

July  
2014

# TAKOMA PARK

A newsletter published by the City of Takoma Park, Maryland

Volume 53, No. 7 ■ takomaparkmd.gov



## WHAT'S NEW?

**No trash collection July 4**  
Trash and recycling will be collected Saturday, July 5

**July 4 and 5**  
City building closed

**July 10**  
Civil War history  
See page 11 for details



Members of Takoma Dogs have been instrumental in planning for Takoma Park's first dog park. City Council budgeted \$70,000 to build a pilot at Heffner Park.

Photo courtesy of Takoma Dogs

## Dog park pilot moves forward

By Virginia Myers

City Council has all but finalized plans to build Takoma Park's first dog park at Heffner Park, and expects it to be completed, as a pilot for possible additional parks, within the year.

The plans gained momentum as City Council finalized a budget that included \$70,000 for the pilot. Budget approval was followed by a public hearing June

2, and lively consideration on neighborhood list serves, during public comment periods at City Council meetings and in the neighborhoods. Dozens of persistent advocates for the park have been active in the discussion, and submitted detailed proposals for a number of possible sites. Much of the activity has been from Takoma Dogs, established to

**DOG PARK** □ Page 12

## City pesticide restrictions begin to kick in

The Takoma Park City Council unanimously passed the Safe Grow Act of 2013 on July 22, 2013, restricting the use of cosmetic lawn pesticides on private and public property within the city. The regulation makes it unlawful for a commercial pesticide applicator to apply a restricted pesticide for cosmetic lawn care purposes on private property or public rights-of-way in the City of Takoma Park as of March 1, 2014. The law applies to private residents beginning on January 1, 2015.

The regulation passed after much debate, with some residents arguing that

children's health and safety was at risk from unregulated pesticides, and others arguing that the regulation infringed on their private property rights.

After a four-month grace period, during which the city issued warnings for violations, the city's new Safe Grow pesticide ban will go into full effect for commercial pesticide applicators July 1. As of that date those who disregard the regulation will be fined \$100, in keeping with a Class D municipal infraction; subsequent incidents

**SAFE GROW** □ Page 9

## Battle over Metro site development heats up

By Bob Guldin

The long-running battle over what kind of development should occur next to the Takoma Metro station has entered a new stage, with the developer and many Takoma Park neighbors advocating different visions for the land.

If you walk to the Metro these days, you'll see signs of the controversy on many neighbors' lawns. They read "Right-Sized, Not Super-Sized, Development."

The land in question is the 6.8 acres that sits between the Metro station on one side, and Cedar Street and Eastern Avenue N.W. on the other. It's currently occupied by commuter parking lots, bus bays, bus lanes and a 1.8-acre open space covered by lawn and trees.

The Washington Area Metropolitan Transit Authority (Metro or WMATA) has long seen this land as under-utilized. For more than 30 years, WMATA has been trying to get housing and businesses built there, to generate revenue for WMATA, and to support the planning goal of smart growth, which calls for high-density housing near Metro stations. WMATA has chosen the real estate firm EYA to develop the site.

Neighbors enjoy the green space and would like to retain most of it, while conceding that some housing can and should be built there.

**METRO DEVELOPMENT** □ Page 9



Neighbors near Metro express their concern over development there.

Photo Virginia Myers

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

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## Inside

**GARDENING TOGETHER**

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**DANCE ON THE AVE.**

Page 5



**ELECTRONIC BOOKS**

Page 8

# DOCKET

## TAKOMA TOPICS:

“Another great episode of BackStage Takoma from Takoma Park City TV! City TV posts up all sorts of wonderful coverage of #TakomaPark events & news!

--www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD

## City Council & Committee Calendar

Official City Government Meetings\*  
TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

### CITY COUNCIL

Monday, July 7, 7:30 p.m.\*

Monday, July 14, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, July 21, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, July 28, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Auditorium

\*When public hearings or presentations are scheduled, meetings may begin at 7 p.m. Detailed agendas are always available for review online: [www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas).

### FACADE ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, July 8, 6:30 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

### TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, July 8, 6:30 p.m.

TPCC Atrium Room

### SAFE ROADWAYS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, July 8, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Lilac Room

### BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Wednesday, July 9, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Council Conference Room

### COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, July 14, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

### RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 17, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 24, 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/bcc](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/bcc). 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](mailto: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 Deputy City Manager Suzanne Ludlow, at 301-891-7229 or [suzanne@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:suzanne@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](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov). For additional information, contact the city clerk at [jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov).

### ORDINANCE 2014-33

Adopted May 27

Awarding a Contract for an IT Assessment and Strategic Plan

*The ordinance awards a contract to Plante Moran, PLLC for an assessment and strategic plan for the city's information systems. The contract award amount is \$40,000.*

### ORDINANCE 2014-34

Adopted May 27

Awarding a Contract for Furniture for the Community Center Green Roof

*The ordinance awards a contract to Sergio Martinez Designer in an amount not to exceed \$22,500 for the design, fabrication and installation of furniture for the Green Roof.*



### Notice of Installation of a New Parking Pay Station and a Proposed Change in the Parking Hours, Time Limit and Rate

Pursuant to Chapter 13.12 "Parking Meters" of the Takoma Park Code, notice is hereby provided of the city manager's intention to establish a new four-hour parking meter zone at the city-owned lot at the Takoma Junction. The zone will be in effect from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Overnight parking will not be allowed. Rates for the lot will be \$1 per hour, \$0.50 for 30 minutes and \$0.25 for 15 minutes.

This change will become effective Sept. 2, 2014. Public comments may be sent to the city clerk, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912 or by e-mail to [clerk@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:clerk@takomaparkmd.gov). The deadline for receipt of public comments is Monday, July 28, 2014. For additional information, contact Roz Grigsby, 301-891-7205 or [rosalindg@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:rosalindg@takomaparkmd.gov)

### VACANCIES ON CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

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/bcc](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/bcc) for complete information or to apply. For questions, contact Jessie Carpenter, city clerk, at 301-891-7267 or [jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov).

**BOARD OF ELECTIONS** (two vacancies, seeking representatives for Ward 3 and Ward 5): The Board plans and conducts city elections in coordination with the city clerk. [www.takomaparkmd.gov/bcc/board-of-elections](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/bcc/board-of-elections).

**COMMISSION ON LANDLORD-TENANT AFFAIRS** (three vacancies): The Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (COLTA) adjudicates and mediates complaints for violations of Chapter 6.16, Landlord-Tenant Relations; rules on petitions for rent increases above the rent stabilization allowance; and decides appeals from the city manager's decision to deny, suspend or revoke a license under Chapter 6.08, Rental Housing Licenses and Commercial Occupancy Licenses. Residency required except that up to four members may be nonresidents if they own or manage rental housing in Takoma Park. COLTA holds one business meeting per year. Commissioners are assigned to three-member panels for hearings, which are held as needed. [www.takomaparkmd.gov/bcc/COLTA](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/bcc/COLTA)

**NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE** (two vacancies – preferably from Wards 2, 4, 5, or 6): The Nuclear-Free Takoma Park 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. [www.takomaparkmd.gov/bcc/nuclear-free-takoma-park-committee](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/bcc/nuclear-free-takoma-park-committee)

**RECREATION COMMITTEE** (up to five vacancies): The Recreation Committee advises the City Council on matters related to recreation programming and facilities. Residency is required.

**RESIDENTIAL STREETScape TASK FORCE** (vacancies, preferably from Wards 2, 4, 5, or 6): The Task Force has been appointed by the council to assist the city with development and/or review of residential streetscape guidelines. The Task Force is scheduled to report to the City Council by Nov. 30, 2014.

**SAFE ROADWAYS COMMITTEE** (up to three vacancies): The Safe Roadways Committee advises the City Council on transportation-related issues including, but not limited to, pedestrian and bicycle facilities and safety, traffic issues and transit services and encourages Takoma Park residents to use alternatives to driving, including walking, bicycling and public transportation. [www.takomaparkmd.gov/bcc/safe-roadways-committee](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/bcc/safe-roadways-committee)

## CITY Briefs

### Loyal customers welcome hair salon's return

Veteran hair stylist Julie Marcial opened a new salon, Julie's Hair Salon 2, at Hampshire Place in June, returning from a brief retirement following the sale of her well-established salon in Hampshire-Langley Center last November. She returned to the Takoma/Langley Crossroads because of the area's international clientele. Her new business address is 7489 New Hampshire Ave.

Julie's Hair Salon 2 has lots of daylight, light green walls and blooming orchids. Loyal customers have flocked back to see old friends and get their hair cut, styled or highlighted, nails manicured, and bodies waxed. The friendly shop serves coffee to customers in a relaxed environment.

### African boutique moves in at Takoma-Langley Crossroads

McDoris Fashion recently relocated from Washington, D.C. to 7635 New Hampshire Ave. in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads, citing the area's international flavor and large African customer base as big attractions. Owner Doris Agbasi said, "I could have opened my store at other, less costly locations but I wanted to be near Red Apple Farmers Market," she said, referring to the international grocery that caters to Africans with familiar fruits, vegetables, spices, personal care products, meats and fish from their home countries.

