

February
2014

TAKOMA PARK

A newsletter published by the City of Takoma Park, Maryland

Volume 53, No. 2 ■ takomaparkmd.gov

WHAT'S NEW?

CITY OFFICES CLOSED

President's Day
Monday, Feb. 17

TRASH COLLECTION

Monday, Feb. 17

Yard waste collection cancelled

RESIDENTS SURVEY ON THE WAY

see page 4



Children at Takoma Park's Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration were rapt during performances by the D.C. Labor Chorus, stepdancers, and Piney Branch Elementary School students, who offered their rendition of King's "I Have a Dream" speech. Earlier in the day, volunteers marked the occasion by cleaning up the wooded area between the elementary school and Takoma Park Middle School. An evening potluck wrapped up the eventful day.

Photo by Jay Keller

Back yard bow hunting debated

By Virginia Myers

Adam Landsman is not against hunting. But when the Takoma Park resident, who lives on Mississippi Avenue, found out his next door neighbor set up a hunting blind and shot a deer that then staggered onto Landsman's property to die, he called the police. That sort of hunting, even though it was with a bow and arrow and not a gun, was a little too close to home.

"I have no qualms with hunting,"

Landsman told the City Council on Jan. 21. "I also understand public policy concerns raised by an unmanaged deer population. However, the state of Maryland's proposal to decrease safety zones for bow hunting on private property from 150 to 50 yards raises serious unintended safety concerns."

Landsman was appealing to the City Council to formally oppose a proposed

ARCHERY □ Page 11

Takoma Park trumps county tree law

The Takoma Park City Council voted to exempt the city from county tree preservation laws – not because they were too burdensome, but because the city's laws are more comprehensive and go farther than the county's.

The county law, which goes into effect March 1, is designed to protect street trees and deter the impact of development activity upon the county's tree canopy. Presented in two different tree-related bills, the county council bill, passed last year, requires property owners who apply for a sediment control permit to plant trees or pay into a dedicated tree replacement fund. It also requires property owners who disturb up to 6,000 square feet of their property for construction activities to plant three

shade trees. Those who disturb larger areas will be required to plant more trees. In either case, property owners have the option of paying into a replacement fund, rather than planting trees.

Finally, the new laws require property owners who cut or trim roadside trees in the county right-of-way acquire a right-of-way permit in addition to a tree care permit, and they must also replace any tree they remove (unless the removed tree is found to be unsafe).

By contrast, the Takoma Park Tree Ordinance requires tree removal permits for any tree on private property with a diameter greater than 7-5/8 inches at 4-1/2 feet above the ground. Unless the tree is dead or hazardous,

TREE LAW □ Page 9

City seeks proposals for Takoma Junction development

By Roz Grigsby

It's not that Takoma Junction is neglected. It has been under consideration for some sort of development off and on for many years. Now, city officials are hopeful that a request for proposals spurs renewed interest from developers who might finally help this centrally located spot live up to its potential.

The evolution of a junction

For decades Takoma Junction was the subject of community efforts, with committees, traffic studies, commercial revitalization plans and market analyses all focusing on improving the area. In 1995, the city purchased a 53,000 square foot parcel located at the intersection of Carroll Avenue and Philadelphia/Ethan Allen avenues, with the intention of stabilizing this small, historic neighborhood commercial district and facilitating the redevelopment of the area.

The most recent group to explore revitalization options in the area, the City Council-appointed Takoma Junction Task Force, which served from 2010 to 2012, paid special attention to the potential of that City-owned lot.

In January, the Takoma Park City Council decided to move forward on seeking proposals from experienced developers for the property, which includes the public parking lot between the TPSS Co-op and the Takoma Auto Clinic, and the green wooded area between the parking lot and Columbia Avenue. "Option number one, the status quo, has been tested thoroughly," says councilmember Terry Seamens. "It's time to move on."

City Manager Brian Kenner emphasized encouraging development proposals that would: act as a stimulus to the commercial district and locally-owned, independent businesses; improve the aesthetic appeal of the district; and be contextually sensitive and environmentally sustainable.

Considering the possibilities

The TPSS Co-op, an anchor store at the Junction for more than 15 years, has been considering expansion since at least July 2012, when then board president, David Walker, made a presentation to council about the possibility of building on the city lot. Though the Co-op focused on other priorities in 2013 with the closing of the Grubb Road store, it continued to eye the

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BLACK HISTORY

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ROBBERIES

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Takoma Park, MD 20912

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DOCKET

TAKOMA TOPICS:



4th Annual Mid-Winter Play Day on Sunday, February 9th, 2014 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Come join Takoma Plays and the Takoma Park Recreation Department for an afternoon of fun indoor play. For more information, go to www.takomaplays.org



—www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD

City Council & Committee Calendar

Official City Government Meetings*
TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

CITY COUNCIL

Monday, Feb. 10, 7:30 p.m.*

Tuesday, Feb. 18, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m. (city department roundtables with the City Council)

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

Thursday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m. (city department roundtables with the City Council)

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

TPCC Auditorium

*When public hearings or presentations are scheduled, meeting may begin at 7 p.m. Detailed agendas are always available for review online: <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas>

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, Feb. 10, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

TREE COMMISSION

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

TPCC Atrium Room

SAFE ROADWAYS COMMITTEE

Thursday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, Feb. 20, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION

Tuesday, Feb. 25, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

VOTING TASK FORCE

Tuesday, Feb. 25, 7 p.m.

TPCC Atrium Room

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Wednesday, Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Council Conference Room

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, Feb. 27, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea 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. 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@takomaparkmd.gov.

Notice on ADA Compliance

The City of Takoma Park is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in public meetings. Anyone planning to attend a City of Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing, and who wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services or accommodations is invited to contact the deputy city manager at 301-891-7229 or suzannel@takomaparkmd.gov at least 48 hours in advance.

City Council Action

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

ORDINANCE 2014-1

Adopted Jan. 27 (first reading Jan. 13; second reading Jan. 27)

Amending the Takoma Park Code, Chapter 4.24, Police Employees' Retirement Plan, to Change the Benefit Options Available to Retirees

The ordinance amends the plan to replace the full cash refund option with a pop-up option that is the actuarial equivalent of the life-only option.

RESOLUTION 2014-1

Adopted Jan. 13

Adopting a Hazard Mitigation Plan

The resolution adopts the Montgomery County Hazard Mitigation Plan of 2013. The plan identifies policies, capabilities, activities and tools to help make the county and county municipalities more resilient in the face of future disasters.

RESOLUTION 2014-2

Adopted Jan. 13

Providing for an Appointment to the Emergency Preparedness Committee

The resolution appoints Anne L. Polansky (Ward 3) to the Emergency Preparedness Committee. Her term will expire in 2017.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Monday, Feb. 24, 7 p.m., Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

1. Traffic Calming on the 7700 Block of Garland Avenue
 2. Traffic Calming on the 300 Block of Boyd Avenue
- Residents of these neighborhoods have petitioned for traffic calming on their

blocks. The City Council will hold public hearings on the requests on Monday, Feb. 24, at 7 p.m. Interested persons are encouraged to attend the public hearing and sign up to speak. Questions or written public comments may be directed to the City Clerk jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7267.

New Opportunities to Get Involved

VACANCIES ON CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE

The City Council is seeking up to nine applicants for a Grants Review Committee to evaluate applications for city funding based on established funding priorities, program guidelines and available funding. Recommendations of the Grants Review Committee will be forwarded to the City Council for consideration. Applicants should have demonstrated expertise in community development, grants management, public arts, or related areas of interest. Please apply by Feb. 20. Initial appointments of one, two and three years will be made Feb. 28.

RESIDENTIAL STREETSCAPE TASK FORCE

(vacancies)

On June 3, an ad hoc committee of Takoma Park residents presented recommendations on development of a residential streetscape policy for the city. The presentation is available for review online at: <http://citycouncil-takomapark.s3.amazonaws.com/agenda/items/2013/060313-1-improving-the-tp-streetscape.pdf>. As a follow up to the presentation, the City Council agreed to seek volunteers to serve on a temporary task force to review guidelines for residential streetscapes and make recommendations to

the council. Initial appointments were made in 2013. Interested individuals are still invited to apply.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY CABLE AND COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CCAC)

The City of Takoma Park has one seat on the CCAC. The City Council is seeking a volunteer to serve as the city's representative on the CCAC who is knowledgeable and/or excited about new technologies, the use of video on multiple devices, and the possibilities of interactivity with residents through these technologies. Additionally, the City of Takoma Park and Montgomery County are in the process of negotiating the franchise agreement with Comcast, and the agreements with Verizon and RCN expire in 2014. The CCAC will have an advisory role in the franchise renewal process. For more information, contact Deputy City Manager Suzanne Ludlow, suzannel@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7229.

NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE

(two vacancies)

The committee oversees implementation of and adherence to the Takoma Park Nuclear

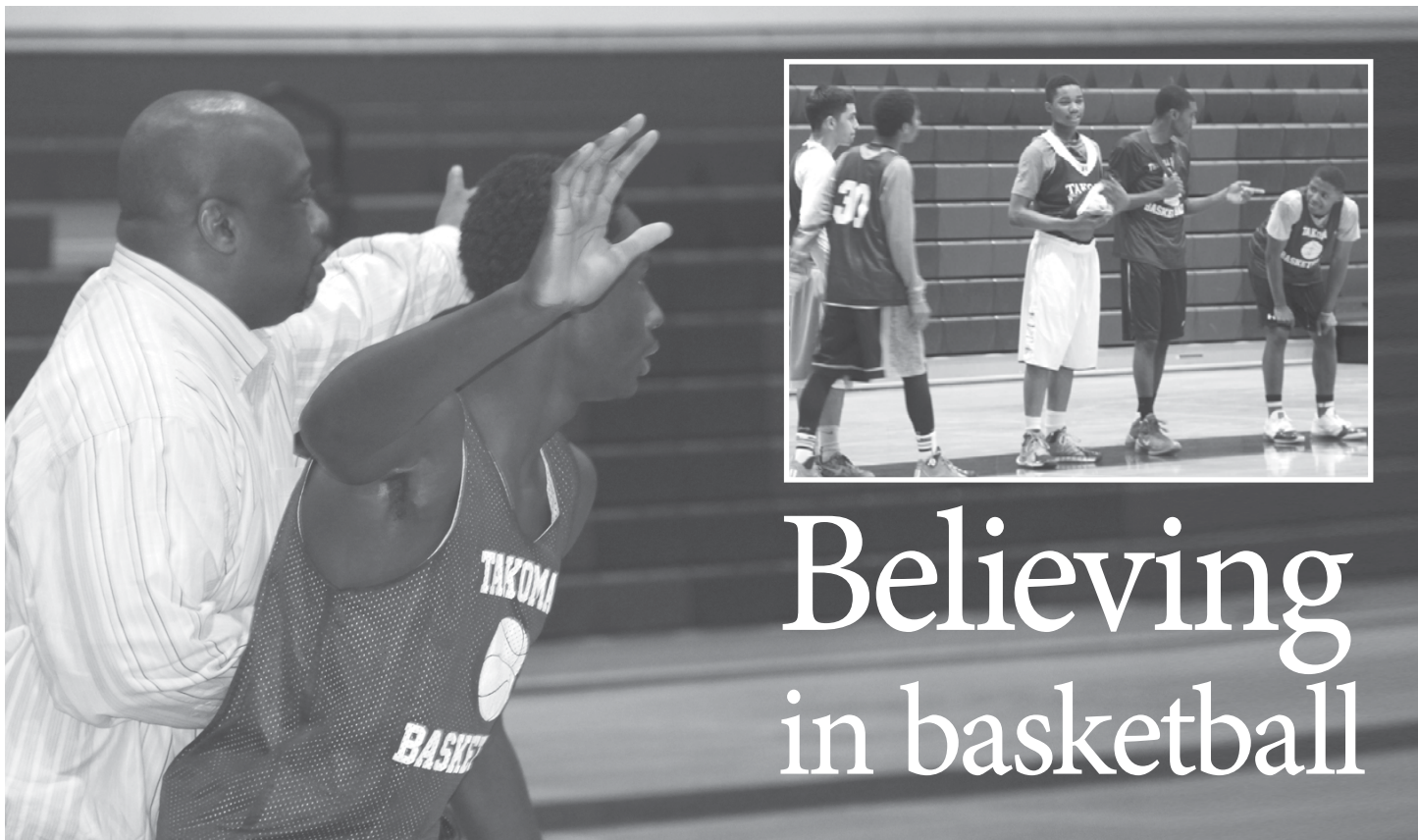
Free Zone Act. The membership is to have collective experience in the areas of science, research, finance, law, peace and ethics. Residency is required. The committee generally meets the second Tuesday of every other month at 7:30 p.m. Residents from Wards 4, 5, and 6 are especially encouraged to apply.

FAÇADE ADVISORY BOARD

(one vacancy)

The FAB helps to ensure that facade designs and their maintenance are harmonious and consistent with the intended quality and character of the commercial areas of Takoma Park; provides guidance and assistance to commercial building and business owners seeking permits for facade alterations, signs and new construction work; and informs citizens and business owners of historic district benefits and requirements. At least two members must be professionals such as architects, planners, and/or historians; at least two members must be building or business owners located or doing business in the Takoma Old Town and Takoma Junction commercial areas; and one member and alternate are appointed to represent Historic Takoma, Inc. The vacancy available is to be filled by an architect, planner or historian.

**Wards 4, 5 and 6 are especially invited to step up. Appointments are made by the city council. Apply by completing an application form and submit it along with a resume or statement of qualifications to the city clerk. View information at www.takomaparkmd.gov/boards-commissions-and-committees for complete information or to apply. For questions, contact Jessie Carpenter, city clerk, at 301-891-7267 or jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov.*



Believing in basketball

Coach Jerry McFarland gets out on the court with Kendall Hucks to help his players improve their game. Despite some built-in challenges, Takoma Academy's basketball team has a growing reputation as a serious force within the local prep school league. Inset, from left, Maurice Gentry, Fernando Cavallo, Cory Fitzgerald, Mecca Parker and Charles Vines.

Photos by Virginia Myers

Takoma Academy outplays expectations among powerhouse opponents

By Rick Henry

Given its affiliation with the Seventh-day Adventist church, it should come as no surprise that a strong sense of belief pervades the Takoma Academy basketball program.

Not just belief in the traditional religious sense — though that is obviously present and underscores everything about the school and program — but a unifying belief among coaches, players and school officials, that despite the many limitations the school faces, the basketball program can (and does) compete at a high level against some of the best prep school basketball programs in the country.

It is that belief that brought new athletic director Keith Beckett to the school last year after 10 years as an assistant dean of students and assistant basketball coach at the esteemed private school Gonzaga.

"I grew up a Seventh-day Adventist so I knew the school and I always thought the school had good enough athletes to compete at the highest level," he said. "I felt that we could find a way to increase our competitive level and still stay true to the beliefs of the school."

One of Beckett's first assignments was finding a new boys' basketball coach. The limitations the school faces undoubtedly gave pause to many prospective applicants. The school has a small co-ed student body of only 230. Seventh-day Adventists celebrate the Sabbath from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday, meaning the school cannot play games during two of the traditional prime times for prep basketball. The school also lacks a conference alliance, making scheduling challenging and depriving the players the chance to compete for a conference title. There is also the challenge of trying to draw talented play-

ers to the school. In an area featuring some of the strongest prep basketball programs in the United States, players have many options.

Jerry McFarland, then an assistant coach at Coolidge, one of D.C. Public Schools' most successful basketball programs, saw a great opportunity, however. He believed everything was in place to build a program "socially, spiritually and athletically."

Prior to coaching at Coolidge, McFarland was an assistant at Riverdale Baptist, one of the area's prep basketball powerhouses.

"Coolidge and Riverdale Baptist already had reputations," he says. "The opportunity to build something similar here was enticing."

In making their decisions to come to the school, both Beckett and McFarland saw the possibilities and positives as outweighing the limitations. Among the positives are the school's facilities, especially the gymnasium, arguably one of the finest in the area. The facility holds approximately 2,500 people and its gleaming floor, adorned with a center-court Tiger logo and dedication to Dr. J.P. Laurence, the school's principal for 33 years (1947-80), would be the envy of most other schools in the area, including the traditional powers.

Key players, key history

It also has a rich basketball history. According to Beckett, the Washington Bullets (now the Wizards) professional basketball team used to practice at the school in the 1970s. The school also hosted the annual basketball camp run by area coaching leg-

Want to see the Takoma Academy boys' basketball team in action?

The team has three home games in February.

Tuesday	2/11
Avalon	5:15 p.m.
Thursday	2/13
Riverdale Baptist	6:30 p.m.
Saturday	2/22
Clinton Christian	7 p.m.

Takoma Academy is located at 8120 Carroll Ave., near the intersection of Carroll Avenue and University Boulevard.

ends Morgan Wooten and Joe Gallagher. Ironically, it has also hosted numerous games between high school powerhouses such as DeMatha, who, despite their pedigrees, did not have gyms that could accommodate big-game crowds.

Beyond the facilities, Beckett and McFarland saw something more important.

"The biggest attraction was the culture and the kids who were here and wanted to be the building blocks of something special," McFarland said.

Indeed, this year's team features a core group of players who have been together for three or four years. They were part of a strong nucleus recruited by former coach Juan Hill. Though they come from different locations and backgrounds, each, like Beckett and McFarland, has a strong sense of belief about the school and the basketball program.

Point guard Bryon McMillian, from Hy-

attsville, came to TA four years ago and has spent the last three years on the varsity. He came for the opportunity to play basketball and help build the program and says the experience has been extremely rewarding.

"The school has improved me spiritually and challenged me with my school work," said McMillian. "On the court it has been everything I expected."

Forward Kendall Hucks, from Bowie, who says one of the reasons he chose TA is because he is "a fan of trying new things," also touts the overall experience. "Good vibe and good people," he says of the school. "And the players on the team are my brothers."

Guard Chris Johnson, also of Bowie, says the team has really come together off and on the court during the last three years.

Charles Vines, of Upper Marlboro, a Seventh-day Adventist, says he was always going to attend TA. The fact that he has been able to develop a close relationship with his teammates and play basketball at a high level has made the experience that much richer.

In addition to the strong core of veterans, the Tigers have added some key transfers to this year's lineup, making this arguably the strongest team in the school's history — a good thing given the schedule they have faced.

Stiff competition

That schedule has included games against numerous teams ranked in The Washington Post Top 20 (as of Jan. 29): Paul VI (No. 1); Riverdale Baptist (No. 3); Bullis (No. 4); Montrose Christian (No. 10) and Clinton Christian (No. 11).

To prepare for the schedule, Beckett enrolled the team in the highly competitive Summer League where many of the above schools, along with other highly ranked schools like DeMatha and Gonzaga, compete in informal games.

"It was heavy competition, but they saw they could compete and they felt a little buzz of excitement going into the season," Beckett said.

The buzz persisted despite being thrashed by Paul VI in its opening game and continued through a crushing two-point loss to Clinton Christian, a game the Tigers led by double digits.

Then on the night of Jan. 6, buzz and belief came together, culminating in the biggest win in school history, a 66-65 victory over Montrose Christian. It was the moment all of them had been waiting for — the four players who had come to the school together, the new coach and the new athletic director.

Belief — in the school, each other and the program — had been rewarded. And the reaction?

"I couldn't believe we won," said McMillian.

THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER



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Letters to the editor, reports by community groups, calendar items

and other submissions will be considered for publication; send to tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov or Newsletter, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912.

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BUILDING COMMUNITY

Residents survey is on its way

By Suzanne Ludlow
Deputy City Manager

In mid-February, approximately 3,000 Takoma Park households will receive the 2014 Residents Survey in their mailboxes. If you are one of the lucky households, please make sure you complete and submit the survey promptly. The City Council and city staff want to know your thoughts on city services, safety in your neighborhood, shopping opportunities in Takoma Park and a number of other subjects that help define the quality of life of our community.

Similar professional surveys were conducted in 2007 and 2010. The findings of those surveys were used to help focus neighborhood clean-

up efforts, determine services that could be cut or provided differently when the recession hit Takoma Park, and allowed us to recognize departments that were providing excellent service.

