

February
2015

TAKOMA PARK

A newsletter published by the City of Takoma Park, Maryland

Volume 54, No. 2 ■ takomaparkmd.gov

WHAT'S NEW?

City facilities closed

Sunday and Monday, Feb. 15 and 16,
President's Day weekend

Trash/recycling collection

No yard waste collection Monday, Feb. 16
Feb. 16 compost collection moves to
Tuesday, Feb. 17



A Day for MLK

Nicaea O'Reilly, 8, shows off her drawing at the festivities celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 19. It was a day of service, with crews of residents cleaning up the woods behind Piney Branch Elementary School, then an evening of social connection and fun during a community potluck that included music, dancing and art.

Photo by Selena Malott

Takoma Park advances toward \$5 million energy prize

City urges residents to join in

Takoma Park, long known as a bastion of all things environmentally sustainable, has a new chance to prove its reputation is well-deserved. The city has been chosen to compete in the semifinal round of the Georgetown University Energy Prize, a national competition challenging communities across the U.S. to rethink their energy use. One of only 50 communities in the semi-final round, and the only

community in Maryland competing, the city hopes to show the largest reduction in municipal and residential energy use, using the most innovative and replicable methods, in order to win the prize.

"For decades in Takoma Park, we've thought of ourselves, and others see us, as being at the forefront of environmental sustainability efforts," says Takoma Park Mayor Bruce Williams. "We are very proud of our diverse community, and are

ENERGY PRIZE □ Page 11

City Manager Brian Kenner Resigns

By Virginia Myers

After just a year and a half on the job, Takoma Park city manager Brian Kenner has resigned to join the newly elected mayor of D.C., Muriel Bowser, as her Deputy Mayor of Planning and Economic Development. As of Feb. 1 Kenner, who was hired in June 2013 after a national search, will be temporarily replaced



Brian Kenner

by Deputy City Manager Suzanne Ludlow. She also served as interim manager when Barbara Matthews left and Kenner first came on board.

Takoma Park has been notably active during Kenner's tenure. It became the first community in the United States to allow 16-year-olds to vote in local elections, restricted

KENNER □ Page 5

City wins bid on wooded land at auction

Residents lobbied for conservation, contributed cash

By Virginia Myers

On Jan. 22, City Attorney Linda Perlman stood in a chilly parking lot methodically raising Bidding Card Number 1, as the numbers climbed from \$70,000 by \$10,000 increments, then \$5,000 and \$1,000. Surrounded by anxious residents and onlookers, the card went up one last time, indicating her bid for \$253,000. The auctioneer declared the wooded parcel of land along Woodland Avenue, "Sold!" and the small gathering cheered. Takoma Park had won the contest to purchase 2.68 acres along lower Woodland Avenue, just behind where the auction took place.

City Council at the request of local residents approved the bidding in order to preserve the natural features and wildlife on the parcel. Some minimal development of the parcel is still possible, though whether or not this will be necessary to recoup costs is not yet determined.

What is clear is that the city would not have won the bidding without the participation of residents committed to preserving the property. In addition to petitioning the city to purchase the land, about 64 people donated a total of \$113,000 to bolster the city's bid, should it be necessary – and it was. Another bidder, Takoma Park resident Joe Edgell, bid \$252,500 before he bowed out. Edgell said he was representing two individuals who intended to build an estimated five houses on about one third of the parcel, along Woodland Avenue.

With that sort of literal buy-in from residents, many of whom were on hand for the midday auction, it's no wonder the transaction was followed by hugging and congratulations. Residents said they felt empowered by the sale, and gratified that the woods, which they described as a precious natural

WOODED LAND □ Page 9

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

PRE-SORT STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TAKOMA PARK, MD
PERMIT NO. 4422

ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

Inside

Shops: out with the
old, in with the new

Page 3



Junction
Update

Page 4



Summer Camp
preview

Page 7

DOCKET

TAKOMA TOPICS:

“

Are you physically unable to shovel your snow? Or a volunteer that wants to help those in need? #LifelongTakoma runs a snow shoveling partnership: www.takomaparkmd.gov/lifelongtakoma.

”

— www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD

City Council & Committee Calendar

OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS - FEB. 2 TO FEB. 28

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

CITY COUNCIL

City Council meeting, Monday, Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m.*

Listening Session II, Tuesday, Feb. 3,
meeting to hear comments on Takoma
Junction redevelopment, 7 p.m.

City Council meeting, Monday, Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m.

Special meeting, Wednesday, Feb. 11, City
Council-Department Roundtables, 7:30 p.m.

City Council meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Special meeting, Thursday, Feb. 19, City
Council-Department Roundtables, 7:30 p.m.

City Council meeting, Monday, Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m.

City Council meeting, Monday, March 2, 7:30 p.m.

Meetings take place in the TPCC Auditorium,
unless noted otherwise

*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)

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, Feb. 9, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, Feb. 10, 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Atrium Room

COMMISSION ON LANDLORD TENANT AFFAIRS HEARING

Tuesday, Feb. 10, 7 p.m.
TPCC Lilac Room

SAFE ROADWAYS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, Feb. 19, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, Feb. 26, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

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

Notice on ADA Compliance

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

City Council Action

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

ORDINANCE 2015-1

Adopted Jan. 5

Awarding a Contract for Services for
Development of a Concept Plan for the Takoma
Park Recreation Center Site

*The ordinance authorizes the city
manager to enter into a contract with
Wiencek+Associates Architects+Planners
for services related to the development of a
concept plan for the Takoma Park Recreation
Center site at a cost of \$11,855.*

ORDINANCE 2015-2

Adopted Jan. 5

Awarding a Contract for a Recreational Needs
Study for the Takoma Park Recreation Center

*The ordinance authorizes the city manager
to enter into a contract with contract with
Waldon Studio Architects for the study of*

*Recreational Needs for the New Hampshire
Avenue Recreation Center at a cost of \$25,167.*

ORDINANCE 2015-4

Adopted Jan. 12

Authorizing Purchase of a Replacement Police
Communications Voice Recorder

*The ordinance authorizes purchase of an
upgrade to the NICE Systems voice recorder
for the Police Communications Office from
Applied Digital at a cost of \$19,592.*

RESOLUTION 2015-1

Adopted Jan. 12

Supporting the Expansion of the Types of
Alcoholic Beverage Licenses Available
in the City and Regarding Wholesale
Purchase of Alcoholic Beverages (Voting no:
Councilmember Seamens)

*The resolution supports local bill MC18-15,
allowing the availability of a Class BD-BWL
License in Montgomery County, and supports
an amendment to the bill that would allow the
availability of the license for businesses and
organizations in Takoma Park; requests State
legislation to remove restrictions on the types
of Montgomery County alcoholic beverage*

*licenses available in Takoma Park while
retaining the existing “-TP” alcoholic beverage
licenses; and supports Montgomery County
action to allow business and organizations to
purchase alcoholic beverages directly from
distributors, breweries, distilleries, wineries,
and other producers, and other sources other
than Montgomery County government outlets,
for on- and off-premises consumption as
allowed by establishments’ alcoholic beverage
licenses.*

RESOLUTION 2015-2

Adopted Jan. 12

Authorizing Execution of an Agreement with
Maryland Department of Transportation for
Maryland Bikeways Program Funding

*In May 2013, HCD staff submitted an
application to the Maryland Department of
Transportation (MDOT) for the Fiscal Year
2014 Maryland Bikeways Program grant
for the purposes of: supplementing federal
and city funding for bike lanes in the Ethan
Allen Gateway Streetscape project (\$63,000);
improving bike parking at the Takoma*

CITY COUNCIL ACTION □ Page 3

VACANCIES ON CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

*Consider visiting a meeting of one of the city boards, commissions and committees listed below to see if you are interested in serving. Meeting
dates/times may be found on the City's calendar at: www.takomaparkmd.gov/calendar.*

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 for complete information or to apply. For questions, contact
Jessie Carpenter, city clerk, at 301-891-7267 or jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION

(four vacancies): The Commission serves
in an official advisory role to the City
Council on all matters related to the arts
and humanities. The Commission promotes,
coordinates and strengthens public
programs to further cultural development of
the City. At least 2/3 of the members must be
Takoma Park residents. The AHC generally
meets quarterly. For information, contact
Housing and Community Development
Director Sara Anne Daines at [sarad@
takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:sarad@takomaparkmd.gov) or call 301-891-7224.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS (one vacancy): 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).
Ward 4 residents particularly urged to apply.

COMMEMORATION COMMISSION

(NEW!): The City Council has established a
Commemoration Commission to document,
maintain, and preserve past, present and
future memorials, commemoratives and
recognitions in the city; recommend to the
City Council procedures and programs
to honor and commemorate individuals,
organizations and businesses that have
made significant contributions to the social,
cultural, historical, political, economic
or civic life of the city as a whole or to
a neighborhood/local area as well as
programs for individuals to honor others;
implement such programs within its scope
and budget; and decide on recognitions

after opportunity for public review and
comment. The Commission will consist of
five to nine members appointed to staggered
three-year terms. Residency is required.

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).

Property managers and landlords are
particularly invited to apply at this time. For
information, contact Moses A. Wilds, Jr. at
mosesw@takomaparkmd.gov or call 301-
891-7215.