Other African businesses in the Crossroads include Patrick's International Shoe Repair; Star Halal Meat and Grocery; Claudette's Braiding Gallery; Eric Aigbedion, MD; Sahle Araya, DDS; Akinmurele and Associates, CPAs; Fundex; Law Offices of Kevin M. Tabe, Esq.; and Afro-Intl. Inc. The area is so popular among African people that the Afrikan Post is delivered there monthly.

### Vegan restaurant renamed Evolve

From Cedar Crossing to Everlasting Life, and now it seems appropriate the restaurant just inside the D.C. line near Metro, at 341 Cedar Street, has been renamed Evolve. The point is more about the sort of food it serves – vegan food, perhaps for those who feel they have evolved past meat-eating. As Everlasting Life, the restaurant's signature was a soul-food-based vibe, with meatless "chick'un" and "ribs" made from tofu. Now Evolve promises a new feel and a new flavor as well.



Joan Samworth and her dog Izzy stand outside her backyard studio, where she paints landscapes and abstracts, and teaches mostly adult students.

Photo by Virginia Myers



Katie Dell Kaufman shows off the work of her students in the Recreation Department's Cubist Summer Camp. On the stand is Mariko Yatsumhashi's painting.

Photo by Virginia Myers

## For these local artists, work is a mix of creating and teaching

By Kevin Adler

These two profiles are the first in a series of short sketches of Takoma Park artists.

### Joan Samworth

Joan Samworth didn't grow up knowing she would be an artist. Her schools in upstate New York didn't have much time for art classes. "We did a few posters, and that was it," she says.

Perhaps that's why she's such a popular teacher among adults. "I can relate to the emotional part. I've been doing this a long time, but I have doubts," Samworth says. "That's why critiques in my classes always start with the positive."

Samworth began to take art classes in her 30s at Montgomery College in Rockville. She'd paint at night after her three kids went to bed, building skills and dedication that have grown for more than three decades.

"I love the process," she says. "I don't wait for inspiration. I believe inspiration comes from working."

Not coincidentally, each of her three children is an artist, full-time or part-time. One has produced an acclaimed

illustrated children's book, "Aviary Wonders, Inc."; one is a potter; and one works in iron.

Today, Samworth chooses to paint early, rather than late. Typically, she's up by 5 a.m. to get ready for a morning in her backyard studio.

Blues, greens and browns are prominent in her landscapes and her newer abstract works, as she reflects upon the open spaces, farmland and lakes of upstate New York, where she still visits. "I paint from memory, but I also paint plein air. Sometimes, I make a quick sketch before the light changes, and then in my studio I go back to the idea. That's when I distill it to its essence," she says.

Samworth is a big believer in entering juried shows, both for herself and her students. "I think deadlines and goals are important," she says. "When you've tried to perfect a painting and then you put it in a frame, it gives you a sense of accomplishment."

She also believes in getting regular feedback, so she meets monthly with three other Takoma Park artists to share and critique works. And with her artist neighbors on Flower Avenue, she hosts open studios

in May each year.

In addition to adults, Samworth has worked on art projects with youth and teens in Anacostia and elsewhere. Living in New Orleans for a few years, she mentored five boys in an adolescent home. "These kids were drawing because it was the one thing they could control in all the chaos they lived with," she says. "Nobody could tell them how they had to draw something. That was powerful."

For her adult students living in comfortable circumstances, the stakes are different, but powerful in their own way. "I tell them they're very brave to try something new at this stage in their lives that everyone can see," she says.

### Katie Dell Kaufman

Since Katie Dell Kaufman began teaching classes at the Takoma Park Municipal Building a decade ago, she has chauffeured generations of middle schoolers into the exclusive Einstein High School Visual Arts Center and, from there, on to college arts programs.

"I teach my students to do representational drawings from life, often still life," she says. "They want to draw anime or cartoons or draw from memory. But I tell them there's time for that later. First, I need to train their eyes and their hands, because that's how they will be able to channel their inspiration into their art."

The search for inspiration is never far from the surface with Kaufman, who often closes her eyes and pauses for a few seconds before answering an open-ended question. Her warmth and intensity help students make the transition from art as a pastime to art as deep self-expression.

"Self-expression comes from hard work and a mastery of techniques," she says. "For some of the students, this is a watershed moment. Art is a lifeboat if they

haven't been fitting in."

Kaufman has been a sculptor, painter and printmaker, as well as a collage artist. She taught for 21 years at the Corcoran College of Art and Design, and has shown locally at the Fraser Gallery in Washington, D.C. and Bethesda and the Zenith in D.C., among other galleries, as well as internationally, in London, Lithuania and South Africa. Her studio is at the Gateway CDC Art Center in Brentwood.

Kaufman's most recent work is in assemblage: collage in three dimensions. She accumulates simple objects from around the world and puts them on display in her studio, seeking combinations that are both beautiful and symbolic.

A recent work is a large bowl, encrusted with gold leaf, with large spoons sticking out of it. "I want it to look like a drop of water just splashed into it, and it sent everything up," says Kaufman, spreading her arms wide as she speaks.

Often, she groups objects in threes or puts them on a base with feet. "When you write or speak in metaphor, it's usually in twos, like, 'big as a house.' But when you juxtapose three things visually, the metaphor gets bigger, and there's a deeper context," she says.

As her reputation as a teacher has grown, Kaufman has added adult collage classes and both a six-week class during the school year and summer courses for elementary school kids.

These contributions led to her winning an Azalea Award in 2014. "The award was quite a shock," she says. "Visual artists often work alone. We do what I do quietly, and I think it's hard to be noticed in a community with so many activists and writers and musicians."

Don't worry, Katie, you've been noticed.



### THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

Editor: Virginia Myers  
www.takomaparkmd.gov  
Vol. 53, No. 7

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

Letters to the editor, reports by community groups, calendar items and other submissions will be considered

for publication; send to [tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov) or Newsletter, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912.

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

Published material containing opinions does not necessarily reflect the views of the Newsletter or the City of Takoma Park.

The Newsletter does not accept commercial, classified or political advertisements.

The Newsletter is printed on recycled-content paper.





# BUILDING COMMUNITY

## Bus stops made easy

### Route information updated, includes online options

This month residents who use public transportation will begin to see new and improved bus route information at stops in Takoma Park. The clear blue-capped tubes – located at some of the city’s busiest stops – will be repaired and updated, with new tubes added at bus stops on Carroll, Flower and New Hampshire avenues, as well as at Montgomery College.

The informational inserts inside the tubes will be the greatest change. Where there were once bus timetables there is now specific information about the time of the first bus of the morning, the last bus at night, and how long one should wait before another bus arrives, all based on the initial bus departure station.

The inserts, in both English and Spanish, direct riders to several technology options for next-bus apps, web services (such as Google Maps where Ride On and Metro bus schedules are seamlessly integrated) and accurate call-in and text information that provides the time when the next bus is to arrive for a particular stop.

An updated map of all the bus lines that run within or adjacent to Takoma Park is also included. The map illustrates what



The bus tubes at stops throughout Takoma Park are easier to use after an update. Here, Monique Anderson, Takoma Park’s Housing and Community Development administrative assistant, checks the schedule.

Photo by Ameer Bearne

bus lines run through particular business districts, and identifies where each Capital Bikeshare station is located to ensure easy connection between bike and bus.

These tubes, provided by the City of Takoma Park, give bus line and updated fare

information for Metro and Ride On buses and the UMD shuttle. Questions or comments on bus lines should be directed to the appropriate transit operator. Damaged tubes can be reported to the city at [planning@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:planning@takomaparkmd.gov).

### Vehicle parking a common complaint

Complaints about abandoned or non-operational vehicles are among the most common at the code enforcement office. Problem vehicles on the street may be reported to the police, but those on private property are subject to the Takoma Park property maintenance code.

Here are the rules:

- All vehicles must be parked on a paved or surfaced area.
- Vehicles may not be parked on green space, yards or sidewalks.
- Vehicles must be operable and may not be in a state of major disassembly.
- Vehicles must display license plates and current registration stickers.
- Vehicles may be stored in an enclosed garage, but if a vehicle is covered with a tarp or car cover, it is still subject to the requirements of the code.



Belkin’s “Conserve Insight” energy meter.

## Occupied Group House Registration Required

Do you rent out a room in your home? If you do, now is the time to register your home with the city as an “Owner Occupied Group House.”

An Owner Occupied Group House is defined as a single family home that is occupied by the owner or a family member and by one or more non-related individuals who pay rent or share in the costs of utilities. The kitchen, bathrooms and common areas are shared by everyone

living in the house. The registration process is designed to ensure that the house is safe for all of the occupants.

