It takes a village to make a mural

By Bob Goldin

Something there is that doesn’t love a wall – at least if that wall is big and boring and faces a busy neighborhood commercial street. That’s why a wide brick supermarket wall in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads will soon be decorated with a lively mural – to be created in part by people from the neighborhood.

Takoma/Langley mural

The mural will be on Holton Lane near New Hampshire Ave., on the side of an ALDI supermarket, facing the Langley Park Post Office. The project is getting support from the City of Takoma Park and the Takoma/Langley Crossroads Development Authority (CDA) with the collaboration of local residents and the Krsko Creative Group.

The public art project is supported by the City’s Community Grants Program, and this will be the first public art in the Takoma/Langley commercial district in decades. The cost of the mural is expected to be $20,000; the City and the CDA will split the cost.

Melanie Isis, the director of the Takoma/Langley CDA, says “the mural will be a transformation” of the immediate environment. According to Isis, the lead artists, Peter Krsko and Alicia Cosnahan, “have done an enormous number of community murals,” including those on local restaurants El Golfo and El Gavilán.

The artists are inviting local residents and business owners to become part of mural-making and engage in all steps of the creative process, which will include development of preliminary sketches, art workshops and wall painting.

Community participation timeline

The CDA and the lead artists have planned a series of community workshops and painting sessions. The first was held Sept. 28, to present the mural theme and get feedback. Meetings will be at 1335 Holton Lane. Upcoming mural events are:

- Oct. 15, 6-8 p.m. Community meeting to introduce the final mural sketch based on previous feedback
- Oct. 16, 4-8 p.m. First community work session to prime the wall
- Oct. 17, 10 a.m.–noon Community art workshop

City Council considers advisory question for November ballot

The 38th annual Takoma Park Folk Festival was a feast for the senses. Upon arriving on convenient shuttles from Takoma metro station or the Montgomery College, festival goers were immediately surrounded by the aromas of the various cuisines available for tasting.

Some opted for refreshing all-natural smoothies or fresh-squeezed lemonade. Others enjoyed a full meal of tenpanyaki chicken kebabs with a side of lo mein, or perhaps, they chose the vegetarian African fare provided by Suya To Go. For dessert, the choices included funnel cake, Ben & Jerry’s ice cream, and Italian custard shakes.

After enjoying their meals and community conversation in one of the designated outdoor eating areas, festival goers may have ventured inside to hear the lively music performances of the Aloha Boys or the Devil’s Tailors. While en route they couldn’t miss the energetic movement of the DC Morris Dancers as they entertained the crowd gathering near the entrance to Piney Branch Middle School.

If you were wondering what to do next, helpful volunteers were nearby to offer suggestions or directions to your next destination. In the vendor area, the eye-catching clothing, jewelry, and other crafts required closer inspection. Unique scents like citrus winter and orange lavender oatmeal drew attendees to Aburi Botanicals where soaps, oils, and other products were on display.

Tie Die Maker Steven Homberg made the trip from North Carolina to attend his fourth Takoma Park Folk Festival. He boasted that his clothing was softer to the touch and more comfortable than his fourth Takoma Park Folk Festival. He boasted that his clothing was softer to the touch and more comfortable than...
The City Council was on recess during the month of August. September ordinances and resolutions will appear in the November issue.

**VACANCIES ON CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES**

Interested in serving? A great first step is to review information on the website and attend a meeting to learn more about the work of the group. Committee information and meeting dates/times may be found on the calendar at www.takomaparkmd.gov.

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. For complete information or to apply, view the City’s website. For questions, contact Jessie Carpenter, city clerk at 301-891-7267 or jessie@takomaparkmd.gov or contact your City Council representative.

The following groups have vacancies as of Sept. 18:

**Arts and Humanities Commission** (four vacancies – no representatives from Ward 6)

**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)

**Nominations of Candidates for Mayor and City Council to be accepted on September 29**

The Nominating Caucus will convene at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 29, to accept nominations of candidates for Mayor and City Council for the Nov 3, 2015 City of Takoma Park Election. The meeting will take place in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD. While open to the public, only registered voters of the City may participate in the meeting. Residents may register before the start of the meeting.

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 her/his ward, the person so nominated shall be considered a candidate.

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. 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 eligible person nominated for the office of Mayor and Councilmember shall be placed upon the official ballot unless he/she shall file a declaration with the City Clerk within three (3) days after his/her nomination. Any person nominated as a candidate must meet the qualifications of the office for which she/he is nominated.

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICES**

**Public Hearing on Request for Installation of Traffic Calming**

6500 Block of Kansas Lane

Monday, Oct. 5, 2015 – 7 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

7500 Maple Ave.

Residents of the 6500 block of Kansas Lane have submitted a petition requesting installation of traffic calming on their block (establish one way only traffic between Cocklerly Avenue and Allegheny Avenue, towards DC). The City Council will hold a public hearing to receive testimony on the request at 7 p.m. on Monday, October 5, 2015. Interested persons are encouraged to attend the public hearing and sign up to speak. Written comments may also be sent to clerk@takomaparkmd.gov. All comments received will be added to the hearing record.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk
City of Takoma Park
7500 Maple Ave. Takoma Park, Md. 20912
301-891-7267
www.takomaparkmd.gov

