

April  
2013

# TAKOMA PARK

A newsletter published by the City of Takoma Park, Maryland

Volume 52, No. 4 ■ takomaparkmd.gov

## WHAT'S NEW?

**TRASH COLLECTION**  
No changes this month

**ART HOP**  
April 13 and 14  
*See article, page 1*

**EARTH DAY**  
April 21  
*See article, page 1*

**VOTING AMENDEMENT**  
Public Hearing  
April 8



From left, owner Vincent Richardson, operating manager Taleesha Scott, and group piano instructor Wesley Boynton celebrate the grand opening of the Richardson School of Music on March 2. The school is one of several new businesses in Takoma Park this spring.

Photo by M.A.D. Works Photography/Maya Darasaw

## Landmark restaurants included among new Takoma businesses

By Virginia Myers

**E**ight new businesses have opened or announced plans to open in Takoma Park and Takoma, D.C. over the last few months, creating a surge of energy in the Old Town, Takoma Junction and Metro business areas. Business is buzzing in the Crossroads area as well, with three spots newly open and two more to follow in the next few months.

The biggest headliners are the Busboys and Poets restaurant going in at Carroll and Maple streets, in the apartment building currently under construction, and the Black's restaurant going in at the old Video Americain and Summer Delights locations (see article, February 2012 Newsletter).

Busboys has been considered a progressive community-builder since its first location, at 14th and V streets in Northwest Washington, opened in 2005. A combination coffee house, restaurant and bar, Busboys has become a center for racial and cultural integration and a place for poetry

readings, art exhibits and political presentations, designed to inspire social change.

The Takoma location will occupy 6,500 square feet of space in a mixed use retail/residential building that will also include 150 apartments. The building project broke ground in December, after months of delay; owner Andy Shalal hopes to open the Busboys there in late spring, 2014. It will include a book store, a feature at some of the other eateries, and may also offer used books. More importantly, it will follow Shalal's vision of a community gathering place.

Black's will be the seventh restaurant in a local chain known for its sophisticated approach to fresh seafood. It, too, will be tailored to the community, and the kitchen will be run by Takoma Park native Danny Wells, who is also a partner in the project. He hopes to open the 80-seat restaurant in fall 2013.

**NEW BUSINESSES** □ Page 11

## Earth Day, Art Hop highlight town favorites

### Sustainability, art on display at April events

Takoma Park will celebrate spring with a new green festival, Earth Day Takoma Park, and a repeat of the popular Art Hop, a multi-location celebration of local art.

For Earth Day, April 21, green busi-

nesses and environmental experts will gather from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Grant Avenue at Takoma Junction, the intersection of Carroll Avenue and Route 410 with displays of new green products and services, like the Green Mop, an environmentally friendly cleaning service; ecobeco, a home energy audit provider;

**APRIL EVENTS** □ Page 7

## City Council considers proposals to expand voting access

By Kevin Adler

**T**akoma Park City Council members have long been troubled by low turnout for city elections, and for the last few months the council has been developing proposals to expand voter participation. Council members Tim Male and Seth Grimes have introduced a set of proposals, including same-day voter registration, reducing the voting age to 16, and giving campaigning candidates access to voters in apartment buildings. Their proposal also includes a Right to Vote Resolution that would create a task force to consider other ideas, such as changing poll locations, and expanding early voting.

"Turnout in City elections is not high in the first place," said Male, council member from Ward 2, adding that it is especially low in Wards 4, 5, and 6.

To reduce the voting age or allow same-day voting, the City's charter would have to be changed. The Council first discussed these possibilities on January 22 and again March 4; a public hearing will be held on April 8. After the language of the proposal is finalized, the Council will vote, and if the proposal passes, it would go into effect after a 50-day waiting period. Thus, if the legislation moves quickly, it would be in effect for the City Council elections in November 2013.

Here's a rundown of the major proposals.

### Same-Day Registration

Same-day registration and voting for municipal elections seems to be the least controversial of the proposals, with no public opposition thus far.

Numerous states allow for election day registration and studies show that voter participation increases where it is used. Maryland doesn't allow it presently, but a bill has been introduced into the legislature this term and has significant support. Also, election day registration is allowed in Rockville's city elections. "The Maryland bill has support from the ACLU, NAACP, Progressive Maryland, and many other groups," said Grimes, who represents Ward 1. "Several of those groups have endorsed Takoma Park's bill."

**VOTING ACCESS** □ Page 11

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

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**HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR**  
Page 4



**DEVELOPMENT**  
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# DOCKET

## TAKOMA TOPICS:

“SHA is beginning a project to resurface MD 410 from Park to New Hampshire Avenue. SHA's press release: [www.roads.maryland.gov/pages/release.aspx?newsId=1431](http://www.roads.maryland.gov/pages/release.aspx?newsId=1431)”

[www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD](http://www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD)

## City Council & Committee Calendar

### CITY COUNCIL

Monday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 8, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 15, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 18, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 29, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Auditorium

Agendas available at [www.takomagov.org/council](http://www.takomagov.org/council)

### TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, April 9, 6:30 p.m.

TPCC Lilac Room

### FACADE ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, April 9, 6:30 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

### RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

### COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Azalea Room

### ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION

Tuesday, April 23, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 25, 8:30 a.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

### NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 30, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Lilac Room

\*All meetings are open to the public unless noted otherwise. Additional meetings may be scheduled after the Takoma Park Newsletter deadline. For the most up to date information, check [www.takomaparkmd.gov/committees/calendar](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/committees/calendar). Most meetings are held in the Takoma Park Community Center – Sam Abbott Citizens' Center, 7500 Maple Ave. (TPCC). Individuals interested in receiving a weekly Council agenda and calendar update by e-mail should contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267 or [clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:clerk@takomagov.org).

#### Notice on ADA Compliance

The City of Takoma Park is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in public meetings. Anyone planning to attend a City of Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing, and who wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services or accommodations is invited to contact the Acting City Manager at 301-891-7229 or [suzannel@takomagov.org](mailto:suzannel@takomagov.org) at least 48 hours in advance.

## City Council Action

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

### RESOLUTION 2013-11

*Adopted Feb. 19*

Authorizing execution of a memorandum of Understanding with State Highway Administration regarding MD 410 and MD 195  
*Authorizes the Mayor to execute the MOU with SHA regarding MD Route 410 and Maryland Route 195 in the City. The MOU clarifies that maintenance for the 7800 block of Carroll Avenue and all of MD 410 in Takoma Park is the responsibility of the State Highway Administration; sets forth processes for notice to the City and opportunity to comment on utility permits issued by SHA; sets forth notice procedures and opportunity for City comments related to signalization, signs and pedestrian crosswalks; and clarifies sidewalk installation and repair and stormwater responsibilities.*

### RESOLUTION 2013-12

*Adopted Feb. 19*

Supporting state legislation prohibiting SHA from expending funds for the addition of a new lane for motor vehicle traffic to Maryland Rt. 410 in the City  
*If the legislation passes, it would prohibit SHA from spending money to build an additional through lane for motor vehicle traffic on MD 410.*

### RESOLUTION 2013-13

*Adopted Feb. 25*

Providing for an appointment to the Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs  
*The resolution effects the appointment of Vineda Myers to COLTA.*

### RESOLUTION 2013-14

*Adopted March 4*

Authorizing a temporary partial closure of the unit block of Grant Avenue for several Takoma Junction Events

*Allows a portion of the unit block of Grant Avenue to be closed on April 21, May 12, June 9 and July 14 for Takoma Junction events conducted by the Old Takoma Business Association.*

### RESOLUTION 2013-15

*Adopted March 11*

Supporting the re-designation of a portion of Takoma Park as a Maryland Enterprise Zone and authorizing submission of a joint application with Montgomery County  
*Endorses the Long Branch/Takoma Park Enterprise Zone application for re-designation and adds certain parcels along New Hampshire Avenue and Flower Avenue in Takoma Park to the Enterprise Zone.*

### RESOLUTION 2013-16

*Adopted March 11*

Providing for a reappointment to the Arts and Humanities Commission  
*Effects the reappointment of Sheila Blake to the Commission.*

### RESOLUTION 2013-17

*Adopted March 11*

Providing for reappointments to the Emergency Preparedness Committee  
*Effects the reappointment of Patrick Kimvilakani and Kathleen Quinn to the Emergency Preparedness Committee.*

### ORDINANCE 2013-5

*Adopted Feb. 25*

Awarding small community grants  
*Awards grants as follows: \$1,000 to Takoma Plays; \$1,500 to Real Food for Kids – Montgomery; \$500 to Historic Takoma, Inc. (VOTING NAY: Smith)*

### ORDINANCE 2013-6

*Adopted (first reading Feb. 25; second reading March 11)*

Authorizing execution of a Memorandum of Understanding and contribution for feasibility study for 6530 New Hampshire Ave.

*Authorizes execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Potomac Conference of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church for a feasibility study of 6530 New Hampshire Ave., where a business incubator program is being considered, and provides for a payment not to exceed \$14,000 toward the study. (VOTING NAY: Smith)*

### ORDINANCE 2013-7

*Adopted Feb. 25*

Authorizing an increase in the amount to be expended for the demolition of 36 Philadelphia Ave.

*Authorizes payment of an additional amount of \$8,050 to remove a tree from the property and abate previously unknown hazardous material.*

### ORDINANCE 2013-8

*Adopted (first reading March 4; second reading March 11)*

Awarding a contract for completion of the installation of a chiller and two air handling units in the Community Center

*Authorizes a contract with American Mechanical Services for \$27,370 to complete the installation of a chiller and two air handling units in the Community Center.*

### ORDINANCE 2013-11

*Adopted March 11*

Authorizing execution of a funding agreement with the Takoma Park Independence Day Committee, Inc.

*Provides for the payment of \$13,500 for 2013 Independence Day activities.*

Opportunities to serve on City boards,  
commissions and committees

## Have you applied yet?

- Arts and Humanities Commission (vacancies)
- Emergency Preparedness Committee (vacancies)
- Ethics Commission (vacancies)
- Facade Advisory Board (terms expiring March 31)
- Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee (vacancies)
- Recognition Task Force – short term commitment (vacancies)
- Recreation Committee (vacancies)
- Safe Roadways Committee – newly reestablished (vacancies)

View information at <http://takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/committees/index.html> or contact Jessie Carpenter, City clerk, at 301-891-7267 or [jessiec@takomagov.org](mailto:jessiec@takomagov.org) to apply or request information.

### MAYOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Mayor Bruce Williams welcomes comments and suggestions. Community members are invited to meet with him during his office hours on Tuesdays:



2 – 5 p.m. by appointment

5 – 6 p.m. drop-in hours (check in at the information desk and let the receptionist know you are here to see the Mayor)

6 – 7 p.m. by appointment

*For additional information or to make an appointment, contact Executive Assistant Peggye Washington at [peggyew@takomagov.org](mailto:peggyew@takomagov.org) or 301-891-7230.*



## CITY Notices

### CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT

Pursuant to Section 502(c) of the Takoma Park Charter, the Council of the City of Takoma Park will hold a public hearing on a proposed amendment to the Charter titled "Voting and Elections." The proposed Charter amendment: (1) adjusts qualifications for voting; (2) sets a minimum age for serving as Mayor or Councilmember; (3) lowers the voting age to 16; (4) eliminates the 30-day City residency requirement before being qualified to vote in City elections; (5) provides for early voting and revises the requirements for provisional voting; and (6) allows for same day voter registration (including change of address).

#### Place of Hearing:

TP Community Center Auditorium  
7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912

#### Date and Time:

Monday, April 8, 7:30 pm

*All interested persons should attend the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted to the City Clerk, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912; or [clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:clerk@takomagov.org). The full text of the proposed amendment will be posted online at [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov).*

### CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ACTING CITY MANAGER'S PROPOSED FY 2014 BUDGET

The Council of the City of Takoma Park will hold a public hearing on the Acting City Manager's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2014. The budget will be presented to the City Council on April 8 and available for public review April 9.

#### Place of Hearing:

TP Community Center Auditorium  
7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912

#### Date and Time:

Monday, April 15, 7:30 pm

*All interested persons should attend the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted to the City Clerk, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912; or [clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:clerk@takomagov.org). The proposed budget will be posted online at [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov) by April 9.*

### BUDGET WORK SESSIONS

The Council will hold a series of budget work sessions in April. A second public hearing on the budget will be held on Monday, April 29. Residents are welcome to comment at the beginning of any City Council meeting.

# Pesticide ban proposed, resident reaction mixed

By Virginia Myers

Takoma Parkers are passionate about their gardens – whether they use pesticides to regulate their growth, or not.

The Safe Grow Ordinance, a proposal that would restrict the use of pesticides on personal property as well as public, drew a lively crowd to the City Council forum March 18, where a panel of proponents and stakeholders described the possible ordinance, and a line of residents testified for and against the measure.

The ordinance, which was introduced by two residents worried over pesticides being applied in neighbors' yards and drifting over to their own properties, would make it unlawful for the City to use pesticides on City-owned property or in a City right-of-way, and would also make it illegal to apply restricted pesticides on private property. Exceptions would be made for plants that are poisonous to the touch, such as poison ivy; insects that bite, sting, are venomous or are disease carrying, like mosquitoes; and animals, insects or plants that may cause damage to a structure or infrastructure, such as termites.

If enacted, the ordinance would make Takoma Park the second city in the U.S. to restrict the use of pesticides on private land, according to Catherine Cummings, one of the people who introduced the ordinance; the first is Washington, D.C. Other government entities – among them, Greenbelt, Md. – have restricted their own use of pesticides. Though pesticide restrictions are preempted by state law in most states, Maryland is among the nine states (and D.C.) that allow such local restrictions.

Cummings, with co-author Julie Taddeo, presented a strong case against the use of pesticides, citing statistics and personal stories. They collected signatures from more than 200 residents who support a pesticide ban, and described experiences involving children whose asthma has been triggered by lawn chemicals, and dogs that have been poisoned.

"We know that some of you are thinking, I don't know anyone who uses these lawn pesticides," said Taddeo. "To this I say drive around this week, next week, like every spring, you will see the many

yellow signs that indicate lawn pesticides have been applied. Applied on lawns bordering schools, lawns surrounding apartment buildings, where 55 percent of our residents live, and even on the sweeping lawns of Washington Adventist Hospital perched above the Sligo Creek water shed."

She described the hazards of lawn chemicals, citing scientific studies as evidence; the ordinance itself lists the Committee on Environmental Health of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Academy of Sciences, and the 2010



**"We know that some of you  
are thinking, I don't know  
anyone who uses these lawn  
pesticides."**

—Julie Taddeo

Co-author of proposed pesticide ban

President's Cancer Panel as having linked pesticide exposure to reproductive disorders, birth defects, learning disabilities, neurological disease, endocrine disorders and cancer.

Other forum panelists included Jay Fellman, director of Beyond Pesticides, a nonprofit that advocates for pesticide limitations; and Daryl Braithwaite, director of Takoma Park's Department of Public Works, who described the City's policies regarding pesticides (staff do not apply them at all) and herbicides (used judiciously to combat invasive species, and in combination with other, less controversial practices such as replacing grass with low-maintenance plantings and improving soil to support desirable plants).

Nine of the residents who commented objected to a ban on pesticides, six supported it, and many more registered their opinions in notes to the City clerk.

### For and against

Those who supported the ban voiced fear that their children would be poisoned and sickened by their neighbors' use of lawn pesticides, and likened their effects to second-hand smoke, an issue that helped pass anti-smoking laws for public places.

Many of the objections to the ordinance were prefaced with the information that the speaker never uses chemical pesticides, or uses them judiciously, but rejects the notion that the city should regulate personal choices. Other objections came from residents who felt an ordinance would promote "neighbor spying on neighbor," as one speaker described it – unless a city official sees the pesticide application themselves, burden of proof would be on neighbors protesting the violation.

Several residents pointed out the deficiencies in the ordinance as written, including lack of information on enforcement, legality, staffing and cost. Presenters called the ordinance a "draft," so there will be room for changes.

But Jim Douglas, a former City Councilmember and avid gardener, was dismayed that important details were missing for this discussion. He submitted numerous questions to the City regarding such concerns as cost to the City for implementing the ordinance, level of proof and evidence of pesticide use,

method for citing violations, legal implications, and the current lack of City staff expertise in pesticide use or abuse (none of the staff are certified to apply pesticides at this time, as the City does no in-house pesticide application).

Although Douglas has "Absolutely no problem with limitation on the use of pesticides," and said he admires the policies the City already has in place regarding pest and invasive control, he said this particular proposal "is rife with problems... If you're going to have a serious debate about a proposed ordinance, put a serious ordinance on the table... Let's focus on what's at hand here, not whether we like or dislike pesticides."

Mayor Bruce Williams said the City would gather information about cost and legal implications before the next discussion of the matter, to be scheduled at an upcoming work session.

### THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER



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Production: Electronic Ink  
[www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov)  
Vol. 52, No. 4

The Takoma Park Newsletter is published 12 times a year as the official publication of the City of Takoma Park, [takomaparkmd.gov](http://takomaparkmd.gov).  
Letters to the editor, reports by community groups, calendar items

and other submissions will be considered for publication; send to [tpnewseditor@takomagov.org](mailto: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 does not accept commercial, classified, political advertisements.

The Newsletter is printed on recycled-content paper.







# HOUSING

## HOUSING MAILBOX



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

*I am a tenant and I love my rental apartment! But—my one year lease ends in June. Does the lease automatically become month to month, even if I'd like another one-year agreement?*

Lots of people contact us about this issue – so we're glad you asked! The short answer is, no, your lease does not automatically become a month to month lease at the end of the first year. But that "first year" qualification is important.

Here's the official word: Section 6.16.070 of the Takoma Park's Landlord-Tenant Law states that the landlord must offer you the opportunity to renew your lease for an additional year, at least two months before your initial lease is up. There are some exceptions, though. The year-long lease renewal opportunity is not required if:

- The landlord has given you a notice to vacate (such a notice must be for cause); or
- You have given the landlord a notice of your intent to vacate; or
- The landlord has given you a written statement of his or her reasonable cause for not renewing the lease, or for offering a lease term of less than one year. "Reasonable cause" can include landlord hardship, plans to sell the rental facility within a year, plans for the landlord or a family member to occupy the rental unit, or plans for substantial rehabilitation that cannot be accomplished while the facility/unit is occupied. In the last case, any displaced tenant would have the right to lease the rental unit when the rehabilitation is completed.

If this is not a first-year situation, all this changes: your lease does become month to month if neither you nor your landlord take action to officially renew at the end of the second year.

*Tenants and landlords with questions regarding the City's Landlord-Tenant and Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (COLTA) laws can contact me at 301-891-7215 or [mosesw@takomagov.org](mailto:mosesw@takomagov.org)*



## House and Garden Tour celebrates 40th year

Get ready for house- and yard-envy, as Takoma Park showcases some of its most beautiful and well-maintained homes at the 40th Annual House and Garden Tour, from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, May 5.

This year's tour, "Pioneer to Present Day," will include more than a dozen properties on Westmoreland, Elm, Pine, Montgomery and Hickory avenues. This area includes several homes that are among the oldest in Takoma Park. Tickets and brochures are available from local stores, or at the Old Town Gazebo at Carroll and Westmoreland avenues on the day of the event.

Tickets for the tour are \$20 per person on the day of the tour. Proceeds support Historic Takoma, which organizes the event. For more information, see [historictakoma.org](http://historictakoma.org).

Photo courtesy Historic Takoma

## HOUSING News

### Tenant Summit scheduled for May

The Tenant Capacity Builders for the City of Takoma Park will be sponsoring the next Tenant Summit on Saturday, May 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave. Tenants who reside in buildings with or without tenant associations are invited to attend to discuss issues of common concern. Adopted changes to the City's housing laws will also be on the agenda. To register, call Linda Walker at 301-891-7222 or e-mail [takomaparkmd@gmail.com](mailto:takomaparkmd@gmail.com).

### Micro-loans can help with homeowner fees, taxes

Are you a homeowner who is at risk of losing your home due to unpaid condo or homeowner association fees? Home Savers is an interest-free, micro-loan program offered by Asian-American Homeownership Counseling, Inc. (AAHC), an equal opportunity housing counseling agency, to assist homeowners in financial need.

