Ronald Ricucci of the Takoma Park Police Department would like to thank everyone who participated in the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Nationwide Prescription Drug Take-Back on Oct. 29. There was a large turn-out. The campaign is important as it gives the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs. Another Take-Back event is being planned.



Feeding the thousand

Volunteers and staff at Adventist Community Services distributed these bags of groceries along with Thanksgiving turkeys to more than 1,000 needy Takoma Park and Silver Spring families over the November holiday. The organization welcomes contributions of non-perishable food and funds not just during the holidays, but throughout the year. To donate, go to www.acsgw.org/food_drive.htm or call 301-585-6556.

The season for giving — carefully

Financially supporting charitable organizations is one way to feel that you are doing your part in giving back to the community. How often though, have you received these numerous requests in your mailbox or been approached on the street? More than ever, the need is overwhelming. The following is a list to keep in mind when considering where you want to donate your hard earned dollars or time. The recommendations were taken from information provided by the Maryland Attorney General's Office and the American Institute for Philanthropy (AIP).

1. Consider your budget and decide how much you can afford to give to the charities or organizations of your choice.

2. It is never a good idea to agree to give money over the phone. Do not give credit card or other personal information to a telephone solicitor. Ask the caller to send written information about the charity and read it before you commit.

3. Find out what percentage of the donation goes to the charity's mission. AIP's charity rating guide recommends that at least 60 percent or more of your donation be for program services. You can call the Maryland Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-825-4510 to find out if a charity is registered in Maryland, as required, although it is not necessarily a stamp of approval.

4. Never give cash. Make a check or money order out to the organization, not

an individual.

5. Be wary of organizations whose name or logo closely resemble another charity with a similar purpose. Fake charities often surface during the holiday season or after disasters or national emergencies.

6. For tax purposes, you will need a record of your contribution. For all tax-deductible contributions of \$250 or more, the IRS requires that you obtain a receipt from the organization. A cancelled check is not enough. "Tax-exempt" does not always mean tax deductible. Tax exempt means an organization does not have to

pay taxes. If a charity does not have a tax exempt letter indicating it has 501c3 status with the IRS, you cannot claim your contribution as a tax deduction.

7. Give willingly. Do not simply respond to pressure. Ask as many questions as you need to understand whether or not you want to donate to the charity or organization.

Giving to a charity of your choice is a great way to start the holiday season. If you follow the above suggestions, you will hopefully never become victim to a scam.

Happy Holidays!



Drilling for emergency

On Oct. 19, Washington Adventist Hospital joined 12 other Maryland hospitals in the annual Capital Shield Exercise to test emergency preparedness in the region. Hospital staff reacted to a simulated crisis scenario, with volunteers acting out the movement and treatment of mock patients with various forms and degrees of injuries. This year, the scenario involved a series of explosions and a chemical release, exercising hospitals' decontamination and med surge capabilities.

Washington Adventist Hospital participates in these exercises to ensure staff are prepared for coordinated action in the event of an actual disaster.

Photo by Diana McFadden

Fire, by the numbers

As of Oct. 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 625 fire-related incidents. The department addressed or assisted with 2,364 rescue or ambulance-related incidents, for a total of 2,989 this year. Totals for 2010 were 673 and 2,663, representing a decrease of 347 incidents.

Toys Needed

The Takoma Park VFD will kick off its 31st consecutive year collecting toys for needy children.

From Dec. 1 to 22, you may drop off new (unwrapped) toys at the fire station, 7201 Carroll Ave.

On Dec. 23, members from the TPVFD, Takoma Park Lions Club, North Silver Spring Lions Club and the Takoma Park Police Department will sort and bag the toys. If you know of any children under the age of 10 needing toys, please contact Pam Taylor or Jim Jarboe at the fire station (240-773-8954).

Note: When leaving information, you MUST leave telephone number and contact person.

Takoma Park VFD Christmas Tree Sales

Starting the weekend after Thanksgiving, The TPVFD will be selling Christmas trees, with funds going to benefit the department. Trees will be Douglas Fir and Fraser Fir, from 4 to 8 feet. Hours will run Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Safety Tips for your Christmas Tree

- Buy a fresh tree that's not shedding its needles.
- Cut the trunk at an angle and install the tree in a large, deep non-tip stand well away from fireplaces, exits, and heat sources.
- Be sure your tree has a constant supply of water, and check the level daily.
- If your tree dries out, remove it promptly and store it away from your home until you can dispose of it.
- Turn your lights off when you leave your home or go to bed.

Hear Us, See Us ... Clear for Us!

If you hear an emergency vehicle approach in traffic, "CLEAR" out of the way:

Calmly pull parallel to and as close to the nearest curb or road-edge and stop.

Leave room. Keep intersections clear, and never try to follow emergency vehicles.

Enter into traffic with caution after the emergency vehicle has passed. Remember to use signals.

Aware. Be aware of your surroundings. Keep radio volume low, and check rear mirrors frequently.

Remain stopped until the emergency vehicle has passed. Be aware there may be additional emergency vehicles.

THE ARTS



Bob Zentz and Calico Jack play sea songs on Saturday, Dec. 17, celebrating the Atlantic maritime tradition.

WE ARE TAKOMA

We Are Takoma series presents holiday music, sea faring songs

The We Are Takoma series, sponsored 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:

The We Are Takoma series celebrate the holidays this month with two evenings of music with the DC Labor Chorus and Bob Zentz and Calico Jack.

The DC Labor Chorus' "Concert of Favorite and Sacred Songs" is not the usual solemn holiday presentation of sacred songs; individual members, who find the selected songs personally significant, have brought the songs to the chorus. The chorus and its music are multicultural and multilingual. The program includes a parody of "The Dreidel Song," which one member brought back from the union actions in Wisconsin; Harry Belafonte's "Turn the World Around," "Tu Cantar" by Chilean activist Eduardo Yanez, a militant Irish hymn, the "Internationale" in Ara-

bic, satirical songs by resident parodist Will Rice, and a medley of secular holiday tunes, for which children in the audience are invited up to the stage. Each song delivered with the spirit and verve typical of the DC Labor Chorus.