The registration process is quite simple. You will need to complete a short application form, pay a \$50 processing fee, and schedule an inspection with the city. The house will be inspected by the city for any serious life safety hazards. The inspectors will verify, among other things, that all of the smoke detectors work, that

there is a safe means of exiting the bedrooms in case of a fire, and that the house is free of other safety hazards. Once the house has passed inspection, a Certificate of Registration, valid for a period of three calendar years, will be issued.

To learn more about the registration process and to get an application form, please contact the City of Takoma Park’s Housing and Community Development Department at 301-891-7255.



### Garden grows with a little help from friends and neighbors

Adults and children worked together at the garden outside the Takoma Park Recreation Center last month, planting and beautifying the grounds outside this busy place. The center is used for multiple Recreation Department programs.

Photos by Selena Malott



# THE ARTS



Clockwise from top left, *Revolving Organics* by Peter Krsko, at 6930 Carroll Ave.; *Why Takoma*, by Marcelle Fozard and Annalisa Leonessa, at BY Morrison Park; *Giant Log*, by Howard Connelly Design, at the Co-op; *Traffic Calming* by Team Takoma City Staff, at the Gazebo; *Octopus*, by Howard Connelly Design, at the Gazebo; *Ponytail bench*, in front of Souper Girl near Metro; and *Banner Year*, by Team Takoma City Staff.

Photos by Laura Barclay



## Sit on it!

Don't touch? Hardly! In Takoma Park, artists are encouraging people to not only touch their art, but to sit on it.

This is the second year that the annual reCYCLE Public Art Project took up the theme, Please Sit on the Art. The result is 15 imaginative seats crafted from re-purposed or recycled materials and installed along the sidewalks and in the shops of Old Takoma. Residents have already enjoyed the pieces along their daily stomping grounds, but if you want to see them all, you can consult the map at [www.re-cyclearttakoma.com](http://www.re-cyclearttakoma.com). Sculptures are installed June-October each year and then auctioned off to the public.



## Dance Exchange Advances the Avenue

The Dance Exchange recently won support from ArtPlace America for its Advancing the Avenue project, creatively engaging local residents to think about how to develop the area along New Hampshire Avenue. The idea is to integrate walking tours, movement and story workshops into the development of a vibrant pedestrian corridor along what is currently an auto-centric highway.

The \$210,000 ArtPlace grant is part of \$14.7 million given to just 4 percent of more than 1,000 applicants for "creative place-making projects." Dance Exchange also won a generous "Our Town" grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for the project.

In partnership with the City of Takoma Park's The New Ave initiative, Advancing the Ave is designed to bring together community members living and working along New Hampshire Avenue who will use art in an exploration of what this corridor is, was, and could be. Among the questions that will be asked: What brings us to this place? What keeps us here? What traditions do we carry on? Which do we leave behind? How do these diverse experiences and journeys to the New Ave corridor shape the community today?

Working with local residents and organizations, Advancing the Ave will surface new visions of the cityscape

and new ways that community members can occupy their neighborhood spaces. Through movement, storytelling and dialogue, Dance Exchange and community participants will celebrate what is in the area at the moment, remember previous uses of the land, explore what current residents are bringing to the place, surface local knowledge and history, and collectively imagine the future.

This year, Dance Exchange is leading free art-making workshops that encourage community members to share their stories through movement and collaborative making. In September 2014, these residencies will be woven together to create a community festival that celebrates the area's diverse residents, channels the voices of local knowledge keepers, reclaims space for pedestrian animation and imbues the streetscape with lasting imprints reflecting the lives of local citizens. As part of this festival, Dance Exchange artists and New Hampshire Avenue community members will perform Dance Exchange Founder Liz Lerman's Still Crossing, originally created in commemoration of the 1986 centennial of the Statue of Liberty. Now a mainstay of the company's repertoire, Still Crossing will allow all those involved in Advancing the Ave to explore themes of journey, tradition and memory.



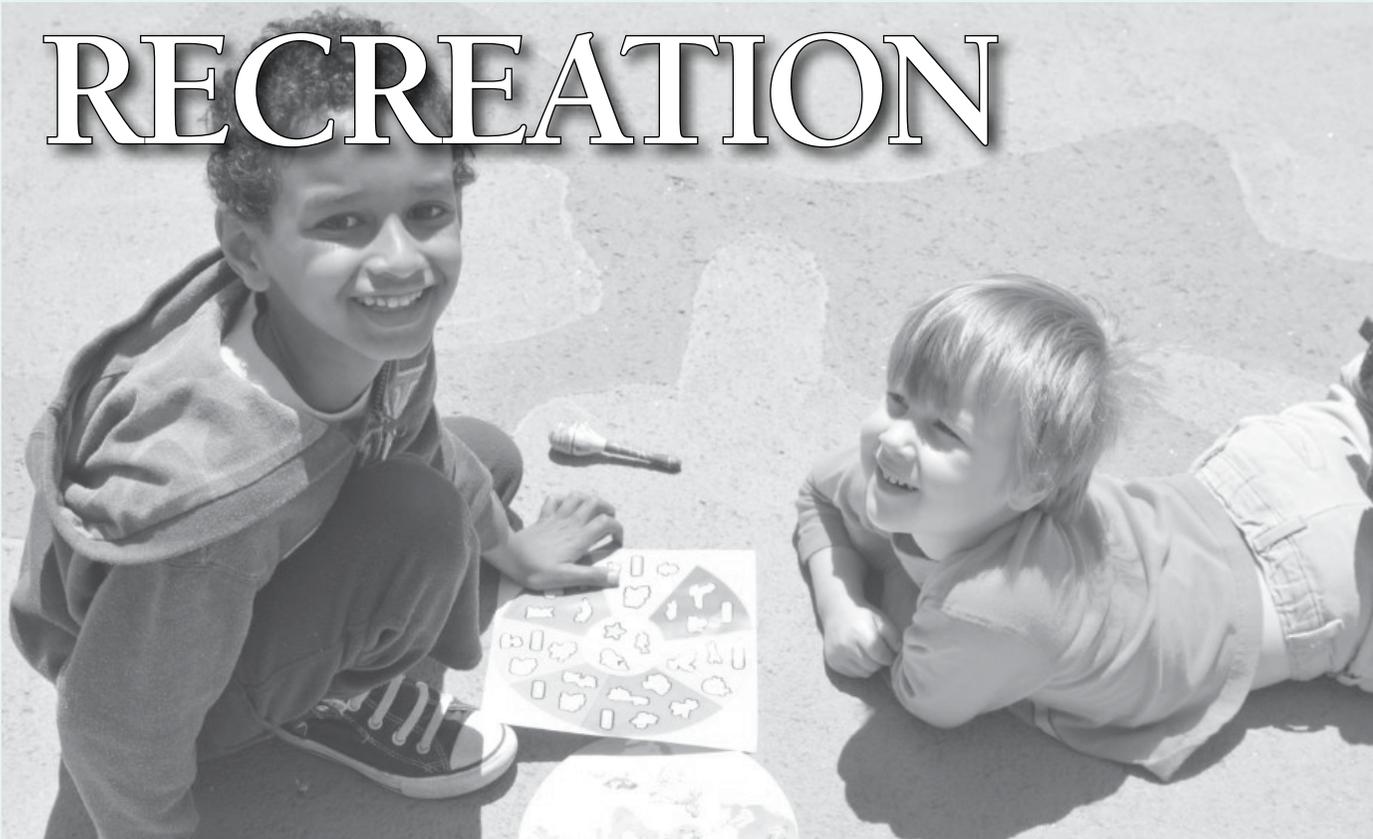
Workshops like this one, held in New York, will allow local residents to have more input on how the New Ave area is developed.

Photo courtesy Dance Exchange

Dance Exchange is seeking organizations, businesses and individuals to partner with along New Hampshire Avenue. Dance Exchange will be facilitating workshops for all ages and abilities to reflect on their individual journeys, hear each others' stories, and have the opportunity to connect with each other in a unique community building experience.

To participate or learn more, or to schedule a workshop for an organization, faith group or community, see [www.danceexchange.org/projects/advancing-the-ave](http://www.danceexchange.org/projects/advancing-the-ave).

# RECREATION



Two of the younger participants in Celebrate Takoma share an artistic moment during the perfect weather for the May event.

Photo by Recreation Department staff

## FOREVER YOUNG: 55 PLUS

### DROP IN

#### Bingo

*Ages 55 and older*

Try your luck. Win a prize.

Thursday, July 24, noon – 2 p.m.

TP Community Center Senior Room

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, July 24, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Free

### SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

#### Senior Free Fitness Pass

*Ages 55 and older*

This is a pass that is offered at the Takoma Park Recreation Center for seniors 55 and over who would like to use the fitness center. You can register today at the Recreation Center on New Hampshire Avenue or the Community Center on Maple Avenue.

