Art, gardening and fitness events kick off spring

Three different events mark the first weekend of May in Takoma Park: Art Hop, the Takoma Park House and Garden Tour, and the Safe Routes to School 5K Challenge.

The annual Art Hop spans both days, Saturday and Sunday, May 3 and 4 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with displays from more than 60 artists installed in shops, restaurants and galleries throughout Old Takoma. The festive trail of all things creative – paintings, jewelry, pottery, wearable art, photography and more – includes both established and emerging artists working in a variety of media, plus there are artist receptions and free outdoor music and dance performances.

Look for Dance Afire on Saturday night, and participation from new businesses like Republic, Everlasting Life, the Nature Lab and Dolci Gelati, plus several 4th Street businesses. A Friday night kick-off party for artists will be hosted at Trohv.

Maps and schedules will be available online at www.arthoptakoma.com, and at the businesses. All the work will be available for sale.

For a tour of neighborhood homes, the 41st Annual Takoma Park House and Garden Tour runs from 1 – 5 p.m. on Sunday, May 4, showcasing the “Spirit of Holly Avenue.” This three-block, self-guided tour, sponsored by

Inside

WRITE NIGHT FOR PRISONERS

Safe Routes 5K Run

Community Band
ORDINANCE 2014-17
Adopted March 24
Repealing Ordinance 2014-2
On Jan. 27, the City Council adopted Ordinance 2014-2 awarding a contract to Summer Winter Automation for HVAC repairs. The Public Works Department has been notified by the Maryland Energy Administration that the HVAC repairs are no longer an eligible use of the grant. Consequently, the ordinance is repealed by Ordinance 2014-17.

ORDINANCE 2014-18
Adopted March 24
Awarding a Contract for Indefinite Quantity Site Construction Services
The ordinance authorizes a contract with Highway and Safety Services, Inc. for indefinite quantities of maintenance for stormwater systems, stream channels and other infrastructure in the city. The services are to be provided at the quoted unit price.

ORDINANCE 2014-19
Adopted March 24
Awarding a Contract for Phase 2 Lighting Efficiency Upgrades in the Community Center
The ordinance authorizes additional funding for retrofitting certain existing light fixtures with light emitting diode (LED) fixtures at the Community Center. The contract work is to be done by Elsysian Energy. (Voting no: Male)

ResOLUTION 2014-9
Adopted Feb. 24
Providing for an Appointment to the Tree Commission
The resolution appoints Herbert White to the Tree Commission.

ResOLUTION 2014-10
Adopted March 4
Setting a Date for the Ward 3 Special Election
The resolution sets April 8 as the date for the Ward 3 Special Election to fill the vacancy created by the passing of Kay Daniels-Cohen.

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Prison poets find a voice in Takoma “Write Night”

By Sandy Moore

Poet Alisha Carrington began with a story that stunned many volunteers assembléd at the Seekers Church for “Write Night” in Takoma Park. Incarcerated at age 16, Alisha spent almost two and half years in solitary confinement at the D.C. Jail. She was allowed just one hour a day outside her cell to shower, watch television, make phone calls. Before long, her thoughts turned to suicide.

Fortunately, Tara Libert, Director of the Free Minds Book Club, threw her a lifeline -- and Alisha, said, “Tara reached out to me,” said Alisha. “She sent me free books, and asked me questions about which character I could relate to, and what other books I’d recommend for the Book Club. It made me feel a part of something. After D.C., I was sent to prison in six different states. Free Minds stood by me, sending me their newsletter, more books, birthday cards, everything.”

Libert, a former television reporter turned activist, is co-founder of the Free Minds Book Club and Writing Workshop, which uses books and creative writing to transform the lives of young prisoners in the D.C. Jail. The Book Club meets twice weekly at the jail, where members discuss books that reflect their own lives, like “The Turnaround” by George Pelcanos, or “Fallen Angels” by Walter Dean Myers.

Reading a book from cover to cover is a significant achievement for many club members, who often experienced failure in school. Each member is issued a dictionary and a journal for writing. Book Club sessions also include writing exercises to encourage the young inmates to express themselves with poetry. Their poems are then shared with a wider audience at Write Nights.

On February 19, when she addressed the nearly 50 volunteers gathered for Write Night, Alisha, now 23, seemed poised and confident. She read from her poem, entitled, “Whether,” including this stanza:

Night, Alisha, now 23, seemed poised and the nearly 50 volunteers gathered for Write Night, Takoma Park. Organizers are hopeful that Write Night Takoma, which drew 75 volunteers at its debut in December, will happen bi-monthly for the remainder of 2014, and likely beyond.

Montgomery College faculty member Lucy Vitaliti recruited a half dozen students from the Takoma campus to participate in February’s Write Night. At the next Write Night, scheduled for Wednesday, April 9, organizers hope to have an equal number of students from Montgomery Blair High School and Sandy Spring Friends School. They also plan outreach to Takoma Park’s Victory Towers, where they aim to sign up senior volunteers.

Interested volunteers are encouraged to contact Busy Graham at grahambusy@gmail.com.

FREE MINDZ
by Michael Kemp
Poet Ambassador, Free Minds

To have a Free Mind is to challenge all constraints
You have no complaints
You hold the key to your own freedom
There is no lock you cannot pick
There is no situation you cannot switch
There is no burden you cannot lift
Because your mind is meant to be opened
Like a given gift . . .

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The City Council of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland proposes to increase real property taxes.

1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2014, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 1.1 percent from $1,934,374,180 to $1,955,102,265.

2. If the City of Takoma Park maintains the current tax rate of $0.57 per $100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 1.1 percent resulting in $118,150 of new real property tax revenues.

3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to $0.5640, the constant yield tax rate.

4. The city is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The city proposes to adopt a real property tax of $0.57 per $100 of assessment. This tax rate is 1.1 percent higher than the constant yield rate and will generate $118,150 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 28, 2014, in the auditorium of the Takoma Park Community Center at 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged. Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call Jesse Carpenter, city clerk, at 301-891-7267 for further information.
April is Anti-Litter Month in Takoma Park

“Your litter hits close to home.” That’s the slogan behind a new anti-litter initiative launching this month in Takoma Park.

With major state roads such as New Hampshire Avenue passing through our community and Sligo Creek (part of the Anacostia Watershed), litter is of key concern for residents, councilmembers and city staff. Through a partnership with the Alice Ferguson Foundation (AFF), the city will launch the initiative using AFF’s Trash Free Potomac outreach campaign materials with the city logo. Residents will notice banners at litter hotspots and on the city trash trucks, posters in school and community buildings and a refrigerator magnet for every home.

The Public Works Department will place additional trash and recycling receptacles at locations with a history of litter and expand collection services at high-use bus stops, heavily trafficked intersections, and commercial districts. Additionally, businesses and community groups have been approached to keep a spot litter free by collecting litter once a month in exchange for signage recognizing their efforts. The program, dubbed Adopt-a-Spot, is patterned after the Maryland Adopt-a-Highway and Montgomery County Adopt-a-Road programs. The Young Activists Club has signed on to keep Piney Branch Elementary School and the Community Center grounds litter free. Advance Auto, at the corner of Eastern and New Hampshire Avenues, has agreed to maintain the area around the store.

The Young Activists Club at Piney Branch Elementary School is also organizing Trash Free Lunch day this spring. After all, the first R in the “Three R’s” stands for reduce, then reuse and then recycle.

If you are looking to get your hands dirty to help make Takoma Park clean, here are two opportunities to participate:

- April 5: Old Takoma Business Association, Old Takoma Clean Up. April 5 and 6: Friends of Sligo Creek, Sweep the Creek. Additional information about these activities and others can be found at: www.fergusonfoundation.org/trash-free-potomac-watershed-initiative/potomac-river-watershed-cleanup.

To be kept up to date on when the sign collection week is scheduled, email Lucy Neher at lucyn@takomaparkmd.gov.

Later this spring, residents will be encouraged to participate in Sick of Signs Week and remove signs illegally posted on utility poles, transformer boxes, bus shelters and other public property in Takoma Park. Participants will turn the signs in to be tallied and judged in a bit of friendly competition. Illegal signs include free-standing signs displayed in the public right of way and in the grassy area between the sidewalk and the curb. Signs displayed in someone’s front yard are legal and should be left in place.

To be considered in the count, the signs residents collect must be turned in to the Takoma Park Community Center at the end of the week when the signs will be tallied and judged. Prizes will be awarded for the most signs, the wackiest sign, the most colorful sign (and more) collected during the week.

To vote in this election, a voter must be a qualified voter of Ward 3 in the City of Takoma Park and must have resided within the corporate limits of the city for 21 days immediately preceding the election.

Ward 3 residents not yet registered may register at the City Clerk’s Office up to and including the day of the election.

