Residents to elect councilmember July 17

The City of Takoma Park is holding a special election to replace outgoing Ward 5 City Councilmember Reuben Snipper. The election will be held July 17 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Wilkinson Hall, Washington Adventist University, 7600 Flower Ave.

Three candidates have filed to run: Eric Hensal, Jarrett Smith and Melinda Ulloa (see candidate statements, page 9).

All registered voters who live in Ward 5 are urged to participate in the election. To determine whether you live in Ward 5, see the Ward map, http://takomaparkmd.gov/council/wardmap.html or call the city clerk, 301-891-7267. A candidates forum will help inform voters: it will be held Thursday, July 12 from 7 to 9 p.m. in Wilkinson Hall (see above).

The winner of the election will serve the remainder of Snipper’s two-year term, until November 2014. Winners will be announced at a brief City Council meeting at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 18. For more information, see pages 8 and 9.

Takoma Park Playwright Wins Maryland State Arts Council Award

Maria Cristina Garcia wants to tackle the big questions—questions that seem to have no answers. To do it, she’s turned to playwriting, and it’s won her acclaim as a Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) 2012 Individual Artist.

The MSAC presents Individual Artist Awards to Maryland artists who create “work of exceptional quality within a range of disciplines.” Garcia, a 17-year resident of Takoma Park, won the award for her play, Tacones (High Heels).

A married mother of two school-age children (ages 14 and 12), Garcia started out wanting to write novels, but soon found that dialogue was her particular strength. She turned to the stage, and found that the play is her best medium.

Tacones is Garcia’s second play. The story follows a former priest who is an immigration attorney by day and transvestite bar waitress by night; he gets involved in transnational efforts to locate a missing friend. Tacones examines the human suffering and torture he encounters. Largely existential, says Garcia, Tacones does not wrap up neatly, but leaves the reader thinking about these major themes.

Local credit union could bypass corporate banking

A group of Takoma Park residents is “banking” on the idea that there are enough City residents who are fed up with big banks to embrace an alternative.

Inspired by one of the main causes championed by the Occupy Movement, “Move Your Money,” which urges people to move their money out of big banks to smaller, community-oriented options, the group is focusing its efforts on establishing a credit union in the City. “The main issue is, how do you get money to be more local?” said former Ward 3 councilman Dan Robinson, one of the main organizers of the effort. “That is a question a lot of us in the community have been looking at for a long time.”

Nadine Bloch, another organizer, was among those considering the issue long before it became one of the rallying cries of the Occupy protesters. “For years I’ve been thinking I’d like to get my money out of the big banks, and with ‘Move Your Money’ [becoming known] I decided to reach out and see if there were some other people who were interested in having a credit union here.”

Bloch sent out a notice to some local listservs and found there was indeed interest. Soon after, the Azalea Credit Union Exploratory Committee, a work group of approximately a dozen people, was formed.

The group has set up a website which provides information on their effort, information about credit unions, and a feasibility study on establishing a credit union.

The grand opening of the newly renovated Takoma-Piney Branch Local Park on June 1 included a ribbon cutting, basketball games and skateboarding, as residents tried out the new facility. Steve Francis, an NBA All-Star and Takoma Park native, grew up at the Park Ritchie apartments down the street and donated $70,000 to help fund the renovation. The park, at the end of Grant Avenue behind the Community Center and Piney Branch Elementary School, includes a refurbished basketball court, two new playgrounds, a new skateboard park, picnic pavilion and sculptures.

Hometown star celebrates new park opening
RESOLUTION 2012-28
Adopted (May 21)
VOTING ND: Grimes,Male
URGES Congress to repeal Sections 1021 and 1022 of the National Defense Authorization Act; the sense of the City Council is that the National Defense Authorization Act and the Authorization for Use of Military Force do not and should not authorize the armed forces to investigate, arrest, detain or try any person within the U.S., or to militarily detain without charge or trial civilians not captured on any battlefield, and that the authorization for use of military force expires upon the end of combat operations in Afghanistan.

RESOLUTION 2012-29
Adopted (May 21)
Resolution supporting federal budget reprioritization
VOTING ND: Grimes, Male
URGES Congress to make major reductions in the Pentagon budget, in a manner that does not harm the safety or lives of our troops, with the savings invested in state and local needs so that the City of Takoma Park and other local jurisdictions can repair deteriorating infrastructure, reverse budget cuts to education, health care and other needs, and otherwise improve the welfare of their residents.

RESOLUTION 2012-30
Adopted (May 29)
Resolution recognizing former Ward 5 City Councilmember Reuben Snipper
RECOGNIZES the contributions and service of Reuben Snipper, who retired from City Council effective May 22.

RESOLUTION 2012-31
Adopted (May 29)
Resolution expressing condolences to the family and friends of Ron Wylie
RON WYLIE was the Executive Director of Adventist Community Services of Greater Washington. He passed away on May 15.

RESOLUTION 2012-32
Adopted (June 4)
Resolution regarding a crosswalk and signalization at Takoma Junction
REQUESTS that the State Highway Administration install a pedestrian crosswalk across Carroll Avenue/Route 410 at Grant Avenue and optimize and improve the Takoma Junction traffic signals. It also requests that WMATA and Montgomery County Ride On evaluate the alignment of the bus stop at BY Morrison Park.

ORDINANCE 2012-21
Adopted (first reading May 14; second reading May 21)
VOTING ND: Seemans
ORDINANCE adopting the fiscal year 2013 tax rates

ORDINANCE 2012-22
Adopted (first reading May 14; second reading May 21)
ORDINANCE adopting the fiscal year 2013 stormwater budget

ORDINANCE 2012-23
Adopted (first reading May 14; second reading May 21)
ORDINANCE adopting the fiscal year 2013 budget

ORDINANCE 2012-24
Adopted (first reading May 14; second reading May 29)
ORDINANCE amending the City of Takoma Park Police employees’ retirement plan to conform with federal law changes

ORDINANCE 2012-25
Adopted (May 14)
ORDINANCE authorizing purchase and installation of building security equipment and related software

ORDINANCE 2012-26
Adopted (May 21)
Order authorizing purchase and installation of building security equipment and related software

PERSONNEL APPEAL BOARD (vacancy)
Personnel Appeal Board (vacancies)

RECREATION COMMITTEE
Monday, July 9, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

SALES COMMISSIONS (vacancy)
Sales Commissions (vacancies)

SAND & GRASS COMMISSIONS (vacancy)
Sand & Grass Commissions (vacancies)

TPCC HYDRANGEA ROOM
Tuesdays, 7 p.m.
First Tuesday, July 10, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

WASHINGT0N ADVENTIST HOSPITAL LAND USE COMMITTEE
Tuesday, July 17, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
Tuesday, July 24, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
Tuesday, July 31, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
Tuesday, July 7, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
Tuesday, July 21, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
Tuesday, July 28, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
Tuesday, July 1, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
Tuesday, July 14, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
Tuesday, July 28, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

WILLIAMSBURY BOARD OF ALDERMEN (vacancy)
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City and local actor featured in successful indie film

By Rick Henry

“Ultrasonic,” an independent film currently screening on local cable outlets after playing in theaters across the country, features a face—and a place—that will be familiar to many Takoma Park residents.

