

September  
2015



## WHAT'S NEW?

### Folk Festival insert

See inside!

### Nominate candidates for city council

Deadline Sept. 29

Details, page 3

### Nominar candidates para el Concejo Municipal de la Ciudad

Fecha límite: Septiembre 29

Detalles página 3

### Labor Day weekend

Sunday and Monday, Sept. 6 and 7

City offices and Community  
Center closed

### Trash collection

Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 7

No yard waste or compost collection

# TAKOMA PARK

A newsletter published by the City of Takoma Park, Maryland

Volume 54, No. 9 ■ takomaparkmd.gov



Photo by Selena Malott

Jaden Stewart waits patiently for his turn with the bikes at the block party for Hillwood Manor residents. Tenants in the apartments there recently organized a tenant association.

## Possible building sale motivates Hillwood Manor tenants to organize

By Kevin Adler

Rahm Emanuel, Chicago mayor and former Obama administration official, is famous for saying, "You never let a serious crisis go to waste."

That's what the residents of the Hillwood Manor apartment complex on New Hampshire Avenue did this spring and summer. Informed by their landlord that she was considering a sale of the property, and motivated by the possibility that such a sale could lead to needed building renovations, the residents got together and quickly created a tenant association.

"We were told there was a contract on the property, and we had a meeting to learn what our rights are," said Howard Purnell, Jr., one of three co-leaders of the tenant association, and a resident for about two-and-a-half years.

The residents learned they could match any offer for the property or seek to partner with a developer who wanted to buy the property. They chose the latter tactic, and are hoping that the Montgomery Housing Partnership (MHP) will soon be the new owner. MHP, an affordable housing advocate that specializes in resurrecting properties in need of repair and renovation, has a track record of buying and renovating Takoma Park rental apartments and condos. It owns properties on Maple, Flower and Houston Avenues.

Although the deal is still in the negotiating stages, Hillwood Manor residents say they are encouraged after touring an existing MHP rehab property, and they are grateful for the support they have received from City of Takoma Park along the way.

**TENANTS ORGANIZE** □ Page 11

## Business is lively: new shops open in Takoma Park

There was a flurry of ribbon cuttings this spring, and the activity has continued over the summer, with new businesses blooming and existing ones expanding.

April brought grand openings at Spring Mill Bakery ([www.springmill-bread.com](http://www.springmill-bread.com)), located at Takoma Junction, and Tabletop ([www.tabletopdc.com](http://www.tabletopdc.com)), a gift shop in the old Now and Then space on Laurel Avenue. Spring Mill has become a popular hang-out for

lunch or treats, with a few café tables and freshly baked, whole-grain breads, muffins, cookies and other sweets. Tabletop is holding down the tradition of unique gifts and quirky home goods, and even has some of the same staff as Now and Then.

In May, there was another ribbon cutting, at Little Loft ([www.littleloftstudios.com/takomapark](http://www.littleloftstudios.com/takomapark)). The play space, at 7007 Carroll Ave. above the (also

**NEW SHOPS** □ Page 9

## Sligo Creek gets a Makeover

By Bob Guldin

Sligo Creek is getting a long-awaited makeover, and residents, drivers and bikers in Takoma Park can expect to see lots of construction in and around Sligo Creek Park over the next year.

Why is all this work being done? It's part of a long-term effort to restore and improve the water quality and habitat of Sligo Creek, the unique natural feature that meanders through the middle of Takoma Park. Kit Gage, the president of the local environmental group Friends of Sligo Creek, says the stream quality is currently rated "fair" in some parts and "poor" in others, so there is much room for improvement.

The project is being supervised by Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, the agency that provides water and sewer services for Montgomery and Prince George's counties.

The work is happening all up and down Sligo Creek, from Wheaton to Hyattsville, says Eugene Rose, a spokesman for the project who is a liaison between WSSC and the Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission (MNCPPC), which is in charge of the park. "It's already happening in some parts of Takoma Park," he says, below Piney Branch Road, near Wayne Avenue and on Long Branch Creek.

"There are going to be a lot of temporary impacts," Rose says, "but we're going to make sure that the parkway is not closed." There may be brief times, though, when Sligo Creek Parkway has only one lane open.

Access to the park is not expected to be limited. As for the popular hiker-biker trail that runs along the creek, if parts are torn up, alternative routes will be—and in some cases have already been—provided.

The big remediation project, which affects waterways throughout the two counties, stems directly

**SLIGO CREEK** □ Page 9

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

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## Inside



### Lifelong Takoma celebration

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### Music and art

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### Activities around town

Page 12

## City Council & Committee Calendar

### OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

#### CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, Sept. 8, 7 p.m.\*

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 7 p.m.

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

Monday, Sept. 28, 7 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 5, 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)

#### BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Room TBA

#### COMMEMORATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Room TBA

#### COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT/ CITY COUNCIL

##### Joint Meeting

Wednesday, Sept. 23, 7:15 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### COUNCIL COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, Sept. 17, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Rose Room

#### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, Sept. 24, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### FACADE ADVISORY BOARD

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

TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, Sept. 17, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### SAFE ROADWAYS COMMITTEE

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

TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### TREE COMMISSION

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

TPCC Room TBA

\*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/calendar](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/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](mailto:clerk@takomaparkmd.gov).

#### NOTICE ON ADA COMPLIANCE

The City of Takoma Park is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in public meetings. Anyone planning to attend a City of Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing, and who wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services or accommodations is invited to contact Emily Cohen, at 301-891-7266 or [emilyc@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:emilyc@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](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov). For additional information, contact the city clerk at [jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov).**

#### ORDINANCE 2015-31

**Adopted July 27 (first reading July 13)**

Budget Amendment

*The ordinance authorizes FY 2016 budget amendment No. 1*

#### ORDINANCE 2015-32

**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 2015-33

**Adopted July 27 (first reading July 20)**

Recycling Code Amendment

*Amends the Takoma Park Code Title 10. Refuse and Title 6. Housing to modernize the City's residential recycling policies and require businesses to recycle*

#### ORDINANCE 2015-34

**Adopted July 20**

Community Kitchen Grant

*Authorizes a grant agreement with the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church for the Takoma Park Shared-Use Community Commercial Kitchen. The grant amount is \$10,000 (VOTING NO: Councilmember Smith)*

#### ORDINANCE 2015-35

**Adopted July 27**

Community Grant Program Awards

*Awards FY 16 community grant funds as follows: Historic Takoma, Takoma Community Radio (\$11,000); Montgomery Housing Partnership for the Parkview Tower site (\$11,000); CHEER Youth Development Collaborative (\$11,250); Docs in Progress Community Film Screening (\$4,000); Old Takoma Business Association Main Street Takoma festivals (\$11,200); Rhizone DC Makers Space and programming (\$11,250); Takoma*

*Ensemble concert series (\$7,500); Takoma/Langley Crossroads CDA mural on Holton Lane (\$10,000); CHEER 636 Houston Court Capacity Building Project (\$4,000); CHEER Takoma Park Civic Engagement Project (\$15,000); Crossroads Community Food Network general operations (\$22,500); Dance Exchange general operations (\$15,100); EduCare Support Services, Inc. food pantry (\$23,900); New Hampshire Gardens Citizens Association capacity building (\$3,800); Takoma Park Difference Makers vehicle purchase (\$3,500) (ABSTAINING: Councilmember Seamens)*

#### ORDINANCE 2015-36

**Adopted July 27**

Library Renovation Project

*Authorizes The Lukmire Partnership to pursue additional and/or modified concept designs for the Library. Upon public review and adoption of a preferred concept design by council, the city manager may authorize The Lukmire Partnership for detailed design development, working drawings, and civil engineering for renovation of the Library.*

#### ORDINANCE 2015-37

**Adopted July 27**

Contract with OTBA

*Authorizes a contract in the amount of \$37,000 for economic development services with the Old Takoma Business Association*

#### ORDINANCE 2015-38

**Adopted July 27**

Contract with Takoma/Langley Crossroads CDA

*Authorizes a contract in the amount of \$30,000 for economic development services with the Takoma/Langley Crossroads CDA*

#### ORDINANCE 2015-39

**Adopted July 27**

Mobile Data Computers

*Authorizes procurement of 13 Panasonic Toughbook computers from Brekford Corp. for the police department*

#### ORDINANCE 2015-40

**Adopted July 27**

Police Body Cameras

*Authorizes a five-year contract with Taser*

*International for body cameras, evidence storage and replacement electronic control devices*

#### ORDINANCE 2015-41

**Adopted July 27**

Police Vehicle

*Authorizes purchase of a replacement special investigation vehicle from Hertrich Fleet Services at the cost of \$33,397*

#### ORDINANCE 2015-42

**Adopted July 27**

Police Vehicles

*Authorizes purchase of seven replacement police vehicles from Apple Ford at the cost of \$192,132 (VOTING NO: Councilmembers Male and Seamens)*

#### ORDINANCE 2015-43

**Adopted July 27**

Equipping Police Vehicles

*Authorizes purchase and installation of equipment for six police vehicles from Brekford Corp. at a total cost of \$104,000*

#### RESOLUTION 2015-43

**Adopted July 20**

Legislative Action Requests

*Authorizes submission of three legislative action requests to the Maryland Municipal League*

#### RESOLUTION 2015-44

**Adopted July 27**

Comments on Proposed Comcast Franchise Agreement

*Authorizes comments to be transmitted for a Montgomery County public hearing to receive input regarding terms for a renewal of a cable franchise from Comcast of Potomac, LLC*

#### RESOLUTION 2015-45

**Adopted July 27**

Council Summer Recess

*Establishes the dates of the 2015 summer recess for the City Council as July 28 – Sept. 7, 2015.*

**CITY COUNCIL ACTION** ☐ Page 3

### VACANCIES ON CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

**Interested in serving? A great first step is to attend a meeting to learn more about the work of the group. Meeting dates/times may be found on the City's calendar at: [www.takomaparkmd.gov/calendar](http://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](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/bcc) for complete information or to apply. For questions, contact Jessie Carpenter, city clerk, at 301-891-7267 or [jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov).