**Nominaciones de Candidatos para Alcalde y Miembro del Consejo se Aceptarán el 29 de Septiembre**

La Junta de Nominación de Candidatos (Reunión Electoral) empezará a las 7:30 p.m. el martes, 29 de septiembre. Se aceptarán nominaciones de candidatos para el puesto de Alcalde y Miembros del Consejo para el distrito de tal candidato, y si la nominación es apoyada por un segundo elector en la Ciudad de Takoma Park, la persona nominada será considerada como candidato. Cualquier candidato nominado podrá rechazar una nominación durante la reunión. La Junta de Nominación de Candidatos se reunirá para escoger a una persona nominada de un sólo puesto. El nombre de cada persona que satisfaga los requisitos y que sea nominado por el puesto de Alcalde y Miembro del Consejo será nombrada en la boleta oficial a menos que esa persona entregue una carta por escrito rechazando la nominación a la Oficina de la Secretaría Municipal dentro de los 3 días después de su nominación. Cualquier persona nominada como candidato para el puesto de Alcalde o Miembro del Consejo tendrá derecho a satisfacer los requisitos de tal puesto.
2015 Election Calendar
Tuesday, Sept. 29, 7:30 p.m. – Nominating Caucus, Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Avenue.

Wednesday, Oct. 14 through Election Day – In person voter registration at the City Clerk’s Office, 3rd Floor, Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue.

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

Wednesday, Oct. 28 – Sunday, November 1 – Early Voting (see the early voting schedule for times and locations).

Tuesday, Nov. 3 – Election Day, Polls open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. 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 Avenue.

Calendario de las Elecciones Municipal del 2015
Martes 29 de Septiembre, 7:30 p.m. – Junta de Nominación de Candidatos (Reunión Electoral), Auditorio del Centro Comunitario de Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue.

Inicia el Miércoles 14 de Octubre hasta el día de las Elecciones – Presentarse en persona para registrarse para votar en la Oficina de la Secretaría Municipal, 3r piso, en el Centro Comunitario de Takoma, 7500 Maple Avenue.

Martes 27 de Octubre, 4 p.m. – Es la fecha límite para solicitar por correo una boleta electoral de voto en ausencia. Puede solicitar solicite en la Oficina de la Secretaría Municipal, 3r piso, en el Centro Comunitario de Takoma, 7500 Maple Avenue.

Miércoles, 28 de Octubre hasta el Domingo 1 de Noviembre – Se permitirá votar antes del día de las elecciones en el Centro Comunitario de Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue. El horario se anunciará posteriormente.

Martes 3 de Noviembre – Día de las Elecciones, las cabinas (urnas) electorales estarán abiertas de 7 a.m. a 8 p.m. en el Centro Comunitario de Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue. Asimismo es la fecha límite para recibir las boletas electorales de votos en ausencia hasta las 8 p.m.

Lunes, 16 de Noviembre, 7:30 p.m. – Inauguración – Alcaldía y Miembros del Concejo oficialmente tomarán su puesto, Centro Comunitario de Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue.

Voter Registration
All residents of Takoma Park who are at least 16 years and who do not claim the right to vote elsewhere may vote in this November’s election. 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.

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. Residents who are not yet 16 but wish to prepare for voting in Takoma Park elections may register using the City form once they are 14 years of age.

Complete information and voter registration applications are available at elections.takomapark.gov.

Registro de Votantes
Todos los residentes de Takoma Park que tienen por lo menos 16 años de edad y que no están 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 está registrado para votar.

Generalmente, si satisface los requisitos, se puede registrar usando la aplicación del Estado de Maryland, así es ciudadano Americano, tiene por lo menos 16 años de edad, no está registrado para votar en otra parte y no está encarcelado 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 los residentes de Takoma Park que no son ciudadanos Americanos o residentes que están bajo libertad condicional por ser condenado de un delito. Residentes que tienen por lo menos 16 años de edad pueden registrarse para votar para prepararse para votar cuando cumplen los 18 años de edad.

In Takoma Park, there are not

Early Voting Schedule
Early voting will take place at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, as follows:

• Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2–8 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center

• Thursday, Oct. 29, 2–8 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center

• Friday, Oct. 30, 2–8 p.m. (NEW LOCATION) Takoma Park Recreation Center at 7315 New Hampshire Avenue

• Saturday, Oct. 31, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. (NEW LOCATION) Ward 5

• Sunday, Nov. 1, 12 noon to 6 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center

Votación Temprana
Vote temprano en el Centro Comunitario de Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue:

• Miércoles, 28 de Octubre, 2–8 p.m., en el Centro Comunitario de Takoma Park

• Jueves, 29 de Octubre, 2–8 p.m., en el Centro Comunitario de Takoma Park

• Viernes, 30 de Octubre, 2–8 p.m., (Nuevo Local) Centro de Recreación de Takoma Park

• Sábado, 30 de Octubre, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., (Nuevo Local) Distrito 5

• Domingo, 1 de Noviembre, 12–6 p.m., en el Centro Comunitario de Takoma Park

The artist leading the project, Peter Krisko, and his partner Alicia Cosnahlan, who works in arts education in the public schools, have already been visiting the neighborhood, chatting with people and doing research. Krisko, who comes from the former Czechoslovakia, says they have learned that the area is known as an international corridor with lots of small businesses and more than 100 different nationalities living nearby. Those themes will be embodied in the mural.