TP Recreation Center Fitness Room

Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Saturday, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Sunday, closed

Free

#### 55+ Fitness Instructors Wanted

The Recreation Department is seeking instructors to teach fitness classes to people ages 55 and older, from noon to 2 p.m. two days a week starting in the fall. For more information please, contact Paula Lisowski at 301-891-7280. TRIPS

#### The Kreeger Museum, Washington, D.C.

A private museum located at the former estate of David and Carmen Kreeger showcasing more than 300 works of art, paintings, drawings, prints and sculpture, including a sculpture terrace and sculpture garden. The main floor (contains most of the art) and restrooms are fully accessible; however, should you choose to go to the lower level of the museum, there are 30 steps (no elevator). Bring spending money to purchase lunch. Rain or shine. In person advance registration is required. Contact Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager, 301-891-7280 or paulal@takomaparkmd.gov.

TP Community Center Recreation office

Friday, July 11, 8:45 a.m. – 3 p.m.

\$7 admission, bring with you on day of the trip. No cost for transportation. Times may be adjusted. Check the trip itinerary supplied to registered participants for each trip for details, or call 301-891-7280.

#### Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

The nation's oldest federal cultural research institution contains the largest library in the world with millions of books, recordings, photographs, maps and manuscripts. We will visit the Jefferson Building, which holds most of the exhibitions. Bring spending money to buy lunch at one of the three food service locations. Weather permitting; food service is available in the Jefferson Building's Southwest Courtyard. Rain or shine. In person advance registration is required. Contact Paula Lisowski, 301-891-7280 or paulal@takomaparkmd.gov.

TP Community Center Recreation office

Friday, July 18, 8:45 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Free admission. No cost for transportation. Times may be adjusted. Check the trip itinerary supplied to registered participants for each trip for details, or call 301-891-7280.

## YOUTH

### DROP IN

#### Kid's Night Out

*Ages 6 – 12*

Bring your children to the Takoma Park Recreation Center Kid's Night Out! It will involve 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

### CAMP

#### Teen On The Move Summer Camp

*Ages 12 – 17*

Teens On The Move combines a perfect balance of new adventures, community service and educational and fun activities. Daily emphasis will be placed on team building while having fun in a challenging but safe, "out of the box" atmosphere. Paperwork is required prior to the start of camp. Registration is open and spaces are filling fast.

TP Community Center Teen Lounge

Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

One-week sessions

July 7 – July 11

July 14 – July 18

July 21 – July 25

TP residents \$100/week

Non-residents \$120/week

### 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, X Box One 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.

TP Community Center Teen Lounge

Monday and Wednesday through Friday, 4 – 7 p.m.

Tuesdays, 4 – 8 p.m.

Saturdays and Sundays, 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

Second and fourth Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.

Free with membership card

## ADULTS

### SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

#### Jazzercise

*Ages 16 and older*

Jazzercise is the art of jazz combined with the science of exercise physiology. Each 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.

Mondays and Wednesdays (on-going)

7 – 8 p.m.

Saturdays (on-going), 8 – 9 a.m.

TP Recreation Center Gymnasium

\$45 per month EFT (Easy Fitness Ticket)

\$120/8 week pass

\$15 drop-in

#### 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. It's a challenging workout within a quick hour. Eight weeks. Instructor KJ Total Fitness.

TP Recreation Center

Tuesdays and Thursdays, July 29 – Aug. 21,

6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

\$85/8 weeks

#### Zumba

*Ages 16 and older*

Are you ready to party yourself into shape? That's exactly what the Zumba program is all about. It's an exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness-party that's moving people toward joy and health. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department.

TP Recreation Center front meeting room

Wednesdays, 6 – 6:55 p.m. and Saturdays, 9:15

– 10:15 a.m. (on-going)

\$40/4 weeks (session)

\$10 (drop-in)

### New staffer welcomed to the family

Michael Kurland remembers being a kid at camp – and now, he gets to do it all over again. One of the Recreation Department's newest staff members, Kurland is in charge of summer camps and before- and after-school programs, but still finds time for a game of Uno with the campers.

Kurland has a degree in sports management from the University of Tennessee and comes to Takoma Park from his position as director of the Glenarden Community Center. He's been in recreation all his life, as a facilities director, a pool manager, a lifeguard, even a CIT. Now he's happy to be in a position where he gets to interact with the kids – "it makes me feel young at heart," he says.

Kurland is also impressed with how family-oriented Takoma Park's program is. "Everybody knows everybody," he says. Welcome to our small community!



# RECREATION Notes

## Instructors needed (to teach ages 11-17)

**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. Contact Leicia Monfort at leiciam@takomaparkmd.gov.

## Registration underway for extended care for the 2014-2015 school year

**Morning Addition (Before Care)  
Grades K – 5**

This before-school program is designed for those families that need early morning options before the school day starts. Staff will be available to provide informal recreation activities and will escort participants to Takoma Park Elementary School and Piney Branch Elementary School.

TP Community Center Azalea Room  
Aug. 25, 2014 – June 12, 2015  
Monday – Friday, 7 – 9 a.m.  
TP residents \$130/month  
Non-residents \$160/month

**Afternoon Addition (After Care)  
Grades K – 5**

Emphasis is on providing leisure and recreation programs utilizing our facilities to include the computer learning center, dance studio, art room, game room, athletic fields, library and more. We have some exciting activities planned this year including: drama, music, art, special guests, sports, study time and playtime that will enlighten, empower and enrich minds and imaginations.

TP Community Center Azalea Room  
Aug. 25, 2014 – June 12, 2015  
Monday – Friday, 3:30 – 6:30 p.m. on full days  
1 – 6:30 p.m. on early release days  
TP residents \$210/month  
Non-residents \$260/month

## PETS

### EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

#### Adult Dog Basic Manners 6 months and older

Adult dogs benefit from training just as much as puppies and it's never too late to start. Using reinforcement-based training, this class covers sit, down, stay, come, leash walking, leave it, drop and polite greetings.

Heffner Park Community Center  
42 Oswego Ave.  
Wednesdays, July 16 – Aug. 20, 8 – 9 p.m.  
TP residents \$119  
Non-residents \$139

#### Puppy Manners and Socialization 5 months and younger

Each class will include off-leash play in a supervised setting where you will learn about dog body language, appropriate play and when to take breaks. Using reinforcement-based training techniques, we will teach basic skills, discuss common puppy issues (chewing, nipping, jumping), and focus on appropriate socialization.

Heffner Park Community Center  
42 Oswego Ave.  
Wednesdays, July 16 – Aug. 20, 6:45 – 7:45 p.m.  
TP residents \$119  
Non-residents \$139



Families enjoy Celebrate Takoma, an opportunity to gather for food and fellowship and enjoy Takoma Park's multicultural flavor.

Photo by Recreation Department staff

## Takoma Park celebrates Parks and Recreation Month

Since 1985, America has celebrated July as the nation's official Parks and Recreation Month. This year's focus is on setting trends instead of following them, making 2014 the year people go "out"side, change their "out"look, and get "in"volved in their community through parks and recreation.

In Takoma Park, that means getting involved in Takoma Park Recreation Department activities or simply visiting the city's parks and open spaces. It can mean a walk around the path at Lee Jordan Field with neighbors after work. It can be the sense

of exhilaration for the 4-year-old who connects bat to ball for the very first time in the T-ball league. It can be the positive feeling of exhaustion that volunteers feel at the end of the Celebrate Takoma Festival. Or it might be that intangible sense of connection when people gather to enjoy the annual Monster Bash or Independence Day festivities.

Outside of organized activities, just spending time with family and friends or enjoying our Tree City are great ways to celebrate the month.

Recreation professionals highlight four

categories of benefit from parks and recreation: individual, community, environmental and economic. "P and R," as the career folks call it, provides opportunities for living, learning and leading full and productive lives as well as avenues for residents to experience purpose, pleasure, health and well being, and interact with families, neighbors and the community.

We see all this activity as well as the quiet time spent in parks and open space as an investment in our community and in the people who live here.



### We still have space in the following camps:

#### Camp Recess Ages 5 – 12

This adventure-filled camp experience will give campers a variety of great opportunities. Activities include arts and crafts, treasure hunts around the facility, recreational activities in the gymnasium and various fun activities. Campers will go swimming once a week during camp. The cost for this camp is \$80 per week and takes place Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. This camp is for boys and girls ages 5 – 12.

Sessions:  
Week 3: July 7 – 11  
Week 4: July 14 – 18  
Week 5: July 21 – 25  
Week 5: July 28 – Aug. 1  
Week 7: Aug. 4 – 8  
TP Recreation Center  
7315 New Hampshire Ave.  
Standard fee: \$80 per week (scholarships are available)

#### Dance Camp Ages 6 – 12

Ballet, hip-hop, jazz and creative dance are geared to allow girls and boys the opportunity to enhance talents with skills and techniques taught during the session. Children will learn basic dance skills, rhythm, musicality and improvisation.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
Monday – Friday

Session 1: July 21 – 25  
Session 2: July 28 – Aug. 1  
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
TP resident \$175  
Non-resident \$195

#### Dribble, Pass and Shoot Summer 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  
Monday – Friday,  
Aug. 11 – 15, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
\$200

#### Super Sports Camp (\*\*UPDATED\*\*) Ages 6 – 12

The Super Sports Camps are being moved from the Takoma Park Community Center to the Takoma Park Recreation Center located at 7315 New Hampshire Ave. The affected camp weeks are July 14 – 18 and Aug. 4 – 8. Before care (7 – 9 a.m.) and aftercare (4 – 6 p.m.) will also be held at the new location.