The following groups have vacancies or expiring terms:

**Arts and Humanities Commission** (six vacancies – no representatives from Ward 4 and Ward 5)

**Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs** (one vacancy – no representatives from Ward 6)

**Commemoration Commission** (four vacancies – Wards 3, 4, and 5 are not yet represented)

**Committee on the Environment** (three vacancies – no representatives from Ward 5)

**Emergency Preparedness Committee** (one vacancy – no representatives from Wards 4, 5, or 6)

**Ethics Commission** (two vacancies – no representatives from Wards 3 or 5)

**Grants Review Committee** (three vacancies – no representatives from Ward 4)

**Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee** (two

vacancies – no representatives from Wards 2, 4, 5, or 6)

**Personnel Appeal Board** (one vacancy – Wards 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 not represented)

**Recreation Committee** (six vacancies – no representatives from Ward 4)

**Safe Roadways Committee** (five vacancies – no representation from Wards 4, 5, or 6)

**Tree Commission** (one or more terms expire on Sept. 30)

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND  
NOTICE OF 2015 NOMINATING CAUCUS  
(TO ACCEPT NOMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCILMEMBER FOR THE NOV. 3, 2015 CITY ELECTION)

The Nominating Caucus will convene at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 29, to accept nominations of candidates for Mayor and Councilmember. The meeting will take place in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Maryland. Only registered Takoma Park voters may participate in the Nominating Caucus. Residents may register on site before the meeting is called to order.

Nominations of candidates for mayor shall be made on motion by any qualified voter of the city, and if such nomination is seconded by a qualified voter of the city, the person so nominated shall be considered a candidate. Nomination of each candidate for councilmember shall be made on motion of any qualified voter of her/his ward, and if such nomination is seconded by a qualified voter of his/her ward, the person so nominated shall be considered a candidate. Any nominated candidate may decline a nomination during the nomination meeting. A person may only accept a nomination of one city office. The name of each person nominated for the office of mayor and councilmember shall be placed upon the official ballot unless he/she shall file a declination with the city clerk within three days after his/her nomination.

Any person nominated as a candidate must meet the qualifications of the office for which she/he is nominated.

ENGAGE, REGISTER, PARTICIPATE, VOTE  
*Running for Office – the Nominating Caucus*

In Takoma Park, all members of the city council and the mayor are elected to two-year terms. Elections take place in November of every odd-numbered year. Takoma Park has a mayor, elected at large, and six city councilmembers, one from each of the city's six wards.

Takoma Park's election season officially begins with the nominating caucus held on a Tuesday evening five weeks before an election. This year's caucus falls on Tuesday, Sept. 29. On the night of the caucus, potential candidates, their supporters and the voting public gather in the Takoma Park Community Center auditorium to nominate candidates for mayor and city council.

Any registered voter of Takoma Park may nominate a candidate for the office of mayor. If that nomination is seconded by another qualified voter, the individual's nomination is complete. Other supporters may also second the nomination. Speakers have no more than three minutes each to place a name in nomination or second a nomination.

CIUDAD DE TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND  
ANUNCIO DE LA REUNION ELECTORAL DE NOMINACIÓN DE CANDIDATOS  
(PARA ACEPTAR NOMINACIONES POR ALCALDE Y MIEMBROS DEL  
CONSEJO EN LAS ELECCIONES MUNICIPALES EL 3 DE NOVIEMBRE DE  
2015)

REUNIÓN ELECTORAL DE NOMINACIÓN DE CANDIDATOS

La Reunión Electoral de Nominación de Candidatos se convocara a el Martes, 29 de Septiembre de 2015 a las 7:30 p.m. Se aceptarán las nominaciones de candidatos para Alcalde y Miembros del Consejo en el Auditorio del Centro Comunitario de Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue,. Sólo los residentes de Takoma Park que son votantes registrados podrán nominar o apoyar una nominación de un candidato. Si no está registrado para votar y desea participar en la reunión, residentes de Takoma Park podrán registrarse para votar antes que comience la reunión.

Las nominaciones de candidatos para Alcalde pueden realizarse por moción de cualquier votante de la ciudad, y si la nominación es segundada por otro(a) residente de Takoma Park, la persona nominada será considerada como candidato. La nominación de cada candidato para Miembro del Consejo puede realizarse por moción de cualquier votante de su distrito y si la nominación es segundada por otro(a) residente del mismo distrito, la persona nominada será considerada candidato. Cualquier candidato nominado puede declinar su nominación durante la reunión. Una persona puede aceptar una nominación para un solo cargo municipal. El nombre de cada persona nominada para la Alcaldía o el Consejo será colocado en la boleta oficial para las elecciones municipales del 3 de Noviembre a menos que él/ella se presente ante de la Secretaria Municipal para declinar su candidatura tres (3) días después de su nominación.

Cualquier persona nominada como candidate deber llenar los requisitos para el cargo por el cual ha sido postulado.

PARTICIPA, REGÍSTRATE, VOTA  
*Postularse para el Puesto de Alcalde o Miembro del Consejo – la Reunión Electoral*

En la Ciudad de Takoma Park, se elije los Miembros del Consejo y el Alcalde por un termino de dos años. Las elecciones seran en el mes de Noviembre cada año impar. La Ciudad de Takoma Park tiene un Alcalde elejido por los residentes calificados de la Ciudad de Takoma Park y sies Miembros del Consejo, cada uno representando uno de los distrito de Takoma Park.

El tiempo de las elecciones comienza oficialmente con la reunión electoral que se lleva a será el

Candidates do not speak the night of the caucus.

After the nominations for mayor, nominations are taken for city councilmembers. The process is the same as for mayoral nominations, but the person putting a name in nomination for a councilmember or seconding a nomination must reside in the ward of the candidate.

All those nominated will have their names placed on the ballot for the Nov. 3 election, assuming they meet the qualifications for candidacy.

Voter Registration

All residents of Takoma Park who are at least 16 years old and who do not claim the right to vote elsewhere can vote in this November's elections. Every voter must register to vote. Takoma Park has election day registration, but we recommend that all eligible voters register before then. If you are already registered, you do not need to do anything further.

Most residents are able to register using the state registration form, which will also register you to vote in state and national elections. Some residents must use a city registration form and will not be eligible to vote in state and national elections.

Generally, you can register using the **State of Maryland form** as long as you meet all of these conditions: you are a U.S. citizen, you are at least age 16, you do not claim the right to vote elsewhere and you are not incarcerated or under supervision due to a felony conviction.

Those residents eligible to vote in Takoma Park elections but not eligible to register with the State of Maryland may use the **City of Takoma Park form**. Typically, this includes residents who are not United States citizens or who are under supervision or on parole due to a felony conviction.

Voting

Takoma Park encourages all residents to vote and provides several options for voting: 1) election day voting on Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., at the Takoma Park Community Center; 2) early voting on the Wednesday through Sunday before election day; 3) voting by mail (or absentee voting).

Additional information on running for office, the nominating caucus, registration, voting, or any other facet of the election is available at [www.elections.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.elections.takomaparkmd.gov) or by contacting the city clerk's office at 301-891-7267.

Martes por la noche, cinco semanas antes del día de las elecciones. Este año la Reunión Electoral será el Martes, 29 de Septiembre. La noche de la Reunión Electoral, candidatos potenciales, los residentes que los apoya y el public en general se reunirán en el auditorio de Takoma Park para la nominación de algun candidato(s) para el puesto de Alcalde y Miembro del Consejo.

Cualquier votante registrado en Takoma Park puede nominar a un candidato para el puesto de Alcalde. Se completa la nominación esa nominación es apoyada por otro votante calificado. Más de un solo votante calificado puede apoyar una nominación. Se permite solo tres minutos para anunciar su apoyo de un candidato. Los candidatos no se dirigirán al public la noche de la Reunión Electoral.

Después de las nominaciones para el puesto de Alcalde, se harán las nominaciones para el puesto del los Miembros del Consejo. El proceso será igual, pero el residente de Takoma Park tendrá que ser residente del distrito del candidato.

El nombre da cada persona que satisface los requisitos y que sea nominado por el puesto de Alcalde y Miembro del Consejo será nombrado en la boleta oficial para las elecciones el 3 de Noviembre.

Registro de Votantes

Todos los residentes de Takoma Park que tienen por lo menos 16 años de edad y que no esta registrado en otra parte, puede votar en las elecciones en Noviembre. Todos los que desean votar tienen que registrarse para votar. Se puede registrar el mismo día de las elecciones, pero se recomienda registrarse antes del día de las elecciones. No tiene que hacer nada más si ya esta registrado para votar.

La mayoría de residentes pueden registrarse para votar usando la aplicación del estado de Maryland que le permite votar en las elecciones del estado y las elecciones nacionales. Algunos residentes solo pueden registrarse para votar usando la aplicación de la Ciudad de Takoma Park. Registrándose con la aplicación de Takoma Park solo le permite votar en las elecciones de Takoma Park y no las elecciones del estado o las elecciones nacionales.

Generalmente, si satisface los requisitos, se puede registrar usando la aplicación del Estado de Maryland: es cuidadano Americano, tiene por lo menos 16 años de edad, no esta registrado para votar en otra parte y no está encarceldo o bajo libertad condicional por ser condenado por un delito.

Los residentes que califican para votar en las elecciones de Takoma Park pero no califican para registrarse para votar en el Estado de Maryland pueden usar la aplicación de la Ciudad de Takoma Park. Esto normalmente incluye residentes de Takoma Park que no son ciudadanos Americanos o



THE TAKOMA PARK  
NEWSLETTER

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[www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov)  
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[takomaparkmd.gov](http://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.



CITY COUNCIL ACTION

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RESOLUTION 2015-46  
Adopted July 27

Committee on the Environment Appointments  
*Reappoints Shannon Baker-Branstetter (Ward 2), Cindy Dyballa (Ward 2), Sat Jiwan Ikle-Khalsa (Ward 2), Lauren Marshall (Ward 1), Lindsey Robinett Shaw (Ward 6) and Thomas Simchak (Ward 3); and appoints Riaz Mohammed (Ward 6)*

RESOLUTION 2015-47  
Adopted July 27

Tree Commission Appointment  
*Appoints Jerry Burgess (Ward 2) to the Tree Commission*

RESOLUTION 2015-48  
Adopted July 27

Community Legacy Application  
*Authorizes submission of FY 16 Community Legacy Application for projects at 6600 New Hampshire Ave. and 6530 New Hampshire Ave. (VOTING NO: Councilmember Male)*



# BUILDING COMMUNITY

## FLOWER AVENUE GREEN STREET PROJECT PUBLIC MEETING

**Dear Resident/ Property Owner,**  
**You are invited to the next Flower Avenue Green Street Project Public Meeting!**

Please join the City staff to review the updated plan for Flower Avenue. The meeting will feature a poster presentation by City officials. There will also be time available for residents to ask questions about the plan.