However, Krisko says, overall they plan to “focus more on where you’re going, the direction for the future, with a positive emphasis.”

For more information on the mural, contact Melanie Isit at 301-445-7910 or misis@takomalangley.org.

THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER
Editor: April Motley
Assistant: Sean Gossard
www.takomaparkmd.gov
Vol. 54, No. 10

The Takoma Park Newsletter is published 12 times a year as the official publication of the City of Takoma Park, takomaparkmd.gov. Letters to the editor, reports by community groups, calendar items and other submissions will be considered for publication; send to newseditor@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, tone 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.
Yard hoarders

As you go about your day, you might notice clutter in someone’s yard. It may be piled up on the porch, next to the shed, or in the driveway. Not only are these piles of rubbish a code violation, but they may also be a sign of hoarding. Hoarding is the acquisition of, and failure to discard, a large number of possessions. If these possessions are outside of a home, they can block exits or entrances and could possibly lead to a rodent or insect infestation. Untagged or inoperable vehicles in the yard or the driveway could also point to hoarding. If you see a neighbor who might be a hoarder, offer to give them a hand. If they need more serious help, Montgomery County Health and Human Services (240-777-0311) can work with them to address their hoarding.

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.
Free for Takoma Park residents/$25 for non-residents
Continental breakfast and lunch will be served

Energy challenge update

The Neighborhood Energy Challenge (NEC) is in full swing with only slightly more than a year left of the competition. As of September, 634 Takoma Park residents have signed up for the challenge. Of those signed up, 13 participants have completed their Green Home Certification, with 1 person achieving the toughest Dark Green Certification, with two more applicants in the verification stage. The Medium Green Certification is the next most difficult certification, yet 9 residents have still managed to achieve it. The Light Green Certification is the easiest, and 8 residents have met its qualifications.

Although many have signed up, the points in the competition come from achieving the different certifications. Therefore Team Forest Park leads the way in the Neighborhood Energy Challenge even though Team Sligo-Longbranch has the most residents signed up.

There is a $2,000 grand prize for the neighborhood and a separate $2,000 prize for the multifamily building (12 units or more) that has the most Green Certified Homes. The City’s residential and municipal reductions in energy use contribute to Takoma Park’s competition for the $5 Million Dollar Georgetown University Energy Prize.

Currently, Takoma Park is ranked #43 out of 50 for the $5 million Georgetown Prize. We have a lot of ground to make up, but we know we can do it! Keep working towards your Green Home Certifications!

Small business kilowatt smackdown!

With the support of the City of Takoma Park, the Green Impact Campaign (GIC) and Nextility, two DC-based energy organizations, are coordinating a community initiative to help Takoma Park small businesses save money on energy while reducing their environmental impact.

The effort — Kilowatt Smackdown — will include a community-wide competition between student groups from local universities and colleges to complete free energy assessments for businesses from Oct. 3 to Nov. 18. The outcome will be custom, actionable plans to save money and energy for each business.

During the remainder of the year, Kilowatt Smackdown partners will help small businesses with resources to complete these low-to-no-cost recommendations, and businesses in choosing a lower-cost, green energy supplier, and determine if their buildings are suitable for free solar energy systems. Businesses will also be connected to state and local rebate programs and to the Montgomery County Green Business Certification program for further assistance and help for deeper energy savings.

Green Impact Campaign and Nextility will train students to conduct energy assessments using their various assessment tools.

Student prizes

The top three students that complete the most energy assessments during the competition period will be awarded the following scholarships from the City of Takoma Park:

1st place — $3,000
2nd place — $1,500
3rd place — $500

Top performing students will be given the opportunity for an informational interview or paid internship at the following organizations:
City of Takoma Park — Sustainability Programs (2-paid winter internship positions)
Nextility (informational interview)
Join Hands: The Life and Art of Matt Sesow Film Screening
Thursday, Oct. 8, 7:30 - 9 p.m.
The Takoma Park Community Center auditorium
7500 Maple Ave.
In “Join Hands: the Life and Art of Matt Sesow,” a documentary by Leslye Abbey, artist Matt Sesow explains the childhood accident that resulted in the amputation of his left hand and how he became a mainstay in the D.C. local art scene. Abbey’s interviews with Sesow’s family, collectors and friends help tell the story, and shots of his paintings, which balance beautiful and grotesque representations, create a colorful spectacle. An audience Q&A will follow the screening.

Brewing Up History in Washington, D.C.
Thursday, Oct. 1, 7:30 – 9 p.m.
The Takoma Park Community Center auditorium
7500 Maple Ave.
While breweries, such as DC Brau, Union Craft Brewing, and Lost Rhino, keep beer relevant in D.C. today, beer historians Peter Jones and Michael Stein re-capture bygone recipes of pre-prohibition brew.

Brewing Up History in Washington D.C.

Local craft beer and brewing has surged dramatically in the past five years, with more than a dozen breweries and brewpubs opening in the DMV,” Jones said, “but brewing has a long and important history for D.C.”

They will examine how industrial developments and the first wave of beer-loving German immigrants impacted D.C.’s history.