To qualify, you must be a Montgomery County resident with a low to moderate household income, current in your mortgage payments and able to repay the loan within 12 to 24 months. Seniors who have reverse mortgages who are behind in their property taxes are also eligible to apply. To learn more, call AAHC at 301-760-7636 or e-mail [counseling@aa-hc.org](mailto:counseling@aa-hc.org).

### City celebrates Arbor Day with seedling giveaway

The City of Takoma Park will celebrate Arbor Day by continuing its tradition of giving away tree seedlings on Saturday, April 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the grounds of the Takoma Park Library. The City arborist and members of the Tree Commission will be on hand to help resi-

dents select seedlings and answer questions about trees.

The annual seedling giveaway helps promote the replacement of trees in Takoma Park that are lost to storms, and helps ensure diversity in the City's urban canopy. This diversity provides a variety of benefits, including supporting different species of wildlife, protecting against

widespread loss of vegetation from disease or pests, and adding visual interest to our gardens and parks.

Species available this year include black oak, eastern red cedar, hazelnut, northern red oak, pecan, red chokeberry, redbud, sugar maple, swamp white oak and sweetgum. Plant one now and enjoy it for years to come.

**13TH ANNUAL MONTGOMERY COUNTY HOUSING FAIR AND FINANCIAL FITNESS DAY**

**SATURDAY**

**4 - 27 - 13**

**10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

**Activity Center at Bohrer Park, Summit Hall Farm**  
(next to Gaithersburg High School)  
506 S. Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877

**FREE Admission**

**\$500 Prizes**  
(for best home or garden!)

**HOMEOWNERS ASSISTANCE**  
(BY CERTIFIED COUNSELORS, ATTORNEYS AND LENDERS)

**RENTING VS BUYING**

**MANAGING MONEY, CREDIT AND UTILITIES**

**FREE CREDIT REPORTS**

For more information call 240-777-3602 or visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DHCA](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DHCA)

This Fair is organized by the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs in partnership with the Housing Fair Planning Committee whose members include: Asian American Homeownership Counseling; the cities of Gaithersburg, Rockville and Takoma Park; Housing and Community Initiatives; Housing Initiative Partnership; Housing Opportunities Commission; Latino Economic Development Corporation; Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development; Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services; Montgomery County Department of Recreation; Montgomery County Office of Human Rights and the Office of Congressman Chris Van Hollen.





Having fun with the film, *Married in Spandex*

### **Married in Spandex: A documentary film by Allison Kole and Devin Gallagher**

Friday, April 26, 7:30 p.m.  
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

As they begin a life's journey together, Amanda and Rachel are determined to make their wedding day a unique and memorable affair. *Married in Spandex* follows these young women as they navi-

gate their way from their home in the City of Brotherly Love to the town of Ames, Iowa for a celebration like nothing anyone has ever seen. From the "brides' mamas" and "butches" to the officiant (lady rapper and performance artist Leslie Hall) to Amanda and Rachel's tutu-clad Chihuahua, the two have planned the day of their spandex-clad dreams.

But, at a time when every same-sex wedding is seen as a political act and brides or grooms-to-be are asked to walk

the entire LGBT community down the aisle, will everyone be cheering Amanda and Rachel's offbeat "I do"? Can a lesbian wedding be all glitter and gold lamé? Can Amanda and Rachel's road trip revelry convince friends and family to get on board and support their relationship? The documentary is a clear-eyed record of one same-sex couple that wants their wedding to be about their family and not a statement about so-called family values. Told simply, despite the compli-

cated questions its story raises, *Married in Spandex* is part road movie, part political documentary, part performance art and, utterly and unquestionably, all love story.

The one hour film will be followed by a Q&A with the filmmakers. This screening is presented by We Are Takoma in collaboration with Docs in Progress, a nonprofit organization dedicated to building community through documentary film.

## MORE Art

### **CEASEFIRE!**

#### **A Showcase of Jewish Youth Artists to End Gun Violence**

Sunday, April 28, 4:30 p.m.  
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium  
\$15 suggested donation

Jewish youth from across the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area are coming together to sing out against gun violence. The event features original music, poetry, drama and dance, as well as an address from Jamie Raskin, Maryland State Senator. All proceeds from the CEASEFIRE concert will support the work of Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence and the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence. Light refreshments will follow.

### **Mathematically Inclined exhibit, workshops**

The Mathematically Inclined exhibit continues at the Takoma Park Community Center Galleries this month. From Leonardo da Vinci to MC Escher, artists have long explored mathematics. Likewise,



Lauren Kingsland's quilts reflect mathematical precision.

mathematicians are drawn to the arts as a way to express and explore mathematical concepts—the ancient Egyptians and their use of the golden ratio to build the pyramids are just one example.

Included in the Takoma Park exhibit are paintings, prints, sculptures, kaleidoscopes, traditional crafts and jewelry, made by artists, scientists and teachers—12 in all—plus two workshops.

Among the artists is Lauren Kingsland, a quiltmaker who specializes in abstract expressionist designs. Based in Sandy Spring, Md., Kingsland wants to bring quilting beyond its traditional roots as a domestic craft into the arts sphere. "Quilt-making is an analogy for a well-lived life," she says in her artist statement. "Beauty, order, and balance can be achieved each day through the creative use of the materials at hand, both literally in shapes of cloth and figuratively."

Recently, Kingsland has been inspired by *kolams* (see illustration); other artists in the Mathematically Inclined exhibit have also been influenced by the craft, which is intrinsically geometrical and mathematical. So is quilting—from calculating how much fabric is needed to carefully drafting a complex geometric pattern.

Another highlight of Mathematically Inclined is sculptor James Mallos' workshop, *Evolve your Own Animal*, on Saturday, April 20 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Art Room. All ages are welcome as Mallos leads a session on weaving balloons, guiding participants through a word game turned balloon puzzle, merging the scientific concepts of genotypes and mutating them to form phenotypes in words and balloons.

A kolam workshop, with Shanthi Candira Sekar, will explore the traditional drawing often made by women in India



*Kolams create intricate designs in rice flour and rock powder.*

and other regions of south Asia, using rice flour or rock powder. These geometric drawings are composed of lines drawn around an array of dots in organized maze-like shapes. There are kolams that are created by lines connecting the dots and there are kolams that use geometric patterns only.

Throughout each day, the kolams are walked and rained on, and blown about in the wind, but new ones are made the next day. Nothing is permanent.

The workshop will teach some simple kolams and slowly progress to more complex designs. Participants will learn how to estimate the equidistant spaces between the dots without the use of any tools.

Mathematically Inclined will continue through the end of April.

### **All Stars shine**

**An exhibit by youth with mental health challenges, their parents and supporters**

The Mo County All Stars will showcase the artwork of youth with mental health challenges, their parents and supporters,

in the Galleries at the Takoma Park Community Center through the end of April. Many of the paintings and mixed media artwork were completed in an artist residency with Marcie Wolf-Hubbard, a locally based painter and art teacher who specializes in arts integration and inclusion, and in partnership with Montgomery County Government Behavioral Health and Crisis Services, Core Service Agency, Office of Consumer Affairs and The Silver Spring Wellness and Recovery Center. The Mo County ALL STARS is a program of the Montgomery County Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health.

### **Poetry springs up all over town**

Takoma Park celebrates every spring with a new crop of poems posted all over town. These verses, 30 in all, are printed on posters designed and illustrated by students at Montgomery College, then mounted on street sign-like signs in parks, near bus stops and along pedestrian walkways.

Once the posters are in place, around the second week of April this year, their locations, along with reproductions of the posters themselves, will be available at the Friends of the Takoma Park Library web site, [www.fpml.org](http://www.fpml.org). The Friends fund the project.

April is also National Poetry Month. The National Academy of American Poets lists a host of suggestions for celebrating, including Poem in Your Pocket Day, April 18, when participants distribute individual poems to colleagues and family; Poem a Day, an email service that delivers verse electronically; and chalking poems on the sidewalk. For more information, see [www.poets.org](http://www.poets.org).



# RECREATION

## TOTS

### BuilderBee Kids - Artistic Explorers

*Ages 3 to 5.5*

Children will examine architectural concepts such as columns, cantilevers, forms and foundations. Most of all children will build. They'll explore ideas as individuals and as a group, thinking about solutions to real building questions and learning to use their intuition to understand form, space, order, rhythm, sequence and balance.

Heffner Park Community Center

Fridays, April 5 - May 17, 9:10 - 10:30 a.m.

TP residents \$115

Non-residents \$135

### BuilderBee Kids - Budding Builders

*Ages 2 to 4.5*

Give your child the wonder of building. Playful and developing minds are given challenging lessons that build confidence and understanding in design basics: form, space and order. Your child learns through constructing large and small. We talk about green design and use techniques to support a sustainable future. We talk, design, create and have fun!

Heffner Park Community Center

Mondays, April 1 - May 13, 8:50 - 10:10 a.m.

TP residents \$115

Non-residents \$125

### Kindermusik: Make Way For Music

*Ages 18 months to 6 years*

Family Time is Kindermusik's version of the one-room schoolhouse. Bringing children of all ages together provides a dynamic and integrated learning experience for everyone. Families with one child or multiple children are welcome to attend. Sibling discount offered for enrollment of multiple children. One \$50 home materials kit per family included in registration.

Heffner Park Community Center

Option 1: Thursdays, April 4 - June 6

10 - 10:45 a.m.

Option 2: Saturdays, April 6 - June 8

10 - 10:45 a.m.

TP residents \$200

Non-residents \$230

### Kindermusik: Toys I Make, Trips I Take

*Ages 3 to 5*

"Imagine That" classes take the preschool age child on a journey of discovery and exploration, a journey limited only by the power of imagination. Pretend play activities are integrated with music, vocal development, storytelling, movement and literature to capture the preschooler's potential to learn and to encourage cognitive and literacy skills, creativity and individuality.

Heffner Park Community Center

Option 1: Thursdays, April 4 - June 6, 4 - 5 p.m.

Option 2: Saturdays, April 6 - June 8

11 - 11:45 a.m.

TP residents \$210

Non-residents \$240

### Kindermusik: Wiggles and Giggles

*Ages 18 months to 3 years*

"Our Time" classes encourage toddlers to uncover an engaging musical world while building confidence, self-control and communication skills. Singing, imitating sounds, rhyming and object identification foster language skills while creative movement to various musical "moods" develops a sense of balance, timing and spatial awareness. Listening and turn-

taking encourage blossoming social skills.