The face is that of the movie’s star, Silas Gordon Brigham, an actor and bartender/waiter at the Olive Lounge/Middle Eastern restaurant in downtown Takoma Park. It is the first leading role for Brigham, who began acting formally as an 18-year-old student at Guilford College in North Carolina.

“When I was cast, I can’t say that I was sure what was going to happen. It did feel very life-changing at the time though,” he says. “I am extremely grateful for the opportunity.”

In the movie, Brigham stars as Simon York, a music teacher, band member and married, soon-to-be-father who hears what he thinks is a very real sound in an alleyway. The sound does not disappear and remains audible from his house. His wife doesn’t hear it and she dismisses it, claiming that his ears are ringing from years of loud music. His brother-in-law feels differently, believing what Simon is hearing is a government experiment utilizing an ultrasonic auditory signal to control the minds of all who hear it. Together they try and find the truth and stop the noise.

The Olive Lounge also plays a star role: it is featured in three scenes, including the pivotal point where York first hears the strange sound. That scene was filmed in the alley between Olive Lounge and Mark’s Kitchen. It is featured in the movie’s trailer (http://ultrasonicmovie.com/guest) and is where the movie’s promotional poster, featuring Brigham, was shot.

“That alley is unique and captures the vibe I wanted when Simon first hears the sound,” said Rohit Rao, the film’s writer/director/producer. Rao says he is extremely grateful to Nadal Hismeh, owner of Olive, for allowing some of the film to be shot there. “They really helped us out,” he said. “We needed a bar for some scenes and they stepped up. And they hosted our wrap party!”

Olive is also responsible for Brigham getting the part.

“One night I checked a woman’s I.D. at the bar and took note that we had the same birth date. I didn’t really notice her name at the time. She then overheard someone say my name and we realized that we went to school together,” he said. “We went to a Halloween party and I met one of her friends, who mentioned that he had a friend and bandmate auditioning for a movie. They gave me the info and I auditioned. It felt quite providential. Or in the Quaker circles in which I grew up, we might say it was a ‘way opening,’” said Brigham.

Neither Rao nor Brigham had any expectations that the film would be so successful. The first milestone was being selected for the DC Independent Film Festival (DCIFF) in March, then being named “Best of Fest.” Brigham attributes the prize directly to the support of people from Takoma Park, who were instrumental in selling out the world premier and voting for the movie.

“That support has been consistent throughout, he added. “Since the beginning, before anyone knew what was going to happen with it, people have asked me regularly how everything was going. We are approaching two years now that I became involved in this. And people have been consistently supportive that entire time. I seriously get a little teary-eyed sometimes when thinking of how wonderful people have been to me here.”

“Takoma Park is a community that is so supportive of the arts. The longer I am alive, the more I realize how important that is. You cannot separate creativity and life,” he said.

After its success at DCIFF, the movie secured theatrical releases in nine U.S. cities in the month of June, (Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, Seattle, Miami, Virginia Beach, Los Angeles, San Francisco and a two-week run at the West End Cinema in Washington, D.C.).

“I’m completely amazed and excited [about the film’s success],” says Rao. “It is above and beyond what I could have possibly expected. I mean, it’s a long shot for a film like this to get a theatrical run.”

And though the film has concluded its run, there are still many opportunities to see it: It is currently available to rent on Comcast OnDemand until Aug. 31, and will soon be available for rent on Verizon FiOS OnDemand. Starting July 15, you can rent it in HD on the website (Ultrasonic-Movie.com). It is also currently available for purchase on iTunes.

Montgomery County Cable Communications Advisory Committee Volunteer Needed

The City of Takoma Park has one seat on the County’s Cable and Communications Advisory Committee (CCAC). The City Council is seeking a volunteer to serve as the City’s representative on the CCAC. The individual should be knowledgeable and/or excited about innovative use of cable television, the use of video on multiple devices, the need for responsive customer service, and the possibilities of interactivity with the City’s residents through technology.

Additionally, the City of Takoma Park and Montgomery County are in the process of negotiating the franchise agreement with Comcast, and the agreements with Verizon and RCN expire in 2014. The CCAC will have an advisory role in the franchise renewal process. For more information, contact Deputy City Manager Suzanne Ludlow at suzannel@takomapark.gov or 301-891-7229.

Committee on the Environment and Safe Roadsways Committee – opportunity to apply for appointment

The City Council is expected to begin accepting applications for two committees that are being re-formed: the Committee on the Environment and the Safe Roadsways Committee. Full information will be provided in the August issue of the Takoma Park Newsletter and at www.takomaparkmd.gov. Interested individuals may watch for news at www.takomaparkmd.gov or contact Jessie Carpenter for additional information (jessie@takomapark.gov or 301-891-7367).

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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 newsletter@takomapark.gov. Official statements of City policy are found in the Takoma Park Code of Ordinances, available online at www.takomaparkmd.gov.

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

July 2012
Takoma Park News Page 3
Rent Increase Allows 2.8 percent

Did you know that the City of Takoma Park sets the limit on yearly rent increases given by a landlord? The law applies to most multi-family rental properties and to individually rented condominiums.

For any rent increases taken from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013, the rent stabilization allowance is 2.8 percent. A landlord must give a two-month written notice prior to taking the increase, and can only take one increase in a 12-month period.

To verify that your rent is the correct rent for your unit, you may contact Jean Kerr at 301-891-7216 or jeank@takomagov.org.

After home purchase, what comes next?

So you just bought a house or a condo and now you want to make sure you keep it and preserve it. Now is the time to sign up for a free post-purchase seminar offered by Housing and Community Initiatives, a non-profit organization that partners with the Montgomery County government to offer assistance to new and not-so-new homeowners.

The class will cover topics such as record keeping, property taxes, maintenance and repairs, understanding mortgage refinancing, managing risk (insurance and common ownership (condos, HOAs)) issues. The class will be held on Saturday, July 14 at 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville, Md. from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Pre-registration is required by going on-line to www.hciis.org and selecting First Time Home Buyer classes.

Tenant Rights/Responsibilities Seminars

Designed to share information regarding the City’s landlord-tenant and rent stabilization laws, these seminars are usually held three times per year and are advertised in the city newsletter and by flyer distributions to rental properties. Additionally, by request, a tenant rights class can be held just for the tenants in your building.