#randomactsoftaiko
Saturday, Oct. 24, 7:30 – 9 p.m.
The Takoma Park Community Center auditorium
7500 Maple Ave.
After living in Japan, Mark H. Rooney brought home more than an airport souvenir. He found a new passion in Japanese drumming.

In #randomactsoftaiko, Rooney and his collaborators meld dance, multimedia art, and taiko drumming in a show that explores the harmony and dissonance of rhythm and movement.

For Rooney, taiko has become a life’s work, and it influences his professional and artistic pursuits — from helping found Wesleyan University’s taiko program to collaborating with artists, such as Tiger Okoshi, Opera unMet, and UpRooted Dance. #randomactsoftaiko will begin with an interactive demonstration and end with a Q&A.

The Takoma Park Holiday Art Sale
The Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Avenue
Takoma Park, Md.
Saturday, Dec. 12, 2015
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Applications Due Friday, Oct. 9
12 p.m.
takomaparkmd.gov/art - arts@takomaparkmd.gov - 301-691-7224

THE ARTS
Winter Basketball League: Father Knows Best

For the past seven years, local resident Eric Butler has volunteered his time as a coach in the Recreation Department's Winter Basketball League. Butler admits that early in his career, as a brand new coach, his biggest fear was “failing to teach the kids anything valuable.” During his first few years as a coach, he focused his attention on building life lessons that could be used on and off the court, such as teamwork and perseverance.

Coach Butler's job on the court is very unique, as he is a parent-coach since his daughter Jade is also a member of his team. The two of them have built an inseparable bond, and he has passed his passion and love of basketball down to her. Butler says, “The league gives us the opportunity to spend time away from home together.”

Every season Coach Butler is amazed to see how fast the kids on his team grow and develop their skills. When asked about any advice he gives to brand new coaches, Butler suggests they “focus more on player development and less on winning,” which can be accomplished by “picking 2 – 3 skills to work on in practice” and building on that foundation weekly. For Butler and Jade, the Winter Basketball League gives them something to look forward to each year.

Registration for the 2016 Winter Basketball League has already begun and the Recreation Department encourages anyone interested in participating to visit www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation to register. For more information or to volunteer as a coach, please contact Lew McAllister at lewm@takomaparkmd.gov.
FOREVER YOUNG: 55 PLUS

DROP IN
Bingo
Ages 55 and older
Try your luck. Win a prize.
TP Community Center Senior Room
Thursday, Oct. 22, noon - 2 p.m.
Free

Blood Pressure Screening
Ages 55 and older
Adventist Healthcare will do a free monthly blood pressure screening.
TP Community Center Senior Room
Thursday, Oct. 22, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Free

EDUCATION/DEVELOPMENT
Getting Started with Social Media
Ages 55 and older
Learn the basics of social media, how to create, use, and maintain a Facebook page and Twitter account. Update your status, post photos and videos, and connect with friends and business accounts on Facebook, tweet, post photos and videos on Twitter. Lifelong Learning Institute, Montgomery College.
Course # L1170. TP Community Center Multimedia Lab
Thursdays, Oct. 15-29, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
$88 per person for ages 60 and older
$170 per person for ages 55-59
Registration and payment to Montgomery College Workforce and Continuing Education, Rockville, Maryland or http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/edu. For more information and registration assistance, please call 240-567-5188.

Gold Leaf through the Ages
Ages 55 and older
In this presentation you will learn about the many uses of gold leaf, how it is applied and its many imitators. Allen and Ina Marx, members of the Society of Gilders, will show a sampling of their restorations using gold leaf.
TP Community Center Lilac Room
Wednesday, Oct. 14, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
Free, but registration is required with TP Recreation Department.

Landscapes and Seascapes
Ages 55 and older
This Montgomery College course will teach students to paint landscapes and seascapes from photos using watercolor, acrylic or oil. Analysis of the work of French Impressionists and Post Impressionists. All skill levels welcome. Lifelong Learning Institute, Montgomery College. Course # LL1705.
TP Community Center Art Studio
Thursdays, Oct. 8 - Nov. 12, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
$88 per person for ages 60 and older
$170 per person for ages 55-59
Registration and payment to Montgomery College Workforce and Continuing Education, Rockville, Maryland or http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/edu. For more information and registration assistance, please call 240-567-5188.

PETs
EDUCATION/DEVELOPMENT
Basic Dog Manners
Ages 1 and older
It is never too late to start training with your dog. This class covers foundation behaviors we want from our dogs in the real world on leash, at home, and with other dogs and people. This class covers foundation behaviors (sit, down, stay, here, leave it), leash manners (not pulling, passing dogs and people), polite greetings, dog body language, and how reinforcement works. Dogs should be friendly toward dogs and people and current on vaccinations. No pinch, prong, choke, or electronic collars in the classroom, please.
Heffner Park Community Center
Wednesdays, Oct. 28 – Dec. 9, 6:45 – 7:45 p.m.
TP residents $145
Non-residents $165

Volunteers
The Recreation Department is looking for a drama and theatre instructor for the Teen Program. Our possible class ideas are Play Production; performing short plays for an audience and Behind the Scenes Theatre Skills; showing students the basic fundamentals of putting together a theatre production. This includes teaching elements of stagecraft, stage makeup, costume craft, play writing, or play direction. The class will meet once a week for one hour in the late afternoon. Class will start in January. For any inquiries please contact Chelsea Nunez at chelsean@takomaparkmd.gov.