Heffner Park Community Center

Option 1: Wednesdays, April 3 - June 5

9:30 - 10:15 a.m.

Option 2: Wednesdays, April 3 - June 5

10:30 - 11:15 a.m.

Option 3: Thursdays, April 4 - June 6

2 - 2:45 p.m.

Option 4: Saturdays, April 6 - June 8

9 - 9:45 a.m.

TP residents \$200

Non-residents \$230

### Kindermusik: Zoom Buggy

*Ages newborn - 17 months*

Village classes are designed for lap babies, crawlers and walkers. Through a unique blend of multi-level activities that include creative movement, vocal play, object and instrument exploration, and a colorful literature component, baby's growth and development are stimulated and all senses are engaged.

Heffner Park Community Center

Option 1: Wednesdays, April 3 - May 22

12 - 12:45 p.m.

Option 2: Thursdays, April 4 - May 23

9 - 9:45 a.m.

TP residents \$130

Non-residents \$160

### My Special Grown-up and Me

*Ages 3 to 6*

Remember when everything was new? This introduction to the arts class explores colors, textures and the joy of creativity with a variety of fun projects.

TP Community Center Art Studio

Fridays, April 12 - June 21

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

TP residents \$90

Non-residents \$110

## YOUTH/TEENS

### Counselor in Training (CIT)

*Ages 14 to 17*

Sign up for a two day training to become a Certified CIT. During these trainings, teens will have an opportunity to develop leadership skills while becoming First Aid/CPR certified. This volunteer opportunity involves working directly with children by helping them to enjoy and feel successful in each activity. Must register by April 30.

Training dates (must attend all trainings):

Tuesdays, May 7 and 9, 4 - 8 p.m., and Saturday, May 11, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Once training is complete, teens will sign up for a two-week session to volunteer with Camp Takoma in June or July.

TP resident \$75

Non-resident \$100

### Job Training: Resume writing and mock interviews

*Ages 13 to 17*

This training will help teens to understand the format of creating a resume, participate in mock interviews and receive evaluations from instructors. For more information, contact Ms. Leicia at leiciam@takomagov.org or 301-891-7283.



*Last year gardeners coaxed an abundance of vegetables from a little garden planted right in the parking lot of the Community Center, creating an oasis of green in the otherwise stark concrete lot. The garden, a joint project involving the Recreation Department, the Recreation Committee and a grant from the Takoma Foundation, was such a success that volunteers are planting another, in front of the mosaic at the Library, next door. Other, unrelated container gardens are set up down the street for residents of apartments on Maple Ave., and a full-sized garden is thriving at the corner of Orchard Avenue and Sligo Mill Road. At right, Annie Mozer in last year's garden. Above, from left, standing, Howard Kohn, Ann Nelligan, Kay Daniels Cohen, Jay Keller, Omar Myers, Cherwanda Oliver, Annie Mozer; seated, Abby Ross, Noa Myers and Max Myers.*

Photo by Jay Keller



TP Community Center Hydrangea Room

Thursdays, 3 - 5 p.m.

Session 1: April 11 - May 2

Session 2: May 9 - May 30

TP resident Free

Non-Resident \$10

### S.A.T. Prep Course

*Ages 13 to 17*

Teens will write timed SAT practice essays in class and learn how to analyze and answer questions in the Critical Reading and Writing sections. Students will be using the Official SAT Study Guide, Second Edition, published by the College Board.

TP Recreation Center Lilac Room

April 1 - May 6, 7 - 8 p.m.

Free

### Smashing Smoothies and Movie Rap Night

*Ages 11 to 17*

Join us for Smashing Smoothie Rap Night where you can hang out with your friends, watch movies, make smoothies and be Takoma Park's own movie critic. Watch the movies and tell us what you think!

TP Community Center Teen Lounge

Thursday, April 25, 6 - 8 p.m.

### Young Entrepreneurs Program

*Ages 13 - 17*

The Young Entrepreneurs Program (Y.E.P.) encourages teens to develop their business skills and inspires them to be entrepreneurs. Through this program students will gain transferable business skills for both self employment and the job market, understand the relevance of education and choosing to stay in school or

pursue higher education, and develop life management and problem solving skills.

TP Community Center Hydrangea Room

Tuesdays, 4 - 6 p.m., choose one session:

Session 1: April 9 - 30

Session 2: May 7 - 28

TP resident Free

Non-Resident \$10

## FITNESS/HEALTH/SPORTS

### Tennis Clinic

*Ages 7 to 9 and 10 to 13*

Structured tennis instruction is an excellent vehicle for building character, developing discipline and promoting physical fitness. Please bring your own racquet and a water bottle. If you do not own a racquet, the Recreation Department will provide.

Tennis courts behind Takoma Park Middle School

Tuesdays, May 7 - June 4

Ages 7 - 9: Tuesdays, 3:45 - 4:45 p.m.

Ages 10 - 13: Tuesdays, 4:45 - 5:45 p.m.

TP residents \$25

Non-resident \$35

### Kung Fu

*Ages 4 to 16*

This ancient form of self-defense provides physical and mental exercise which could help the students defend themselves by strengthening hand eye coordination. The student will gain physical fitness, mental and spiritual strength. There is a one-time, non-refundable \$50 fee due the first day of class for uniforms.

TP Community Center Dance Studio

Saturdays, April 6 - June 22

Beginners: 10:15 - 11:15 a.m.

RECREATION □ Page 7

**For a full listing of Takoma Park Recreation Department programs, activities and classes, please visit us online at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation) and click on our Spring/Summer guide.**



# Save the Date – May 19, 1 – 5 p.m.

The Recreation Department, along with some dedicated volunteers, will be hosting the first ever Celebrate Takoma Festival. We will spend the afternoon celebrating the cultural diversity of the city with food, merchandise and community vendors as well as entertainment and games from around the world. If you are interested in vending, performing or would like to showcase a game passed down from generation to generation, please email [celebratetakoma@takomagov.org](mailto:celebratetakoma@takomagov.org) or visit us online at <http://takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/celebrate-takoma>.



Advanced: 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

## RECREATION

■ From page 6

TP residents \$150  
Non-residents \$170

### Taekwondo

*Ages 5 and older*

The Korean martial art of Taekwondo promotes fitness and strength in a fun and social environment. Students learn self-defense and practice drills, forms and sparring. Adults are welcome to register with their children. There is a one-time fee due the first class (non-refundable) for uniform.

TP Community Center Dance Studio  
Wednesdays, April 17 – June 5, 6 – 7 p.m.  
Saturdays, April 20 – June 15, 1 – 2 p.m.  
TP residents \$125  
Non- residents \$145

### Aerobics: Cardio Groove and Strength

*Ages 16 and older*

A heart-pumping, calorie-burning workout that feels nothing like work. This cardio groove is followed by strength training with resistance equipment for a total body workout.

TP Community Center Dance Studio  
Mondays, April 8 – May 13, 6:10 – 7:10 p.m.  
TP residents \$60  
Non-residents \$70

### Yoga for Beginners

*Ages 18 and older*

This class will introduce and develop the foundation of standing poses and basic actions in forward bends, backbends and twists. Each pose can be modified to accommodate all physical conditions.

TP Community Center Dance Studio  
Tuesdays, April 9 – June 18, 6 – 7:15 p.m.  
TP residents \$105  
Non-residents \$115

### Yoga and Meditation, Intermediate Level

*Ages 18 and older*

This Iyengar yoga 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. The practice of postures in yoga is traditionally a preparation for meditation.

TP Community Center Dance Studio  
Tuesdays, April 9 – June 18, 7:30 – 9 p.m.  
TP residents \$105  
Non-residents \$115

### Yoga Nidra – Meditation and Relaxation

*Ages 16 and older*

This meditative yoga practice helps reduce stress, increases general physical and mental well-being and brings greater joy and ease into

everyday life. This systematic practice uses positive affirmations, visualization, awareness of the body, breath, and self-inquiry.

TP Community Center Dance Studio  
Mondays, April 22 – May 20, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
TP residents \$60  
Non-residents \$70  
Drop-in \$15

### Tai Chi Chuan

*Ages 18 and older*

Tai Chi Chuan is often referred to as moving meditation and offers many health and relaxation benefits to people of all ages. This class focuses on the basic principles of Tai Chi by learning the Yang short form style of Tai Chi.

TP Community Center Dance Studio  
Thursdays, April 11 – June 13  
Introduction: 6:15 – 7:15 p.m.  
Beginners Plus: 7:15 – 8:15 p.m.  
Continuing: 8:15 – 9:15 p.m.  
TP residents \$70  
Non-residents \$80

## ART/FILM/VIDEO

### Film Appreciation

*Ages 18 and older*

Have fun exploring the world of film. Over the course of six weeks, we will view, study and discuss the best in comedy, western, musical, mystery, sci-fi and horror films.

TP Community Center Auditorium  
Tuesdays, April 9 – May 21, 7 – 9:30 p.m.  
TP residents \$75  
Non-residents \$85

### Video Editing with Final Cut Pro - Advanced

*Ages 12 and older*

Learn how to take advantage of the more powerful tools within Final Cut Studio to produce broadcast quality videos. Using Motion, Soundtrack Pro, and Compressor, participants will be able to create 3D graphics, compose soundtracks, and export video for any kind platform such as YouTube, Facebook and HP.

TP Community Center Multi Media Lab  
Saturdays, April 13 – May 18, 3:30 – 5 p.m.  
TP residents \$110  
Non-residents \$130

### Video Editing with Final Cut Studio, Beginners

*Ages 12 and older*

This introduction to video editing uses Apple's latest version of Final Cut Pro. Participants will learn the general interface, keyboard shortcuts and all pertinent terminology. Learn how to create and organize projects, log and capture video, add transitions and effects, basic text manipulation and time line based storytelling.

TP Community Center Multi Media Lab  
Mondays, April 8 – 24, 6 – 7 p.m.  
TP residents \$75

Non-residents \$85

### Video Editing with Final Cut Studio, Intermediate

*Ages 12 and older*

The course will cover some of the more advanced concepts in Final Cut Pro such as key framing, motion effects, color correction, filters, composite modes and shapes, markers, slow motion, and advanced text manipulation.

