



## WHAT'S NEW?

### The 10th Takoma Park Holiday Art Sale

December 12  
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Details, page 5

### Neighborhood Energy Challenge Update

Special Insert This Issue

### Election Results

page 11

### City offices closed

For Christmas, city offices will be closed Thursday, Dec. 24 at 12:30 p.m. through Sunday, Dec. 27. For New Year's, city offices will be closed from 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 31 through Saturday, Jan. 2.

### Trash/recycling collection

Christmas Day, Friday, Dec. 25 - No collection  
Trash, food waste, and recycling will be collected on Saturday, Dec. 26.  
New Year's Day, Friday, Jan. 1 - No collection  
Trash, food waste, and recycling will be collected on Saturday, Jan. 2.



Maurice Grant and other local residents sign in to vote.

## Takoma Park gets out to vote

On 7:30 the morning of Election Day, volunteers reported that voter turnout was good so far. This was a sign of good things to come as Takoma Park enjoyed a 21 percent turnout rate, one of the highest in the last few election years.

By 7:45 a small line had formed as residents voted before heading to work. Residents of all ages showed up at the polls, from families strolling with young children to 55+ voters who came accompanied by spouses and other relatives. And they all embodied the spirit of community and inclusiveness that Election Day brings out in Takoma Park.

"I have always appreciated the openness of the election process in Takoma Park,"

observed 15-year resident Margerita Silverstone of Ward 1. Silverstone was in favor of the advisory question on the ballot if it meant the process could be "even more open and inclusive."

One of her fellow residents shared this sentiment. Joan Horn, also of Ward 1 and a 35-year resident of Takoma Park, was also in favor of the advisory question. In addition, Horn said, "Face-to-face contact made the difference in casting her vote." She talked with Kate Stewart during her campaign and "would like to see her continue on the same path" should she become Mayor.

VOTE □ Page 5

## Voters showed strong support for the advisory question

Judging from the results of last month's election, many Takoma Park residents are in favor of moving City Elections to even-numbered years. Beginning with the election in November 2018, and providing that voting rights can be maintained for City residents who are (1) 16-17 years old, (2) non-citizens, or (3) on parole or probation for a felony conviction, and that instant runoff voting and same day voter

registration can be maintained, the City of Takoma Park municipal elections for Mayor and Councilmembers could be changed to the Tuesday following the first Monday in November in each even-numbered year to coincide with Maryland statewide general elections. Below is the tally of voters in favor of the advisory question broken down by wards.

Advisory Question	Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Ward 6	Total	
For	597	396	467	159	131	194	1944	Supported
Against	119	75	97	22	21	72	406	
Blank	37	16	26	73	11	36	199	
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
							2552	

## Recommended Decision Issued on Hospital Move

On Nov. 18 Maryland Health Care Commissioner Frances B. Phillips issued a recommended decision to approve the certificate of need request for Washington Adventist Hospital to move most of its operations from the Takoma Park Campus on Carroll Avenue in the center of the City of Takoma Park, along Sligo Creek Stream Valley Park, to a new location in the White Oak area of Montgomery County.

The recommended decision has five approval conditions; the first two directly affect Takoma Park:

- Urgent care center** (in the location of the current Emergency Department). Adventist HealthCare Inc. must open an urgent care center on its Takoma Park campus.
  - The urgent care center must operate 24 hours a day, every day of the year.
  - Adventist HealthCare Inc. may not eliminate this urgent care center or reduce its hours of operation without the approval of the Maryland Health Care Commission.
- Specialty hospital for psychiatric services** (a stand-alone version of the current behavioral health in-patient unit of the hospital). In the fourth year of operation of a replacement Washington Adventist Hospital, Adventist HealthCare Inc. shall provide a report to the Maryland Health Care Commission on the operation of the specialty hospital for psychiatric services in Takoma Park. This report must review:
  - patient intake and transport issues
  - coordination of care for psychiatric patients between the White Oak and Takoma Park campuses
  - the specific financial performance of the special hospital, exclusive of the operation of Adventist Behavioral Health and Wellness overall.

In addition, Adventist HealthCare

HOSPITAL MOVE □ Page 3

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

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### Inside



### Snow Removal Plan

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### Library Renovation

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### Human Rights Day

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# DOCKET

## City Council & Committee Calendar

### OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

### CITY COUNCIL

Monday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m.  
Meetings take place in the TPCC Auditorium, unless noted otherwise. Detailed agendas are always available for review online: <http://takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/agendas>

### COMMISSION ON LANDLORD-TENANT AFFAIRS

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 7:00 p.m.  
TPCC Council Conference Room

### COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 7:15 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

### FACADE ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 6:30 p.m.  
TPCC Atrium Room

### RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, Dec. 17, 7 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

### SAFE ROADWAYS COMMITTEE

Monday, Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

### TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 6:30 p.m.  
TPCC Rose Room

\*All meetings are open to the public unless noted otherwise. Additional meetings may be scheduled after the Takoma Park Newsletter deadline. For the most up to date information, check <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/calendar>. Most meetings are held in the Takoma Park Community Center – Sam Abbott Citizens' Center, 7500 Maple Avenue (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 2015-49

Adopted Oct. 12, 2015 (First reading Sept. 28)

Stormwater Code Amendment

Enacts a minor amendment to Ch. 16.08 Stormwater Management Fee System to facilitate recovery of stormwater management expenses relating to public property by removing the exemption for property exempt from property tax.

### ORDINANCE 2015-51

Adopted Oct. 29, 2015 (First Reading Oct. 12)

Council Compensation

Amends the benefits of the Mayor and members of the City Council to enable participation in the City's dependent care flexible spending account plan. This amendment takes effect on the first enrollment date following the November 2015 election. (VOTING NO: Councilmembers Schultz and Smith)

### ORDINANCE 2015-52

Adopted Nov. 9, 2015 (First Reading Oct. 29)

Hillwood Manor PILOT Agreement

Authorizes the City to enter into a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) agreement for Hillwood Manor Apartments, 1100 Linden Ave. with Montgomery Housing Partnership or a subsidiary. The agreement provides for a 100% property tax abatement and requires MHP to ensure that a minimum of 50% of the units be occupied by households with incomes equal to 60% or less of the area median household income.

### ORDINANCE 2015-53

Adopted Nov. 9, 2015 (First Reading Oct. 29)

Boston Avenue Traffic Calming

Authorizes installation of traffic calming on the 600/700 block of Boston Avenue. (VOTING NO: Councilmember Male)

### ORDINANCE 2015-54

Adopted Nov. 9, 2015 (First Reading Oct. 29)

Snow and Ice Regulations

Amends the Takoma Park Code Sections on "snow emergencies" and "snow removal" to clarify when and how snow and ice should be removed from sidewalks, establishes a graduated fine schedule, and removes the designation of a portion of Maple Avenue as a snow emergency route.

### ORDINANCE 2015-55

Adopted Oct. 29, 2015

Cameras for City TV

Approves the purchase of six Panasonic video camcorders to replace older cameras. The cost of the purchase is \$38,901.60 and is funded by the Cable Grant. (VOTING NO: Councilmember Male)

### ORDINANCE 2015-56

Adopted Nov. 9, 2015

Rents Analyst

Authorizes a three-year contract with Kenneth K. Baar for services as rents analyst to evaluate petitions for rent increases above the annual rent stabilization allowance.

### RESOLUTION 2015-57

Adopted Oct. 12, 2015

Montgomery College Facilities Master Plan

Provides comment on the proposed Montgomery College Takoma Park/Silver Spring 2016-2026 Facilities Master Plan.

### RESOLUTION 2015-58

Adopted Oct. 12, 2015

Bus Shelter Contract

Authorizes a contract for services/bus shelter agreement with Signal Outdoor Advertising, LLC for a term of 10 years.

### RESOLUTION 2015-59

Adopted Oct. 12, 2015

Election Judges

Appoints election judges for the Nov. 3, 2015 City Election.

### RESOLUTION 2015-60

Adopted Oct. 19, 2015

Taco Bell Site Plan Application

Recommends approval of the site plan application for Taco Bell at the NE quadrant of New Hampshire Avenue and Holton Lane. (VOTING NO: Councilmembers Grimes and Male)

### RESOLUTION 2015-61

Adopted Oct. 29, 2015

CDBG Awards

Approves the following projects for consideration for Community Development Block Grant funding for FY17: Community Health and Empowerment Through Education and Research (CHEER) - \$5,240; EduCare Support Services, Inc. - \$1,500; Village of Takoma Park Inc. - \$4,860; and City of Takoma Park for Flower Avenue Green Street Improvements - \$65,875. (VOTING NO: Mayor Williams and Councilmember Grimes)

### RESOLUTION 2015-62

Adopted Oct. 29, 2015

RCN Cable Franchise Agreement

Comments in support of the terms for

CITY COUNCIL ACTION □ Page 3

## 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](http://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 [jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov) or contact your City Council representative.