Puppy Kindergarten
Ages 8 weeks – 5 months
If you have a puppy, you need Puppy Kindergarten! Early puppy training and socialization has been shown to help prevent behavior problems later on. Each class will include supervised, off leash play, where you will learn about dog body language and appropriate play. No pinch, prong, choke, or electronic collars in the classroom.
Heffner Park Community Center
Tuesdays, Oct. 27 – Dec. 8, 8:45 – 7:45 p.m.
TP residents $145
Non-residents $165

FOR THE RECORD

Monster Bash
Saturday, Oct. 31
Open to all ages
Rain or Shine
Annual Costume Contest
1 p.m. in the public parking lot beside the TPSS Co-op.
Get all decked out and strut your stuff. Categories include most original, funniest and scariest. Categories: ages 4 and under; 5 - 8; 9 - 12; Teen and Adult; and Overall Group. Limited Parking due to street closures.

Costume Parade
Approximately 2:15 p.m., immediately following the costume contest.
All are welcome to participate in this walking parade. Follow the Takoma Park Fire Department Truck as it escorts you down the parade route. This year a new route leaves the parking lot beside the TPSS Co-op and goes down Carroll Avenue to Old Town Takoma Park.

Costume Award
Ceremony and Celebration
Approximately at 3 p.m., immediately following the parade Old Town Takoma Park (Carroll and Laurel avenues)
Following the parade join us for refreshments, sponsored by the Takoma Park Lions Club, and a musical performance sponsored by the Recreation Department suitable for all ages.

Street Closures
To hold the event and ensure patron safety, we will have the following closures:
The public parking lot next to the TPSS Co-op will be closed from 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

We expect to re-open the streets by 6:00 p.m. During the time of the street closures, you will not be able to enter or exit your driveway.
In the event of inclement weather, the Monster Bash will be moved to Piney Branch Elementary School, and there will be no road closures. To receive an update on weather conditions, please call our inclement weather line at 301-891-7101, ext. 5605.

PETS
EDUCATION/DEVELOPMENT
Basic Dog Manners
Ages 1 and older
It is never too late to start training with your dog. This class covers foundation behaviors (sit, down, stay, here, leave it), leash manners (not pulling, passing dogs and people), polite greetings, dog body language, and how reinforcement works. Dogs should be friendly toward dogs and people and current on vaccinations. No pinch, prong, choke, or electronic collars in the classroom, please.
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Heffner Park Community Center
Tuesdays, Oct. 27 – Dec. 8, 8:45 – 7:45 p.m.
TP residents $145
Non-residents $165

Volunteers
The Recreation Department is beginning to plan the annual Monster Bash for Saturday, Oct. 31, and we need your help. Volunteers will help with both set-up and breakdown of the event, costume judging for various age groups, and serve as barricade attendants, parade route coordinators, and game booth attendants. If you would like to volunteer, contact Michael Kurland at michaelk@takomaparkmd.gov or sign up through MontgomeryServes.org.
Book sale returns!
The popular Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library book sale will return on Saturday Oct. 24th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Library Lawn. Used books in good condition of every description will be available at bargain prices.

Volunteers are needed to help at the sale in approximately two-hour shifts between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Volunteering is a wonderful opportunity to find some great books, meet your neighbors, and help the Library. High school students may earn service learning hours toward graduation by volunteering at the sale. To volunteer or for further information, contact Ellen Robbins at ellen@takomaparkmd.gov.

Summer Quest success
We’ve tallied the final figures, and we had another successful Summer Quest summer reading program, thanks to readers ranging in age from one to 54. Overall, 115 readers read at least one book, but many readers read more. Summer Quest participants read more than 1,100 books as they made their way through the 10 reading challenges. Our top reader was Esme Chang-Gillespie, a pre-schooler who read 106 books with her parents and baby brother. Ten-year-old Kiera Norris was a very close second, reading 101 books. Kiera also completed all the extra reading Summer Quest challenges.

While Summer Quest 2015 is over, we’re gearing up for our third annual Winter Quest reading program. Watch for more details soon about Winter Quest, which is designed to keep kids reading over the December holidays.

Halloween events
Halloween fans are in for a real treat this year, as we have a trio of events designed to celebrate the season. First up is a program featuring award-winning kid’s novelist Mary Downing Hahn, who specializes in writing spine-tingling tales for young readers. Hahn, a Maryland resident who has sold more than two million copies of her books, will be here on Monday, Oct. 19 at 7:30 p.m. to talk about her newest book, “Took.” School Library Journal says of “Took” that “horror fans and readers looking for a good scare will enjoy this creepy tale,” while The Horn Book noted that “this creepy tale skillfully weaves in — and honors — the oral tradition of folklore, legends, and ghost stories. Politics & Prose Bookstore will be selling copies of Hahn’s books at the event, but the program is free, and no purchase is required to attend.

Next, on Sunday, Oct. 25, from 2-3 p.m., kids are invited to come and make some Halloween crafts. All materials are provided, courtesy of the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library. Kids just need to bring their creativity!

