

March  
2016

# TAKOMA PARK

A newsletter published by the City of Takoma Park, Maryland

Volume 55, No. 3 ■ takomaparkmd.gov



## WHAT'S NEW?

Check out the City's blog:  
takomaparkmd.gov/news/city-blog

Stay connected  
Page 3

Annual egg hunt  
Details, page 7

Community cam program  
Page 10

Trash/recycling collection  
No changes this month

*Editor's Note: I had the opportunity to listen to the speakers' presentations and hear residents' concerns first-hand during the small group discussion on the future of housing in Takoma Park. Both offered opportunities for reflection and dialogue on this important topic. I hope you will continue the conversation here in the newsletter through your letters and online at takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/community-conversations.*



Mayor Kate Stewart joins a small group discussion.

Photo by Selena Malott

## Let the conversations begin: Affordable housing in Takoma Park

By Apryl Motley

"I've been renting in Takoma Park for four years, but I can't afford to buy a house here," one resident observed.

She was part of a small group gathered in the Hydrangea Room at the TP Community Center for one of the break-out discussions held as part of the Feb. 6 Community Conversation on Affordable Housing in Takoma Park. And she wasn't

alone in her concerns about whether she would be able to continue calling the City home.

"I'm not sure if I can continue living in Takoma Park as a single, widowed, retired person," another resident contributed to the discussion.

Someone else gave a disturbing account of discrimination she believes she experi-

CONVERSATIONS □ Page 3

## Only one month left in the Neighborhood Energy Challenge

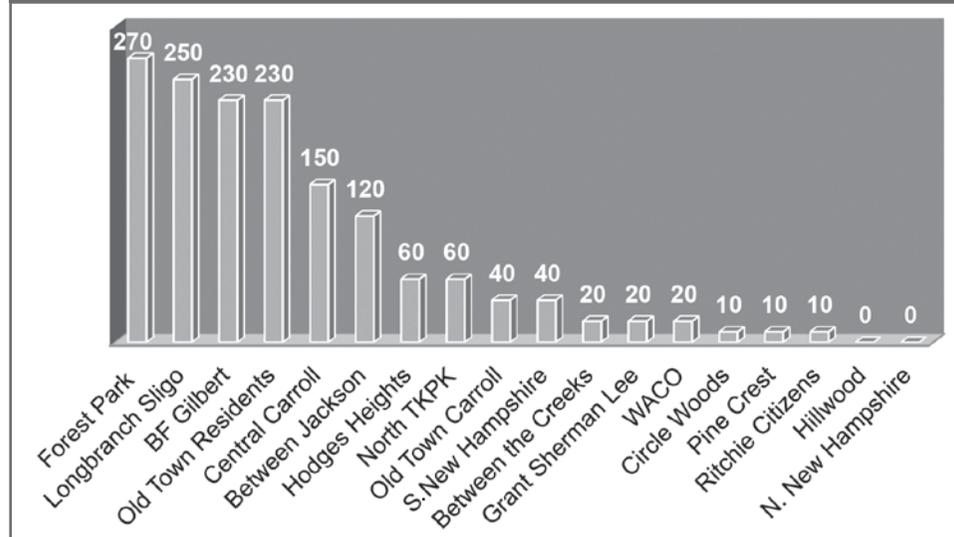
It's a close competition with four teams neck and neck for the \$2,000 grand prize. Forest Park, Longbranch Sligo, BF Gilbert and Old Town Resident teams all have over 200 points. However, it's still anyone's game. Light Green Certifications are

easy to achieve and are worth 10 points each. Medium Green Certifications take a bit more effort to achieve, but are worth 40 points, and Dark Green Certifications

ENERGY CHALLENGE □ Page 3

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

### Neighborhood Energy Challenge Points



## Five Questions for Sarah Hutcheon Mancoll, Founder & Facilitator, Takoma Park Women Leaning In

Sarah and her husband Peter closed on their house in Takoma Park on Valentine's Day in 2014. She said, "It was the best Valentine's Day gift!" The couple lives in the PEN neighborhood close to the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church with their two kids, Sammy and Maayan, and their au pair Martyna. "My house's claim to fame is that Goldie Hawn, who grew up in Takoma Park, used to take dance lessons in our living room," Sarah explained.

She is the policy director at the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues in Washington, DC. Inspired by Facebook COO Cheryl Sandberg's bestselling book, almost a year ago, Sarah started two Lean In groups in Takoma Park. "I was pregnant with my second child and ready to move up in my career and really struggling to wrap my head around how I was going to 'step up' professionally with two young kids at home," she said.

In honor of Women's History Month, Sarah kicks off our series of "quick-question" interviews.

**1. Favorite Place/Activity in Takoma Park:** The annual house and garden tour—I love to see what other people have done with their homes, and it's a great opportunity to meet more people in the neighborhood

**2. Best Thing about Living in Takoma Park:** I can walk everywhere!

**3. On My Desk Right Now:** A "Congress at Your Fingertips" directory, a box of chocolate truffles that my boss brought back from a work trip to New Mexico, and a steno book.