The Landlord-Tenant Handbook

Designed to help tenants understand the City laws, this handbook provides helpful tips and suggestions. Sample letters show tenants how to report a problem to the landlord, and a sample notice of intent to vacate helps them give proper notice if they are ready to leave. Also included in the handbook is a rental unit inspection checklist and frequently asked questions and answers for renters. The handbook is available on the City’s website, www.takomaparkmd.gov in the landlord-tenant section.

Housing Mailbox

You are reading it! This monthly column in the City Newsletter answers all sorts of questions about rentals, from both tenants and landlords.

Phone and email

Our housing staff provides telephone and email support to tenants with questions. Call 301-891-7215 or email mosews@takomagov.org.

Meetings

Members of the City’s landlord-tenant office staff will attend tenant meetings to answer questions about the City’s laws in person.

Tenants or landlords with questions regarding the City’s Landlord-tenant and COLTA Laws can contact me at 301-891-7215 or mosews@takomagov.org.

CITY BRIEFS

Crossroads Farmers’ Market open each Wednesday

The Crossroads Farmers Market, now in its sixth year, is offering farm fresh eggs along with the usual array of locally grown vegetables and fruits, and ready-to-eat treats like pupusas and baked goods. The market is open every Wednesday from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. at 7676 New Hampshire Ave., near the intersection of University Boulevard and New Hampshire Avenue.

The market also has a new manager, Allison Milching. Former managers Michelle Dudley and Michele Levy continue to run the Crossroads Community Food Network, an organization that more broadly promotes support for local producers and low-income food consumers. crossroadsmarket@gmail.com.

Chuck E. Cheese moves into town

The famously raucous, kid-centric Chuck E. Cheese restaurant and party center is planning to open a franchise in the Hampshire Langley shopping center, where HG&G The Store most recently leased space. The 18,000-square-foot facility will likely become a standard Chuck E. Cheese location, with the oversized, costumed mouse and his “animal” pals, a menu of pizza and sandwiches, and myriad arcade games and other activities for children. A spokesperson for Chuck E. Cheese says plans are in a preliminary stage, and no development dates have been established.

Step up Takoma

Volunteering in Takoma Park is about to get easier. A new clearinghouse for all things volunteer, Step Up Takoma, is working on a web site where participants can find appealing and appropriate opportunities for their donated time.

Initiated by Takoma Park Girl Scout Troop 5831 and funded in part by a small community grant from Takoma Park, the Step Up Takoma web site will show a calendar of events and opportunities to volunteer, a way for organizations to find volunteers, and lists of possibilities for groups and skills-based jobs. Step Up will also present workshops around volunteerism.

Colleen Clay, girl scout leader and current adult administrator of the program, says Step Up should eventually be participant-run, with an administrative board to plan volunteer fairs and workshops. To see what’s up so far, go to stepuptakoma.org.
**ARTS & Humanities**

**ARTS GET A JUMP ON FALL PLANNING**

City staff is planning to meet every 1 to 2 months, with the next meeting on Thursday, Oct. 6 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center. The focus will be on projects and programs that will take place in the fall of 2012.

**Recycling Information**

**Trashy Art contest**

The Old Town Business Association (which has its own recycling program) will host this event. The competition is being sponsored by the Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission. Old Takoma – Gazebo

**Demonstrations with Artist in Residence Renee Lachman**

Hands-on art activities with recycled materials. Performance by "Cooking with Gas"

**Recycling Information**

Trashy Art contest, with prizes

More info: 301-585-6904

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**Artist in Residence project showcases recycled art**

Program includes Recycle Your Art Out and Trasy Art Contest on July 29

In a debut move to combine two of Takoma Park’s most popular themes—recycling and art—the City recently chose its first ever Recycling Artist in Residence.

Renee Lachman, a local resident artist who specializes in assemblages of wood and found objects, will serve a two-month term, during which she will create a commissioned piece of art at a studio set up at the Takoma Park Public Works facility.

Residents are urged to visit her and learn about the process of art-making from ‘up-cycled’ and repurposed materials, then join her during “Recycle Your Art Out Day,” which will include demonstrations, activities and art-making opportunities.

The Artist in Residence project is co-sponsored by the Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission, the Department of Public Works (where Takoma Park’s own recycling program is centered), The Old Town Business Association (which will host the Recycle Your Art Out event) and Scrap DC, a recycling and art advocacy organization that facilitates making art from otherwise cast-off objects.

This project was conceived by Sally Brucker, a Takoma Park artist and member of the Arts and Humanities Commission, as an opportunity to highlight Takoma Park as a leader in recycling and as a way to educate the public about the vast creative potential of re-usable trash.

If it succeeds as a pilot project, it will be extended annually.

Lachman is a natural choice to kick off the concept. Drawn to the program through her interest in how things become weathered and change over time, Lachman says there is “beauty in this fading.” A simple kitchen knob might recall a childhood, she suggests, or a print or pattern could evoke the viewer’s—or artist’s—ancestry. “The things I collect—whether of plastic, iron or paper—speak to me even before I begin to arrange them,” she says.

Lachman expects to create ten or 12 pieces during her residency. One will be a commissioned work intended for display in the City, probably at the Department of Public Works.

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**We are Takoma Cultural Series**

The sky is the limit as far as programming goes for the “We are Takoma” series. Past offerings have included concerts, recitals, theater performances and readings of plays, dance, film screenings, lectures and panel discussions. Our programming options are limited only by the size of our space and the technical demands of the event.

If you are interested in being included in the series, drop us an email or give us a call. Proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis with decisions made within 30 days of submission and selected programming scheduled accordingly. Programming is to be offered on a monthly basis, free of charge to the public.

To view past events, check us out on Facebook, www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMDEvents.

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**We Are Takoma**

Pets and poets concert, arranged in We are Takoma

**Pets n Poets: A Benefit Concert**

With Amij, Ro Cube, Patty Reese, Pam Parker, Victoria Floor, Melinda Hamerly, Michelle Maria Norris & Susan Faucon and three dog agility acts.

Sunday, July 22, 2 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

Suggested donation, $20

An array of versatile and accomplished musicians and poets (and dogs!) will come together for Pets n Poets on Sunday, July 22 to share their creative voice of compassion and to raise funds for the Washington Animal Rescue League.

“We have a voice like honey and sand, Pat-ty Reese can hold her own with any other soul struck singer,” says Michael Jaworek at the Birchmere Music Hall. That’s the sort of company she’ll keep at this event, which will also include Wannie award winners Pam Parker, Ro Cube and Susan Faucon. Faucon is a jazz composer, playwright, performer and producer. Parker brings back tones reminiscent of Billie Holiday and Aretha Franklin. Cube has been sideman for The Temptations and many other acts, contributing as guitarist, singer, DJ and dancer. Heading up the line-up is AMIJ, well-known vocalist and drummer who blends jazz, R&B, pop and soul.