The following groups have vacancies as of	vacancies)	<b>Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee</b>
Nov. 16:		(three vacancies)
<b>Arts and Humanities Commission</b> (five vacancies)	<b>Committee on the Environment</b> (three vacancies)	<b>Personnel Appeal Board</b> (one vacancy)
<b>Board of Elections</b> (one vacancy)	<b>Emergency Preparedness Committee</b> (one vacancy)	<b>Recreation Committee</b> (four vacancies)
<b>Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs</b> (one vacancy)	<b>Ethics Commission</b> (one vacancy)	<b>Safe Roadways Committee</b> (three vacancies)
<b>Commemoration Commission</b> (four vacancies)	<b>Grants Review Committee</b> (two vacancies)	<b>Tree Commission</b> (one vacancy)

# Takoma Park Boy Scout Troop 33 celebrates nine decades of service



Matt Balfe prepares chili for guests.



Roger Griffis (in uniform), Mayor Kate Stewart and her daughter Bridget, and Former Mayor Bruce Williams.

By Rick Henry

For 95 years, local boys have been joining Takoma Park Boy Scout Troop 33, and the reasons now are the same as they have always been.

“Leadership skills and management skills,” says current Senior Patrol Leader Nate Blower, 17, when asked what he values most about of the Boy Scout experience. “And knowing how to tie different knots will come in handy, too.”

It is that mix of the organizational and aspirational (leadership, service projects), the practical (knot tying) and the natural (camping, hiking) that has kept young

boys involved in Boy Scouts of America (BSA) since it was established in 1910 in New York City to help young people be “Prepared for Life.”

Ten years later, in 1920, Troop 33 was established in Takoma Park, where it has been continuously chartered to the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church. As has happened so many times since, troop members and Takoma Park residents gathered at the church for a fundraiser on Saturday, Nov. 14. This time it was for a chili dinner to commemorate the troop’s 95th anniversary.

Such a long-standing association be-

tween a troop and a sponsoring organization is “rare,” said current Scoutmaster Tim Miller. “We have a really great relationship with them,” he said.

That relationship was showcased during one of the seminal moments in the troop’s (and church’s) history. In 2012, both stood up against what was at the time a BSA policy excluding “open or avowed homosexuals” from membership (a policy that has since been changed).

The troop was one of the most openly critical and defiant of the national policy and even adopted a rainbow theme at its

annual pancake supper that year to show its support for inclusiveness.

But that is only one of many achievements and milestones the troop can claim. Troop 33 has a proud record of service and achievement. The newly chartered troop of the 1920s undertook community projects, such as a clean-up of the Sligo Creek area. On February 22, 1932, a select patrol from Troop 33 performed the opening ceremony of the George Washington Bicentennial Birthday Celebration at his birthplace in Wakefield, Va.

BOY SCOUTS □ Page 9

## HOSPITAL MOVE

■ From page 1

Inc. stated its intention to have on-campus laboratory and radiology services to support these units as well as a rehabilitation hospital (currently located within Washington Adventist Hospital). A federally qualified health center on the Takoma Park campus will remain and be expanded. Washington Adventist University intends to lease 50,000 square feet of hospital building space for its use.

City Staff discussed the recommendation with the Takoma Park City Council in closed session on Nov. 23.

The City of Takoma Park will submit comments, and the City will be interested to see the comments from WAH and the hospitals opposed to the move.

Below is portion of the statement the



Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park.

City issued following the recommendation. For the entire text, visit [takomaparkmd.gov/news](http://takomaparkmd.gov/news).

The relocation of Washington Adventist Hospital’s main hospital out of the City was expected, but is a disappointment to the City of Takoma Park. Washington Adventist Hos-

pital has been an integral part of the history and fabric of Takoma Park. Over the last year, the City Council, Staff, and residents have worked diligently to ensure that throughout the certificate of need process the needs of Takoma Park residents have been front and center.

As a result of our hard work and persistence, the top condition of the Commissioner’s recommended approval is the maintenance of an urgent care facility at the Takoma Park campus, to be operated every day, 24 hours per day, beginning as soon as the hospital move takes place. This will ensure that there is no gap in care for the primary care service that our community needs. Clearly, the commissioner recognized the need for these services based on the information the City presented.

The recommended decision will go before the full Maryland Health Care Commission on Dec. 17 for a final deci-

sion. The final decision could accept or reject the recommendation or accept the recommendation but change the conditions. For additional information, contact Suzanne Ludlow, City Manager, [suzannel@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:suzannel@takomaparkmd.gov).

### Schedule of Action on the Recommended Decision

- Submissions of exceptions to the recommended decision were due by noon, Dec. 2
- Submissions of responses to the exception submissions are due by 4:30 p.m., Dec. 10.
- Exceptions hearing before the Commission is at 1 p.m. on Dec. 17.

## CITY COUNCIL ACTION

■ From page 2

a renewal of the RCN Cable Franchise agreement for submission at a Montgomery County public hearing. (VOTING NO: Councilmember Male)

### RESOLUTION 2015-63

Adopted Oct. 29

Old Takoma Business Association Supports grant applications submitted by the Old Takoma Business Association to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. (VOTING NO: Councilmember Male)

### RESOLUTION 2015-64

Adopted Nov. 16, 2015

Bruce R. Williams

Recognizes Bruce R. Williams for his service to the City of Takoma Park upon his retirement after 14 years as city councilmember for ward 3 and eight years as Mayor.

### RESOLUTION 2015-65

Adopted Nov. 16, 2015

Seth Grimes

Recognizes Seth Grimes for his service to the City of Takoma Park upon his retirement after four years on the City Council.



### THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

Editor: Apryl Motley  
Assistant: Sean Gossard  
[www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov)  
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Letters to the editor, reports by community groups, calendar items and other submissions will be considered for publication; send to [tpnewseditor@](mailto:tpnewseditor@)

[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.

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

The Newsletter is printed on recycled-content paper.





# BUILDING COMMUNITY

## Public Works Snow Removal Plan

Public Works staffers are preparing to work hard to clear whatever snow falls on Takoma Park's 34 miles of city-maintained roads, as well as walkways and sidewalks around city parks and public buildings. City staff tracks potential storms as they occur and prepare to respond as soon as the snow starts to fall. Plow crews start plowing operations when one inch of snow is on the ground and are prepared to work 12-hour shifts. The City uses Public Works Right of Way staff as primary plow drivers, and sanitation drivers fill in the second shift. When significant snowfall occurs, city trash and recycling collection may be canceled to allow sanitation drivers to pitch in with road clearing. The City's Garden Division staff clears public sidewalks during daylight hours, with assistance as needed from temporary laborers. Public Works encourages businesses and residents to do their part to clear snow and ice from the sidewalks adjoining their property.

Takoma Park's winter weather response plan divides the city into five snow removal zones, each with an assigned response vehicle. Within each zone, "primary streets" are those with the most traffic and those that connect neighborhoods. "Secondary streets" are shorter, with fewer homes, and include courts, alleys and dead ends. City

crews first clear primary streets and then proceed to secondary streets. The City's goal is to create two travelable lanes on each primary street within a 12-hour shift if the snow fall is six inches or less. If the snow fall is six inches or more, the expectation is to have one travelable lane over a 12-hour period. Snow removal equipment remains in service around the clock until all the roads are cleared. Often, when severe weather is on the way, the city begins anti-icing procedures by applying a sand salt mixture or liquid de-icing chemicals to the street surface. Plowing begins once snowfall has accumulated to one inch on the street. If the storm produces only sleet and ice, the city treats roadways with sand and salt. Snow and ice response service on some streets is performed by outside agencies. **The State Highway Administration is responsible for clearing Carroll Avenue, Ethan Allen Avenue, New Hampshire Avenue, Philadelphia Avenue and Piney Branch Road. Sligo Creek Parkway is a Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission roadway, and snow and ice response is performed by Montgomery County.** However, city plows will assist with snow removal on these streets in the course of their work to clear city streets.

**To see a map of snow removal routes, go to [www.takomaparkmd.gov/snow](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/snow)**

## Four Helpful Tips during a Snow Event

- 1. Stay connected.** Conditions leading to a declared snow emergency include the expectation of a significant quantity of snow or an ice event. The City Manager may declare a snow emergency and will announce the status through Takoma Park Alert, local media, and on the City's website, Facebook and Twitter. The following restrictions go into effect during declared snow emergencies:
- 2. Avoid parking on the street.** Residents are strongly encouraged to park vehicles in their driveways whenever possible. Fewer cars on the street allow city plows to more quickly and safely clear the roads. If you must park on the street, make sure to park your car as close to the curb as possible and maintain a distance of at least 25 feet from an intersection.
- 3. Clear your sidewalk.** Residents are responsible for clearing the public sidewalks adjacent to their prop-

erty. When possible, keep sidewalks clear of snow and ice by regularly shoveling accumulated snow during and after a snow event. Please do not shovel large amounts of snow into the street when clearing your driveway, lead walk or sidewalk. The best place to pile snow is on the lawn or grassy areas. Piles of snow shoveled out into the street can cause problems for passing vehicles.