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

(one vacancy): The Committee advises the
City Council on all environmental issues,
including, but not limited to, stormwater
management, greenhouse gas reduction,

air quality, tree protection, open space
conservation, biodiversity, watershed
functioning and restoration, energy use,
transportation, energy conservation, and
recycling. Additionally, the Committee
serves in partnership with the City Council
and City staff to work together to achieve
sustainability and other environmental
certifications that may help the city meet
and be recognized for its environmental
goals. Residency is required.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

(two vacancies): The Emergency
Preparedness Committee provides
community input to and assists in the city's
planning and preparations for emergency
operations and seeks to further the
preparedness of the community. The
committee generally meets monthly on the
fourth Thursday.

NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE

(two vacancies): The Nuclear-Free Takoma
Park Committee oversees implementation of
and adherence to the Takoma Park Nuclear
Free Zone Act. Interested residents are
encouraged to apply. 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.

Three landmark shops shuttered as Old Town makes room for the new

By Bob Guldin

The retail face of Takoma Old Town is going through big changes, with long-time local businesses closing and new stores eager to take their place. Among those departing are Now and Then, Shampoo and the short-lived but well-liked Takoma Bistro.

Now and Then, which sold clothing, jewelry and varied gift items, was a presence in Old Town for over three decades. Its owner, Jude Garrett, was and is a valued community member. "After 32 years in business, dozens of amazing employees, three generations of customers and providing countless gifts for others to enjoy, I have decided to give myself the gift of retirement," Garrett wrote in a Dec. 24 statement. Her announcement was greeted with a rush of last-minute customers, many of whom expressed their affection for her, some in tears. Elizabeth Brinkama, the store's manager for the last eight years, and employee Brynna Scherloun will also be missed.

The home, gift and design store Table Top will open in Now and Then's space at 6927 Laurel Ave., probably in April. This will be the second location for Table Top, which currently has a store in Dupont Circle.

The quick decision to close the Takoma Bistro, also on Laurel Avenue, was a surprise to many residents, since the café appeared to be doing good business. Co-owner Rema Manousakis told the Newsletter that she was sad to close the bistro, which was part of the local Bread and Chocolate chain. "We love the community, we love the people," she said.

But Manousakis said the restaurant was



Photo courtesy of Takoma Voice, www.tpssvoice.com

Brynna Scherloun, store manager Elizabeth Brinkama and owner Jude Garrett served countless customers who came by to say farewell just before Now and Then closed in January.

losing money, and Bread and Chocolate was not experienced at doing a full dinner menu. Then "someone came along and bought us out," she said, making a quick exit economically attractive. The impending arrival of Busboys and Poets in Takoma, D.C., "did not scare us away," Manousakis said with a laugh.

Moving into the Takoma Bistro location will be a new restaurant, Kin Da. According to Byron Levy, a partner in the business, Kin Da will serve both Thai food and sushi. The partners have a similar eatery, Aroi Thai, currently open at First Street N.W. and Rhode Island Avenue in

the District.

Levy said he expects Kin Da to have a medium-priced menu. In addition to sushi, it will offer some Japanese small plates, but will not have an extensive Japanese menu. Kin Da is expected to open in late January or early February, after some minor renovations to the space. Partner Chanpen Teeranon, Levy's wife, will be the main on-site manager.

The third Old Town business to close will be Shampoo, the hair salon at Carroll and Westmoreland avenues. Shampoo has been in business for over 30 years, and owner Sharon Waldvogel expects to close it in February.

But the closing has an unusual twist: Waldvogel and her employees are expected to move across the street and join the staff of Salon Jam at 7054 Carroll Ave.

Another salon, Scissor and Comb, will be moving into Shampoo's storefront, and

proprietor Ian Palmiero has plans to renovate the building to show off its old tin ceiling and interior brickwork, giving it a "vintage look."

At the same time, he expects to make it "a more modern salon." Palmiero said construction work will start in March and the new salon is expected to open in May.

Palmiero said he lives on the border of Takoma Park and Silver Spring, and plans to move into Takoma Park proper. "It's always been my favorite neighborhood."

Asked by your intrepid reporter whether the upscale salon might be considered an extension of the gentrification transforming Northwest D.C., Palmiero told the Newsletter, "It's not gentrification. The changes are positive. One salon is closing, and another one is opening."

Across the District line, where Carroll Avenue suddenly changes its name to Carroll Street NW, the café-restaurant-

*"It's not gentrification.
The changes are positive.
One salon is closing, and
another one is opening."
— Ian Palmiero,
Scissor and Comb*

bookstore Busboys and Poets is getting in shape for a February startup. A grand opening celebration is planned for Feb. 14, Valentine's Day, tentatively as a benefit for a Takoma community group.

The highly regarded bookstore Politics and Prose will have a satellite store attached to the restaurant. Alisha Byrd, a spokesperson for the business, said previous plans for a "co-working space" in the restaurant are still being considered. Byrd added that at the end of February, Busboys will partner with the Takoma Park JazzFest for its Jazz Brawl performance.

COUNCIL ACTION

■ From page 2

Park Community Center and Takoma Park Recreation Center (\$20,000); and improving on-street bikeways with shared-lane markings (sharrows) connecting Capital Bikeshare stations in Takoma Park (\$17,000). The resolution authorizes the city manager to enter into an agreement with the Maryland Department of Transportation regarding use of the funds.

RESOLUTION 2015-3

Adopted Jan. 12

Expressing Support for Preserving the

Wooded Area of a Portion of the Washington-McLaughlin School Property (Parcel 3)

The resolution identifies the preservation of the urban forest, natural spring and natural topographic features of Parcel 3 of the Washington-McLaughlin School property at 6501 Poplar Avenue as an important public purpose; affirms that the City Council and staff will take actions to advance this public purpose; and authorizes the city to submit a bid for the purchase of the property and/or participate in the land use development process in order to preserve the wooded area (Parcel 3) of the Washington-McLaughlin School property in its natural state.

Pediatric Care opens in Takoma/Langley Crossroads

A new doctor has moved into town, and she is all about taking care of kids. Pediatric Care, in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads area at 7505 New Hampshire Ave., Suite 302, is headed up by pediatrician Ndidi Agholor, MD, who chose the Crossroads for her children's healthcare practice because of its diverse customer base. She provides healthcare for infants, children and adolescents as a Board Certified Pediatrician, and her extensive menu of services includes online access to medical records, 24-hour access to medical advice, multilingual staff (English, Spanish and Amharic), school and sports physicals, routine immunizations, flu shots, ear piercing, hearing and vision

screening, adolescent counseling, ADHD evaluation, behavior assessment and specialist referrals.

Same-day appointments and weekend and evening hours are available and most major insurances are accepted at Pediatric Care, along with Medicaid.

Dr. Agholor grew up in the Maryland suburbs and graduated from Howard University, doing her residency at the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore. She has wanted to be a pediatrician since she was a child, and says she enjoys working with children. Prior to opening her own practice, she spent ten years in a private medical practice at Washington Hospital Center.



THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

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Assistant: Sean Gossard
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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

What's Next?

Takoma Junction redevelopment process just beginning

The redevelopment of the Takoma Junction parking lot has been a focus of the City Council since the announcement of the four finalists in September: five City Council meetings have been held; presentations were made by the finalists; an open house was held where community residents were given an opportunity to meet with the finalists; and more than 300 public comments have been submitted.

This is just the beginning. If the City Council decides that it wants to proceed with the proposed redevelopment of the site (it could also decide not to pursue development of the site), it will be many months before any final decision is made or plans for the site are finalized.

What happens if the City Council selects one of the four finalists for the development of the site? Will the community be given an opportunity to weigh in on the design or are the plans already final?

The Takoma Junction redevelopment project is a multi-step process and the city and the finalists are still in the early stages of discussion. At this point, the finalists have presented only concept plans – essentially ideas for the site – which will be refined as negotiations progress and the selected proposal moves through the various levels of required approval. The public will have many opportunities to continue to present their suggestions for incorporation in the final design of the selected proposal to the developer, to City Council and to the Montgomery County Planning Board.

What's next for the Takoma Park City Council?

If the City Council elects to proceed



Photo by Virginia Myers

with the development of the site, the city will then negotiate with the selected finalist to clarify how the site would be used and incorporate specific design features into the project. For instance, negotiations could address how the public would continue to access parking provided in the development. The council could also negotiate for the inclusion of desired public amenities identified by the community.

What is the Community Design Process?

Each of the finalists has proposed undertaking a community design process, such as a charrette or a community-based collaboration, which will begin after a developer is selected. In the community design process, the selected developer will host open meetings and invite community input as they redesign and refine their concept

plans. This process allows the developer to incorporate specific design features valued by the community, to carefully study conflicting views, and to explore creative alternatives. It is important to remember that the designs that have been presented to date are only concepts, not finalized versions, and may change in many significant ways including siting, materials, scale, etc.

What about the Montgomery County Planning Board?

Once the design plans have been refined, the project will be further reviewed as a part of the Montgomery County development process which includes opportunities for public comment. A multi-phased process, the project will go through the following reviews prior to its finalization.