TP Community Center Multi Media Lab  
Mondays, April 8 – 24, 7:45 – 9:15 p.m.

TP residents \$95  
Non-residents \$115

## FOREVER YOUNG: 55 PLUS

### AARP Driver Safety Program

*Ages 55 and older*

The nation's largest classroom refresher course for drivers 50 and older is designed to help tune up driving skills, explain safe driving strategies, and how to drive a vehicle more safely in today's challenging environment. In-person registration required.

TP Community Center

Choose one class:

Class 1: Wednesday, April 10, 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Azalea Room

Class 2: Wednesday, April 17, 12 – 4:30 p.m.  
Lilac Room

Cost: \$12 for AARP Members  
\$14 for Non-Members

Payment will be collected by the AARP instructor on the day of class.

### Computer Class

*Ages 55 and older*

Learn to use the internet, a word processing program and email. You need a Takoma Park Library card to access the computers, and take this course. Registration is required.

Wednesdays, April 10 – May 15  
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
TP Community Center Computer Center  
Class Fee: \$10

### Blood Pressure Screening

*Ages 55 and older*

Adventist Healthcare blood pressure screening  
Drop-in

Thursday, April 25, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

TP Community Center Senior Room  
Free

### Local Gallery Exploration Day, Silver Spring, Md.

*Ages 55 and older*

Start with a tour of Montgomery College's King Street Gallery, take a break for lunch, then enjoy a tour of the Pyramid Atlantic Art Center. Bus pick up at Franklin apartments, Maplevue apartments and Victory Tower only. In person registration is required.

Thursday, April 11, 2013, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Free

### Lincoln's Cottage, Washington, D.C.

*Ages 55 and older*

Join the official cottage tour that covers Lincoln's presidency and private life, and see the visitor center, exhibits, interactive galleries and museum store. Bus pick up at Franklin apartments, Maplevue apartments and Victory Tower only. In person registration is required. For more information, please call 301-891-7290. Free transportation.

Thursday, April 18, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
\$12.50 admission/bring on April 18

## APRIL EVENTS

■ From page 1

and A.I.R. lawncare, an eco-friendly lawn-care company that uses equipment powered by solar electricity. A native plant sale organized by Takoma Park-based Purple Mountain Organics will help participants contribute to a more sustainable environment right in their own yards; other vendors will dispense information about eating sustainably, composting, and other ways to reduce the carbon footprint and lead a more eco-active life.

A speaker series sponsored by Historic Takoma (and held in its new space at 7328 Carroll Ave.) will include state delegates Tom Hucker and Heather Mizeur, City Councilmember Tim Male, and representatives from Friends of Sligo Creek.

There will be green games and activities for kids, and for more hands-on participation among both adults and children, and visitors can pitch in during community service activities leading up to the day: on April 6, Old Town Cleanup Day directs volunteers to tidy up plant beds and otherwise polish public spaces.

See [www.tkpkearthday.org](http://www.tkpkearthday.org) for more information.

### Art is everywhere

Over the weekend of April 13 and 14, the Fourth Annual Art Hop will transform Old Takoma, Takoma, D.C. and Takoma Junction into a sprawling arts district. Participants can stroll among 35 shops, restaurants and galleries to see exhibits of work from more than 60 local visual artists. Works range from painting, textiles, photography, collage and jewelry; artists will include established as well as emerging artists.

An open pre-Hop reception will take place on Friday, April 12 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Trohv (232 Carroll St. NW), featuring food trucks and Takoma DC's 3 Stars Brewing Company beer. Additionally, a special group show with more than 20 artists will take place at Art Hop Sponsor, DC Arts Studio's at 6925 Willow Street, NW on Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. Also on Sunday, a "trolley" will take visitors from venue to venue and to Metro, the Takoma Park Farmers Market and nearby neighborhoods.

For more information on participating businesses and locations, see [www.arthoptakoma.com](http://www.arthoptakoma.com).

## Spring is Prime Time for Tornados.

### Are you ready?

The Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness Committee is available to meet with neighborhood and tenant associations upon request. Contact [TPepc@takomagov.org](mailto:TPepc@takomagov.org) or visit <http://takomaparkmd.gov/committees/epc/index.html>.



## 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, April 1, 7 p.m.

Come in pjs; great for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups

### Friends Big Book Group

Tuesday, April 2, 7:30 p.m.

"Ulysses" discussion continues

Community Center

### Petites Chansons

Saturday, April 6, 10:30 a.m.

Sing French songs and rhymes with Madame Marie

### Caldecott Birthday Club

Monday, April 8, 7 p.m.

An evening devoted to Caldecott-winning books from 2000-2009

All ages

Lemonade and cookies

### Comics Jam

Tuesday, April 9, 4 p.m.

Library staffer/comics guru Dave Burbank reads comics on the big screen.

### Friends Reading Group

Tuesday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.

"Men in the Sun and Other Palestinian Stories" by Ghassan Kanafani

Community Center

### Kids Poetry Workshop

Tuesday, April 16, 7 p.m.

Local poets Rosanne Singer and Elizabeth Rees help kids create poetry and art

Registration encouraged

Best for ages 5 up

### Friends Big Book Group

Tuesday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.

"Ulysses" discussion continues

Community Center

### Favorite Poem Evening

Tuesday, April 23, 7:30 p.m.

Share a poem you love

Contact Ellen Robbins for further information

### Friends Big Book Group

Tuesday, April 30, 7:30 p.m.

"Ulysses" discussion continues

Community Center

**Library Hours  
Expand  
Open Sundays 12  
– 5  
Beginning May**

# LIBRARY



More than 50 people listened with rapt attention as Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Clarence Page discussed "How the Party of Abe Lincoln Lost its Big Tent," the theme of his book in progress, at the Friends of the Library Annual Meeting on March 20. Afterwards, Board President Pat Hanrahan and Library Director Ellen Robbins presented Nominating Committee Member Kay Daniels-Cohen with congratulatory flowers and a birthday cake, publicly thanking her for her advocacy of Sunday hours at the Library, scheduled to begin in May. Newly elected Board members include Emily Van Loon, Nadia Pazolis-Gabriel and Tim Rahn. Walter Mulbry, formerly member-at-large, replaces Jim Kuhn as treasurer.

Photo by Maurice Belanger

## Library partnerships include Politics and Prose

By Karen MacPherson

The Takoma Park Maryland Library, joined by our Friends of the Library group, is further expanding its reach into the community through innovative partnerships with a trio of outside organizations: Historic Takoma, Politics and Prose bookstore, and the New Hampshire Avenue Recreation Center.

Working with these new partners, the Library and the Friends will be able to offer new and expanded types of programs and activities. The partnership with Historic Takoma, for example, has allowed the Friends of the Library to host a February exhibition of some of the eye-catching "Spring for Poetry" posters from past "Spring for Poetry" programs. In addition, the Friends held their second annual December children's book sale at Historic Takoma just before the holidays, raising money for Library programs like Spanish Circle Time and our fall College Bound series.

The new partnership with the New Hampshire Recreation Center, meanwhile, has allowed the Friends to work with staffers there to help build a collection of children's books for the popular after-school program.

The partnership with Politics and Prose has already expanded the library's capability to offer literary events for kids, teens and adults. There are more to come, including a May 11 appearance by Erin Hunter, author of the hugely-popular "Warriors" series, who will talk about the launch of a new series called "Survivors."

Politics and Prose, one of the nation's premier independent bookstores, offers literary events nearly every day of the year,



but the bookstore has limited space for such events and now is looking to do more events off-site. That's where the Library comes in. Kerri Poore, the new Politics and Prose children's and teen events coordinator, suggested a partnership last year: the Library provides the space for some children's and teen events, and Politics and Prose provides the authors, as well as books for those who wish to purchase them.

Librarians say it's a win-win situation: the Library gets to offer more programs featuring authors – at no cost, since the publishers pay for the authors to appear at "bookstore" events – and Politics and Prose gets an additional event location and,

of course, sells books. (Note: No book purchase is required to attend any of these programs, which are free and open to the public.)

The partnership started with a bang in January, with a live-stream event featuring popular young adult author John Green. The actual event, "An Evening of Awesome," took place at Carnegie Hall in New York City and was sold out, but Green worked with his publisher to offer a live-stream to select bookstores. More than 150 John Green fans signed up for the Takoma Park event, which was held in the auditorium of the Takoma Park Community Center.

In February, the Politics and Prose partnership presented a Black History Month program featuring author Gigi Amateau, author of "Come August, Come Freedom," a book for ages 12 up. Amateau talked about how her book combines fact and fiction



# Council votes to expand development incentives

With Erkin Ozberk  
Planning Division

For the past decade, businesses in certain areas of Takoma Park have enjoyed tax breaks and other financial incentives as part of a state Enterprise Zone system. While planners say it has served to encourage development and job creation in the City, the zone expires this year. The Takoma Park City Council recently voted to support its renewal.

In general, the zone is used to attract new business investment and improvement, create jobs, improve the attractiveness of commercial areas and diversify the mix of goods and services. While it does not permit or restrict development activities, it does promote them with income tax credits for expanding the number of employees, and property tax credits for building improvements.

According to City planners, the zone concept works. Between 2003 and 2011, 22 businesses received tax credits in the Long Branch/Takoma Park Enterprise Zone, the one up for renewal under the current designation. It includes properties along New Hampshire Avenue, University Boulevard, Piney

Branch Road and Flower Avenue. Approximately \$13.6 million in capital investments were made there during the same time period, and 40 new certified jobs were created.

Since the Enterprise Zone has become Takoma Park's primary economic development tool, City staff has requested that it be expanded. Among the original properties proposed for addition were 6501 Poplar Avenue (the Washington McLaughlin School), 7315 New Hampshire Avenue (Takoma Park Recreation Center), 7333 and 7401 New Hampshire Avenue, and several properties on Flower Avenue between Domer Avenue and Piney Branch Road.

All but one of the properties was approved by City Council: A crowd of residents from the Forest Park neighborhood attended a March 4 public hearing to protest the addition of 6501 Poplar Avenue. This parcel, which stretches from the corner of Poplar and Gude Avenue, and along Woodland Avenue between Elm Avenue and Circle Avenue, is occupied by a former elementary school, part of which currently operates as a senior daycare facility and subsidized housing; and a green-space wooded area with a creek running through it.