**WHEN:**  
**Thursday, September 17**  
**7:00 – 8:30 PM**

**WHERE:**  
**Wilkinson Hall (WAU)**  
**7600 Flower Avenue**

### AGENDA:

7:00 - 7:20 pm – Drop-in: Opportunity for residents to review plans  
7:20 - 8:00 pm – Brief overview of project and updates since last meeting  
8:00 - 8:30 pm – Questions

Project plan can be viewed at: [www.takomaparkmd.gov/floweravenue](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/floweravenue)



## Wait! What? City residents can do THAT?

Yes, City residents can take down illegally posted signs themselves. Residents or businesses can even win a prize for the most signs, the wackiest sign, the most colorful sign (and more) collected in one week.

It might sound crazy, but we are SICK OF SIGNS! And the City wants help taking them down during **NATIONAL SICK OF SIGNS WEEK**, Sept. 13-19.

**CASH4CARS? Tear it down! WE BUY UGLY HOUSES? Rip it up! PRIZES4SIGNS! Help us take ‘em down and win!**

Illegal signs—known as “bandit signs” or “street spam”—are becoming an increasing problem not only in Takoma Park but nationwide. What is street spam? Illegal signs, often posted on utility poles, offer to buy your house, tow your unwanted car, mow your lawn, help you lose weight, or encourage you to enroll your kid in camp.

**What can you do to help eliminate “street spam?”**

During the week of Sept. 13-19 residents and business owners are encouraged to remove illegally posted signs on

utility poles, transformer boxes, bus shelters and other public property in Takoma Park. Illegal signs include the free-standing signs displayed in the public right of way and along the boulevard (the grassy area between the sidewalk and the curb). All signs will be collected and included in the national count. **Signs displayed in someone’s front yard are legal and should be left in place.**

To be considered in “the count,” the signs you collect must be turned in to Housing and Community Development office in the Community Center to be labeled and tallied. Bring them in as you collect them or all at once to the **awards ceremony on Monday, Sept. 21 at 6:30 p.m.** All participants are invited to attend the ceremony, where refreshments will be served and prizes will be presented. Find the biggest, weirdest, most confusing, most common sign and you could win the **GOLDEN, SILVER or BRONZE CROWBAR** or other fun prizes.

For more information on the Sick of Signs Week and other Anti-litter Initiative programs or to find out how you can help, please contact Housing and Community Development at 301-891-7119.

## HOUSING MAILBOX



**Knock, knock, can candidates come in?**

**By Moses A. Wilds, Jr.**  
**Landlord-Tenant Mediator**

I own a multi-family rental property which has a locked front door. I was recently contacted by a person running for a city council seat. This person wants to distribute campaign materials and speak with building residents. Do I need to allow access for him to do this?

With the political election season rapidly approaching, candidates for local and other political offices will be seeking access to city voters. Allowing them contact with every voter, whether those voters live in single-family homes or apartment buildings, is part of the democratic process – so yes, you must provide access to your property. But that doesn’t mean you have to allow just anyone into your building, at any time.

Here are the details: Section 6.04.040 of the city code indicates that qualified candidates and their campaign volunteers must be allowed access to multi-unit residential facilities. A “qualified candidate” is defined as a candidate who is seeking election to an office that represents the residents of the facility the candidate is trying to enter.

Access must be given for campaigning or registering voters during the 90-day period preceding a primary, special or general election. Candidates must give 24 hours written notice to building residents before entering a controlled-access, multi-unit residential facility—unless the owner, manager or tenant association posts the required notice for them. Notice must be posted on each exterior building entrance

and must include the name of the candidate, the elective office the candidate is seeking and the date and hours the candidate will be in the building.

Qualified candidates may leave campaign materials either in the facility common area or at the doors to residents’ apartments—but they must be left in an orderly fashion. Qualified candidates may also make personal contact with residents by speaking with them in the building common area, or by knocking on individual residents’ apartment doors.

That said, residents can post signs on their apartment doors indicating they are not interested in speaking with political candidates or campaign volunteers – in which case the candidates and volunteers are prohibited from contacting them. The signs are available from the Department of Housing and Community Development and/or the city clerk’s office.

Finally, landlords are allowed to:

- Limit building access by qualified candidates to 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.;
- Require reasonable and proper identification as a prerequisite to building admission;
- Require a prior appointment to grant a qualified candidate and their campaign volunteers building access;
- Deny admittance to an individual qualified candidate and his or her volunteers based on their improper conduct. Examples of improper conduct might include failure to provide proof of identification when requested by a property owner, building manager or resident, failure to make or keep an appointment, failure to distribute campaign materials in an orderly fashion and entering or remaining in a building facility outside the prescribed hours, between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

Tenants and landlords with questions regarding the city’s Landlord-Tenant and COLTA Laws may contact me at 301-891-7215 or [mosesw@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:mosesw@takomaparkmd.gov).



## First Time Home Buyer Class

**Saturday, Oct. 24, 8:30 a.m. — 2:30 p.m.**

**Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave.**

- Expert speakers from a lending institution, title company, real estate office, insurance and inspection firms
- Learn the entire process for buying a house/condo
- Sponsored by a HUD-approved housing agency
- Certificate of Completion awarded to attendees

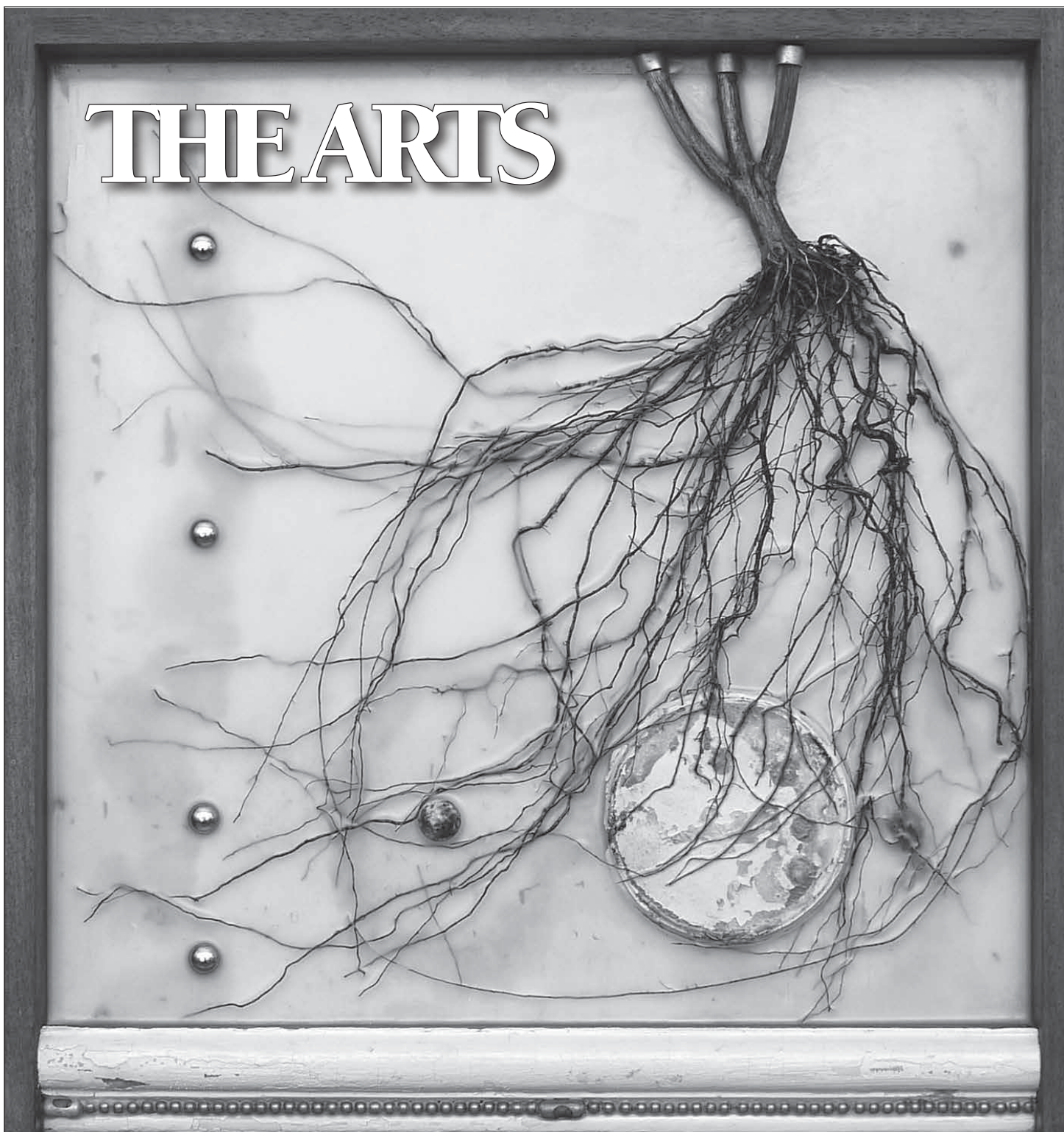
*Pre-Registration Required*

**Call 301-891-7222 or contact [lindaw@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:lindaw@takomaparkmd.gov).**

**Free for Takoma Park residents/\$25 for non-residents**

*Continental breakfast and lunch will be served*

# THE ARTS



## Luminous exhibit opening

Thursday, Sept. 10, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

The Takoma Park Community Center Atrium Gallery

7500 Maple Ave.

*Luminous*, the latest gallery exhibit at the Takoma Park Community Center, will feature work by sculptor Becky Borlan and Washington Wax Works — artists who pair light with dark, smooth with rough, and understatement with brilliance. *Luminous* opens on Sept. 10 with a reception from 6:30 – 8 p.m. in the Atrium Gallery of the Community Center.

In the Community Center's Suspended Gallery, Borlan will display hanging shapes that resemble unicellular organisms. "For as long as I have been making art, I have always been inspired by uncommon materials and discarded objects," she says. Borlan made her cell sculptures from copper sponges. "I enjoy the challenge of giving these items new life."

Washington Wax Works is a collective of six encaustic artists that started in a workshop held by Katie Dell Kaufman at the Community Center. Kathleen Anderson, David Evans, Nancy Hacskaylo, Marty Ittner, Katie Dell Kaufman and Kevin Minstead all marry the wax medium with encasing, collaging and painting in different ways. The collective will exhibit art in the Atrium Gallery, the Dempsey Gallery, the Corridor Space and Gallery Three at the Community Center.