Takoma Park Recreation Center Gym  
Ages 6 – 9:  
Monday – Friday, July 14 – 18  
Ages 10 – 12:  
Monday – Friday, Aug. 4 – 8  
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
TP resident \$160  
Non-resident \$180

#### On Stage: Footlight Camp Ages 5 – 7

Get on the stage and get to work acting, singing and dancing. We'll start each day with physical, vocal, imagination and focus-building warm-ups. We'll perform story based theater and work on at least

two musical numbers from a TP Community Center Auditorium  
Monday – Friday, July 14 – 18  
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
TP resident \$230  
Non-resident \$260

#### Science Explorers Camp Ages 6 – 9

Here is your chance to become a forensic scientist who actually analyzes the evidence to solve crimes. Join us as we take on the daily CSI challenges, with games, outdoor play, experiments, impression evidence and finger printing.

TP Community Center Lilac Room  
Session 2: Monday – Friday,  
July 28 – Aug. 1, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
TP resident \$160  
Non-resident \$180

#### Visual Arts Camp Ages 11 – 14

Have fun and express yourself through color, shape, drawing and design. Each session includes a new art-related theme and group of art processes and activities. Sharpen your drawing skills, explore new materials and exercise your imagination with inspiring art projects. To register visit [katedellkaufman.com/registration-for-makeshift-studios-summer-camp](http://katedellkaufman.com/registration-for-makeshift-studios-summer-camp).

TP Community Center Art Studio  
Monday – Friday  
Session 2: July 7 – July 11  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
TP residents \$295  
Non-residents \$325

For a full listing and most current camp information, visit us online at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation) and click on our Camp Guide.

# CALENDAR

## Circle Time

Every Tuesday  
Two times: 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.

## Spanish Circle Time

Every Thursday  
10:30 a.m. with Señora Geiza

## LEGO Club

Sunday, July 6, 1:30 – 3 p.m.  
Come have fun with LEGO. Best for ages 5–12.  
Registration required; to register, go to [www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents](http://www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents).

## Caldecott Club: A Family Book Club

Monday, July 7, 7 p.m.  
Come read with us as we spotlight some great, newly-published picture books. Lemonade and cookies served. No registration.

## Under the Sea Storytime and Crafts

Saturday, July 12, 2 p.m.  
Celebrate pirates and mermaids and sea creatures with themed stories and crafts. All ages; registration required.

## Friends Reading Group

Wednesday July 16, 7:30-9 p.m.  
Our book is "Alias Grace" by Margaret Atwood.  
Takoma Park Community Center; all are welcome

## Third Sunday Crafts

Sunday, July 20, 2-4 p.m.  
Ages 8 up, no registration required.

## Comics Jam

Monday, July 21, 7 p.m.  
Join comic guru Dave Burbank at our monthly comic book club.  
No registration required.

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Bedtime Stories

Tuesday, Aug. 12, 7 p.m.

### Third Sunday Crafts

Sunday, Aug. 17, 2-4 p.m.  
Ages 8 up

### Picture Book Creator Peter Brown

Thursday, Aug. 28, 7 p.m.

# LIBRARY



## Library opens access to more than 500 children's E-books

By Karen MacPherson

Over his long career, Seymour Simon has written more than 250 books — some of them award-winners — on science topics for young readers. Now, the 82-year-old Simon has decided to plunge into the e-book market, creating a company called Starwalk Kids Media that offers electronic access to more than 500 books for kids.

Impressed by the breadth and depth of the Starwalk Kids e-collection, our library recently decided to offer Starwalk Kids to our patrons. Now our young readers will be able to read fiction and nonfiction e-books by some of the best writers out there, including Jim Arnosky, Kathleen Krull, Caldecott Medalist Emily Arnold McCully, Jane Yolen, Lee Bennett Hopkins and many others.

Of course, Starwalk Kids also includes a number of books by Simon, who has received the Lifetime Achievement Award in Science Literature for Children from the American Association for the Advancement of Science, among many other honors. Simon has written about all kinds of topics, but is best known for his books about science and nature.

Simon and Liz Nealon, his business partner and spouse, recently spoke to the Children's Book Guild of Washington, D.C., about why and how they decided to create Starwalk Kids. Simon said he got the idea a few years ago when he was mulling over the



Seymour Simon has created an electronic book business called Starwalk, connecting children to more than 500 books. The Takoma Park Library now offers the service to all its residents.

Photo courtesy Takoma Park Library

fact that a number of his books had gone out of print.

It's a fact of life in the publishing business that books regularly go out of print. But the more he read about digital books, the more Simon realized that his out of print books could be reformatted for digital use, and in some cases updated, then brought back to life as e-books.

Excited about the idea, Simon approached

some of his publishers, all major U.S. publishers, to see if they would be interested in turning his out of print books — and the out of print books of many of his author friends — into digital editions.

"They had no idea what I was talking about," he said.

SIMON □ Page 9

## Circle Up

The Takoma Park Library is known for its popular Circle Time. Here, children are entranced by stories and music from children's librarian Karen MacPherson and musician "Mr. Gabe."

Photos by Selena Malott



## SIMON

■ From page 8

Undaunted, Simon decided to create his own company, which would take out of print books and rework them for digital media. With Nealon's help, he raised \$1 million and Starwalk Kids Media was launched in 2012 with 150 books. Currently, the collection has grown to 500 books, and Simon and Nealon project that it will increase to 1,000 books in the next 18 months.

Besides offering a collection of high-quality e-books for young readers, Simon and Nealon felt it was crucial to ensure that the collection was "device neutral," meaning that it is available to users with any type of device, from an e-reader to a computer to a tablet to a smartphone. No special software is needed.

Any number of users can be reading the same Starwalk Kids book simultaneously because the company uses "streaming" media, as opposed to books that can be downloaded to a particular user's device.

Simon acknowledges that he has been greatly helped by the expertise of Nealon, whose background includes jobs as the former creative director of PBS's "Sesame Street" and a top executive at MTV, where she was responsible for launching the network on five continents.

"I'm a start-up person," Nealon said. "When I see a great idea, I go with it."

Simon and Nealon also made it easy and fun for young readers to browse the Starwalk Kids collection; kids also can have

many of the books read to them if they want, highlight words and even do digital "sticky notes."

In addition, there are lots of special features that parents and teachers will like, including information about reading levels, how a book fits into the new educational standards called the Common Core, and brief biographies of the authors and illustrators.

Simon said that Starwalk Kids is particularly looking to boost its collection of Spanish language books for kids, and also the number of books by diverse authors, joining a nationwide campaign called "We Need Diverse Books."

Interestingly, Starwalk Kids also publishes print copies of a few books, and Simon said they are looking to partner with a major publisher to have that part of the business really take off.

The company just published — in print and digitally — a new children's biography, "Malala Yousafzai: Warrior With Words" by Karen Leggett Abouraya and L.C. Wheatley, about the young Pakistani teen who was shot by the Taliban for promoting female education.

Overall, Simon sees a bright future for Starwalk Kids.

"We're deeply engaged with authors and illustrators," he said. "We're really working with the cream of people currently writing, and they are eager to work with us. ... Not only are we bringing back [out of print] books but we also are updating them for new generations."

## METRO DEVELOPMENT

■ From page 1

### Specifics

The current EYA-WMATA plan calls for one large rental apartment building, containing about 200 units. The building's height will be "stepped back," from about 47 feet near Eastern Avenue to 77 feet near the train tracks. The building will partially wrap around a seven-level parking structure, to be visible from the tracks but not from the street, says Stan Wall, WMATA's director of real estate and station planning. There will be 0.7 parking spaces per housing unit, a total of 140 spaces. About 85 to 100 commuter parking spaces will be at the street level of the parking structure — down from 140 now.

According to Wall, a minimum of one acre of green space is guaranteed to be retained, probably as a developed park. More open space may be left at first, but WMATA retains the right to use that space for transit in future years.

The housing development will occupy 2.8 acres of the site, which will also include what is now a wooded buffer area next to apartments on Eastern Avenue.

### Opposition

WMATA held a hearing on the matter June 18, which drew hundreds of residents from the nearby neighborhoods. About 60 people spoke, with close to three quarters of them testifying against the current plan. Those included Mayor Bruce Williams, on behalf of the Takoma Park City Council, Ward 1 City Councilmember Seth Grimes, Montgomery County Councilmember Marc Elrich, and, by written statement, U.S. Congressman Chris Van Hollen.

"Maintaining easy access to the Takoma Metro station is critical to the City of Takoma Park. And, because of its location, so is ensuring that any development on the property is attractive and well-designed," said Mayor Williams.