- The Mandatory Referral Review: Because the property is owned by the

city, its sale or development must go through the Planning Board's Mandatory Referral Review process, which includes a public hearing.

- Development Review: If the city sells or conveys the Takoma Junction Lot, the new owner can proceed with the typical development review process involving a Preliminary Plan and Site Plan. The Planning Board reviews the plan at a public hearing. The city and community groups can attend and provide written or oral testimony.
- Permitting: The Takoma Junction site is included in the Takoma Historic District and, like any other project in the district, it will require a Historic Area Work Permit. The proposal will be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission which must approve the design prior to the issuance of any building permit by the Department of Permitting Services. The city and the public can attend the commission meeting and provide comment on the proposal during this review.

What's Next?

As the City Council continues its review of the proposals submitted by the four finalists, community members will have the opportunity to present their viewpoints at one of three planned listening sessions hosted by the council. The next session is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 3 and will be held in the Takoma Park Community Center auditorium at 7 p.m. Residents may also submit comments on the project webpage, www.takomaparkmd.gov/hcd/takoma-junction-rfp or email comments directly to the city clerk at jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov.



COLTA'S
CORNER

by Jean Kerr, Housing Specialist

Rent increase granted

**Fair Return Rent Increase
Petition – 704 Chaney Drive
(2014-5L)**

The owner of a six-unit apartment building filed a fair return rent increase petition on July 17, 2014, seeking a rent increase above the Rent Stabilization Allowance. Landlords are entitled to a rent increase above the Rent Stabilization Allowance if they can show that their net operating income has

been reduced due to escalating operating costs. After review of the required documentation, an increase of \$111.61 was approved on Nov. 18 by COLTA's rents analyst for each of the units.

The tenants had a 30-day period to comment on the decision. No comments were received. The landlord is required to give the tenants a two-month written notification of the fair return rent increase. This fair return rent increase granted by COLTA substitutes for the 1.6 percent rent stabilization increase that the landlord was entitled to take during the current recording period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. To review the full decision, please access it on the city's website at www.takomaparkmd.gov, click on "Landlord-Tenant" and scroll down to "COLTA Case Summaries."

SAVE THE DATE!

*Takoma Park's 125th Anniversary
Celebration Kick Off Event*

April 18, 2015

**To volunteer or for more
information, call 301-891-7230**

Details to Follow!



DAWN STRIKES

The

CAPITOL DOME

An impressionistic study of
WASHINGTON-
The City Superb

THE ARTS

ARCHIVAL FILMS OF WASHINGTON, DC

**Archival Films of Washington, DC
from the Library of Congress**

Thursday, Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m.

Free

TP Community Center auditorium

C-SPAN’s Richard Hall presents a selection of short films depicting Washington, D.C. as it once was including the slice-of-life “Dawn Strikes the Capitol” (1936) and “Washington in War Time” (1943); clips from a variety of silent films such as a trip on the C&O Canal, “Down the Old Potomac” (1917), “Historic Scenes Along the Mount Vernon Highway” (1933); and silent home movie clips from the 1930s to the 1960s.

This program is inspired by guerilla archivist and “Lost Landscapes” host Rick Prelinger of San Francisco and by “Reel America,” a weekly C-SPAN American History TV program which “shows archival films to help tell the story of the 20th century.”

Azalea City Release Concert

Sunday, March 1, 7 p.m.

\$10 suggested donation

TP Community Center auditorium

Out with its fifth sampler CD, Azalea City Recordings is having a release concert at the Takoma Park Community Center. The evening includes performances by Jesse Palidofsky, Blue Moon Cowgirls, Ruthie and the Wranglers, Bill Starks, the Patty Reese Band and Dovetail Ensemble.

Founded by Charlie Pilzer, a Grammy award winning sound engineer and producer, the label lets artists maintain the rights to their own work, reserve creative control, and work together with other artists to get their music heard and distributed. “In a day when recording labels are becoming less relevant, Azalea City Recordings continues strong,” says Pilzer. “It’s a cooperative of artists residing in and around Takoma Park. Working together, the artists drive the label. Sampler 5 showcases the diversity of musical styles that are part of the local scene.”

**The Visual Made Verbal -
Multi-media presentation
and discussion**

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

\$10 suggested donation

TP Community Center auditorium

In this 75-minute, multi-media presentation, Joel Snyder uses video and dialogue to lead the audience in a discovery of how performance, video/film, and visual displays are made accessible for growing audiences of people who are blind or have low vision.

Audio Description was first used with the performing arts in Washington, D.C. in 1981. In the intervening years, Snyder has used audio description for nationally broadcast videos (including the broadcasts of both of President Obama’s inaugurations on ABC-TV), for dozens of feature films, museum exhibits throughout the country and hundreds of performing arts events, including theater, dance and opera. In an upbeat, lively and interactive performance, Snyder demonstrates how description can enhance the arts for everyone.

KENNER

■ From page 1

the use of lawn pesticides and banned the use of polystyrene food containers. Kenner’s tenure also saw the hiring of a sustainability manager and the solicitation of proposals to redevelop a city-owned parcel in the Takoma Junction area, two long-term goals of the City Takoma Park. And it established a coordinator for Lifelong Takoma, a program assisting people age 55 and older, and those with lifestyle limitations that benefit from assistance services.

“Takoma Park is a special place with a unique and outstanding culture of community involvement and government leadership,” Kenner said in a press release. Later, he told the Newsletter that the level of community activism and the dedication of residents and city staff were a revelation to him, even after years of work with different public entities in D.C., including housing and transportation, arts, health and human services and public works. “On the whole the internal organization [in Takoma Park] is really high-performing,” he said.

Even more impressive is the level of community engagement, which he says “is certainly something that I will take with me back to Washington, D.C. . . . There’s a very strong spirit amongst not just the community but even internally in Takoma Park. [It is] why people choose to live in Takoma Park or work in Takoma Park. There’s a lot of pride that goes into both of those things.”

Mayor Bruce Williams says he is grateful to Kenner for his contributions and the community optimism he helped build. “Brian has done a great job in Takoma Park. He engaged with the community right away,

Balloon Plays

Saturday, Feb. 21, 11 a.m.

\$10 suggested donation

TP Community Center auditorium

How do you use balloons? Party decorations? Balloon animals? Static generators? “Balloon Plays has a billion more ways to create life, magic and charm with balloons. Balloons can literally be anything,” says City Paper, in a review from the show’s debut last summer at the Capital Fringe Festival. Share in the wonder of balloons as three clowns attend Balloon-iversity and marvel as a girl (made of balloons, of course) emerges and learns to walk, swim and explore

Balloon Plays

the world and creatures around her. The three clowns, Kolleen Klintz, Rachel Hynes and Nora Achrati, are

serious actors in their day jobs at area theaters, including Shakespeare Theater Company, Studio Theater and Woolly Mammoth. Given the fantastical imagery in the show, it’s no surprise it is directed by a veteran Cirque Du Soleil performer Elena Day (who also happens to be a Takoma Park resident).

Balloon Plays is appropriate for all ages — although very young children (under 5) may not be able to sit for long enough, and balloon popping could startle some. The show is innocent enough for kids, and quirky and magical enough for adults.

The show is 55 minutes long.

RECREATION



Summer Camp Expo

Ages 3 - 17

Come meet the instructors and discover all of the camps that the Recreation Department will be offering this year for tots, youth and teens. Take advantage of our Early Bird Special and save 10 percent when you register between Feb. 7 - Feb. 28 for Camp Takoma, Camp Recess, and Rookie Sports Camps or Teens on the Move. You can register for camps on site or online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation. For more information contact Michael Kurland at 301-891-7285 or michaelk@takomaparkmd.gov

TP Community Center
Saturday, Feb. 7, 8:30 – 11:00 a.m.



A full listing of our classes and programs is in the 2015 Camp Guide or help us go green and visit us online www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation.

TOTS

DROP IN

Community Playtime

Ages 6 months - 6

Enjoy open playtime, read stories, work on craft projects, enjoy the playground and socialize. We provide toys, craft supplies, story time and snack. Community Playtime is not open when Montgomery County Schools are closed. Visit www.TakomaPlaytime.org for more information.

Heffner Park Community Center
English Session: Mondays, Aug. 25 - June 8, 10 a.m. – Noon
Spanish Session: Fridays, Aug. 29 - June 12, 10 a.m. – Noon
Free

YOUTH

ART

MAKE/Shift Studio I - Art Inspirations

Ages 8 - 11

Elementary students create exciting two and three dimensional projects in this after school class. Lessons include drawing, painting, collage, assemblage and mixed media - every class a different subject and medium. Children learn to express themselves and engage in visual problem solving while producing beautiful works using color, shape, line, texture and pattern. Contemporary and historical artists provide inspiration for this art program geared for third through eighth graders.

TP Community Center art studio
Thursdays, Feb. 26 - Apr. 2, 3:45 - 5:30 p.m.
TP residents \$155
Non-residents \$175

MAKE/Shift Studio II - Drawing & Watercolor

Ages 11 - 14

Have fun learning to draw with black, white and colored drawing materials, paint with watercolors, use pen and ink and explore mixed media approaches to representational imagery. Subjects will include still life, portrait, landscape (weather permitting) and floral studies. Beginning students welcome. The focus of the class is appropriate for students interested in developing a portfolio for entry into the Visual Art Center at Albert Einstein High School.