Favorite and Sacred Songs

The DC Labor Chorus

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

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

Free, donations welcome

Bob Zentz and Calico Jack come to Takoma Park later in the month for a mirth-and music-filled celebration of the things that illuminate our lives, with original

and traditional songs that come from the Atlantic maritime tradition. Among the selections are songs sailors sang during the long winter months at sea; songs they wrote about spending the holidays far from home; and songs and stories they enjoyed on the rare occasions they could be home during the holidays. Expect everything from squeezeboxes, guitars, banjo, banjola and hurdy-gurdy, to spoons and jaw harp.

Season of the Sailor

Bob Zentz and Calico Jack

Saturday, Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

Free, donations welcome

An Exhibition of Original Watercolors by the Takoma Watercolor Group

The artwork of the Takoma Watercolor Group (TWG) will be featured in an exhibition at the Takoma Park Community Center Atrium Gallery from Nov. 28 through Dec. 30.

The exhibition will include urban scenes, florals, still lifes, landscapes, abstracts and non-representational art. All works are conceived and executed by members of the Group.

The TWG is a diverse group of men and women from a variety of professional and



The work of David Robert Daniels will be included in the upcoming watercolor show.

personal backgrounds. Since the fall of 2008, they have met every Thursday in the Takoma Park Community Center Art Room

to enjoy painting, learning from one another, and benefitting from the expertise of outside professionals. The group's artistic advisor is well-known local watercolorist, David Daniels, whose work will also be exhibited.

An artist's reception will be held on Friday, December 2, from 6 – 8 p.m. in the Atrium at the Takoma Park Community Center located at 7500 Maple Ave. in Takoma Park. The public is invited and admission is free.

The exhibition is sponsored by the Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission.

For more information, contact Michael Shibley at mfs-art@comcast.net or 301-807-6890.

ARTS & Humanities

Four local poets featured at next reading

"Notice how the light does funny things when you jiggle your perspective from man clinging to a jet engine to an admiral sinking in a boat"

--from "Unflinching Light" by Donald Illich

This month, the Third Thursday Poetry Reading features Donald Illich; Carlee Hallman, a retired United Methodist minister, who has had her poetry printed in *Scribble* and *Black Buzzard Review*; published poet Pamela Winters who grew up on Maple Avenue; and Jon Barrows, a published poet who recently organized over 100 local area poets to participate in National Poetry Writing Month poem-a-day.

The reading will be held Thursday, Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m., at the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Ave. All readings are free.

Holiday Art Sale

The sixth annual holiday art sale is a great place to find something unique for yourself or someone on your gift list. Jewelry, pottery, photography, wearable art, glasswork, paintings and prints - funky and fine, functional and fun - you will be sure to find it at the Takoma Park Community Center on Saturday, Dec. 10. Sale opens at 10 am and will run until 4 pm. There will be arts activities for the kids while you investigate the offerings of over 30 artists and crafters. Music provided by the Takoma Park Singers.

Examining the great recession

"The Failure of Capitalist Production: Underlying Causes of the Great Recession"

Thursday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m.

Free

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Ave.

The recent financial crisis and Great Recession have been analyzed endlessly in the mainstream and academia. Economist and author Andrew Kliman's analysis is simple but shocking: Short of socialist transformation, the only way to escape the "new normal" of a stagnant, crisis-prone economy is to restore profitability through full-scale destruction of existing wealth, something not seen since the Depression of the 1930s. Clear, rigorous and combative, Kliman demonstrates that the current economic crisis is a consequence of the fundamental dynamic of capitalism, unlike the vast bulk of superficial contemporary commentary that passes for economic analysis.

Kliman is professor of economics at Pace University, New York. He is the author of "Reclaiming Marx's 'Capital': A Refutation of the Myth of Inconsistency," and many writings on crisis theory, value theory and other topics.

WASHINGTON ADVENTIST

■ From page 1

strenuously against the placing of any conditions on a CON approval regarding measures to ensure that its plans for continued primary and urgent care services on site be sustainable.

The recent hearings were “evidentiary hearings” on the Certificate of Need application, and permitted written opinions from the applicant and any “Interested Parties,” as defined by the state, about the possible move.

In this case, the “Interested Parties” included Maryland hospitals that oppose the proposed move: Holy Cross Hospital, Montgomery General Hospital and Laurel Regional Hospital. The City of Takoma Park and the Montgomery County Health Department are considered “Participating Entities,” and are not permitted the same rights as Interested Parties to submit testimony during the evidentiary hearings. Both the Interested Parties and the Participating Entities are allowed to submit formal comments during the 30-day period following the issuance of the Hearing Officer’s recommended decision.

Addressing the issues

Commissioner Worthington, as the Hearing Examiner, laid out four issues which the evidentiary hearing testimony was to address:

- Adverse impact of the proposed relocation on access to health care for the population of the current primary service area of WAH, especially the indigent and/or uninsured, and quantifying, as much as possible, the travel time implications and other adverse cost consequences.
- Cost effectiveness, focusing on the reliability and credibility of WAH’s cost and timing projections for rebuilding on its current site or on alternate sites within the hospital’s primary service area.
- Impact on existing providers and the health care delivery system, focusing on the financial and market share impacts on other Maryland hospitals if WAH moves to the proposed location.
- Viability of the proposal, including the availability of financial resources to pay for both the relocation of WAH and the planned changes to the Takoma Park campus.

Written testimony was submitted and oral testimony was heard at various times over the course of a seven-month period, ending in mid-October. The testimony involved a host of hospital industry expert witnesses debating the merits of each others’ calculations or arguments.

Holy Cross Hospital is concerned that WAH’s relocation would mean that their hospital would receive more patients, and more uninsured patients, than they can accommodate. The bulk of their testimony, however, was to show that WAH’s financial projections are unsound and that WAH could renovate on its current site.

Montgomery General and Laurel Regional Hospitals joined together in presenting much of their testimony. They both feel that a new hospital at the proposed White Oak/Fairland location would take patients and money from their hospitals at a level that would cause them to fail. Laurel Regional

Hospital also presented testimony that, if it were harmed, the proposal to build a new regional medical center in Prince George’s County accompanying a new medical campus for the University of Maryland system would fall apart.