The development sits right on the Maryland-D.C. border, which complicates decision making. Arguably the people most affected by the building will be Takoma Park, Md., residents, hundreds of whom cross the green space on their way to the Metro every day. But key decisions are in the hands of D.C. government.

According to Wall, Metro staff will

compile a report based on the June 18 hearing, and will forward it to the WMATA board this fall. The board will approve a "compact hearing report" and a new plan for transit facilities.

But the process doesn't end there. Because the apartment house requires a change in zoning, it must be approved by the D.C. Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC), the D.C. Office of Planning and the D.C. Zoning Commission. In addition, because the proposed development is in a D.C. historic district, building plans must be reviewed by the District's Historic Preservation Commission.

"The main point is the building is too high" and exceeds the current zoning limits on height, said Councilmember Grimes. But, he added, the number of units planned has been scaled down already and may well be further reduced.

"In general, Takoma Park is concerned with the massing and design for the proposed building along Eastern Avenue and with maintaining green parkland on the property," said Williams. "We are also concerned about traffic congestion on Eastern Avenue." Williams also said pedestrian, bicycle and bus access are essential, and wide sidewalks, benches, sufficient bike parking and short-term vehicle parking are necessary to serve the community.

Sara Green, a member of D.C. ANC 4-A, which has jurisdiction over the site, says that WMATA and EYA have been misrepresenting the size and scale of the project. "The big thing is the size and the density — it's wrong for the site," she said. "The ANC is opposed to this project as it has been described."

If the process is perceived to favor too much development, the issue could eventually wind up in court. "Historic Takoma is concerned because the scale, mass and density are not compatible with the historic district," said Lorraine Pearsall, the secretary of Historic Takoma Inc. and a longtime neighborhood activist. "We have hired two attorneys to help the community, including a specialist firm that focuses on historic preservation."

For more information on the project and the controversy it has stirred, see [www.takomametro.com](http://www.takomametro.com) for the perspective of neighbors opposed to over-development, and [www.takomacommunity.com](http://www.takomacommunity.com) for the view from EYA.

## LIBRARY BRIEFS

### New bedtime

Bedtime Stories, normally offered on the first Tuesday evening of the month, will be held on the second Tuesday in August — Aug. 12 at 7 p.m. Join Ms. Kati for a fun program of stories, songs and rhymes. The program will finish with a craft. No registration required.

### Pirate fun

Ahoy mateys! Come join Ms. Kati on Saturday, July 12, from 2-4 p.m. for our "Under the Sea" program of stories and crafts focused on pirates, mermaids and sea creatures. All ages are welcome, but registration is required. To register, go to [www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents](http://www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents) or call 301-891-7259.

### After summer fun

Mark your calendars for this fun back-to-school event: Award-winning picture book author/illustrator Peter Brown will talk about his hilarious new book, "My Teacher Is a Monster (No, I Am Not!)" on Thursday, Aug. 28, at 7 p.m. Brown will also discuss his other popular books, including "The Curious Garden," "Children Make Terrible Pets," and "Mr. Tiger Goes Wild." Brown won a Caldecott Honor in 2013 for his illustrations for "Creepy Carrots!" written by Aaron Reynolds. Brown's books will be available for purchase, courtesy of Politics and Prose Bookstore, but the program is free and no purchase is required to attend. Registration encouraged; to register, go to [www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents](http://www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents) or call 301-891-7259.

## SAFE GROW

■ From page 1

would be Class B infractions, subject to \$400 fines.

### Posting required notice

The new law requires that a notice be posted on any property where allowed lawn care pesticides are applied. These pesticides may fit into the exceptions to the ban — among them, minimum risk alternatives to the most objectionable pesticides, and pesticides applied to control invasive species and other noxious growth.

The notice can be downloaded at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/safegrow](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/safegrow),

and must be posted in a location visible to the public right of way closest to the area of application. The notice must remain in place for two days after application.

Failure to post and maintain the written notice is a violation and the applicator will be issued a Class G municipal infraction, subject to a \$25 fine.

### What are the restricted pesticides?

The list of restricted pesticides is available at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/safegrow/list-of-restricted-pesticides](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/safegrow/list-of-restricted-pesticides). It includes those identified as carcinogenic or likely to be carcinogenic to humans by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA);

Class 9 pesticides by the Canadian Ministry of the Environment; and Class 1 Endocrine Disruptors by the European Commission.

The City also maintains a list of minimum risk pesticides and other alternatives that are allowed to be used for cosmetic lawn care. The minimum risk pesticide list is available at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/safegrow/educational-materials](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/safegrow/educational-materials).

### Exceptions to the rule

A restricted pesticide or herbicide may be applied to protect against an imminent threat to human health and safety and to control noxious growths, noxious weeds and invasive species such as poison ivy and mus-

tard weed. A waiver of the law may be provided if the applicant proves that he or she has exhausted all reasonable alternatives.

A waiver request shall be submitted and approved before a restricted pesticide is applied. Persons granted a waiver must post a written notice readable and visible from the public right of way at the point closest to the area of application. The notice shall remain in place for at least two days following application.

Waiver request forms are available at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/safegrow](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/safegrow).

For more information on the Safe Grow Act please visit: [www.takomaparkmd.gov/safegrow](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/safegrow) or contact the Takoma Park Public Works Department, 301-891-7633.

## Seatbelt enforcement aims for safety

As it does each year, the statewide Chiefs' Challenge, which emphasizes safety restraint enforcement, ran through the month of May. City of Takoma Park Police Department officers focused on enforcement of the state's seat belt laws as part of the nationwide "Click It or Ticket" campaign. Officers stood at various places throughout the city during the campaign in order to issue tickets to any person not wearing a seatbelt or who did not have their child properly restrained.

During this year's campaign, 252 tickets were given to individuals not wearing seat belts.

Residents are reminded that all passengers, by law, are to wear seat belts while traveling in the back seat of any vehicle. Children 16 and under are covered by existing state law, but the fine for violating that law has risen to match the fine for adults.

Drivers are no longer allowed to have more passengers than seat belts in a car.

### New Increased fines

The following violations are now \$83 fines:

- Failing to secure a child under the age of 8 in a child safety seat when trans-



porting them in a motor vehicle

- Failing to transport a child under age 16 in (depending upon the child's age and size) a child safety seat per instructions, or with a seat belt
- Using a child safety seat or seatbelt to restrain, seat or position more than one individual
- Operating a motor vehicle with the operator or any occupant under age 16 not restrained by a seatbelt or child safety seat
- Allowing passengers aged 16 or more in

an outboard front seat of motor vehicle without seat belt restraint. An example of an "outboard front seat" is a front passenger seat next to a door.

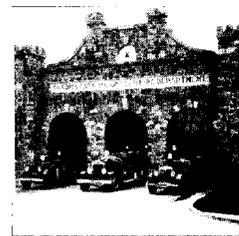
### New Secondary Traffic Offense

Passengers aged 16 or older in a rear seat of a motor vehicle must wear a seatbelt restraint. The fine for violating this law is \$83, plus any court costs.

### Who is covered by the law?

The seatbelt law covers the driver and passengers in both the front and back seats. Each person who is not buckled up (driver or passenger) may receive a ticket for not wearing a seatbelt. In the case where neither the driver nor any passenger 15 years of age or younger are buckled up, the driver will receive a ticket for those individuals who are under age.

"Click it or Ticket" is one of the most successful seat belt enforcement campaigns ever, helping to increase the national seatbelt usage rate. Takoma Park Police Chief Alan Goldberg is hopeful that more individuals who do not wear their seat belts will begin to do so. It's not only the law; it's for safety and could save your life.



## THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

As of May 31, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the station have responded to 259 fire-related incidents in 2014. The department addressed or assisted with 1,148 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 1,407. Totals for 2013 were 245 and 1,148 representing an increase of 14 incidents.

During the month of May 2014, the Takoma Park volunteers put in a total of 1,443.5 hours of standby time at the station, compared to 1,252 in May 2013. Grand totals as of May 2014 are 6,368.5 hours, compared to 5,608 hours in 2013, an increase of 760.5 hours.

### Maryland fire deaths update

The Maryland State Fire Marshal reported as of June 25, 2014, 35 people have died in fires this year, as compared to 41 in 2013. That's a 15 percent drop from last year.

### Fire Safety Tips

- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month.
- Replace any of your smoke alarms that are more than 10 years old.
- Plan and practice your home fire exit plan with your entire family at least twice a year.
- In a real fire situation, get out of the house first and then call the fire department from a neighbor's house or cell phone.
- Go to your family's pre-determined meeting place immediately after escaping the fire so all family members may be accounted for.
- Never re-enter a burning building. If you believe a family member is trapped, alert firefighters of their possible location.

It's fact... most fire deaths are the very young and the seniors. Make sure they are involved with your fire escape planning.