Qualifications for Voting

Expanded voter eligibility includes residents who are 16/17 years old, on parole or probation after a felony conviction, and residents who are not U.S. citizens. Complete election information is available at www.takomaparkmd.gov. Questions may be addressed to Jessie Carpenter, city clerk, 301-891-7287, or jessie@takomaparkmd.gov.

Información de Elección

Inscripción de los Votantes • ¡Se puede registrar como votante y votar en esta elección! Para poder votar en esta elección tendrás que ser un votante calificado en el distrito 3 y deberá haber residido en el límite corporativo de Takoma Park por lo menos 21 días inmediatamente antes del día de la elección.

Votantes Calificados

Se extiende la elegibilidad para poder votar en Takoma Park a residentes de 16/17 años de edad y a residentes en libertad condicional después de una condena por delito mayor.

Calificación del Votante

Cualquier votante calificado del distrito 3 puede votar por medio de una boleta de voto en ausencia. Se publicará información adicional en la siguiente dirección de la página web http://www.takomaparkmd.gov. Si usted tiene alguna pregunta, llame la Oficina de la Secretaría Municipal, al 301-891-7214 o al 301-891-7252 a través del correo electrónico jessie@takomaparkmd.gov.

Following are profiles of each of the candidates running for the Ward 3 City Council vacancy. These were submitted by the candidates, who were limited to 150 words.

WARD 3 SPECIAL ELECTION

Kate Stewart

My husband and I came to Takoma Park 20 years ago, renting on Philadelphia before purchasing a home on Elm Avenue. Priorities include revitalizing Takoma Junction, building a sustainable future, and ensuring a safe and welcoming community. As the city grows, I will provide strong leadership to ensure our community thrives. I will support efforts such as the Community Kitchen, expanding innovative opportunities for small businesses, preserving and reinvesting in affordable housing and promoting initiatives to improve the health of the community. I will expand opportunities for young people and support programs to help seniors stay in the community as they age. My two daughters have benefited from great local public schools and I have enjoyed being an active volunteer and soccer coach. As Executive Vice-President of Advocates for Youth and a former small business owner I have experience managing a large staff, complex projects, and multi-million dollar budgets.

http://katestewartfortakoma.com
KateStewartforTakoma@gmail.com

Jeffrey Noel-Noibaum

Hi. I am Jeffrey Noel-Noibaum and have been a Takoma Park resident nearly my entire life, always as a Ward 3 resident. I have lived in the area for 20+ years and have been an active volunteer and community member. As a Ward 3 resident I have lived in exchange for: home maintenance, yard work, snow shoveling, painting, and more. I have had the opportunity to witness firsthand the growth of Takoma Park and the joy it brings our community.

http://jeffreyNn.ForWard3@gmail.com

Roger Schlegel

An Allegheny Avenue resident, I’ve been married to two children. I’ve taught high school English, geography and theatre for 20 years. I have an MPA and have worked for local governments in D.C. and North Carolina. In recent years, I’ve helped lead the city manager selection committee, the Takoma Junction Task Force, Pinecrest Association and the Cooperative Nursery School. I received a 2012 Azalea Award. Focused and hard-working, I’m good at putting people at ease and turning conflict into a productive, rather than paralyzing, situation. In my view, Ward 3 priorities include Takoma Junction revitalization, park improvements, public safety, sidewalks and street maintenance. Citywide priorities include maintaining incoming diversity, fixing the county reimbursement and adopting a goal-oriented budgeting approach. One priority underlines and unifies all others: setting bold, measurable objectives for reducing our ecological footprint. Please cast a vote for me on April 6, 7 or 8. Thanks!

www.rogertakoma.com
roger.b.schlegel@gmail.com
What to do about the vacant house next door

From time to time, the Code Enforcement Division receives complaints about vacant houses in the city. It is important to note that the property being vacant is in itself not a property maintenance code violation. The city will address exterior issues such as overgrowth, trash, abandoned vehicles, missing windows and peeling paint.

If exterior violations are found, the city attempts to find the owner of record for the property, but it can be difficult if the property is in pre-foreclosure, foreclosure or abandoned. A foreclosure filing does not necessarily mean the property is for sale or has been sold. There are also instances where the borrower or lender walks away.

Getting tenants out to vote

Getting tenants out to vote

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

I am a landlord who recently attended the Landlord Certification Seminar that the city requires every three years for landlords, where it was mentioned that I am responsible for providing new tenants with voter registration information. What is the information I am required to provide to my new tenants and can you clarify if there is a deadline for providing the information?

A recent amendment to the city’s Landlord-Tenant Law requires that landlords distribute to each new tenant of voting age (city law allows 16-year-olds to vote in city elections) an electoral and civic information packet created and supplied by the city. This electoral and civic information packet must be provided within seven days of the beginning of a new tenancy and must include 1) a voter registration form and a state voter registration form for tenants 16 years and older and 2) other material designated by the city regarding public services available to residents, existing laws, rules and regulations and the city electoral process. The information can be obtained by going to www.takomaparkmd.gov, and then to Departments (at top of page) and then to City Clerk, or by contacting the city clerk’s office at 301-891-7267.

Tenants or landlords with questions regarding the city’s Landlord-Tenant and COLTA Laws can contact me at mosesw@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7215.

Greeting spring with the city’s mulch

For snow-weary Takoma Park gardeners, the smell of mulch is a welcome spring tonic. Entertaining visions of abundant vegetable gardens and flower beds enriched and protected by homegrown mulch, many city residents are expected to take advantage of the city’s communal mulch pile and the delivery service offered by the Department of Public Works.

The mulch, made by grinding leaves collected each fall in the city’s vacuum leaf collection program, can be used as a soil amendment or a top dressing around trees and plants. Deliveries are available, for a fee, until supplies run out, which last year occurred in August.

Residents can also self-load mulch free of charge at any time, from the Public Works Yard, 31 Oswego Avenue. Those helping themselves must bring their own tools and containers. For assistance in loading, Public Works staff will use a front loader, and charge $20 to load a pickup truck, or $30 to load a dump truck. Truck loading must be scheduled by calling 301-891-7633.

Some of the foreclosed properties owned by banks have service companies to maintain their properties, and they are usually able to address some of the exterior violations on those properties. Many of the vacant houses remain in good condition and are well kept.

If the city is not able to find the responsible party, it can step in to board up broken windows or missing windows. Other issues must be resolved through the legal process and can take time, especially when the city cannot determine the responsible party.

To report vacant properties please call the Code Enforcement Division at 301-891-7255.
**RECREATION**

**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.
TP Community Center Art Studio
Thursdays, April 24 – May 29, 3:45 – 5:30 p.m.
TP residents $155
Non-residents $175

**MAKE/Shift Studio II - Drawing and 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. 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, April 29 – June 3, 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
TP residents $145
Non-residents $165

**Wind Chimes and Whirligigs**
Ages 6 – 10
Using a combination of recycled, found and new materials, we will make wind chimes and whirligigs that will harness the wind’s energy to create lively music and art.
TP Community Center Art Studio
Saturday, April 26, 10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
TP residents $15
Non-residents $20

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**REGISTRATIONS UNDERWAY FOR**

**SPRING BREAK CAMPS!**

**YOUTH**

**Dribble, Pass and Shoot Spring Break Camp**
Ages 6 – 12
Campers will be provided with excellent coaching which allows each participant to develop a sense of pride and individual accomplishment.
TP Recreation Center Gym
Monday – Friday, April 14 – April 18
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Standard fee: $200

**Spring Break Camp**
Ages 6 – 12
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 – April 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. Spend the mornings with our career introductions and the afternoons attending our break away trips like: bowling, laser tag, roller skating and more. Contact Ms. Lecia at leiciam@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7283. Limited spaces are available.
TP Community Center Teen Lounge
Monday – Friday, April 14 – April 18
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
TP residents: $25/day, $100/week
Non-residents: $30/day, $120/week

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**EDUCATION/DEVELOPMENT**

**Kindermusik – “Big Back Yard”**
Ages 1 – 3
Sing and Play classes encourage toddlers to uncover an engaging musical world while building confidence, self-control and communication skills. Singing and object identification foster language skills.
Heffner Park Community Center
Wednesdays, April 23 – May 14
9:30 – 10:15 a.m.
Wednesdays, April 23 – May 14
10:30 – 11:15 a.m.
Thursdays, April 24 – May 15, 10 – 10:45 a.m.
Saturdays, April 26 – May 17, 9 – 9:45 a.m.
TP residents $75
Non-residents $95

**Kindermusik – “Dow Drops”**
Ages Newborn – 1
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
Wednesdays, April 23 – June 11, noon – 12:45 p.m.
Thursdays, April 24 – June 12, 9 – 9:45 a.m.
Saturdays, April 26 – June 14, 11 – 11:45 a.m.
TP residents $165
Non-residents $195

**Kindermusik – “Down on the Ground”**
Ages Newborn – 7
Bringing children of all ages together provides a dynamic and integrated learning experience for everyone. Sibling discount offered for enrollment of multiple children.
Heffner Park Community Center
Thursdays, April 24 – May 15, 11:15 a.m. – noon
Saturdays, April 26 – May 17, 10 – 10:45 a.m.
TP residents $75
Non-residents $95

**MARTIAL ARTS**

**Kung Fu**
Ages 4 – 18
This ancient form of self-defense provides physical and mental exercise which could help the students defend themselves by strengthening hand and eye coordination. There is a onetime, non-refundable fee of $50 paid to the instructor at the first class for uniform.
TP Community Center Dance Studio
Saturdays, April 5 – May 31
Beginners 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.
Advanced 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

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**EGG HUNT**

**Annual Egg Hunt**
Saturday, April 19, 11a.m.
Ed Wilhelm Field
Get your baskets ready and join the Takoma Park Recreation Department for an “egg” citing time! There are four age categories: 2 and under, 3 – 4 years old, 5 – 6 years old, and 7 – 8 years old. The hunt begins at 11 a.m. SHARP! Don’t miss out. Don’t forget to bring your basket to Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary School) for a morning of fun.
Monday, April 21 is the rain date.