TP Community Center art studio
Tuesdays, March 10 - April 21, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
TP residents \$145
Non-residents \$165

DRAMA/THEATER

Dungeons and Dragons

Ages 9 - 18

They creep through the twilight, quiet as shadows muttering a language long forgotten, a language only spoken by ghosts. Use your imagination and storytelling ability in this classic fantasy role playing game. Roll dice to cast spells and battle monsters. Creativity and cooperation help the group "survive." TP Community Center auditorium
Thursdays, Feb. 5 - Feb. 26, 4 - 6 p.m.
TP residents \$55
Non-residents \$65

DROP IN

Kid's Night Out

Ages 6 – 12

Want a night to yourself while your kids have a blast with their friends? Bring your children to the Takoma Park Recreation Center Kid's Night Out! This will be a fun filled night for children. It will involve activities such as games, art and crafts, movies and theme nights.

TP Recreation Center
First & Third Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Free with Recreation Center membership card

SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

Step Team

Ages 6 – 12

Stepping is a form of dance in which you use your entire body as an instrument to produce rhythms and beats through footsteps, clapping and words or chanting. Members will learn self-expression, coordination, self-discipline and teamwork. No experience is necessary and we welcome all who are willing to learn.

TP Recreation Center front room
Ongoing, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Free with a Recreation Center membership card

TEENS

DROP IN

Teen Lounge

Ages 13-17

This **NEWLY renovated** special room is for TEENS ONLY! Ages 13 - 17 are welcome to become members to gain access to two 50 inch and one 70 inch LED SMART TVs. We also have X-Box One and Wii Games, workstations, board games and comfy sitting areas for socializing with friends. Come join us after school for fun and laughs and on special

events for an amazing time.

TP Community Center
Teen Lounge
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 3 – 7 p.m.
Tuesday: 3 – 8 p.m.
Ongoing
Sat and Sun: closed

Teen Night

Ages 12-17

Looking for something exciting to do? The Takoma Park Recreation Center provides high quality, affordable, safe and **FUN** activities for teens. Nothing to do on Friday night? Come on

out to a night of games, activities and more. Bring your friends for a cheap night out of the house.

TP Recreation Center
Ongoing, Second & Fourth Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Free with Recreation Center membership card

TRIPS

Teen Ice Skating Trip

Ages 12-17

It's a half day of school and you have nothing to do. Grab some friends, your coats and gloves and join the TPRD Teen program for

It's Snowing – Is My Class Canceled?

The City of Takoma Park has several ways to let you know if city facilities are closed and if Takoma Park Recreation programs are canceled: Get notices via Takoma Park Alert (www.takomaparkmd.gov/alert); check the city's webpage; or call the Recreation Department's Inclement Weather Line (301-891-7101 x5605).

In general, if the federal government closes or has a delayed opening in the morning, the city does the same. Classes that begin before a delayed opening are usually canceled. Morning and Afternoon Addition and After the Bell programs follow the Montgomery County Public Schools declarations. If there is a two-hour delay in the morning, Morning Addition starts at 9 a.m.



Mid-Winter Play Day

TP Community Center

Sunday, February 8; 1:00 – 4:00pm

Get ready for the annual Mid-Winter Play day!! Enjoy dress up, mud pies, fun with boxes and lots of great entertainment, let your hair down, do some face painting, play with play-doh, put on your comfy shoes and get ready to PLAY! This annual event is fun for the whole family! Volunteers needed. For more information, visit takomaplays.org or call 301-891-7290

Save the Date: Annual Egg Hunt

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 11:00 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.

Saturday, April 4, 11 a.m.
Ed Wilhelm Field



Celebrate Takoma Vendors/Entertainers/Volunteers Needed

The Recreation Department is beginning to plan the Third Annual Celebrate Takoma Festival for Sunday, May 17th and we need your help. The festival celebrates the cultural diversity of Takoma Park. We will be looking for food, merchandise vendors and local entertainers. If you would like to volunteer to be a part of the Steering Committee please email Debby Huffman at deborahh@takomaparkmd.gov. The Committees meet monthly in the evenings. Come join the fun!

a trip to downtown Silver Spring to go ice skating. Warm up afterwards at one of the nearby restaurants. *Food not included in trip cost. Bus leaves TPCC.
TP Community Center
Teen Lounge
Friday, Feb. 27, 12:30 – 3:30 p.m.
TP residents \$8
Non-residents \$10

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. This class explores ways of combining collage materials and art media. You will be introduced to a variety of collage techniques, work with elements and principals of design, and explore creative two and three dimensional assembly. Instruction will be given in surface preparation, adhesives, color theory and composition and is suitable for levels.
TP Community Center art studio
Tuesdays, March 3 - April 14, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
TP residents \$215
Non-residents \$245

SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

Boom! Body Boot Camp
Ages 16 and older

This high intensity boot camp is a workout for those who are serious about getting in shape. Our boot camp focuses on all areas of the body, improving stamina and overall health through the use of agility drills, plyometrics, Pilates and strength training. We will use great music to keep you energized and motivated.
TP Community Center dance studio
Wednesdays, 6 – 7 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 – 10 a.m.
Feb. 11 – Mar. 7
TP residents \$100
Non-residents \$120
Drop in \$15
Jazzercise
Ages 16 and older
Jazzercise is the art of Jazz combined with the science of exercise physiology. Each 60-70 minute class includes easy to follow fun aerobic-dance routines, weights for muscle strength and stretching exercises all to the beat of great music. The music ranges from oldies to jazz to the newest pop tunes.
TP Recreation Center
Ongoing, Mondays and Wednesdays, 7 – 8 p.m.
Ongoing, Saturdays, 8 a.m. – 9 a.m.
\$45 PER MONTH EFT (Easy Fitness Ticket)
\$120/8 week pass
\$15 drop-in

FOREVER YOUNG: 55 PLUS

DROP IN

Bingo
Ages 55 and older

Try your luck. Win a prize.
TP Community Center senior room
Thursday, Feb. 26, Noon – 2 p.m.
Free

Blood Pressure Screening
Ages 55 and older

Adventist Healthcare will be doing a free monthly blood pressure screening.
TP Community Center senior room
Thursday, Feb. 26, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Free

Table Tennis
Ages 55 and older

Come play this fun, energetic game. A great way to improve eye-hand coordination: helps keep the body healthy and the mind sharp. Drop-in.
TP Community Center game room
Ongoing, Mondays - Saturdays, 10 a.m. - noon
Free

Gearing up for camp: the whys, whens and hows



Summer may be months away, but residents can get a jump-start on planning activities – and collect all the info they need on the Recreation Department’s well-regarded summer camp program – at the Summer Camp Expo, Saturday, Feb. 7 from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at the Community Center. Included will be all the details on this year’s fun offerings for tots, youth and teens, plus an opportunity to meet camp counselors, learn about the Counselor in Training (CIT) program, ask questions and register for camp on the spot. What will it be? Sports? Science? Art?
For more specifics, go to takomaparkmd.gov/recreation, where you will also find information on spring break camps. Meanwhile, here are some solid reasons to consider these time-honored programs for your family.
Studies have shown that there is a higher percent of knowledge acquired and retained when the education setting is positive, motivational and filled with peer and staff interactions, and interesting and physically dynamic activities. Can you say summer camp? That’s exactly what we offer – in our programs,

kids are having plenty of fun, and they don’t even realize that they are learning!
Not only is it “no more pencils, no more books,” summer is also time when children can leave behind overly-structured, overly-scheduled routines of the school year. At camp, they are supervised, but in way that allows them to be carefree and silly.
And since lots of programming takes place outdoors, they get to be active and reconnect with nature, enriching their perceptions of the world. Research has proven that the physical activity that camps provide promotes healthy patterns that can last a lifetime.
Camps give kids a chance to socialize, cooperate and learn to agree and even to respectfully disagree with each other. They share tasks, learn to resolve

disagreements and see the importance of communication to reach a common goal. The relaxed setting lets them build friendships easily without the pressures and conceived social expectations they face during the school year.
They also get the freedom to make decisions for themselves, without parents and teachers guiding every move. That builds self-esteem and character, responsibility, resourcefulness and resilience. Some camps even include the opportunity for community service – an activity that’s been shown to develop self-efficacy and optimism.
Clearly, spring and summer camps are **not just about recreation**; they offer children the opportunity to learn positive life skills while they are having fun! They focus on physical fitness but they also nurture social skills development, help develop self-respect and character building, and teach community service skills – all values that are very important and have a lasting impact.
Now, for those camp choices, from cheerleading and dance, to basketball, drama and art. Check it all out at the Camp Expo.