## Protect pets in vehicles

Each year, thousands of beloved pet companions succumb to heatstroke and suffocation when left in parked cars. It happens most often when people make quick stops—the dry cleaners, the bank or the local market. Please be advised that it takes only minutes for your pet to face death—and it doesn't have to be that hot out. On an 85-degree day, it only takes 10 minutes for the inside of your car to reach 102 degrees, even with the windows cracked. Within 30 minutes, a car's interior can reach 120 degrees. When the temperature outside is a pleasant 70 degrees, the inside of your car may be as much as 20 degrees hotter.

Shade offers little protection on a hot day and moves with the sun. All pets

are at risk, but at the most risk for hyperthermia (overheating) are young animals, elderly animals, overweight animals, those with short muzzles and those with thick or dark-colored coats.

You can help save pets from dying in hot cars. Simply take the following actions:

- Educate people. If you see something, say something. If you see a dog alone in a vehicle, immediately call animal control or 911. Local law officials have the ability to enter a vehicle and rescue the pet. Do not leave until help has arrived.
- No matter how much your dog loves to go along when you run errands, don't take a chance. Leave your pet



- home where he/she is safe.
- If your dog is overcome by the heat, bring down the body temperature by soaking him/her in cool (not ice) water. Make sure the water does not get into the mouth or nose of an unconscious animal. Seek immediate veterinary care.

## CITY Briefs

From page 2

### Take precautions during hot weather alerts

With hot weather code orange and red air quality alerts, residents can help reduce harmful air emissions by doing the following:

- Carpool, telecommute, or take mass transit to work

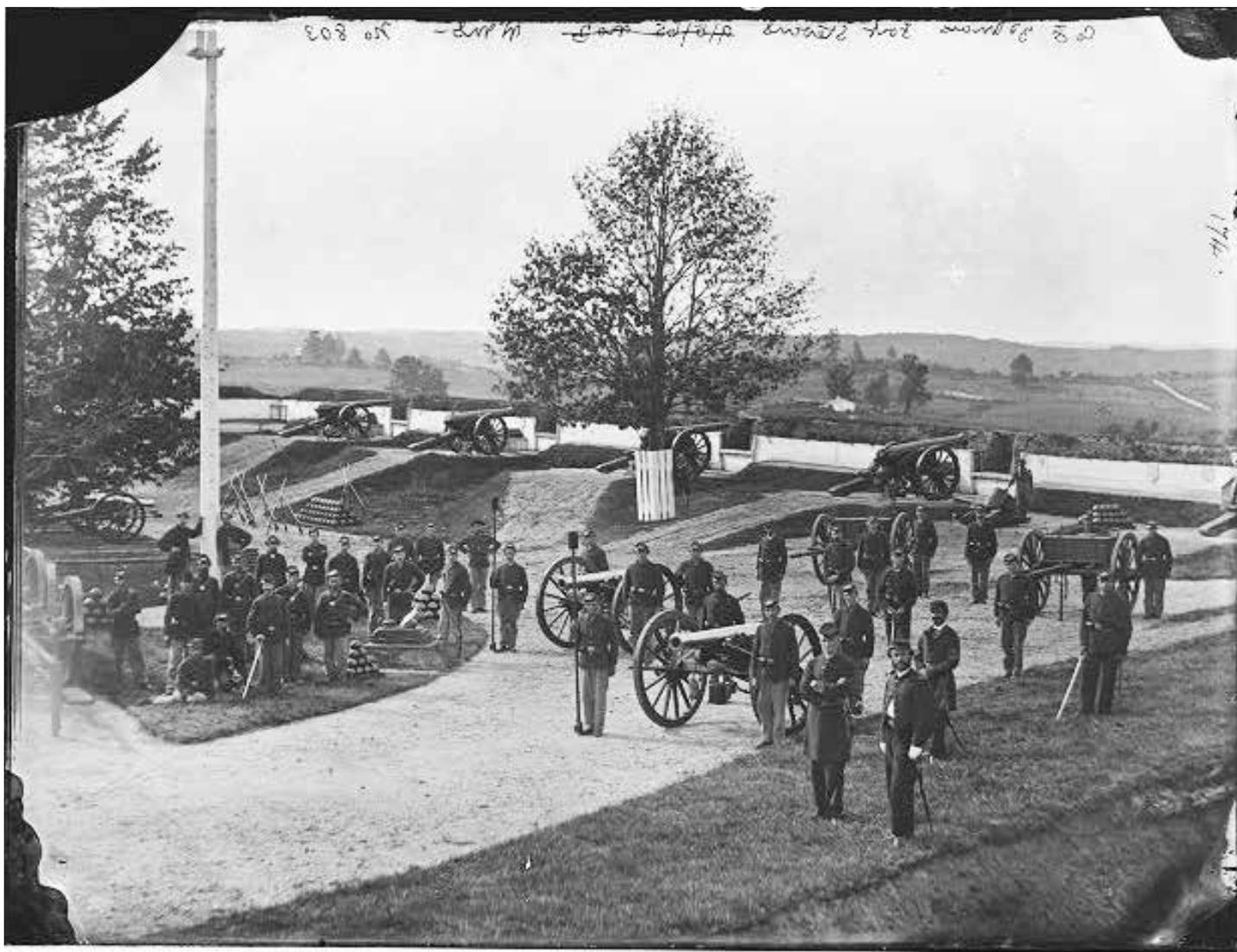
- Limit driving and combine errands
- Refuel after dark
- Avoid using gasoline-powered lawn equipment, including mowers
- Wait for a cooler day to use oil-based paints or switch to non-solvent or low VOC-based paints
- Avoid using aerosols and household products that contain solvents
- Avoid mid-day driving
- Conserve energy at home and work to re-

duce power demand.

Vehicles account for 30 to 40 percent of the pollutants that cause ozone in the Baltimore/Washington area and every summer day, gas-powered lawn and garden equipment release more than 100 times the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) of a typical large industrial plant. For every person who postpones lawn mowing on Air Quality Action Days, potential VOC reductions equal the amount generated by a car driving from Montgomery County to Raleigh, N.C.

### IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

- Takoma Park Police Dispatcher**  
301-270-1100
- Montgomery County Crisis Center**  
(24 hrs/7days a week)  
240-777-4000



Officers and men of Company F, 3d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, in Fort Stevens, at left (photo courtesy Library of Congress). Above, the cannon at Fort Stevens still stands.

Photo by Loretta Neumann

## Battle of Fort Stevens brings Civil War close to home

by Loretta Neumann  
Vice President

Alliance to Preserve the Civil War Defenses of Washington

Picture 150 years ago during the hottest days of an especially muggy July. The cities of Silver Spring and Takoma Park didn't exist, the landscape a bucolic mix of farms dotted with houses, barns and livestock, the roads few and dusty. Picture, too, thousands of gray-coated soldiers, trudging through it in lines stretching for 10 miles back from Rockville, Md.

Leading them was Confederate Lt. General Jubal Early, who – at the command of General Robert E. Lee – was set on attacking the nation's capital. Their trek had started a month before from outside Richmond, Va. They had marched and fought their way for nearly 400 miles through the Shenandoah Valley to Harpers Ferry, W.Va., and Frederick, Md., 40 miles north of Washington.

On July 9, 1864, an especially bitter battle was fought at the Monocacy River south of Frederick. The Union Army, led by Major Gen. Lew Wallace, fought bravely but it was out-manned and could do no more than delay the Confederates for a day.

But what a critical day. It gave time for Union General Ulysses Grant to send up replacement troops to reinforce the defenses of Washington, which had been stripped of troops to serve in his siege of Petersburg. Protecting Washington were only a few thousand unseasoned troops, elderly veterans, semi-invalids and clerks from the War Department.

Early originally planned to enter Washington via what is now Rockville Pike towards Fort Reno, the highest and largest of the civil war defenses that surrounded

the capital. Reaching Rockville early on July 11, he saw how formidable it was, and decided to go east on what is now Viers Mill Road, then south down the Seventh Street Turnpike (Georgia Avenue) towards Fort Stevens.

Skirmishing at Fort Stevens began around noon of July 11. Confederates spread themselves around large wooden farm houses owned by the Carberry, Shoemaker and Reeves families. Early arrived and saw that the earthworks were “but feebly manned.” But his troops had been decimated by the long march in the stifling summer heat. Many had fallen by the wayside from hunger, thirst and exhaustion. So, while he allowed some skirmishers to continue, he realized that his men were “not in condition to make an attack.”

Early took as his headquarters the country manor “Silver Spring” of Francis Preston Blair, well known editor and friend of President Lincoln. Blair owned 1,000 acres, including much of present Takoma Park and Rock Creek Park. Today only the acorn-shaped gazebo that was on his estate remains in a small park near downtown Silver Spring.

### Where is the president?

Meanwhile, President Lincoln had been staying with his family at a summer cottage on the grounds of the Old Soldiers Home in northwest Washington, D.C. On July 11, he was back at the White House and at 2 p.m., he went down to the Sixth Street Wharf (diagonally across from where Arena Stage is now located). There he greeted troops emerging from the steamboats sent by General Grant. The soldiers marched up Seventh Street to Fort Stevens, cheered by citizens along their route.