- 4. Be a good neighbor; help others in need.** Reach out and ask neighbors if they need assistance with keeping their sidewalks clear. Many residents are physically unable to shovel snow and ice and are hesitant to request help from neighbors or friends. Your thoughtfulness can make a big difference to someone who might otherwise be unable to cope. If you have any questions before or during a winter event, please contact the Public Works Department at 301-891-7633.

## Snow Angels Reminder

**Missed the Snow Angels sign up deadline? Not to worry! Those who registered before Dec. 1 will be contacted by Dec. 4.**

If you have not registered before December 1, you may still contact the Lifelong Takoma Program. However, you may be given an alternate resource for snow removal depending on the number of volunteers available.

If there are enough volunteers to provide assistance, we will open up the Snow Angels Program on a graduated basis to include those who contacted us after Dec. 1. Under these circumstances, we may be able to provide snow removal services to residents who have contacted us, after the deadline, by the (date) order in which they contacted us for snow removal requests. Information on the status of the Snow Angels list will be in the January issue of the newsletter and on the Lifelong Takoma Program webpage: [takomaparkmd.gov/government/lifelong-takoma](http://takomaparkmd.gov/government/lifelong-takoma).

**Call 301-891-7232 or email [lifelong@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:lifelong@takomaparkmd.gov).**



## Let it snow! And be a good neighbor!

### Code Enforcement Staff

Although we never really know this far in advance, forecasts for our area indicate there is a good chance for some heavy snows this year. With the potential for more snow comes an opportunity for residents and business owners to show what good neighbors they can be. When it snows, we need to remove snow and ice from sidewalks, so neighbors, children and customers can travel safely. When sidewalks aren't clear, people have to walk in the street or try to navigate dangerous patches of ice, so please be considerate of neighbors and the community and keep your sidewalks clear.

The City recently changed some of its regulations regarding snow removal. Residents now have until noon after a night of snowfall, and until 9 p.m. after a day of snowfall, to remove snow and ice from

their sidewalks. Businesses will need to keep their sidewalks clear between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. The full width of your sidewalk must be clear unless full-width clearing is not feasible, in which case at a minimum a continuous three-foot wide path of the paved sidewalk must be cleared. Lastly, to protect our sidewalks and trees, the use of salt is strictly prohibited on sidewalks or within 10 feet of any trees.

Would you be willing to help out your neighbor? If your neighbor needs some assistance clearing off their sidewalk, offer to give them a hand after you finish clearing yours. For those who are physically unable to remove or clear snow, volunteers may be available to help through the Snow Angels Program. If you need a hand this winter or you'd like to help out those in the community (see page 10), contact the Lifelong Takoma Program.



## The 10th Takoma Park Holiday Art Sale

**Saturday, Dec. 12, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**  
**The Takoma Park Community Center**  
**7500 Maple Avenue**

Michelle Bailey has no qualms with stealing pieces of Takoma Park for her paintings. The facades of local bungalows and Little Free Libraries were fair game, but when she met Normon Greene at last year's Takoma Park Holiday Art Sale, she feared he wouldn't approve of her painting of his Roscoe statue from Old Town.

"I mean, what are people going to think when you put a scarf on the statue?" Bailey said, laughing. "I was a little worried, but Normon took it well."

For vendors and shoppers alike, the sale is a place to connect with the community and purchase one-of-a-kind gifts. For the 10th Takoma Park Holiday Art, Bailey is one of 30 local artists, who craft fountain pens, jewelry, hand-painted furniture, and more.

"This year we had fierce competition for the slots, and the result was a group of our most talented artists," said Rob Rudick, a local photographer and the sale's organizer and founder.

Support from Takoma Park residents has kept the sale going for almost a decade. Even

the artists are eager customers.

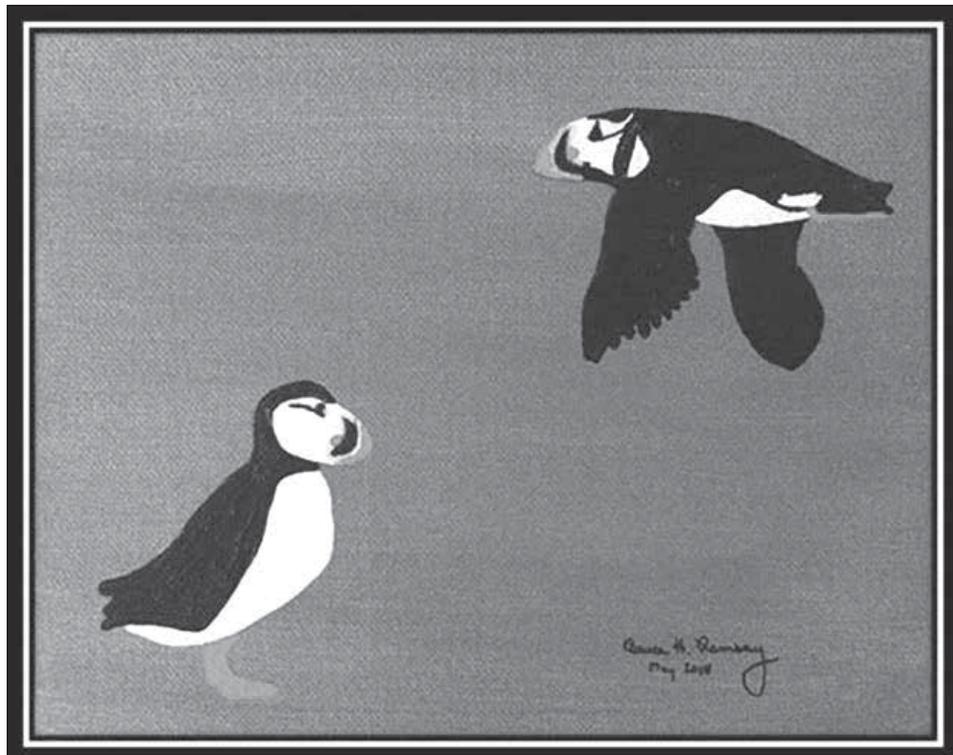
"Hopefully I'll make some sales, so I have more money to spend," said Bailey. "It's like a yard sale because you end up taking more stuff home when you walk around and see what your neighbors have to offer."

While some take home necklaces or scarves, the sale has more to offer to those involved. "My wife and I deliberately moved to Takoma Park because it was such a unique and peaceful community," said long-time art sale vendor Bruce Ramsay, who started painting while rehabilitating from a traumatic brain injury. "I appreciate the good will of everyone that I've dealt with since my injury, and I am a phenomenally fortunate human being to be able to paint."

Bruce's treatment of space and color in his wildlife paintings has made him a staple at the sale for five years, but the sale's selection jury loves new talent as much as it loves familiar favorites.

"My dream has always been for this to be a real art sale rather than a craft sale," Rudick said. "We're getting closer to that every year. The painters we have this year are really amazing."

Whether it's a painting of a rooster or a sense of community pride, Takoma Park gets a haul from the sale every year. The 10th Takoma Park Holiday Art Sale will be on Saturday, Dec. 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center.



## December Events from We Are Takoma

### Breakin' Around the Bloc: Hip-Hop Culture in East Germany during the Cold War Thursday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m.

Leonard Schmieding, a visiting professor at Georgetown University, describes this transfer of African American culture from West to East and analyzes its impact on the everyday life of teenagers in East Germany during the last decade of the Cold War. Suggested donation – \$10

### Instruments of the Future Saturday, Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m.

An evening of improvised music that explores vast sonic terrain, using both traditional instruments and self-

built instruments made from found objects. The music draws from elements of avant-garde jazz, European free improvisation, and contemporary classical music. Suggested donation – \$10

### Calvary! Parade! + and then I fell down Thursday, Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m.

A screening of two films by filmmaker Gabriel Rodriguez-Fuller, followed by a Q&A. *Calvary! Parade!* examines the institution of higher education through a group of rebelling, graduating college seniors, while *And then I fell down* is a story of romance between two people who haven't met. Suggested donation – \$10



### Connect creatively! Tell us about the art events you love.

The Takoma Park Arts & Humanities Commission sponsors dance events, film screenings, lectures, family events, and more through its "We Are Takoma" initiative. Tell us how you like We Are Takoma events and give us suggestions for future programs with a quick survey! Follow the links below to participate.

Survey for individuals: [bit.ly/1MNTlsK](http://bit.ly/1MNTlsK). Survey for families: [bit.ly/1Hxx8Tr](http://bit.ly/1Hxx8Tr)



Rebekah Zanditon at voter check-in.

### VOTE

■ From page 1

Stewart, councilmember for Ward 3, was elected Mayor of Takoma Park, and Peter Kovar, one of two newcomers to the city council, won the Ward 1 seat with 630 votes. Ward 6 councilmember Fred Schultz kept his seat, receiving 206 votes. The other four candidates, Ward 2's Tim Male, Ward 3's Rizzy Qureshi, Ward 4's Terry Seamens, and Ward 5's Jarrett Smith ran unchallenged. (See full election results on p. 11 and read our interview with the

new mayor in the January issue.)

Bernice Tyler, who has lived in Takoma Park for 45 years, also appreciated candidates who gave their campaigns that personal touch. "Folks who came to my home to visit personally got my vote," she said.

It's clear that the Takoma Park community takes elections personally. Perhaps an exchange between one of the City's younger residents and his mom as he was dropped off for before-care best summed up the day. "What election?" he asked. To which his mom replied, "The city election." "Why?" he asked. She said, "They're deciding who will be the next mayor."

## Meet our Morning and Afternoon Addition staff

Have you seen these people? They are the TPRD Morning and Afternoon Addition staff. LaReese Brown, MaKiye Pitts, Courtney McQueen, Ambria Smith and Sophonie Ilera (not pictured) have been diligently working with the before and after care programs for grades K – 5. Each one brings their own qualities and uniqueness to the programs. Throughout the school year, each of these staff members work with the youth on an individual level, making sure all of their needs are met, socially, physically and educationally. They do this by running various clubs (drama, glee, art, hair and nails, etiquette, etc.) and activities with the participants.

When school is out, they are counselors for one of the many camps the recreation department has to offer, such as Winter Break Camp, which is from Dec. 28-31. During Winter Break Camp, participants (ages 5 – 12) will have the opportunity to add some excitement to their holiday break while playing holiday games and participating in group activities and crafts. This winter break is set to be a whole lot of holiday fun. You can



register in person or online at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation).

Another great way to meet the staff is during our 2016 Summer Camp Expo on Saturday, Jan. 30 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the community center. During this time, par-

ents and kids will be able to meet the staff, find out what activities will be offered during the various camps, and register for camp. If you register during this expo, you will receive a 20 percent discount off your entire camp bill.

### YOUTH

#### EXTENDED CARE

##### After the Bell

*Ages Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade*

This is an after school program at the Takoma Park Recreation Center. Transportation is not provided to this program, but you can contact the MCPS Transportation department and have them change your child's bus route to the New Hampshire Towers behind the Recreation Center and staff will meet them at the bus stop and walk them over each day for after care. Enjoy indoor and outdoor activities after school. Homework and study time will be provided each day.

TP Recreation Center

Monday – Friday, 3:30 – 6:30 p.m. (On-going/School Year)

\$125 per month for the year

#### SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

##### Step Team

*Ages 6 – 12*

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

TP Recreation Center front meeting room

Ongoing Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Free with a Recreation Center Membership

#### TRIPS

##### Fun Day: College Park Aviation Museum

Learn what it was like in the early life of pilots, and one of the first locations for flight. Participants will meet at the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. Must pack a lunch. Trips, activities and performers are subject to change. Space is limited, sign up early. Paperwork will need to be completed prior to the first day of program.

Takoma Park Community Center

Azalea Room

7500 Maple Avenue

5 -12 years

1 Day

Monday, January 25

8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Resident: \$40 / Non-resident: \$50

### TEENS

#### ART

##### Nail Flare

*Ages 13 – 17*

Have you ever wanted to be able to do your nails and have them look like they were professionally done? If so, this is the class for you. This class will teach you proper nail maintenance as well as design techniques such as stamping, sponging, dotting, decals, and drawing. First class will take place in the Teen Lounge and the remaining classes will be in the Art Studio. Registration required.

TP Community Center Teen Lounge and art studio

Fridays, Dec. 11 – Jan. 29 (no class, Dec. 15, Jan. 1 and Jan. 8)

3:30 – 5 p.m.

Free

#### DROP IN

##### Power Hour for Teens

*Ages 13 – 17*

Take advantage of our homework power hour focusing on academic support. We are the perfect balance of academics and fun. Students are given quiet time to complete homework or read. Staff is available to assist and can review the completed assignments. Upon completion of work, students are invited to lounge, play games, and/or participate in activities. Registration is not required.

TP Community Center Teen Lounge

Ongoing Tuesdays, 4 – 5 p.m.

Free

##### Teen Lounge

*Ages 13 – 17*

This special room is for teens only. Ages 13 – 17 are welcome to become members to gain access to two 50-inch and one 70-inch LED Smart TV. We also have X-Box One and Wii games, workstations, board games and comfy sitting areas for socializing with friends. Come join us after school for fun and laughs and on special events for an amazing time. For more information, contact Chelsea Nunez at 301-891-7281 or [chelsean@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:chelsean@takomaparkmd.gov).

TP Community Center Teen Lounge

Ongoing Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 3 – 7 p.m.

Ongoing Tuesday, 3 – 8 p.m.

Free

#### TRIPS

##### Teen Snow-Tubing Trip

*Ages 13 – 17*

Schools out so grab your hat, scarf and gloves



and join us for an evening in the snow as we head to Liberty Mountain in Pennsylvania to go snow tubing. Race down one of ten tubing lanes solo, or link up with a friend. During a break from snow tubing, hang inside the lodge and have a hot cup of cocoa. It's your day, so have fun the way you like. No experience necessary. Bus leaves TP Community Center.

TP Community Center Teen Lounge

Monday, Jan. 25, noon – 6 p.m.

TP resident \$20

Non-resident \$30

### ADULTS

#### SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

##### Go-Go Fitness

*Ages 16 and older*

Go-Go Fitness is a comprehensive 60-minute high cardio, dance fitness workout that incorporates various dance styles, toning moves as well as the classic call and response of a live Go-Go music workout set.

TP Recreation Center Gymnasium

Saturdays, Dec. 5 – 19, noon – 1 p.m.

\$5 drop-in fee per day

##### Jazzercise

*Ages 16 and older*

Jazzercise is the art of jazz combined with the science of exercise physiology. Each 60 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

Ongoing Mondays and Wednesdays, 7 – 8 p.m.

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, pushups, squats, crunches and weight training. A challenging workout within a quick hour.

TP Recreation Center Gymnasium

Tuesdays and Thursdays, Nov. 4 – Jan. 5, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

\$85/8 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 and realign their body.

TP Recreation Center Front Meeting Room



Wednesdays, Dec. 2 – 23, 6 – 7 p.m.

\$40/4 weeks

### FOREVER YOUNG: 55 PLUS

#### DROP IN

##### Bingo

*Ages 55 and older*

Try your luck. Win a prize.

TP Community Center Senior Room

Thursday, Dec. 17, 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, Dec. 17, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Free

#### SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

##### Senior Free Fitness Pass

*Ages 55 and older*

This is a pass that is offered at the Takoma

## RECREATION

■ From page 6

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:

Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon – 9 p.m.

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 2:30 – 9 p.m.

Saturdays, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Free with a Recreation Center Membership

### Table Tennis Open Play

55 and older

Come play this fun, energetic game.

TP Community Center game room

Mondays – Fridays 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturdays, 10 a.m. – noon

Free

## TRIPS

### Winter Festival of Lights, Upper Marlboro, Md.

Ages 55 and older

Bring a little twinkle to your holidays at the 29th Annual Winter Festival of Lights. This spectacular holiday drive through evening event features more than one million twinkling lights and is sure to leave you dazzled in amazement. Dress for comfort and the weather. Snow date: Dec. 15. For more information, call Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager, at 301-891-7280 or paula@takomaparkmd.gov.

TP Community Center Recreation Office

Wednesday, Dec. 9, 5 – 8 p.m.

Free. No cost for transportation.

Times may be adjusted; check the trip itinerary supplied to registered participants for each trip for details.

## Winter Break Camp Registration Underway

### Winter Break Camp

Ages 5 – 12

Come experience “Winter Break Camp” with the Takoma Park Recreation Department. Campers will have the opportunity to add some excitement to their holiday break while playing holiday games with group activities and crafts. This winter break is set to be a whole lot of holiday fun. No camp on Jan. 1.

TP Community Center Azalea Room

Monday – Thursday, Dec. 29 – Dec. 31 (4 Days), 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

TP residents \$100

Non-residents \$120

Before Care

7 – 9 a.m.

TP residents \$25

Non-residents \$35

After Care

4 – 6 p.m.

TP residents \$25

Non-residents \$35



## RECREATION Special program

### Few Spaces Left in 2016 Futsal League

Ages 7 – 10

Futsal, a sport that is similar to soccer, offers the perfect combination of learning and fun. It is designed to improve fundamental technique and skill development during the winter months. Please note that program registration is first come first served and space is limited to 60 participants. Parents are encouraged to participate. If interested in becoming a coach, please contact Lew McAllister at lewm@takomaparkmd.gov.