EDUCATION/DEVELOPMENT

Computer Class
Ages 55 and older

Learn to use the internet, a word processing program, and email. You need a Takoma Park Library card* to access the computers, and take this course. Limit six. Instructors: Phil Shapiro, Jim Mueller. Six weeks. In-person pre-registration is required. For more information contact Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager at 301-891-7280 or email: paulal@takomaparkmd.gov
TP Community Center computer center
Wednesdays, Feb. 25 – Apr. 1, 10 a.m. – Noon
Fee: \$10 Payable to the City of Takoma Park. *Library card fees: Free/Takoma Park residents, \$37/ Montgomery County residents, and \$60 /Non-Mont. Co. residents

Great Tenors: Enrico Caruso and Mario Lanza

Lifelong Learning Institute - This class will examine the lives of these two great operatic tenors and the historical and musical significance of their works. Course #LL1829. Four weeks.
TP Community Center auditorium
Tuesdays, Feb. 24 - Mar. 24, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Tuition waiver applies
Ages 60 and older: \$60
Ages 55-59: \$127
Registration and payment to Montgomery College Workforce Development and Continuing Education. For more information and registration assistance, please call Montgomery College at 240-567-5188.

SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

Cardio Groove Classes
Ages 55 and older

High energy and easy to follow. Start with a warm-up that gets you in the groove, followed by fast-paced, low impact Aerobics that get the heart pumping and feet moving quickly, then a well-earned cool down and stretch. Moves follow the beat of music designed for Aerobics, flowing from a great sound system. Instructor: Nancy Nickell. For more information contact Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager at 301-891-7280 or email: paulal@takomaparkmd.gov
TP Community Center dance studio
Thursdays, until Feb. 26, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Free
Fitness Room Equipment Orientation
Ages 55 and older

Join Rochelle Coleman, certified fitness instructor, for a one-time orientation for instruction on using the fitness equipment. For more information, call Paula Lisowski at 301-891-7280 or paulal@takomaparkmd.gov.
TP Recreation Center Fitness Room
Thursdays, Feb. 5 and Feb. 19, Noon - 1 p.m.
Free

Indoor Walking Group
Ages 55 and older

Don’t worry about the weather. Join your neighbors and friends for indoor laps. For more information contact Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager at 301-891-7280 or email: paulal@takomaparkmd.gov
TP Recreation Center gymnasium
Thursdays, Feb. 3 - Mar 31, Noon - 1 p.m.
Free

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. Registration is open! You can register today at the Recreation Center on New Hampshire Avenue or the Community Center on Maple Avenue.
TP Recreation Center fitness room
Ongoing, Monday – Friday, 2:30 – 9 p.m.
Ongoing, Saturdays, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Free

Tennis Fun and Fitness

Rediscover your love of tennis or help find it for the first time by playing this lifelong game. This class blends exercise with learning or reviewing tennis skills. The goal is fun and fitness utilizing special equipment for beginners and indoor play. All equipment provided, but you can bring your own request. Instructor Coach SJ, Moving Forward Tennis. For more information contact Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager at 301-891-7280 or email: paulal@takomaparkmd.gov
TP Recreation Center gymnasium
Thursdays, until Mar 5, 12 - 1 p.m.
Free

Zumba Gold - Saturdays
Designed for the active older adult, this fun

class will keep you moving and grooving to the happy beat. For more information call 301-891-7280 or email: paulal@takomaparkmd.gov.
Saturdays, until Mar. 21, 2 - 2:45 p.m.
TP Community Center dance studio
Free

PETS



Dog Manners for Life
Ages 6 months – 6 years

Whether you have a “teen” emerging from puppyhood, or an adult dog that needs some training, this class is for you. Using positive reinforcement, we will teach your dog foundation behaviors (sit, down, stay, here, leave it), leash manners (not pulling, passing dogs and people), and polite greetings. Dogs should be friendly toward dogs and people. No pinch, prong, choke, or electronic collars in the classroom, please!
Heffner Park Community Center
Wednesdays, Feb. 25 – Apr. 1, 8 – 9 p.m.
TP residents \$119
Non-residents \$139

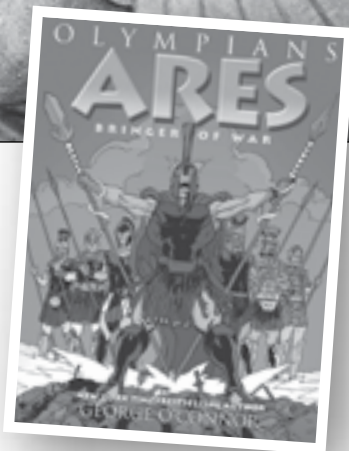
Puppy Kindergarten
Ages 8 weeks – 5 months

If you have puppy, you need Puppy Kindergarten! Early puppy training and socialization has been shown to help prevent behavior problems later on. Each class will include supervised, off leash play, where you will learn about dog body language and appropriate play. Most of all, we’ll have fun! No pinch, prong, choke, or electronic collars in the classroom.
Heffner Park Community Center
Wednesdays, Feb. 25 – Apr. 1, 6:45 – 7:45 p.m.
TP residents \$119
Non-residents \$139

LIBRARY



George O'Connor



Graphic novels and kids' favorite authors featured in February

We've got three authors talking about their newest books at the library this month. Politics and Prose Bookstore will be selling books at all three events, but no purchase is required to attend these free events.

First up, on Wed.,



Gordon Korman

Clues" series. Korman's newest book, "Masterminds," is the first in a new series and tells the story of several kids who discover that their seemingly perfect town holds some disturbing secrets.

The following evening, Thursday, Feb. 5, at 7:30 p.m., graphic novelist George O'Connor talks about "Ares," the newest book in his critically-acclaimed "Olympians"

series of graphic novels about the Greek gods. O'Connor, who drew a large crowd of young fans last year at the library, also will be doing a drawing demonstration.

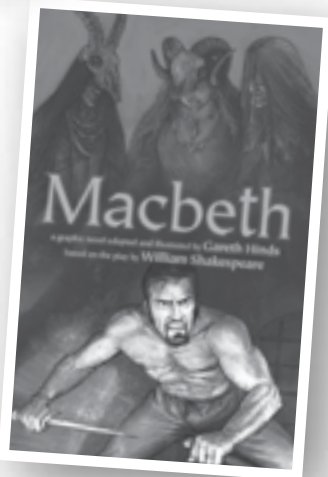
Our final February author is graphic novelist (and Takoma Park resident) Gareth Hinds, who will spotlight his newest book, "Macbeth." It's the latest in Hinds'

award-winning series of graphic novel adaptations of classic works such as "The Odyssey," "Beowulf," and "Romeo and Juliet." Hinds will talk about how he creates his adaptations, and demonstrate some of his drawing techniques.

Please join us for one or all of these great author events!



Feb. 4 at 7:30 p.m. is best-selling kids' novelist Gordon Korman, who will present his newest book, "Masterminds." Korman, who published his first book at the age of 14, has written more than 85 books that have sold 17 million copies. Among his books are such kid favorites as the "Swindle" series, "Schooled," "Ungifted," and several books in "The 39



CALENDAR

Circle Time

Every Tuesday

Two times: 10 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

LEGO Club

Sunday, Feb. 1, 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Registration required

For ages 5-12

Bedtime Stories

Tuesday, Feb. 3, 7 p.m.

Kids' Bestselling Novelist Gordon Korman

Wednesday, Feb. 4, 7:30 p.m.

Korman will discuss "Masterminds," first in a new series for kids ages 8-12.

Graphic Novelist George O'Connor

Thursday, Feb. 5, 7:30 p.m.

O'Connor will present the newest book in his "Olympians" series.

Yoga Storytime for 2- to 4-year-olds

Saturday, Feb. 7, 10:30 a.m.

Registration required.

Valentine Day Crafts

Sunday, Feb. 8, 2-3 p.m.

Kids: come craft a keepsake for the special people in your life.

Caldecott Club: A Family Book Club

Monday, Feb. 9, 7 p.m.

Reading the newest Caldecott winners together. Lemonade and cookies served. No registration.

Comics Jam

Tuesday, Feb. 10, 4 p.m.

Join comics guru Dave Burbank at our monthly comics book club.

Friends of the Library Board Meeting

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 7:45 p.m.

What's so Great About Graphic Novels?

Thursday, Feb. 19, 7 p.m.

(postponed from Jan. 26)

Come learn more about this increasingly popular literary form.

Petites Chansons/French Circle Time

Saturday, Feb. 21, 10:30 a.m.

Join Madame Marie for another season of songs and rhymes in French in this monthly program for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups.

Teddy Bear Picnic

Sunday, Feb. 22, 2-3 p.m.

Bring your teddy bear for songs, stories, crafts and a snack.

Graphic Novelist Gareth Hinds

Monday, Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m.

Hinds will present "Macbeth," the latest in his award-winning Shakespeare adaptations.

Looking ahead....

Bedtime Stories and a Craft, Tuesday, March 3, 7 p.m.

Friends Reading Group discusses the works of Kenzaburo Oe, Wednesday, March 4, 7:30 p.m. (see article)

Friends "Big Book" Group begins discussion of "Anna Karenina," Wednesday, March 11, 7:30 p.m. (see article)

LIBRARY BRIEFS

2015 Caldecott Medal Winner Showcased

We'll be showcasing the winners of the 2015 Caldecott Medal and any Caldecott Honor books at our next Caldecott Club meeting on Monday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. The Caldecott Medal is awarded annually by the American Library Association to the "most distinguished" American picture book for children from birth through age 14, and the latest winner will be announced on Monday, Feb. 2. Meanwhile, the library's Caldecott Club picked its own winners in early January. Our "medal winner" was "Quest," written and illustrated by Aaron Becker, and we had two "honor books": "Sam and Dave Dig a Hole," written by Mac Barnett and illustrated by Jon Klassen, and "Blizzard," written and illustrated by John Rocco. It will be interesting to see how close we come to the actual winners!