Although the Enterprise Zone would not change zoning, residents feared it might be a first step toward commercializing their residential neighborhood. In response, the City withdrew the property from the application for redesignation. The other properties remained on the application, and an additional property, part of the parking lot at 7676 New Hampshire Ave., was added. In total, 32.6 acres would be added to the zone if it is approved.

The redesignation of the Enterprise Zone will be considered by Montgomery County Council before an April 15 state deadline; if approved, it would move to consideration at the state level.

For more information on the Long Branch/Takoma Park Enterprise Zone and redesignation process, and for a map of the area, see: [www.thenewwave.com/business/financing-your-business/ez](http://www.thenewwave.com/business/financing-your-business/ez). Property owners and businesses in the Enterprise Zone interested in the tax credits can contact Pete McGinnity, the program administrator, at 240-777-8126.

The Long Branch/Takoma Park Enterprise Zone is administered by the Montgomery County Department of Economic Development, in Wheaton.



REGISTER AT  
[BIKETOWORKMETRODC.ORG](http://BIKETOWORKMETRODC.ORG)  
OR CALL 800-745-7433

Pre-Register by May 10 for  
Free T-Shirt\* and Bike Raffle!

FREE FOOD, BEVERAGES AND  
GIVEAWAYS AT ALL LOCATIONS

Visit [biketoworkmetrodc.org](http://biketoworkmetrodc.org) for  
specific pit stop locations and times.  
\*T-Shirts available at pit stops to first  
12,000 who register.

70 Bike to Work Day pit stops located  
in D.C., Maryland, and Virginia



BIKE  
TO WORK  
MAY 17  
2013



## LIBRARY BRIEFS

### Celebrate poetry during National Poetry Month

April is National Poetry Month, and the Library is celebrating with two special events, one just for kids and the other for adults and kids.

On **Tuesday, April 16, at 7:30 p.m.**, local poets Elizabeth Rees and Rosanne Singer will lead a workshop called "What's In Your Head?," which is designed to help kids transform their thoughts into poetry and art. Rees and Singer will begin by asking participants to think about what's in their head – a soccer ball, a puppy, a spaceship, or what?

Then, using the poem, "A Boy's Head," by Czech poet Miroslav Holub as their example, Rees and Singer will help young participants brainstorm and use movement, writing and collage art to take a look inside their heads and create individual portraits of what they find there.

The "What's In Your Head" program is best for ages 5 up, and registration is encouraged. To register, go to: [www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents](http://www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents) or call 301-891-7259.

A second poetry event, the **13th Annual Favorite Poem Evening**, takes place on **Tuesday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m.**

To participate, please choose a published poem you have read and admired, by someone other than you or your friends. You may find the perfect poem to share in one of the many poetry collections at the Library. Send the title and author of your chosen poem and your name and generic occupation, for inclusion in a printed program, to Ellen Robbins at the Library, [ellenr@takomagov.org](mailto:ellenr@takomagov.org), by April 18.

Originated by then-national Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky, the Favorite Poem Evening has been a warm and community-building event for a dozen years. All ages are welcome to participate, and poems in languages other than English are fine, as long as an English translation is provided as well. This event is sponsored by the Library and the Friends of the Library.

— Ellen Arnold-Robbins  
and Karen MacPherson

### Reading group goes big and small

For those preferring shorter reads than "Ulysses" (this spring's choice for the Friends' "Big Book" group), the Friends also sponsor single discussions of shorter literary works. The April 9 discussion will focus on short stories by Ghassan Kanafani, a Palestinian novelist, short-story writer and dramatist. Kanafani was also a spokesperson for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. He was killed by a car bomb in Beirut in 1972, allegedly by the Mossad.

"The main themes in his writings are uprootedness, exile and national struggle," states Books and Writers, at [www.kirjasto.sci.fi/kanaf.htm](http://www.kirjasto.sci.fi/kanaf.htm). "He often used in his stories the desert and its heat as a symbol for the plight of the Palestinian people."

Copies of Kanafani's story collection, "Men in the Sun and Other Palestinian Stories," are available in the Takoma Park Library. All are welcome to join the Friends Reading Group discussions, which are held in the Community Center at 7:30 p.m.

— Ellen Robbins

## PARTNERSHIPS

■ From page 8

to tell the story of Gabriel, a literate slave who tried to incite a rebellion in Richmond, Va. in August 1800. Gabriel's plan failed, due to a massive storm and the betrayal of friends, but Amateau's account of his story makes riveting and inspiring reading.

For younger readers, an event in March featured the authors and illustrator of "Pluto's Secret," a whimsical and informative look at why Pluto is no longer considered a planet. Just published by Abrams, in co-operation with the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, "Pluto's Secret" features a talking Pluto who proudly takes readers through his history. At the March 16 program, authors Margaret A. Weitekamp and David DeVorkin, plus illustrator – and Takoma Park resident – Diane Kidd explained how they came to create the book, and shared some interesting snippets from their work together.

Coming up on **May 1 at 7:30 p.m.**, is a provocative discussion on bullying with Meg Medina, a highly-regarded Latina author for both kids and teens. She will discuss her new teen novel, "Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass."

In this book, Medina tells the story of a girl named Piddy Sanchez, who finds herself being bullied by someone she doesn't even know. Although Piddy at first tries to ignore it, the harassment eventually takes over her life and finally forces her to take a stand. Medina recently has been quoted in national news articles about the need for more books with Hispanic protagonists, and her discussion is sure to be

thought-provoking.

The next night, **May 2 at 7 p.m.**, a totally different presentation will feature illustrator Charles Vess talking about his spectacular artwork for a new kids' fantasy novel, "The Cats of Tanglewood Forest," written by Charles de Lint. The book has been winning accolades from reviewers; Kirkus Reviews called it "a satisfyingly folkloric, old-fashioned-feeling fable," while Publishers Weekly praised "Vess's luminous full-color illustrations, simultaneously fluid and precise." Vess also will talk about his illustrations for "Rose," a "Bone" book written by Jeff Smith, and two picture books – "Blueberry Girl" and "Instruction" – both written by Neil Gaiman. Vess will conclude the program with a drawing demonstration.

Then, on **Saturday, May 11, at 2 p.m.**, the Library will host a talk by "Warriors" author Erin Hunter about the new series for kids called "Survivors." The series focuses on the adventures of a pack of dogs, led by Lucky, who must forge a new life for themselves after a devastating earthquake. Kirkus Reviews labeled "The Empty City," the first book in the series, "wild and wonderful adventure for middle-graders" (ages 8-12). Hunter will speak about the "Survivors" series, and then sign books, including copies of the "Warriors" and "Seekers" series.

These programs provide just a taste of what the new connection with Politics and Prose can offer to the Library patrons; more programs are in the works, and librarians are looking forward to a long and flourishing partnership.





# AT YOUR SERVICE

## Prescription take-back and security identification scheduled

**T**he Takoma Park Police Department will once again participate in the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Nationwide Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on Saturday, April 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This campaign gives the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs.

Residents can bring prescriptions to the Takoma Park Police Department, 7500 Maple Ave. in Takoma Park. Collection boxes will be set up in the first floor police lobby of the Community Center. Prescription, over-the-counter and pet medications will be accepted.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high – more Americans currently abuse prescription drugs than the number of those using cocaine, hallucinogens and heroin combined. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet.

The overwhelming public response to DEA's nationwide Take-Back events not only rid homes of potentially harmful prescription drugs, but is an unprecedented opportunity to educate everyone about the growing prescription drug abuse problem. "Studies have shown that, for many, prescription drugs are the very first drugs they abuse – and all too often they aren't the last. That is why we are committed to helping Americans keep their homes safe by ridding their medicine cabinets of ex-

pired, unused and unwanted drugs," says DEA Administrator Michele Leonhart. "I encourage every American to take advantage of this valuable opportunity to safely dispose of unused, un-needed, or expired prescription drugs," said Gil Kerlikowke, Director of National Drug Control Policy. "Preventing these readily available and potentially deadly drugs from being diverted and misused is something each and every one of us can do to help reduce the epidemic of prescription drug abuse that is harming so many Americans."

At the same time the police are collecting unwanted drugs, they will be helping residents protect their property from theft through the V.I.N. (Vehicle Identification Number) etching program. This security technique permanently etches a vehicle's V.I.N. into all the glass panes of the vehi-

cle. It is a proven vehicle-theft deterrent, as criminals tend to avoid vehicles that have been etched; it is harder for "chop shops" to make profit off of V.I.N.-etched vehicles. As a further car theft deterrent, residents can enroll in the "Watch Your Car" program and immediately receive program decals to use on their vehicles. The decals are displayed in vehicle windows, alerting police to report any unauthorized drivers of the vehicle, and alerting criminals that there are extra eyes watching that property.

Both services are free.

If you can't make the Give-Back event in Takoma Park, nearby collection sites are listed at <http://www.dea.gov/>, by clicking on the "Got Drugs?" icon.

Please contact Catherine Plevy at 301-891-7142 or [cathyp@takomagov.org](mailto:cathyp@takomagov.org) with any questions.



### Councilmembers join Scouts for Pinewood Derby

Councilmembers Tim Male and Terry Seamens squared off against Cubmaster Scott Ward's Rainbow Warrior in a new exhibition race this year at the Boy Scout Pack 33 Pinewood Derby. Male took the prize as "Slickest in the City" in the best of three heats. The featured races of the day were officiated by Mayor Bruce Williams, with Councilmember Seth Grimes and Montgomery County Council Member Hans Riemer cheering on the Scouts. About 75 Scouts and siblings participated in this year's Pinewood Derby, which promotes such skills as engineering, design and creativity, and encourages friendly competition. The overall Scout winner was Paul Hammerstrom, of the Wolves Den. Paul is 8 years old and a second-grader at Takoma Park Elementary School. He is pictured at left with his mom.

## Dog attack results in one dog's death

In an unusual dog-related incident March 21, two dogs got loose from their own property, attacking and killing another dog that was being walked by its owner along Philadelphia Avenue in Takoma Park. The incident occurred around 8 a.m. Police were called to the scene.