**4. In My "Spare Time":** Lots of reading and yoga at Willow Street

FIVE QUESTIONS □ Page 11

ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

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

Inside



Lifelong  
Link  
Page 4



Arts  
Page 5



Tree  
Sale  
Page 12

# DOCKET

Please note the new day (Wednesday) and consistent 7:30 p.m. start time for City Council Meetings.

## City Council & Committee Calendar

### OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

#### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday, March 2, 7:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, March 9, 7:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, March 16, 7:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, March 23, 7:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, April 6, 7:30 p.m.  
 Meetings take place in the TPCC Auditorium, unless noted otherwise. Detailed agendas are always available for review online: [takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/agendas](http://takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/agendas)

#### BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Monday, March 14, 7:30 p.m.  
 TPCC Council Conference Room

#### COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, March 14, 7:15 p.m.  
 TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### COMMEMORATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, March 15, 7 p.m.  
 TPCC Lilac Room

#### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 24, 7 p.m.  
 TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### FAÇADE ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, March 8, 6:30 p.m.  
 TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 15, 7:30 p.m.  
 TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### RECREATION COMMITTEE

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

#### SAFE ROADWAYS COMMITTEE

Monday, March 21, 7:30 p.m.  
 TPCC Lilac Room

#### TREE COMMISSION

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

\*All meetings are open to the public unless noted otherwise. Schedule changes can occur after the *Takoma Park Newsletter* deadline. For the most up to date information, visit [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov) and click on "Events and Meetings." 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 can sign up at: [takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/sign-up-council-agendas](http://takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/sign-up-council-agendas).

#### 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).

#### RESOLUTION 2016-1

Adopted Jan. 27, 2016

Bruce R. Williams

*Supports Bruce R. Williams' continued service on the Chesapeake Bay Local Government Advisory Committee.*

#### RESOLUTION 2016-2

Adopted Jan. 27, 2016

Anne Street

*Authorizes the closure of a portion of Anne Street on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from May to November for the Crossroads Farmers Market.*

#### RESOLUTION 2016-3

Adopted Jan. 27, 2016

Board of Elections Appointment

*Appoints Gregory Lebel (Ward 1) to the Board of Elections for a term to expire on June 30, 2018.*

### NOISE CONTROL BOARD TO BE REESTABLISHED – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The City Council is seeking applicants to serve on the Noise Control Board. The Board assists and advises the City on noise control issues, including administration and enforcement of the Noise Control Ordinance. The Board adjudicates noise disturbance complaints. Board members serve staggered three-year terms. Vacancies: 5 to 7.

### VACANCIES ON CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

*Interested in serving? A great first step is to review information at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/government/boards-commissions-and-committees](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/government/boards-commissions-and-committees). Then, attend a meeting to see if it is a good fit for you. If you have questions, contact the committee, or talk to your City Councilmember or the City Clerk. Appointments are made by the City Council. Apply by completing the online application and submit it along with a resume or statement of qualifications.*

The following groups have vacancies as of Feb. 12:

The **Arts and Humanities Commission** advises the City Council on ways in which the City might best serve the public with regard to matters involving the arts; encourages and aids the appreciation and awareness of, and participation in, the arts among all Takoma Park residents; encourages cooperation and coordination among individuals, organizations and institutions concerned with the arts in Takoma Park; and facilitates employment opportunities for artists and the development of self-sustaining arts programs. Vacancies: up to 5.

The **Board of Elections** plans and conducts regular and special City elections in coordination with the City Clerk; encourages voter registration in the City; conducts voter education programs and prepares and distributes voter outreach materials; recommends to the Council amendments to the City's elections law and regulations when it deems such amendments are necessary and will provide for the improved conduct of elections; and periodically reviews City elections procedures. Vacancies: 1 Representation from Ward 6 needed.

The **Commemoration Commission** documents, maintains, and preserves past, present, and future memorials, commemoratives, and recognitions in the City; recommends to the City Council procedures and programs to honor and commemorate individuals, organizations and businesses that have made significant contributions to the social, cultural, historical, political, economic, or civic life

of the City as a whole or to a neighborhood/local area as well as programs for individuals to honor others; implement such programs within its scope and budget; and decide on recognitions after opportunity for public review and comment. Vacancies: 3.

The **Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs** is empowered to adjudicate complaints for violations of Chapter 6.16, Landlord-Tenant Relations, to rule on petitions for rent increases above the rent stabilization allowance in accordance with Chapter 6.20, Rent Stabilization, and to decide appeals from the City Manager's decision to deny, suspend or revoke a license under Chapter 6.08, Rental Housing Licenses. Vacancies: 1. Landlord representation needed.

The **Committee on the Environment** advises the City Council on all environmental issues, including, stormwater management, greenhouse gas reduction, air quality, tree protection, open space conservation, biodiversity, watershed functioning and restoration, energy use, transportation, energy conservation, and recycling; serves in partnership with the City Council and Takoma Park City staff to work together to achieve sustainability and other environmental certifications that may help the City meet and be recognized for its environmental goals. Vacancies: 1.

The **Emergency Preparedness Committee** assists in reviewing the City's Emergency Operations Plan and other supporting emergency documents and recommending changes; explores the formation of volunteer teams that can assist City in carrying out emergency activities when called upon; coordinates with the City, County, and other agencies to educate residents on

their individual responsibilities in preparing for emergencies; provides information on what residents can expect from the City and County during an emergency; collects and provides research and data and comments on emergency-related events for the Council; identifies and promotes volunteer opportunities in emergencies; and advises the City on strategies to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of City preparedness activities. Vacancies: 1.