Finally, on Monday, Oct. 26, veteran storyteller Candace Wolf returns with her annual “Scary Stories” program. Wolf, a local resident who has done storytelling all over the world, will offer two sets of tales. From 7:45 p.m., she’ll tell stories that are just a bit scary and perfect for ages 5-7. From 7:50-8:50 p.m., she’ll ratchet up the scary quotient with tales for kids ages 8-13. No registration necessary; just come and enjoy some scary fun!

Authors, authors!
We’ve got something for everyone in our October line-up of author programs that “this creepy tale skillfully weaves in — and honors — the oral tradition of folklore, legends, and ghost stories. Politics & Prose Bookstore will be selling copies of Hahn’s books at the event, but the program is free, and no purchase is required to attend.

Matt Davies, book, “Nerdy Birdy.” Young fans of the “Ranger’s Apprentice” series will want to mark their calendars for Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 7:30 p.m., when author John Flanagan reveals his newest adventure series. This event will take place in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium.

For kids who love non-fiction, check out the program on Wednesday, Oct. 7, at 7:30 p.m. featuring science writer Tam O’Shaughnessy. She'll focus on her new book, “Falling: The Photobiography of America's Pioneering Woman in Space.” Non-fiction lovers also will enjoy an event on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 7:30, when author Gabrielle Balkan discusses her new book, “The 50 States.”

Book sale returns!
The popular Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library book sale will return on Saturday Oct. 24th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Library Lawn. Used books in good condition of every description will be available at bargain prices.

Volunteers are needed to help at the sale in approximately two-hour shifts between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Volunteering is a wonderful opportunity to find some great books, meet your neighbors, and help the Library. High school students may earn service learning hours toward graduation by volunteering at the sale. To volunteer or for further information, contact Ellen Robbins at ellen@takomaparkmd.gov.

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Village Rides can give you a lift

By Trey Johanson

Editor's Note:
For people who need a ride, whether temporarily or on a regularly basis, Takoma Park’s Village Rides program can be a lifesaver. The program pairs volunteer drivers (who have been trained and screened) with residents who need a lift. Here is one example, compiled by Trey Johanson, who helps administer the program through the Jewish Council for the Aging.

"Let me tell you the background," began Jackie Davison of Victory Towers in Takoma Park. "Now, I am a very good driver, but I totaled my own car in January. I have always been independent, so it was a trauma to have to be dependent on somebody else."

Davison, like so many of our elders, is a confident, capable, active contributor to her community. She is the president of the Victory Tower Tenant Association. She is not a woman used to relying on others. But, when she had a doctor's appointment, she needed a ride to Bethesda. She had recently attended a presentation by the Village of Takoma Park in which she learned about its volunteer driver service. So, she made the call.

At first, she was concerned. "Do they know how to drive? Will they be prompt?" She was concerned about the safety and dependability of the drivers. She was also concerned about the process. "Sometimes you call for volunteer services, and you can tell they’re not really together," she said. "I was impressed by the professional approach. The intake was very thorough. And, lo and behold, the driver was prompt and friendly!"

Davison chuckled, "I called again another time, and I slept through my alarm! Sandy [Egan, the driver] called me and said, 'I'm here, where are you?' I had to apologize for that one!"

"I find Sandy just very interesting. We have good conversations and she's just good company. And she's a very, very good driver!"

When asked why more of her neighbors might not ask for help when they need rides, Davison could only guess. "It takes people a while to try something new," she said. "I find in general the people here are just reluctant to take advantage of new opportunities, and I don't understand that, to tell you the truth."

"About a third of our residents are non-English speaking," continued Davison. "Our bulletin board is all in English. We are only reaching out to two thirds of the people who live here! And, non-English speaking residents are increasing, just like in the overall population."

Davison's message seems clear. If our communities are to serve our elders, we must reach out to them respectfully, steadfastly and responsibly. We must communicate in their language, and from their cultural viewpoint. We must be a consistent, reliable presence in their neighborhoods. And, we must be worthy of the trust they place in us, when they do ask for our help.

To learn more about Village Rides, see a video about the program, to participate or to volunteer go to www.villageoftakomapark.com/village-rides-program-recruiting-riders-and-drivers or call 301-233-4212.

FESTIVAL

From page 1

the touch than most. Perhaps, his shirts, slacks, and dresses were as soft as the array of quilted eyeglass cases, cosmetic bags, and satchels available from I Sew Totes. In the booth across the way was Designs by Salone Starr showcasing African fashions and accessories inspired by the designer's homeland of Sierra Leone.

For those a little winded from shopping, there was more food available for snacking. Perhaps, they stopped at Dances with Loaves for a cherry almond scone, or they visited Cheryl's Kitchen where a 30-year Takoma Park Resident featured her maple frosted walnuts, pecans and cashews at the festival for the first time.

After shopping and dining, festival goers could learn more about their community by visiting the tables of the many civic organizations represented at the event. Among them were the Village of Takoma Park, which provides transportation to senior residents through Village Rides (see p. 9), We Are Takoma, EducationFirst, Our Space Acupuncture and Montgomery Blair High School. And if you hadn't registered to vote, City Clerk Jessie Carpenter and a member of the board of elections were on hand at the Vote Takoma booth to help you complete the necessary forms in time for the upcoming election on Nov. 3 (see p. 3).

There was so much to enjoy, and everywhere you looked families, friends, volunteers, and performers were doing just that. If you attended this year's Takoma Park Folk Festival, you got an eyeful, an earful and a mouthful of the very best that the City has to offer.