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For a full listing of Takoma Park Recreation Department programs, activities and classes, please see the 2014 Spring and Summer Guide or visit us online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation.
**SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH**

**Flag Football League 2014**
Ages 6 – 14
Takoma Park Recreation Department brings you the Takoma Park Flag Football League again for its second season. There are three divisions: 6-8 years old, 9-11 years old, and 12-14 years old.

Ed Wilhelm Field
**TP Recreation Center**

- Saturdays, April 7 – May 17, noon – 5 p.m.
- TP residents $60
- Non-residents $80

**T-Ball League 2014**
Kindergarten-1st Grade
This coed league allows girls and boys to have fun while learning the basic fundamentals of baseball. Emphasis will be on fun, learning to hit, running bases and catching. Participants must bring their own baseball gloves. Volunteer coaches are a key element of this program’s success.

Belle Ziegler Park, Ed Wilhelm or
Lee Jordan Field
**TP Recreation Center**

- Saturdays, June 7 – July 26, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- TP residents $60
- Non-residents $70

**TEENS**

**DROP IN**
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, Xbox 360 with games, workstations, 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.

TP Community Center Teen Lounge
**TP Recreation Center**

- Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri: 3 – 7 p.m.
- Tues: 3 – 8 p.m.
- Sat and Sun: closed

**Teen Night**
Ages 12 – 17
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
**TP Recreation Center**

- Second and fourth Fridays of the month (on-going), 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
- Free with membership card

**Illumination - Photography for Beginners**
Ages 13 – 17
You have the power this spring to tell the world your story using your voice, your eye and your images! You will explore shooting on-location, experiment with creative techniques and develop your eye. No experience necessary.

Every student will compile a portfolio of imagery and essays that will equip them with the necessary tools to capture the life-time of adventure ahead. Must bring own digital camera to class; point and shoot or DSLR format.

TP Community Center Lilac Room
**TP Recreation Center**

- Tuesdays, April 22 – May 27, 7:30 – 7:30 p.m.
- TP resident: Free
- Non-resident: $25

**ADULTS**

**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.

TP Community Center Art Studio
**TP Community Center**

- Tuesdays, April 22 – May 27, 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 fun and exciting recreational program for competitive adults of all skill levels. Team registrations must contain 50 percent of TP 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; you will be responsible to pay your registration and any other associated fees to that team.

Lee Jordan Field, Notle Local Park #2, Willard/Hale and Argyle Local Park

- Tuesdays (seven-week season and playoffs), Sundays, Apr. 13 – Jun. 22, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- TP Residents Team Fee: $345
- Non-residents Team Fee $345

**Aerobics: Cardio-Intense Groove and Strength**
Ages 16 and older
Heart pumping and easy-to-follow, Hi-Low Aerobics flows to the beat of a great sound system. Fifty minutes of high-energy moves interspersed with moments that really make you sweat!

TP Community Center Dance Studio
**TP Recreation Center**

- Mondays, April 14 – May 19, 6:10 – 7:15 p.m.
- TP residents $85
- Non-residents $75

**Jazzercise**
Ages 16 and older
Jazzercise is the art of jazz combined with the science of exercise physiology. Each class incorporates easy-to-follow, fun, aerobic dance routines, weights for muscle strength and stretching exercises, all to the beat of music.

TP Community Center Dance Studio
**TP Recreation Center**

- Mondays, April 28 – May 19, 7:30 – 8:45 p.m.
- TP residents: $75
- Non-residents: $145

**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. Each student will develop their own yoga mat, a few blankets and a pillow.

TP Community Center Dance Studio
**TP Recreation Center**

- Mondays, April 28 – May 19, 7:30 – 8:45 p.m.
- TP residents $75
- Non-residents $85

**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 fitness program. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department.

TP Recreation Center front meeting room
**TP Recreation Center**

- Saturdays, 9:15 – 10:15 a.m. (on-going)
- Non-residents $145

**FOREVER YOUNG: 55 PLUS**

**DROP IN**
**Bingo**
Ages 55 and older
Try your luck, Win a prize.

TP Community Center Senior Room
**TP Recreation Center**

- Thursday, April 24, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Free

**Open House**
Ages 55 and over
Join us for our Open House event just for adults 55 and older. Tour the gym and fitness room, and join in some fun activities and Minute To Win it games. Play Bingo and win a prize; enjoy yummy refreshments while listening to music.

TP Recreation Center
**TP Recreation Center**

- Tuesday, April 8, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Free

**RECREATION**
From page 6
TP residents $129
Non-residents $149

TP residents $75
Non-residents $85

TP residents $125
Non-residents $145

TP residents $125
Non-residents $145

TP residents $149
TP residents $125

TP residents $75
Non-residents $85

TP residents $125
Non-residents $145

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Non-residents $145

TP residents $75
TP residents $125
Non-residents $85

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TP residents $85

TP residents $125
Non-residents $85

TP residents $75
TP residents $85

TP residents $125
Non-residents $85

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and realities of each department before they begin considering budget items and crunching numbers. Councilmembers also attended two retreats to hash out city priorities, and then met individually with Kenner and Deputy City Manager Suzanne Ludlow to discuss their views on budgeting the city’s money.

The resulting budget proposal, which Kenner was finalizing at press time, prioritizes economic development, environmental sustainability, quality of life and fiscal prudence. In line with the fiscal prudence priority of the council, Kenner’s proposed budget presents a small decrease in expenditures. Expenditures are proposed to be $360,000 less than last year’s amended budget—a 1.3 percent reduction.

The tax rate has been proposed at 57 cents per $100, the same as last year. Because property values have risen, that tax rate would result in $118,150 more revenue for the city, in order to keep the tax income steady, the city would have to lower the rate to 56.4 cents.

The financial outlook

The fiscal picture for Takoma Park is much the same as the current fiscal year, with the caveat that neither Montgomery County nor the State of Maryland have finalized their budgets and elements in those budgets could have significant impacts on Takoma Park’s budget.

Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett’s proposed FY 15 budget was released on March 17 and kept municipal tax duplication payments to Takoma Park at the same amount as last year. The County Council will be considering the proposed budget through mid May and may make changes. After the budget is adopted, a working group of county and municipal representatives is to begin meeting to try to finally resolve municipal tax duplication matters and provide recommendations to the County Council’s Government Operations Committee. Municipal tax duplication payment make up close to 20 percent of the city’s general fund budget alone.

Small increases in payments from the State of Maryland for police aid and highway user revenue are expected this year for Takoma Park. Highway user revenue payments to municipalities remain well below the amounts received annually through 2009, a needed correction in the formula for highway user revenue payments to municipalities has not been accomplished in the General Assembly so far this legislative session, but remains a high legislative priority for Takoma Park and other Maryland municipalities.

Other revenue sources appear to be stable for FY 15 as well. Property tax revenue is expected to stay about the same as last year, with only a slight increase expected. If the council keeps the Takoma Park tax rate at 57 cents per $100 assessed value, as it was last year, and as the city manager proposes, the City would receive approximately $118,000 more in FY 15 than the $11,025,913 expected to be received by the end of this fiscal year. According to staff at the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation, this is due to home and commercial improvements for which building permits have been issued.

These improvements are expected to increase the net assessable real property base in Takoma Park. To have the same amount of tax revenue from real property in FY 15, the City’s tax rate would have to be lowered to 56.4 cents per $100 assessed value. This lower rate equates to an annual reduction of $30 in taxes for a property assessed at $300,000. This lower rate equates to an annual reduction of $30 in taxes for a property assessed at $300,000.

Fiscal Prudence

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Priorities

Kenner’s proposal aligns with the city’s stated priorities, developed by the City Council earlier in the fiscal year. Among them are economic development, including new investments to help support the Takoma Langley Crossroads Development Authority and study of the economic development potential along the New Hampshire Avenue corridor.