The **Ethics Commission** provides written advisory opinions; investigates, hears, and decides in ethics inquiries and complaints; conducts a public education program; recommends legislative changes and improvements to the Ethics Ordinance; and promulgates regulations to accompany the Ethics Ordinance. Vacancies: 2.

The **Grants Review Committee** evaluates applications for funding from a variety of programs including the City's Cultural and S.T.E.M. grants, Program and Operational Support grants, and Capital Project grants, and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Vacancies: 1.

The **Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee** oversees implementation and adherence to the Takoma Park Nuclear Free Zone Act and provides public information on issues related to the Ordinance. Vacancies: 1.

The **Recreation Committee** advises the City Council on how best to serve the diverse recreation needs of Takoma Park residents, including but not limited to reviewing and recommending policies and programs that concern recreational opportunities within the City, with a special emphasis on youth and seniors and broad and diverse participation. Vacancies: 5.

### Important City Department Phone Numbers

City Clerk.....	301-891-7267
City Manager .....	301-891-7229
City TV .....	301-891-7118
Finance .....	301-891-7212
Housing & Community Development.....	301-891-7119
Library .....	301-891-7259
Police .....	301-270-1100 / Emergency 911
Public Works.....	301-891-7633
Recreation/ Facilities Rental.....	301-891-7290



## CONVERSATIONS

■ From page 1

enced while trying to rent an apartment on Maple Avenue. A long-time resident of the City, she raised her kids in this community and now wants to downsize to a smaller unit.

As each person introduced him or herself to the group, which was charged with discussing new approaches to housing in Takoma Park, the universal concern was how feasible it would be for them to continue living in this community. One resident summed up this sentiment, "Keep existing residents in place; don't squeeze us out."

Getting these kinds of issues on the table for discussion figured prominently in Mayor Kate Stewart's priorities as she took office. "We decided to kick off the Community Conversation series focusing on affordable housing because in Takoma Park we are committed to being a diverse and inclusive community," she said. "Ensuring we're diverse and inclusive requires that we have a variety of housing options for residents of all income levels and stages of life."

"The question we need to be thinking about is 'who do we want to be five or 10 years from now?'" Stewart continued. "We are growing and changing as a community, and taking a closer look at our current housing goals, priorities and policies and potentially developing new ones is a crucial first step toward answering this question."

City staff in the Department of Hous-



Photo by Selena Malott

Residents listen intently.

ing and Community Development assisted Stewart in assembling a group of stellar panelists to offer a variety of perspectives on how the Takoma Park community might evolve over time. Before the small group discussions, residents heard from these experts in the affordable housing arena. As they listened, the City's Community Development Director Sara Daines encouraged them to "think about what we're currently doing that might be modified to address the needs of the current community." A few topics were front and center as the panelists made their remarks.

**Rent stabilization:** Takoma Park landlord Peter Aron said, "I am very much in favor of affordable housing." However, he questioned the long-term feasibility of the City's Rent Stabilization Program, saying it has the unintended consequences of

limiting property values and resulting in some landlords completing only minimal maintenance of rental properties. According to him, the assessed value of rental properties in the city continues to decline. "I would urge residents to take a hard look at the rent stabilization and consider other more sustainable options," Aron said.

Takoma Park's Rent Stabilization Law was first adopted in 1981 and is one of the City's primary affordable housing programs. The program is designed to preserve the city's affordable housing stock and maintain economic and ethnic diversity by controlling the frequency and amount of rent increases that may be imposed by a landlord. To learn more about the program, visit [takomaparkmd.gov/government/housing-and-community-development](http://takomaparkmd.gov/government/housing-and-community-development).

**Partnerships with the county:** "Takoma Park is near and dear to us," said Artie Harris, vice president of real estate and neighborhood development for the Montgomery Housing Partnership. "Twenty percent of our portfolio is in Takoma Park; many of our units are on Maple Avenue." Harris, who has lived in Takoma Park since 2002, described renovation and rehab as the partnership's "bread and butter," as it works toward preserving and expanding affordable housing in Montgomery County.

According to him, however, the partnership faces challenges in this regard, such as high land and property building costs, competition from market rate builders and limited funding. Harris encouraged residents to push the County to increase the housing initiative fund or support the

City establishing its own fund, co-locate affordable housing with City Property and look to the County as a partner more. "The City is a great partner of ours," he said, "and we want to continue that partnership."

**A regional perspective:** "The lack of affordable housing is the single greatest challenge in our region in addressing chronic homelessness," said Hilary Chapman, housing program manager, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

"Almost half the renters in the region are struggling with high housing costs," added Peter Tatian, a senior fellow at the Urban Land Institute. According to Tatian, the region needs 94,000 units designated for extremely low income renters, but fulfilling this need is difficult given that building is not keeping pace with the need and there is more competition from higher income renters.

The Urban Land Institute and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments have partnered to produce research on "Housing Security in the Washington Region." The full report is available at [www.urban.org/publications/413161.html](http://www.urban.org/publications/413161.html).