"*Luminous* represents a homecoming, a testament to Katie's tutelage, and to Takoma Park as a conduit for the formation of artistic expression and partnerships," the group wrote in an artist statement for the exhibit, which will close with a reception on Oct. 30 from 7 – 8:30 p.m. in the Atrium Gallery.

## "Downton Abbey" and History:

Using the Costume Drama to Explore the Social World of the Edwardians

Thursday, Sept. 3, 7:30 – 9 p.m.

The Takoma Park Community Center auditorium

7500 Maple Ave.

In the first installment of We Are Takoma's new lecture series, Professor Julie Anne Taddeo shares her expertise on pop culture and British history to discuss how the British costume drama "Downton Abbey" reflects gender and class struggles in both history and society today.

"Downton's' success in the United States was in some places interpreted in terms of its cultural exoticism," Taddeo and James Leggott wrote in her 2014 book on costume dramas. "Some argued for a greater analogy between the 'fairy-tale' class system of Edwardian England and the obsessions and desires of contemporary America."

Taddeo teaches Victorian and Twentieth Century British History at the University of Maryland, and focuses on culture, gender and class in her courses. She examines how TV shapes cultural understanding in several of her books, including "Upstairs and Downstairs: British Costume Drama Television from The Forsyte Saga to Downton Abbey."

## The Mystery of Balkan Song – Listen, Learn, and Sing!

Saturday, Sept. 26, 7:30 – 9 p.m.

The Takoma Park Community Center auditorium

7500 Maple Ave.

*The Mystery of Balkan Song* shares the diversity of Balkan music in the tradition of village singing. Orfeia's songs, stories, and cultural knowledge appeal to people at every age – especially if they want to get out of their seats and sing, too.

Legendary Bulgarian singer Tatiana Sarbinska founded Orfeia in 2006, and by 2007 the all-woman vocal ensemble debuted at a concert in Sofia, Bulgaria. Orfeia's repertoire



draws from the music of Eastern Europe, Bulgaria, Russia, Georgia and the Balkans. Although Orfeia's members come from many cultural backgrounds, the group has proven its Balkan authenticity. "The Slavi Show," Bulgaria's most popular late-night TV show, and Bulgarian National Radio have both featured Orfeia on their programs.

When Orfeia performs, whether it's antiphonal songs, seasonal music or children's songs, they do it with the Balkan spirit.



# RECREATION

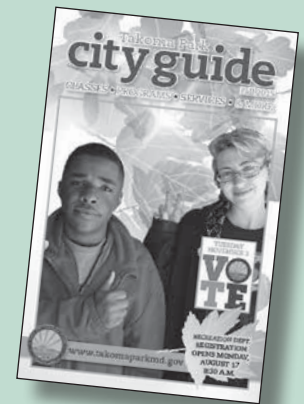
## Seventh Annual Play Day

Let your hair down, put on your comfy shoes and get ready to play. This annual event is fun for the whole family. Enjoy hopscotch, dress up, mud pies, fun with boxes and lots of great entertainment. The Takoma Park Recreation Department will again host the Touch-A-Truck exhibit where you can climb on your favorite piece of equipment. Event is held rain or shine. Volunteers needed. Visit [www.takomaplays.org](http://www.takomaplays.org) or call 301-891-7290.

TP Middle School  
Saturday, Sept. 26, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Free

## Registration is underway for Fall Classes!

**A FULL LISTING OF OUR CLASSES AND PROGRAMS IS AVAILABLE ONLINE [WWW.TAKOMAPARKMD.GOV/RECREATION](http://WWW.TAKOMAPARKMD.GOV/RECREATION)**



## TOTS

### DROP IN

#### Community Playtime

*Ages 6 months – 6 years*

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 the City of Takoma Park is closed. Visit [www.TakomaPlaytime.org](http://www.TakomaPlaytime.org) for more information.

Heffner Park Community Center  
English Session: Mondays, 10 a.m. – noon  
Spanish Session: Fridays, 10 a.m. – noon  
Free

## EDUCATION/DEVELOPMENT

### Kindermusik

For more information and to register for Kindermusik, visit [www.kmwithbecky.kindermusik.net](http://www.kmwithbecky.kindermusik.net)

### Spanish for Tots

*Ages 3 – 5*

This class is composed of a mix of high-energy games, projects, music and movement, treasure hunts and other fun activities. Children will learn the Spanish vocabulary needed to express themselves and their needs through complete language immersion. There will be a \$10 materials fee due to the instructor on the first day of the class.

TP Community Center Lilac Room  
Tuesdays, Sept. 22 – Oct. 27, 10 – 11 a.m.

TP residents \$85  
Non-residents \$105

## YOUTH

### ART

#### MAKE/Shift Studio II – Drawing and Watercolor

*Ages 11 – 14*

Have fun learning to draw with black, white and colored drawing materials, paint with watercolors, use pen and ink and explore mixed-media approaches to representational imagery. Subjects will include still life, portrait, landscape (weather permitting) and floral studies. Beginning students are 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, Sept. 22 – Oct. 27, 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

TP residents \$145  
Non-residents \$165

## SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

### Outdoor Street Hockey

*Ages 7 – 13*

This program is ideal for any child who wants to have fun and be active. This sport is based on ice hockey, but is played on foot and with a special ball made especially for street hockey. Games take place on the outdoor basketball court, next to the Takoma Park Community Center.

TP Community Center outdoor basketball court  
Thursdays, Sept. 25 – Oct. 23, 3:45 – 4:45 p.m.  
TP residents Free  
Non-residents \$10

## TEENS

### DRAMA

#### Intro to Costume Design

*Ages 13 – 17*

In this four-part course, we will cover the

basic elements of design, costume rendering techniques and bringing one of your very own costume design ideas to life. Come experience the costume design process from page to stage. Kim Parkman is a costume maker and designer with 12 years of professional experience based right here in Takoma Park.

TP Community Center art studio  
Thursdays, Sept. 17 – Oct. 8, 5 – 6:30 p.m.  
TP residents Free  
Non-resident \$15

## EDUCATION/DEVELOPMENT

### Charm School

*Ages 12 – 17*

Teens are cordially invited to attend a free Charm School course. Classes taught will be: Positive Life Skills, Grooming and Style, Respect and Manners, Appreciation, Dating with Dignity, Conversation Skills and Public Speaking, Workplace Dynamics, and Etiquette for Social Events.

TP Community Center Hydrangea Room  
Wednesdays, Sept. 16 – Nov. 4, 4 – 5 p.m.  
TP resident Free  
Non-resident: \$10

## REGISTRATION UNDERWAY FOR AFTER THE BELL FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

**After The Bell started at Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Ave.) on Aug. 31.** This after school childcare program for the MCPS 2015-2016 school year provides a safe environment for children in grades K-5. Participants engage in daily indoor/outdoor group activities and special events. Each day they receive a snack, have homework time, and enjoy arts and crafts, sports, board games, free play and more. Transportation is not 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 MCPS is closed.

TP Recreation Center  
Kindergarten-fifth grade  
10 months  
Monday-Friday,  
Aug. 31 – June 17  
3:30 – 6:30 p.m.  
\$125/month for the year



## Babysitting Class

*Ages 11-13*

Topics include: CPR, fire safety, first aid, infant and child care and personal safety. A certificate will be issued upon completion of all five classes and exam. Registration is required. Co-sponsored by the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department. Instructor: Chief Jim Jarboe.

Takoma Park Volunteer Fire House  
Mondays, Sept. 21 – Oct. 26, 7 – 9 p.m.  
Free

## ADULTS

### ART

#### Ceramics

*Ages 16 and older*

There is a \$15 materials fee due to the instructor on the first day of class. Instructor Alice Sims, Art for the People.

TP Community Center art studio

**Hand Building:** Come learn hand building and make bowls, soap dishes, trays and whatever else you think of.

Mondays, Sept. 22 – Nov. 10, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Sculpture:** Come make bowls, vases, mosaics, tiles, sculpture heads, clay animals and more.

Fridays, Sept. 26 – Nov. 14, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Wheel Throwing:** Receive instruction on using the potter's wheel. Participants will make cups, bowls and dishes. Tools and other materials provided.

Mondays, Sept. 22 – Nov. 10, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. or  
Wednesdays, Sept. 24 – Nov. 12, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

TP residents \$85  
Non-residents \$95

### 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 2- and 3-D assembly. Instruction will be given in surface preparation, adhesives, color theory and composition and is suitable for all levels.

TP Community Center art studio  
Tuesdays, Sept. 22 – Oct. 27, 11:15 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.  
TP residents \$210  
Non-residents \$240

MULTI MEDIA

**Motion Graphics**  
*Ages 16 and older*  
Learn about video editing, graphics generation, and even animation using Adobe After Effects. This eight-week course will show you everything you need to start making your own videos and animation. No experience needed.  
TP Community Center Multi Media Lab  
Tuesday, Sept. 29 – Nov. 17  
Beginners 6 – 7:15 p.m.  
TP residents \$110  
Non-residents \$130

SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

**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 gymnasium  
Mondays and Wednesdays, 7 – 8 p.m. (on-going)  
Ongoing Saturdays, 8 – 9 a.m.  
\$45 per month EFT (Easy Fitness Ticket)  
\$120/8-week pass  
Drop in \$15  
**Ladies’ Boot Camp I**  
*Ages 16 and older*

A total body program that includes a circuit of drills such as jumping jacks, running, push-ups, squats, crunches and weight training. It’s a challenging workout within a quick hour.  
TP Recreation Center gymnasium  
Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 8 – Oct. 29, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
\$45/4 weeks  
**Pilates**  
*Ages 16 and older*  
This fun and invigorating workout teaches controlled movements utilizing the body’s “core” abdomen, back and hips. Pilates improves core control, coordination, standing alignment and balance with mat exercises. Pilates is the perfect mind and body exercise for anyone who wants to tone, streamline and realign their body.  
TP Recreation Center Front Meeting Room  
Wednesdays, Sept. 9 – Oct. 14, 6 – 7 p.m.  
\$60/6 weeks  
**Saddie Fitness**  
*Ages 16 and older*

Are you ready to party yourself into shape? That’s exactly what the Soca Motion Fitness program is all about. It’s an exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Caribbean-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness-party that’s moving people toward joy and health. This Caribbean style of Zumba fuses hypnotic Caribbean rhythms and easy-to-follow moves to create a one-of-a-kind fitness program that will blow you away. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department.  
TP Recreation Center gymnasium  
Sept. 9 – Oct. 3