Worthington took an active role in the hearings, asking questions to clarify the significant points from the hours of legal and financial testimony. A number of his questions were related to determining the impact of the move on the City of Takoma Park and its residents.

Takoma Park City Manager Barbara Matthews, Deputy City Manager Suzanne Ludlow and Assistant City Attorney Ken Sigman took turns attending the days of oral testimony. City Attorney Susan Silber and the City’s hospital consultant, Nancy Lane, read all of the testimony and the hearing record from the oral testimony, a massive amount of information. The City Council



and the Council’s WAH Land Use Committee (WAHLUC), were kept informed of the progress of the evidentiary hearings. The City Council submitted several letters to Worthington regarding the position of the City of Takoma Park and facts about the City’s development review process during the course of the hearings.

It is City staff’s view that there were strong cases made by each of the parties on one or more of the four issues about which Commissioner Worthington requested testimony. For that reason, it is not clear what the Commissioner will recommend.

Worthington may issue his recommended decision at any time. In other recent cases, the Hearing Officer took about three months to prepare the recommendation after the record was closed.

What should Takoma Park’s response be?

The Takoma Park City Council is on record as saying that, if WAH moves to the White Oak/Fairland area, WAH should be required, via approval conditions, to ensure that primary care and always-open urgent care facilities remain on the hospital property and be fiscally sustainable.

If Worthington recommends approving the CON without these conditions, the City’s response, to be submitted within 30 days of the issuance of the recommendation, will be to restate the City’s concern

about providing health care to Takoma Park residents and urge the full Maryland Health Care Commission to add the conditions to any approval.

If Worthington recommends approving the CON with these conditions, the City’s response will be to urge the full Maryland Health Care Commission to adopt his recommendation with the conditions.

In either case, if the Maryland Health Care Commission approves the CON, the City of Takoma Park will want to work with the hospital on plans for the Village of Education, Health and Wellbeing.

If Commissioner Worthington recommends disapproving the CON, the City Attorney, staff and hospital consultant will need to read the recommendation carefully, consult with the City Council and WAHLUC and provide a response within the 30-day period. Washington Adventist Hospital will likely react publicly to the

If the hospital states that it will close, rather than rebuild on site, what should Takoma Park’s response be? Closure of the hospital may also affect the viability of Washington Adventist University. What should happen with the land in the heart of our community? How should the City Council address our community’s health care needs if neither a hospital nor a primary/urgent care center remains in Takoma Park? How should the City Council address the loss of Takoma Park’s largest employer?

Final decisions on development plans rest with the land owners and Montgomery County.

Next steps

Throughout the Certificate of Need process, the City of Takoma Park has repeated its desire to work with the hospital to find answers that meet the needs of the community and the hospital. Real discussions about what those needs are from the community’s perspective and the hospital’s perspective have not been held and will need to take place in the near future.

When Worthington’s recommended decision is issued, and then again when the Maryland Health Care Commission’s final decision is issued, Takoma Park will learn a bit about what the future holds. Then, we’ll need to begin holding public forums, participating in planning studies, do lobbying or undertake any of a number of activities in Takoma Park’s efforts to ensure the health and preservation of our community and residents.

What can residents do?

The decision of the Maryland Health Care Commission, regardless of which way it goes, will have a significant impact on health services, economic development and other aspects of livability in Takoma Park.

The City Council wants to know what the community is thinking about the various outcomes possible. Contact your City Councilmember directly or write to clerk@takomagov.org to put your comments in the public record. Fill out and submit the questionnaire enclosed in this newsletter.

While your comments are always welcome, they will be especially needed when Worthington issues his opinion and the full Commission makes a final decision.

When the recommendation and then the final decision are issued, they will be big news. City staff will post a full copy of the decisions on the City’s website, www.takomaparkmd.gov, when they are available. Then, participate in community forums and discuss the options and the implications with your neighbors. The outcome of the decision and the community’s discussions may shape Takoma Park’s future for decades and perhaps the next 100 years.

Need more information?

Background information and the closing arguments from the evidentiary hearings are on the City’s website. If you have other questions, please feel free to contact Suzanne Ludlow, Deputy City Manager, at suzannel@takomagov.org or 301-891-7229.

CALENDAR

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

Monday, Dec. 5, 7 p.m.
Come in p.j.s, bring your teddy bear or other stuffed favorites as we read some stories and sing some songs and rhymes in this half-hour program.
Perfect for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups.

Comics Jam

Tuesday, Dec. 6, 4 p.m.
Kids and grownups, read comics on the big screen with our graphic novel guru, David Burbank.
No registration.

Caldecott Club

Monday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m.
Come 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, Dec. 13, 7:45 p.m. at the Library

Friends of the Library Big Book Group

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m.
Concluding discussion of "Daniel Martin" by John Fowles
Lilac Room; all welcome.

French Circle Time

Saturday, Dec. 17, 10:30 a.m.
Come and sing songs and rhymes in French with Madame Marie.

Holiday Sing-a-long

Saturday, Dec. 17, 11:15 a.m.
Come sing songs celebrating Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa
With music provided by local musician Wendy Lanxner and her students.
All welcome; registration encouraged.

Holiday Gift Making

Saturday, Dec. 17, 2-4 p.m.
Kids: make your own holiday gifts this year.
Supplies provided, just bring your creativity.
Registration required.

Junior Banned Books Club & Banned Books Club

Monday, Dec. 19, 7:30 p.m.
Our two Banned Books Clubs, for students in third grade through high school, will read aloud from picture books and children's novels that have been challenged or banned.
Spaces limited, so please register.

Winter Solstice Celebration

Thursday, Dec. 22, 6:30 p.m.
Celebrate the solstice with drummed Bill Jenkins and the Foggy Bottom Morris Men.
All welcome.

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, crafts events and more.

For more information about supporting the Friends, see <http://www.ftpml.org>.



Browsing the shelves for a make-your-own-gift holiday

By Karen MacPherson

Making gifts for the people on your holiday gift list is an economical and fun way to create a one-of-a-kind keepsake. It's also easier than you may think, thanks to the many craft books that we have on our Library shelves, both in the adult section and the Children's Room.