TP Recreation Center

Sundays, Jan. 10 – Feb. 28 (times may vary)

\$60



## RECREATION Announcements

### Give the Gift of Activity

The holidays are approaching fast. This year, help family and friends ditch the conventional presents and give the gift of activity through a Recreation Department Gift Card. Gift cards can be used for their favorite activities all year round. It is a great way to promote fun and encourage friends and family to try something new. With games, exercise classes, art classes, and much more, our centers offer something for everyone. It is the best gift you can give your friends and relatives.

### The Early Bird Captures the Worm! Summer Camp Expo, Saturday, Jan. 30, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Come to the Takoma Park Community Center at 7500 Maple Ave. and discover all of the camps that the Recreation Department will be offering this year for tots, youth and teens. Meet the instructors and learn what your child(ren) will be participating in. You will receive a 20 percent discount if you register in person during the expo.

All other forms of registration will begin Monday, Feb. 1 at 8:30 a.m. Registrants throughout the Early Bird Special registration period (Feb. 1 – 29) will receive a 10 percent discount. See you there!



### Change in Online Reservation Procedures for Heffner Park Community Center and for Park Pavilions

Beginning Jan. 1, the Takoma Park Recreation Department's online reservation system, ActiveNet, will accept reservation requests only for the Heffner Park Community Center and all pavilions. This new process will temporarily hold the space until the request is approved by Recreation Department staff. Patrons will have 72 hours after a request has been approved to make full payment. If full payment is not made, Heffner Community Center or the requested pavilion will be released for others to reserve. We look forward to continuing to provide you with excellent customer service for your next rental request. Contact Gregory Clark, Takoma Park Recreation Director, at 301-891-7290 with any questions.

### Celebrate Takoma Committee Volunteers Needed

The Recreation Department is beginning to plan the third annual Celebrate Takoma Festival for Saturday, May 14, and we need your help. The festival celebrates the cultural diversity of Takoma Park. We will be looking for food, merchandise vendors and local entertainers. If you would like to volunteer to be a part of the steering committee, email Debby Huffman at deborahh@takomaparkmd.gov. The committees meet monthly in the evenings. Come join the fun.



### It's Snowing – Is My Class Canceled?

The City of Takoma Park has several ways to let you know if City facilities are closed and if Takoma Park Recreation programs are canceled: get notices via Takoma Park Alert ([www.takomaparkmd.gov/alert](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/alert)); check the City's website; or call the Recreation Department's Inclement Weather Line (301-891-7101 x5606).

In general, if the Federal Government closes or has a delayed opening in the morning, the City does the same. Classes that begin before a delayed opening are usually canceled. Morning and Afternoon Addition and After the Bell programs follow the Montgomery County Public Schools declarations. If there is a 2-hour delay in the morning, Morning Addition starts at 9 a.m.

### Local Businesses Wanted

Are you a business looking for summer help? The Recreation Department is looking for businesses to partner with for its Summer Youth Employment Program. For more information, email leiciam@takomaparkmd.gov.

“Empowering Youth Through Employment”

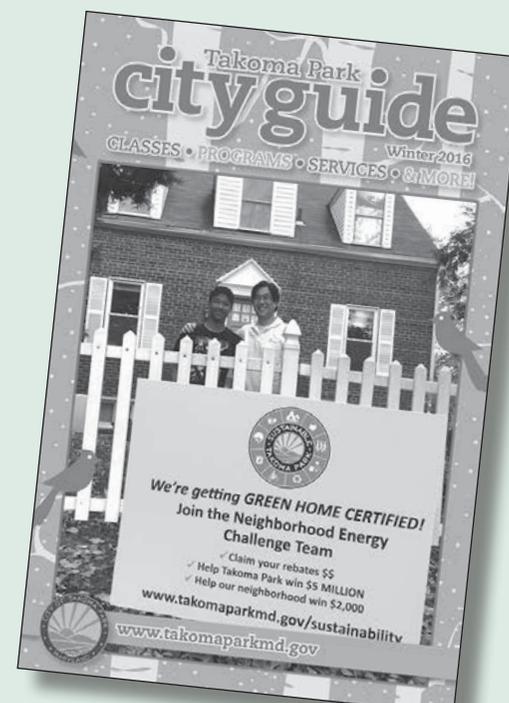


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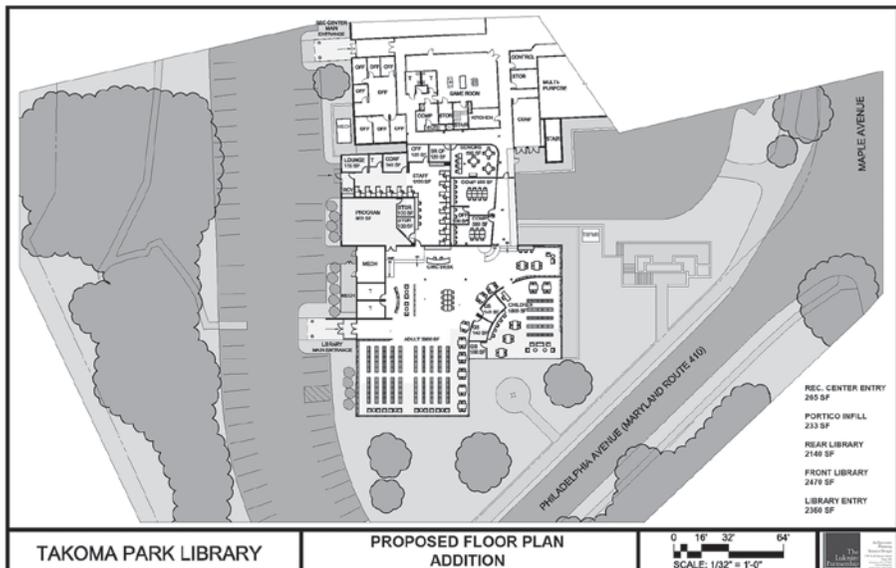
You can find a full listing of our classes and programs in the 2016 Winter City Guide or help us go green and visit us online [www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation).

### WINTER REGISTRATION BEGINS DEC. 15 AT 8:30 A.M.

Online or in person at the Community Center.



# LIBRARY



## Library renovation planning progresses

Greg Lukmire, principal architect of The Lukmire Partnership, presented the most recent concept design for a renovated and expanded Library to the City Council at their work session on Oct. 29. It incorporates recommendations from the Council, as well as residents and Library and other City staff.

The new floor plan shows the expanded floor plan with additional space in yellow. In addition, there are “character sketches,” which provide an idea of how the renovated Library could look from the outside based on this new design. The existing floor plan is shown here for purposes of comparison.

Three of the seven character sketches are also shown here. Taken together, they illustrate a number of important elements: The scale and architectural character of the building is unchanged, relative to the surrounding neighborhood. The community constructed mosaic remains, as do most trees. The main entrance, with its new, well-lit canopy, faces the parking lot rather than the flood wall. Larger glass windows allow more natural light and invite passers-by to visit the newly renovated space inside. A new canopy identifies the entrance to the Community Center.

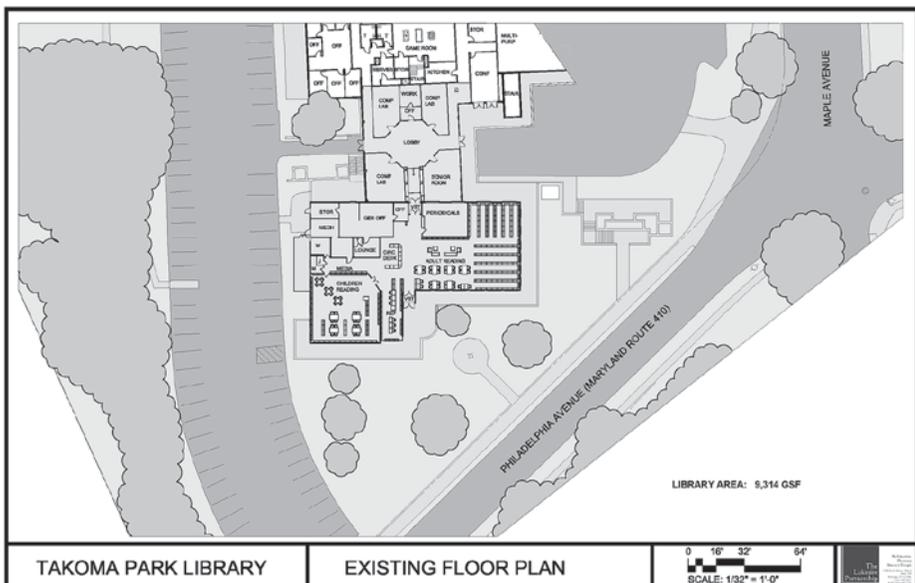
### Happy Birthday to the Library!