Ongoing Wednesdays, 6 – 6:55 p.m.  
Ongoing Saturdays, 9:15 – 10:10 a.m.  
\$40/4 weeks per session  
\$10 drop-in fee  
**Yoga Nidra Meditation and Relaxation**  
*Ages 16 and older*  
Each class includes gentle yoga stretches, breath techniques and a guided Yoga Nidra (meditation) practice. No previous yoga or meditation experience needed. Please bring a yoga mat, blankets and pillow so you will be able to rest in a comfortable lying or seated position as the instructor guides you through each practice.  
TP Community Center dance studio  
Mondays Sept. 28 – Nov. 9, 7:30 – 8:45 p.m.  
TP residents \$75  
Non-residents \$85

FOREVER YOUNG: 55 PLUS

**DROP IN**  
**Bingo**  
*Ages 55 and older*  
Try your luck. Win a prize.  
TP Community Center Senior Room  
Thursday, Sept. 24, 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, Sept. 24, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Free

**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.  
TP Community Center Computer Center  
Wednesdays, Sept. 9 – Oct. 14, 10 a.m. – noon  
\$10

**SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH**  
**Basketball Skills**

*Ages 55 and older*  
Learn and practice basketball fundamentals and participate in fun 1-on-1, 3-on-3, and 5-on-5 games. Instructor Rochelle Coleman.  
Takoma Park Recreation Center gymnasium  
Tuesdays, Sept. 8 – Oct. 27, noon – 1 p.m.  
Free  
**Cardio Groove**  
*Ages 55 and older*  
High energy and fast paced, low impact aerobics that gets the heart pumping and feet moving quickly, followed by a cool down and stretch. Instructor Nancy Nickell.  
TP Community Center dance studio  
Thursdays, Sept. 10 – Oct. 29, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.  
Free  
**Full Body Fusion**  
*Ages 55 and older*  
A low-impact full-body workout set to music. This class involves elements of balance, movement, strengthening and yoga. Bring an exercise mat to class. Instructor Jaylene Sarracino.  
Takoma Park Recreation Center gymnasium  
Tuesdays, Sept. 8 – Nov. 10, 1 – 2 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  
**Fall Hours:**  
Tuesday and Thursday, 12 – 9 p.m.  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 2:30 – 9 p.m.  
Saturday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Free  
**Table Tennis Skills**  
*Ages 55 and older*  
Fun class provides enjoyable physical exercise while learning game rules and practicing skills.

Instructor Coach Donn Olsen.  
TP Recreation Center front room  
Thursdays, Sept. 10 – Oct. 29, 1 – 2 p.m.  
Free  
**Tennis Fun and Fitness**  
*Ages 55 and older*  
Rediscover your love of tennis or find it for the first time while learning or reviewing tennis skills. The goal is fun and fitness utilizing special equipment for indoor play. All equipment provided, but you can bring your own racquet. Instructor Coach SJ.  
TP Recreation Center gymnasium  
Thursdays, Sept. 10 – Nov. 19, noon – 1 p.m.  
No class on Oct. 1.  
Free  
**Zumba Gold**  
*Ages 55 and older*  
Latin-inspired dance fitness program that makes working out fun and provides opportunity to improve balance, flexibility and cardiovascular strength. Due to the popularity of the Zumba classes, you may register for one class per week. Choose the class that fits your schedule.  
TP Community Center dance studio  
Tuesdays, Sept. 15 – Nov. 17, 12:45 – 1:30 p.m.  
Saturdays, Sept. 19 – Nov. 21, 2 – 2:45 p.m.  
Free

**WORKSHOPS**  
**Earn a Degree for Free! Information Workshop**  
*Ages 55 and older*  
Are you interested in earning a college or graduate-level degree, or just enrolling in a class for your own personal enrichment? Nicole Currier, dean of Washington Adventist University’s School of Graduate and Professional Studies, will share information about the diversity of course offerings available, and will provide information that will help you easily navigate the enrollment process. Come learn about the Washington Adventist University educational opportunities for older adults. Drop-in. No registration is required.  
TP Community Center Lilac Room  
Thursday, Sept. 3, noon – 1 p.m.  
Free  
**Living Well Workshop**  
*Ages 55 and older*  
A chronic disease self-management workshop presented by Holy Cross Hospital for those who want to learn how to better manage and maintain an active life with chronic conditions such as arthritis, asthma, diabetes, heart disease, osteoporosis and high blood pressure. Six weeks. Bring a lunch.  
TP Community Center Lilac Room  
Mondays, Sept. 15 – Oct. 26, 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
No class on Oct. 12  
Free  
Register through Holy Cross Hospital. Call Holy Cross at 301-754-8800 to register.





**Instructors and part-time staff needed (to teach ages 11 – 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.

Additional 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](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/hr/careers).

# LIBRARY



## Line-up of authors and illustrators brings new books to life

By Karen MacPherson

Mark your calendars! We've got an amazing array of kids' authors and illustrators coming this fall to the Library, courtesy of our partnership with Politics and Prose Bookstore.

Our visiting authors and illustrators include big names like "Artemis Fowl" author Eoin Colfer, talking about his new picture book, "Ranger's Apprentice"; author John Flanagan, previewing his newest series; and picture book author Mac Barnett, whose books "Sam and Dave Dig a Hole" and "Extra Yarn" are hugely popular with young readers.

We'll also have some lesser-known folks, such as kids' novelist Liz Pichon. Her "Tom Gates" series, with their "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" format, are best-sellers in England and she's just publishing her books in the United States for the first time.

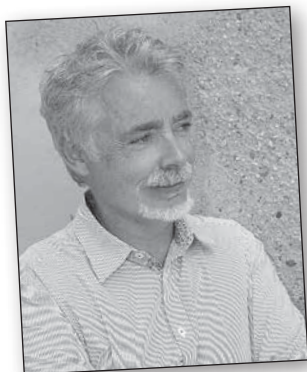
These author and illustrator events are a wonder-

ful way for kids to connect in person with the authors and illustrators whose books they read. And for those interested in having books personally signed, Politics and Prose will be selling books at each event. But the programs are free and no purchase is required to attend.

Read on to see the great list of authors and illustrators coming this fall to the Takoma Park Maryland Library.

Thursday, Sept. 3, 7 p.m. – Picture book creators Mac Barnett and Christian Robinson preview their new book, "Leo: A Ghost Story." As part of their event, Mac and Christian will "knight" participants (and issues certificates to that effect) and also lead kids in chalk drawing. Both activities are connected with their new book.

- Monday, Sept. 21, 7:30 – Graphic novelists Eleanor Davis and Drew Weing talk about their new book for kids, "Flop to the Top!" Davis' graphic novel for kids,



Eoin Colfer



Oliver Jeffers by Malcolm Brown

### LIBRARY BRIEFS

#### Harry Potter party

Harry Potter fans, unite! Join us on Friday, Sept. 25, from 7 – 8:30 p.m., when we will host a party focused on games and food tied to the world of the boy wizard. Our party is the bar mitzvah project of library patron Eli Protas, and it promises to be a world of fun for all who attend. We'll have games, quizzes, food and more – all tied to the Harry Potter books by J.K. Rowling. Participants are welcome to come in costume! Registration is a must; to register, please go to: [www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents](http://www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents) or call us at 301-891-7259.

#### Summer Quest finale

All participants of our Summer Quest program are invited to our wrap-up party on Monday, Sept. 14 at 7 p.m. Kids and adult participants are welcome to join us to discuss which books you read and loved—or loathed—and to suggest ideas for next year's Summer Quest theme. Plus, we'll have cupcakes and lemonade, and free books as prizes for all party goers. Registration encouraged so we have enough cup-

cakes, books and lemonade. To register, please go to: [www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents](http://www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents) or call us at 301-891-7259.

#### Upcoming book discussions

On Sept. 16, the Friends' Fortnightly Book Club will discuss "Our Lady of the Nile" by Scholastique Mukasonga. This fairytale-like novel, set in a girls' boarding school, is a highly charged, fictional account of events leading up to the Rwandan genocide. It was named a Best Book of 2014 by Publisher's Weekly, and was shortlisted for the 2015 Oppenheimer Funds Emerging Voices Award. The discussion will be held in the Hydrangea Room of the community Center at 7:30 p.m., and copies of the book are available in the Library.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Friends' Big Book Club discussions of George Eliot's "Daniel Deronda." The series will open with a reception and lecture by Professor William Cohen at Historic Takoma on Oct. 21. Further discussions are scheduled for Nov. 4 and 18, and Dec. 2 in the Community Center Hydrangea Room. All are invited to attend the Friends book discussions, which are held at 7:30 p.m. Copies of "Daniel Deronda" are available in the Library for a three-week loan.

## CALENDAR

#### Circle Time

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

#### Spanish Circle Time

Every Thursday, 10:30 a.m.  
Led by Señora Geiza

#### Picture Book Creators Mac Barnett and Christian Robinson

Thursday, Sept. 3, 7 p.m.  
Come learn about their new book, "Leo, A Ghost Story."

#### Comics Jam

Tuesday, Sept. 8, 4 p.m.  
Join Dave Burbank for our monthly comics book club

#### Bedtime Stories and a Craft

Tuesday, Sept. 8, 7 p.m.  
Join Ms. Kati for this fun monthly program.

#### Petite Chansons

Saturday, Sept. 12, 10:30 a.m.  
Join Madame Marie for our monthly French Circle Time.

#### LEGO Club

Sunday, Sept. 13, 1:30-3 p.m.  
Building fun for ages 5-12

#### Summer Quest Finale Party

Monday, Sept. 14, 7 p.m.  
All Summer Quest participants are invited to our wrap-up party. Cupcakes and lemonade served! Registration encouraged; register at [www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents](http://www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents) or call 301-891-7259.

#### Friends Book Group

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 7:30 p.m.

Discussion of "Our Lady of the Nile" by Scholastique Mukasonga  
Hydrangea Room; all welcome

#### Graphic Novelists Eleanor Davis and Drew Weing

Monday, Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m.  
Davis and Weing present their newest graphic novel for kids, "Flop to the Top."

#### Caldecott Club

Thursday, Sept. 24, 7 p.m.  
Join us for this family book club as we look at 2016 Caldecott Medal possibilities. Lemonade and cookies served.