While some of these craft books are focused on fancy, time-consuming gifts to make, many others offer ideas for simple gifts that are quick to make -- even for those who feel they aren't very craft-y. Most of these books aren't necessarily specifically focused on Christmas or Hanukkah, but the crafts they spotlight can make perfect holiday gifts. Those books that are focused on a specific holiday often have gift ideas that work for any celebration, just as many of the gift suggestions in kids' books are perfect for grown-ups.

To inspire you to make homemade holiday gifts, here are some craft suggestions from a number of different books on the Library's shelves. It's just a small sampling of the ideas in these books -- there's a wide variety so you might find something for everyone on your list.

And don't forget that kids are welcome to come and make holiday gifts at the Library on Saturday, Dec. 17 from 2 to 4 p.m. We'll supply the materials, kids supply the creativity.

(Note: The number in parentheses after each book on the following list is the Dewey Decimal System number showing where

the book can be located on the Library shelves. Numbers with a "J" in front of them can be located in the Children's Room; "J" stands for "juvenile" in the Dewey Decimal system.)

ADULT BOOKS:

"Making Glorious Gifts from Your Garden" by Marie Browning (635.9 BROWN-ING): Vine Wreaths (p.94); Twig Frames (p. 96)

"Food For Friends: Homemade Gifts for Every Season" by Sally P. Vargas (641.5 VARGAS): Five-Grain Pancake and Waffle Mix (p. 20); Red Tomato and Peach Chutney (p. 89); Double-Espresso Banana Walnut Cake (p. 101)

"Sew Creative Gifts for Under \$10," edited by Vicki Blizzard (745.594 SEW): Teeny-Tiny Snowman Pin (p. 145)

"Last-Minute Christmas Gifts" by Carol Taylor (745.5 TAYLOR) -- These gifts are great for any holiday: Embellished Books (p. 58); Folded Paper Napkin Rings (p. 60); Bookmarks (p. 67)

KIDS' BOOKS:

"Ecocrafts: Jazzy Jewelry" (J745.5 ECO): Chunky, Funky Beads (created from magazine pages) (p. 22)

"Ecocrafts: Gorgeous Gifts" (J745.5 ECO): Curtains Up! (a puppet theater created from a cardboard box and other recycled materials) (p. 24); Sock-Puppy Puppets (p. 20); Magic Magnet (great for 'fridge art) (p. 28)

"What Can You Do With an Old Red

Shoe?: A Green Activity Book About Re-use" by Anna Alter: Turn a ripped shower curtain into an artist's apron (p.10)

"World of Design: Bowls and Boxes" by Anne Civardi (J 745.5 CIVARDI): Make a shiny-star box (p. 25)

"The Girls' World Book of Friendship Crafts" by Joanne O'Sullivan (J 745.5 O'SULLIVAN): Secret Stash Box (p. 30); Flashy Fleece Boa Scarf (p. 51)

"Gifts to Make For Your Favorite Grown-Up" by Kathy Ross (J745.5 ROSS): Animal Cracker Necklace (p. 52); Rubber Band Message Board (p. 36); Helping Hands Napkin Holder (p. 24)

"The Ultimate Book of Kid Concoctions" by John E. & Danita Thomas (J745.5 THOMAS): This is actually a great book for grown-ups to make gifts for their favorite kid! Try Magic Muck (p. 19) or Instant Finger Paints (p. 39)

"How to Make Holiday Pop-Ups" by Joan Irvine (J 745.594 IRVINE): Check out the pop-up cards you can make for Hanukkah (p. 30), Christmas (p. 33) and Kwanzaa (p. 21)

"World Crafts: Games" by Meryl Doney (J 794 DONEY): Make a hinged Mancala game board from an egg carton (p. 23)

"Kids Can Do It: Birdfeeders" by Renee Schwarz (J 745.593 SCHWARZ): Itsy-Bitsy Spider Birdfeeder (P. 14); Fruit Flowers (p. 16)

"Paper Tags and Cards" by Florence Temko (J 745.594 TEMKO): Gift Tags (p. 33)

"Make Cards!" by Kim Solga (J 745.594 SOLGA): Pull-Out Cards (p. 10)

LIBRARY BRIEFS

Holiday celebrations

Holidays at the Library start out with a Sing-a-Long, celebrating Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa, Saturday, Dec. 17 at 11:15 a.m. Music will be provided by local musician/music teacher Wendy Lanxner and her students. Registration is encouraged to ensure enough seats and song sheets. This is a great event for kids, adults and families.

A Holiday Gift-Making session follows on the same day, from 2 p.m.-4 p.m. We'll supply materials for kids to make gifts and cards for the special people in their lives. Again, registration is required so we can order sufficient supplies.

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 17 (overlapping the above events), the Library Friends offer a holiday sale of children's books. Selections will include brand new copies of children's books, and 10 copies of the newest "Wimpy Kid" book ("Cabin Fever") autographed by the author, Jeff Kinney. All proceeds go to the Library. Check the Library web site for more information.

Finally, the annual Winter Solstice celebration is Thursday, Dec. 22 at 6:30 p.m. Bill Jenkins, a local music ethnocologist, kicks off with a drumming circle, and at 7:30 p.m., the Foggy Bottom Morris Men come on with songs, theater and dance. No registration required for this Takoma Park tradition, designed for all

Banned book clubs join together

The Junior Banned Books Club, for students in third through fifth grade, will join with our Banned Books Club for middle school and high school students, on Monday, Dec. 19 at 7:30

p.m. for our annual holiday reading of picture books that have been challenged or banned in other libraries. This year, we invite everyone to also choose a passage from a favorite children's novel that has been challenged or banned. All are welcome, but registration is required.

Book sale a success

The semi-annual Friends of the Library Book Sale was held on the Library grounds on Oct. 22 – a brisk and windy day that did not deter crowds of adults and kids seeking bargains. By the afternoon's end, the sale had netted \$2,406, all of which will go to the Library in funding for programs and services.