Many of the questions are standard questions that appear in surveys done in cities and counties across the country, allowing Takoma Park to see how we stack up against other communities.

The Takoma Park surveys have included several open-ended questions that provide staff information that they might not normally ask about. In the 2007 survey, so many residents noted in the comment section that they disapproved of the style of police uniforms worn

by Takoma Park police officers that the police chief changed the uniform style when it came time to purchase new ones.

This year's survey will be sent out in February and households that receive them are asked to submit their responses within two weeks. The surveys will be processed in March, with a final report on the findings presented in May.

The two previous Residents Surveys are on the city's website at www.takomaparkmd.gov/resident-survey and the findings of the 2014 survey will be posted there as well. Questions about the survey can be directed to me, Suzanne Ludlow, at suzannel@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7229.



Fashioning a comeback

The old Allen Theatre on New Hampshire Avenue is being rebuilt, and is expected to reopen as a clothing store this year. The building, which was converted into retail space in the 1990s, was destroyed by fire in December 2009. At the time, the discount clothing store Gussini Fashion occupied the building. The same business is expected to return to the one-story space when construction is complete.

Photo by Virginia Myers

Integrating Takoma Park's schools

On Feb. 13, in honor of Black History Month, Historic Takoma will present "Takoma Park's Colored School and the Rosenwald Connection."

The Takoma Park Community Band will open the program with musical selections by African American composers. Diana Kohn, of Historic Takoma, will narrate the little-recognized story of the school on Geneva Avenue, where black students attended class from 1935 until the 1954 Supreme Court ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education* ordered an end to segregated

public schools.

Money from the Rosenwald Fund played a crucial role in building the school. In this presentation, D.C. filmmaker Aviva Kempner and D.C. author Stephanie Deutsch will take up the remarkable story of Julius Rosenwald, a lifelong advocate of education for black children.

An excerpt from Kempner's film-in-progress traces how this son of Jewish immigrants, who made his fortune as a businessman, chose to spend it ensuring that black communities would have schools for their children. Deutsch, author of

"You Need a Schoolhouse," will describe how Rosenwald's crusade for schools and scholarships grew out of his unlikely partnership with Booker T. Washington.

Finally, a panel of former students will offer firsthand accounts of school days on Geneva Avenue and the experience in 1955 of transferring to classes in what had been the whites-only Takoma Park Elementary School and Takoma Park Junior High. The event is part of the We Are Takoma series sponsored by the City of Takoma Park's Arts and Humanities Commission.

TAKOMA JUNCTION

■ From page 1

parking lot as a space for a larger building and parking.

"The Co-op is looking forward to playing an important role in the redevelopment of the Takoma Junction as we consider the best way to expand our store," said Dan Robinson, board member and chair of the TPSS Co-op Expansion Committee. "We envision a future with a greater variety of items at different price ranges, a gathering place for neighbors and shoppers to meet and eat, and a center of learning about healthy food and healthy living."

Co-director of the Old Takoma Business Association Laura Barclay has also focused on the property's potential. OTBA began organizing food trucks on the city-owned lot in 2012, and also orchestrated other Junction activities like the Grant Avenue Market. "We think that the Takoma Junction represents an underutilized commercial area that will greatly benefit from a thoughtfully-designed development plan," says Barclay. "Development that introduces increased economic activity will enhance the viability of the neighborhood and its existing businesses. Commercial development at the Takoma Junction will also better connect the area with the rest of the Old Takoma business district and strengthen the business community as a whole."

Members of the Takoma Junction Task Force and other community residents attending the January council meeting voiced general support for appropriate development on the city-owned lot. People expressed concern about the need to provide adequate parking for the commercial district and sensitivity to the surrounding area. Jeff Trunzo, a co-chair of the Task Force, stated support for cautious forward progress and concern about traffic.

"Throughout the Task Force report, you'll see a lot of analysis, community outreach and data about what a multi-modal transportation disaster that small strip is," said Trunzo. "From my own perspective, I'd certainly like to see something developed that gave us a lot of green space and a very nice separation for bicyclists, folks walking, folks with strollers, families, and public transit — something that got people off the roadway."

Roger Schlegel, another Task Force co-chair, reminded council of the many and wide-ranging suggestions from the Task Force report, from a dance hall to a reconfiguration of the streets. "Think of the big picture," advised Schlegel. "The community wanted to see significant availability of space for community use — it has potential, it's centrally located. People also wanted to see something that demonstrated the city's commitment to the environment, a lot of solar potential on anything that might be developed there. Traffic flow, pedestrian movement in that area is very tricky."

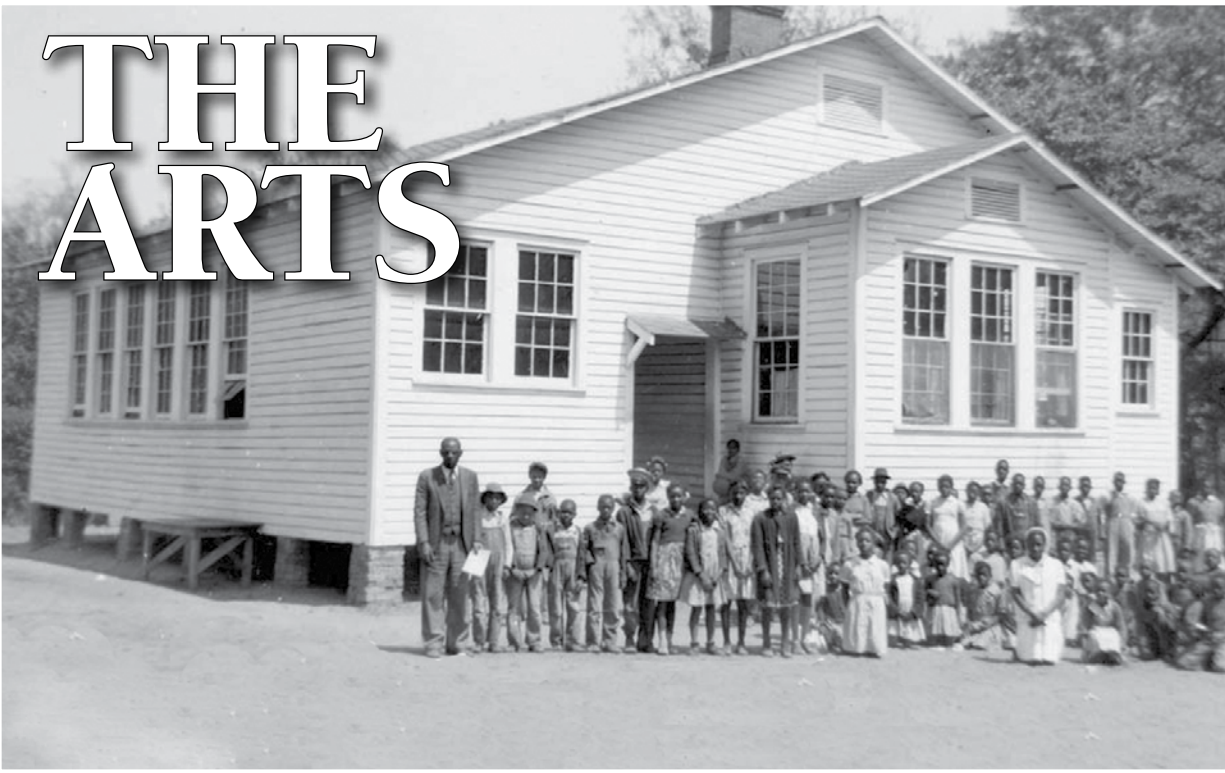
Open to all options

The city manager emphasized the importance of releasing a solicitation for proposals that would be broad enough to allow an applicant to propose a plan they thought would work. "It's a competitive environment," he said. "I do not want to understate that that site has been underutilized for a long time. Lots of other sites in Takoma Park and close to Takoma Park are being seen as more favorable. For the long term sustainability of that important business corridor, that's a problem. That's something that the city needs to take seriously."

"I'm hopeful that someone would propose something that would also enliven businesses across the street or next door," Kenner continued. "That's the point of us putting out a solicitation like this."

The city released a Request for Proposals on Jan. 22. It can be found on the city's website at www.takomaparkmd.gov/hcd/takoma-junction-rfp. Deadline for submission is May 28, 2014. Comments or questions can be directed to Roz Grigsby, Community Development Coordinator at 301-891-7205 or rosalindg@takomaparkmd.gov.

THE ARTS



The Rosenwald schools were set up to serve Black children before integration became the law of the land. On Feb. 13, a documentary about Black schools in Takoma Park will explore local history around the subject.

Black History Month celebrated through the arts

Rosenwald Schools Documentary and performance by the Takoma Band

Thursday, February 13 7:30 pm (Free)

Takoma Academy Chorus

Wednesday, February 26, 7:30 pm (Free)

We Are Takoma presents a series of events in honor of Black History Month this February.

On Thursday, Feb. 13, local filmmaker Aviva Kempner will screen her documentary-in-progress about the integration of Takoma Park schools in the 1950s. The film, *Rosenwald Schools*, explores how businessman and philanthropist Julius Rosenwald joined with African American communities to build schools during the early part of the 20th century. Among those schools was one on Geneva Avenue in Takoma Park (see page 4 for details). The film will be preceded by a performance by the Takoma Band.

On Wednesday, Feb. 26 the students from the Takoma Academy will present a choral collage celebrating the history of African American choral music beginning with its African roots, to its contemporary styles



Takoma Academy Chorus

and composers.

A third event, a documentary about Lawrence Douglas "Butch" Morris, took place Feb. 2.

All events are part of the We Are Takoma series sponsored by the City of Takoma Park's Arts and Humanities Commission. Events are in the auditorium at the Takoma Park Community Center.

Takoma Ensemble performs American classical

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

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

Suggested donation \$20

Look no further than 7500 Maple Ave. for top notch classical music. That's right, the Takoma Ensemble returns this month for its second concert here at the Takoma Park Community Center.