Come celebrate the Takoma Park Maryland Library’s 80th birthday with cake and lemonade on Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. in the Library. Then, at 7:30 p.m., you’re invited to attend a public meeting in the Community Center where architect Greg Lukmire of the Lukmire Partnership will detail the latest concept design for the proposed Library renovation/expansion.

Meanwhile, we’ll celebrate the Library’s birthday throughout the week of Dec. 13 with giveaways and a special craft program. We will also invite patrons of all ages to fill out birthday “cards” telling us why the Library is important to them.

Inside the renovated Library is a program room for Community Circle time, Spanish and French Circle Times, LEGO,

LIBRARY RENOVATION □ Page 9



## 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 Senora Geiza

### Bedtime Stories and a Craft

Tuesday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m.  
Join Ms. Kati for this fun monthly program.

### LEGO Club

Sunday, Dec. 6, 1:30-3 p.m.  
Building fun for ages 5-12

### Comics Jam

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 4 p.m.  
Come read comics with Dave Burbank.

### Petites Chansons/French Circle Time

Saturday, Dec. 12, 10:30 a.m.  
Join Madame Marie for French rhymes and songs.

### Mock Caldecott for Adults

Saturday, Dec. 12, 1-4 p.m.  
Registration encouraged.

### Crafts for Kids

Sunday, Dec. 13, 2-3 p.m.  
Kids are invited to make holiday crafts; all materials provided.

### Public Meeting on Library Renovation

Wednesday Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m.  
Azalea Room

### Winter Solstice Celebration

Thursday, Dec. 17, 6:30 p.m.  
All ages

### Holiday Sing-a-Long

Saturday, Dec. 19, 3 p.m.  
All ages

### Caldecott Club

Monday, Dec. 21, 7 p.m.  
All ages welcome; lemonade and cookies served.

### Looking ahead.....

- LEGO Club, Sunday, Jan. 10, 1:30-3 p.m.
- Bedtime Stories and a Craft, Tuesday, Jan. 12, 7 p.m.
- Crafts for Kids, Sunday, Jan. 17, 2-3 p.m.
- Caldecott Club Celebration, Thursday, Jan. 21, 7 p.m.

## LIBRARY BRIEFS

### We’ve got two great programs to celebrate the holiday season!

On Thursday, Dec. 17, we’ll present our annual – and very popular – Winter Solstice program. The program begins at 6:30 p.m. with local musician Bill Jenkins leading everyone in a drumming circle. He’ll provide the instruments and set the beat. Then, at 7:30 p.m., the Foggy Bottom Morris Men will swoop in with their songs, dances and stories. The program is lots of fun for all ages to welcome the arrival of the winter season. No registration required. Thanks to the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library for sponsoring this program.

Then, on Saturday, Dec 19, at 3 p.m., we’ll offer our annual Holiday Sing-a-Long, singing songs of Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa and the winter season. As always, local musician Wendy Lanxner and her young guitar students will provide instrumental music. We’ll have song lyrics for everyone – just bring your voice and good cheer!

### All Things Caldecott

We’re presenting two chances to cast your vote for the winner of the 2016 Caldecott Medal, which is awarded annually by the American Library Association to the best-illustrated book for kids ages birth through 14. Karen MacPherson, the Library’s children’s and teen services coordinator, is a member of the 2016 Caldecott Committee, which will be announcing its formal choice for the medal on Monday, Jan. 11. Meanwhile, it’s always fun to see how close we can come to the “real” committee’s decision.

On Saturday, Dec. 12, from 1-4 p.m., we’re offering our second annual Mock Caldecott for Adults. At the program, we’ll briefly read our 25 “finalists” (using our ELMO document camera to show them on the big screen) and then vote for our favorite. It’s a great way to enjoy some of the best children’s picture books of 2015 and have fun discussing them using the criteria for the Caldecott Medal. The books we’ll discuss at the Mock Caldecott will include picture books for the youngest readers, illustrated non-fiction for older kids, and graphic novels. For those interested in reading the books ahead of time, we’ll have a set of the “finalists” available for in-library reading; just ask at the main desk. We’ll also have a copy of each book available for check-out. Please note that this discussion is for adults only, although kids are welcome to listen in. Registration is encouraged, so we can have enough snacks for everyone. To register, please go to [www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents](http://www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents) or call 301-891-7259.

Kids (and adults) get their turn to select a winner on Monday, Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. during a meeting of our monthly Caldecott Club. We’ll draw our finalists from the books that have emerged victorious from each of the previous Caldecott Club sessions this year. You don’t have to have attended those sessions, however, to participate in the December meeting as we read through the finalists and pick our winner. No registration required, and lemonade and cookies will be served. Thanks to the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library for providing food and drinks at both of these events.



Will Gorman and Abner Russom.

## BOY SCOUTS

■ From page 3

Eight young men associated with Troop 33 lost their lives serving in World War II. In its 95 years, Troop 33 has engaged an estimated 4,000 boys in scouting, and 96 scouts of Troop 33 have reached the highest level of scouting achievement, the rank of Eagle Scout, including Hank Harman, who earned his at the age of 86!

In 1957, Troop 33 purchased 43 acres of rolling timberland east of Romney, W. Va., for a permanent troop camp with funds donated primarily by the parents of Waldo E. Schmitt, one of the former Troop 33 scouts who perished in World War II. Today, Camp Waldo E. Schmitt includes a

large main cabin, a Venture Scout cabin, numerous patrol camp sites, a lake, and nature trails.

For Troop 33 scouts, such as Adil Hall, 11, it is the opportunity to bond with nature at places such as Camp Schmitt that make scouting so appealing.

Hall, who says he got involved in Scouts four years ago after hearing one of his friends talk about how great it was, loves "camping, hiking, trailing, exploring around, all of it."

His self-described "best friend" Mateo Griffis, agrees.

"Camping is the best," he says. "I love running around and being free."

Talk to scouts at the Troop's 100th, 150th or 200th anniversary, and it's a safe bet they will express the same love.

# Amnesty International celebrates human rights day in Takoma Park with two events

Amnesty International USA's Takoma Park/Silver Spring Community Group is hosting two events to mark Human Rights Day (Dec. 10), the birthday of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

## Torture: The struggle continues

The group and the Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition (TASSC) are cosponsoring "Torture: The Struggle Continues." It will be held on Thursday, Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Azalea Room of the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave. The heart of the program will be powerful statements from two torture survivors:

Halefom Gabreselasse Berhe, a former university lecturer in Ethiopia, was a student activist and member of a political party that advocated for free and fair elections and democratic governance.

"Helen" was a public health professional, who worked with women forced into "arranged marriages" and sought to eliminate female genital mutilation.

There will also be a question-and-answer session and refreshments. The Community Center is a 12-minute walk from the Takoma Metro, and you can use Ride On bus 18.

## Write for rights

On Saturday, Dec. 12, 2015, 3-5 p.m., the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Amnesty group will continue its tradition of Write



Local residents participate in the 2014 Write for Rights at Capital City Cheesecake

for Rights, a letter writing session. It will be held at Capital City Cheese Cake, 7071 Carroll Ave., Takoma Park. All are welcome to write human rights victims, their oppressors and human right organizations, while enjoying the food and the company of fellow human rights activists. For more information, contact Randy Marks at 240-604-1754 or rmarksftc@yahoo.com.

## LIBRARY RENOVATION

■ From page 8

craft and story programs; author visits, book discussions and the many school class visits held in the current children's room every day.

A new space for our burgeoning young adult book collection contains some comfortable lounge seating. The children's room, with its circular glass partition, contains enclosed group study rooms as well as work tables and some additional lounge seating for younger readers and their parents. The new arrangement of book stacks allows more natural light and meets ADA accessibility standards, as do the new restrooms.

In summary, this new design preserves adequate space for books, has sufficient seating of various kinds, connects to the Community Center, makes public space visible to staff, allows convenient access to the Library, and harmonizes well with



Aerial illustrating new entry canopies and courtyard infill from Southwest

the landscape and surrounding neighborhood.

The estimated cost of implementing this design will be between \$4 and \$4.5 million, including construction, furnishings, fees and testing.

The Library will be scheduling public meetings this month and in January to hear and address comments and ques-

tions regarding this latest concept design. We hope for an enthusiastic response by community members that will lead to Council approval and detailed design development preceding a full renovation.

Complete background information on the steps leading to this latest design, dating from the December 2014 Needs Assessment, may be found on the City's web

site under "Library Renovation Project." There is also an exhibit in the Library, which shows the floor plan and all seven of the character sketches.

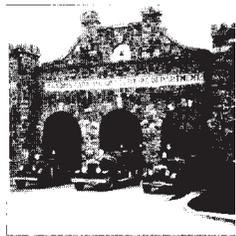
Your comments and questions are welcome. Please direct them to Library Director Ellen Robbins at ellenr@takomaparkmd.gov.