Heartfelt thanks are due to the many volunteers who helped make the sale a resounding success. They are, in no particular order: Ben Frey, Nancy and Dan Kunkel, Maurice Belanger, Walter Mulbry, Mary Ellen Koenig, Judy Treible, Suzanne Morgan, Mary Rein, Latoya Gayle, Rakia and Leila Teye Habi, Mel Raff, Dee Raff, Bailey Whiteman, Sierra Grey-Coker, Rebecca Zanditon, Pat Hanrahan, Miriam Szapiro, Karen MacPherson, Pat McMahon, Kay Daniels, Nadia and Naeem Alam, Sylvie Shafer, Tim Rahn, Sam McCollin, Nehemiah Malloy, Anne Williams, Dave Burbank and Janet Jendrzeczyk of the Library staff, Book Sale coordinator and spiritual advisor Merrill Leffler, and Troy Fingal and Kimley Mannix of Takoma Park Public Works.

Holiday Hours

The Computer Center will be closed Friday, Dec. 23, Saturday, Dec. 24, Monday, Dec. 26 and Monday, Jan. 2.

The Library will be closed Saturday, Dec. 24 and Monday, Jan. 2 – but will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 23.

"Images of America" recounts Takoma Park history

A new photo history of Takoma Park, *Images of America: Takoma Park* is now available to Takoma Park residents and others fascinated by the City's past.

Published in May, the book is part of the Images of America series from Arcadia Publishing. It tells the story of Takoma Park, beginning with the arrival of Benjamin Franklin Gilbert in 1883 and carrying the story through to the present day.

Authors Diana Kohn, Caroline Al-Anderson and Susan Schreiber sorted



through Historic Takoma archives as well as Adventist and Washington, D.C. sources to detail the legacy of a community that grew up on both sides of the District line. Photos donated by local residents join those taken by early settlers Arthur Colburn and Morris Bien and posters from the days of Sammie Abbott and the early folk and street festivals to further illustrate the people and events of the last 125 years.

The book is available at Now and Then and online through www.historictakoma.org.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

■ From page 1

vision of certified food inspectors in a certified commercial kitchen. Organizers are hoping that increasing the number of people who are certified food inspectors will help remove one of the barriers preventing people from producing and selling food.

The Co-op is donating the space for the 16-hour classes, which are set to begin some time in 2012.

The classes and the broader collective effort by the three organizations to establish a full-scale community kitchen were initiated because each of them had identified the same collective community need. In exploring that need, they crossed paths and decided to join forces.

"The idea of a community kitchen fit in perfectly with the goals we [the Co-op] had been talking about for our future and our community outreach," said Lorig Charkroudian, a member of the Co-op's Strategic Planning Committee and a former president of the Co-op Board. "That's why we decided to get involved in the partnership."

Michelle Levy, interim director of the Crossroads Community Food Network, said that the group has been pursuing a community kitchen since 2009, when it expanded from its role as a weekly Farmer's Market into a full-time non-profit dealing with community and food-related issues. She noted that members of the Takoma/Langley Park Crossroads community often inquire about the availability of a kitchen.

"Women, many of them un- or under-employed, would approach us every week at the market and ask us how they could produce and sell food," Levy said. "They were looking for an entrepreneurial opportunity."

Armed with a mission to find community kitchen space, Crossroads staff went looking for options in the community, but couldn't find any. "We went door-to-door to restaurants, bakeries etc... but no one had extra space," Levy said. Her search eventually led her to talk with members of the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church.

The Church's facility on Tulip Avenue had an existing, but unused kitchen. Coincidentally, its members had been looking

at renovating and upgrading it as a community kitchen.

"The church kitchen had actually been used as a community kitchen in the past, but it is no longer up to code," said Vicki Warren, an elder at the church. "It was a wasted resource, but there is so much that can be done with it, we wanted to pursue it."

Common interests identified, the partnership was formed and the CDBG funds soon followed.

The next steps in the process are proving to be much more difficult to navigate. Despite the existence of the kitchen, the enthusiasm of the member organizations and the expressed interests of the community, there are several issues that must be resolved before the kitchen is up and running.

Chief among them is zoning. Because the church is in a residential area, it is not permitted to operate a commercial kitchen. Montgomery County Councilmember and Takoma Park resident George Leventhal has talked with Warren and is sympathetic to the issue, but admits, "there are a lot of policy obstacles. You can't just open up zoning to that church for this activity because the zoning rule would have to apply to everyone in a residential zone."

Still, Leventhal is committed to exploring the issue and seeing what options might be available. "I am looking into it and trying to be helpful, but there is a lot to evaluate before I can possibly bring this before the Council," he said.

The church would also need to raise funds to make the necessary kitchen upgrades, something to which Warren says she and other church members are committed.

For her part, Levy says Crossroads is actively looking for additional community kitchen options.

Both agree that the need is great and the effort important. "A community kitchen presents an incredible opportunity for the community to come together on hunger and food issues as well as a way to promote micro-enterprise" said Warren.

"It is also a great example of a holistic job training and creation model," said Levy.

TO REGISTER FOR LIBRARY EVENTS,

go to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or call 301-891-7259.



The Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission's annual

HOLIDAY ART SALE

Saturday, December 10
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park

Featuring the work of over 30 local artists and crafters

Original painting, photography, ceramics, jewelry,
textiles, furnishings and more!





RECREATION



Popular Winter Basketball League registration underway

Established just two years ago, Takoma Park's Winter Basketball League has taken off, and now serves hundreds of Takoma area children ages 5 to 12 with indoor ball for the colder months. They'll start up again beginning Jan. 7 and play through March 3; games are scheduled on Saturdays. Registration is \$60 for Takoma Park residents, and \$70 for non-residents.

The league spans kindergarten through grades 7 and 8. Divisions are as follows: Kindergarten, grade 1 and grade 2 (coed); grades 3 and 4 together (boys); grades 3 and 4 together (girls); grades 5 and 6 together (boys); grades 5 and 6 together (girls); grades 7 and 8 (coed).

Players can register four ways:

Online at www.activenet.active.com/takomaparkrecreation

In person during business hours at the Takoma Park Recreation Department, 7500 Maple Ave. (Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 p.m., Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 10 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. or the Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Ave. (Monday-Friday, 2:30 – 9 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.)