Apps and Kids Program Postponed

Our Apps and Kids program, originally scheduled for Feb. 23, now will be held on Monday, March 16 at 7 p.m. Please join us then for a look at the latest research on kids and apps, as well as some information about how to find the best apps for your children.

Programs for the youngest patrons

We've got a couple of special pro-

grams for the youngest library patrons in February. On Saturday, Feb. 7 at 10:30 a.m., kids ages 2 to 4 and their grown-ups are invited to a special 30-minute Yoga Storytime with Ms. Kati, our children's librarian. Enjoy yoga poses, songs, and a story with your child. We have yoga mats available, but bring a blanket if you'd like. (Note: Parents will be expected to sign a waiver to participate in the program with their children). Registration is required for this program; to register, please go to www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents or call us at 301-891-7259.

Then, on Sunday, Feb. 22, from 2-3 p.m., kids are invited to bring their teddy bears for a special program of songs, stories, crafts and a snack led by Ms. Kati. No registration is required, but remember to bring a blanket!

Finally, don't forget our monthly Bedtime Stories and a Craft program, which will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 3 at 7 p.m.

Our popular Spanish Circle Time program, which takes place on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m., will be on a hiatus from Jan. 30 through March 26. Señora Geiza will return on Thursday, April 2 at 10:30 a.m. If you're interested in being sent an email reminder of when Señora Geiza will return, please go to www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents and register for Spanish Circle Time.

Friends Reading Group celebrates authors from Japan and Russia

Kenzaburo Oe was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1994. Today he remains a major figure in contemporary Japanese literature. On Wednesday March 4, the Friends of the Library will meet in the Community Center at 7:30 p.m. to discuss a collection of four of his published novellas, entitled "Teach Us To Outgrow Our Madness," which also includes "The Day He Himself Shall Wipe My Tears Away," "Prize Stock," and "Agh-wee the Sky Monster."

Oe's works deal with political, social and philosophical issues including

nuclear weapons, nuclear power, social non-conformism and existentialism. He believes that he is a very Japanese writer, once telling the New York Times, "I have always wanted to write about our country, our society and feelings about the contemporary scene. But there is a big difference between us and classic Japanese literature."

Oe's latest works tend "toward bolder experiments with the technique of 'defamiliarization' by negotiating his narratives across several imaginary landscapes pertaining to painting, film, drama, mu-

sic and architecture," according to Leo Ou-fan, who wrote in *Muse*.

On the following Wednesday, March 11, the Friends Big Book Club returns to examine Tolstoy with the first in a series of discussions on his masterpiece, "Anna Karenina." Dr. Cynthia Martin, associate professor of Russian School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures at the University of Maryland will give an introductory lecture at the Historic Takoma facility at 7328 Carroll Ave. at 7:30 pm. Author Jilly Cooper says of "Anna Karenina," "Very few men write very well about women, but

Tolstoy understood women just as well as men...Anna is a wonderful character. She comes across as so gorgeous and adorable, and her sex appeal radiates down the centuries." Francine Prose observes in *The Guardian*, "More than any other book, it persuades me that there is such a thing as human nature, and that some part of that nature remains fundamentally unaffected by history and culture."

All are welcome to join the Friends' book discussions. The talk at Historic Takoma will include spirited refreshments.

WOODED LAND

■ From page 1

resource for the entire community as well as for a resident red fox and at least one pair of hawks, would be protected.

Details about the financial arrangements, including payment on property encumbrances, maintenance and the role remaining resident donations may play, are still being worked out.

How did we get here?

The recently auctioned parcel is part of a larger property that includes the Washington-McLaughlin Christian School. Originally a Prince George's County Public School called J. Enos Ray, the school closed in the 1960s and was later purchased by Washington McLaughlin Christian School, Inc., a small private school there until 2012. The school is now shuttered, but the front part of the building, which faces Poplar Avenue near the intersection with New Hampshire Avenue, supports nine apartments and a daycare facility for seniors, subsidized by a federal Housing and Urban Development program. A large part of the building is run down and in disrepair.

The school neglected to pay its taxes – that is, the income tax it withheld from its employees – and owed the IRS \$67,251.86. So the IRS seized the wooded portion of the property, one of three parcels. The other two – the school, including its fenced-in playground; and a narrow strip of land that leads to a footpath between Circle and Gude – were not part of the sale.

The entire property has other debts attached as well: more than \$400,000 including a Bank of America debt and taxes



Photos by Virginia Myers

Residents lingered after the auction Jan. 22, many of them gratified that the City Council agreed to bid on a park-like patch of green space in their neighborhood.

owed to Montgomery County and the State of Maryland.

All the debts and taxes continue as encumbrances against the entire property, including the auctioned parcel purchased by the city.

All of this was part of the discussion by City Council, held late into the night on Jan. 5 and again Jan. 12, when it passed a resolution stating its preference to preserve the land with minimal development. The project was on a fast track due to the unmoveable nature of the tax auction, though delaying the auction was considered.

Also considered: assigning a conservation easement on the parcel so that it could never be developed; working with the Maryland National Parks and Planning Commission Legacy Open Space to arrange purchase of the land for either conservation or park; and considering the city's budget surplus. "We are not a broke city," said Ward 2 Councilmember Tim Male during the Jan. 5 meeting. "We have the money to spend on this property...a half million [dollars] would be a wonderful price for 2.6 acres to be protected in perpetuity in our city."

Councilmembers also discussed how the project could qualify for funds already available in the city budget for stormwater management initiatives – since the area is a natural ground for rainwater absorption, preventing runoff – and sustainability funds set aside for "green" projects. It could even contribute to the newly announced effort to win the \$5 mil-

lion Georgetown University sustainability prize (see page 1 for full story).

But councilmembers were also concerned about state cutbacks that could trickle down to municipalities after the election of a more fiscally conservative governor. Funds for the dog park that has already been approved are being disputed now, and Mayor Bruce Williams pointed out that city staff pay must be maintained at a reasonable rate. Maintenance costs were also considered; "We ask a lot of Public Works," said Kate Stewart, Ward 3 councilmember, though a representative from Friends of Sligo Creek suggested that organization could help clear invasive vines, and residents have already removed some on their own.

In the end, the Council voted unanimously to bid on the property. Its discussion of how much to bid took place the following week, in closed session.

What's back there

The property, which extends behind the backyards of homes facing Elm Avenue, and along Woodland Avenue between Elm and Circle avenues, has been unmaintained for many years. There is a 60-foot change in grade that forms a "basin," according to city staff who walked the property, and a perennial spring about 50 feet from Woodland Avenue. It is a "mature cove forest," but many of the trees are damaged by vines such as kudzu and poison ivy. The city arborist estimates the property would need at least three years of aggressive maintenance to

get the invasive plants under control.

The land is zoned R60, which allows for single-family homes on 6,000-square-foot lots. But because of the steep nature of the land and the presence of the spring, many residents speculated that development would be difficult, especially if City Council was generally opposed to anything but a minimal build-out. Others suggest the land could have supported as many as 10 or 15 homes, if a developer came in and built a cul-de-sac.

The neighborhood has used the space as an informal lab for nature studies – birders have enumerated many species in its trees, including several kinds of hawks, and parents have shushed their children when they've come upon deer and, in one case, a den of red foxes, passing on their reverence for nature to the next generation. Twenty-two people testified during

"Takoma Park City Council and staff deeply appreciate the initiative and generosity of the residents that raised over \$100,000 to assist in securing the property."
– Takoma Park Press Release

the pre-City Council meeting public comment session Jan. 5 that they wanted the city to acquire the property, pointing out various advantages of keeping the space undeveloped as much as possible. One individual said he did not want taxes raised in order to accomplish that goal.

Among those who supported conservation was Jim Baird, representing Friends of Sligo Creek; he said several members of FOSC's board agreed they could provide technical and organizational assistance for invasive removal and maintenance. Members of the environmental committee were also represented at the mic, and favored purchasing the land for preservation; ditto the city's tree commission. Several speakers cited protecting the tree canopy, preserving carbon sequestration and maintaining the stormwater management services of the parcel.



Takoma Park residents Suzie Stimler and her son, Curtis Antonucci, brought their own signs to the auction, hoping to deter developers from disrupting wildlife in the woods near their home.



THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

The grand total for 2014 of fire-related incidents to which the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and Montgomery County Fire Rescue Service responded was 3,554, with 684 fires and 2,870 ambulance-related incidents. That's an increase of 177 incidents from 2013. A special thanks goes out to our volunteers and personnel of the MCFRS assigned to the station for a job well done.

The TPVFD is proud to announce that the volunteers put in a grand total of 16,542 hours of standby duty at the station during 2014, an increase of 2,131 hours over 2013.

Maryland Fire Deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported that the grand total fire deaths for 2014 was 62, compared to 69 in 2013. As of Jan. 16, 2015, two people have died in fires compared to 3 in 2014.

What Fire Hazards Affect Older People?