Performing as well are up-and-coming animal-loving artists, Melinda Hamerly, Michelle Maria Norris and Victoria Floor. Hamerly, a voice major at Union College who graduates this month, will be teaching music upon graduation. Michelle Maria Norris has released her first CD, Floor

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**W E A R E T A K O M A**

**Dancing in the Rays of the Antarctic Sun – Reflections from the White Continent – A Poetic Journey**

Thursday, July 12, 7 p.m. reception, 7:30 p.m. film

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

Free

www.facebook.com/DancingintheRaysoftheAntarcticSun

In this film, two childhood friends finish their dream journey of traveling to all seven continents. Beginning in arts district “La Boca” in Buenos Aires, Dancing in the Rays of the Antarctic Sun tells the story of Joy West and Laura Holliday as they travel to the white continent. As they become part of the small group of travelers, they reflect on their experience through the unique lens of growing up in a racially segregated society with limited opportunity for travel. The journey addresses the impact of climate change and human activity that threatens to destroy Antarctica’s glaciers, animals and beauty.

Fourteen poetic renditions accompany the breathtaking images found in the wide-ranging geography of the film. La Boca, the Atlantic, and Antarctica. The filmmakers will answer questions about the content and process after the film.
RECREATION

Tai Chi; Ages 16 and older
Tai Chi, an ancient exercise for cultivating physical and spiritual health, has been proven effective in restoring balance and calm in our lives. This class will cover the basic principles and concepts, using slow, gentle movements and relaxed breathing to harmonize energy and flow in the body. The class will follow the Yang style short form that was introduced to the West by the renowned Cheng Man Ch’ing. Tuesdays (ongoing), 5:30 – 7 p.m.
TP Recreation Center
Free with membership card

SUMMER CAMPS

Rookie Sports Camp (Hall Day)
Ages 3 – 5
have the little ones join us for a week of unique activities including T-ball, soccer, baseball, kickball, relays and more. Sessions take place in a safe, structured environment and sports are played through a series of games and activities. All the sports promote hand-eye coordination, motor skills, group participation and communication skills. All participants must wear sneakers and dress appropriately.
9 a.m. – 12 noon
TP Community Center Rose Room
Session 2: July 9 – July 13
Session 3: July 30 – Aug. 3
TP residents $80 per week
Non-residents $90 per week

Super Sports Camp
Ages 10 – 12
In addition to some of our more traditional sports, our fun-focused camp exposes campers to new activities, helps develop recreational skills, and promotes social growth. Camp will conclude with sport challenges and game competitions. All participants must wear sneakers and dress appropriately.
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
TP Community Center Rose Room
Session 2: July 23 – July 27 (10-12 yrs)
TP residents $160 per week
Non-residents $180 per week
Before Care, 7 – 9 a.m.
TP residents $35
Non-residents $45

After care, 4 – 6 p.m.
TP residents $35
Non-residents $45

Dribble, Pass and Shoot Basketball Camp
Ages 6 – 12
Emphasizing individual improvement is one of the guiding philosophies of camp. Campers will be provided with excellent coaching which allows each participant to develop a sense of pride and individual accomplishment.
The level of instruction will be adjusted to fit the individual needs of each participant. Don Bosco Athletic Director and former basketball coach Frank Simpson will lead.
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Aug. 13 – 17
TP Recreation Center
$20 per week
Before Care, 7 – 9 a.m.
TP residents $35
Non-residents $45
After care, 4 – 6 p.m.
TP residents $35
Non-residents $45

Dance Camp
Ages 6-12
Ballet, tap and creative dance are geared to allow girls and boys to enhance talent with skill and technique. Learn basic dance skills, rhythm, musicality and improvisation. Instructors focus on building self-esteem and personal creativity. At the end of each session, campers showcase what they have learned with a performance.
Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Session 1: July 9 – June 13
Session 2: July 30 – Aug. 3
TP Community Center
TP residents $20 per session
Non-residents $230 per session
Before care, 7 – 9 a.m.
TP residents $35
Non-residents $45
After care, 4 – 6 p.m.
TP residents $35
Non-residents $45

Teens on the Move
Ages 13-18
A balance of experiential learning, community service, fun activities and career development. Daily emphasis on exercise, sports, nutrition and team building while having fun in a challenging but safe atmosphere.
Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Session 1: July 9 – June 13
Session 2: July 16 – July 20
Session 3: July 23 – July 27
TP Community Center
TP residents $110/session
Non-residents $120/session

Camp Takoma
Ages 10-12
Want your child to have the best summer ever? Let them join us for fun, education and physical enhancement through daily exercise, group games, weekday field trips, arts and crafts, swimming and much more. Through arts experiences, each participant will have the opportunity to grow academically and socially while expressing themselves in fun and creative ways. Campers will also experience literature, music, visual arts, games, theater and sports.
Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Session 1: June 18 – 22
TP residents $200 per week
Non-residents $210 per week
Session 2: June 25 – 29
TP residents $200 per week
Non-residents $210 per week
Session 3: July 2 – 6
TP residents $200 per week
Non-residents $210 per week
Session 4: July 9 – 13
TP residents $200 per week
Non-residents $210 per week
Session 5: July 16 – 20
TP residents $200 per week
Non-residents $210 per week
Session 6: July 23 – 27
TP residents $200 per week
Non-residents $210 per week
Session 7: July 30 – Aug. 3
TP residents $200 per week
Non-residents $210 per week

Double Dutch
Ages 6-14
Learn the art of double Dutch through a fun and aerobic endurance workout that includes simple rope jumping, double Dutch turning and jumping, stretching, toning, jogging and calisthenics. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department.
Tuesdays (ongoing), 7 – 8:30 p.m.
TP Recreation Center
Free with membership card

Yoga for Beginners
Ages 16 and older
Discover how to work with your body in a safe, gentle, non-competitive way which promotes increased flexibility, strength, balance and awareness. Introduces and develops the foundation of standing poses and basic actions in forward bends, backbends and twists. Each pose can be modified to accommodate all physical conditions. Please come with comfortable clothing and an empty stomach.
Tuesdays, July 17 – Aug. 28, 6 – 7:15 p.m.
TP Community Center dance studio
TP residents $75
Non-residents $85

Yoga and Meditation, Intermediate
Ages 16 and older
Iyengar yoga teaches stability and openness through alignment, so that the flow of energy and the focus of the mind are found in each pose. This class will include inversions and more advanced poses. It is appropriate for those who have a good foundation in standing poses and an understanding of basic alignment.
Tuesdays, July 17 – Aug. 28, 7:30 – 9 p.m.
TP Community Center dance studio
TP residents $75
Non-residents $85

TO REGISTER ONLINE FOR RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS
Go to http://takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/index.html
For more information by phone, call 301-891-7290
It’s time to renew Takoma Park parking permits

The City of Takoma Park requires that residents renew parking permits prior to July 1 every year. There is no grace period and tickets will be written for expired permits after June 30.