By mail: to Takoma Park Recreation Department, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912, Attn: Basketball. Payment must be included to be registered and postmarked by the registration deadline (Dec. 9). Make checks payable to City of Takoma Park.

In person during registration day, Saturday, Dec. 3, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center.

Deadline for registration is Dec. 9.

For additional information, please contact Lew McAllister at 301-891-7284 or lewm@takomagov.org, or go to www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/wball/index.html. There are only a few spaces left for this program.



Basketball heats up in Takoma Park

Kidz City Holiday Party

The participants of Kidz City will celebrate the holiday season with holiday character cupcakes and hot chocolate as they decorate and sing holiday songs.

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 4:30 p.m.

TP Recreation Center

Free

Futsal/Indoor Soccer League

Ages 7 - 9

The Indoor Soccer League is a recreational program designed to promote indoor soccer play through sportsmanship, participation

and fun! Program will introduce boys and girls to the fundamentals of soccer, provide equal playing time for each participant, emphasize participation and provide a safe, positive, family atmosphere. The Takoma Park Recreation Department will provide team shirts for league play. Shin guards and gym shoes are required for each participant. For additional information please contact Lew McAllister at 301-891-7284 or lewm@takomagov.org.

Sundays, Jan. 22 – March 11, 1 – 6 p.m.

TP Recreation Center

TP residents \$60

Non-residents \$70

Volunteers Needed

Ages 16 and older

The Takoma Park Recreation Department is looking for spirited and dedicated people to volunteer as coaches, game clock attendants and score keepers. Volunteers may be used for assistance during our Winter Basketball League, Futsal League and/or T-Ball League. No experience is necessary as training is provided. For additional information on how to volunteer please contact Lew McAllister at 301-891-7284 or lewm@takomagov.org.

SILVER FOXES

Safety for Seniors Presentation Series

55 and older

Officer Carla Magnaye, of the Takoma Park Police Department will present three sessions covering a variety of timely topics regarding senior safety. For more information, call Magnaye, 301-891-7121 or Paula Lisowski, Seniors Program Manager, 301-891-7280. All programs are held in the Lilac Room, TP Community Center.

Internet Safety

Wednesday, Dec. 7, noon

Frauds and Cons

Monday, Dec. 12, 11:30 a.m.

Phone Scams

Wednesday, Dec. 14, noon

Free

Gentle Water Movement

55 and older

This shallow-water class uses flotation belts, aqua-barbells and water noodles to increase flexibility and strength. For more information and registration, check out the pool website: www.acsgw.org/pool.htm. You may contact the pool at 301-891-8017, or call Joyce Seamens, Director of Pool Operation, at 301-565-0190.

Tuesdays, 4 p.m., beginning Dec. 6
Piney Branch Pool, 7510 Maple Ave. inside Piney Branch School.
\$8 per person, per class
Ask about senior scholarships

Holiday Bingo

55 and older

Come and try your luck. Win a prize. Drop-in. No registration required.

Thursday, Dec. 22, 12 – 2 p.m.



Seniors enjoy one of Recreation Department's many outings, this one to the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair. From left, Doris Rodgers, Sheila Cole and Miriam Hood.

Photo by Paula Lisowski

Senior Room, TP Community Center
Free

Prostate Cancer Lecture

Washington Adventist Hospital intern, Dimitri Tsipantitis, will present a lecture about what prostate cancer is, and how you can protect yourself or someone you love from it. Drop-in. No registration required.

Monday, Dec. 5, 11 a.m.
Lilac Room, TP Community Center
Free

Birthday Party

55 and older

Mark your calendars for our next Birthday Party. Bring your friends and join us as we celebrate October, November and December birthdays with cake, ice cream, and party games. Drop-in. No registration required.

Friday, Dec. 16
1 – 2:30 p.m.
Lilac Room, TP Community Center
Free

Annual Gingerbread House Show

Darnall's Chance House Museum

55 and older

Join us for an amazing display of gingerbread houses. Afterwards, tour the historic museum house, dedicated to the history and culture of 18th century Prince Georges County. Bring spending money to purchase lunch. Warning: there are stairs to gift shop and second floor exhibit. Main floor and bathroom is wheelchair accessible. Registration begins on Dec 11. Call 301-891-7280 to pre-register; registration form required.

Thursday, Dec. 8, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
\$1 per person

Festival of Lights, Mormon Temple, Kensington, Maryland

55 and older

Join us for the holiday light display featuring 500,000 lights. In addition to the light display, there will be 16 decorated trees, and possibly a free concert* in the Visitor Center theatre. *Depends on the availability of on-site tickets. Registration begins on Dec 11. Call 301-891-7280 to pre-register; registration form required.

Tuesday, Dec. 13
5 – 8:30 p.m.
Free

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

ELECTION ■ From page 1

Nosbaum, with 67. Seth Grimes ran unopposed in Ward 1, with 247 votes. Incumbents Mayor Bruce Williams, Terry Seamens in Ward 4 and Reuben Snipper in Ward 5, won with 1663, 195 and 75 votes respectively.

A total of 1,958 residents voted, almost 20 percent of the City's registered voters and more than have voted since the three-way mayoral race in 2005. The race was also marked by some confusion during the final count when the Board of Elections discovered a discrepancy between the number of ballots counted and the number of voters. The error was the result of not including absentee and early voters in the voter numbers. Once corrected, the outcome of the election remained unchanged.

The new council met for the first time Nov. 21, after a swearing in ceremony and before a celebratory reception where residents lauded outgoing colleagues and congratulated those taking their places.

That first meeting was both reflective and forward-looking. As Josh Wright, Ward 1; Colleen Clay, Ward 2; and Dan Robinson, Ward 3 stepped down from the dais they thanked their fellow councilmembers and reviewed the rewarding experience of working closely with City staff and residents. Each was formally congratulated on behalf of the City Council and staff by the Mayor and recognized for their service with commemorative clocks recognizing their "time" on the Council.