Environmental sustainability is another big budget item. This category includes expansion of the food composting program, a pilot last year, to include the entire city (at a cost of $87,150); development of Safe Grow, the new pesticide ban, that would include educational and marketing materials ($25,000); and implementation of the sustainability action plan, including a full time sustainability coordinator, $50,000 for special activities and a grant funded program with the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy.

After much discussion, the city may also be poised to launch a city-funded dog park, should this proposal be approved; Kenner
How the FY '14 budget compares to previous budgets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GENERAL FUND SUMMARY FY13 THROUGH FY15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Audited FY13</td>
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<td>Taxes and utility fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Licenses and permits</td>
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<td>Fines and forfeitures</td>
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<td>Use of money and property</td>
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<td>Charges for services</td>
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<td>Intergovernmental</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
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</table>

| **EXPENSES**                          |
| General Government | $2,340,349 | $2,818,511 | $2,824,063 |
| Police | $5,005,719 | $5,619,387 | $5,669,739 |
| Public Works | $3,803,077 | $4,433,054 | $4,515,240 |
| Recreation | $1,261,458 | $1,576,445 | $1,587,125 |
| Housing and Comm Dev | $1,267,776 | $1,714,122 | $1,595,817 |
| Communications | $336,324 | $441,450 | $552,850 |
| Library | $1,004,960 | $1,160,381 | $1,179,284 |
| Non-Departmental | $875,875 | $1,837,002 | $1,302,480 |
| Capital Outlay | $975,647 | $3,431,442 | $2,752,891 |
| Debt Service | $1,534,408 | $373,529 | $373,746 |
| **Total Expenditures** | $19,405,615 | $23,751,773 | $23,342,435 |

proposes $50,000 be set aside for design and sitework. Other quality of life expen-
ditures include establishing additional
hours at the New Hampshire Avenue Rec-
reation Center for programming, creating
a new online customer entry system for
city library patrons ($50,000), and de-
veloping a pilot summer youth employment
program ($10,000).

Mindful of the city’s consistently con-
servative fiscal policies, Kenner also in-
cludes actuarially recommended con-
tributions to the city-funded police pension ($1,157,546) and the equipment replace-
ment reserve ($846,000). Funds for facili-
ty related design studies will come from
the facility maintenance reserve, but no
new contributions are proposed to that
reserve this year. As recommended dur-
ing last year’s budget process, city staff
undertook an analysis of the equipment
replacement reserve. Several changes were
made regarding how it is to be calculated
to ensure funds are available for replac-
ing expensive equipment in the future. A
similar review of the facility maintenance
reserve is proposed for this year.

Increases for staff

Kenner’s proposed budget allows for
two additional staff positions and minor
hour adjustments in a number of posi-
tions, resulting in a total increase of full-
time equivalent workers of 2.81. One of
the positions, a sustainability coordinator,
would comply with

reduced by 22.2 percent, from 54 inci-
dents to 42.

Larceny tallied the most incidents; Po-
lice Chief Alan Goldberg specifically stated
that the department will target larcenies to
bring that number down. The department is
also focusing on robberies after a rash of
them prompted a town meeting in Febru-
ary (see Takoma Park Newsletter, March 2013). Gan

ing to track evidence and internal property.

Traffic count technology is helping po-
lice make decisions about traffic enforce-
ment and engineering. Other technologies
are described as “force multipliers,” extend-
ings officers’ capabilities with surveillance
video partnerships, thermal cameras that
detect suspects who are hiding, and license
plate reading technology.

Other changes include an expansion of
the Special Assignment Team to address
crime hotspots, the hiring of three new
officers, and the establishment of a new
emergency management position.

Among the new laws enacted this year
were the ban on cell-phone use while driv-
ing (now police can pull over drivers for this reason alone), stricter seat belt laws,
and prohibitions on cyberbullying.

Trending

Trends in crime this year have been much
like those in surrounding jurisdictions,
says Goldberg. Among the most common
were thefts of electronics like cell phones and
laptops, and thefts from auto, including several at gas stations.

Also common were cell phone store thefts
and robberies, carjackings and “jump-in”
auto thefts when thieves jump in cars left
running.

Looking forward, Goldberg is anticipat-
ing that two new officers will join the force
in September 2014 (after completing train-
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as officers are frequently absent due to inju-
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and in-house advancements.

For a complete copy of the Takoma Park
ly/1lD5M3.

TP CRIME

From page 1

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TAKOMA PARK POLICE COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

• Caring About Residents Everyday (CARE) ensures residents with special needs are
checked on every day
• The Citizen’s Police Academy educates residents on all the functions of the police
department
• Click it or Ticket raises seatbelt safety awareness each May
• A community notification email uses listservs to send crime alerts and event
information
• Home security surveys are provided free, with recommendations for improvements
• House checks are available during vacation time
• National Night Out wraps safety information in a fun community event each August
• The Police Chief’s Advisory Board keeps the chief in touch with community needs
through a group of volunteer Takoma Park residents and business owners
• The ride-along program allows residents to observe the daily life of a police officer
• Secure Your Property Checks reminds residents to keep their property out of view with
postcard reminders
• The Take 25 Awareness Program raises awareness of child safety, with the National
Center for Missing and Exploited Children
• The Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) Etching and Watch Your Car programs keep
residents’ cars safe from theft
**CITY Briefs**

**Takoma Park moves forward on Sustainability Coordinator position**

Takoma Park has 128 applicants to sort through in its search for the city’s first sustainability coordinator. The person hired for the position will help the city with its Sustainable Energy Action Plan, a roadmap for Takoma Park’s efforts to lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Following interviews with potential coordinators, the city hopes to fill the position by mid- to late April.

Additional duties for the coordinator include developing and implementing programs targeting building efficiency and transportation challenges, such as carpooling, and renewable energy projects.

**Live music lights up Old Town**

Several restaurants and two gathering places in Takoma Park are increasingly turning to music to liven evenings around town.

Upscale dining establishment Republic (6939 Laurel Ave.) has live music on Saturdays, an open-mic night every other Sunday and a blue nights on Mondays. A list of shows can be found at www.republictakoma.com.

Carroll Cafe (Seeker’s Church, 276 Carroll St. NW) has established itself as a go-to venue for folk music with its Second Friday series. Some upcoming acts include Lea Gilmore, Eric Byrd and Phil Wiggins playing in April, and Maggie and Bob Zentz in May.

Find out what else is lined up this season at www.carrollcafe.org.

Community meeting place Electric Maid (268 Carroll St.), which opened in 2001, holds regular performances, including group jam sessions. Events span the entire week and can be found at electricmaid.org.

Starting around 9:30 p.m. Thursdays, Roscoe’s Napolitano Pizzeria hosts live shows and plans on adding shows to Saturdays too. For a list of upcoming acts, visit the pizzeria’s Facebook page. In Takoma, D.C., Takoma Station offers a full slate of live music, including jam sessions on Tuesday (see www.takomastation.com).

And once Busboys and Poets opens in the Takoma Central building at Maple and Carroll Avenues, there will be another music venue/eatery to choose from.

For a host of musical events, including those produced by the city’s We Are Takoma program and others from the Institute of Musical Traditions, see the Takoma Park Newsletter calendar on the back page or our arts coverage on page 12.

**African American health fair at MC**

The African American Health Program (AAHP) Executive Committee and its partner organizations will host its first Community Day event on Saturday, April 19 at Montgomery College’s Takoma Park campus’ Charlene R. Nunley Student Services Center, 7625 Fenton Street.

The event will kick off with a Men’s Health and Wellness Walk at 9:30 a.m. and activities will run noon – 4 p.m. The event highlights health issues common among the African American population. Keynote speaker is Dr. Griffin Rodgers, director of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; activities include cooking demonstrations, group fitness demonstrations, screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, body mass index and vision, free HIV testing and health information booths. Children’s activities include science demonstrations.

The event is free. For more information, see https://aahpcommunityday2014.eventbrite.com.

**Requests for proposals, April 14 deadline**

The City of Takoma Park Maryland is seeking a qualified and experienced organization to administer its Emergency Assistance Fund, providing financial assistance to income eligible residents for documented housing, healthcare, food, transportation and other basic human needs. Bids must be received by 3:30 p.m. Monday, April 14. Additional information may be found online at takomaparkmd.gov/bids-and-contracts or by contacting Moses A. Wilds Jr. at 301-891-7215.

The city also is seeking a qualified firm or individual(s) to provide services for the Tenant Capacity Building Initiative, providing needed technical assistance to residential tenants in organizing and maintaining tenant associations and in the purchase of rental facilities by registered tenant associations. Bids must be received by 3:30 p.m. Monday, April 14. Additional information may be found online at takomaparkmd.gov/bids-and-contracts or by contacting Linda Waller at 301-891-7222.