To ease the process and to encourage early registration, the Police Department offers permits by mail, as well as in-person purchasing. Residents should complete the form, which can be picked up from the Police Department or downloaded and printed from the Takoma Park Police Department website at www.takomaparkmd.gov/police/documents/permitap.pdf.

Registration, by mail and in person begins on June 1, and in-person is Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Permits by mail are for residences only, with a $1 charge for mailing and handling. In-person purchasing is required for businesses and for Area B permits.

Residents should complete the form/application and return it, with payment, to the Police Department. Photocopies of the current vehicle registration card for each vehicle and a driver’s license for at least one owner must be submitted with this form. Attachments must show a current Takoma Park address in the requested permit area. Include day and evening phone numbers in case any questions arise in processing.

A decal and year sticker for each registered vehicle will be mailed back within three business days of receipt. Two visitor parking permits will be included for each address.

Businesses in the permit areas should submit names and employees on company letterhead with their request. Not more than three employees’ permits are allowed. A home-based business must show evidence of a currently-operated business, which is current on payment of personal property taxes.

A 50 percent discount is offered to hybrid or all-electric vehicles. Questions regarding parking permit can be answered at 301-891-7102, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

CREDIT UNION

■ From page 1

ity survey. The number of people responding to the survey and their feedback has convinced the committee to move forward with trying to bring a credit union to the City.

HOW IT WORKS

A credit union is a member-owned, not-for-profit, collaborative financial institution. Members may become affiliated through their employers, their organizational affiliations or the communities in which they live. Each member, regardless of the size of his or her deposits, has equal ownership and voting rights.

Unlike corporate commercial banks, credit unions do not issue stock or pay dividends to outside shareholders. Instead, they return earnings to their members through lower loan rates and fees and higher interest rates on deposits. Each credit union is governed by a volunteer board of directors elected from its membership.

More than 87 million Americans are credit union members, according to the Credit Union National Association (CUNA).

GARCI A HONORED

■ From page 1

and how they affect and reveal the human condition. Garcia also wants to write about what Latino life is like here in the United States, reflecting a range of human issues, and “not just questions related to immigration,” she says. “We are more than our struggles with immigration.”

Garcia, who is not formally trained as a writer, took two years to write Tacones. Her writing involves imagination and “a sort of stream of consciousness,” she says, and she struggles to find time to fit it into a busy life. She works part-time managing a medical office. When she’s finished with work for the day, she “steals away time” for her writing.

While it’s not always easy, Garcia remembers what she learned from famous author Terri MacMillan: “There is no way to do it [write] but to do it!” The “whole family” is joyously celebrating her award, says Garcia, and she is proud to be an example of accomplishment for her children.

Submissions to the Maryland Individual Artist Awards program are blind, meaning they are presented with no identifying information about the artist. All submissions are peer-reviewed by anonymous jurors across the country who then recommend awards for the Maryland IAA program. According to Maryland State Arts Council’s Pamela Dunn, Tacones is exactly the kind of work the Individual Artist Awards program is meant to surface and recognize. “The reviewers’ scores and comments reflect appreciation that the play brought up some very current issues,” said Dunn. “This may well have helped distinguish Tacones from many of the other plays being considered.”

Garcia’s first play, Lesbians and the Men Who Love Them, was presented as a work in progress (it was “work-shopped”) at Gallaudet University in 2010, and in June 2011, was read as part of the We Are Takoma Series. Garcia is developing her third play, 16 Bottles of Manischewitz, about a Latina girl, her father, a Hassidic rabbi, and “the secrets we keep.” Garcia’s plans are to have the play produced at local theaters.

While Garcia credits her own family with nurturing her talents (growing up in New York City she was treated to theatre, shows and performances by her mother), she also credits the play produced at local theaters. While Garcia credits her own family with nurturing her talents (growing up in New York City she was treated to theatre, shows and performances by her mother), she also credits the play produced at local theaters.
Ward 5 Residents Prepare to Elect a New Ward 5 City Councilmember

Election Day is Tuesday, July 17, 2012 (for the Ward 5 Special Election)

The single polling place is at Wilkinson Hall, Washington Adventist University, 7600 Flower Ave. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

By the time the July issue of the Takoma Park Newsletter is mailed, the ballot will be set for the Ward 5 Special Election. The deadline for candidates to submit petitions to have their name placed on the ballot was June 27.

A sample ballot will be mailed to all Ward 5 voters early in July. After the polls close on election day, ballots will be returned to the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium for counting. Preliminary results will be announced election evening.

At 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 18, the City Council will meet briefly in the Community Center Auditorium to receive the certification of election results from the Board of Elections.

For information about any facet of the election, contact Jessie Carpenter at JessieC@takomagov.org or 301-891-7267.

Ward 5 Candidates Forum

Spend an evening learning about the candidates at a Candidates Forum on Thursday, July 12, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Wilkinson Hall, Washington Adventist University, 7600 Flower Ave. Meet and greet from 7 to 7:30 p.m. The Forum will begin promptly at 7:30 p.m. Eric Bond, editor of the Takoma Voice, will moderate the session.

ADDITIONAL ELECTION INFORMATION

Absentee Ballots

Any registered voter may file an application to vote by absentee ballot. Completed applications to have a ballot mailed must be filed with the City Clerk not later than 4 p.m. on Wednesday, July 11, 2012. Upon verification of a voter’s eligibility, an absentee ballot will be issued—either by mail or in person. The voted ballot must be received by the Clerk prior to the closing of the polls on Election Day.

Late Absentee Ballot Requests and On-Site “Absentee” Voting

Beginning Wednesday, July 11, voters may apply in person to the City Clerk for a late absentee ballot and may vote at the City Clerk’s Office if they wish. If the applicant cannot apply and vote in person, he or she may designate in the application a registered voter of the City to act as agent in picking up and delivering the ballot (candidates and their families may not act as agents). The application must be completed and filed with the City Clerk prior to issuance of a ballot to the agent. As with regular absentee voting, a ballot cannot be issued until the voter’s eligibility has been established, and the ballot must be returned to the City Clerk’s Office prior to the closing of the polls on Election Day.

Instant Runoff Voting

Pursuant to Charter Amendment Resolution 2006-1, an instant runoff voting (IRV) system shall be used, allowing voters to rank candidates in order of choice. In an instant runoff system, voters rank candidates (1, 2, 3 and so on). If no candidate receives a majority of the first choices, the candidate with the fewest first choices is eliminated and those voters’ second choice votes are redistributed to other candidates. This continues until one candidate receives a majority of votes and is elected.

With IRV, 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 the Ward 5 special election, a runoff will be simulated. The candidate who received the fewest number of first choices will be eliminated, reducing the field of candidates. Voters who ranked the eliminated candidate as their first choice will have their second choice added to the totals in the second round. The candidate with more votes will win the instant runoff.