#### Harry Potter Party

Friday, Sept. 25, 7 p.m.  
Fans of the boy wizard are invited to a special event with HP-themed games and food. Registration required; to register go to [www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents](http://www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents) or call us at 301-891-7259.

#### Kids' Author Liz Pichon

Sunday, Sept. 27, 2 p.m.  
Come meet the author of the Wimpy Kid-like "Tom Gates" books.

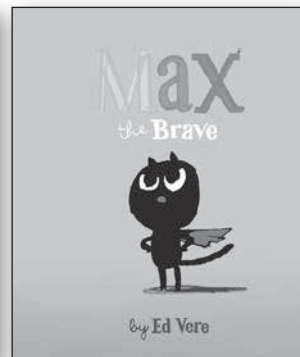
#### Picture Book Creator Ed Vere

Tuesday, Sept. 29, 7 p.m.  
Vere will read his newest book, "Max the Brave."

#### Looking ahead.....

- "Artemis Fowl" author Eoin Colfer and illustrator Oliver Jeffers ("The Day the Crayons Quit") talk about their new book, "Imaginary Fred," Thursday, Oct. 1, 7 p.m.
- LEGO Club, Sunday, Oct. 4, 1:30 – 3 p.m.
- Graphic novelist Ben Hatke presents his newest book for kids, "Little Robot," Monday, Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m.
- Picture book creator Matt Davies highlights his new book, "Nerdy Birdy."

"Stinky," was the first graphic novel to win a Geisel Honor. The prestigious award, given in honor of Dr. Seuss (aka Theodor Geisel) is awarded annually by the American Library Association to the best beginning reader; several honor books also are usually named.



Ed Vere, *Max the Brave*

- Sunday, Sept. 27, 2 p.m. – Liz Pichon, author of the "Wimpy Kid"-like "Tom Gates" series for kids, discusses her books. The "Tom Gates" books, done in the "Wimpy Kid" hybrid style of words and illustrations, are best-sellers in England, where Pichon lives.
- Tuesday, Sept. 29, 7 p.m. – Picture book artist/author Ed Vere spotlights his newest book, "Max the Brave." Vere is a best-selling, award-winning picture book author/illustrator in England.
- Thursday, Oct. 1, 7 p.m. – Best-selling author Eoin Colfer and illustrator Oliver Jeffers present their new picture book, "Imaginary Fred." Colfer

is the author of the best-selling "Artemis Fowl" books and Ireland's current laureate for children's literature. Jeffers is the illustrator of the best-selling book, "The Days the Crayons Quit."

- Monday, Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m. – Graphic novelist Ben Hatke, known for his "Zita the Spacegirl" books, debuts his latest book for kids, "Little Robot." Hatke's "Zita the Spacegirl" books are beloved by our library patrons and are best-sellers.
- Tuesday, Oct. 6, 7 p.m. – Picture book creator Matt Davies discusses

NEW BOOKS □ Page 9



Eleanor Davis, left, and Drew Weing, right, and their book at center, *Flop to the Top!*

ELECTIONS
From page 3

ELECTION HELPERS WANTED – APPLY NOW!

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.

NEW THIS YEAR:

Ballot Counters – to assist with the hand count of ballots on election night (Nov. 3). Ballot counters will be paid.

The application is available at www.takomaparkmd.gov or by calling Jessie Carpenter at 301-891-7267.

2015 ELECTION CALENDAR

Tuesday, Sept. 29, 7:30 p.m. - Nominating Caucus, Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Ave.

Tuesday, Oct. 27, 4 p.m. - Last day to apply to the City Clerk for an absentee ballot by mail.

Wednesday, Oct. 28 – Sunday, Nov. 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 Ave. Absentee ballots must be received by the City Clerk prior to the closing of the polls.

Monday, Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m. - Inauguration - Mayor and Council Members take office, Takoma Park Community Center auditorium, 7500 Maple Ave.

Thinking about running for office in Takoma Park?

Contact Jessie Carpenter, city clerk, 301-891-7267 or review the information at www.takomaparkmd.gov.

SLIGO CREEK
From page 1

from a federal court case, in which both the federal and Maryland state governments, as well as four environmental groups, sued WSSC for failing to clean up the region's streams. The suit was settled in 2005 with a consent decree, in which WSSC does not admit to wrongdoing but does promise to make specified improvements. Implementation began in 2014. "It's happening in almost every stream valley," Rose says.

WSSC and its private contractors are doing three main types of improvement, in Sligo Creek and elsewhere:

- Re-lining large sewer pipes to stop leaks. In many places along Sligo Creek, sewer mains were laid down parallel to the stream bed.
- Repairing or replacing manholes, some of which are visible sticking up out of Sligo Creek.
- Where sewer pipe lies exposed in the streambed, rebuilding the creekbed to restore the creek's appearance by installing a special stone mix to cover the pipes.

It's impossible to do this large-scale construction in streambeds, parks and adjoining neighborhoods without doing a lot of environmental damage in the process. The court-ordered consent decree requires WSSC to be extremely careful and to coordinate with MNCPPC and other agencies.

A major problem, Gage says, is that "you can't re-line pipes when they're full of sewage." So that means contractors have to lay down large temporary pipes, divert the sewage away from existing sewers into the pipes, clean the existing sewers, examine and re-line them, and then return the flow of waste into the repaired sewers. The sewers are lined with a latex compound that is blown in and then hardens, sealing leaks. WSSC is trying hard not to dig up any existing sewers, which can have a big environmental impact.

In addition, crews must build temporary roadbeds to get heavy equipment in to work on the manhole covers. After that work is done, crews have to restore the landscape, and replace the trees and shrubs that have been cut down with native plants.



Photo by Selena Malott

A young bike rider enters the temporary structure along the Sligo Creek bike path, where Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission is improving the sewer lines.

Gage reports that WSSC and its contractors have had pre-construction meetings with state and MNCPPC officials and environmentalists, in which they have walked the creek, discussed construction approaches and in some cases have agreed on improved plans. "The state and MNCPPC both have to sign off," she says.

"I've been pleased with the care that's been taken to try to minimize damage," Gage adds. "I like the way it looks. It seems a well thought out plan and nicely executed."

In any case, Gage says, "Sligo Creek is not pristine. So this is an opportunity to do a little more repair, and bring it a little closer to a natural state."

For residents who want to get a detailed picture of the work as it progresses, look at the "WSSC in Your Neighborhood" interactive map at https://gis.wsscwater.com/inyourneighborhood and search for Sligo Creek.

And policy wonks who'd like to read the court-approved consent decree that governs this two-county project can find it at http://bit.ly/1LhwFbj.

ELECCIONES
From page 3

residentes que están bajo libertad condicional por ser condenado por un delito.

Votar

La Ciudad de Takoma Park desea animar a los residentes que voten en las elecciones municipales y proporciona varias oportunidades para votar: 1) vote el día de las elecciones el 3 de Noviembre de 7 a.m. a 8 p.m. en el Centro Comunitario de Takoma Park; 2) vote temprano –de Miercoles a Domingo antes de las elecciones ; 3) vote por correo (o

vote con una boleta para votantes ausentes). Información adicional sobre el puesto de Alcalde y Miembros del Consejo, la Reunión Electoral o cualquier otra cosa sobre las elecciones de Takoma Park se puede encontrar en la página web www.takomaparkmd.gov o comunicarse con la Oficina de la Secretaría Municipal al 301-891-7214.

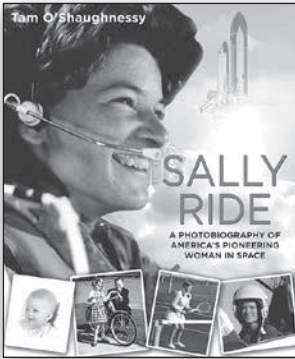
Certifica:
Jessie Carpenter
Secretaría Municipal
301-891-7214
www.takomaparkmd.gov

NEW BOOKS
From page 8

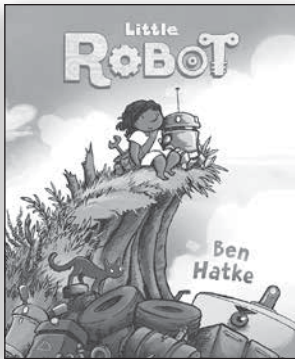
- his new book, "Nerdy Birdy." The book, written by Aaron Reynolds, focuses on why it's great to be different
- Wednesday, Oct. 7, 7:30 p.m. – Science author Tam O'Shaughnessy talks about her new biography of America's first woman astronaut (and O'Shaughnessy's life partner), "Sally Ride: A Photobiography of America's Pioneering Woman in Space." A special event about a woman who made history.
  - Tuesday, Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m. – John Flanagan, internationally best-selling author of the "Ranger's Apprentice" and the "Brotherband" series spotlights his new book, "The Tourna-



Tam O'Shaughnessy, Sally Ride



- ment at Gorlan." NOTE: This event will take place in the Takoma Park Community Center auditorium.
- Monday, Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m. – Author Mary Downing Hahn discusses her latest horror novel for kids, "Took." Hahn, a former children's librarian and Maryland resident, has sold more than 2 million copies of her horror books for kids; she's also won many awards for her work. NOTE: This event is a great way to give Halloween a literary twist for kids ages 9-12.
  - Wednesday, Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m.– Author Gabrielle Balkan presents "The 50 States," a fun new collection of fact-filled, illustrated maps for kids. Many kids love facts, and Balkan's book gives them a big dose of facts in a fun way.



Ben Hatke, Little Robot

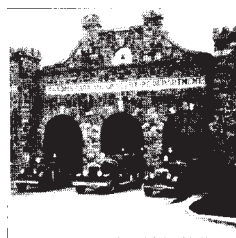
NEW SHOPS
From page 1

new) Scissors and Comb hair salon, offers open studio for pre-school children to enjoy creative play time, as well as classes and camps after school and during school breaks for preschoolers and school-age children. The emphasis is on art, literature, creativity and fun.

One of the newest businesses in town opened at 720 Erie Avenue: Na Tra Tea's, a tea room in Ward 5. The little café, which neighbors have described as warm and cozy, features coffee, tea and cakes, and plans are underway for Ethiopian coffee ceremonies for groups.