Led by Victoria Gau, Associate Conductor of the National Philharmonic, the Ensemble will perform an all-American program, though don't expect the Stars and Stripes. Featuring the Appalachia Waltz by Mark O'Connor, Charlie Barnett's String Transparencies and Lou Harrison's Suite for Symphonic Strings, pieces draw from folk, jazz and classical traditions.

Sixteen professional string musicians from all over the region comprise the ensemble, including violinist and co-founder Susanna Kemp, cellist Johnathan Velsey, violist Kim Teachout, and Gau, all Takoma Park residents.

This performance is part of the We Are Takoma series sponsored by the City of Takoma Park's Arts and Humanities Commission.



Takoma Ensemble

Award winning Billy Coulter plays Takoma Park's Auditorium

Friday, March 7, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

\$10 suggested donation

Singer/songwriter Billy Coulter will be back in Takoma Park on Friday, March 7 to perform his distinctive brand of roots rock. Inspired by Americana greats Bob Dylan and Johnny Cash as well as pop rockers David Bowie and Nick Lowe, Coulter's sound is both a nod to the classics that inspired him and a breath of fresh air.

Coulter has won numerous WAMMIEs (from the Washington Area Music Association) for his work since he burst onto the scene more than a decade ago. He has performed at the region's top venues and festivals including Rams Head, Birchmere, Strathmore, Wolf Trap, IOTA—and also at the Takoma Park Community Center. He is a Takoma Park resident.

This event is part of the We Are Takoma series sponsored by the City of Takoma Park's Arts and Humanities Commission.

Memories

Exhibit Opening

Thursday, March 6, 7 – 9 p.m.

Exhibit Open March 6 – May 2

Featuring work by Keren Coxe (paintings), Mildred Vance Secular (oil paintings), Drucilla Litz (wood sculpture) and Denny Arant (painting) and Richard Spector (Photography).

The March exhibit in the Galleries at the Takoma Park Community Center will feature work by artists either deceased or no longer practicing. Most familiar to local residents may be Keren Coxe, who was both a painter and an artists' model. In addition to Coxe's own paintings will be work that she modeled for, including a painting or two by Richard Dempsey, for whom one of the galleries is named.

Tall Tales: telling stories in Takoma Park

Thursday, Feb. 6 at 7:30 pm

Takoma Park is now home to a new monthly storytelling series that begins on Feb. 6. Tim Livengood hosts Tall Tales, featuring old-fashioned storytelling – sometimes humorous, sometimes not – with absolutely no claim to factual accuracy.

The art of storytelling has grown in popularity in recent years, with successful programs like the Moth in New York and SpeakeasyDC in Washington, D.C. as well as the radio show *This American Life*.

Aspiring storytellers are invited to participate. Tall Tales will take place on the first Thursday of the month in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium.

Tall Tales is part of the We Are Takoma series sponsored by the City of Takoma Park's Arts and Humanities



Commission. Events are free. To learn more about how to participate in Tall Tales contact arts@takomaparkmd.gov.



Life-size chess was one of the more whimsical games at last year’s Play Day. The winter version of this free event, which includes board games, yoga demos, dress-up and other indoor fun, is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 9 from 2 – 4 p.m. at the Community Center. The Recreation bus will make continuous loops to Victory Towers, Franklin Apartments and Essex House starting at 1:30 p.m.

YOUTH

ART

MAKE/Shift Studio I - Art Inspirations

Ages 8 -11
Elementary students create exciting two and three dimensional projects in this after school class. Lessons include drawing, painting, collage, assemblage and mixed media - every class a different subject and medium. Children learn to express themselves and engage in visual problem solving while producing beautiful works using color, shape, line, texture and pattern. Contemporary and historical artists provide inspiration for this art program geared for third through sixth graders. TP Community Center Art Studio
Thursdays, Jan. 27 - Apr. 3, 3:45 - 5:30 p.m.
TP residents \$155
Non-residents \$175

MAKE/Shift Studio II - Drawing & Watercolor

Ages 11 - 14
Have fun learning to draw with black, white and colored drawing materials, paint with watercolors, use pen and ink and explore mixed media approaches to representational imagery. Subjects will include still life, portrait, landscape (weather permitting) and floral studies. Beginning students welcome. The focus of the class is appropriate for students interested in developing a portfolio for entry into the Visual Art Center at Albert Einstein High School. TP Community Center Art Studio
Tuesdays, Mar. 4 - Apr. 8, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
TP residents \$145
Non-residents \$165

DRAMA AND THEATER

Dungeons and Dragons

Ages 9 -18
They creep through the twilight, quiet as shadows muttering a language long forgotten, a language only spoken by ghosts. Use your imagination and storytelling ability in this classic fantasy role playing game. Roll dice to cast spells and battle monsters. Creativity and cooperation help the group “survive.” TP Community Center Auditorium
Thursdays, Feb. 6 - Feb. 27, 4 - 6 p.m.
TP residents \$45
Non-residents \$55

DROP IN

Kid’s Night Out

Ages 6-12
Want a night to yourself while your kids have a blast with their friends? Bring your children to the Takoma Park Recreation Center Kid’s Night Out! This will be a fun filled night for children with games, art and crafts, movies and theme nights. TP Recreation Center
First and third Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Free with membership card

TEENS

DROP IN

Teen Night

Ages 12-17
Nothing to do on Friday night? Come on out to a night of games, activities and more. Bring your friends for a cheap night out of the house. TP Recreation Center
Second and fourth Fridays of the month, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Free with membership card

Xpression Tuesdays

Ages 12 – 17
Join Ms. Leicia as you express yourself through art. Create pieces that you can take home or leave in the Teen Lounge as a display. We are always looking for more ideas of ways to create and express ourselves. TP Community Center Teen Lounge
Tuesdays, Jan. 7 – Feb. 25, 3 – 5 p.m.
Free

EDUCATION/DEVELOPMENT

Job Training, Resume Writing, Mock Interviews

Ages 13-17
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. TP Community Center Teen Lounge
Mondays, Feb. 3 - Mar. 31, 3 – 4 p.m.
TP resident \$10
Non-Resident \$15

TRIPS

Ice Skating

Ages 12-17
Join the Teen Program for an evening of skating and then dine with us in downtown Silver Spring. Advanced registration is required. Transportation will leave the Takoma Park Community Center at 4:15 p.m. Don’t be late! Ice skating will be at Silver Spring Outdoor Skating Rink. We will meet at the Takoma Park Community Center Teen Lounge. TP Community Center Teen Lounge
Friday, Feb. 14, 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
\$8

ADULT

ART

Collage

Ages 16 and older
Have fun working with found, purchased and altered papers, while learning how collage methods can enhance your art making process, whatever medium you use. This class explores ways of combining collage materials and art media. You will be introduced to a variety of collage techniques, work with elements and principals of design, and explore creative two and three dimensional assembly. Instruction will be given in surface preparation, adhesives, color theory and composition and is suitable for all levels. TP Community Center Art Studio
Tuesdays, March 4 - Apr. 8, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
TP residents \$215
Non-residents \$245

SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

Adult Softball League 2014

Ages 16 and older
The Takoma Park Coed Softball League is a recreational program for competitive adults of all skill levels. Team registrations must contain 50 percent Takoma Park residents to qualify for resident team entry fee. Roster limit is 25. All games are double headers. Individual participants will be placed on a waiting list and contacted if space becomes available on a team; those players will be responsible to that team for registration and any other associated fees. Lee Jordan Field, Nolte Local Park #2, Hillandale Park and Argyle Local Park

Sundays, Apr. 13 – Jun. 22, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Seven-week season and playoffs
TP Residents Team Fee: \$545
Non-residents Team Fee \$645

Aerobics: Cardio-Intense Groove & Strength

Ages 16 and older
Heart pumping and easy to follow, Hi-Low Aerobics flows to the beat of a great sound system with high-energy moves interspersed with moments that really make you sweat! Following the beat liberates the body and mind to move in the moment. Muscle-building strength work with resistance tools follows, and then a well-earned stretch. TP Community Center Dance Studio
Mondays, Mar. 3 - Apr. 7, 6:10 - 7:15 p.m.
TP residents \$65
Non-residents \$75

Jazzercise

Ages 16 and older
Jazzercise is the art of Jazz combined with the science of exercise physiology. Each 60-70 minute class includes easy-to-follow, fun, aerobic dance routines, weights for muscle strength and stretching exercises, all to the beat of music from oldies to jazz to the newest pop tunes. TP Recreation Center Gymnasium
Mondays and Wednesdays (on-going), 7 – 8 p.m.
Saturdays, 8 – 9 a.m. (on-going)
(No class Feb. 17)
\$45 per month EFT (Easy Fitness Ticket)
\$110/8 week pass
\$30 joining fee required for EFT and/or 8 week pass
\$15 drop-in (with \$20 fee)

Ladies’ Boot Camp I

Ages 16 and older
A total body program that includes a circuit of drills such as jumping jacks, running, push-ups, squats, crunches and weight training. A challenging workout within a quick hour. TP Recreation Center gymnasium
Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 4 – April 24, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
\$85/8 weeks

Pilates I (Beginner)

Ages 16 and older
A fun and invigorating workout that teaches controlled movements utilizing the body’s “core” - abdomen, back, and hips. Pilates improves core control, coordination, standing alignment and balance with mat exercises. Pilates is the ultimate mind-body exercise for anyone who wants to tone, streamline and realign the body. TP Recreation Center
Wednesdays, Feb. 19 – March 26, 6 – 7 p.m.
\$60/6 weeks

Pilates II (Advanced)

Ages 16 and older
Strengthen your abdominals as well as your glutes, back and shoulders. We build long lean muscles using a variety of tools and approaches. A challenging workout that is surprisingly enjoyable. Gain a stronger more flexible core and better posture that will benefit you 24 hours a day. Participants are required to bring a mat and their own 3-pound weights. TP Recreation Center
Tuesdays, Feb. 18 – March 25, 6:30 -7:30 p.m.
\$60/6 weeks

Zumba

Ages 16 and older
An exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness program, Zumba fuses hypnotic Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves to create a one-of-a-kind workout. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department.