**Popular running event tailored to diverse crowd**

The Takoma Park Safe Routes to School 5K, now in its sixth year, has made it to the big leagues. Sanctioned by USA Track and Field, the event is now organized according to established competition rules for safety, timing and record keeping, and benefits from national recognition. This year, the race extends the challenge to runners with strollers. To accommodate what has always been a striking mix of young runners and seasoned runners – in 2013, twelve 6-year-old runners completed the 5K – the race will also feature a staggered start for all ages.

**Here is how it works:**

8 a.m.  Wave 1: 10-minute mile and faster

8:03 a.m. Wave 2: Over 1-minute mile and runners with strollers in the back.

8:06 a.m. Wave 3: Walkers

The one-mile fun run and the 4-mile youth run will follow at 9 a.m. and 9:15 a.m., respectively.

Throughout the registration process, random prize drawings will be held to raffle off gift cards and equipment from local businesses. The earlier you register, the greater your chances of winning.

Post-race activities include refreshments, demonstrations, sponsor information, giveaways and activities to learn best practices for staying safe while walking to school, which is the primary purpose of the race.

All five participating schools offer an afterschool run club for students to prepare for the race. Clubs range in size from 20 to 105 participants and meet from three to eight weeks before the race date. Students from Takoma Middle School have volunteered to help out at the elementary school level.

All race proceeds fund PTA programs at Piney Branch, Takoma Park, East Silver Spring and Rolling Terrace Elementary Schools and Takoma Park Middle School. Schools have used the funds to purchase equipment for indoor and outdoor recess, healthy snacks, after school club scholarships and P.E. equipment.

Online registration is open until April 30 at www.tkp5ks.org. Participants can register online by 3 p.m. May 3.

**Village Rides connects seniors and volunteers**

By Wolfgang J. Mengner and Marge Tolchin

About two years ago, seniors from several different neighborhoods in Takoma Park started meeting on a monthly basis to discuss the needs of the baby boomer (and older) residents in our community. They asked themselves and each other: What supports do seniors need to stay independent for as long as possible? What kinds of everyday tasks get harder as we age? The group identified transportation as a major problem.

For many Takoma Parkers, accomplishing everyday activities – doctor visits, shopping or social events – without being able to drive is close to impossible. There are Ride-On buses, but the stop may be a half-mile walk from home. After that walk and ride, a change of buses might be necessary to get to the destination. Carrying groceries and other packages on the way home is another difficult ordeal. Taxes and private car services can take a big bite out of a small fixed income.

In order to address the transportation issue, the group collaborated with many of Takoma Park neighborhoods to work together as a new organization called the Village of Takoma Park, and become part of what is now a national movement: neighbors working together to help each other.

The Village of Takoma Park is one of five Montgomery County Villages included in a grant written jointly by the Jewish Council for the Aging and The Senior Connection and funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation. These two organizations have agreed to train and coordinate volunteer drivers in Takoma Park to assist those who need a ride.

For example: Let’s say Bill and Susan are two residents who volunteer for Village Rides. The Village of Takoma Park interviews them and they agree to a background check and Motor Vehicle Driving check. Bill and Susan then receive instructions about providing transportation for their senior neighbors from the Jewish Council on Aging. Importantly, the grant provides additional liability insurance for Bill and Susan and all the other volunteers. The Jewish Council for the Aging makes the connection between drivers and senior riders. Requesters call the Village Rides office to schedule a ride. Rides are provided, as long as volunteer drivers are available. It’s that simple.

There is one problem: the Village of Takoma Park needs volunteer drivers. The time commitment is up to the individual driver, be it once a day, once a week or once a month. Every hour of volunteer time will help a neighbor simply conduct the business of an active life.

**Village Rides needs volunteer drivers**

To learn more contact Wolfgang Mengner wolfgang.mengner@gmail.com
Nine indicted for gang-related crimes

Takoma Park connection prompts local police involvement

Nine individuals have been indicted by a federal grand jury in connection with La Mara Salvatrucha, or MS-13 gang crimes in the Montgomery County/Prince George’s County area, including in Takoma Park.

The crimes they are accused of are heinous: planning and committing murders, attempted murders, assaults and robberies in Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties; extorting high school students and brothel operators, tampering with witnesses and obstructing justice, among other crimes.

One of the facets of the case was handled by a member of Takoma Park’s Criminal Investigations Division, and the department’s Special Assignment Team (SAT) and patrol division assisted with the investigation over the course of two years.

The defendants charged are: Jorge Enrique Moreno-Aguilar, aka “Flaco” and “Castigato,” age 20, of District Heights, Md.; Juan Alberto Ortiz-Orellana, aka “Chele” and “Furri,” age 25, of District Heights; Melvin Marquez-Sanchez, aka “Design,” age 19, formerly of New York; Carlos Beltran-Flores, aka “Joker,” age 22, of Hyattsville, Md.; Francisco Hernandez, aka “Black,” age 20, of Silver Spring, Md.; Wilmer Argueta, a/a “Cheng” and “Happy,” age 21, of Hyattsville, Eric Antonio Mejia-Ramos, aka “Flaco,” age 20, of Hyattsville; Minor Perez-Chach, aka “Minor Chach-Perez,” “Little Bad” and “Bryant Sacarias, age 23, of Hyatts ville; and Miguel Angel Manjivar, aka “Garra” and “Masflow,” age 21, of Hyattsville.

The indictment was returned on March 7. All of the defendants are in custody.

“Our investigation revealed that MS-13 is an enterprise that participates in criminal acts, such as murder, attempted murder, violent assaults, witness intimidation and retaliation, and extortion,” said Homeland Security Investigations (ICE) Baltimore Special Agent William Winter, one of many law enforcement agents involved in the case. “HSI special agents will continue to work with our local, state and federal law enforcement partners to target MS-13 members and other transnational criminal street gangs that are a rising public safety threat in our communities.

MS-13 is an international gang composed primarily of immigrants or descendants from El Salvador. Branches or “cliques” of MS-13, one of the largest street gangs in the United States, operate throughout Prince George’s County and Montgomery County, Maryland. The 12-count indictment alleges the following murders:

On Jan. 10, 2011, defendant Manjivar and several other MS-13 members repeatedly stabbed two individuals believed to be affiliated with the rival 18th Street Gang, killing one and attempting to kill the other. On Aug. 28, 2012, defendant Mejia-Ramos and others murdered a woman believed to be a rival gang member, by shooting her in the head. On February 23, 2013, defendant Perez-Chach and another MS-13 member murdered a person believed to be a former MS-13 member who had testified in federal court against several MS-13 members in a prior federal racketeering prosecution in Maryland, attacking him with a knife and machete.

From January 2011 to December 2012, Manjivar, Hernandez, Beltran-Flores, Mejia-Ramos and other MS-13 members are alleged to have planned and/or participated in the attempted murder of four individuals believed to be affiliated with rival gangs including the 18th Street Gang, Adelphi Crew, Latin Kings and Lewisdale Crew. One of these victims was targeted for murder to prevent him from testifying at trial in the Circuit Court for Prince George’s County against defendant Argueta.

Additionally, the indictment alleges that Hernandez, Beltran-Flores, Argueta and other MS-13 members threatened to kill a fellow gang member unless he paid them a weekly or bi-weekly “rent” or “tax,” which gang members collected from the victims from at least March to November, 2011. Five others are alleged to have been assaulted, including one victim who was stabbed with a butterfly knife.

An indictment is not a finding of guilt. An individual charged by indictment is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at some later criminal proceedings.

Security activities include drug take-back, VIN etching

The Takoma Park Police Department will offer a drug take-back program, anti-theft vehicle etching, an auto security program and other security information at an event on Saturday, April 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Community Center.

The day is designated by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Nationwide Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. Police will collect expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs, no questions asked. The campaign is designed to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding households of potentially dangerous medications. Residents can bring unwanted prescriptions to collection boxes in the first floor police lobby of the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave. Prescription, over-the-counter and pet medications will be accepted.

At the same time, police will be etching identifying information onto vehicles. This Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) program involves permanently inscribing a number onto the glass panes of a vehicle. These etchings have proven to be vehicle-theft deterrents, as criminals tend to avoid vehicles that have been etched; it is harder for “chop shops” to make profit off of VIN-etched vehicles. Participants can also enroll in Takoma Park’s Watch Your Car program on this day. The program uses identifying decals affixed to residents’ vehicles, so that police can then recognize the vehicles, check their records, and determine whether unauthorized drivers are operating them.

In addition to the prescription take-back, VIN and Watch Your Car services, Saturday will also feature safety/emergency information from the Emergency Preparedness Committee and a coat drive for the needy. Bring gently used coats to the first floor police lobby of the Community Center. For more information, contact Catherine Plevy at 301-891-7142 or catheryp@takomaparkmd.gov.

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 109 fire-related incidents in 2014. The department addressed or assisted with 453 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 562. Totals for 2013 were 105 and 474, representing a decrease of 17 incidents.