Wright described the occasion as both sad and joyous, and proclaimed Takoma Park "one of the greatest places in the world," a City with vision he hopes can be emulated in other communities in America. He recognized an "amazing" citizenry and enumerated each of the councilmember's contributions in turn, including Clay's "policy chops" and Robinson's fiscal acumen. He also praised individual staff, including City Clerk Jessie Carpenter, the "glue that holds us together" and City Manager Barbara Matthews for "wrangling the seven of us to get us to

THE NEW TAKOMA PARK CITY COUNCIL

Mayor

Bruce R. Williams - 240-676-6234
brucew@takomagov.org

Ward 1

Seth Grimes - 301-873-8225
sethg@takomagov.org

Ward 2

Tim Male - 240-274-0341
timm@takomagov.org

Ward 3

Kay Daniels Cohen - 240-478-8463
kaydc@takomagov.org

Ward 4

Terry Seamens - 301-565-0190
terrys@takomagov.org

Ward 5

Reuben Snipper - 301-585-4103
reubens@takomagov.org

Ward 6

Fred Schultz - 301-434-7090
freds@takomagov.org

speak with one voice."

Other tributes were equally heartfelt: Schultz extended gratitude to outgoing members and drew laughter with his new motto of humility, "Never in doubt, frequently wrong." And two members, Mayor Williams and Councilmember Seamens, marked the occasion by wearing formal tuxedos—Seamens' complete with tails.

New members extended thanks to their friends and family for support during the campaigns and seemed eager to start their duties. They held their first business meeting and work session Nov. 28, will attend a Council retreat Dec. 5, hold one special session on Dec. 12, and take the annual winter break for the rest of December, resuming meetings Tuesday, Jan. 3 (just after the Jan. 2 New Year holiday).

that the business community let us play with fire in a parking lot downtown. But, at the same time, we are a professional troupe, and when we perform at an organized event, we expect to be paid," said Pendergrass.

Meanwhile, the troupe continues to develop new dances, such as "Dust Bowl," which it debuted two years ago at Floyd Fest in Floyd, Va. It also performs parts of "Nacho Fuego" at informal venues, such as the Old Town Takoma Gazebo. Next on the agenda might be the 2012 Cherry Blossom Festival.

With each performance, Dance Afire creates new fans. Sometimes, those fans find the art form as irresistible as Gee did when he first saw a fire dancer at a DC nightclub. Less than two years ago, Takoma Park residents Heather and Bill Chafin hired Dance Afire to perform at their daughter's 16th birthday party. "We were captivated," said Heather Chafin, and they started taking lessons. Now they and their son William, a sophomore at Northwood High School, are apprentices with Dance Afire.

"Newcomers are always welcome. We love to teach," said Valentine.

Food composting pilot begins January

Takoma Park is launching a pilot program to test the collection and composting of food waste.

Beginning in January, the Public Works Department will collect food scraps from homes in an as-yet-to-be-determined pilot area in the City, and contribute them to a composting program developed for the University of the District of Columbia, at a site in Prince George's County. The project is being coordinated with Growing SOUL, an organization that approached the City last year. Its mission is to educate the public about interdependence and reciprocity in developing and promoting sustainable food systems. They have partnered with Growing Power Inc.

The City has considered expanding collection beyond the traditional recycling and yard waste programs for some time, but the critical factor has always been identifying a market to accept the collected items. Growing SOUL has provided that missing piece.

For the City's pilot food waste program, residents will be asked to collect their food scraps (not including dairy and meat products), and food-soiled paper or cardboard in a small container with a tight fitting lid, inside their homes. The City may supply small, compostable plastic bags for participants to use in those small containers. Each week, separated food waste materials can be placed in a yard waste compost bag or larger, stiff-sided container with yard waste materials, and placed at the curb for the Monday yard waste collection.

During the pilot program, there will be limitations on the type of yard waste that can be mixed with the food waste: no grass, or sticks larger than 2 inches in diameter (due to limitations at the composting site). Participants with larger branches and grass will separate these items from the food waste at curbside, so it can be collected by the regular yard waste program.

Once the pilot area is selected, every resident there will receive a letter from the City notifying them of the new program. The program will not be mandatory. The City will ask those interested in participating to call the Public Works Department and register as a program participant. Since this program requires a significant amount of effort on the part of the participants to keep food waste separated from regular waste, the City is interested in working with those households that are enthusiastic about developing such a program.

The City anticipates collecting information during the program, and using it to design a future program for the entire City. Participants may be asked to try out different types of containers as well as communicate with the City about what works and what doesn't, and provide any suggestions about ways to make the program work better.

If you are interested in learning more about the pilot food waste collection program, contact the Public Works Director at 301-891-7615 or daryl@takomagov.org.

DANCE AFIRE ■ From page 3

have participated with other dance groups. "Burning Man is the beating heart where fire dancers touch base with each other," said Valentine, who has attended several times since beginning to fire dance about a decade ago.

Regional Burning Man events have become more numerous and larger as the fire dance community has grown. Dance Afire members have attended Playa Del Fuego in Delaware, the largest in the Mid-Atlantic. "Take about a thousand people who are motivated to make art that is beautiful and cool," said Pendergrass. "They're not motivated by money or advancement. They invite every type of creation from music to kinetic movement to sculpture to poetry. Fire dance is a big part of it."

When Dance Afire performs locally, it seeks to maintain that creative ethos, but it does seek compensation. "We do honor the Burning Man experience, particularly with free performances in Takoma Park, which has been so supportive of us. It's amazing



**It's time for the 12th Annual
Old Takoma Pajamarama!!**

*Sunday, Dec. 4
Festivities from 7 - 10 a.m.*

*Discounts in Old Town, at
Amano, ArtSpring, The Big Bad Woof, The Covered Market, Fair Day's Play,
The Magic Carpet, Now and Then, Old Takoma Ace Hardware, Park Florist, Polly
Sue's Vintage,
S & A Beads, The Stillpoint, Takoma Bicycle, Trohv, and Video American*

IF, AND ONLY IF, you are wearing...

*Your PJ's, of course! You must be wearing them to receive your discounts. And no,
sweats do not count!*

*Great Discounts! Fun! Refreshments!
And you get to see your neighbors in their jammies!*

Fall leaf collection program

Loose leaf collection will be provided by the City through Dec. 23 this year. The program will take place over 5 weeks. Residents can rake leaves to the curb at their convenience during the 5 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 on the weather and rain or freezing conditions can slow collection.