Jewelers Nancy Ennis (seated) and Gay Darlund.

Troop 33 Helpers Noah and Adain (hat).

Leititia Van Sari and the Bonafides.

Chris Monaghan
**The Firehouse Report**

By Jim Jarboe

As of August 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 438 fire-related incidents in 2015. The department addressed or assisted with 2,169 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 2,607.

Totals for 2014 were 458 and 1,890, representing an increase 239 incidents. During the month of August 2015, the Takoma Park volunteers put in a total 1,294 hours of standby time at the station compared to 1,585 in August 2014. Grand totals as of August 2015 are 10,741 hours compared to 11,091.5 hours in 2014, a decrease of 350.5 hours.

** Maryland fire deaths**

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported as of September 14, 2015, 42 people have died in fires, compared to 39 in September 2014.

**Fire Prevention Week October 4-10**

Theme: Hear the Beep Where You Sleep: Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm

Fire Prevention Week commemorates the Great Chicago Fire, October 8-9, 1871. This two-day blaze killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres.

**Mark the date!**

Sunday, Oct. 4, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., there will be an "Open House" at the Takoma Park fire station. At the start of Fire Prevention Week, members will be on hand for show and tell regarding many activities on fire safety. Bring the family; it’s a time to learn and have fun.

**Takoma Park VFD member receives prestigious training award**

New EMT Bernice Williams was honored with the Richard B. Thompson Award for the top academic student in the class. It was presented at the EMT Class graduation held at the Public Service Training Academy on August 28. Member Enoch Davis also graduated. Congratulations to both for a job well done.

**Drink up**

Takoma Park has new water bottle filling stations at the Community Center and at Public Works. What a great way to save energy! You don't have to buy bottled water (so you save money and you save energy by avoiding the manufacture of yet more plastic bottles). You get filtered water. And you get it in a convenient spout made just for refilling bottle (or you can slurp right from the old-school water fountain spigot). Plus, the filling stations have a digital display that keeps count of how much waste you’ve avoided by not using plastic bottles.

**Parking Survey for Takoma Park Residents**

Tell us about your experience and observations:

http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/parking

The Montgomery County Planning Department has kicked off its Bicycle Master Plan and want to hear from you. To do that, County planners have developed a Cycling Concerns feedback map, an interactive tool that allows the public to comment on bicycling concerns and route conditions. Check it out at metacats.org/cyclingconcerns and share your input about biking in Takoma Park and the rest of Montgomery County. To keep up to date on the plan, follow @MCBikePlan on Twitter.

**Takoma Park is prepared**

By Emergency Preparedness Committee

Here in Takoma Park we’ve had power outages, serious snowstorms, thunderstorms, heat waves and difficult driving situations (such as fog). With fall and winter coming, how will you make sure to stay connected to your family, be safe, have sufficient food/water in case of evacuation and deal with unexpected, dangerous situations?

Takoma Park is ready to share information and strategies for survival. The Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC) will be represented at the following events:

- Oct. 4, Street Festival
- Oct. 10, Lifelong Takoma
- Oct. 11, Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department
- Oct. 17, Takoma Science Club
- Oct. 23, Takoma Park Seventh-day Adventist Church
- Oct. 24, Takoma Park United Methodist Church
- Oct. 25, Takoma Park Elementary School

**How prepared are you?**

Here’s a short test of your knowledge and skills:

1. What should you do with medication that’s old or not used?
   a) Throw it out
   b) Give to a friend who needs it
   c) Bring to Takoma Park Police Dept.
2. 1 hour
3. In case of a power outage, eat food that’s old or not used? a) Throw it out
   b) Non-perishable food
   c) Freezer, refrigerator, non-perishable food
   d) Put it away in a box
4. If you are driving into a heavy fog, you should:
   a) Edge closer to the back of the line
   b) Hit the brakes and put on your high lights
   c) Slow down, turn off your lights of the car in front of you
   d) It’s part of a mountain—ice berg—in Antarctica
5. If you are driving into a heavy fog, you should:
   a) Edge closer to the back of the line
   b) Hit the brakes and put on your high lights
   c) Slow down, turn off your radio and open the windows to listen for police or traffic notices
   d) Turn the radio on very loud to hear news and soothing music
6. In case of a power outage, eat food from your home in the following order:
   a) Freezer, refrigerator, non-perishable food
   b) Non-perishable food
   c) Refrigerator, freezer
   d) Freezer, non-perishable food

Answers:

1) C, 2) B, 3) A, 4) B, 5) C, 6) C
By Amanda Stevens

You might have noticed a few things out of the ordinary along New Hampshire Avenue on the evening of July 18. You might have heard the melodies and rhythms of violins, trumpets and drums. You may have spotted new artwork. You might have noticed a few things out of the ordinary along New Hampshire Avenue.

Dance Exchange artists, musicians, and community members participate in "New Hampshire Ave: This Is a Place To..."

An evening of music, dance, art and storytelling

By Amanda Stevens

You might have noticed a few things out of the ordinary along New Hampshire Avenue on the evening of July 18. You might have heard the melodies and rhythms of violins, trumpets and drums. You may have spotted new artwork. You might have noticed a few things out of the ordinary along New Hampshire Avenue.