During the month of February 2014, the Takoma Park Volunteers put in a total of 1,031.5 hours of standby time at the station, compared to 934 in February 2013. Grand totals as of February 2014 are 2,370 hours, compared to 2,121.5 hours in 2013, a decrease of 248.5 hours.

Maryland fire deaths update

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported as of Mar. 17, 2014, 16 people have died in fires, as compared to 25 in 2013.

Spring cleaning for fire safety

When spring arrives it will be time to rake your yard and plant some flowers. It will also be the time to rid your home of potential fire hazards. Check your home for potential fire hazards, attic, closets and other storage areas, remove old newspapers, paints and flammable liquids, solvents, oily clothes, wood scraps, magazine stock piles, boxes, clothes, wrappings and other menaces. And probe the yard, too, for old tires, piles of overage wood, brush and dead grass and other unwanted rubbish.

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April 2014

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Takoma Park Police Dispatcher
301-270-1100
Montgomery County Crisis Center
(24 hrs/7 days a week)
240-777-4000
Montgomery County Government Information
240-777-1311
The events on this page, unless otherwise noted, are part of the We Are Takoma series sponsored by the City of Takoma Park’s Arts and Humanities Commission and take place at the Takoma Park Community Center. For more information and a complete schedule of events, see www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts.

**Uprooted Dance innovates outside the stage**

**Saturday, April 19**
7:30 p.m.
Suggested $10 donation

After stops at the Atlas Theater on H Street in D.C. and at the Kennedy Center’s Millennium Stage, Uprooted Dance is coming to the Takoma Park Community Center to perform.

Founded by Keira Hart-Mendoza, the company explores performance and dance settings apart from the proscenium stage—in fact, the opening performance will occur in the atrium of the Community Center, not in the auditorium. That’s not surprising for a group that began its first creative season outside at a barn in Madison County, Va. on a cold December night in 2007.

Uprooted’s work can best be described as a visual feast of color, shape and design. The company will perform along with Taiko drummer Mark H. Rooney, to present a modern dance piece which explores the rules of board games.

**Bawdy concert dishes dirty ditties**

**Saturday, April 12**
7:30 p.m.
Suggested $15 donation

The Bawdy Crew is back for a raucous romp through centuries of dirty ditties. These master balladeers will be performing naughty songs that have come down from medieval brothels, pubs, tall ships, British music halls, the army, the schoolyard and wherever such songs are sung.

The audience is invited to sing along on some lusty choruses, or just listen and enjoy. The Bawdy Crew features Miss Regina Dentata (aka Jennifer Cutting), Miss Lucy Snatch (aka Riki Schneyer), Cornelius “Connie” Lingus (aka Steve Winick) and Long John Slavee (aka Craig Williams). This wildly popular group has been performing together for five years and almost every show has sold out.

Pirate and Renaissance Faire garb welcome. Regular street clothes are fine, too. Warning: Adults only. Do not attend if offended by sexually explicit material. Concert will contain profanity.

**Beau Soir Ensemble combines flute, harp and violin**

**Thursday, April 24**
7:30 p.m.
Suggested $10 donation

The Beau Soir Ensemble is a flute, viola and harp trio dedicated to the performance of standard and contemporary repertoire spanning a variety of genres. Founded in 2007 as a flute and harp ensemble, the group added a violist in 2011 to include more contemporary and diverse repertoire.

Recent performances include the Kennedy Center’s Millennium Stage, the Walters Museum in Baltimore and Dumbarton House. They are also regularly featured performers for the Harman Center for the Arts Wednesday at Noon Series in Washington, D.C.

**American History through Film**

**American Artifacts**

**Tuesday, April 8**
7:30 p.m.
Free

**Rosenwald Schools**

**Tuesday, April 29**
7:15 p.m.
Free

Two film events this month that feature noteworthy stories from American history will be presented by local icons from the film scene.

On Tuesday, April 8 Mike Mashon, head of the Moving Image Section of the Library of Congress, and C-SPAN’s Richard Hall present some of the earliest films in the Library of Congress collection, dating back to Thomas Edison’s camera tests in 1891 and progressing through Birth of a Nation.

And on Tuesday, April 29, local filmmaker Ariva Kemper will screen her documentary-in-progress about Julius Rosenwald’s crusade to build black schools in the 1910s through 1930s, including one in Takoma Park. The film is presented by Historic Takoma. Prior to the screening will be a performance by the Takoma Park Community Band (see page 15) featuring songs by African American composers.

Note: This event was originally scheduled in February but was canceled due to snow.

**Vocalist Lisa Moscatiello presents blues, jazz and more**

**Saturday, April 6**
7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center
Suggested $10 donation

Though Lisa Moscatiello is most often categorized as a folk vocalist (she regularly performs with Ocean Orchestra) she is known for her versatility and range, has appeared on stage singing the music of Scottish fiddler Johnny Cunningham in a production by the avant-garde theatre group Mabou Mines, and is featured on recordings by the Washington, D.C.-area electronica band, Arthur Loves Plastic. Her performance at the Community Center will feature a mix of Celtic, blues, jazz and even a little opera. She will be accompanied by Chris Noyes.

**Belgian guitarist kicks off U.S. tour in Takoma Park**

**Wednesday, April 16**
7:30 p.m.
Suggested $10 donation

Having only toured the U.S. once in 2006, Ignatz returns in April for a seven-city tour of the mid-Atlantic states, with his first stop at the Takoma Park Community Center. Ignatz is the stage name for Belgian guitarist Bram Devens, an ode to the vicious mouse in the early 20th century comic strip Krazy Kat.

Ignatz’s most recent music features a fun sensibility and pure analog guitar. Reverb laden, down-n-out, and raw as a Charlie Patton piedmont, the guitar meanders through each song accompanied by Ignatz’ vocals, in English.

The event will open with several films by avant-garde director Maya Deren. Known as the “Mother of the Trance Film,” Deren made a handful of black and white movies, mostly silent, during the 1940s and early 1950s. Ignatz and guests will accompany the films, including Meshes of the Afternoon (1943) and At Land (1944). A panel discussion and Q & A will follow, then Ignatz will perform a solo set of his original music.
Takoma Park Community Band celebrates 40 years of fellowship

By Rick Henry

When the members of the Takoma Park Community Band perform at the group’s 40th Anniversary Concert on Saturday, April 26 at 1:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, the focus, as it always is, will be on harmony.

There may be a sour note or two, but that’s OK, current members say. What is more important than technical proficiency, and what has sustained the band for all of these years, is the harmony between the members — young and old, professionals and students, seasoned musicians and newcomers. That’s because the group, unlike most community bands, does not require members to audition or to possess a certain skill level. Rather, it is a band where people can “learn on the job,” according to band president Ryle Bell.

That has been the case since the group was formed 40 years ago by Crofton L. M. (Roy) Corbin, a trumpet player originally from Barbados in the West Indies who moved to Maryland after attending the Royal College of Music in England. In the early 1970s, Corbin became involved in a music program designed to support both Takoma Park Elementary School and Montgomery Blair High School students. That led to the formation of an adult band.

One of Corbin’s Blair students, French horn player Roy Holzle, was one of the first to sign up for the newly formed community band. Forty years later, he is still a member, and credits the band for providing him with both a musical education and a social outlet.

“If it hadn’t been for the band I wouldn’t still be playing the French horn, but it’s been a regular thing every Monday night [the band’s practice night] for the last 40 years,” Holzle says, adding that the social aspect of playing and interacting with other members has been an equally important reason he has continued to participate.

Soon after Corbin established the band, the Takoma Park City Council passed an ordinance to adopt it as the official band of the city, and it was renamed the Takoma Park Municipal Band. At a later date, in order to reflect the band’s involvement in the community and the city, the name was changed to the Takoma Park Community Band. Since its formation, the city has allowed the band to practice for free every Monday night at the Hefner Center, a commitment members say is instrumental in helping sustain the band’s longevity and success.

The band’s mission, to connect musicians of all ages and abilities and provide free music to the Takoma Park community, hasn’t changed since.

“We take musicians from anywhere and any skill level,” Bell said. “This band is great for people who are just learning or played back when they were young or in college.”

People like Phil Friend, of Takoma Park, who joined the band six years ago. After receiving saxophone lessons from his wife, he joined the band. People like Irwin Duetscher, a clarinetist, learned to play in a band, making it difficult to earn a music degree. When she moved to the area from Michigan, she picked up the instrument again, and when she searched for community bands, the Takoma group came up.

“What was attractive about it was that there was no audition,” she said, noting that there are often only one or two oboes in a band, making it difficult to earn a spot through a competitive process.

As the Takoma Band’s sole oboist, she has been the band’s sole oboist, France horn player Roy Holzle, was one of the first to sign up for the newly formed community band. Forty years later, he is still a member, and credits the band for providing him with both a musical education and a social outlet.