View from Philadelphia Ave.



Aerial illustrating new expansion from Southeast



## THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

### The Firehouse Report

As of Oct. 31, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the station have responded to 531 fire-related incidents in 2015. The department addressed or assisted with 2,739 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 3,270.

Totals for 2014 were 563 and 2,378, representing an increase of 329 incidents.

During October 2015, Takoma Park volunteers put in a total 1,260.5 hours of standby time at the station, com-

pared to 1,645.5 in October 2014. Grand totals as of October 2015 were 13,230.5 hours, compared to 14,174 hours in 2014, a decrease of 943.5 hours.

### Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported as of Nov. 16, 50 people have died in fires, compared to 49 in November 2014.

**TPVFD needs toys.** The Takoma Park VFD will sponsor its 35th annual Toys for Needy Children Program. We will be collecting toys until December 22nd. If you have new or like-new toys, you may drop them off at the fire station or tree lot. Families needing assistance with toys, please contact the fire station at 240-773-8954. Special note: Ages 10 and under only.

**TPVFD will be selling Christmas trees.** The trees are scheduled to be delivered on the weekend following Thanksgiving Day. The lot is located in the parking lot next to the Co-op. Hours will be 12 to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday, 12 to 10 p.m. on Fridays, and 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.



**Ready to baby sit.** The following girls and boys completed the popular babysitting training course on Nov. 2. Pictured: standing left to right, Ben Finlay, Maya Washburn and Bella Garfield; sitting left to right, Julia Borum, Hanna Torres, Declan Johnsen and Kevin Cieza

Not pictured: Shiloh Burke, Lindsay Oliver and Grace Scott.

Special thanks to the following for their assistance: Tina and Ashlee Willey (TPVFD), Adam Bearne and Tony Zarrella (FF/EMT) and PFC Keith Hubley (TPPD)

## Snow Angels Wanted

**The Snow Angels Program is recruiting volunteers for the winter season.**

Can't stay indoors for more than a few hours until cabin fever's got hold of you?

Do you love the fluffy white stuff and all things cold? Do you enjoy outdoor exercise and feel good helping others?

Our program is called the Snow Angels and you can help! It developed from a partnership between the student volunteer run Difference Makers nonprofit and the City of Takoma Park's Lifelong Takoma Program.

We are a group of neighbors, students and families, of all ages, that come together to provide assistance to City of Takoma Park residents who are physically unable to remove snow from their walkways, steps, sidewalks and driveways.

Residents sign up for the program and volunteers go to their homes to remove snow. Contact the Lifelong Takoma Program at [lifelong@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:lifelong@takomaparkmd.gov) to volunteer. Please include your name and contact information and a little background information. Volunteers are being accepted through the winter. Contact us now!



## HOUSING MAILBOX



By Moses A. Wilds Jr.  
Landlord-Tenant Mediation Specialist

### My apartment was broken into and some of my valuables were taken. Can I require the landlord to reimburse me for my losses through his insurance policy?

Your landlord's insurance covers for damage to the property and the building; however his insurance will probably not cover for your personal losses unless you can show that the landlord was negligent and caused the mishap. You and other tenants are strongly encouraged to consider purchasing renters insurance, which provides coverage against losses from theft, vandalism, fire or smoke, explosion, windstorm and water damage (excluding floods). Renters insurance would also protect you if others are injured in your apartment and may pay for your legal defense if you are taken to court.

Prior to purchasing renters insurance the following considerations should be made:

- Determine how much insurance is enough to replace all of your personal possessions by creating a home inventory, a detailed list of all your personal possessions and their estimated value. The Insurance Information Institute offers free home inventory software at [www.knowyourstuff.org](http://www.knowyourstuff.org)
- Evaluate replacement cost vs. actual cash value coverage. A replacement

cost policy pays to replace your possessions without accounting for depreciation. An actual cash value policy pays to replace your possessions minus a deduction for depreciation. Although replacement cost coverage is usually about ten percent more than actual cash value coverage, the extra cost should be weighed versus the generally quick depreciation rate of most personal property;

- Consider adding a floater (a separate policy that provides additional insurance) if your personal property includes expensive jewelry, furs, collectibles or other valuables. Receipts and/or appraisals of the property covered by the floater must be provided.
- Determine if your renters insurance provides liability protection that covers you against lawsuits for bodily injury or property damage for acts done by you, your family members and your pets. Most standard renters insurance policies generally provide at least \$100,000 of liability coverage, but additional amounts are available.
- See if you are eligible for discounts. Discounts on renters insurance may be available if you have a security system, use smoke detectors, use dead-bolt locks, have good credit and have another policy (auto or business).

The Maryland Insurance Administration estimates that the average renters insurance policy costs \$15-\$30 per month. Tenants or landlords with questions regarding the city's Landlord-Tenant and COLTA Laws can contact me at 301-891-7215 or on the city website at [mosesw@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:mosesw@takomaparkmd.gov).

## Lifesaving and safety in case of power emergencies: The POPPI method

In this area, we have considerable experience with power outages, so what can we do to deal with this reality? How might we care for people who need electricity to survive? How might we learn about the potential for outages, such as during hurricanes or tornadoes?



### Did you know?

- In case of outage or power problem, call Pepco 1-877-737-2662/1-877-pepco62 24 hours a day.
- 48 percent of Maryland power lines are underground; 52 percent are above and are subject to damage from natural disasters, such as hurricanes and tornadoes, which require Pepco attention and action.
- There are approximately 442 nurs-

ing homes/assisted living facilities in Montgomery County. Only 3-4 percent have back-up generators. This means that Pepco must service these facilities as well as our homes, schools and businesses.

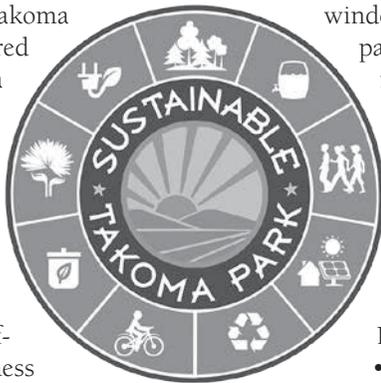
- In cases of massive power outages, such as those during Hurricane Sandy,
  - the required order of power restoration is life threatening situations, such as downed live wires; hospitals, water treatment plants, nursing homes/assisted living facilities and general population.

# Kilowatt Smackdown Winners

During a six-week period, student volunteers competed against one another to see who could complete the most energy assessments for local Takoma Park businesses. Sponsored by the City of Takoma Park, these free energy assessments consisted of an energy efficiency survey and a utility bill check-up. Seven student volunteers helped 63 local businesses identify an average energy efficiency savings per business of 32 percent or \$1,450 per year, which is the equivalent to a total of 325 tons of carbon emissions offset annually! Students earned scholarships, internships and prizes, including gift cards and resume reviews.

The winning student was Begoña Blasco of Catholic University with 28 assessments completed; second place went to Chidera Igbokwe of University of Maryland with 15 assessments, and third to Emily Oldham from Catholic University with 9 assessments completed.

In the coming months, Green Impact Campaign will work with the participating businesses to further understand their assessment results and further implement



recommendations:

- Provide businesses with a Green Impact Campaign Certified Business window decal to show their participation and commitment to being a local, sustainable business.
    - Assist businesses interested in becoming certified as a green business through Montgomery County's Green Business Certification Program.
  - Nextility will help businesses secure lower energy supply rates and green energy through the utility. Nextility can also provide solar assessments for qualifying buildings.
    - PEPSCO will provide businesses with various rebates on the purchase of energy-efficiency equipment, including lighting, appliances, refrigeration and HVAC, helping bring down the cost of upgrades by more than 50 percent.
- Congratulations and thank you to all the participating students and businesses! To see a list of all students and businesses who participated and read more about the Kilowatt Smackdown and Green Impact Campaign, visit [kilowattsmackdown.com](http://kilowattsmackdown.com).

## POPPI METHOD

■ From page 10

- The goal is to have power restored to 70-80 percent of the population within three days.

### What can you do?

#### Follow your Power Outage Preparedness Plan (POPPI):

- Enter Pepco's number (877-737-2662) in your cell phone in the ICE area (in case of emergencies); your cell phone should still have power for a while.
- If your life or someone in your family's depends on electricity for emergency medical and life-support equipment, such as respirators, kidney dialysis machines, sign up for the Emergency Medical Equipment Notification Program (<http://tinyurl.com/puc8a22>). An information package is sent annually to help you prepare for emergencies. Note: Participants must renew annually.
- If you want to be notified of restoration estimates, get outage maps, report outages or safety hazards, and more, sign up for the Pepco mobile app (<http://tinyurl.com/oska2ra>).