The owner of the attacked dog was not harmed, and the loose dogs were secured by their owner. The Animal Services Division of the Montgomery County Police first cited the owner of the attacking dogs for allowing the dogs to be at large (\$100 fine) and allowing them to engage in unwanted contact (\$500). The dogs were declared "potentially dangerous," and a requirement that they be muzzled, leashed and under the control of a person at least 18 years of age any time they were off the property was established.

After securing a search and seizure warrant, Animal Services impounded the dogs three days later, on March 24. The owner may appeal the impoundment and request that the dogs be returned, at which time witnesses and community members could testify at a hearing.

This was the first report received regarding the attacking dogs.

For any imminent animal-related threat to persons or property, police advise residents to call the police department, 301-270-1100. Other animal-related violations can be reported to the Animal Services Division, 24/7, at 240-773-5900.

City law requires that all dogs be leashed when they are off private property, except in designated off-leash dog parks.



## THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

As of Feb. 28, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the station have responded to 105 fire-related incidents in 2013. The department addressed or assisted with 474 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 579 this year. Totals for 2012 were 98 and 472, representing an increase of nine incidents.

During the month of February, TPVFD volunteers put in a total of 934 hours of standby duty time at the station. The grand total so far for this year is 2,121.5 hours.

### Fire severely injures Takoma Park resident

An apartment building fire on March 22 seriously injured one resident and displaced residents of six apartments at 8606 Carroll Avenue. According to Fire and Rescue personnel, the fire began just before 7 p.m. Heavy smoke poured out as far as the street, and the fire was severe enough to sound a second alarm, drawing 100 firefighters from Montgomery and Prince George's County.

Firefighters rescued a man in cardiac arrest on the second floor of the building. He was given advanced life

support by paramedics in the front yard of the building, then taken to a local hospital in critical condition. He was transferred to a burn center and is in stable condition.

Damages are estimated at \$500,000. Firefighters believe the fire started with unattended cooking on a stove.

### Maryland Fire Deaths Update

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported as of March 15, 2013, 23 people have died in fires, as compared to 16 in 2012. Keep in mind, that our first line of defense in the event of a fire, have a working smoke alarm on each level of the home. Test them monthly, have a family fire escape plan and practice with the entire family every few months.

### Firefighters Honored

At the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce 39th Annual Public Safety Awards Luncheon held on March 15, two firefighters assigned to the Takoma Park station were honored for their actions at a building fire at 8240 Flower Avenue on Feb. 20, 2012. A 15-year-old girl was rescued from the burning building. For demonstrating life-saving fire and rescue actions, the Chamber presented Honorable Mention of Valor to Master Firefighter Steven Dodson and Firefighter Wilson Owens. They assisted Master Firefighter Steve Wiseman (Silver Spring station), who received the Bronze Medal of Valor. Congratulations to all three for an outstanding job.



# VOTING ACCESS

■ From page 1

## Teen Voting

Allowing 16- and 17-year-olds to vote, an idea Male is championing, does not have universal support. At the March 4 Council meeting, eight Takoma Park teens and several Takoma Park adults testified in favor of the proposal, and one opponent took a turn at the microphone, but the debate continued on listserves in the weeks after the meeting.

Speaking with the *Newsletter* a few days after he testified, Lucas Ritchie, age 17, said he looks at it as an issue of access and fairness. “It’s a great way to get more young people involved in government,” said Ritchie, who is a junior at Sidwell Friends. “I have lived in Takoma Park since I was born, and I can’t vote. But someone a year older can move here, and in 30 days, that person can vote.”

Dillon Sebastian, 16 and a junior at Blair, also testified as a lifelong resident of Takoma Park. “Lots of policies in Takoma Park deal with issues involving teenagers, such as the curfew and placement of local parks,” she said. “It doesn’t seem right to have only parents vote on the officials who decide on legislation that affects mostly young adults.”

At the hearing, Nick Byron, 16, another Blair junior, said that a small park in his neighborhood was redesigned several years ago. Byron said he and his friends told the Council what they liked and did not like about the plans for the park, but without a vote, he felt that their opinions did not carry any weight.

However, Councilmember Fred Schultz assured Byron that the Council was listening. “I think it’s better for young people, if they have needs, to show up here and talk to us about it,” Schultz said. “A vote is just a vote, and maybe it’s fun, but it’s not the way to influence change in the city, in my opinion.”

Meanwhile, Robert Anderson challenged Council members to produce solid evidence that reducing the voting age would bring-benefits that would override age 18 as when significant rights and responsibilities ac-

# Council aims to increase voter participation

The next City election is less than a year away (Nov. 5). Over the past few months, the City Council has been discussing ways to increase participation in City elections. During April, the City Council will hold a public hearing and then consider and vote on a charter amendment that would lower the voting age to 16 and allow residents to register and vote on the same day.

Other amendments to the charter related to elections are under consideration as well. These include allowing for early voting and clarifying that it would be available for each election; allowing felons who have completed their time of incarceration to register with the City clerk and vote; establishing a minimum age for members of the Council and the Mayor; and reducing the voter registration deadline from 30 days to 21 days.

As of the time this article was written, the final form of the charter amendment has not been determined by the Council. It will be posted on April 2 after a final discussion of the draft language on April 1. The schedule for the charter amendment is as follows: April 8, public hearing; April 15, first reading of the charter amendment

crue. Anderson noted that the students who testified at the Council meeting do not have right to drive prior to age 18 without a parent’s signature. Without parental permission, they cannot marry or sign contracts or hold some types of work permits at age 16 or 17, either, he said.

Male said that he has shared with his Council colleagues and posted online research that does indicate benefits from reducing the voting age. “If voting patterns are established early, they are more likely to be maintained,” he said. “This makes sense when you think about all the transitions that an 18- or 20-year-old is undergoing by starting college or a job. It’s hard for people in transition to get into the voting habit, but if they already have voted, they might stick with it.”

Grimes added that registering younger

resolution; April 22, second reading of the charter amendment resolution. The final amendment becomes effective on the 50th day after adoption unless petitioned to referendum by the voters of the City.

Other election initiatives have been brought forward by members of the Council. The first is creation of a voting task force that would review voting laws and policies and make recommendations to the Council related to voting rights, increasing registration and participation, and conducting outreach to communities less well represented on election day. Another initiative is adoption of a right to vote resolution as a statement of Council policy.

## Follow the discussion on these and other issues:

- Attend City Council meetings and public hearings
- Watch meetings on City TV, cable channel 13 or 28 (depending on your provider)
- Watch live or archived meetings online. Go to: <http://takomaparkmd.gov/cable/index.html>

voters in Takoma Park is not a logistical challenge because Maryland already allows 16-year-olds to pre-register to vote. “We would just use the mechanism that’s already in place for pre-registration,” he said.

## Landlords

The City’s staff is revising the landlord and tenant code right now, which has opened the opportunity to address renters’ voting at the same time. Among the provisions under consideration are: requiring landlords to allow candidates and their representatives to knock on doors and pass out campaign material in apartment buildings; and requiring landlords to provide City-supplied voter registration packets when leases are signed.

“We know that renters register to vote at

- Borrow a DVD of a meeting from the Takoma Park Maryland Library
- Review agenda packets including all background information provided to the Council at: <http://takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/agenda/index.html>.
- Request to be added to the weekly City Council agenda email list by contacting the City clerk at [jessiec@takomagov.org](mailto:jessiec@takomagov.org) or 301-891-7267.

## Comment on pending City Council actions:

- Email [clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:clerk@takomagov.org), fax comments to 301-270-8794, or mail comments to the City clerk’s office, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park Md. 20912. All comments received by the clerk are copied to the entire Council.
- Contact your City Councilmember or the Mayor by email, phone, or U.S. mail.
- Attend City Council meetings to speak during public comments at the beginning of a meeting or, in the case of a legislative item on the agenda, comment before the Council takes a vote.
- Attend public hearings and sign up to speak.

a much lower rate than homeowners and that several wards have much higher percentages of renters. This potentially affects the diversity of the City Council and general engagement in the City,” Male said.

Grimes said that he has received some pushback from landlords who say that their tenants do not want to be bothered by political candidates, and that landlords have security concerns allowing non-residents into their buildings. In addition, the City’s attorney has not yet determined if there are laws that would prohibit the proposed revisions to the landlord and tenant code. But Grimes said Canada and Minnesota have voter-access laws in effect, with exceptions for some types of housing, which indicates that workable solutions can be found.

# NEW BUSINESSES

■ From page 1

Other eateries include the recently-opened Horace and Dickies, a fried fish restaurant at 6912 4th Street NW in Takoma, D.C. near Takoma Station. The menu, a celebration of southern food, includes not only trout, catfish and croaker, but wings, collards and sweet potato pie. Horace and Dickies first location in northeast D.C., has become a landmark destination with long waiting lines for their popular fried fish ([www.horaceandickies.com](http://www.horaceandickies.com)).

Just down the street at 304 Caroll Street, La Mano coffee shop is slated for opening later this spring. The shop, run by Javier Rivas and Anna Petrillo, the people who run Modern Times coffee shop in Politics and Prose, is already building a following at “pop-up” events around town, including several at Trohvy. Brews are roasted locally and brewed one cup at a time. The permanent location, about 500 square feet, will use local producers like the Takoma Park Farmer’s Market regulars Keswick Creamery and Twin Springs Fruit Farm ([www.facebook.com/LaManoCoffeeBar](http://www.facebook.com/LaManoCoffeeBar)).

The most recent eatery announcement

came from Dolci Gelati, a gelato currently available at Whole Foods, from carts at the National Zoo and Washington Nationals stadium, at stores and in restaurants. Owner Gianluigi Dellacio will open his first shop at 7000 Carroll Avenue, where Moonshadow antiques used to be, later this spring. In addition to gelato in flavors like vanilla bean, chocolate, and stracciatella (chocolate chip), the outfit also sells coffee, pastries and baked goods ([www.dolcigelati.net](http://www.dolcigelati.net)).

Also in the neighborhood is The Lab DC, where toddlers, kids, teens and adults can get out on the floor for breakdancing lessons. Described as the first school to specialize in “breakin” in the D.C. metro area, the Lab’s teachers have all been dancing for at least ten years and are members of local crews and active in the bboy scene. They welcome newcomers to the new studio, at 6925 Willow Street NW in Takoma, D.C. ([www.thelabdc.com](http://www.thelabdc.com)).

In Old Town, Transform, a holistic healing and wellness center, is opening in the space at 7042 Carroll Ave. where the CD Game Exchange and, before that, American Craft, once operated. An open house April 13 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. will showcase Transform’s

services, including personal training, Yoga, myofascial release therapy, therapeutic massage and other holistic services ([www.transformdc.com](http://www.transformdc.com)).

At Takoma Junction, Richardson’s Music School recently held its grand opening, March 2, and began offering private and group lessons on guitar, piano and violin plus early childhood music lessons at 7318 Carroll Ave. Owner Vincent Richardson, a singer/songwriter, musician, arranger and producer whose primary instrument is piano, says he is also planning to offer vocal ensemble opportunities. The school has six teachers thus far ([www.richardsonschoolof-music.com](http://www.richardsonschoolof-music.com)).

## Down at the Crossroads

Meanwhile at the Crossroads, the busy commercial intersection of University and New Hampshire avenues, five new businesses have come or are on their way, including two big chains and a locally-based franchise.

For pizza-lovers in a hurry, a Little Caesars Pizza location opened in January at 1137 University Blvd., near the Capital One bank. Famous for its “Pizza! Pizza!” refrain, the carry-out restaurant advertises fast ser-

vice with some pizzas ready with no advance order or waiting – or customers can order from a more inclusive menu.

Pizza is not exactly the point at Chuck E. Cheese, scheduled to open later this year – but there is definitely plenty of it to go around. The combination playground and eatery is a nationally famous as favorite spot for kids’ parties, and features a video arcade and other games, indoor play equipment and oversized characters (including Chuck E. Cheese, and enormous mouse), plus prizes for players. Visitors come in parties, or individually.

A third eatery is expected to open next to Little Caesars: FroZenYo currently has 11 stores and four more on the way in the Washington metro area. The frozen yogurt shop is a self-serve operation, where yogurt is sold by weight. Customers can choose from 16 flavors, from fat-free angel food cake or zombie coffee to maple bacon donut or mango, and from 30 toppings that include various fresh fruits, nuts and candy.

Other businesses new to the Crossroads area include AmeriWell Chiropractic (7505 New Hampshire Ave.); and Gold Design, a jewelry store (7657 New Hampshire Ave.).



# APRIL '13

## 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 May issue is April 15.

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

Below, "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

Monday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, April 8, 7:30 p.m.  
Thursday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, April 15, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, April 18, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.  
Thursday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, April 29, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Auditorium  
For agenda, see [www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/agendas](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/agendas)

#### Public Hearing: Voting and Elections

Monday, April 8, 7:30 p.m.  
Community Center Auditorium  
Considering changes to voter qualifications  
See page 3 for details

#### Public Hearing: FY 2014 Budget

Monday, April 15, 7:30 p.m.  
Community Center Auditorium  
See page 3 for details

#### Prescription take-back and auto i.d.

Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Takoma Park Police Station  
See page 10 for details

#### Takoma Park emergency food pantry

First Saturdays, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Grace United Methodist Church  
7001 New Hampshire Ave.  
Bi-weekly and monthly food supplements for needy families  
240-450-2092 or [educare\\_ss@yahoo.com](mailto:educare_ss@yahoo.com)  
[www.educaresupportservices.org](http://www.educaresupportservices.org)

### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

#### Food Truck Fridays

5 – 8 p.m.  
Takoma Junction, next to TPSS Co-op  
201 Ethan Allen Ave.  
Trohv, 232 Carroll Street, NW  
Various food vendors

#### Takoma Park Middle School Used Book Sale

April 5, 6 – 9 p.m. and April 6, 9 a.m. to noon  
Takoma Park Middle School, 7611 Piney Branch Road, Takoma Park  
More than 4,000 books priced at \$1-\$2  
Free admission

#### Arbor Day celebration

Saturday, April 13, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Takoma Park Library grounds, Maple and Philadelphia

#### avenues

Seedling giveaway, tree care information  
See page 5 for details

#### Explore Takoma Walking Tour

April 20, Ward 2  
Self-guided tour staffed by volunteers  
[www.historictakoma.org](http://www.historictakoma.org) for more info

#### Spring Sweep the Creek

Saturday, April 20  
Community clean-up Sligo Creek  
See [www.fosc.org](http://www.fosc.org) for details

#### Takoma Park Earth Day

Sunday, April 21  
Green solutions fair, green speakers series and native plant sale  
Grant Avenue at Carroll Ave  
[www.tkpkearthday.org](http://www.tkpkearthday.org)

#### Rec Center volunteer work day

Saturday, April 27, 9 a.m.  
Takoma Park Recreation Center  
7315 New Hampshire Ave.  
Landscaping, for teens and adults  
Call John Webster, 301-891-7286

#### House and Garden Tour

Sunday, May 5, 1 – 5 p.m.  
[www.historictakoma.org](http://www.historictakoma.org) for details

#### Celebrate Takoma

Sunday, May 19, 1 – 5 p.m.  
Ed Wilhelm Field  
Inaugural family festival celebrating the cultural diversity of Takoma Park  
To volunteer: 301-891-7290 or [celebratetakoma@takomagov.org](mailto:celebratetakoma@takomagov.org)

### ARTS AND LITERATURE

#### Jazz Jam

Open mic for jazz musicians  
Tuesdays, 7 – 10 p.m.  
Takoma Station, 6914 4th St. N.W.

#### Takoma Spark House Jam

Wednesdays after 8 p.m., ongoing  
7206 Carroll Ave. across from the firehouse  
Bring an instrument or sit back and listen

#### Wednesday Night Drum Jams

Hosted by Katy Gaughan and friends  
Wednesdays, 7 – 9:30 p.m.  
The Electric Maid, 268 Carroll Street NW, Takoma, D.C.

#### Stray Birds CD Release

Wednesday, April 3, 7:30 p.m.  
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

#### \$15 advance/\$18 door, Students \$12/ \$15

[www.imtfolk.org](http://www.imtfolk.org)

#### Alight Dance Theater's Starlight Sock-hop and Carnival

Thursday, April 4, 7 p.m.  
Dance Exchange  
7117 Maple Ave  
Learn 50s social dance, build a star puppet, play dress-up with vintage attire, or dance the night away to atomic tunes  
\$5  
[www.danceexchange.org](http://www.danceexchange.org)

#### Mathematically Inclined: Artists' Presentation

Friday, April 5, 7-9 p.m.  
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium  
Artists of the Mathematically Inclined exhibit present their work  
Free  
[www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events](http://www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events)

#### Andy Offutt Irwin

Saturday, April 6, 2 p.m. for kids and 7:30 p.m. for adults  
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium  
Storyteller, whistler, songwriter, funny man, sound effects maker  
\$12 advance, \$14 door  
[www.imtfolk.org](http://www.imtfolk.org)



Photo by Michael G. Stewart

#### Ruthie and the Wranglers

Carroll Café, 276 Carroll St., NW  
Friday, April 12, 7:30 p.m.

Rockin' American Roots music with clever lyrics, high energy and spritely hillbilly harmonies

\$15 donation  
[www.carrollcafe.org](http://www.carrollcafe.org)

#### 4th Annual Art Hop Takoma

April 13-14  
Old Town, the Takoma Junction and Takoma DC  
Photography, jewelry, paintings, sculptures, installations and more  
[www.mainstreettakoma.org](http://www.mainstreettakoma.org)

#### Sean Nós Dance Concert

Sunday, April 14, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
An evening of Sean Nós (old style) Irish dance  
\$18 advance/\$22 door, students \$14 /\$18  
[www.imtfolk.org](http://www.imtfolk.org)

#### Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, April 18, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
Open Reading  
Free  
[www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events](http://www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events)

#### David Potts-Dupre

Saturday, April 20, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
Ballads, ghost stories, songs of love and relationships, blues rock, rabble rousing labor songs, and more  
\$15 advance/\$18 door, students \$12/ \$15  
[www.imtfolk.org](http://www.imtfolk.org)

#### Married in Spandex: A documentary film by Allison Kole and Devin Gallagher

Friday, April 26, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
A one-hour film about a lesbian wedding celebration, presented in partnership with Docs in Progress  
[www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events](http://www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events)  
Free

#### Washington Musica Viva – Brahms Quartet

Saturday, April 27, 2013, 8 p.m.  
BannerArts Studio, 7502 Flower Ave., Takoma Park  
\$15  
[Dcmusicaviva.org](http://Dcmusicaviva.org)

#### CEASEFIRE!

Sunday, April 28, 4:30 p.m.  
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium  
A Showcase of Jewish Youth Artists to End Gun Violence  
Free  
[www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events](http://www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events)

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE PLANT A TREE

### Discount Trees Available to Beautify Yards, Replace the Canopy

The season is right to plant trees, and in Takoma Park that means residents can help replenish the aging tree canopy in the City. As last year, there is an added incentive of the City paying \$100 towards the cost of the first tree purchased (unless it is a replacement tree required as part of a Tree Removal permit). Residents can add a tree to their yards for just \$95 plus 6 percent sales tax, a total of \$100.70. Add a second tree and the bill is still only \$307.40, planted and guaranteed for one year.

Established discounts still apply as well, through the City's annual bulk buy tree sale. As a purchasing agent with Arbor Landscapers, the City is making five species available at wholesale prices. Swamp White Oak, Sugar Maple, Sweet Gum, Black Gum and American Linden—all native shade trees that usually retail for about \$350—are available to residents at \$195, installed.

**Sale dates run through May 10**

### ORDER FORM

Please include check, including tax, written to the City of Takoma Park and be sure to draw a map of the property and locations for installation (see order form). Submit to Todd Bolton, Takoma Park Department of Public Works, 31 Oswego Ave., Silver Spring, Md., 20910 by close of business May 10.

**Someone will be in touch regarding installation dates.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please include a map of property/tree installation locations.

\_\_\_ Swamp White Oak (2") \_\_\_ \$195 Sugar Maple (2") \$195 \_\_\_ Sweet Gum (2") \$195  
\_\_\_ Black Gum (2") \$195 \_\_\_ American Linden (2") \$195

+ 6% sales tax

Total \_\_\_\_\_