While there are mixed stories about when President Lincoln visited Fort Stevens, various contemporary accounts agree that he was there, that he stood up on a parapet, and that he was shot at by a sniper. While Lincoln was not harmed, a surgeon standing close by was hit. It is the only verifiable time in U.S. history that a president in office has come under direct enemy fire.

Fighting continued all day on July 12, but by then enough Union troops had arrived to reinforce Fort Stevens, and Early realized he could not take the city. That night he withdrew back through Rockville (some skirmishing occurred there) to Poolesville, crossing the Potomac River at White's Ford through Leesburg, Va. to the Shenandoah Valley. After several battles in the early fall, he was finally defeated by Major Gen. Philip Sheridan at Cedar Creek on Oct. 19, 1864.

Decades after the war was over, the federal government finally settled all claims filed for military seizures from local landowners. One of those claims, citing 200 acres of timber used at the nearby forts, was filed on behalf of Gottlieb Grammer. In 1883, 100 acres of Grammer land had been purchased by B.F. Gilbert for what became the sylvan suburb of Takoma Park.

The weekend of July 10-13 will feature many programs and activities to commemorate the Battle of Fort Stevens. One of the kick-off events will be hosted by the City of Takoma Park, Historic Takoma and the Alliance to Preserve the Civil War Defenses of Washington on July 10, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center (see sidebar). Information on this and other events is available at [www.dccivilwarforts.org](http://www.dccivilwarforts.org) and [www.nps.gov/cwdw](http://www.nps.gov/cwdw).

### Battle of Fort Stevens Commemoration Events July 10-13

#### July 10

City of Takoma Park kicks off 150th anniversary of the Battle of Fort Stevens  
Takoma Park Community Center

7 – 7:30 p.m., Civil War era music from the Roustabouts

7:30 – 9 p.m., Photo/historical presentations and video clips on the Battle of Fort Stevens and Montgomery County during the Civil War

9 – 9:30 p.m., reception

#### July 11

Fort Stevens Civil War Historians' Round Table

Nativity Church, 6008 Georgia Ave. NW, Washington, D.C.

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Noted Civil War scholars and authors discuss the significance of the Civil War and the Battle of Fort Stevens.

#### July 12

150th Anniversary Commemorative Program  
Historic Fort Stevens, between 13th Street and Georgia Avenue NW, Washington, D.C.  
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Congressional, federal, municipal and community speakers, historical lectures, music, living history demonstrations, 19th century crafts, period music, children's activities, historic talks and walks and soldiers' encampments

#### July 13

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Historic Fort Stevens, 13th Street and Georgia Avenue NW, Washington, D.C.

Civil War 150th History Mobile and Commemorative Activities

2 – 4 p.m. Memorial Service, Battleground National Cemetery, 6625 Georgia Ave. NW, Washington, D.C.

For a complete list of many more programs and activities see [www.dccivilwarforts.org](http://www.dccivilwarforts.org) or [www.nps.org/cwdw](http://www.nps.org/cwdw).

# JULY '14

## Do you have an item for the city calendar?

Do you have an item for the city calendar? Let us know if you have a nonprofit event that would be of interest to City of Takoma Park residents, and we'll consider it for inclusion in the calendar. Deadline for the August issue is July 21, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning Aug. 1.

To submit calendar items, email [tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto: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, July 7, 7:30 p.m.\*  
Monday, July 14, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, July 21, 7:30 p.m. (tentative meeting)  
Monday, July 28, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Auditorium  
\*When public hearings or presentations are scheduled, meetings may begin at 7 p.m. Detailed agendas are always available for review online at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas).

#### Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry

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

### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

#### Fruit Tree Growing and Propagation

Wednesday, July 16, 7:30 – 9 p.m.  
Historic Takoma, 7328 Carroll Ave.  
Lecture/demo with Mike McConkey  
Free

#### 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 6 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

#### Crossroads Farmers Market

Wednesdays, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
New location: Behind Expo Emart at 1021 University Blvd.  
Locally grown fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs plus pupusas and other prepared food

#### The Essex House Saturday Farmers Market

Saturdays, noon – 3 p.m.  
7777 Maple Ave.  
Locally and sustainably grown fruits and veggies

#### Food Truck Fridays

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

### ARTS AND LITERATURE

#### Colorscapes Art Exhibit

Opens Thursday, July 10  
Reception from 7 – 9 p.m.  
TP Community Center Galleries  
Works by Deborah Gay, DC Arts Studio, Alicia Geller, Jackson Berger and Mei Mei Chang.

#### Woody Guthrie Birthday Tribute

Joe Uehlein and the U-Liners, Emma's Revolution  
Saturday, July 12, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center  
\$18 in advance, \$20 at the door

#### Kipyn Martin House Concert

with Greta Ehrig opening  
Saturday, July 12, 7:30 p.m.  
Private residence near Sligo Creek  
Original acoustic guitar and voice  
\$15-\$25 suggested donation, BYOB  
Advanced reservation required  
301-495-3420

#### World Folk Music Association Showcase

Carey Creed with Mark Sylvester, Pam Ortiz Band, Jim Jones  
Sunday, July 13, 7 p.m.  
El Golfo restaurant, 8739 Flower Ave.  
Long Branch neighborhood, Silver Spring  
\$15 non-members  
[www.wfma.org](http://www.wfma.org)



#### Mr. Gabe and the Circle Time All-Stars

Thursday, July 17, 6 – 8 p.m.  
Takoma Park Gazebo, Carroll Avenue  
Music with the popular kids' musician  
Free

#### National Philharmonic Summer Choral Institute Performance

Friday, July 18, 7:30 p.m.  
Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center  
7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring  
Free  
<http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/cac>

#### Blues Mondays

Mondays 7:30-10:30 p.m.  
Republic restaurant, 6939 Laurel Ave.  
[www.republictakoma.com](http://www.republictakoma.com)

#### Jazz Jam

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

#### Music on Thursdays

Thursdays 8:30 – 10:30 p.m.  
Roscoe's Neapolitan Pizzeria, 7040 Carroll Ave.  
[www.roscoespizzeria.com](http://www.roscoespizzeria.com)

#### Danza Latina

Fridays, lesson 8:30 – 9:30 p.m. followed by dancing  
El Golfo restaurant, 8739 Flower Ave.  
Long Branch neighborhood, Silver Spring  
\$10, first visit free

### OVER 55

#### Blood Pressure Screening

Thursday, July 24, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Adventist Healthcare service  
TP Community Center Senior Room  
Free

#### The Kreeger Museum

Friday, July 11, 8:45 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Meet at the TP Community Center  
Visit to Washington, D.C. art museum and sculpture garden  
Registration required  
See page 6 for details

#### Library of Congress

Friday, July 18, 8:45 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Meet at the TP Community Center  
See the largest library in the world  
Registration required  
See page 6 for details

### UPCOMING

#### 2014 Lifelong Takoma Day

Saturday, Sept. 20, 1-4pm  
TP Community Center  
Demonstrations, workshops, health and wellness screenings and a mini-conference  
More info to come

## DOG PARK

■ From page 1

promote the dog park; members marched with their leashed dogs in last year's Independence Day Parade.

Proponents of the park point to the large number of dogs in the city (more than 4,250, according to Takoma Dogs founder Joe Edgell), and complain that dog owners have to drive miles to have their dogs socialize in a fenced area. Edgell adds that there are more dogs than children in Takoma Park, and while the city maintains at least nine parks for children, there are none for dogs.

Among the most frequently listed reasons for having a dog park are socializing – for people as well as for dogs; a reduction in animal aggression, since dogs frequently react negatively to one another while on leash; safety, since dogs are contained and owners do not have to navigate residential streets with no sidewalks; and community building.

"Dog parks are not a revolutionary thing," said resident Liz Catania at the



Members of Takoma Dogs marched in last year's Independence Day parade to promote the idea of building a dog park in Takoma Park.

Photo by Nicole LeBoeuf

public hearing. "They are bedrock of suburban communities. We need to move this forward quickly."

Not everyone approves of the dog park,

however. Those who live near the proposed sites, which also include the triangle-shaped park at the intersection of Prince George's Avenue and Belford Place,

worry about noise, parking and pet feces. Tree protection, litter and maintenance are also concerns.

Cost is another factor. Among the initial expenditures will be surveying and design, site preparation (possibly to include grading and retaining walls), and fencing. The \$70,000 budgeted for the pilot is meant to cover those initial costs. Subsequent expenses include maintenance and could include benches, ground cover and potable water as well. Other possibilities could be agility equipment, water features and art.

As planned, the park at Heffner could be 10,000 square feet of a fenced in, shady area at the end of Darwin Avenue. The site was chosen from among several possibilities by using a metric that compared a number of factors. Among them were available parking, existing parkland, current underutilization, appropriate distance from residences (at least 200 feet), size (minimum of 10,000 square feet or 0.25 acres), ease of maintenance, compatibility with other park uses, drainage, and location in a high-density, walkable area.