Still underway are renovations at 7212 Carroll Ave., across from the fire-

house, for a Montessori school. Meanwhile, two shops have applied for beer and wine licenses: the Takoma Park Silver Spring Co-op, and Photo/Press/Art on East West Highway. Nearby, Gussini's discount clothing at 6822 New Hampshire Ave., re-opened after rebuilding due to fire. Several news businesses have opened at the Crossroads as well: Lamma Eyebrow Threading, at 1017 University Blvd. E, #201; Herballife, at 1011 University Blvd. E, #201; and InforMax Services, at 1360 Holton Lane. And, the Salvation Army Thrift Store reopened in July at its previous location, 7505 New Hampshire Ave. Expo E-Mart, an international grocery store at the Crossroads has closed.



## THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

As of July 31, 2015, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the station have responded to 388 fire-related incidents in 2015. The department addressed or assisted with 1,873 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 2,261.

Totals for 2014 were 377 and 1,642 representing an increase of 242 incidents.

During the month of July 2015, the Takoma Park volunteers put in a total 1,373.5 hours of standby time at the station, compared to 1,809.5 in July 2014. Grand totals as of July 2015 are 9,447 hours, compared to 9,506.5 hours in 2014, a decrease of 59.5 hours.

### Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported as of July 17, 2015, 36 have died in fires, compared to 37 in July 2014.

### Mark the date!

Thursday, Oct. 8, 7 to 9 p.m., at the Takoma Park fire station the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department will conduct a Fire and Injury Prevention Educational Night. Some of the topics to be covered:

- In the event of a fire in your home, are you prepared?
- Facts about fires!
- What's coming, when you Dial 9-1-1.
- Fire extinguishers... should you use them and do you know the right way?
- Firefighter's Protective Clothing (demonstration).
- Q and A
- And much more!
- Seating will be limited. Call 240-773-8954 to let us know you are coming!

### Safety Message

Working smoke alarms and a family escape plan go together. Make sure you have both to stay safe in the event of fire in your home!

## New faces of city service

Three people came to work in Takoma Park recently. Residents may encounter any one of them in the course of city business, but newsletter readers will be particularly interested in learning about the new editor for this publication.



Jason Damweber

Jason Damweber began serving the City of Takoma Park as deputy city manager in August 2015, taking Suzanne Ludlow's place after she became permanent city manager. Prior to joining the Takoma Park team, Damweber worked for the

Town of Chapel Hill, N. C. in a variety of roles including budget analyst in the Business Management Department, management analyst and budget manager in the Public Works Department, and most recently assistant to the town manager for Special Projects and Operations. Damweber lives with his wife, Amanda Damweber, and 3-year-old son in Northwest Washington, D.C.

The city's new finance director, Kara Onorato, hails from Erie, Pa. She came on board in June to shadow Yovonda Brooks, who will be retiring this September. Onorato officially takes the helm of the city's



Kara Onorato



Apryl Motley

finance department Oct. 1. She previously served as the business director for the Conneaut School District in Linesville, Pa. for five years. She has a daughter in college in Georgia and now resides in Silver Spring.

The next issue of the Takoma Park Newsletter will be edited by Apryl Motley, an award-winning editor and writer with years of experience in Washington Metropolitan area trade publications. She takes over from Virginia Myers, who has moved on to other work after editing the newsletter for a decade. Motley lives in and grew up in Columbia, Md., but she has always had a soft spot for Takoma Park, where she visited her first jazz club many years ago. Motley has a B.A. from the College of William and Mary and an M.A. from Howard University. She is an associate faculty member at the University of Phoenix. She is looking forward to getting to know her Takoma Park community even better.

## New streetlights move city closer to \$5 million prize

Forty-nine new LED streetlights installed in August on Flower Avenue between Carroll and Piney Branch will help the City of Takoma Park reduce its electricity usage by approximately 40,000 kWh. The new streetlights were paid for with a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and are a pilot project for both Takoma Park and Pepco. Many communities have begun replacing their streetlights with new high-efficiency LED lamps, but these are Takoma Park's first.

Because LEDs may be brighter and have a different directional spray, or light coverage area, and even a different color, replacements are often not completed on a one-for-one basis. To ensure proper replacements, a lighting study was conducted on Flower Avenue to evaluate the needs for lighting on the street. A similar lighting study would have to be conducted in other areas of the city before replacements could be planned. "Before more LED streetlights are installed in other areas of the city, we want to make sure we know what each street needs in terms of the correct brightness, color, and directional spray for streetlights," says the city's Special Project Coordinator, Nima Upadhyay.

Besides being much more energy efficient than older, traditional streetlights, the new LED lamps have new technologies that will improve services. The new lamps will trigger automatic reporting to Pepco of outages and lamps being on when not scheduled (day-burning). The streetlights can be individually controlled

to be on, off or dimmed for special events. The dimming feature can be used to coordinate when illumination does not need to be at 100 percent, saving even more energy.

The LED streetlight conversion on Flower Avenue is part of two larger projects: the Flower Avenue Green Street project, and the Georgetown University Energy Prize competition.

Currently, the city is ranked at number 29 in the competition for the \$5 million Georgetown University Energy Prize. In order to increase the city's ranking, and the odds of winning the \$5 million, the city has to do all it can to reduce residential and municipal energy use. Currently, more than 16 percent of the city's single family homes are participating in the Neighborhood Energy Challenge, helping to reduce residential energy usage.

However, the city will need to undertake a big project to reduce municipal energy use, and replacing every streetlight with a high efficiency LED streetlight would reduce the overall municipal energy use by 30 percent, more than any other project the city could undertake.

Such a large capital project takes a lot of time to plan. Whether the city can get it done before the contest is over on Dec. 31, 2016 is a big question. "Replacing every streetlight may be a big project to undertake in such a short time," says City Sustainability Manager Gina Mathias. "However, it is one that will pay off in energy savings whether we win the \$5 million prize or not."

## Signs up: campaign signs are regulated in Takoma Park

With elections just around the corner, it's important to note that the City of Takoma Park does have laws regulating political campaign signs. Political signs are considered "temporary signs" and do not require a permit. Signs considered temporary are those made of non-permanent materials like cardboard, paper, canvas or wood. The number of temporary signs displayed in a residential zone is not limited, but the total sign area must not exceed 10 square feet. In a commercial zone, the total square footage of all signs may not exceed 100 square feet.

Additionally, there are regulations regarding the placement of political signs.

Signs may only be placed on private property. In no case should signs be on the public right of way, light posts, utility poles, bus shelters, city property, parks or trees. Signs should also be placed in a way that does not obstruct the view of traffic signals, traffic signs, oncoming traffic or pedestrians. Signs in violation may be removed by the city.

Finally, political signs must include the name of the person responsible for the sign, and also must state that they are paid advertisements and have been printed under the authority of the person, candidate or political committee.

## Beerfest benefit returns Sept. 26

The Takoma Foundation will host its seventh annual Beerfest fundraiser on Saturday, Sept. 26, from 4 – 8 p.m. at the Cady Lee House, 7064 Eastern Ave. NW, Washington, D.C.

"The Beerfest is a great community event," says Scott Ward, the Foundation's chair. "As it's grown to nearly 500 visitors, it's become a major fundraiser for the Foundation. It's also our chance to reach out and to tell the community about the many local groups and activities that ben-

efit from their support."

This year's Beerfest will feature beer from 13 area craft brewers, the Foundation's famous grilled brats and two bands. Tickets can be purchased at numerous Old Town businesses and also online at the Foundation's website, [www.takomafoundation.org](http://www.takomafoundation.org).

"We're expecting another wonderful evening at the Cady-Lee House," says Ward. "Food, music, friends—and beer. What more could you want?"



# Crossroads Green Space Comes Alive

On July 28, Takoma Park residents, business owners and their patrons joined city staff for the grand opening of the Crossroads Green Space along the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue and Holton Lane. The makeover, a collaboration between residents and staff, turned a once-derelect site into a community sanctuary with new landscaping, seating and a meandering path that invites exploration. The city is continuing to collect input from residents, and plans to add public art, educational signage and more seating to the area. To participate in the process, fill out the survey at [www.thenewwave.com/development/planning-vision/projects/holtonlane](http://www.thenewwave.com/development/planning-vision/projects/holtonlane) before Sept. 15.

## TENANTS ORGANIZE

■ From page 1

“The city has been great, and so was our City Council member, Fred Shultz,” said Vicki Booker, another co-leader of the association and a U.S. Patent Office attorney who has been living at Hillwood Manor since 2008.

Takoma Park has 16 apartment tenant associations now and one condo association, said Linda Walker, who is the affordable housing manager for Takoma Park. “Usually, something like the sale of the property is the catalyst for the association,” said Walker. “Our job is to help educate tenants about their options, such as finding a developer who wants to partner with the residents.”

By working together, residents can address issues of concern beyond a sale, such as repairs needed for common areas. “There’s a real value to the tenant associations. But it is hard to keep them together because people are busy, and many of them do not plan to stay in the properties for very long,” said Walker.

One way the city is hoping to energize tenant associations is to hold a “summit meeting” next year at which members of all the associations can discuss issues of mutual concern, Walker said. Such issues might include difficulty reaching a landlord, questionable rent hikes, deteriorating structures or poor maintenance. The summit would also be an opportunity to educate tenants about their rights and opportunities as residents who rent in Takoma Park.

To get a tenant association recognized by the city, residents must get signatures of the lease-holders of one-third of the occupied units. In the case of the 96-unit Hillwood Manor, that was a big task. But, said Booker, “We were able to get the sign-ups—no problem. I think it reflects that there is a strong sense of community, and that with the prospect of the property changing hands, people came out to have a stake in it.”

At early meetings, residents learned

about the potential sale, and they outlined the problems that they would like to see fixed. Purnell and Steven Meyers, the third co-leader of the tenant association, said that these include lack of a security fence, damaged gutters that lead to apartment leaks, broken pavement, overgrown trees with limbs that have fallen on and damaged cars and an electrical system that still uses fuses.

“I would think a buyer would see these problems and negotiate on the price because of the need for repairs,” Meyers said. “We as tenants want to work with the new owner to make the property better.”

County inspections found between 160 and 225 code violations in each of the last three years for issues such as water damage and mold, missing smoke detectors, broken windows, leaking plumbing and more. Follow-up assessments by the county declared that all of the violations had been fixed.

Yet, Purnell pointed out that many of the repairs were superficial and did not address the underlying problems. As an example, he said the plumbing system is a Rube Goldberg contraption of galvanized steel, copper and PVC piping that should probably be fully replaced. “The ‘fixes’ are, in a lot of cases, just patches,” he said.

As a result, the three tenant association co-leaders said that they are ready for a change in ownership.