- If you want to be sure that your back-up generator will work, test it. It's important to have full-back up generation (full 3phase load). Hook up the generator to your system as you would if the power was out and run it full load for a while once a month.
- Check and update your emergency plan, which should include:
  - medical needs and doctor info
  - contacts list, local and out of area
  - meeting place if you are separated from family, others
  - supplies for three days
  - radio and batteries
  - several working flashlights
  - grab bag of items you need if you have to leave for a while
  - notify security company, if you use one

The Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness Committee thanks Pete Petersen, manager of emergency preparedness at Pepco and coordinator of the emergency services partnership program for sharing this information at its meeting last month.

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK ELECTION RESULTS – NOVEMBER 3, 2015								
OFFICES AND CANDIDATES	WARD 1	WARD 2	WARD 3	WARD 4	WARD 5	WARD 6	TOTAL	ELECTED
<b>MAYOR</b>								
HOLMES	60	40	61	47	19	37	264	
STEWART	669	431	510	169	138	252	2169	ELECTED
WRITE-IN	16	12	12	5	3	10	58	
BLANK	8	4	6	29	3	4	54	
OTHER	0	1	1	4	0	1	7	
							2552	

## CITY OF TAKOMA PARK ELECTION RESULTS – WARD COUNCIL RACES

CITY COUNCIL WARD 1		
KOVAR	631	ELECTED
THURONYI	32	
WALLACE	86	
WRITE-IN	1	
BLANK	2	
INVALID	1	
TOTAL	753	

CITY COUNCIL WARD 2		
MALE	443	ELECTED
WRITE-IN	22	
BLANK	23	
INVALID	0	
TOTAL	488	

CITY COUNCIL WARD 3		
QURESHI	532	ELECTED
WRITE-IN	18	
BLANK	40	
INVALID	0	
TOTAL	590	

CITY COUNCIL WARD 4		
SEAMENS	241	ELECTED
WRITE-IN	3	
BLANK	8	
INVALID	2	
TOTAL	254	

CITY COUNCIL WARD 5		
SMITH	149	ELECTED
WRITE-IN	9	
BLANK	4	
INVALID	1	
TOTAL	163	

CITY COUNCIL WARD 6		
SCHULTZ	206	ELECTED
SMALL*	86	
WRITE-IN	4	
BLANK	6	
INVALID	0	
TOTAL	302	

\* ELECTION DAY TOTALS INCLUDE ABSENTEES

\* REGISTERED WRITE-IN CANDIDATE

EARLY VOTING AND ELECTION DAY RECAP							
	Oct. 28	Oct. 29	Oct. 30	Oct. 31	Nov. 1	Election Day*	Total
WARD 1	19	29	4	26	132	541	751
WARD 2	12	15	5	60	39	357	488
WARD 3	27	20	4	63	92	384	590
WARD 4	8	7	2	7	21	209	254
WARD 5	3	1	0	59	14	86	163
WARD 6	7	3	74	11	20	191	306
TOTAL	76	75	89	226	318	1,768	2,552

### 2015 Election Facts

Voter Turnout: 21%

No. of 16/17 year olds voting: 47

No. of Takoma Park only voters (non-U.S. citizens): 71

No. of voters who registered and voted on the same day: 94

# DECEMBER '15

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

Do you have an item for the city calendar? Let us know if you have a nonprofit event that would be of interest to City of Takoma Park residents, and we'll consider it for inclusion in the calendar. Deadline for the January issue is Dec. 16, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning Jan. 2.

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, Monday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m.\*  
City Council Meeting, Monday, Dec. 14, 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).

Detailed agendas are always available for review online at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas).

#### Christmas Day

Friday, Dec. 25  
Trash, food waste and recycling will be collected on Saturday, Dec. 26.

#### New Year's Day

Friday, Jan. 1  
Trash, food waste and recycling will be collected on Saturday, Jan. 2.

#### Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry

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

### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

#### Kid's Night Out

First and third Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.  
Takoma Park Recreation Center  
Fun and games for kids

#### Teen Night

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

#### Takoma Park Farmers Market

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

Laurel and Carroll avenues in Old Town  
Locally grown produce, baked goods, meats, cheeses

#### Food Truck Fridays

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

#### 17th Annual Takoma Park Alternative Gift Fair

Saturday, Dec. 5, noon – 4 p.m.  
Sixteen locally based nonprofits working on local, national and international causes talk with "shoppers" and explain their work. Excellent interview opportunities.  
Takoma Park Presbyterian Church

#### Takoma Park Craftwomen's 34th Annual Holiday Show and Sale

Saturday, Dec. 5, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 6, noon – 4 p.m.  
Handcrafted gifts by local artists. Adults only, please.  
7208 Maple Ave.

#### Pajamarama

Sunday, Dec. 6, 8 – 11 a.m.  
Shop in your pajamas around Takoma Park for discounts at local businesses.  
Various locations

#### Torture: The Struggle Continues

Thursday, Dec. 10, 7:30 – 9 p.m.  
Hear from two torture survivors from the Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition. A discussion will follow and refreshments will be served.  
TP Community Center, Azalea Room

#### Holiday Art Sale

Saturday, Dec. 12, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
The Takoma Park Arts & Humanities Commission is hosting the 10th annual Holiday Art Sale. Each year the sale features over 30 regional artists and crafters.  
TP Community Center

#### Write for Rights

Saturday, Dec. 12, 3 – 5 p.m.  
Write to prisoners and their captors in honor of Human Rights Day on Dec. 10.  
Capital City Cheese Cake, 7071 Carroll Ave.

#### Calvin Coolidge High School Basketball Tournament

Saturday, Dec. 26, and Sunday, Dec. 27, doors open at 2 p.m.  
Four premier high school basketball programs in the region face off against each other. Proceeds go to a number of local charities.  
Frank R. Williams Activity Center - Calvin Coolidge High School, 6315 Fifth St NW.  
\$6.27 – \$19.98

### 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

#### Instruments of the Future

Saturday, Dec. 5, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
An evening of improvised music that explores vast sonic terrain, using both traditional instruments and self-built instruments made from found objects. The music draws from elements of avant-garde jazz, European free improvisation, and contemporary classical music.  
TP Community Center

#### Calvary! Parade! + and then I fell down

Thursday, Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m.  
A screening of two films by filmmaker Gabriel Rodriguez-Fuller, followed by a Q&A.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
Suggested \$10 donation.

#### LEA, Siobhan Quinn & Michael Bowers and Joy Ike

Friday, Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m.  
LEA is one of the region's most soulful vocalists, guitarists and songwriters. Siobhan Quinn and Michael Bowers paint dynamic and colorful stories with original, contemporary and traditional music; and Joy Ike's percussive piano-playing and vocals give homage to her African upbringing.  
Carroll Cafe at Seekers Church 276 Carroll St.  
\$18 in advance/\$20 at door

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

Thursday, Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m.  
The popular "Third Thursday" poetry series features the work of a wide range of poets from across the region. If you have not sat in one on the readings yet, stop by on any third Thursday of the month and check it out.  
TP Community Center Auditorium

### Upcoming Event

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

Thursday, Jan. 21, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
The popular "Third Thursday" poetry series features the work of a wide range of poets from across the region. If you have not sat in one on the readings yet, stop by on any third Thursday of the month and check it out. The words begin at 7:30 pm.  
TP Community Center Auditorium



## 2016 SAFE GROW LAWN CARE EVENT

### "Switching to Organic Lawn Care Methods"

Takoma Park Residents are invited to the 2016 Annual Safe Grow Event!

Come & join local lawn care expert, **Zack Kline from A.I.R. Landscaping** & get tips on transitioning from traditional lawn care to organic methods.

**Date: Thursday, January 28, 2016**

**Time: 7 pm to 9 pm**

**Location: Auditorium Hall  
7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, 20912**

All Homeowners attending the event will receive a free soil test & An opportunity to receive a free lawn care consultation from A.I.R. LANDSCAPING

Learn about the event and sign up for free lawn care consultation at <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/safegrow>

## In Memory – Anita Datar

Takoma Park resident Anita Dakar was killed in the terror attack in Mali on Nov. 20. On Nov. 22, residents gathered at the gazebo in Takoma Park for a candlelight vigil to remember Datar and other victims of violence in Paris and Mali.

As reported by *The Washington Post*, Datar was the only known American killed in the attack in Mali. The 41-year-old global health policy expert had been there working for about week before the hotel where she was staying with coworkers was taken under siege.

Datar was senior director for field programs for Health Policy Plus, a project funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development initiated to improve reproductive health in developing countries. Datar had spent much of the past 10 years of her career with Palladium, an international development firm, pursuing global public health, particularly family planning and HIV prevention and response.

Palladium is establishing a memorial scholarship in her name to Johns Hopkins University's Bloomberg School of Public Health. Her son Rohan is a second grader at Takoma Park Elementary School.