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As the Takoma Band’s sole oboist, she said she enjoys not only the supportive atmosphere fostered by other members, but the band’s varied repertoire, which ranges

Conductor Gerald Younger, top, leads rehearsal one Monday night last month. Clarinetists include, from left, Robert Palian, Joseph Gaffney and Tara O’Dowd. Photos by Virginia Myers

Takoma Park Community Band
40th Anniversary Concert
Saturday, April 26, 1:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

By myself,” he said. “There is something I wasn’t going to get any better playing by myself,” he said. “There is something about playing with other musicians that makes you perform better.”

Irwin Duetscher, at 90 the band’s oldest member, agrees.

Deutscher, a clarinetist, learned to play his instrument after he retired and moved to D.C. In 1986, he and several friends were playing together and decided to join the Takoma band. He has been a continuous member ever since and says he plans to continue playing with the band, “as long as my fingers work and my mouth can blow.”

Thirty-year-old Shannon Skowronske, the youngest member of the band, came to the band under similar circumstances. She had played the oboe for many years, but set it aside as she pursued a Master’s degree. When she moved to the area from Michigan, she picked up the instrument again, and when she searched for community bands, the Takoma group came up.

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CALENDAR

Book signing will follow book, “Food Rules,” written by Michael Pollan

Jefferson: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Kalman will discuss her new kids’ book, “Thomas Saturday, May 10, 1 p.m.

Author/Illustrator Maira Kalman

Ages 8 up

Make flower crowns and Mother’s Day crafts

Sunday, April 27, 2 p.m.

Computer Room B

“Boys Camp” Author Event
Saturday, April 5, 2 p.m.

We’ll do a craft and author Kitson Jazynka will sign books

Graphic Novelist Danica Novgorodoff
Monday, April 7, 7:30 p.m.

Novgorodoff will discuss her new book, “The Undertaking of Lily Chen” Best for teens and adults

Comics Jam
Tuesday, April 8, 4 p.m.

Comics guru Dave Burbank runs our monthly comics book club No registration required

Kids Poetry Fun
Tuesday, April 8, 7 p.m.

Led by local poets Rosanne Singer and Liz Rees Best for ages 5 up, registration encouraged

Friends Reading Group
Wednesday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.


TP Community Center; all welcome

Petites Chansons/French Circle Time
Saturday, April 12, 10:30 a.m.

Singing and rhyming in French with Madame Marie

Registration highly encouraged so participants can get programming updates

Pirates and Mermaids: Crafts and Stories
Saturday, April 12, 2 p.m.

Dress up as a pirate or mermaid if you want! Ages 4 and up; registration encouraged

The Iliad
Tuesdays, April 16 and May 7

Discussions continue; all are welcome

TP Community Center

Friends Annual Meeting
New date, Wednesday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.

With Armando Trull

All welcome

Favorite Poem Evening
Tuesday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.

All are welcome (See article, page 10)

Warhol
Beginning Sunday, April 27, 2 p.m.

Discussion for those taking the free online course

Computer Room B

Craft Workshop
Sunday, April 27, 3 p.m.

Make flower crowns and Mother’s Day crafts

Ages 8 up

Author/Illustrator Maira Kalman

Saturday, May 10, 1 p.m.


LIBRARY

Library integrates books and computers

By Patti Mallin

Ever wonder why the city’s public computer center is part of the Takoma Park Library? On a typical day, here’s what happens.

A patron comes to the circulation desk, requests today’s Washington Post, and makes himself at home in a comfy chair to read the paper. Another comes to the Senior Room, settles in at a computer station and checks the weather, the headlines, and searches for more details about that story on NPR this morning.

A recent immigrant checks out a TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) study guide from the library, comes to Room A and learns how to find additional study guides and even sample tests online through the Library’s web site. There, he or she could also connect to the Mango language learning program which native English speakers can also use to learn, or practice, a number of other languages.

That same person may return another day for help downloading and completing immigration or travel documents from the State Department.

Unemployed patrons who used to rely on job listings in the paper, now spend time scrounging career web sites, Craigslist, and employment listings on company sites, often with the help of Computer Center staff. Most job applications now must be completed and submitted online, even when the job itself does not require computer skills, so staff are often called upon to assist with the process. It is cause for celebration, albeit at library-appropriate noise levels, when one of the “regulars” pops his or her head in the computer center office to say we haven’t seen them for a few days because they did in fact get that job.

Wave after wave of students come into the library as schools let out – first the high schoolers, then the Takoma Park Middle School kids, and finally the Piney Branch and Takoma Elementary students.

They head to the children’s room to read graphic novels or the next book in that YA series they love, look for books full of ideas for science projects, or grab a table with their friends to get a start on their math homework. Others pair up with a buddy in Computer Room A to play games, locate and print copyright-free photos for that science project from the library’s Image Quest subscription, or type up an essay or report.

And that math homework? If it leads to the conclusion that more practice is in order, Math Smart on the library web site is there for students through eighth grade. Whether staffing the desk in the library or staffing the computer center, one might be asked a grammar question, a research question or “Does this sound right to you?”

After work, patrons may run into the

LIBRARY BRIEFS

Gear up

Camp local! Gear up for summer fun at the Takoma Park Maryland Library with a special event on Saturday, April 5 at 2 p.m., featuring Kitson Jazynka, author of “Nate’s Story,” the second book in Takoma Park’s own “Boys Camp” book series. Jazynka will read from her book and take questions from the audience; boys and girls will create their own mini camp, complete with map, free mini compass or treat, and even a new camp song. Copies of “Nate’s Story” and “Zack’s Story,” the first books in the series, will be available for sale, courtesy of Politics and Prose Bookstore. The local founders of the “Boys Camp” series, Ann Hendrix-Jenkins and Valerie Tripp, will be on hand to help. Our mini-camp getaway is free and open to the public, and no purchase is required to attend.

Illustrate it

On Saturday, May 10 at 1 p.m., acclaimed author/illustrator Maira Kalman will discuss her new kids’ book, “Thomas Jefferson: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Everything” and the illustrations she’s created for the recently-updated version of “Food Rules,” written by Michael Pollan. Kalman’s illustrations have graced the cover of the New Yorker magazine, and she wrote two popular, illustrated blogs for the New York Times. Kalman also has written numerous books for kids, teens and adults. Kalman’s most recent books will be for sale at the May 10 event, courtesy of Politics and Prose Bookstore. But our event, which will take place in the Community Center Auditorium, is free and open to the public, and no purchase is required to attend. Registration encouraged; to register, please go to www.tinyurl.com/tpillibraryevents or call us at 301-891-7259.

Opposites attract

Has the cold winter got you thinking about the hot summer? Have the dark mornings made you yearn for longer days of light? Our world is full of opposites, and poets Elizabeth Rees and Rosanne Singer will offer a poetry workshop with movement, writing and art about opposites on Tuesday, April 8, at 7 p.m. We’ll hear poems about the beauty of fast and slow, young and old, to inspire us, and then we’ll try our own opposites to celebrate in words and art. Our program is great for kids ages 5 and up. Come join us for this hands-on celebration of National Poetry Month.
Poetry pops up on the city’s streets and in the library

By Merrill Leffler

Spring is upon us and so too is Spring for Poetry in Takoma Park, the city’s unique poetry walk: large colorful posters of poems (13 x 19 inches) framed and planted along Carroll Avenue, locations on New Hampshire Avenue, in city parks, and at the library and Community Center. Since 2007, new posters have been blossoming each April, thanks to an ongoing collaboration between the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library and Montgomery College’s School of Art and Design. Conceived by the Friends of the Takoma Park Library, Spring for Poetry became a reality because Montgomery College professor Andrea Adams saw the project as a real-world opportunity for her second-year design students. In these last eight years, her students have designed and produced nearly 120 posters that we’ve had out on the street between April and October.

A committee of poets makes each year’s poetry selection which has included poems from the United States, Central and South America, Great Britain, Europe, Asia and Africa. Some poems will be familiar — from 19th century poets such as William Blake, William Wordsworth, Emily Dickinson and Walt Whitman to 20th century poets like Robert Frost, Langston Hughes, Elizabeth Bishop and e. e. cummings, and many contemporary poets like the late Frank O’Hara and Lucille Clifton, as well as Charles Simic and Billy Collins. You can find them all with PDFs of the posters on the Friends website: www.fpml.org/poetry/PoemsByAuthor.htm. You can also see a video of the process by City TV. It begins with selecting poems, presenting the project to Montgomery College students, and it includes striking interviews with students and Professor Adams, at http://bit.ly/IdA9eE (go to the 12-minute mark).

At the Friends web site, www.fpml.org, let the Friends know what you think about Spring for Poetry in Takoma Park. Are there posters you find especially appealing? Are there poems you’d like the committee to consider next year?