“There has been a history of problems with the owner,” added Booker. “But we’ve had good and bad. When we had a resident property manager, it was better.”

One resident property manager helped tenants organize annual yard sales for a few years. And maybe the tenant association will revive that cooperative spirit. On Aug. 7, with the support of Takoma Park’s Police and Housing Departments, the association held a block party—its first group event in many years.

City Council has supported the Tenant Capacity Building Program, which helps tenants organize their tenant associations. Community organizers Rozanne Look and Mario Cristaldo staff this program.



## 2nd Annual Lifelong Takoma Day Event

**October 10 • 11AM to 5PM**

**Takoma Park Community Center**  
7500 Maple Avenue

**“One Community—engaged & inclusive”**

**City of Takoma Park Residents**  
**join us at this annual social connection and wellness event!**

The event is intergenerational so we’d love to have you bring your family, invite your neighbors and friends.

Enjoy free food, music, health screenings, attend demo classes, compelling presentations, and participate in community conversations.

This year we will have interpreters providing limited translation for Spanish, Amharic and Mandarin Chinese at the event. Residents needing interpreter services for these languages should let us know by September 14. There will be personal guides for residents who may need assistance.

**If you are interested in volunteering**  
**or for more information please contact:**  
**[www.takomaparkmd.gov/lifelongtakoma](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/lifelongtakoma) or call (301) 891-7232.**



# Lifelong Takoma Day: schedule of events

## Health screenings, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

- Grip strength
- Balance
- Blood pressure
- Diabetes
- Derma scan
- Bone density
- Body weight mass index
- Dental Mobile Health Van (qualifications apply. Pre-schedule by appointment only, call 301-587-7406.)

## Workshops and demos, 1 – 3 p.m.

- Caregiver resources
- Financial fitness (managing debt, budgeting for retirement)
- Organizing workshop
- Situational awareness safety strategies
- Housing 101 (affordable housing)
- Living wills
- Library software demonstrations

## Creativity and wellness, 1 – 3 p.m.

- Storytelling workshop
- Ping pong and intergenerational games
- Community art
- Community fitness
- Therapeutic recreation

## Entertainment and community conversation, 3 – 5 p.m.

- 3 p.m. Live Music
- 3:20 – 3:35 p.m. Storyteller
- Panel-led conversation on building community

## Event Transportation

**Takoma Park Recreation Bus** pick-ups from:  
Franklin Apartments, 7620 Maple Ave.  
Maple View Apartments, 7710 Maple Ave.  
Essex House Apartments, 7777 Maple Ave.  
Victory Tower, 7051 Carroll Ave.  
Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Ave.  
Contact Paula Lisowski, 301-891-7280, paula@takomaparkmd.gov.

## Village Rides

Call 301-646-2109 or email wolfgang.mergner@gmail.com a week prior to the event for a volunteer driver.

## Volunteer

Volunteers needed, student service learning hours available. Volunteer orientation Sept. 22, 3 – 4 p.m. or Sept. 24, 7 – 8 p.m. Contact Karen Maricheau, 301-891-7232, kmaricheau@takomaparkmd.gov.

# Takoma Park: Ready for Emergencies?

September is National Emergency Preparedness Month

Look for Emergency Preparedness Committee fliers and information tables, and earn prizes for learning and spreading the word about safety!

- Find us at
- Takoma Park Folk Festival, Sept. 20
  - Edinburgh House apartments, Sept. 10

- Apartment Complex Outreach events, dates TBD at Sligo View, Merrimac Garden and elsewhere
- Trivia Night, dates TBD, see [takomaparkmd.gov/bccc/emergency-preparedness-committee](http://takomaparkmd.gov/bccc/emergency-preparedness-committee)
- Takoma Park Street Festival, Oct. 4
- Lifelong Takoma Event, Oct. 10

# SEPTEMBER '15

## 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 October issue is Sept. 14, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning Sept. 25.

To submit calendar items, email [tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov).

"TP Community Center" is the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park. All addresses are in Takoma Park or Takoma, D.C., unless otherwise noted.

### PUBLIC MEETINGS / OF NOTE

#### City Council

City Council meeting, Tuesday, Sept. 8, 7:30 p.m.\*  
City Council meeting, Monday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m.  
City Council meeting, Monday, Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m.  
City Council meeting, Monday, Sept. 28, 7:30 p.m.  
City Council meeting, Monday, Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Auditorium

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

#### Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry

First Saturdays, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Grace United Methodist Church, 7001 New Hampshire Ave.  
Bi-weekly and monthly food supplements for needy families  
240-450-2092 or [educare\\_ss@yahoo.com](mailto:educare_ss@yahoo.com)  
[www.educaresupportservices.org](http://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 Emart at 1021 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.  
Trohv, 232 Carroll St., NW  
Various food vendors

#### Sidewalk Sale

Visit Old Town Takoma stores as they set out special sales to make room for the fall/holiday season. Participating businesses include La Mano Coffee Bar and Park Florist. Willow Street Yoga Center is offering free yoga for the whole family on Saturday from 1 – 2 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 12 – 13  
Free

#### Grant Avenue Market

A street market showcasing antiques, collectibles and other funky finds in historic Takoma Park.  
Saturday, Sept. 13, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Free

#### Fourth Street Block Party

Food trucks, music and family fun just steps from the Takoma metro  
Saturday, Sept. 19, 4 – 8 p.m.  
6900 4th Street NW  
Free

#### Energy Challenge Update

Come find out how close your neighborhood

is to winning the \$2,000 Neighborhood Energy Challenge, and how close Takoma Park is to winning the \$5 million Georgetown University Energy Prize.

Thursday, Sept. 24, 7 p.m.  
TP Community Center auditorium

#### Takoma Fall Cleanup

Clean up Takoma by weeding and cleaning along Carroll Avenue corridor from the Takoma Theatre in Takoma to the Takoma Junction.  
Saturday, Sept. 26, 10 a.m. – noon  
Volunteers to meet at the Clock Tower at the intersection of Carroll and Laurel avenues  
Free

#### Takoma Foundation Beerfest

A hops-powered, nuclear-free Beerfest benefit that raises money for community building  
Saturday, Sept. 26, 4 – 8 p.m.  
The Historic Cady-Lee House, 7064 Eastern Ave. NW  
[www.takomafoundation.org/home/root/beerfestvii](http://www.takomafoundation.org/home/root/beerfestvii)  
\$40-\$45

#### Takoma Park Street Festival

More than 200 artisans, community groups, children's activities, food vendors and a variety of green companies and other vendors. Three stages with 18 local bands performing indie folk, rock, blues, country, reggae and everything in between.  
Sunday, Oct. 4, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
The event takes place on a mile stretch of Carroll Avenue to Carroll Street  
Free

### ARTS AND LITERATURE

#### People's Open Mic

Sundays, 9 p.m.  
Republic restaurant, 6939 Laurel Ave.  
[www.republictakoma.com](http://www.republictakoma.com)

#### Drum for Joy! with Jaqui MacMillan

Mondays, 7 – 8:30 p.m.  
Electric Maid, 268 Carroll St.  
Learn hand drumming

#### Blues Mondays

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

#### Open Mic Night

Tuesdays, 9 – 11 p.m.  
Busboys and Poets, 235 Carroll St. NW

#### Jazz Jam

Tuesdays, 7 – 10 p.m.  
Takoma Station, 6914 14<sup>th</sup> St. NW  
Open mic for jazz musicians

#### Wednesday Night Drum Jams

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

#### "Downton Abbey" and History: Using the Costume Drama to Explore the Social World of the Edwardians

Lecture on "Downton Abbey" and contemporary culture  
Thursday, Sept. 3, 7:30 – 9 p.m.  
\$10 suggested donation  
TP Community Center auditorium  
[www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts)

#### The Grapevine Storytelling Series

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
Busboys and Poets Takoma, 235 Carroll Street NW  
Free

#### Luminous Exhibit Opening

New gallery exhibit with Washington Wax Works  
Thursday, Sept. 10, 6:30 – 8 p.m.  
TP Community Center Atrium Gallery  
[www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts)

#### The Computers film screening

Docs-in-Progress film about female programmers in World War II  
Thursday, Sept. 10, 7:30 – 9 p.m.  
TP Community Center auditorium  
[www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts)

#### Tuesday Night Open Mic at Busboys and Poets

Musicians, spoken word performers, and more  
Tuesday, Sept. 15, 9 – 11 p.m.  
Busboys and Poets Takoma, 234 Carroll Street NW  
Free

#### Third Thursday Poetry Reading – We Are Takoma

The popular Third Thursday poetry series features the work of a wide range of poets from across the region.

Thursday, Sept. 17, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center auditorium  
Free

#### Takoma Park Folk Festival

Six stages of music plus crafts, dance, food and community info tables  
See insert, this issue  
Sunday, Sept. 20, 10:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.  
7611 Piney Branch Road  
Free

#### The Mystery of Balkan Song – Listen, Learn and Sing

Orfeia Vocal Ensemble performs Balkan music  
Thursday, Sept. 26, 7:30 – 9 p.m.  
\$10 suggested conation  
TP Community Center auditorium  
[www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts)

#### Brewing Up History in Washington, D.C.

Peter Jones and Michael Stein explore the history of brewing in D.C. – which was the second largest industry behind the federal government before prohibition. They also explain their research into pre-prohibition recipes and why they try to taste the past.  
Thursday, Oct. 1, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center  
Free

#### Cri-Cri "El Grillito Cantor" (The Singing Cricket)

A bilingual, interactive musical program based on the songs of Mexican composer Francisco Gabilondo Soler. These songs and stories are fit for the whole family.  
Saturday, Oct. 3, 4 – 6 p.m.  
TP Community Center  
Free

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### #randomactsoftaiko

Taiko artist Mark H. Rooney and his collaborators meld dance, multimedia art and Japanese taiko drumming in a show that explores the harmony and dissonance of rhythm and movement.  
Saturday, Oct. 24, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center  
Free

## 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.

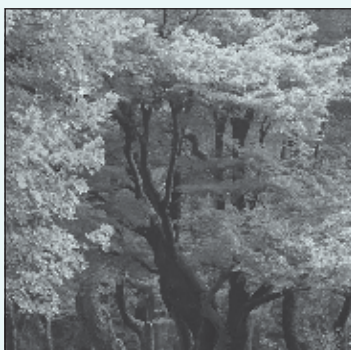


photo by Piper Vernon-Clay

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. 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 \_\_\_\_\_