Out of Town on Election Day?

Apply now to receive an absentee ballot by mail. The application is available online at www.takomaparkmd.gov.

Residents of the District 5 Prepare Por Votar Par Un Consejal Nuevo Para El Distrito 5

El día de la elección es el 17 de julio del 2012 (para la elección especial del Distrito 5).

La elección tomará lugar en Wilkinson Hall, Washington Adventist University, 7600 Flower Avenue.

Las cabinales electorales estarán habilitadas a 7 a.m. a 8 p.m.

Desde de haber mandado el boletín de Takoma Park para el mes de julio, la boleta electoral estará establecida para la elección especial del distrito 5. La fecha límite para someter una petición para añadir su nombre como candidato a la boleta electoral es el 27 de junio.

Se mandará por correo una muestra de la boleta electoral a todos los residentes del distrito 5 en la primera parte de julio.

Desde que cierre las cabinales electorales el día de las elecciones, se contará las boletas electorales en el Centro Comunitario de Takoma Park. Se anunciará los resultados no oficiales la noche de la elección.

El miércoles, 18 de julio a las 7:30 p.m., el consejo se reunirá brevemente en el auditorio para recibir el certificado de los resultados de la elección de la Junta Electoral.

Para más información sobre la elección, póngase en contacto con la Secretaria Municipal al correo electrónico jessie@takomagov.org o al 301-891-7267.

El Foro de los Candidatos de Distrito 5

Se invita a concer los candidatos durante el foro de los Candidatos el jueves, 12 de Julio de 7-9 p.m. en el Wilkinson Hall, Washington Adventist University, 7600 Flower Avenue. Conozca y converse con los candidatos de 7-7:30 p.m. El foro comenzará a las 7:30 p.m. Eric Bond, editor del Takoma Voice, moderará el foro.

INFORMACIÓN ADICIONAL SOBRE LA ELECCIÓN

Boleta Electoral para Votante Ausente

Cualquier persona inscrita para votar puede solicitar una aplicación para votar con una boleta electoral para votante ausente. Aplicaciones completas tendrán que haber sido sometido a la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal antes de las 4 p.m. el miércoles, 11 de julio del 2012. Después de verificación, se le dará una boleta electoral para votante ausente por correo o en persona. Después de marcar su boleta electoral, tendrá que entregar la boleta a la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal antes que cierre las cabinales electorales el día de la elección especial.

Boleta Electoral Tardía para Votante Ausente.

Comenzando el miércoles, 11 de julio, votantes pueden aplicar en persona por una boleta electoral tardía y puede votar al momento, si lo desea. Si el votante no puede aplicar en persona, el o ella puede designar una votante de la ciudad en la aplicación como su agente solo para recojer y entregar su boleta (candidatos y miembros de la familia del candidato no pueden actuar como agente del votante). Antes de entregar la boleta electoral al agente designado por el votante, tendrá que completar la aplicación y someterla a la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal.

Segunda vuelta de elecciones inmediata

Conforme a la Resolución de Enmienda de la Carta Constitucional 2006-1, deberá ponerse en práctica un sistema de segunda vuelta de elecciones inmediato, que les permita a los votantes clasificar a los candidatos según su orden de preferencia. A través del sistema de segunda vuelta de elecciones inmediato los votantes clasificarán a los candidatos (1, 2, 3 y así sucesivamente). Si ninguno de los candidatos es elegido por la mayoría como primera opción, el candidato que tenga la menor cantidad de votos para ocupar la primera opción se elimina y los votos para la segunda opción se redistribuirán entre otros candidatos. Este proceso continuará hasta que uno de los candidatos reciba la mayoría de votos y sea elegido.

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

Solicite una aplicación para recibir una boleta de ausencia por correo. La aplicación ahora está disponible en la página web de la Ciudad de Takoma Park – www.takomaparkmd.gov
Melinda Ulloa

My candidacy for the Ward 5 Council vacancy is based on my real desire to contribute what I can to our great neighborhood. I know all of you share my deep sense of community and commitment to making Ward 5 and Takoma Park an even better place for all of us to live. The issues and projects confronting us in the very near future are the Flower Avenue Green Street Project and what, if anything, Washington Adventist Hospital’s plans are and the impact that will have on the community. Environmental sustainability, affordable housing, transportation and urban planning are all very important components to consider when grappling with these very real issues. As a long-time resident I am committed to working to protect the unique aspects of this caring and friendly community. My top priority is to represent you on the Council and make sure your voices are heard.

Phone: 301-785-1242
Email: melindaulloa32@gmail.com
Web: erichensal.org

Jarrett Smith

Since moving to Takoma Park in 2004, I have become deeply involved in achieving the sense of community that Takoma Park has always strived for. The city that has become my home is more of a community than any other place I’ve lived which, growing up an “Army brat,” has been a lot of places. However, I’ve learned that people here can live 50 feet apart and share similar values, yet act like they’re worlds apart.

If I am elected to the Council, I intend to focus on three primary goals. First, I want to make Ward 5, and the city as a whole, a true community. Second, I want to protect and improve the heart of Ward 5, Sligo Creek. Finally, I want to preserve health and wellness options for the ward regardless of the outcome with the Washington Adventist Hospital.

Phone: 301-960-7462
Email: SmithForTakomaPark@gmail.com
Web: www.SmithForTakomaPark.com

Eric Hensal

The experience we need—the vision we share. That’s why I am running for city council. I know how to get things done and have a proven ability to create progressive and affordable solutions. I have been a constituent advocate, mayoral assistant, labor organizer and small business owner. I created the first municipal anti-sweatshop law and worked within Montgomery County to lessen budget cuts impacts. I have advocated for municipal electricity, helped environmental groups fight for clean water and better transportation, supported labor unions in promoting worker’s rights. I hold a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Baltimore. I’ll fight to continue 24-hour urgent care at the hospital site, protect tenants’ rights, build a new Flower Avenue the community wants, improve the playground at Kennebec and Sligo Creek Parkway, and end tax duplication. My campaign is endorsed by the Metropolitan Washington AFL-CIO.

Phone: 301-637-2119
Web: erichensal.org

Council seeks volunteers for Recognition Task Force

The City Council is looking for how best to recognize and/or memorialize Takoma Park volunteers, leaders, advocates, mentors and others who serve the community. To this end, the Council is forming a Recognition Task Force to propose ideas and programs. The task force will consist of up to seven members, one appointed by each member of the Council and the Mayor. The Task Force will be asked to complete its work before the Council’s December recess.

Residents who are interested in making a short term commitment to assist with this process should submit an application form (found at http://takomaparkmd.gov/committees/comapp.pdf) or contact Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, at jessie@takomagov.org or 301-891-7267 to receive an application. The Council intends to make appointments on July 30.