This year, the five streets that are State Highways will receive 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 Friday, Dec. 16.

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

No other streets will receive collection on the dates when the posted streets are col-

lected (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: 301-891-7633. 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 10 days of the call.

Please follow these guidelines:

1. Rake leaves into a pile at the edge of the curb. Do Not rake leaves into the street. Leaf piles can create traffic hazards.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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 4 feet long and less than 3 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.

LEAF COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS

- Collection will occur continuously through 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.

DECEMBER '11

Do you have an item for the City calendar?

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 January 2012 issue is Dec. 12. **To submit calendar items, email tpnewseditor@takomagov.org.** "TP Community Center" is the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park. All addresses are in Takoma Park unless otherwise noted.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

City Council Meeting

The City Council is on recess until Jan. 3, but will hold a brief special session and work session at 8 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 12 in the TP Community Center Auditorium.

See takomaparkmd.gov for agenda

COMMUNITY EVENTS

13th Annual Alternative Gift Fair

Dec. 3, 12 – 4 p.m.
Takoma Park Presbyterian Church, 310 Tulip Ave.
Purchase gifts of donation to honor loved ones and support local and international charities. Also bake sale, live music and raffle
www.aggw.org

Pajamarama

Sunday, Dec. 4, 7 – 10 a.m.
Old Takoma shops, Carroll Ave.
Wear pajamas for shopping discounts, refreshments, fun

ARTS AND LITERATURE

Open Mic Sundays

With Rob Hinkel
Sundays, 6 – 9 p.m.; sign-ups, 5:30 p.m.
Capital City Cheesecake, 7071 Carroll Ave.
Free
www.mainstreettakoma.org/event/446

Watercolor Expressions, 2011

Friday, Dec. 2, 6 – 8 p.m.
Opening reception of the Takoma Watercolor Group's newest exhibit
TP Community Center
www.facebook.com/#!/takomaparkmd

Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer

Family Concert

Saturday, Dec. 3, 1 p.m. AND 3 p.m.
Everything from banjos to yodeling
TP Community Center Auditorium
\$10 advance / \$12 door
www.imtfolk.org

Favorite and Sacred Songs

Saturday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m.
Holiday music with the DC Labor Chorus
TP Community Center Auditorium
Free, donations welcome
www.facebook.com/#!/takomaparkmd

Takoma Park SDA Church Children's Choir

Saturday, Dec. 3, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Gazebo, Carroll Ave.
Carols, poems, violins and sing-along Christmas songs

Cedar Avenue Artists Holiday Show

Saturday, Dec. 3 and Sunday, Dec. 4, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Five Cedar Avenue artists display recent works
7209 Cedar Ave.

The Failure of Capitalist Production

Discussion with author and economist Andrew Kliman
Thursday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m.
Free
TP Community Center Auditorium
www.facebook.com/#!/takomaparkmd

Take the Cake: an evening of parlor games

Adult surrealist fun, with cake prizes
Thursday, Dec. 8, 7 p.m.
Dance Exchange, 7117 Maple Ave.
\$10
Danceexchange.org

"Seasons of Light" Solstice Concert

Magpie and Kim & Reggie Harris

Friday, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m.
Carroll Café at Seekers Church, 276 Carroll St. N.W.
\$20/\$18 in advance
www.carrollcafe.org; info@carrollcafe.org

Sixth Annual Takoma Park Holiday Art Sale

Saturday, Dec. 10, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Annual sale featuring the work of over 30 artists
TP Community Center
Free
www.facebook.com/#!/takomaparkmd

Third Annual Takoma Park Authors Book Sale

Saturday, Dec. 10, 5 – 7 p.m.
Capital City Cheesecake, 7071 Carroll Ave.
Free

Annual Scandinavian Christmas Celebration

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m.
Andrea Hoag, Loretta Kelley, Charlie Pilzer, Arna Rennan
TP Community Center Auditorium
\$15 advance / \$20 door
www.imtfolk.org

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, Dec. 15, 7:30 pm
With poets Donald Illich, Carlee Hallman, Pam Winters and Jon Barrows
Free
TP Community Center Auditorium
www.facebook.com/#!/takomaparkmd

Nutcracker Confidential

An exchange of stories, conversation and surprises about the ubiquitous dance
Thursday, Dec. 15, 7 p.m.
Dance Exchange
7117 Maple Ave.
Free

Season of the Sailor: Bob Zentz and Calico Jack

Saturday, Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m.
Songs from the Atlantic maritime tradition
Free, donations welcome
TP Community Center Auditorium
www.facebook.com/#!/takomaparkmd

Winter Solstice Celebration

The Foggy Bottom Morris Men dance
Thursday, Dec. 15, 6 – 7 p.m.

Takoma Park Gazebo, Carroll Ave.

Holiday Brass Ensemble: Young Takoma Concert Series

Sunday, Dec. 18, noon and 1 p.m.
Takoma Park Gazebo, Carroll Ave.

Winter Solstice Celebration

Drummer Bill Jenkins and the Foggy Bottom Morris Men
Thursday, Dec. 22, 6:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Library
Free

Red Hips, and Ground Truth

Two performances: Video/dance installation by Brian Buck and Lori Yuill, and excerpts from Emily Tschiffely's collaboration with Paperclip Scientists
Thursday, Dec. 22, 7 p.m.
Dance Exchange, 7117 Maple Ave.
\$10

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
www.mrgabemusic.com

Kidz City Holiday Party

Cupcakes, hot chocolate, decorating and holiday songs.
Tuesday, Dec. 20, 4:30 p.m.
TP Recreation Center
Free

SENIORS

Annual Gingerbread House Show

Darnall's Chance House Museum
55 and older
Thursday, Dec. 8, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Recreation Dept. activity: see page 6 for more info

Festival of Lights, Mormon Temple, Kensington

55 and older
Tuesday, Dec. 13, 5 – 8:30 p.m.
Recreation Dept. activity: see page 6 for more info