The event concluded with each City Councilmember sharing his or her takeaways from the day.

"Even though I was familiar with the issues, the presentations were compelling," said City Manager Suzanne Ludlow.

"This was just the beginning of the conversation," Mayor Stewart said. "In the upcoming months, the City Council will take a look at the City's current housing policies and work along with staff to consider some of the new and innovative ideas that were discussed to evaluate which are the best fits for Takoma Park."

"Further, to address the housing needs in our community, we will need strong partners at the county and state levels," she continued, "and I am very appreciative that County Councilmembers Tom Hucker, Marc Elrich, and George Leventhal were able to attend this event."

Reflecting on the entire day, Stewart said, "As our city grows and changes, we must remain diligent to ensure residents have a range of housing options and most importantly, continued access to safe, quality and stable places to call home."

## ENERGY CHALLENGE

■ From page 1

are worth 100 points each. That means with even just one more home earning a Dark Green Certification, the standings could change substantially.

Green Home Certification applications are due by March 31 in order to earn points for the energy challenge. If you have been putting off your Green Home Certification because you are stuck on an action in the checklist, let the sustainability manager know; substitutions are allowed. If you need a new application, you can download one from [tinyurl.com/tpkenergychallenge](http://tinyurl.com/tpkenergychallenge), or you can pick up a printed copy from Public Works at 31 Oswego Ave.

For the past year, 18 neighborhood teams and more than 700 households have been competing to get the biggest reductions in energy use. Residents par-

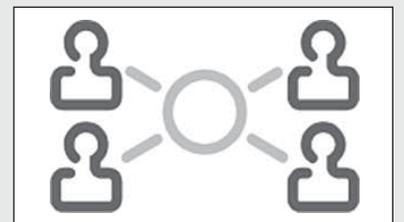
ticipate by taking actions in their houses and apartments to save energy. To earn points, residents complete a Green Home Certification checklist and mark off all the actions they've taken to save energy at home. Residents can earn Light, Medium, or Dark Green certifications for their efforts. To help, the City has been offering energy coaching, rebates and meetings throughout the past year. The challenge is helping the City in its efforts to win the overall \$5 Million Georgetown University Energy Prize Competition for the community that reduces its energy use the most. Currently, Takoma Park is ranked #25 out of 50 in the competition.

If you have questions about the Neighborhood Energy Challenge, would like free energy coaching or a second opinion on your energy audit, contact Sustainability Manager Gina Mathias at [ginam@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:ginam@takomaparkmd.gov). Don't forget to turn in your applications by March 31!

## STAY CONNECTED!

The City of Takoma Parks strives to keep residents engaged and informed in a variety of ways including social media, the new City website, public safety notifications via email and text, and this newsletter, to name a few. As we begin a new year, we want to provide you with some tips for staying on top of the goings on around the City.

- Visit [takomaparkmd.gov](http://takomaparkmd.gov), where you can access information on upcoming Council meetings and agendas, City news, and the status of City projects
- Like the City of Takoma Park on Facebook or follow us on Twitter at @TakomaParkMD
- Sign up for Public Safety notifications on Takoma Park Alert: [takomaparkmd.gov/services/takoma-park-alert](http://takomaparkmd.gov/services/takoma-park-alert)
- Access special messages from the Mayor and City Manager on the City's blog: [takomaparkmd.gov/news/city-blog](http://takomaparkmd.gov/news/city-blog)
- Make a service request or report an issue using "My TkPk," an online and application based reporting tool: [takomaparkmd.gov/services/my-tkpk](http://takomaparkmd.gov/services/my-tkpk)



### THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

Editor: Apryl Motley  
Assistant: Sean Gossard  
[www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov)  
Vol. 55, No. 3

The Takoma Park Newsletter is published 12 times a year as the official publication of the City of Takoma Park, [takomaparkmd.gov](http://takomaparkmd.gov).

Letters to the editor, reports by community groups, calendar items and other submissions will be considered for publication; send to [tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov)

[takomaparkmd.gov](http://takomaparkmd.gov) or Newsletter, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912.

Name, address and telephone number must accompany all submitted material. Editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, style, spelling and grammar.

Published material containing opinions does not necessarily reflect the views of the Newsletter or the City of Takoma Park.

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

The Newsletter is printed on recycled-content paper.





# BUILDING COMMUNITY

## Unsightly Trash

One of the most common complaints referred to the Code Enforcement Division is for trash issues; specifically overflowing containers, litter in the yard, and bulk items left by the curb. The City has adopted the County's code in dealing with trash and solid waste. The Code states that all properties, including multifamily dwellings, must provide a sufficient number of approved containers for the storage of solid waste to prevent overflow between pickups.



Commercial and multifamily properties must screen their solid waste containers if they can be seen from the street level of any residential property. All trash containers must be vermin-proof and waterproof, of noncorrodible metal or similar material, and must have tight-fitting lids.

Solid waste outside proper containers, the presence of foul or sour odors, and the presence of insects, rodents, or other vermin, or evidence of their presence constitutes improper maintenance and often a need for more frequent removal. If people manage

their trash and litter, it will not blow into neighbors' yards or the street. Litter could also get into Sligo Creek via storm drains and eventually into the Chesapeake Bay. Let's help keep our community and waterways clean.

The Public Works Department does sell trash carts to the public, at cost, that meet code. PW sells 64-gallon and 96-gallon carts for \$55.36 and \$61.72 respectively. PW also offers a bulk item pickup by appointment with a \$10 charge for up to three items for buildings that receive city collection service only. PW will not pick up any appliance containing refrigerant. You can contact the Public Works Department at 301-891-7633 to schedule a pickup or get more information.

## Safe Routes to School News

Maybe there is a spring in your step as another season approaches. With the warmer weather, students can get out and use some of the safety skills they learned during the Bike Rodeo and Crosswalk Simulation Activity presented by the Safe Routes to School Coordinator and the Takoma Park crossing guards this school year. Students in the fourth grade at Piney Branch and East Silver Spring and

the fifth grade at Rolling Terrace enjoyed learning about bike safety and practiced on a cool obstacle course. The first grade and kindergarten classes at Takoma Park and at East Silver Spring participated in the Crosswalk Simulation activity, learning about the best practices for crossing the street in a fun and engaging way.

Here is what's coming up this spring:

**Monday, March 14** Together with the Montgomery County Safe Kids Coalition, TP Safe Routes to School has acquired a bike trailer for the purpose of offering county-wide bike safety education using the Bike Rodeo model. Anyone interested in using the trailer must complete a training session to become certified. This spring, the certification training is scheduled for Monday, March 14 from 9:00



## Lifelong Link

*This is a new feature that connects City of Takoma residents with resources. It is brought to you by the Lifelong Takoma Program.*

**Q: My mom lives in the City of Takoma Park, and she seems depressed lately. She doesn't want to go out as much. I worry about her being isolated and not staying connected to others and not being able to get assistance in the time of crisis. Could you share some resources that may be helpful?**



**A:** The Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA) offers in-office and in-home counseling services. You could possibly talk with your mom to see if she is interested in counseling services. Alternatively, you may consider offering to make the call with her if she expresses interest. The phone number for counseling services at JSSA is 301-816-2633. You mom will need to leave a message on their intake line. Kris, Monica, or Michelle will return her call within 24 to 48 hours.

Additionally, you may want to share information with your mom about the event being held by the Aging Well Network on "Navigating change: managing the physical and emotional transitions as we age." The event is on March 29 from 10 a.m. to noon in the Azalea Room of the TP Community Center. During the event a counselor from JSSA will facilitate a conversation on mental wellness. For more information, contact Karen at [lifelong@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:lifelong@takomaparkmd.gov).

There is also another resource to help with connecting your mom to other people for socialization. The Mental Health Association of Montgomery County offers a Friendly Visitor Program. This program offers friendship and emotional support to elders that are home-bound, isolated and often lonely. Each program participant is matched with a trained volunteer who shares similar interests. Volunteers visit participants each week, and unique friendships are formed. To learn more about the program, contact Program Director Tammy Schmidt at [tschmidt@mhmc.org](mailto:tschmidt@mhmc.org) or call 301-424-0656, extension 507.

This program is facilitated through the Village of Takoma Park. Residents who have an interest in having a Friendly Visitor come to visit with them at their homes in the City of Takoma Park can also call the Village of Takoma Park at 301-646-2109. A volunteer working for the Village will complete a referral and send it to the Friendly Visitors program on a resident's behalf. The resident will be contacted afterwards.

## Did you know?

The Aging Well Network, brought to you by the Lifelong Takoma Program and the Village of Takoma Park, will be offering social meetings on different topics that impact residents 55 and over. We are currently accepting volunteers for the planning committee. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Karen at [lifelong@takomapark.gov](mailto:lifelong@takomapark.gov) or 301-891-7232.

a.m. to 12:00 p.m. It will be held at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave., in the Hydrangea Room. A Bike Rodeo will follow at Piney Branch Elementary School, 7510 Maple Ave. from 1:25 - 2:10 p.m. Please RSVP by Wednesday, March 2, 2016.

**Sunday, May 1** The Takoma Park Safe Routes to School 5K Challenge, better known as the TKPK5K, will be held on Sunday, May 1, 2016. Registration is now open at [www.tkpk5k.com](http://www.tkpk5k.com). There are events for all ages and abilities: 5K run, 5K walk, 1 mile run, .25 mile fun run. Sign up before April 18 for early bird registration prices and guaranteed t-shirt sizes. Proceeds benefit PTA programs at Piney Branch, Rolling Terrace, East Silver Spring and Takoma Park ES and Takoma Park MS.

**Wednesday, May 4** Bike to School Day

is Wednesday, May 4. Students, parents and school staff are encouraged to ride to school together. Check with your school for specific details.

**Tuesday, June 7** Crossing Guard Appreciation Day is held on the first Tuesday of June each year. On this day, we take a moment to express gratitude to the wonderful Takoma Park Crossing Guards for another year of service. Watch for more information in early June.

**June 27 - July 1** Once again, Takoma Park will host the iCan Shine bike Camp for students with special needs. Maryland residents between the ages of 8 and 14 are invited to participate free of charge. The camp will be held at Takoma Academy, 8120 Carroll Ave., June 27 - July 1, 2016. Visit [takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/safe-routes-to-school](http://takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/safe-routes-to-school) for additional information. Riders and volunteers needed.

# March Events from *We Are Takoma*

March is stuffed to the gills with We Are Takoma events. Lecturer Caroline Smith and Crossroads Community Food Network kick off the month with two food-centric programs. "Impressions" opens March 10 with sculpture, mixed-media collage, paintings and drawings from five local artists, and the month continues with poetry, fiddle-folk and dance.

## The Politics of the Kitchen: Reading Women's Food Memoirs

**Thursday, March 3, 7:30 p.m.**

Caroline Smith, an associate professor in George Washington University's writing program, explores the work of contemporary women food writers and their struggles to reconcile their love of cooking with the kitchen's perceived negative associations.

## A Seat at the Table: Film Screening & Discussion

**Thursday, March 10, 7:30 p.m.**



Crossroads Community Food Network presents a series of short documentaries that explore how food unites and nurtures a community. Since 2007, Crossroads Farmers Market has been making fresh, healthy food more accessible to those living in the primarily immigrant, low-income community of Takoma/Langley Crossroads. Reception at 6:30 p.m.

## Impressions Exhibit Opening

**March 10 through May 1**

An exhibit featuring artwork by Emalie Lorens, Gladys C. Lipton, Mike Guy, Helen Higgins and Mary Welch Higgins. Exhibit opens with a reception in the community center Atrium Gallery on Thursday, March 10, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

## Third Thursday Poetry

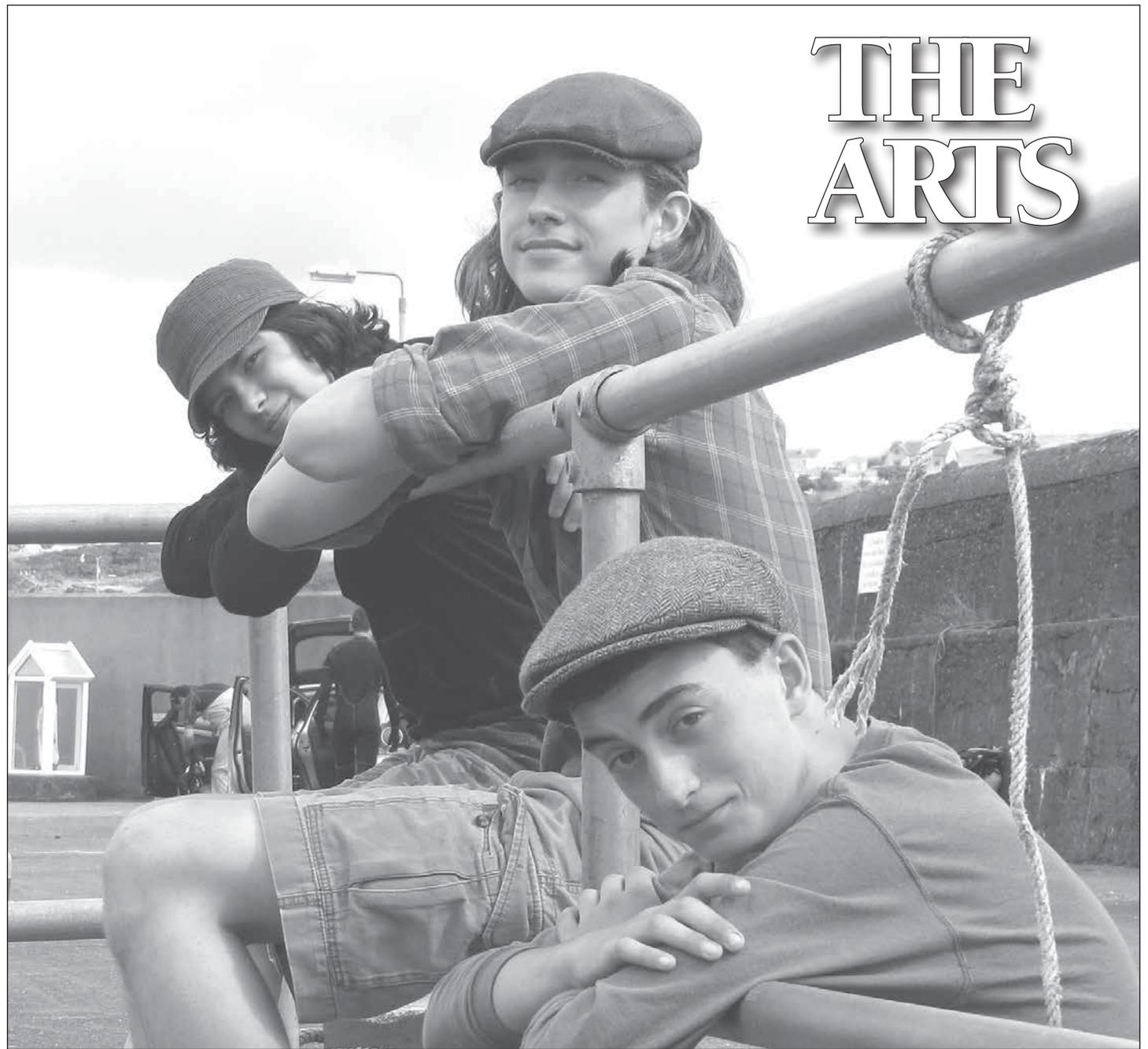
**Thursday, March 17, 7:30 p.m.**

The popular series, now in its 11th year, features the work of a wide range of poets from across the region. Free.

## Fiddle-Folk-Fusion

**Saturday, March 19, 7:30 p.m.**

Maelstrom, a fiddle ensemble of three DC teens, plays music that experiments with the intersections of multiple folk traditions. Fiddle-Folk-Fusion takes the



*Malestrom, Fiddle-Folk-Fusion.*

audience on a musical journey that starts in Ireland and travels through England, Scotland, France and Canada on its way to America.

## Hyperballad

**Saturday, March 26, 7:30 p.m.**

House of Tap combines elements of jazz, tap, and modern dance in a performance that's as musically beautiful as it is spectacular. During Hyperballad, House of Tap will also invite audience members on stage to learn a quick tap routine.



## Share your talent!

We Are Takoma will now accept applications for its fall 2016 event series. Friday, May 13 is the deadline for submitting program proposals online. We encourage lecturers, filmmakers, poets and performers to apply! Visit "Opportunities for Performers" at [takomaparkmd.gov/arts](http://takomaparkmd.gov/arts) to submit a program proposal.

## Please Sit on the Art

Main Street Takoma is now accepting applications for its 2016 reCYCLE "Please Sit on the Art" annual public art project. The contest calls for imaginative seats made from a portion of re-purposed or recycled materials. The selected projects will be installed along our main street from June through October 2016. For more information, visit [www.mainstreettakoma.org](http://www.mainstreettakoma.org).



# RECREATION



## YOUTH

### DROP IN

**Kid's Night Out**  
Ages 6-12

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

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



### SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

**Step Team**  
Ages 6-12

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

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



**Flag Football League 2016**  
Ages 6-14

This is a non-competitive, instructional, community league. The goal is to teach the fundamentals of Flag Football in a safe environment. There are three divisions 6-8, 9-11, and 12-14. Practice is one day a week, and games will be played on Saturdays. Registration has opened already. Practices begin the week of March 21. Games will be played at 1, 2 or 3 p.m. weekly.

Ed Wilhelm Field  
Saturdays, April 9 - May 21 (6 weeks)  
TP residents \$40  
Non-residents \$50



**T-Ball League 2016**  
Grades Kindergarten - 1st

This coed league allows girls and boys to have fun while learning the basic fundamentals of baseball. Emphasis will be on fun, learning to hit, running bases and catching. No

experience is necessary as all skill levels are welcome. Participants must bring their own baseball gloves. All teams will be formed by the Recreation Department. Volunteer coaches are needed. Games are played at 9 and 10:30 a.m.

Ed Wilhelm Field and Belle Ziegler Park  
Saturdays, June 4 - July 30 (8 weeks)  
TP residents \$60  
Non-residents \$70

## 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. There are a number of different nail art techniques you can use to create unique designs on your natural nails. This class will teach you proper nail maintenance as well as design techniques, such as stamping, sponging, dotting, decals and drawing. Registration is required.

TP Community Center Art Studio  
Fridays, March 4 - April 1, 3:30 - 5 p.m.  
Free

### DANCE

**Just Dance**  
Ages 12-17

The Just Dance Program will emphasize modern and Hip Hop dance while building teamwork and enhancing creative skills. Students must wear comfortable modestly appropriate clothing and bring a bottle of water along with a small towel. Registration required. Instructor: Brandy Robertson.

TP Community Center, Dance Studio  
Thursdays, Jan. 7 - March 31, 4 - 6 p.m.  
Free

### DROP IN

**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 chelsea@takomaparkmd.gov.

TP Community Center, Teen Lounge  
Ongoing, Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 3 - 7 p.m.  
Ongoing Tuesdays, 3 - 8 p.m.  
Free

**Teen Night**  
Ages 12-17

Looking for something exciting to do? The Takoma Park Recreation Center provides high quality, affordable, safe and fun activities for teens. Nothing to do on Friday night? Come on out to a night of games, activities and more. Bring your friends for a cheap night out of the house.

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

### EDUCATION/DEVELOPMENT

**Power Hour for Teens**  
Ages 13-17

Take advantage of our homework power hour focusing on academic support. We offer 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

**Let's Get It Started Youth Job Fair**  
Ages 16-24

The 11th Annual Let's Get It Started Youth Job Fair held at the Silver Spring Civic Building provides youth with an opportunity to participate in on-site interviews and get information about jobs and career tracks in various industries and/or businesses. This is an excellent opportunity to meet face to face with the area's employers who are looking for youth who are ready to work. Bring 50-60 copies of your resume. (Resumes should not be folded). Bring a copy of three references. This could include an advisor, teacher, supervisor, etc. Dress professionally. The bus will depart and return to TP Community Center.  
Saturday, March 19, 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Free

### TRIPS

**2016 Black College Expo**  
Ages 15-18

Travel with us to Bowie State University to attend the Black College Expo. The BCE will help students to connect directly to various colleges. It is an opportunity to get accepted to your preferred college on the spot. The BCE will also provide you information about various available scholarships and help you apply for them. Students can get connected to internships, careers and vocational opportunities. Attend workshops and stay for the step show and other entertainment. **Don't forget to bring a sealed copy of your transcripts and SAT/ACT scores.**

The bus will depart and return to TP Community Center.  
Saturday, March 5, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
\$10

## ADULTS

### SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

**Adult Softball League 2016**  
Ages 16 and older

The Takoma Park Coed Softball League is a fun and exciting recreational program for competitive adults of all skill levels. Games will be played on Sundays. Team registrations must contain 50% of TP residents to qualify for Resident Team entry fee. All games are double headers; first game is at 9:30 a.m.