Special Election

Tuesday, July 17

WHERE: Wilkinson Hall, Washington Adventist University, 7600 Flower Ave.
WHEN: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
A New View of the Library

Personal reflection from a long-time resident

By Emily van Loon

I have lived in Takoma Park for 27 years. When we moved here, Mark’s Kitchen was the Electric Maid, the Co-op was Evan’s Electric, the post office was on Maple Avenue and ‘Doc’ Fishbein ruled Park Pharmacy with an iron hand. A lot has changed. But the library—well the library is still the same library. Or is it?

When my kids were growing up, we practically lived at the Takoma Park Library. It is where I perfected the art of “shushing” them and where they learned that sitting on the floor to read in public actually can be acceptable. Before canvas bags became the “it” thing to carry around to save the planet, we walked to the library with ours and left with a stack of kids’ books in our bags—so many I was afraid we might bust the City’s budget. The kids went straight to the library after school, science fair projects were hatched in the children’s section, librarians worked to keep order, while multiple fines were paid for books forever lost in the disasters of my sons’ rooms. And yes — summer reading programs melded together as the years sped by.

In my world, the library was never my library — it belonged to the kids. But recently, because of a connection with heavy to cart out to the street, especially when the magazines got wet. At the library, we discovered that the blue shelves holding the magazines lift up, revealing previous issues that can be checked out — perfect Metro reading on those days the Red Line gets stuck on the tracks. And yes, I do check out old issues of People magazine.

The library has also solved my chronic fine problem. The staff now sends an email once a week reminding me what I have checked out. And in the off chance I still forget and owe the fine, I happily pay it. The library needs the money and my kids are not around to see me breaking the rule used to give them a hard time about. It’s perfect!

I’ve also discovered the music CD collection. I know — we all have iPhones, but my car has a CD player and sometimes it’s just fun to check out something I never would buy and try it out. I am getting into country music and found an old Chicago CD that brought tears to my eyes. And yes I have a Kindle, but I also read real books. I especially love the non-fiction books. Kindles don’t do them justice. Non-fiction comes with pictures on how to fix that pesky toilet or a wonderful photograph of Rosa Parks.

So — do I still walk to the library? Yes I do. Do I still carry a canvas bag with me? Yes I do. Do I check out Newbery Medal books — sometimes I do. Do I have my children with me —no, I do not and I am smiling all the way to the library. It’s my turn.

Emily van Loon’s great uncle was Hendrik Willem Van Loon, who was awarded the very first Newbery Medal in 1922 for “The Story of Mankind.”
Three arrests have been made regarding a rash of burglaries in North Takoma. On June 7, Alexander Gorge Ellis, 19, of no fixed address, was arrested for first degree burglary, theft over $1,000 and malicious destruction of property. Ellis was apprehended in Ocean City, Md.

On June 5, 2012, at approximately 9:10 a.m., a witness, walking from Takoma Avenue to the 500 block of New York Avenue, heard breaking glass and observed a suspect running from the side of the residence towards the roadway, where he turned right and was last seen walking up Buffalo Avenue. Takoma Park Police were dispatched and a suspect matching the description given was stopped in the 7400 block of Piney Branch Road by members of the Tactical Enforcement Unit (TEU), Criminal Investigations Division (CID) and patrol units. When asked for identification, the juvenile suspect gave a false name. The suspect was carrying a blue bag containing a computer that had been described in a list of missing property from a victim of a previous burglary. The suspect was visually identified by the witness as the person seen running from the property where the sound of glass was breaking.

A check of the residence in the 500 block of New York Avenue revealed that a window had been broken out of the side door that led to the laundry room and basement. No entry was gained into the residence.

Montgomery County K-9 alerted on the suspect on the scene. The suspect, a 17-year-old male juvenile of Washington, D.C., was arrested and transported to the Takoma Park Police Department. The investigation led to the identification of the other suspects involved in committing the series of residential burglaries that have been plaguing the City. A Montgomery County investigator responded to Takoma Park to work a collaborative investigation, since there have been 10 residential burglaries in their jurisdiction with similarities.

A follow up was conducted with a victim from the burglary on May 30, in the 7400 block of Cedar Avenue; that victim positively identified property that had been stolen. In addition, there were several items of jewelry taken during various burglaries that were recovered at a local pawn shop. Victims from the Takoma Park burglaries have identified property in five of the six burglaries.

As a result of property being recovered at the pawn shop, search warrants were obtained and additional arrest warrants issued for information that identified other suspects involved in committing the burglaries.

A computer check of the juvenile’s true name revealed that he was wanted by the Charles County Sheriff’s Office for being absent from a group home. The juvenile is being held at the Noyes Juvenile Detention Facility.

On June 6, a search and seizure warrant was executed at the residence of Darlene Lucas, 46, in Southeast Washington, D.C., as a result of the residential burglary investigation. During a search of Lucas’ residence, investigators located additional property belonging to victims from Takoma Park. Lucas was taken into custody without incident and charged with first degree burglary, theft over $1,000 and malicious destruction of property. She is being held at the D.C. City Jail pending extradition to the State of Maryland.

Investigation further led investigators to Ellis as a suspect in the series of residential burglaries in Takoma Park. Ellis fled from Washington, D.C. to avoid being apprehended on June 5. Investigator learned that Ellis had ties to a location in Ocean City, Md. Takoma Park detectives contacted Ocean City Police Criminal Investigators and coordinated efforts to apprehend Ellis.

Ellis was apprehended at approximately 1:30 p.m. June 7 in Ocean City, Md. Takoma Park detectives transported Ellis to the Takoma Park Police Department and the Ocean City Police Department and the Ocean City Police Department.

As of May 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 239 fire-related incidents in 2012. The department addressed or assisted with 1,280 rescue or ambulance-related incidents this year. Totals for 2011 were 297 and 1,197, representing an increase of 25 incidents.

For a Safe Fourth of July

Accidents and deaths are far fewer than they once were as a result of state and federal laws on fireworks. But nevertheless, parents should be aware of the serious dangers inherent in letting children use fireworks. The Fire Code states: “It shall be unlawful for any person to possess, store, to offer for sale, expose for sale, sell or use, burn or explode any fireworks (i.e., firecrackers, torpedoes, sky rockets, roman candles, sparklers, etc.) provided, that the possession, sale or discharge of fireworks are permitted when such activities are conducted under a permit issued by the state fire marshal.” Let’s enjoy the holiday celebration. Let the professionals handle the fireworks. Watch them from a safe distance and be safe. Don’t let tragedy mar your July 4th.