Cooking Accidents are the leading cause of fire related injuries for older Americans. The kitchen is one of the most active and potentially dangerous rooms in the home.

Unsafe Use of Smoking Materials is the leading cause of fire deaths among older Americans.

Heating Equipment is responsible for a big share of fires in seniors' homes. Extra caution should be used with alternate heaters such as wood stoves or electric space heaters.

Faulty Wiring is another major cause of fires effecting the elderly. Older homes can have serious wiring problems, ranging from old appliances with bad wiring to overloaded sockets.

If you have family members who are older, it may be a good idea to check on them at least once a month.

TPVFD – 24 years providing Toys at Christmas

Thanks to Santa's helpers for their assistance with the sorting and bagging of the toys: Marsha Dorsey, Thomas Fuentcy, Ernesto Lara, Nancy Smith, Demetrice White and Sgt. Tina Smith, TPPD. A total of 130 children, representing 46 families received toys. And thanks to the community for donating toys and money. Jim Jarboe coordinated the effort.



Toys! Toys! Toys!

A super thanks to the students at the Sligo Elementary School in Takoma Park for donating a large number of toys to the Takoma Park VFD Toy Drive. Pictured with the children, from left, Jim Jarboe, teacher Kelly Ballard and FF/EMT Adam Bearne.

Winter, almost over: Safe passage outdoors, fun indoors

By the Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness Committee

January presented us with some winter experiences we don't like: snow and late notices of delays, which meant we had to shovel before walking or riding; power outages due to freezing rain and searching for the flashlight which we'd put in a closet somewhere. This month we present a few questions, answers and suggestions from community members about safely walking (or biking) in a winter wonderland, teaching low-tech parents to text, and turning safety education into fun and games indoors.



Q: I don't have a car, so I walk to the metro, to the co-op, the cleaning store, you name it. Any tips on getting around safely in this winter weather?

Thanks for reminding us that there are non-auto options for getting around! To remain warm and safe, here are a few suggestions: wear layered clothing –waterproof outer shell; gloves (mittens are warmest, although not as adaptable as using fingers); warm socks and closed shoes that hug the feet. For hands and feet you might consider buying hand warmers and toe warmers, little inserts that heat up within five minutes when exposed to air and stay warm for hours (available at many drugstores and outdoors activity shops). Wear a hat which covers the ears, or add ear muffs. A head cover that allows for covering part of the face, or a scarf that does the same, is also important. Carry a portable flashlight – and make sure it works before putting it in your pocket! If it's a long walk, have a small water bottle handy—yes you can get overheated in freezing weather. For walking in darkness, consider a reflective vest.

For those determined to ride a bike, the same recommendations apply, plus make sure you have a tire pump and changing kit, lights on yourself and your bike, and a first aid kit.

If you do this, then you will be like our postal carriers: "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night" can stop you from the "swift completion of your appointed rounds."

Q: My friend told me to teach my not-so-tech-savvy parents how to text in case of accident. Why?

This could be fun, and it's important! Yes—give your parents or other critical contacts the lessons (if they don't already know). Text messages can often get around

the network disruptions that crop up during area-wide emergencies, even if a call cannot get through. And while you're setting this up, make sure your phone and theirs have a listing for ICE ("In Case of Emergency") so emergency personnel can easily find the contacts if you are in an accident, if a school is shut down, or if there is an evacuation or other serious event.

Q: I just heard about 'Designing for Disaster': is this a play, a video game, or a fashion show?

None of the above! It's the title of an interactive exhibit at the National Building Museum that deals with disaster situations. It features multimedia and huge video screens showing massive wind or rain storms in action, separate rooms that focus on earthquakes, fire, water, wind and air disasters (such as hurricanes, buildings falling from earthquakes, tornadoes). There are computer games and a room with samples of an emergency prep kit, solar-powered lights, a "go bag" and more. The exhibit continues through Aug. 2, and offers tours Saturday and Sunday at 2.30 p.m., and sometimes on Wednesdays at noon. Learn more at www.nbm.org/exhibitions-collections/exhibitions/designing-for-disaster.html.

Q: I'm bored and tired of having others tell me what to do. Are there any free computer games about emergencies I can play where I am in charge?

So you want to be the boss? Try this one and see how well you score; www.stopdisastersgame.org/en/home.html. Developed by the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, this simulation focuses on managing a variety of natural disasters. You choose the type of disaster – tsunami, hurricane, wildfire, earthquake, flood – then click your way through easy, medium or hard levels as you quickly decide on actions for saving lives, while staying within budget. How high a difficulty level can you go?

WOODED LAND

■ From page 9

City purchase, said Carol Hotton, a long-time member of the tree commission, would “help protect the urban tree canopy at a time when that tree canopy is in severe stress,” and could preserve wildlife habitat as well as maintain carbon sequestration provided by mature trees. Lorraine Pearsall, vice president/secretary of Historic Takoma, urged the city to move quickly and seize the “unusual” opportunity to purchase open space in the city. “I don’t see how we can afford not to do it.”

Several speakers linked the other parcel, which includes the school building, to the purchase of the woods. It is not for sale at this time, but if it does become available several speakers suggested it could serve the entire community. “Takoma Park needs housing, and the lower part of the tract would be excellent for housing,” said Steve Nadel, who lives in the neighborhood. “Building in the woods I don’t think makes much sense.”

Plan B

Council was swayed to at least bid the minimum. Meanwhile, a group of residents calling itself Plan B met several times to explore the possibility of pooling their money to purchase the land themselves, or find a conservation group to protect it, should the city fail to do so. It was a whirlwind process of copious emails and listserve messages, a series of weeknight and weekend meetings,



Photo by Virginia Myers

Children painted the banner, “We Love Our Trees,” and a picture of a hawk like the ones that nest near their homes, to encourage the city’s bid to buy the beloved woods in their neighborhood. After the auction, they were all giggles and play.

hours of discussion both on and off mic, tromps through the woods to survey the state of the land, posting of signs to urge neighbors to “Save Our Woods,” and, finally, checks delivered to “neighborhood captains” who collected donations for the cause. Finally, Plan B collected \$50,000 to present to City Council as it worked to determine a bid ceiling. Two days later, the sum had grown to \$113,000.

“Takoma Park City Council and staff deeply appreciate the initiative and generosity of the residents that raised over \$100,000 to assist in securing the prop-

erty,” city staff wrote in a release. Fred Schultz, councilmember from Ward 6, attended the auction and says that while many residents want the city to spend municipal money on their pet projects, when Plan B came forward with donations he knew this time things were different. Their commitment convinced him to bid on the land.

“It shows a great willingness on the part of Takoma Park residents to stand up for what they believe in and put their money where their mouth is,” said Mayor Bruce Williams, who also attended the auction.

KENNER

■ From page 5

and he improved many aspects of our operations,” says Williams. “We’ll miss him, but we’re in a strong position to tackle the issues we face in the coming months and years.”

Kenner agrees, and praises Ludlow for her work as interim manager before he arrived, as well as the job she did as his deputy. “She’s done a fabulous job as the deputy city manager and I know she will do a great job as the interim – or if she is selected to be the permanent manager.”

Meanwhile, D.C. officials are looking forward to welcoming Kenner back to the city where he served as the deputy mayor’s chief of staff under former mayors Vincent Gray and Adrian Fenty. He is, essentially, moving into his former boss’s job – but with new personnel in place.

“Making housing more affordable and creating more good paying jobs are my top priorities as Mayor,” Bowser said in a press release. “Brian will hit the ground running and lead my administration’s efforts on both those fronts. Together, we will grow the economy and deliver a fresh start for all Washingtonians.”

“Economic development and job creation are driving forces of the District’s economy and I am thrilled to return to this vibrant and diverse city,” says Kenner. “My job on day one is to provide residents and businesses the top notch quality of services they deserve and expect from a world-class city.”

Kenner’s final day as Takoma Park city manager is Jan. 31.

ENERGY PRIZE

■ From page 1

honored to be chosen as semifinalists in the Georgetown University Energy Prize competition. We’ve recognized that the reduction of energy use through efficiency is the cheapest and easiest way to reduce our energy footprint.”

The key, says Williams, is to get residents involved. “We need to encourage participation,” he says. “The Georgetown University Energy Prize Competition will help mobilize residents around the common goal of proving just how green Takoma Park can be.”

“Residents of Takoma Park, myself included, take pride in environmental stewardship and community participation,” adds Gina Mathias, who last year was hired as the city’s first sustainability manager. “This competition is something everyone can rally together to support, helping each other and helping the community at the same time.” And residents are ready, she adds. “I started getting calls months ago asking how to participate and support the prize effort. Our residents are passionate, and they do not want to be outdone.”

“Takoma Park leaders, as well as mayors and executives across the county, have told us that this prize gives them the momentum to accelerate their energy efficiency efforts,” says Dr. Francis Slakey, founder and executive director of the Georgetown University Energy Prize. “These semifinalist communities are leading the way for other small- and medium-

“This competition is something everyone can rally together to support... Our residents are passionate, and they do not want to be outdone.”

—Gina Mathias

size cities and counties to secure their energy-efficient future.”