And there’s more: organizers will be reading this year’s poems at the Takoma Park Farmer’s Market on Earth Day, April 27 from 11 a.m. to noon. Visitors are welcome to read a poem or two, themselves.

Also, on Tuesday April 8, the Takoma Park Library will hold a special poetry workshop for kids, led by local poets Rosanne Singer and Liz Rees. This workshop is best for kids 5 and up — registration is encouraged.

And, finally, the Library’s Favorite Poem Evening is an opportunity to read your own favorites, on Tuesday, April 22. Choose a published poem that is one of your favorites. Send its title and author along with your name and generic occupation, for inclusion in a printed program, to Ellen Robbins at the library ellen@takomapark.gov by April 18. Whether you read or not — please attend and bring your friends and neighbors. Refreshments will be provided by the Friends of the Library, and all are welcome.

SPRING EVENTS

Historic Takoma, includes a range of architecturally significant homes and beautiful gardens, including some with creative renovations and additions.

This year’s tour is designed to reflect the evolution of Takoma Park from the 1880s through post-World War II. It also highlights some familiar characters who played prominent roles in the history of the area. B.Y. Morrison of azalea fame grew up on this street, Sam Abbott raised his family here while organizing the anti-freeway fight and Frances Flpps restored several houses along this street in addition to the Cady Lee Mansion, just around the corner. The collection of woodcarvings in Lew Morris’ yard are the work of Jim Calder and also reflect the spirit of Holly Avenue.

Visitors may ride the free Art Hop trolley to the start of the House and Garden Tour, at the Cady Lee Mansion, 7064 Eastern Ave. NW (at the corner of Eastern and Piney Branch) to purchase admission tickets ($20) and pick up tour maps. Advance tickets ($18) go on sale beginning April 1 at designated shops around Old Takoma and online. For more information, see www.historictakoma.org or call 301-270-2831.

Earlier on Sunday, the Takoma Park Safe Routes to School 5K sets off beginning at 8 a.m. The annual event helps fund programs that focus on pedestrian and bike safety. For more information, see page 4 or go to www.tpk5k.com.

A free Art Hop Trolley will connect each of the three events as well as sites on the Art Hop. It will be available both days.

From page 1

40 YEARS OF BAND

From page 13

from classical to jazz and swing to pop tunes and marches.

A particular highlight for her is the concerts the band performs in conjunction with Black History Month. “We do a lot of traditional jazz and blues songs at those, which is very unique for a community band,” she said.

In addition to its Black History Month shows, the band plays several shows at senior and community centers during the holiday season and participates annually at many city functions, including the Halloween parade, the House and Garden Tour, Takoma Park Play Days and the city’s Independence Day parade and fireworks show, a tradition that goes back to the group’s original days.

Throughout the years, her students have designed and produced nearly 120 posters that we’ve had out on the street between April and October.

There have also been a few prestigious gigs over the years, Holzle said, recalling the group’s original days.

A particular highlight for her is the concert the band performed for the Ambassador of Guyana and a garland party at the British Embassy for the Queen’s birthday, complete with strawberry, Devonshire cream and champagne.

While the 40th anniversary show may not live up to those lofty standards, it does represent a historic milestone and gives local residents a chance to show their appreciation for a unique institution that not only provides entertainment but also gives the community over 40 years. “Takoma Park has a strong musical legacy, particularly when it comes to styles like folk music,” he said. “But the community band has added a lot to the musical narrative as well. The Takoma Park music scene is more than just fiddles and guitars.”

 trợ to each of them. The Computer Center. When patrons 55 years old and up want to check on their stacks and catalog or find just the right book, computer center staff coach patrons on setting up free email accounts, using free online tools like Google drive and translator, and learning how to tell if a web site or email is indeed too good to be true. One library staffer may be the go-to person for recommendations on mysteries and another for the latest, greatest audiobook for that upcoming road trip. In the computer center one might find someone to answer that Smartphone question or suggest ways to decide on the right laptop.

In the same way the library provides different spaces for different needs, so does the stacks and catalog or find just the right book, computer center staff coach patrons on setting up free email accounts, using free online tools like Google drive and translator, and learning how to tell if a web site or email is indeed too good to be true. One library staffer may be the go-to person for recommendations on mysteries and another for the latest, greatest audiobook for that upcoming road trip. In the computer center one might find someone to answer that Smartphone question or suggest ways to decide on the right laptop.

In the same way the library provides different spaces for different needs, so does

BOOKS AND COMPUTERS

From page 14

the library to pick up a tax form, or stop in Room A to print out this year’s return that they completed online from home. Families planning vacations select travel books from the library’s collection and then research fares and reserve lodging via the public computers. Upon their return they might come to us to learn about editing and then uploading their photos to Facebook.

Just as library staff help patrons navigate the stacks and catalog or find just the right book, computer center staff coach patrons on setting up free email accounts, using free online tools like Google drive and translator, and learning how to tell if a web site or email is indeed too good to be true. One library staffer may be the go-to person for recommendations on mysteries and another for the latest, greatest audiobook for that upcoming road trip. In the computer center one might find someone to answer that Smartphone question or suggest ways to decide on the right laptop.

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In the same way the library provides different spaces for different needs, so does
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 21 and the newsletter will be distributed beginning May 2. 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 Council
Monday, April 7, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, April 8, 7:30 p.m.

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

TP Community Center (unless otherwise noted).

PUBLIC Hearings, FY 2015 Budget
Monday, April 7, 2 p.m., with city manager’s presentation
Monday, April 28, 7 p.m.

TP Community center
See page 11 for details

TP Community Center	Second and fourth Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Teen Night
See page 6 for details

Fun and games for kids

Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry
First Saturdays, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
7001 New Hampshire Ave.

Bi-weekly and monthly food supplements for needy families

www.educaresupportservices.org

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Kid’s Night Out
First and third Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center

Fun and games for kids

See page 6 for details

Teen Night
Second and fourth Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center

Games and activities just for teens

See page 7 for details

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

Sweep the Creek
Saturday and Sunday, April 5 and 6
Community clean-up of Sligo Creek

See web site for times and specific locations

Fosco: org

Annual Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 19, 11 a.m.
Ed Wilhelm Field

See page 6 for details

Screening of “Lunch Hour”
Saturday, May 3, 3:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium

Examines America’s national school lunch program, which exposes children to unhealthy, but culturally acceptable foods

Free

Takoma Park SK Challenge
Sunday, May 4, 7 a.m.
TP Community Center

Takoma Park’s 8th annual Safe Routes to School 5K

ARTS AND LITERATURE

Jazz Jam
Open mic for jazz musicians
Tuesdays, 7 – 10 p.m.
Takoma Station, 6914 14th St. NW

Wednesday Night Drum Jams
Hosted by Katy Gaughan and friends
Wednesdays, 7 – 9:30 p.m.
The Electric Maid, 268 Carroll Street, NW

Lisa Moscatiello in concert
Saturday, April 5, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center auditorium

Lustrous vocals combined with a “cello-caster” for Celtic folk, jazz and Americana

Suggested $10 donation

American Antiques: Early Motion Pictures
Tuesday, April 8, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center

A look at the earliest films in the Library of Congress collection, dating back to Thomas Edison’s camera tests in 1891 through Birth of a Nation

Free

www.TakomaParkMd.gov/arts

Blues and Gospel - Byrd, Gilmore and Wiggins
Saturday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center auditorium

Galleries at the Takoma Park Community Center

Through May 2

Memories Gallery Exhibit
Saturday, April 12, 7 p.m.
Cultural Arts Center – Montgomery College

Takoma Park Campus

7959 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring

A collision of theatre and music hall, this exuberant one-man show is equal parts comic brilliance, virtuosic vaudeville and irresistible charm

$15-25 in advance; $30 door

www.montgomerycollege.edu/cac

Bram Devens as Ignatz
Wednesday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium

The first night of Devens’ American tour, music accompanied by black and white silent films by the avant garde Maya Daven

Suggested $10 donation

www.TakomaParkMd.gov/arts

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. The city offers a special incentive by paying $100 towards the cost of the first tree purchased (unless it is a replacement tree required as part of a Tree Removal Permit). That means residents can add a $195 tree to their yards for just $95 plus 6 percent sales tax, a total of $107.80. Add a second tree and the bill is still only $207.40, 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. Red oak, willow oak, 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 9.

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 Tod Bolt, Takoma Park Department of Public Works, 31 Oswego Ave., Silver Spring, Md., 20910 by close of business May 8.

Someone will be in touch regarding installation dates.

www.TakomaParkMd.gov/arts

www.historictakoma.org

Sunday, April 26, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Prescription Take-Back Day and VIN property registration
TPCC Auditorium

$10-$30

Para la comunidad, todos los eventos del mes de abril en el Takoma Park

hello@takomaparkmd.gov

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 21 and the newsletter will be distributed beginning May 2.

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.

If you have an event that you would like to see included, please email information to tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov.