Mayoral race shaping up for fall
Bruce Williams stepping down, two candidates already announced

By Kevin Adler

Bruce Williams will not be running for a fifth term as Takoma Park mayor, he announced in late July.

“I’ve had 11 terms in office—22 years—including 10 years as mayor pro tem while he was a councilmember representing Ward 3, and eight years as mayor,” Williams wrote in a Facebook posting that generated scores of thank-you messages about his hard work and advocacy for Takoma Park.

At least two current City Council members will be running for the seat in November. A few days after the announcement, Ward 1 Councilmember Seth Grimes and Ward 3 Councilmember Kate Stewart launched their campaigns.

Williams’ impact on Takoma Park can be seen in both its physical spaces and its well-known institutions and events. From unification in Montgomery County in 1997 to the renovation of the Community Center, Williams has been front-and-center on the biggest changes in the city for more than two decades.

Known as both a passionate advocate for local residents and recycling profits back into the community, Williams has attended during his 22 years on the City Council and as mayor of Takoma Park. This one is at Video American, when it closed in 2013.

Lifelong Takoma Makes Impact in First Year

By Kevin Adler

Since its inception in spring 2014, Lifelong Takoma has made significant strides in helping people 55-plus and those with disabilities maintain their independent lives in the community. But so much more can be done, says Karen Maricheau, manager of the program.

Clearly, the message is resonating with the community. In the first few months, Lifelong Takoma received two or three assistance requests a week. “Now I receive on average of three, sometimes more, resident requests a day,” she says.

In just its first year—which included several months of startup effort—Lifelong Takoma responded to 225 requests for assistance, according to a report provided to the City Council in the spring. Volunteers contributed 332 hours of assistance, estimated to have an economic impact of more than $16,000.

“There is never a dull moment, and I find myself feeling challenged and rewarded by helping residents,” Maricheau says. “I couldn’t imagine a better job. It’s not always easy, but neither are the circumstances residents struggle with day in and day out. I feel blessed to be where I am and doing what I do.”

Lifelong Takoma was designed to coor-
Elections / Elecciones

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS FOR TAKOMA PARK ELECTIONS.
You may register to vote in Takoma Park elections if you:
• Are a resident of the City of Takoma Park;
• Do not claim the right to vote elsewhere;
• Will be at least 16 years old on election day;
• Have not been convicted of a felony or, if you have, you have completed serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment you may register if you are serving a term of parole or probation for the conviction;
• Are not under guardianship for mental disability or, if you are, you have not been found by a court to be unable to communicate a desire to vote;
• Have not been convicted of buying or selling votes.

Both United States citizen residents of Takoma Park and non-U.S. citizen residents are eligible to register and vote in Takoma Park elections.

ELECTION OF THE COUNCIL
The next City election for Mayor and Councilmembers will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2015. The Nominating Caucus will occur on Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2015. Complete election information may be viewed at www.elections.takomaparkmd.gov.

2015 ELECTION CALENDAR
• Tuesday, Sept. 29, 7:30 p.m. - Nominating Caucus, Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Avenue.
• Tuesday, Oct. 27, 4 p.m. - Last day to apply to the City Clerk for an absentee ballot by mail.
• Wednesday, Oct. 28 – Sunday, November 1 – Early Voting
• Tuesday, Nov. 3 – Election Day, Polls open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue.
• Monday, Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m. - Inauguration – Mayor and Council Members take the oath of office, Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Avenue.

VACANCIES ON CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

For information on how to run for office, see page 11.

TAKOMA TOPICS:
We now have an awesome (and #sustainability driven!) water bottle filling station right here in the Community Center. Stop on up, say “Hello!” and help us reduce plastic bottle waste.

—www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD
Despite damp weather, the fourth of July brought the usual festivities to Takoma Park this year: parade and fireworks, though the latter were delayed a day. At the parade, a happy crowd lined up to enjoy the shenanigans. Among the marchers this year were a roller derby crew, an impressively steam-punk-like junkmobile, boy scouts and young bicyclists equipped for whatever came down the road.

Parade winners were as follows: Performing arts, first through third place respectively, Fraternidad Folklorica Cultural Ruphay, The Finest Marching ThunderKatrina and the Mark H. Rooney Taiko School; costumed entries first through third, Zyledo Cowboy and Cowgirls, Takoma Horticultural Club and Free State Roller Derby; youth groups, first and second places, Girl Scouts Council of the Nation’s Capital Service Unit 34-8 and Friends, and Boy Scouts of America Troop 33 and Cub Scouts Pack 33; Roscoe Award, Greenbelt Dog Training Marching Drill Team, Wacky Tacky Takoma Award first through third, Good Dog, Vanadu and the Ritchie Citizens Association; and the TPIDC Memorial Award (in honor of Belle Ziegler, Ernie Weisman, Ed Hutmore, June Aloiai, and Kay Daniels-Cohen), Motor Driven Band and Roland’s Unisex Barber Shop.

For more great images of the parade, including floats and marchers, go to www.tpssvoice.com/2015/07/07/photos-takoma-park-parade-damp-but-undaunted.

Images courtesy of the Takoma Voice and Bill Brown, Eric Bond and Kerri Redding.

ELECTION HELPERS WANTED

The 2015 City Election is fast approaching. The Board of Elections needs volunteers to ensure an election that is both fair and efficient. Applicants should be Takoma Park registered voters, detail oriented, and impartial for this election. Those who speak a language in addition to English are encouraged to consider helping, as are 16 or 17 year old voters and non-U.S. citizen voters.

Voter Registrars - to assist with voter registration at various locations and events in Takoma Park.

Election Judges - to work during early voting (Oct. 28 – Nov. 1) and/or for the day of the election (Nov. 3). Hours will vary. Payment depends upon hours worked.

Opening Judges and Closing Judges – to assist with setting up for the election and closing out election evening.

Ballot Counters – to assist with the hand count of ballots on election night (Nov. 3). Ballot counters will be paid. Visit www.takomaparkmd.gov, email jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov or call 301-891-7267.
Fund for community projects available

Application deadline 12 noon, Wednesday, Sept. 2

The City of Takoma Park is accepting proposals for the use of its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis to community organizations for a wide range of activities directed toward neighborhood revitalization, economic development and the provision of improved community facilities and services.

Approximately $11,600 is available for programming which primarily benefits individuals or households of low and moderate incomes. An additional $79,400 is available for capital projects benefiting low and moderate-income neighborhoods. Proposed programming might be something that an organization does on its own or in partnership with the City of Takoma Park. Funds would be available in fall of 2016. Applications are available at www.takomaparkmd.gov/hcd/community-grants.

There will be an informational meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 12 at 7 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center auditorium. Deadline for submissions is 12 noon on Wednesday, Sept. 2.

For more information, please contact the Housing and Community Development Department at 301-891-7119.

Activists rise to support Piney Branch Elementary pool — and win

By Kevin Adler

Once again, the swimming pool at Piney Branch Elementary was slated for closure, and once again local residents rose up to keep it open. On July 28, the county received funding that had initially been cut, and the pool was saved.

Back in the spring, Montgomery County Executive Isaiah Leggett did not include funding for the pool in his proposed FY16 county budget. But after hearing about the popularity of the county’s only public pool inside the beltmway, the County Council provided the necessary $160,000 for operations and maintenance for the upcoming fiscal year.

However, when more belt-tightening was needed, Leggett proposed cutting pool funding in early July as part of a package of $53 million in cuts.

Takoma Park residents and others quickly responded. Takoma Park resident Laura Barclay started an online petition through Change.org that had obtained more than 450 signatures by mid-July. “I tried to register to present the petition at the July 28 County Council meeting,” Barclay said, “but they said that they will be talking only about capital expenditures, and the pool is an operating expense. We have been told we can submit the petition by email, but we’re working on a way to present in-person, which would be stronger.”

For Barclay, as well as many other area residents, the pool is an important part of their lives throughout the year. “My kids have taken lessons and been on the swim team organized by Aquatic Stars, which rents the pool,” she said. “I’ve used the pool for the masters swim program that’s organized by Daleview pool. Located within a short walk or drive from anywhere in Takoma Park, the pool is a boon for people without cars, said Barclay. “If you look at the other options for swim programs, they’re crazy drives at rush hour,” she said. “This pool is so convenient.”

The presence of the pool within Piney Branch Elementary is yet another benefit, Barclay added. “In my daughter’s fourth-grade class, I’d say a majority of the kids don’t really know how to swim,” she said. “For some, this is their only exposure to a pool.”

The Takoma Park City Council is solidly behind the pool. It unanimously voted on July 13 to support a resolution urging the County Council to return the funds to the budget.

Good signs emerged from the County Council, too, as Planning, Housing, and Economic Development Committee members Nancy Floreen and members George Leventhal and Hans Riemer voted on July 13 in favor of funding the pool.

Meanwhile, some people in Takoma Park have bigger ambitions for the pool. “We are moving into a phase of advocacy for county renovation of the pool,” said Takoma Park Ward 1 Councilmember Seth Grimes. “Desirable elements include facility modernization, accessibility improvements to meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards, and physical separation of the pool facilities from the school.”

Grimes said he received a commitment from Montgomery County Recreation Director Gabe Albornoz to conduct an interdepartmental meeting in the fall about possible renovation projects.

Barclay said that the off-on-off nature of the financing has showed that Takoma Park needs to present a long-term plan for the pool. “We don’t want to go through this every year,” she said, noting that it’s not the first time the pool has been threatened with closure.

Stay cool, stay safe this summer

Takoma Park gets steamy in the summer months, and that can affect air quality. Here are some ways to stay healthy and avoid contributing to poor air quality in the region:

• Fuel your car only after dark.
• Skip the use of gas powered blowers, weed whackers, or edgers.
• Avoid idling your car excessively.
• Carpool, telecommute, or take mass transit to work.
• Limit driving and combine errands.
• 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 reduce power demand.
• Avoid or limit exertion mid-day.
• Drink plenty of fluids.
• Do not leave pets or children in the car unattended.
• If you become over-heated seek an air-conditioned or shady location for rest.
• Check on elderly neighbors to be sure they are safe.

Remember locations such as libraries, community centers or other places that have air conditioning, and seek these places out if you are overheated or your air conditioning is not functioning.
Public art archive is missing (your) art

We Are Takoma, the city’s pro-art initiative that hosts performing arts, visual arts and other creative projects for and by residents, is interested in the incidental art that pops up all around town, and has been archiving it in a catalogue online. Mosaics, murals, sculptures and more dot the Takoma Park landscape, and thus far the project has documented 80 objects around the city—but city staff is eager to add to the list. To see photos of and hear conversations about the “Art About Takoma Park,” go to Takoma Park’s tumblr page, http://takmaparktumblr.com. To add your own, whether it is a yard ornament or public space display, go to www.takomaparkmd.gov/art/public-art. From left, the trompe l’oeil front porch on Carroll Avenue in Old Town; a sculpted rooster perched near backyard friends; and the artistic child in the parking lot of the Community Center.

Join the community at the Takoma Park Folk Festival

The 38th Takoma Park Folk Festival is scheduled to take place on Sunday, Sept. 20 from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Middle School located at 7611 Piney Branch Road.

Community building is at the heart of the festival, a well-established, family-oriented event celebrating the region’s rich musical and artistic talent. In addition to several stages with dozens of musicians, bands, and dancers, plus a lineup of food trucks with everything from grilled meat and vegetarian dishes to softserve ice cream, the event includes community tables for local non-profit or community organizations. In the past, the tables have featured church groups distributing literature; hospitals administering free blood pressure screenings; and dance studios offering mini tap dancing lessons.

Applications for the community tables are open to local organizations through Sept. 11 at www.tpff.org.

If you’re looking for another way to get involved with the Folk Festival, consider volunteering the day of the festival. Shifts are two hours in length, vary in task, and are appropriate for all age groups. The Takoma Park Folk Festival is a Maryland 501(c)(3) organization. Previous beneficiaries include scout packs, Friends of Sligo Creek, and God Glorified Church.

For more information about this year’s festival, including information about community tables and volunteer opportunities, please visit the newly redesigned festival website at www.tpff.org.

Poet Laureate Merrill Leffler receives regional recognition

Takoma Park’s Poet Laureate, Merrill Leffler, was recently honored by the Association of Jewish Libraries, Capital Area Chapter, with the 2015 Achievement Award. AJL celebrated Leffler for his poetry and for founding in 1967 the literary magazine “Dryad,” which grew into Dryad Press. “Merrill is the consummate ‘mensch’—wise, understated, modest, generous and yet intensely rigorous and probing,” said AJL’s Ahron Taub, who presented the award to Leffler. “He is a Jewish humanist in the most profound sense, wrestling with text and language in a realm unfettered by dogma or limitations arbitrarily imposed. His poems are marked, not only by music, of course, but by an unusual combination of sly wit, playfulness, and empathy, in a word—human.”

Leffler has been Takoma Park’s poet laureate since July 2011 and contributor to many literature-focused events in the city. Leffler and his wife and fellow poet Anne Slayton started the Spring for Poetry posters in 2007. He’s also been active on the Friends of the Takoma Park Library.

In accepting the award, Leffler praised the “strong and vital” independent presses and literary publications in the DC area. He spoke about how poetry is made and what makes it distinctive. Leffler quoted William Butler Yeats: “Out of the arguments with others, we make rhetoric; out of the arguments with ourselves we make poetry.”

“In this context, I take ‘arguments’ to mean venturing out, exploring the known and the unknown, questioning what we think we know, whether in theme, subject matter, style,” Leffler said. And he quoted from Ecclesiastes: “of making many books there is no end.” “Books that matter — I’ll call them ‘literary books’ — stimulate the mind, they give us deep pleasures and deep insights. They often disrupt the beliefs we take for granted and don’t question; they inform us more deeply about what we know — or think we know — to teach us about the world and about ourselves,” Leffler said. “Why else are we all gathered here?”

Leffler’s most recent book of poetry, “Mark the Music,” was published in 2012. It has been described as a book in three movements that suggest different stages of life. Its themes include aging, darkness, consolation and joy.

Cycle safe in Takoma Park

More and more people are riding bicycles in Takoma Park and the entire Washington region. Remember, bicyclists are considered vehicle operators, they are required to obey the same rules of the road as other vehicle operators, obeying traffic signs, signals and lane markings. It is so important to follow safety rules while riding a bicycle, especially when riding near motor vehicles. Please use the following safety tips while riding your bike:

- Always wear a helmet.
- Obey all traffic controls (including stopping at stop signs).
- Ride near the right-hand edge of the road.
- Never carry another person on your bicycle.
- Always use hand signals when turning or stopping.
- Watch for cars at cross streets, driveways and parking areas.
- Be careful when checking traffic and don’t swerve when looking over your shoulder.
- Give pedestrians the right-of-way.
- Keep your bicycle in good condition.
TOTS
EDUCATION/DEVELOPMENT
Zumbini
Ages newborn – 3
Zumbini is a music and movement class for children newborn to 3 years old to attend with their music-loving caregiver. We combine original Zumba-style music with dancing, singing, instruments and scarves to create a fun and engaging 45-minute class. Each participant will receive a “Bini Bundle” which includes two copies of our class music and a beautifully illustrated storybook. There will be a $30 materials fee due to the instructor on the first day of class.
TP Community Center Azalea Room
Saturday: Sept. 12 – Dec. 5
Early Session: 9:30 – 10:15 a.m.
Later Session: 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.
TP residents $150
Non-residents $170
SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH
Tennis Skills for Tots (Parent and Me)
Ages 6 – 12
This half-hour class is designed for the youngest of players, using red foam and felt balls, small rackets and nets. Emphasis will be placed on basic motor skills, body movement and eye-racket ball coordination, utilizing fun drills and games. Parent participation is required. (No experience needed)
TP Middle School Tennis Courts
Sundays, Sept. 13 – Oct. 8
Session 1: Noon – 12:30 p.m.
Session 2: 12:30 – 1 p.m.
TP residents $60
Non-residents $80
YOUTH
ART
MAKE/Shift Studio I - Art Inspirations
Ages 6 – 11
Elementary students create exciting 2-D and 3-D projects in this after-school class.
Lessons include drawing, painting, collage, assemblage and mixed-media – every class a different subject and medium. Children learn to express themselves and engage in visual problem solving while producing beautiful works using color, shape, line, texture and pattern. Contemporary and historical artists provide inspiration for this art program geared for third through sixth graders.
TP Community Center Art Studio
Thursdays, Sept. 10 – Oct. 15, 3:45 – 5:30 p.m.
TP residents $150
Non-residents $170
DRAAMA/THEATER
Dungeons and Dragons
Ages 9 – 18
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, Sept. 3 – Oct. 1, 4 – 6 p.m.
TP residents $45
Non-residents $55
MARTIAL ARTS
Kung Fu
Ages 4 – 16
This ancient form of self-defense provides physical and mental exercise which could help the students defend themselves by strengthening hand and eye coordination. The student will gain physical fitness, mental and spiritual strength. There is a non-refundable fee of $50 paid to the instructor at the first class for uniform.
TP Community Center Dance Studio
Saturdays, Sept. 12 – Nov. 14
Beginners 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.
Advanced 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
TP residents $129
Non-residents $139
Taekwondo
Ages 5 and older
Taekwondo is composed of three parts as shown in the English spelling, though it is one word in Korean. “Tae” means “foot,” “teuk” or “to step on”; “Kwon” means “fist,” or “fight”; and “Do” means the “way” or “discipline.” There is a one-time, non-refundable, fee of $40 paid to the instructor on the first class for uniform.
TP Community Center Dance Studio
Mondays, Sept. 14 – Nov. 30, 6 – 7 p.m.
TP residents $145
Non-residents $165
SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH
Tennis Clinic
Ages 7 – 12
This fun and exciting program gives youth the opportunity to learn and nurture their tennis skills. Our goal is to use tennis as a tool that supports and enhances your child’s personal growth, physical health and academic achievement. Structured tennis instruction is an excellent vehicle for building character, developing discipline and promoting physical fitness. Please bring your own racket and a water bottle. If you do not own a racket, the Recreation Department will provide one for the clinic.
Takoma Park Middle School Tennis Courts
Tuesdays, Sept. 15 – Oct. 13
3:45 – 4:45 p.m. – Ages 7 – 9
4:45 – 5:45 p.m. – Ages 10 – 13
TP residents $45
Non-residents $55
Tennis Skills
This class is for beginners, we will introduce and develop basic groundstrokes, using red and orange balls on a shortened court. Then we will progress to green/yellow balls and full court, improving groundstroke consistency/accuracy and working on serves/volleys.
Dance Camp
Ages 6 – 12
Ballet, Tap and Creative Dance is 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.
Instructors will focus on building self-esteem and personal creativity; which will allow participants to gain confidence in the craft of dance.
TP Community Center auditorium
Monday – Friday, Aug. 10 – Aug. 14
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
TP residents $175
Non-resident $195
Register at www.marylandcheerchangers.org
Dribble Pass Shoot Basketball Camp
Ages 5 – 12
Emphasizing individual improvement is one of the guiding philosophies of this camp.
Campers will be provided with excellent coaching which allows each participant to develop a sense of pride and individual accomplishment. Before and Aftercare are available for this camp.
TP Recreation Center gymnasium
Monday – Friday, Aug. 10 – Aug. 14
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

$220
Goal! Futsal Camp
Ages 6 – 12
Futsal is a form of indoor soccer that continues to grow in popularity throughout the country. The game of Futsal, which is fun and fast-paced, is an important component to the development of soccer players. The Goal! Futsal Camp will assist campers in making quick decisions, which will assist with their development, reflexes and pin-pointing passing ability. We welcome all skills sets and will adjust the teaching accordingly.
TP Recreation Center Gymnasium
Monday – Friday, Aug. 17 – Aug. 21
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

$220
Rookie Sports Camp
Ages 3 – 5
Have the little ones join us for a week of unique activities including T-ball, soccer, bowling, kickball, relays and more exciting daily events. Sessions take place in a safe, structured environment and sports are played through a series of games and activities. All the sports promote hand-eye coordination, motor skills, group participation and communication skills. All participants must wear sneakers and dress appropriately. Paperwork will need to be submitted prior to the first day of camp.
TP Community Center Rose Room
Monday – Friday, Aug. 3 – Aug. 7
9 a.m. – noon
TP residents $80
Non-resident $95

Senior Day, Montgomery County Fair, Gaithersburg, Md.
55 and older
Enjoy a good old-fashioned county fair with animal and agricultural exhibits, craft shows, vendor booths and festival foods. Bring lunch, or spending money to purchase lunch. There will be lots of walking. Not fully accessible by wheelchair. Rain or shine. Online or in-person registration is required by Aug. 14. Space Permitting.
TP Community Center Recreation Office
Tuesday, Aug. 18, 8:45 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Free. No cost for transportation.
Registration for Fall Classes begins Aug. 17 at 8:30 a.m.
In this issue: The Takoma Park City Guide for Fall 2015 is included in this newsletter. Inside you will find a full listing of Recreation classes, programs and activities.
REGISTRATION UNDERWAY FOR AFTER THE BELL FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

After The Bell starts at Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Ave.) on Aug. 31. This after school childcare program for the MCPS 2015-2016 school year will provide a safe environment for children in grades K-5. Participants will engage in daily indoor/outdoor group activities and special events. Each day they will receive a snack, have homework time, and enjoy arts and crafts, sports, board games, free play and more. Transportation will not be provided by the Recreation Department, contact MCPS Transportation 301-840-8130 to change your bus route to New Hampshire Towers and we will meet them at the bus stop. The “After The Bell” Program will not operate on days the MCPS is closed. For more information contact Jurrel Cottman at 301-891-7289 or jurrel@takomaparkmd.gov. Twenty percent of the yearly fee is due at registration.

TP Recreation Center
Kindergarten-5th Grade
Monday – Friday, Aug. 31 – June 17
3:30 – 6 p.m.
$125/month

LATE NIGHT = SAFE NIGHT

After Hours
Ages 16 – 24
This new program will provide a drop-in service for the teens and young adults. The Recreation Department is partnering with the Takoma Park Police Department to offer futsal and basketball one night per week over the course of the summer. We are looking to provide safe and fun activities for the young adults in our community as well as build the relationship between the community and the Takoma Park Police department. The program runs until Aug. 20.

TP Recreation Center
Tuesday – Thursday, 9 – 11 p.m.
Free with Registration

ADULTS

MULTI MEDIA

Video Editing with Final Cut Pro
Ages 16 and older
Introduction to video editing using Apple’s latest version of Final Cut Pro. Participants will learn the general interface, keyboard shortcuts and all pertinent terminology. Learn how to create and organize projects, log and capture video, add transitions and effects, basic text manipulation and time line based storytelling.

TP Community Center Multi Media Lab
Wednesday, Sept. 23 – Nov. 18
Beginners, 7:30 – 9 p.m.
TP residents $120
Non-residents $140
Advanced, 7:30 – 9 p.m.
TP residents $140
Non-residents $160

SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

Boon! Body Boot Camp
Ages 18 and older
Boon! Body Boot Camp is a high-energy, fun-filled class with great music that targets the whole body with HIIT routines that includes weight training. If you’re looking to get in the best shape of your life, this hour packed class is for you.

TP Community Center Dance Studio
Wednesdays, Sept. 16 – Oct. 10, 6 – 7 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 – 10 a.m.
TP residents $100
Non-residents $120
Drop in $15

Cardio-Intense Groove and Strength Training
Ages 16 and older
Fly into big, fast, easy moves to a consistent beat. The workout is always intense, with movements that will max you out. Working out has never felt this good. Workout includes strength training with resistance tools and Pilates based core work. Participants should bring own mat.

TP Community Center Dance Studio
Fridays, Sept. 11 – Oct. 30, 7 – 8:15 p.m.
TP residents $84
Non-residents $94

Everyday Qi Gong
Ages 18 and older
Simple, everyday movements made to improve health, mobility, flexibility and general happiness and peace of mind. We will share exercises from many different classes, culling the ones that we practice regularly in the morning and throughout the day. You will find benefits quickly – invigorating energy systems, opening up joints and relaxing our bodies, minds and spirits.

TP Community Center Dance Studio
Wednesdays, Sept. 16 – Oct. 21, 7:15 – 8:15 p.m.
TP residents $95
Non-residents $105
Drop-in $15

Tai Chi Chuan
Ages 18 and older
Tai Chi Chuan is often referred to as moving meditation and offers many health and relaxation benefits to people of all ages. Regular practice can improve posture, balance, coordination, strength, flexibility, cardiovascular fitness and concentration. In this introductory class the focus is on tai chi principles and how they help us relax and make our bodies stronger, more flexible and more efficient.

TP Community Center Dance Studio
Thursdays, Sept. 9 – Oct. 13, 6:45 – 7:45 p.m.
TP residents $145
Non-residents $165

Instructors and part-time staff needed (to teach ages 13–17)
Seasonal, year round, flexible, afternoon/evening available

The Teen Program is seeking instructors to facilitate a variety of classes for ages 13 – 17. Current instruction is needed for Drama, SAT Prep – MATH Portion, Job Training, Art, Fitness, Computer Skills, etc. Employment opportunities are available for Teen Lounge staff, programming activities, plan/attend field trips, etc from 2:30 – 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. Apply online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/hr/careers. For more information, contact Chelsea Nuñez at chealsean@takomaparkmd.gov.
If you’ve looked for a book in the Library catalog or checked the status of your Library account in the past week or so, then you know that we’ve made some big changes. All of these changes stem from our switch to new library software: Koha, hosted and supported by ByWater Solutions. Koha is an open source system used extensively in Europe, South America and Africa, as well as the United States. And, of course, in New Zealand, where it originated.

Koha is a Maori word for gift. In New Zealand, where it originated, Koha is an open source system used by the library for managing its catalog. Hosted and supported by ByWater Solutions, Koha is used in libraries around the world.

You might want to start by looking at your own account in our new system. Just click on the “My Account” button at the top right of the Library’s main website. Or go to the “log in” link at the bottom of the page. Either will get you to the right place. You’ll then be asked for your library ID – that’s your catalog number – and your password. Normally, this is your birthday, month and day of your birthday, mmdd, and it has to be four numbers, so add a leading zero if you need to (i.e. if your birthday is Jan 1, you would put in (0101)).

Once you’re into your account, you can find a list of what you’ve got checked out – and when they’re due back — by clicking “your summary.” To see what fines you owe, click on “your fines.”

If you want to update your address or phone number or email, click on “your personal details.” In addition, you can determine how long the Library keeps your reading history by going to “your privacy.”

By clicking on “your messaging,” you can decide how often you want to get emails showing when items you’ve checked out are due back. Be sure to choose “digest only” where it is available to ensure that information about the items you’ve checked out is pulled together into one email.

Library users can also personalize their reading experience in several new ways in the Koha catalog. For example, you can create lists of books that you’ve read or want to read – by clicking on “your lists.” To request that the Library purchase a particular item, click on “your purchase suggestions.” Complete the online form, and then submit it.

In addition, you can comment on a book by following a two-step process. First, find the book in our catalog and then click on it. Under the basic information about the book, click on the “comments.” You’ll be prompted to log into your account, then you’ll need to find and click on the book in the catalog once more before typing in your comment. Once your comment is approved by library staff, you’ll see it in the catalog.

We hope that you will spend some time discovering all the great new features of our Koha catalog. If you have any questions, we’re happy to answer them; you can also check out the brief but informative videos about Koha. Let us know what you think!

**LIBRARY BRIEFS**

**Amharic Story Time**

We’re hosting our first Amharic Story Time on Saturday, Aug. 22, from 2 – 3 p.m. Geared to children ages 4-8 and their grown-ups, the program will be led by Kidist Desta, a Takoma Park resident and native Amharic speaker. Working with children’s librarian Karen MacPherson, Desta has created a program that will begin with a storytelling session – in English and Amharic – based on the book, “Silly Mammo.” The book, based on an Ethiopian folktale, is retold by Yohannes Gebregeorgis. Following the storytelling session, participants can do a craft based on the book.

Registration is encouraged for this program, so that we can have enough craft materials for all. To register, please go to www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents or call us at 301-891-7259.

**Nighttime Comics Jam**

Join us for a special nighttime version of our popular Comics Jam program on Monday, Aug. 10 at 7 p.m. Dave Burbank, the library’s comics guru, will read some comics aloud, using our document camera and the big screen so that we can have enough craft materials for all. To register, please go to www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents or call us at 301-891-7259.

**Friends Fortnightly Book Club discusses “Our Lady of the Nile”**

“The Lady of the Nile” tells the story of a school for the daughters of the Rwandan elite before the genocide of 1994. Although it is set in the 1970s, the novel reveals that what was to come had already been set in motion. The novel uses the story of a group of students and their teachers to create what one reviewer described as a “microcosm” of the sentiments that led to the Hutu massacre of more than 100,000 Tutsis in less than four months. More than just a story of a school for girls, “Our Lady of the Nile” explores the colonial history that led to the genocide.

Reviewer Bibi Deitz writes: “…Our Lady of the Nile,” published in English 20 years after the massacre of the Tutsi people, is a political novel, addressing race, culture, gender. The brutality of the Hutu-Tutsi conflict is easily misunderstood. This book makes it human, brings it down to the level of the everyday. When the question of how such a thing could have happened is asked, the treacherous answer is here, in the mundane. By imagining the everyday lives of Rwandans, Mukasonga makes more sense of the climate leading up to the genocide than a stack of news articles does.

All are welcome to attend the Friends of the Library book discussions. Copies of “Our Lady of the Nile” will be available at the Library.
on social issues but also a pragmatic leader on economic ones, Williams was integral to economic development in Old Town and the new activity today along New Hampshire Avenue and in Takoma Junction. He also supported the non-economic factors that make Takoma Park special: the creation of the Arts and Humanities Commission and the expansion of public art programs and youth sports, recruitment of volunteers, voting by 16- and 17-year-olds, and more.

Williams says he understands that improving physical spaces can create an environment for more community activities, such as the upgraded auditorium in the Community Center. “It was not part of the original a, but is something I pushed for,” he wrote on Facebook. “The expansion of the vision that all of us bought into has resulted in this space that is so much better than any of us imagined.”

The demand [from local businesses] was exceeding the amount we could lend at that time was to simply let more local businesses apply for funding. Members of the OTBA support, but to invest in, local businesses, Takoma Park seemed willing not just to vet the businesses, then raise the money to make the loan by issuing Takoma Notes to local investors. When the notes were sold, the necessary amount within the established time period, it then lends the proceeds to the specified Takoma business. The business then pays interest and principal to OTBA which in turn passes those payments to the Takoma Note investors. The program is offered to all Maryland and Washington, D.C. residents. Representatives from Colombo Bank have worked closely with OTBA investors and the bank will handle the investments and tranfer the proceeds to the氧州立大学 to endorse same-sex marriage. Beyond Takoma Park’s physical transformation, Williams is recognized for a deeply personal decision he made more than 20 years ago. In 1993, he became the first openly gay elected official in Maryland, Washington and Virginia. With his encouragement, Takoma Park became in 2004 the first jurisdiction in the state to endorse same-sex marriage.

In speaking openly about his life with husband Geoffrey Burkhart over the years, Williams reflected his lifelong commitment to surrounding yourself with people who are smarter than you are, so that you can all shine,” he wrote. Williams hasn’t revealed what he will do next, except to say that he will remain involved in Takoma Park.

Running for Office?

Candidates for Mayor or Councilmember who wish to have their names placed on the ballot for the November 3, 2015 City election must receive a nomination and a second at the Nominating Caucus, which will be held on Sept. 29. All information for candidates is available online. Any resident thinking of running for office may contact Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, at jessiec@takomapark-md.gov or 301-891-7267 with questions. Mayor: Candidates for the office of Mayor must be at least 18 years of age on the day of the election, have resided in the city for at least six months immediately preceding their election, and shall be a qualified voter of the City. The Mayor shall maintain his/her principal residence in the city during his/her term of office. If the Mayor changes his/her principal residence from the city, the Mayor’s term shall be immediately terminated and the vacancy shall be filled as provided in Section 308 of the City Charter. The Mayor is prohibited from holding other public elective offices during his/her term of office, and is prohibited from serving on any city board, commission, or other body that has authority to adjudicate, investigate, or otherwise resolve disputes.

Councilmember: Candidates for the office of Councilmember must be at least 18 years of age on the day of the election, have resided in the city (and ward from which they are elected) for at least six months immediately preceding their election, and shall be qualified voters of the City. The Councilmembers shall maintain their principal residence in the city and in their ward during their term of office. If a Councilmember changes his/her principal residence from the city or from the ward from which the Councilmember was elected, the Councilmember’s term shall be immediately terminated and the vacancy shall be filled as provided in Section 308 of the City Charter.
Two arrested for shooting at Econo Lodge

Two men were arrested for a shooting that occurred in the wee hours of the morning on July 10 at the Econo Lodge on New Hampshire Avenue.

Samba Sow, 20, and Kevin Fuentes, 22, both of the District of Columbia, were arrested on charges of second degree murder, conspiracy, possession of a handgun in the commission of a felony, first degree assault and other offenses.

The arrests were announced six days after the shooting. Takoma Park Police had arrived at the scene to find a large crowd gathered. The incident corresponded to the gunshot victim who had walked to a local hospital; the victim suffered non-life threatening injuries.

After an exhaustive investigation, the police department reports that detectives were able to identify the suspects and the Special Assignment Team (SAT) located them. The Montgomery County Repeat Offenders Section assisted in the arrest, and the suspects were taken into custody at Sow’s residence. The vehicle used during the crime was also recovered.

National Night Out combines safety and celebration

Takoma Park joins communities across the nation for National Night Out, Tuesday, Aug. 4 from 6 – 9 p.m. at the Piney Branch Elementary School, 7510 Maple Ave. The annual event includes activities and information about safety and crime prevention, but also features food, music, games and give-aways.

Sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, National Night Out is designed to heighten safety and crime prevention awareness; support locally-based businesses, groups and organizations; and strengthen relationships among community members and between the community and local police department. This year’s event will include informational brochures on various safety topics and crime prevention, food, give-aways and live music. There will be various events, including child fingerprinting, a moon bounce, face painting, games and prizes and more. The event is free.

In addition, a resident safety workshop will be held between 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. in the same location. The focus is on “Situational Awareness,” with tips and strategies that will help participants protect their bodies and belongings. All ages are welcome. The workshops is coordinated by the Lifelong Takoma Program.

No water, no mosquitos: clearing standing water keeps critters at bay

Summer is officially here, and many Takoma Parkers head outdoors to enjoy the season—unless they are plagued by mosquitoes. Takoma Park’s Housing and Community Development staff says in order to keep them away, eliminating standing water is essential. It only takes a teaspoon or a bottle cap of water standing for about a week for hundreds of eggs to grow into adult mosquitoes. Here are a few hints:

- Make sure that you remove any tires, rubbish, or even toys that might hold water.
- Change water in any bird baths or pet dishes at least once a week.
- Make sure your gutters are clear and that water is not pooling in your downsprouts.
- If you have a rain barrel or a pond without fish, you can get special mosquitos that will kill mosquitoes larvae.

Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported 35 people have died in fires in July, compared to 37 in July 2014.

Safety Message

In the event of a power failure, the use of candles are not recommended. Should you use them, they should never be left unattended.

Award-winning firefighters

Takoma Park VFD members received a number of awards at the 2015 June Maryland State Firemen’s Association Convention. Among them were the Hall of Fame Award, to Chief Tom Musgrove; the Family Appreciation Award, to the Willey Family (including father and mother Richard and Tina, son Andrew and daughter Ashley); and the EMS Top Responder Award to EMT Jorge Alvaro. Alvaro also received a nominee certificate for “EMT of the Year Award.”

A special recognition award went to FF/EMT Adam Bearne from the Montgomery County Fire Rescue Service, which named him “EMS Provider of the Month” for performing the Heimlich Maneuver, saving the life of a choking victim. Lt. Errin Wirth, MFRS presented the award. Congratulations to all.

Prevention del mosquito

¡El verano está oficialmente aquí, y también son los mosquitos! Para mantenérlos fuera de su propiedad, es esencial que se elimine el agua estancada. Sólo se necesita una cucharadita de agua estancada por una semana para que los huevos se hagan en mosquitos adultos! Quita cualquier llantas, basura, o incluso juguetes que puedan contener agua. Cambia el agua de los baños de aves o platos de las mascotas al menos una vez a la semana. Asegúrate de que sus canales son claros y que el agua no se acumule en sus bajantes. Si usted tiene un barril de lluvia o un estanque sin peces, puede obtener veladas mosquitos especiales o pellets que matan a las larvas de mosquitos. Si usted sigue estos consejos, usted puede relajarse sabiendo que no tendrá que hacer frente a ningunos mosquitos más irritantes.

Medication return box open 24-7

Accidental poisoning from medications has been increasing since 2001, especially for children. National Poison Control Centers data reported that approximately 5,000 children ages 6 years and under, and 18,783 adults, succumbed to accidental exposure to medications in 2007. Even child resistant containers cannot completely prevent a child from taking medicines that belong to someone else.

What can you do? Keep medications that are used in a locked area, and dispose of unused or expired prescription and over-the-counter medications as soon as possible.

In Takoma Park, the police department has made the task easier. Its Medication return box is now open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Located in the lower level lobby area of the Community Center (7300 Maple Ave.), the green box is easy to find, safe and secure.

The Med-Return box accepts unwanted/unused prescription and non-prescription drugs, patches, ointments, over-the-counter medications, vitamins, or pet medication. Drugs can be dropped off with no questions asked.

—Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness Committee
Safe Routes helps kids transition back to school

By the time Takoma Park students read this, summer will be more than half over. The days will be shorter; the Sunday circulator will show kids sporting the newest back-to-school fashion, including backpacks! So much to think about: school supply lists, new shoes, teachers and classes, and keeping the routes to school clear and safe for student traffic. So here is the Safe Routes to School list of ways to enjoy summer’s transition to fall:

1. Decide to walk or bike to school this year. Combat all those hours in the classroom with a few extra minutes outside each morning and afternoon. Experience the changing season each morning as the temperatures get cooler and the days grow shorter.

2. Add reflective gear to your back-to-school shopping list. Many backpacks, shoes and jackets incorporate retro-reflective fabric into the design. Choose items that are bright, so students can be seen while they travel to and from school on foot or by bike.

3. Plan to walk with neighbors and friends every day and on Walk to School Day, Oct. 7. Seek out families who live nearby and make a plan to coordinate supervision by organizing a walking school bus or buddy system.

4. Count your walking and biking habits. Count your steps and “walk across the state, the country, around the world.” Challenge yourself to a walking/biking record number of days without driving. Walk in the rain or snow. Make a walking scavenger hunt. Enjoy your time together.

5. Make time to continue your summer yard work regime. Clear overgrown vines, shrubbery, hedges and other vegetation to the edge of the sidewalk. Keep the sidewalks clear so students can get by safely without ending up in the street. Ask your neighbors to do the same.

And most importantly, talk about safety. Plan your routes, discuss best practices for crossing the street, obeying laws and being aware of surroundings. For additional information about Takoma Park Safe Routes to School, contact Lucy Neher, lucyn@takomaparkmgd.gov.

LIFELONG TAKOMA

From page 1

dinate city services and volunteer efforts to enable the 23 percent of Takoma Park residents who are seniors to live “with reduced or no barriers” as they go about their daily lives. Support can come in almost any form, from a ride to a doctor’s appointment, to help filling out a complicated form, to house maintenance.

When Maricheau began her part-time position with the city last spring, she embarked on a listening tour to hear from residents about their priorities and to explain the support that Lifelong Takoma could provide. She also reached out through the first annual Lifelong Takoma Day last September, which attracted about 130 people.

What do residents need? Priorities include health management, health and dental care, caregiver support, finances, socialization and inclusion, transportation, advocacy, home and property management, legal assistance and planning, food assistance and nutrition, eviction prevention, and employment.

As the list indicates, the needs vary from single events to longer-term issues. “I have been getting more and more long-term, multi-faceted requests, and in these cases, some residents truly would benefit from case management,” Maricheau says. “There are resources for this through the county and some local nonprofits. Some of the help I am able to provide, and for other kinds I refer the resident to other programs, services, and resources that may be more effective for what they need.”

Notable Successes

Lifelong Takoma has achieved some notable successes in its short existence.

Numerous residents have been linked to meals programs, and others have been linked to home care and home-based medical services. Others now have access to free transportation that enables them to attend medical appointments, as well as social events and worship services.

One high-profile effort occurred during the winter through a partnership with the Takoma Park Middle School Difference Makers. The teenage “Snow Angels” shoveled walkways and sidewalks at 42 residences without charge.

Lifelong Takoma also participated in the recent Energy Service Day last month. Volunteers received training and supplies from the city’s Environmental Sustain-

ability Program, and they went in teams to homes to offer ideas about improving home energy efficiency.

Coming on Aug. 4 is another event at which Lifelong Takoma will play a big role: The National Night Out. Piney Branch Elementary is hosting the activities, beginning at 7:30 p.m., and Maricheau will be on site to share information about Lifelong Takoma.

“This event is sponsored by the Takoma Park Police, and they will be explaining how to improve your ‘situational awareness,’” she says. “You can get tips, learn strategies and practice personal safety behaviors.

More projects are ahead, especially as Lifelong Takoma builds on already established relationships with local churches, the Village of Takoma Park volunteers, Washington Adventist and local businesses, among others.

“My goal is to provide more support, financial and staffing down the road,” Maricheau says. “The purpose would be so that the Lifelong Takoma program could acquire and use a database that allows for follow-up with residents. It would enable us to see if residents felt their issues were acknowledged and to learn if they received the help that they needed from the places where they were referred.

She also plans to reach groups that haven’t yet been served: “Communication barriers prevent real inclusion of non-English-speaking residents,” she says. “At the next Lifelong Takoma Day, we plan to offer interpreter services. This may particularly help residents express themselves when we have the Community Conversation during the event.”

These are ambitious plans, but Maricheau is confident and optimistic. “I have been fully supported by the City Council and my supervisor, City Manager Suzanne Lloyd,” she says. “I feel blessed to be where I am, doing what I’m doing.”

COUNCIL ACTION

From page 2

ORDINANCE 2015-27

Adopted June 22 (first reading June 15)
City Staff Position Structure
Adopts a pay structure for city staff through June 30, 2017. The city conducts classification and compensation studies on a periodic basis to ensure that its pay scales are market competitive and that it is able to attract and retain quality staff.

ORDINANCE 2015-28

Adopted July 13 (first reading June 22)
Elect Code Amendments
Amends Takoma Park Code, Title 5, Elections: Ch. 5.04 General Provisions, Ch. 5.12 Fair Election Practices, Ch. 5.16 Voting, Ch. 5.20 Absentee Voting, and Ch. 5.22 Provisional Ballots. The amendment includes minor clarifying provisions, details how incomplete and late filing of campaign reports are handled, and clearly states what happens if a candidate is elected but does not file the required financial disclosure statement.

ORDINANCE 2015-29

Adopted June 22
Montgomery College ACES Program Grant
Authorizes payment to Montgomery College for the FY 2015 ACES (Achieving College Enrichment and Success) Program. The grant amount is $15,392.

ORDINANCE 2015-30

Adopted June 22
Legal Counsel for the Takoma Junction Redevelopment Project
Selects Douglas Bregman, Esq., and team members Francoise M. Carriere, Timothy P. Schwartz, and Grace Burnside, of the law firm of Bregman, Berbert, Schwartz & Gillard, LLC, to represent the city on development issues. The City Manager is authorized to expend up to $30,000 for the firm’s legal services for the Takoma Junction Redevelopment Project.

ORDINANCE 2015-31

Adopted July 13
Lunch and Learn Summer Camp Grant
Authorizes execution of a grant agreement with Adventist Community Services of Greater Washington for disbursement of up to $25,000 for the 2015 Lunch and Learn Summer Camp.

ORDINANCE 2015-32

Adopted June 8
Sponsored Bulletin Boards in Parks
Accepts donation of sponsored community bulletin boards for placement in city parks at locations specified by the City Manager.

ORDINANCE 2015-33

Adopted June 8
Policy for New Sidewalk Design and Installation
Sets forth a policy for new sidewalk design and installation and supersedes Resolutions 2012-16 and 2010-14.

RESOLUTION 2015-35

Adopted June 22
Board of Elections Appointments
Appoints Priscilla Lobovitz (Ward 1) to the Recreation Committee.

RESOLUTION 2015-36

Adopted June 22
Arts and Humanities Commission Appointments
Appoints Abraham Joyner-Meyers (Ward 1) and Janet Rumble (Ward 2) and reappoints Iva Saifer (non resident) to the Commission.

RESOLUTION 2015-37

Adopted June 22
Safe Roadways Committee Appointments
Reappoints Paras Shah (Ward 6) and Beatrice York (Ward 5) to the Board of Elections.

RESOLUTION 2015-38

Adopted June 22
Safe Roadways Committee Appointments
Reappoints Joe Edgel (Ward 2) and Elizabeth Catanese (Ward 2) to the Safe Roadways Committee.

RESOLUTION 2015-39

Adopted July 6
FUCW Local 400 Collective Bargaining Agreement
Ratifies the July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017 collective bargaining agreement between the City of Takoma Park and United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 600.

RESOLUTION 2015-40

Adopted July 13
Support for Piney Branch Pool
Supports keeping the Piney Branch Pool open and urges Montgomery County to maintain its FY 16 funding commitment.

RESOLUTION 2015-41

Adopted July 13
COLTA Appointments
Reappoints Dorothy Cunnion (Ward 2) and Vineda Myers (Ward 4) to the Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs.

RESOLUTION 2015-42

Arts and Humanities Commission
Appointments
Appoints Nandi Henderson (Ward 6) to the Arts and Humanities Commission.
PUBLIC MEETINGS / OF NOTE
City Council
There are no City Council meetings planned for the month of August. The next City Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 8.

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
240-450-2062 or educare_ss@yahoo.com
www.educaresupportservices.org

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Kid’s Night Out
First and third Fridays, 7-15 – 8:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Fun and games for kids
See page 6 for details

Teen Night
Second and fourth Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Games and activities just for teens
See page 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

Crossroads Farmers Market
Wednesdays, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Behind Expo Smart at 1031 University Blvd.
Locally grown fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs plus pupusas and other prepared food

Food Truck Fridays
Fridays, 5 – 8 p.m.
Takoma Junction, next to TPSS Co-op, 201 Ethan Allen Ave.

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 September issue is Aug. 24, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning Sept. 4.

To submit calendar items, email tpnewsneditor@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.

Make a Difference - Plant a Tree

Discount Trees Available to Beautify Yards, Replace the Canopy

The season is right to plant trees, and in Takoma Park that means residents can help replenish the aging tree canopy in the city. The city offers added incentive by reducing the cost of the first tree purchased by $100 (unless it is a replacement tree required as part of a Tree Removal Permit). That means residents can add a $195 tree to their yards for just $95 plus 6 percent sales tax, a total of $100.70. Add a second tree and the bill is still only $307.40, planted and guaranteed for one year.

Established discounts still apply as well, through the city’s annual bulk buy tree sale.

As a purchasing agent with Arbor Landscapers, the city is making five species available at wholesale prices. Red oak, sycamore, sweet gum, black gum and American linden—all native shade trees that usually retail for about $350—are available to residents at $195, installed.

Sale dates run through Oct. 17.

ORDER FORM
Please include check, including tax, written to the City of Takoma Park and be sure to draw a map of the property and locations for installation (see order form). Submit to Todd Bolton, Takoma Park Department of Public Works, 31 Oswego Ave., Silver Spring, Md., 20910 by close of business Oct. 17.

Someone will be in touch regarding installation dates, which will occur in November.

Name ________________________________
Address __________________________________________
Phone __________________________________________

Please include a map of property/tree installation locations.

___ Red Oak (2") $195 ___ Sycamore (2") $195 ___ Sweet Gum (2") $195
___ Black Gum (2") $195 ___ American Linden (2") $195
+ 6% sales tax
Total ________________________________

TP Community Center
7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Maryland 20912

With the help of volunteers, this tree planting event will take place on Saturday, Sept. 26.

By the numbers:
- 120 trees will be planted.
- 200 volunteers are needed.
- They’ll be planting 120 trees in 3 hours.

The event will take place from 9 a.m. to noon at various locations throughout the city.

There are numerous ways to volunteer:
- To plant a tree, register online at takomaparkrecreation.org/makeadiff.
- To join a volunteer crew, email volunteers@takomaparkrecreation.org.
- To donate trees, email trees@takomaparkrecreation.org.

The event is free, and all ages are welcome to participate.

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