RECREATION

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TP Recreation Center front meeting room
Wednesdays 6 – 6:55 p.m. and Saturdays 9:15 – 10:15 a.m. (on-going)
Feb. 12 – March 8
\$40/4 weeks (session)
\$10 (Drop-in)

FOREVER YOUNG: 55 PLUS

DROP-IN

Bingo

Ages 55 and older

Try your luck and win a prize
TP Community Center Senior Room
Thursday, Feb. 27, Noon – 2 p.m.
Free

Blood Pressure Screening

Ages 55 and older

Adventist Healthcare will be doing a free monthly blood pressure screening
TP Community Center Senior Room
Thursday, Feb 27, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Free

Needlework Get-together

Ages 55 and older

Are you bored sitting and knitting alone? Join us for fun, conversation and support with needlework projects. Bring your projects with you. This is not an instructional class. The group will not meet during inclement weather.
TP Community Center Senior Room
Mondays ongoing, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Free

EDUCATION/DEVELOPMENT

Computer Classes

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. Limit six participants. Instructors: Phil Shapiro, Jim Mueller, Jane Hawkanson. Registration is required.
TP Community Center Computer Lab
Wednesdays, Feb. 26 – April 2
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Class Fee: \$10 per session
*Library card fees: Free/Takoma Park residents, \$37/ Montgomery County residents, and \$60 non-Montgomery County residents.

SPORT/FITNESS

Table Tennis - Open Play

Ages 55 and older

Come play this fun, energetic game. A great way to improve eye-hand coordination: helps keep the body healthy and the mind sharp. Drop-in.
TP Community Center Game room
Winter Hours: Mondays - Fridays, ongoing, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Saturdays, ongoing, 10 a.m. - Noon
Free

PETS

Dog Obedience Training

Dogs of any age

Getting your dog started with a solid foundation of obedience training is one of the most critical and rewarding things you can do for your dog. Improve your relationship with your dog and build your dog's confidence with proven positive rewarding techniques that use not only food, but real time rewards such as praise, play time, toys, and freedom.

Heffner Park Community Center
Tuesdays, Feb. 18 - Mar. 25, 7 - 8 p.m.
TP residents \$109/per dog
Non-residents \$129/per dog



REGISTRATIONS UNDERWAY FOR SPRING BREAK CAMPS

YOUTH

Dribble, Pass and Shoot Spring Break Camp

Ages 6-12

Emphasizing individual improvement is one of the guiding philosophies of camp. Campers will be provided with excellent coaching which allows each participant to develop a sense of pride and individual accomplishment. The level of instruction will be adjusted to fit the individual needs of each participant.
TP Recreation Center gymnasium
Monday-Friday, April 14 – 18, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Standard fee: \$200

Nature Spring Break Camp

Ages 6 - 12

Come explore with us as we experience nature. Go on a scavenger hunt finding nature's little secrets. Find out why the sun is so important and why water is essential to all living creatures. Hiking, swimming crafts and fun!
TP Community Center Azalea Room
Monday-Friday, April 14 - 18, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
TP residents \$140 / Non-residents \$160

TEENS

Spring Break Career Week

Ages 13-17

During Career Week a few professionals will stop by and guide participants in exploring some of today's hottest careers. Participants will also receive insider advice on the knowledge and skills needed for success. This week you will be able to connect with experts, aspire to new heights, make friends and explore multiple options for your future. Spend the mornings with our career introductions and the afternoons attending our break away trips like: bowling, laser tag, roller skating and more. For more information, please contact Ms. Leicia at leiciam@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7283. Limited spaces are available.
TP Community Center Teen Lounge
Monday-Friday, April 14 – 18, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
TP residents: \$25/Day, \$100/Week
Non-residents: \$30/Day, \$120/Week

Before and after care available for an additional fee for youth camps. Not available for Spring Break Career Week.

Forever Young Table Tennis Tournament – Looking for players

Would you like to participate in a table tennis tournament for adults 55 and older? We are planning a March 2014 tournament. For more information, and to register with Paula Lisowski, Seniors Program Manager, Takoma Park Recreation Department, call 301-891-7280, or email paulal@takomaparkmd.gov

Celebrate Takoma Vendors/Entertainers/Volunteers Needed

The Recreation Department is beginning to plan the Second Annual Celebrate Takoma Festival for Sunday, May 18 and we need your help. The festival celebrates the cultural diversity of Takoma Park. We will be looking for food, merchandise vendors and local

entertainers. If you would like to volunteer to be a part of the steering committee please email Debby Huffman at deborahh@takomaparkmd.gov. The committees meet monthly in the evenings. Come join the fun!

Instructors Needed (to teach ages 11-18)

Seasonal, Year Round, Flexible, Afternoon/Evening Preferred
The Teen Program is seeking instructors to facilitate a variety of classes for ages 11 - 18. Current instruction is needed for Drama, SAT Prep – Math Portion, Job Training, Dance, Art, etc. For more information, please contact Leicia Monfort at leiciam@takomaparkmd.gov.

at leiciam@takomaparkmd.gov.

Teen Lounge

This special room is for TEENS ONLY!

Ages 13 - 17 are welcome to become members to gain access to a 60-inch plasma television, X-Box 360 games, workstations, games and a comfortable sitting area for socializing with friends. A parent/legal guardian must give consent for children under age 18 to participate by signing a permission form complete with rules and regulations.
Teen Lounge
Takoma Park Community Center
Monday and Wednesday through Friday, 3 – 7 p.m.
Tuesday, 3 – 8 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday, closed

For a full listing of Takoma Park Recreation Department programs, activities and classes, please see the Rec Guide for Winter 2014 or visit us online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation.

SPORTS

Registration is open

Flag Football League 2014

Ages 6 - 14



The second season of the Takoma Park Flag Football League offers another year of non-competitive, instructional, community play. The goal is to teach the fundamentals of flag football in a safe

environment. There are three divisions: ages 6 to 8, 9 to 11 and 12 to 14. Practice will be one day a week and games will be played on Saturdays. Practices begin the week of April 7.

Ed Wilhelm Field
Saturdays, Apr. 7 – May 17, 12 - 5 p.m.
TP residents \$40
Non-residents \$50

T-Ball League 2014

Kindergarten-First Grade

This coed league allows girls and boys to have fun while learning the fundamentals of baseball. Emphasis will be on fun, learning to hit, running bases and catching. No experience is necessary as all skill levels are welcome. Participants must bring their own baseball gloves. All teams will be formed by the Recreation Department. Volunteer coaches are a key element of this program's success. Games are played on Saturday mornings.



Belle Ziegler Park, Ed Wilhelm or Lee Jordan Field

Saturdays, Jun. 7 – July 26, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
TP Residents \$55
Non-residents \$65

Adult Softball League 2014

Ages 16 and older



The Takoma Park Coed Softball League is a fun and exciting recreational program for competitive adults of all skill levels. Team registrations

must contain 50 percent Takoma Park residents to qualify for resident team entry fee. Roster limit is 25. All games are double headers. Individual participants will be placed on a waiting list and contacted if space becomes available on a team; those players will be responsible to that team for registration and any other associated fees.

Lee Jordan Field, Nolte Local Park #2, Hillandale Park and Argyle Local Park
Sundays, Apr. 13 – Jun. 22, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Seven-week season and playoffs
TP Residents Team Fee: \$545
Non-residents Team Fee \$645

Inclement Weather Info:

For information, cancellations and updates, call our weather hotline: 301-891-7101 ext. 5605

If the Federal Government declares it is closed, or announces a delay (such as a 2-hour delay), the City of Takoma Park follows that declaration. If the Federal Government delays opening, then regularly scheduled classes, which normally take place after the delayed start time, will be held at their normal time.

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

Moralities of Everyday Life

Sundays at 12:30 p.m.

Discussion for those taking the free online class offered by Coursera and taught by Yale's Paul Bloom

Registration encouraged at tinyurl.com/tpmorality

Yoga Storytime

Sunday, Feb. 2, 2 p.m.

Ms. Kati will lead a program of stories and gentle yoga stretches for kids ages 3-5 and their grown-ups.

Spaces limited; registration required

Bedtime Stories – NEW NIGHT!

Tuesday, Feb. 4, 7 p.m.

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

Petites Chansons/French Circle Time

Saturday, Feb. 8, 10:30 a.m.

Singing and rhyming in French with Madame Marie

Registration highly encouraged so participants can be updated with upcoming program dates

Valentine's Day Crafts

Sunday, Feb. 9, 2 p.m.

Make cards, candy wrappers, and more

Registration encouraged

Caldecott Club: A Family Book Club

Monday, Feb. 10, 7 p.m.

We'll be reading the just-chosen 2014 picture book winners.

Lemonade and cookies served

No registration required

Comics Jam

Tuesday, Feb. 11, 4 p.m.

Comics guru Dave Burbank at our monthly comics book club

No registration required

Friends Reading Group

Tuesday Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m.

"Salvage the Bones" by Jessamyn Ward

All invited

Community Center

Constitution Café with Chris Phillips (see article)

Tuesday, Feb. 18, 7:30 p.m.

Registration encouraged

Fashion Design Workshop

Sunday, Feb. 23, 2 p.m.

Create fashion crafts and accessories, including Rainbow Loom bracelets.

Ages 8 up.

Looking forward:

Wednesday, March 19 - Friends Reading Group begins discussions of "The Iliad" with an introductory lecture by Dr. Fred Winter.

Community Center, 7:30 p.m.

All invited (see article)

LIBRARY



Little library is a big hit

This Little Free Library just outside the Takoma Park Co-op is a place where anyone can borrow – or donate – books. The Friends of Takoma Park Library, along with staff and others, organized and built the miniature library. From left, Merrill Leffler (library board member), Laurie McGilvray, Sherri Collins (co-op staffer), Robert Callard (a library patron), Ellen Robbins (library director) and Walter Mulbry and Pat Hanrahan, also library board members.

Photo by Maurice Belanger

Children's literature inspires career change – and this reflection on trends in kids' books

By Karen MacPherson

Note: Since 1990, I've had the privilege of bringing the best children's books and their creators to millions of readers via The Children's Corner, my weekly column that was sent out to newspapers around the country by Scripps Howard News Service. When Scripps Howard News Service closed down at the end of December, two things happened: I created a new Children's Corner blog (www.childrenscornerkm.blogspot.com), and Publishers Weekly asked me to reflect on the

changes I've seen in children's literature during my time with Scripps. This article is a revised version of the Publishers Weekly piece.

Over my years as the Scripps Howard News Service children's book reviewer, I've read so many memorable books for kids and teens that compiling even a short list of favorites would be an impossible task. I've also interviewed, and been hugely inspired by, dozens of children's book authors and illustrators – many of them winners of the Caldecott and New-

bery medals – whose passion for creating the best books for young readers is truly an awesome thing to behold.

In fact, reading these books and interviewing their creators actually convinced me to change careers in 2006, trading my nearly 30 years as a newspaper reporter for a dream job as a children's and teen's librarian in the Takoma Park Maryland Library (after I spent more than five years

TRENDS IN KIDS' BOOKS □ Page 9

LIBRARY BRIEFS

Friends Big Book Club to Tackle "The Iliad"

The Friends Reading Group will begin discussions of Homer's "The Iliad" with an opening night presentation by Dr. Frederick Winter on Wednesday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center.

After several years of reading 19th and 20th century classic novels – among them, "War and Peace," "The Brothers

Karamazov," "Moby Dick," "Les Misérables," and James Joyce's "Ulysses" – the Friends Reading Group is stepping back to the beginnings of it all.

On March 19, the group will meet in the Azalea Room for the first of four discussions of "The Iliad," the great Homeric epic that over 24 chapters pits the Achaeans against the Trojans and, at the same time, divides the gods against each other.

We are witness to the mortal themes – valor, cowardice, anger, love, betrayal – amidst a ten year war instigated by the abduction of Helen, the world's greatest

beauty, by the Trojan prince Paris. Achilles, Agamemnon, Odysseus, Hektor are only a few of the larger than life combatants we will follow over the course of our reading.

Dr. Frederick Winter, former professor of classics at the City University of New York, and classical archaeologist, will give an introductory talk at the first meeting. He will guide us through the world of Homer and the poem that has continued to engage us from antiquity until today.

Everyone is welcome. You will prob-

BRIEFS □ Page 9



TRENDS IN KIDS' BOOKS

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earning the required master's of library science). By that time, I had already been writing my column for more than 15 years.

Looking back over the nearly quarter of a century that I wrote my Scripps column, I can see what a wild and amazing ride it has been. To take just one example: Who knew that the 1998 U.S. publication of a debut book by an unknown British author would create such literary and financial magic and make reading a cool pastime worldwide? Somehow J.K. Rowling struck a cultural chord with her Harry Potter books, and young fans from around the globe gleefully dove headfirst into the world of the boy wizard.

Readers, including my own two kids, found his adventures so fascinating that they lined up in bookstores for midnight releases of the newest book, while publishers vied with one another to come

up with the "next Harry Potter." At the library, we held a hugely successful, two-hour "Harry Potter" event that attracted nearly 100 kids and adults. We also offered a popular day-long program for kids to come and spend the day at the library as they listened to the first eight hours of the audiobook version of the just-released, final book in the series, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows."

The "Harry Potter" books were instrumental in sparking another trend that continues today: the crossover book, a volume that appeals to both kids and adults. It turns out that adults also liked Rowling's books, just as they subsequently liked the "Twilight" books by Stephenie Meyer, Suzanne Collins's "Hunger Games" series, and "The Fault In Our Stars" by John Green.

Another trend that I've witnessed was the explosion of "hybrid" books. Hybrid books are heavily illustrated novels for young readers, and the success of these books, especially the mega-selling "Diary

of a Wimpy Kid" series by Jeff Kinney, shows that kids have clearly decided to rebel against the dictum that they don't need pictures once they have learned to read.

Then there is the related rise of popularity of graphic novels, a.k.a. comics, for children, a movement led by librarians who see that many kids take to comics like a duck to water. Why not capitalize on that connection? At the library, I see the benefits of the trend firsthand. Because kids are so screen-focused these days, comics, with their visual impact, are great for drawing them away from screens and back to books.

Over the years, I've also noticed two other trends: a steady increase in high-quality non-fiction books for kids, especially ones that present information in an engaging narrative; and a skyrocketing number of novels – many of them of high literary quality – for teens.

Sadly, however, some things haven't changed. For example, the publication of

multi-cultural books still isn't a priority, and children's books don't always reflect our richly diverse society.

And, despite their importance to developing the adults of tomorrow, children's books and their creators seemingly remain second-class literary citizens; as two-time Newbery Medalist Lois Lowry once told me, someone asked her when she was going to write a real book – one for adults.

A final trend to note: the rise of the digital book. Clearly, e-books are here to stay, but many parents aren't yet totally sold. In my librarian job, I've seen that even the most tech-savvy parents still prefer to read their children physical books, especially picture books. True, older kids are reading more e-books, but they also still read physical books. As one young reader told me recently: "I love checking out a whole armful of books!"

I'm honored to have spent more than two decades chronicling children's literature, and grateful for the authors, illustrators, publishers, editors, and readers who have joined me in The Children's Corner. But there's lots of exploration and discovery to be done yet in the world of children's literature, and I hope you'll join me in the new blog incarnation of The Children's Corner, where I'm posting reviews, interviews, book trailers, and more, and looking for your comments and recommendations about the best books for our children and teens.

LIBRARY BRIEFS

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ably want to have your own copy of "The Iliad" for the duration of the discussion series, but the Takoma Park Library has copies of prominent translations that may be borrowed for three weeks.

For more information, see the Friends website at www.ftpml.org. You may also contact the library or write to library director Ellen Robbins at ellenr@takomaparkmd.gov.

— Merrill Leffler

Exploring the Constitution at Constitution Café

Join us on Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m. when author and educator Christopher Phillips returns to the Library after a long hiatus to share his most recent project: Constitution Café.

Christopher Phillips travels the country engaging Americans to talk about the Constitution. Following the successful format of his 2011 book "Constitution Café: Jefferson's Brew for a True Revolution," Phillips encourages communities to generate a new, nationwide Constitutional Convention to help Americans better understand and challenge our most fundamental freedom. Constitution Café is dedicated to the Jeffersonian notion of freedom: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Find out about the power and promise of democracy in this absorbing

and challenging discussion.

Phillips is a Senior Writing Fellow at Penn's Center for programs in Contemporary Writing. He is a 2012 recipient of the distinguished Leadership Award and executive director of the nonprofit Democracy Café, dedicated to making ours a more thoughtful, inclusive and participatory world by spearheading dialogue groups.

Phillips is also the author of the best-selling "Socrates Café: A Fresh Taste of Philosophy" and two related books, which he has shared with Takoma Park audiences for several years.

The program will be of interest to adults, teens, middle-schoolers and curious elementary school kids. All are welcome. Please register.

Now Download e-Books through "Freeding"

"Freeding" is a brand new way to download and enjoy eBooks through the Takoma Park Maryland Library.

With Freeding (for "free reading"), you'll find thousands of eBooks from every genre, and you can explore them all without ever waiting on a hold or worrying about late fees. More than 22,000 books from dozens of publishers around the world are instantly available with simultaneous access. There are 50 categories of books you can choose from – including adult and juvenile fiction and nonfiction, self-help, comics and graphic novels, foreign language study, self-help and many others.

Read them on your computer or take the book with you on a compatible eReader, smartphone or tablet. You can download directly to Apple iPhone or iPad, android tablets and phones, Kindle Fire or PC and MAC computers.

Freeding works on a token system. Use your Takoma Park Maryland Library card to access and download books. Each book is assigned a number of tokens, or virtual currency, that you use to exchange for book downloads. Books cost from one to four tokens, according to the values assigned by the publisher. Each library patron may use up to 10 tokens per week. Unused tokens roll over each week, like cell-phone minutes, for a four-week period. At the end of the fourth week (from the time that you first logged in), unused tokens are cleaned out of your account, except for your original weekly allotment. Then the process starts all over again.

Books are loaned for two weeks, and can be renewed for a lesser token price. A "wishlist" feature enables you to put books on "hold" if you have available tokens left and the Library has run out of downloads for the week.

Freeding is a product of Library Ideas, a global media company focused on libraries, based in Fairfax, Virginia. In 2011 Library Ideas was named one of the Top 100 Companies in the Digital Content Industry by eContent magazine.

More information on Freeding can be found at www.takomapark.info/library/freeding.html.

TREE LAW

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any tree that is removed must be replaced, often by more than one replacement tree, depending on the size of the tree that is removed.

The ordinance also requires a tree impact assessment for activities such as re-grading or pavement removal or installation within 50 feet of an urban forest tree. Tree protection plans are also required for construction projects, to protect the critical root zones and water supplies of urban trees.

The city employs a full-time arborist to help administer its tree codes.

The county has a number of regulations regarding the protection of the forest canopy, but most are limited to larger developments, especially those that would affect 40,000 square feet of forest

For a full copy of the Takoma Park Tree ordinance, see www.takomaparkmd.gov/publicworks/arborist. For a copy of the county's tree laws and forest preservation strategies, see www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/Tree/laws-and-programs.html.



Lone females targeted in rash of robberies

On Jan. 24 at approximately 9:02 p.m., Takoma Park Police responded to the 7000 block of Sycamore Avenue for a report of a car-jacking and armed robbery. After parking her 2002 Lexus on Beach Avenue at Sycamore, the victim saw the suspect walking along Sycamore towards Beach. She left the car to walk to her house, but the suspect approached her and demanded she hand over her keys. When she hesitated, the suspect pulled out a black gun and pointed it at her. She gave him her keys and other property, and the suspect drove away in her car.

The suspect was described as a black male, 25-30 years old, last seen wearing a black cap and blue jacket with writing on it.

Takoma Park Police say the incident is just one of several recent robberies targeting lone female victims walking home or to or from their cars. It was the second car jacking in Takoma Park within a month. The first involved a Subaru that was sto-



POLICE BRIEFS

len, then turned up the next day as part of an armed robbery in Prince George's County, where it was recovered following a police chase.

There were also three armed street robberies in the city in January, each involving women walking from public transportation or from their cars.

In a message to residents, Police Chief Alan Goldberg said Montgomery County has experienced 25 to 28 similar robberies in the region: along the D.C.-Takoma Park border, in Montgomery County and in Prince George's County. D.C. has been "inundated" along the borders in the fourth and fifth districts; the fourth district is the one closest to Takoma Metro.

"Often times we see these cars carjacked and then 'rented' to another criminal to

commit other crimes," said Goldberg in his statement. "As cars are getting harder to steal, the backlash has been to directly take them from the owners."

At press time, Goldberg had requested a meeting with border agencies for a coordinated response to the rash of robberies. He said there have been a number of arrests, but the pattern continues.

Goldberg recommends that residents remain alert, and report any suspicious activity to the Takoma Park Police at 301-270-1100.

Also, if your phone is stolen, police recommend keeping it active for a period of time so that investigators can determine whether it can be tracked. "In one recent case, officers stopped the suspect vehicle and called the stolen phone's number," said Goldberg. "It rang in the driver's pocket."

Some phones have security software to lock, track and erase your phone; Goldberg recommends using it if it is available.

Snow emergency 101: Learning from the past

The storm of 2010 – Snowmageddon – developed slowly, approaching over several days, giving people time to prepare. In anticipation of the snow, food shopping increased, along with shopping for ice-melt salt and snow shovels. The stores kept up with demand. There were no food shortages.

But people did not anticipate widespread power outages and the corresponding lack of heat in their homes. They did not anticipate how impassable the streets would become, and the distribution of information about how to cope during and after a storm was problematic due to limited power for Internet and cell phone service.

What did work, for the most part – and what will likely work again – was the Montgomery County government's plan for all residents to shelter in place. The government also encouraged neighbors to help neighbors. For those who could not shelter safely in place, the county opened three shelters, one in the southern part of the county, one in mid county and one in upper county.

About 90,000 households or perhaps 225,000 people were without power at the peak of the snow storm four years ago. Transportation to the shelters was assumed to be possible because the major roads in Montgomery County were passable and were kept open during the storm. So, if people could reach the major roads, they could reach the shelters. The county recruited emergency vehicles to help transport those who were unable to reach shelters and for emergencies. It was anticipated that people in distress would call the county crisis center (240-777-4000) which is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Another resource was the new 240-777-1311 non-emergency

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Takoma Park Police Dispatcher
301-270-1100

Montgomery County Crisis Center
(24 hrs/7days a week)
240-777-4000

Montgomery County Government Information
240-777-1311

number.

But another problem cropped up: without power, phones that were not hard wired to a land line died, and radio/cable/television did not work, unless one had a battery powered radio. Depending on how households received Internet, it only worked for a limited amount of time.

To supplement the systems put in place for the last big storm, we recommend having a hard-wired land line to call for assistance if needed, and a battery-powered radio that will keep you informed about continuing weather events as well as give updates about available shelters and alternative places to charge cell phones if your own electricity is out. Registering with TP Alert will ensure you will receive weather warnings and information, even if it is only on a text-enabled hand held device such as a cell phone.

Sheltering in place

Sheltering in place is still the recommended response to an emergency. It means residents wait out the emergency in their houses or apartments. In order to do

this successfully under all circumstances, certain basic provisions have to be in place, so people can survive for at least 72 hours (and up to five days) without outside help. The following items have been identified as important:

Water: Water is needed for drinking, cooking, hand washing and hygiene. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recommends a minimum of 1 gallon per person per day. This means 6 gallons for two persons for three days.

The water must be replaced on a regular basis. The best storage containers are glass, as plastic containers disintegrate over time. Cider jars work well. Also, remember there are other sources of water are in each household: the hot water storage tank, and the bath tub (remember to fill it in anticipation of an emergency). If there is no clean water source, water from creeks can be filtered, boiled (minimum 20 minutes) or chemically treated (such as with iodine tablets) to make it drinkable.

Food: Every household should have easy-to-prepare food in storage that can feed each member for three to five days, three meals a day (nine to 15 meals per person). Canned food is typically easiest to purchase, but remember you will need a manual can opener to use it. Most food will not have an indefinite shelf life, so cycle through your supply periodically.

Clothes: Clothes should keep the person warm and dry in winter and cool in summer.

Other items of concern: These include medicines, battery powered radio, hygienic items and a first aid kit.

Flashlight and batteries: People tend to



THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

The grand total for 2013 of fire-related incidents to which the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department responded was 3,377: 633 fires and 2,744 rescue-ambulance related incidents. That's a decrease of 260 incidents from 2012. Special thanks goes out to our volunteers and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the station. The Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department is proud to announce that the volunteer members put in a grand total of 14,411 hours of standby duty time at the station during 2013. The time at the station consisted of training, meetings and riding on emergency incidents, etc.

Maryland Fire Deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported that the grand total fire deaths for 2013 was 69, compared to 52 in 2012. As of Jan. 26, 2014, four people have died in fires compared to 12 in 2013. Three of the deaths were in Montgomery County, and one was in Howard County.

Your best defense against fires is to have a working smoke alarm on all levels of your home. Test them monthly. Have a Family Fire Escape Plan and practice it. Check on the seniors in your family and your neighborhood to make sure they are safe from fire in their homes.

The Takoma Park VFD Needs Junk Vehicles

If you have an old junk vehicle that you would like to get rid of, why not donate it to the fire department? Please contact Chief Glen Butts at the fire station (240-773-8954). The vehicle will be used for training. We will pick up the vehicle and dispose of it, when we are finished training with it. There will be no expense to the original vehicle owner at all.

Wood Stoves and Fireplaces

Wood stoves and fireplaces are becoming a very common heat source in homes. Careful attention to safety can minimize any fire hazard they might create.

To use them safely:

Be sure the fireplace or stove is installed properly. Wood stoves should have adequate clearance (36") from combustible surfaces and proper floor support and protection.

Have the chimney inspected annually and cleaned if necessary, especially if it has not been used for some time.

Do not use flammable liquids to start or accelerate any fire.

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ARCHERY

■ From page 1

reduction in the safety zone for archery hunting on private property. Currently, the law in Montgomery County prohibits hunting with any deadly weapon – including bow and arrow – anywhere within 150 yards of an occupied building. Bill MC 5-14 Montgomery County – Archery Hunting – Safety would decrease that boundary to 50 yards for bow hunting, the distance currently on the books for Carroll and Frederick counties. The bill has been approved by the Montgomery County House Delegation and was moving on to the county Senate Delegation and Standing Committee at press time.

The archery bill was originally introduced by Del. Eric Luedtke (D-Dist. 14) of Burtonsville. Supporters argue that the growing deer population in Montgomery County causes an unacceptable risk to drivers on the area's highways, where the Montgomery County Police Department reported 2,019 deer-vehicle collisions in 2012. They also argue that the overpopulation of deer increases the risk of Lyme's disease, which is transmitted from deer to humans by deer ticks. Lyme's disease can be debilitating to adults and children.

Those who object to hunting at closer

range point to the hazards involved in discharging deadly weapons in densely populated areas. "The hunter was 86 yards from my back door, but a few feet from my property line," said Landsman. "It's not hard to imagine situations in which the discharge of a deadly weapon in densely populated urban environments like our city could lead to children, pets and regular citizens being injured or even killed." He also warned against potentially dangerous encounters with wounded animals, animal remains and discharged pieces of weapons, like the "razor-sharp" arrows.

Although police initially gave the hunter on Geneva Avenue a pass – he was a guest of the homeowner there and had a valid hunting license – he was eventually fined \$450 by the Department of Natural Resources for hunting in a safety zone. If the law was as the bill proposes, the hunter would have been within his legal rights to hunt, as he was on private property and farther than 50 yards from the neighbor's home.

The City Council was divided on the issue writ large: those who objected to the decreased safety zone were concerned about the safety of city residents in such a densely populated area, and favored alternatives to controlling the deer population. Those who favored the decreased safety zone argued

that there is little evidence of hunting accidents involving bystanders, i.e. people who are not actually hunting, themselves, and that other states have adopted similar 50-yard rules already. In addition, they said, the number of highway accidents caused by deer is significant, and some of those accidents have been fatal. Diminishing the deer population by allowing more hunting, they implied, could be a good thing.

Seth Grimes, councilmember from Ward 1, added that he would be comfortable deferring to county law. "Takoma Park doesn't have to take a stand on everything," he said. "We could let the county hold sway here."

In the end, the council voted 3 to 3 on whether or not to object to a reduction in the archery safety zone. The tie vote means the motion to object failed. Voting in favor of the objection (and against reducing the safety zone from 150 to 50 yards) were Mayor Bruce Williams, Terry Seamens (Ward 4), and Fred Schultz (Ward 6); voting against the objection (and in favor of reducing the safety zone from 150 to 50 yards) were Seth Grimes (Ward 1), Tim Male (Ward 2) and Jared Smith (Ward 5). Councilmember Kay Daniels-Cohen (Ward 3) was absent.

Refuse rules: keeping trash in check

Trash collection can be a messy business, but following the city's regulations keeps the mess to a minimum. Here are the rules regarding trash collection in Takoma Park:

Trash containers must be in good condition without any tears, holes, or rusted out areas.

All containers must have tightly fitting lids so as to secure the refuse.

Trash may not be left out in bags and must be in containers.

Trash should be put out the night before collection and must be removed by 7 a.m. the day after pickup.

Violations can carry a fine of up to \$100.

If you need a new container, the City's Public Works Department sells 96- and 64-gallon containers to City residents at cost for \$55.36 and \$61.72 respectively. They will even deliver the containers to your property on trash collection day for you. Trash cans may be purchased by calling 301-891-7633.

Thank you for helping to keep our community clean!

—Code Enforcement Staff

The City of Takoma Park teamed up with the University of Maryland, College Park to explore fresh ideas about how to develop B.Y. Morrison Park at Takoma Junction. These ideas, from U-Md. landscape architecture students, represent out-of-the-box concepts designed to prod the edges of imagination and contribute to current ideas about how to utilize a central community space in a more effective way. The designs were on display at the Community Center since November and are now exhibited at Historic Takoma, at 7328 Carroll Ave.



SNOW EMERGENCY

■ From page 10

bring out candles for lighting during power outages, but candles can be very dangerous. The Fire Department warns that there are more fires during power outages due to candles than any other source. Alternatives are flash lights and 12-hour light sticks available in hardware stores.

Heat: In winter you will need an alternative source of heating that does not require electricity. How do you keep warm, if your furnace falls silent? Options include installing a generator that will power your furnace or electric portable heaters. A wood burning stove is a good alternative. A fireplace is better than nothing, but can sometimes actually draw more heat out of a house than it produces.

Remember that a pellet stove relies on electricity to feed the pellets into the stove. Kerosene heaters can be dangerous due to their exhaust. All of these devices should only be used in accordance with the manufacturer's directions.

Special Needs: Emergency preparedness,

especially given any lead time prior to a weather event, is particularly important for people with critical special needs. Those on oxygen, life sustaining medication, etc. are well advised to have a plan for such storms (obtaining extra oxygen bottles, having a reliable back-up power source such as a generator, stocking up in advance on medicine if possible, etc). This is difficult, especially for those on limited incomes. We recommend residents seek help preparing for major emergencies ahead of time. One way to do this is by connecting with your neighbors in advance to let them know who you are and what your needs are.

Neighborly Help

Snowmageddon demonstrated how important it can be for neighbors to help neighbors. There were many examples of neighborly assistance, such as sharing a place to keep warm, sharing food and just sharing each others' company to keep up spirits. Individuals with four-wheel drive vehicles offered rides to others, or ran errands for them.

If you know your neighbor relies on

"Meals on Wheels" you should check on them and see if you can bring them meals when deliveries of that program are halted. The individuals who best know of people in need are neighbors, but they have to communicate and learn to anticipate what needs might come up ahead of a crisis.

In Takoma Park, the 2010 emergency response involved the Public Works Department, where the director (who lost power herself) and her crew stayed on the job day and night. Police dispatchers were the prime communicators with city residents and the police were present throughout the crisis.

TP Alert

This city-administered system will be used to immediately contact residents during a major crisis or emergency. TP Alert delivers important emergency alerts, notifications and updates to the devices users register: e-mail accounts (work, home, other), cell phones, text pagers, blackberries and other PDAs. Go to <http://aviso.takoma.gov.org> to register or for more information.



THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

■ From page 10

Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace opening, to prevent embers or sparks from jumping out, unwanted material from going in, and help prevent the possibility of burns to occupants.

Don't use excessive amounts of paper to build roaring fires in fireplaces. It is possible to ignite creosote in the chimney by overbuilding the fire.

Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal can give off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.

Keep flammable materials away from your fireplace mantel. A spark from the fireplace could easily ignite these materials.

Before you go to sleep, be sure your fireplace fire is out. Never close your damper with hot ashes in the fireplace. A closed damper will help the fire to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide into the house.

Never use a range or an oven as a supplemental heating device. Not only is it a fire hazard, it can be a source of potentially toxic fumes.

Thanks for the toys

On behalf of the Takoma Park VFD, we want to thank all of you that donated toys to the department's Annual Toy Drive. A total of 138 children, representing 68 families, received toys. A very special thanks to the following people — Sgt. Tina Smith, Ernesto Lara, Dawn Myles and Marsha Dorsey — for their assistance with sorting and bagging the toys. This marked the 33rd year of the toy drive.

FEBRUARY/MARCH '14

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 March issue is Feb. 24, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning March 7.

To submit calendar items, email tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov.

"TP Community Center" is the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park.

All addresses are in Takoma Park or Takoma, D.C. unless otherwise noted.

PUBLIC MEETINGS / OF NOTE

City offices closed

Monday, Feb. 17
President's Day Holiday

City Council

Monday, Feb. 10, 7:30 p.m.*
Tuesday, Feb. 18, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m. (city department roundtables with the City Council)
Monday, Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m. (city department roundtables with the City Council)
Monday, March 3, 7:30 p.m.

*When public hearings or presentations are scheduled, meeting may begin at 7 p.m. Detailed agendas are always available for review online: TPCC Auditorium

For agendas, see takomaparkmd.gov

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
www.educaresupportservices.org

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Takoma Park Middle School Used Book Sale

Feb. 21, 6 – 9 p.m.; Feb. 22, 9 a.m. – noon
Takoma Park Middle School
7611 Piney Branch Road
Pay \$1 to \$2 for used books; sale benefits the PTA
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/takomaparkms
301-942-1621

Takoma Park Farmers Market

Every Sunday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Year-round
Laurel and Carroll avenues in Old Town
Locally grown produce, baked goods, meats, cheeses

Food Truck Fridays

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

Second Annual Food and Public Policy Series

The Food Safety Modernization Act and its Impact on our Co-op and Family Farms
Saturday, Feb. 8, 1 – 4 p.m.
Historic Takoma, 7328 Carroll Ave.
A presentation from the Takoma Park Co-op
www.tpss.coop

Midwinter Play Day

Sunday, Feb. 9 from 2 – 4 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center
Giant chess board, dress up clothes, board games, yoga demos, balloon games and more.
Free, for all ages

Second Annual Food and Public Policy Series

GMOs, and How Legislation Might Impact Maryland Consumers
Saturday, Feb. 15, 1 – 4 p.m.
Historic Takoma, 7328 Carroll Ave.
A presentation from the Takoma Park Co-op
www.tpss.coop



Photo by Selena Malott

Symphony of the Soil documentary film

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7:30 – 9 p.m.
Historic Takoma, 7328 Carroll Ave.
www.takomahort.org

Second Annual Food and Public Policy Series

Health of the Bay and its Impact on Food, Farmers and Consumers
Saturday, Feb. 22, 1 – 4 p.m.
Historic Takoma, 7328 Carroll Ave.
A presentation from the Takoma Park Co-op
www.tpss.coop

International Women's Day Recognition Event

Thursday, March 6, 11 a.m. film, 1 p.m. panel
Film, discussion on human trafficking
Cultural Arts Center Theatre 2, Montgomery College Takoma campus
7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring
Free
www.montgomerycollege.edu/cac

ARTS AND LITERATURE

Wednesday Night Drum Jam

Hosted by Katy Gaughan
Wednesdays, 7 – 9:30 p.m.
The Electric Maid, 268 Carroll St., NW

Company E

Feb. 7 and 8, 8 p.m.
Cultural Arts Center Theatre 2, Montgomery College Takoma campus
7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring
Contemporary dance company
\$5/free for students
www.montgomerycollege.edu/cac

Argentine Tango and Latin Rhythms

Saturday, Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m.
Cantor Ramon Tasat, tango instrumentalist
Emmanuel Trifilio; and Latin music duo Cantosur.
\$16 in advance/\$20 at the door
www.carrollcafe.org

Rosenwald Schools

Thursday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m.
Documentary by local filmmaker Aviva Kempner explores the integration of Takoma Park schools

in the 1950s. Following the screening will be a performance by the Takoma Band.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
Free
www.TakomaParkMd.gov/arts

Les Lutins du Court-Metragé

(Leprechauns of Short Film)
Feb. 13, 7 p.m.
Cultural Arts Center Theatre 1, Montgomery College Takoma campus
7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring
\$10/free for students
www.montgomerycollege.edu/cac

Takoma Ensemble

Saturday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m.
A new chamber orchestra lead by Victoria Gau, associate conductor of the National Philharmonic will feature a program of music by American composers, including Mark O'Connor and local composer Charlie Barnett
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
\$20 suggested donation
www.TakomaParkMd.gov/arts

West African Trickster Tales

Presented by Barefoot Puppets
Saturday, Feb. 15, 11 a.m.
Cultural Arts Center Theatre 2, Montgomery College Takoma campus
7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring
\$5 children, \$10 adults
www.montgomerycollege.edu/cac

Katie Baldwin woodblock and letterpress illustrations

Reception Thursday, Feb. 20, 6 – 8 p.m.
Show Jan. 13 – March 7
Cultural Arts Center Gallery, Montgomery College Takoma campus
7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring
Free
www.montgomerycollege.edu/cac

Once Upon a Time

Reception Thursday, Feb. 20, 6 – 8 p.m.
Show Feb. 7 – March 13
Graphic design

Free

www.montgomerycollege.edu/cac

Third Thursday Poetry

Thursday, Feb. 20, 7:30 pm
Featuring JoAnne Growney, Anne Higgins and Kathleen O'Toole
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
Free
www.TakomaParkMd.gov/arts

Takoma Academy Chorus

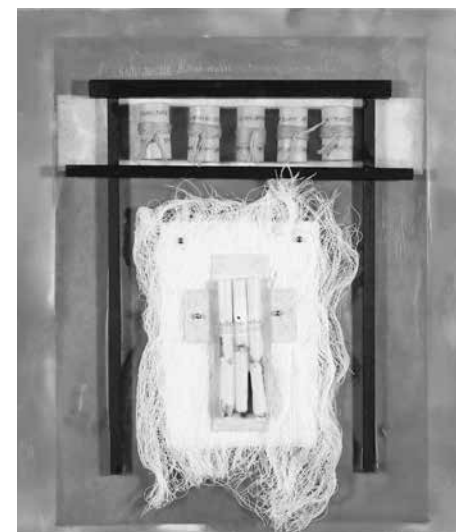
Wednesday, Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m.
A choral collage celebrating the history of African American choral music
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
Free
www.TakomaParkMd.gov/arts

Maryland Band Directors Band

Thursday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m.
Cultural Arts Center Theatre 1, Montgomery College Takoma campus
7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring
Free
www.montgomerycollege.edu/cac

Reader's Theatre Production

Feb. 28, March 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 8 p.m.;
March 2, 9, 16, 2 p.m.
Cultural Arts Center Theatre 2, Montgomery College Takoma campus
7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring
\$5/free for students
www.montgomerycollege.edu/cac



Transformations and Into Dreamland Gallery Exhibits

Featuring work by Teruko Bowens, Mary Freedman, Jackie Hoysted, Megan Peritore and Lisa Rosenstein
Through March 2
Galleries at the Takoma Park Community Center
Free
www.TakomaParkMd.gov/arts

Memories gallery opening

Thursday, March 6, 7 – 9 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center galleries
Featuring work by Keren Cox, Mildred Vance Secular, Terry Wims, Richard Spector

Billy Coulter

Friday, March 7, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
Homegrown roots rock
\$10 suggested donation