Created by Dance Exchange and sponsored by the City of Takoma Park, this performance and community celebration was the culmination of a multi-year project known as "New Hampshire Ave: This Is A Place To..." With major support from ArtPlace America, the project provided an opportunity for people to gather and reflect on the ways they shape what the place is today and what it will be tomorrow.

During July's place-based performance, audience members accompanied performers on a journey of storytelling between Hampshire Tower, Takoma Overlook and the Recreation Center field. As they shared their stories of New Hampshire Ave, Dance Exchange transformed them into movement, weaving them together with Dance Exchange Founder Liz Lerman's landmark work "Still Crossing," to create an intergenerational performance by Dance Exchange artists and New Hampshire Avenue community members. Local musician David Schulman also joined the performance along with trumpeter Don Tillery and Taiko drummer Mark H. Rooney.

For almost two years, Dance Exchange has collaborated with the City of Takoma Park's Housing and Community Development Department to use art and dialogue to create meaningful relationships between the people and places that shape New Hampshire Avenue. Led by Artistic Director Cassie Meador, this work "brings a range of people into conversation about their contributions and hopes for the Avenue." The impact of doing so, Meador explains, "is already apparent, and the connections the project created, we hope, will live on after it ends."

One way the project lives on is through the work of several local artists with whom Dance Exchange collaborated. Installation artist Nicole Salimbene, painter Fetunwork Amedie, photographer Ben Carver and multi-disciplinary artist Nguyen K. Nguyen captured the Avenue in a series of photo portraits, paintings and illustrations, which were installed in the Recreation Center field during July's performance. During the next month, this artwork will appear on banners in public spaces throughout Takoma Park.

To learn more, visit danceexchange.org. Amanda Newman is a Dance Exchange artist.

Sizanani Takoma Teen Leadership Camp

In August the first ever Sizanani Takoma Teen Leadership Camp, a unique collaboration between MAN UP (Making a New United People) and Global Camps Africa, was launched. The Sizanani Takoma Teen Leadership Camp focused on fun, life and leadership skills, self-esteem, team work and cross-cultural community.

Jenn Wofford, a counselor and coach with offices in DC and Takoma Park, spearheaded a crowd funding campaign in the one-week camp culminated with a community potluck celebration, during which the teens presented a theatre piece. Here one counselor teaches a song to some of the teens, who participated in the camp.

SMACKDOWN

- From page 4

AtSite (informational interview)
Community Power Network (informational interview)

Throughout the competition, students will be able to win small and large weekly “PowerUp Prizes” provided by sponsoring local businesses, which may include: gift cards to local restaurants, “green” resume writing workshop presented by 20 minute resume, tickets to sporting and music events and more!

To participate as a student competitor or to sign your small business up for the free energy assessment and help a local student, go to http://greenimpactcampaign.org/kilowatstsmacldown/ or contact City Sustainability Manager Gina Mathias at ginam@takomaparkmd.gov.

ADVISORY QUESTION

- From page 4

Here is the text of the advisory questions Takoma Park residents may be asked to consider when they vote Nov. 3.

Advisory Question – Option 1

Beginning with the election in November 2018, the City of Takoma Park municipal elections for Mayor and Council members should be changed to the 1st Tuesday after the 1st Monday in November in each even-numbered year in order to coincide with Maryland statewide elections.

______ Against
______ For

Advisory Question – Option 2

Beginning with the election in November 2018, and assuming voting rights can be maintained for 16-17 year olds, non-citizens and people with felony convictions who are on parole, the City of Takoma Park municipal elections for Mayor and Council members should be changed to coincide with Maryland statewide elections.

______ Against
______ For
PUBLIC MEETINGS / OF NOTE

City Council
City Council Meeting, Monday, Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m.*
City Council Meeting, Monday, Oct. 12, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Monday, Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Monday, Oct. 26, 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.

Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry
Behind Expo Emart at 1021 University Blvd.
Wednesdays, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Crossroads Farmers Market
Year-round
Sundays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Takoma Park Farmers Market
Grace United Methodist Church, 7001 New Hampshire Ave.
Bi-weekly and monthly food supplements for needy families
240-450-2092 or educare_ss@yahooo.com
www.educaresupportservices.org

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Kid’s Night Out
First Saturdays, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Fun and games for kids
See page XX 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 XX 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.
Troy, 232 Carroll St., NW
Various food vendors

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

Open Mic Night
Tuesdays, 7 – 10 p.m.
Busboys and Poets, 235 Carroll St. NW
Open mic for jazz musicians

Jazz Jam
Tuesdays, 7 – 8 p.m.
The Electric Maid, 268 Carroll St. NW
Hosted by Katya Gaughan and friends

Brewing Up History in Washington, D.C.
Peter Jones and Michael Stein explore the history of brewing in D.C.
Thursday, Oct. 1, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
TP Community Center
Free
See page for details

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
See page for details

BDSM: Sex, Hobby, Religion or Art?
Thanks to the popular novel and movie “50 Shades of Grey,” BDSM (Bondage and Discipline, Dominance and Submission, Sadism and Masochism) has become the topic of increasing public interest. Gallaudet Professor Julie Fennell will provide an in-depth academic perspective describing the BDSM subculture and why it thrives.
Thursday, Nov. 5, 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. 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 $______________________________