Over the past few years Takoma Park has taken bold environmental action on a number of fronts. The city scored the most points of any newly certified community when it gained its “Sustainable Maryland Certified” status in 2014. In 2013 the City Council passed the Safe Grow Act, which restricts the use of cosmetic lawn pesticides on both private and public property throughout the city. This landmark legislation marked the first time that a local jurisdiction of this size used its authority to restrict pesticide use on private and public property.

More recently, in November 2014, the city’s Young Activist Act Of 2014 began restrictions on the commercial use of polystyrene food-service ware in Takoma

Park, one of the first cities to ban not just “Styrofoam” food service ware, but also non-expanded polystyrene.

Takoma Park joins just one other community from the greater Washington DC metropolitan region, Arlington County Virginia, in this friendly competition to improve energy efficiency for all. Both jurisdictions’ efforts support the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Council of Government’s regional goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 20 percent below 2005 levels by 2020.

Nuts and bolts of participation

Takoma Park does not yet have a detailed plan of what to do with the \$5 million prize if the city should win, but one thing is sure: It would be used to directly benefit the community and to continue innovation and progress for environmental sustainability. “In a small city of barely 17,000 residents, \$5 million would certainly go a long way,” says Mathias.

Mathias is excited about the “new and innovative programs” the city will undertake over the next two years of the competition. These include updating city buildings with new energy efficiency equipment, coordinating new solar installations, converting streetlights to energy-saving LEDs, and creating a sustainability grant fund to help residents make energy-efficient upgrades.

The first step residents can take to help Takoma Park win the \$5 million prize is to reduce energy use at home. To start, the city is now offering a free energy coaching service. Energy coaching can help renters and home owners find ways to reduce en-

ergy use and save money at home. Some of the benefits include:

- Lowering utility bills
- Qualifying for rebates of up to \$3,800 on insulation, air sealing and more
- Understanding energy audit reports
- Finding “next level” energy savings
- Ideas for do-it-yourself fixes
- Engaging kids in saving energy
- Organizing a green team in your building or neighborhood

Keep an eye out this winter for a new Neighborhood Energy Challenge, a friendly local competition to encourage neighbors to work together to save energy. There will be prizes for the city’s biggest energy champions, and a grand prize for the neighborhood with the biggest energy reduction. Don’t worry if you live in a multi-family building, you will still be able to compete.

Want to get involved? Be a neighborhood energy champion and get a head start on the neighborhood energy challenge. Host an energy party at your home and, as sustainability manager, Mathias says she can make a presentation, give recommendations, and even coordinate local experts to attend.

To learn more about the Georgetown University Energy Prize and to track the competition’s progress, visit www.guep.org, or follow the Prize on Twitter (@GUEnergyPrize) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/guenergyprize).

For more information about Takoma Park’s efforts and ways you can get involved, go to www.takomaparkmd.gov or contact Gina Mathias, sustainability manager, ginam@takomaparkmd.gov.

FEBRUARY '15

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 March issue is Feb. 16, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning Feb. 27.

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, Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m.*

Tuesday, Feb. 3, 7 p.m., special meeting to hear comments on Takoma Junction redevelopment,

Monday, Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m.*

Monday, Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 10, 7 p.m., special meeting to hear comments on Takoma Junction redevelopment

Wednesday, Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m., City Council-Department Roundtables

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m., City Council-Department Roundtables

Monday, Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m.

Meetings take place in the TPCC auditorium, unless noted otherwise

*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.

Washington's Birthday

City offices will be closed Monday, Feb. 16, in honor of George Washington's birthday.

Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry

First Saturdays, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Grace United Methodist Church, 7001 New Hampshire Ave.

Bi-weekly and monthly food supplements for needy families

240-450-2092 or educare_ss@yahoo.com

www.educaresupportservices.org

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Mid-Winter Play Day

TP Community Center

Sunday, Feb. 8, 1 – 4 p.m.

Dress up, mud pies, fun with boxes, face painting, play-doh, and great entertainment

www.takomaplays.org

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

Sundays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Year-round

Laurel and Carroll avenues in Old Town

Locally grown produce, baked goods, meats, cheeses

Food Truck Fridays

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

People's Open Mic

Sundays, 9 p.m.

Republic restaurant, 6939 Laurel Ave.

www.republictakoma.com



Uprooted Dance

Drum for Joy! with Jaqui MacMillan

Mondays, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Electric Maid, 268 Carroll Street NW

Learn hand drumming

Blues Mondays

Mondays, 7:30 – 10:30 p.m.

Republic restaurant, 6939 Laurel Ave.

www.republictakoma.com

Jazz Jam

Tuesdays, 7 – 10 p.m.



Bruce Krohmer

Brawling at Busboys

Each winter three jazz bands take turns on stage to compete for a spot in June's Takoma Park JazzFest. This year's "JazzFest Brawl" will be held on Feb. 22 at 6 p.m., and the big news is that it will be among the first events at the new Busboys and Poets, expected to open Feb. 14. Bands are still applying for the show – interested musicians should contact Bruce Krohmer, director of the JazzFest, at 240-277-6291 or clarinet1@netzero.net.

This year marks Takoma Park's 20th JazzFest. It will take place in Old Town in early June.



Bria Skonberg

Takoma Station, 6914 4th Street NW

Open mic for jazz musicians

Wednesday Night Drum Jams

Hosted by Katy Gaughan and friends

Wednesdays, 7 – 9:30 p.m.

The Electric Maid, 268 Carroll Street NW

The Grapevine Storytelling Series

Thursday, Feb. 5, 7:30 p.m.

Featuring stories by Judith Black and Ellouise Schoettler

\$10 suggested donation

TP Community Center auditorium

www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts

Graphic Novelist George O'Connor

Thursday, Feb. 5, 7:30 p.m.

Graphic novelist George O'Connor unveils "Ares," the latest in his popular "Olympians" series. O'Connor also will do a drawing demonstration.

Free

Takoma Park Library

Uprooted Dance with Mark Rooney

Friday, Feb. 6 and Saturday, Feb. 7, 7 p.m.

New choreography, "Reaction."

Cultural Arts Center at Montgomery College, 7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring

\$5 students/\$10 general

cms.montgomerycollege.edu/CAC/

Archival Films of Washington, D.C.

Thursday, Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m.

C-SPAN's Richard Hall presents a selection of short films depicting Washington, D.C., as it once was.

Free

TP Community Center auditorium

www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts/

Dovetail Ensemble

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

Multicultural music and dance with Andrea Hoag, Phil Wiggins and friends

\$16 advance/\$20 door

Carroll Café, Seekers Church, 276 Carroll Street NW

www.carrollcafe.org

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m.

Featuring poets Melanie Figg, Carol Jennings, Sandra Maley, and Bill Rivera

Free

TP Community Center auditorium

www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts

Takoma Park Middle School Used Book Sale

Friday, Feb. 20, 6 – 9 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 21, 9 a.m. – noon

More than 4,000 books on all subjects and for all ages, priced at \$1-\$2.

Free

Takoma Park Middle School,

7611 Piney Branch Road

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/takomaparkms

Balloon Plays

Saturday, Feb. 21, 11 a.m.

Three clowns find themselves in a world of balloons, before an audience of both children and children-at-heart. Each tells a story within the magical landscape.

\$10 suggested donation

TP Community Center auditorium

www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts

El Barrio tambien Canta

Wednesday, Feb. 25, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Live Latin American music including bachata, ranchera, baladas, cumbia, and reggaeton

Free

TP Community Center auditorium

The Visual Made Verbal

Thursday, Feb. 26, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Joel Snyder uses video and dialogue to lead the audience in a discovery of how performance, film and visual displays are made accessible for growing audiences of people who are blind or have low vision, using audio description.

TP Community Center auditorium

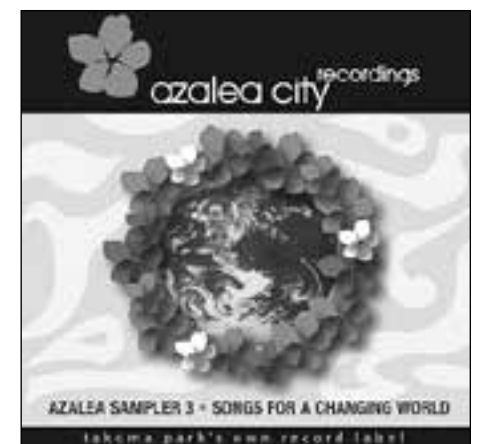
Casona de Lata

Friday, Feb. 27, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Casona de Lata features Spanish language theatrical performances by actors from across the Washington Metropolitan area. Storytelling, one act plays, poetry and more.

Free

TP Community Center auditorium



Azalea City CD Release Concert

Sunday, March 1, 7 p.m.

Hear some of the finest local musicians from Azalea City Recordings, a local record label cooperative.

\$10 suggested donation

TP Community Center auditorium

www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts

UPCOMING EVENTS



Madame Parliamentarian

Thursday, March 12, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

TP Community Center auditorium

Although Lebanon is considered the most progressive nation in the Arab world and women have been voting since the 1950s in fairly equal proportion to men, only four of the 128 Lebanese parliament members today are women. This film explores the reasons why and illustrates ways in which women view, and are viewed in, their roles of active participation in Lebanon's political life. A discussion with filmmaker Rouane Itani will follow the screening.

Free