Cooking Tips for Outside Cooking

One of the great pleasures of summer is eating and cooking out of doors with family and friends. The popularity of this activity is evident in the great number of outdoor grills being sold each year. Such grills can be fun to cook on and provide delicious food, but they can also be dangerous. None of them are foolproof, and all should be handled with care. Be aware of your neighbors, too; smoke can be a nuisance. And remember these safety tips:

- Keep outdoor cooking at least 20 feet from any structure.
- Use outdoor cooking gear only in well ventilated area.
- Keep children away from all barbecuing equipment.
- Never leave foods cooking unattended.
- Use only approved fire starter.
- Never use a liquid fire starter to freshen a fire.
- After cooking, soak the coals.
- Clean the grill with water and detergent to avoid grease buildup.

Remember, it is against the law to do any cooking on apartment balconies.
Police departments work together to solve cold case

The Prince William County, Va. and Takoma Park Police Departments are asking for the public’s help in providing information about a homicide investigation from 1980, after skeletal remains were recently identified. The remains were found in 1982 in the Haymarket area of Prince William County, Va. On April 3, 1980, family members of Cynthia Joan Gastelle reported her missing in Takoma Park. On February 12, 1982, Prince William County Police found skeletal remains on Bull Run Mountain in the Haymarket area. In 2001, DNA from the case was entered into the national database. In 2011, DNA from family members was collected in an unrelated case in another jurisdiction, and on May 10, 2012, it all came together when Prince William County Police, in conjunction with the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Virginia, found a DNA match to the 1982 remains.

The victim was identified as Cynthia Joan Gastelle, who was 18 at the time of her disappearance. She was a white female, 5’01” and 90 pounds with a slender build, medium brown hair and hazel eyes (see photograph).

Anyone with information relevant to Gastelle’s disappearance is urged to call Crime Solvers at 703-670-3700 or 1-866-411-TIPS. You don’t have to give your name, and you could earn up to a $1,000 cash reward.

Who Do You Call About …?

Utility Emergencies: Electric Service: PEPCO 202-872-3432
Gas Service: Washington Gas 703-750-1400
Water And Sewer: WSSC 301-206-4002
Traffic Lights: State Highway Administration 410-582-5650
Street Lights: Cobra Head Street Lights: PEPCO 202-833-7500 or www.pepco.com. (The 10-digit number on the light pole and the street address must be provided when filing a complaint.)
Decorative Street Lights: Public Works 301-891-7633

Damaged Trees: Dying or Hazardous Trees in the Right Of Way: Public Works 301-891-7612

Park Maintenance: County Parks: MNCPPC 301-870-8890
City Parks: Public Works 301-891-7633

Property Maintenance: Abandoned Vehicles: Police, Non-Emergency 301-276-1100
Fire Hydrant: WSSC 301-206-4002
Graffiti: Code Enforcement 301-891-7255
Parking Meters: Public Works 301-891-7633
Sidewalks: Public Works 301-891-7633
Storm Drains: Public Works 301-891-7633
Trash And Debris: Code Enforcement 301-891-7255

JULY ‘12

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 August 2012 issue is July 16, it will print July 27.

To submit calendar items, email tpnews@editor@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 / OF NOTE

City Council
Mondays, July 9, 16, 18, 23 and 30, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium
For agendas, see www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/agendas

Ward 1 Night
Monday, July 9, 7 – 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium
See page 2 for more information

Ward 2 Night
Monday, July 23, 7 – 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium
See page 2 for more information

Ward 5 Candidates Forum
July 12, 7 – 9 p.m.
Washington Adventist University
Wilkinson Hall, 7600 Flower Ave.
For more information, jessiee@takomagov.org or 301-891-7267.

Ward 5 Special Election
Tuesday, July 17, 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Washington Adventist University, Campus Center Building, 7600 Flower Ave.

Takoma Park emergency food pantry
First Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Grace United Methodist Church, 7001 New Hampshire Ave.
Bi-weekly and monthly food supplements for needy families
240-450-2092 or educate_ssi@yahoo.com
www.educare-supportservices.org

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Independence Day
July 4
Parade, 10 a.m.; Wiffleball 2:30 p.m.; music program 7:30 p.m.; fireworks 9:30 p.m.
Free

Fried Fish Fridays
Second Fridays, 6 – 8 p.m.
TP Community Center outdoor basketball court
Food and fellowship
Free

Food Truck Fridays
July 13, 20 and 27, 5 – 8 p.m.
B.Y. Morrison Park, at Takoma Junction Carroll and Ethan Allen avenues
A different truck each Friday

ARTS AND LITERATURE

Open Mic Sundays
With Rob Hinkel
Sundays, 6 – 8 p.m.; sign-ups, 5:30 p.m.
Capital City Cheesecake, 7071 Carroll Ave.
Free
www.mainstreettakoma.org/event/148

Jazz Jam
Open mic for jazz musicians
Wednesdays, 7 – 10 p.m.
Takoma Station, 6914 14th St. N.W.
Takoma Spark House Jam
Wednesdays, after 8 p.m.
Informal gathering on the front porch
7206 Carroll Ave. across from the firehouse
Bring an instrument or sit back and listen

We are Takoma – Film Screening
Thursday, July 12, 7 p.m. reception, 7:30 p.m. film
TP Community Center Auditorium
Screening of Dancing in the Rays of the Antarctic Sun with filmmaker Joy West
Free
www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events

The ULiners - Woody Guthrie’s 100th
Friday, July 14, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
The ULiners and Magpie pay tribute to Woody Guthrie’s 100th birthday
815 door
www.uiners.com

Takoma Spark Fun(d) Raiser
Friday, July 13, 3 p.m.
Takoma Spark House, 7206 Carroll Ave.
Participatory music fest with multiple bands To raise money to facilitate art in the community

We are Takoma – Pets and Poets Concert
Sunday, July 22, 2 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
A benefit concert for The Washington Animal Rescue League
Suggested donation $20
www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events

Travel and Textures - Ongoing Exhibit
Through July 15
TP Community Center - Gallery 3
Images of the textures and people of the world by photographer Jenny Lim
Free

Petal and Leaf - Ongoing Exhibit
Through July 27
TP Community Center - Dempsey Memorial Gallery
Exquisite nature photography of Coriolina Simon and Douglas Wolters
Free
www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events

Trashy Art contest
Gazebo, on Carroll Avenue in Old Town
Entries due noon Sunday, July 29
Deliver art you’ve created from recyclable materials
Prizes
See page 4 for details

Art from the Heart of an Optimist - Ongoing Exhibit
Through July 31
TP Community Center - Atrium Gallery
Paintings and ceramics by Takoma Park artist Crystal Pittman
Free
www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events

SENIORS

National Air and Space Museum
Ages 55 and older, plus grandchildren
Friday, July 13, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Meet at the Takoma Park Community Center
See page 8 for more information

Old Country Buffet, Gaithersburg, Md.
Ages 55 and older, plus grandchildren
Friday, July 20, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Meet at the Takoma Park Community Center
American food buffet and shopping
See page 8 for more information