Local Fields in Takoma Park and Silver Spring  
Sundays, April 10 - June 19 (8 weeks)  
TP residents Team Fee: \$545  
Non-residents Team Fee \$645

**Jazzercise**  
Ages 16 and older

Jazzercise is the art of Jazz combined with the science of exercise physiology. Each 60-70 minute class includes easy to follow fun aerobic-dance routines, weights for muscle strength and stretching exercises all to the beat of great music. The music ranges from oldies to jazz to the newest pop tunes.



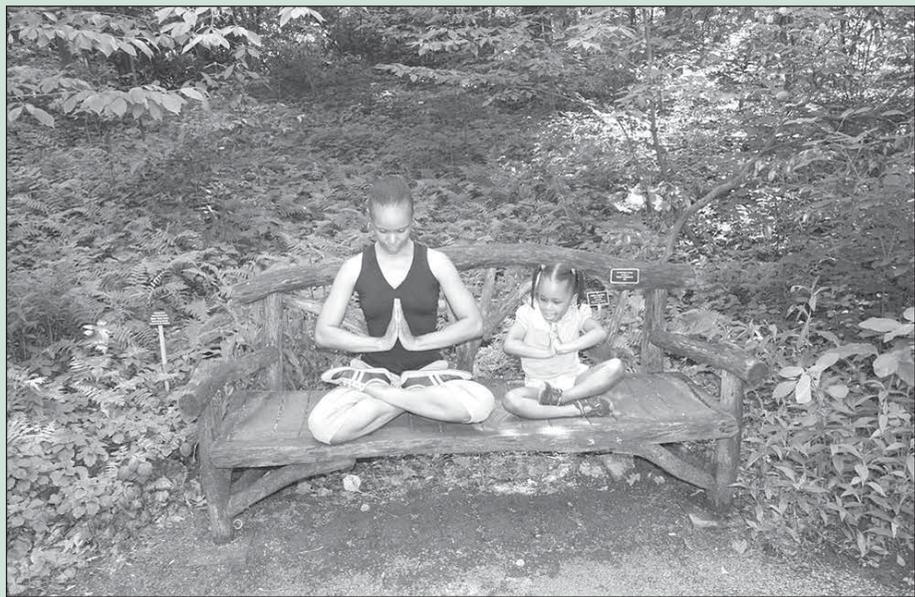
# Getting Back to Nature

Amirah Bellamy is the instructor for the City of Takoma Park Recreation Department's brand new "Tots Nature Camp." Amirah is an artist, yogi, veg-anista, nature photographer, author of *Hidden Wildlife of the Nation's Capital* and executive board chair of the Life Arts Institute in Washington, D.C. She has been developing creative ways to get children excited about nature since her son was a toddler over 20 years ago. Since then Amirah has instructed several children's camps, classes and workshops throughout the DMV.

Amirah is now offering a Tots Nature Camp for the City of Takoma Park. Amirah brings a wealth of creativity, love of nature and passion for working with

children, which she has developed over the years to inspire tots to develop an awareness of the beauty of their natural surroundings, respect for nature's gifts and adoration for all that nature and wildlife has in store for them.

There are two sessions you can choose from, Monday – Friday, July 18 - 22 and July 25 - 29, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. for ages 3-4. You can register for Tots Nature Camp in person with the Recreation Department or online at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/government/recreation](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/government/recreation). The fees are \$125/TP Residents and \$145/Non-residents per session. For additional information, please contact Michael Kurland at [michaelk@takomaprkm.gov](mailto:michaelk@takomaprkm.gov).



Amirah Bellamy and a student doing a yoga pose in the park during one of her outdoor yoga classes.

## RECREATION

■ From page 6

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  
\$15 drop-in

**Ladies' Boot Camp**  
Ages 16 and older

A challenging workout within a quick hour, this



total body program includes a circuit of drills, such as jumping jacks, running, push-ups, squats, crunches and weight training.

TP Recreation Center Gymnasium  
Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 8 - March 31, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
\$45/4 weeks

**Pilates**  
Ages 16 and older

This fun and invigorating workout teaches controlled movements utilizing the body's 'core' abdomen, back, and hips. Pilates

## Limited Spaces Left in Summer Camp!

Registration is well underway for summer camps. Full listings of camps are in the 2016 Summer Camp Guide, or visit us at [takomaparkmd.gov/government/recreation/camps](http://takomaparkmd.gov/government/recreation/camps)

RECREATION □ Page 9

## RECREATION Announcements

### Youth Summer Employment Business Interest Meeting

The Recreation Department is seeking businesses to partner with for our Summer Youth Employment Program. Youth will complete soft-line training by the Recreation Department and will be eligible to work up to 20 hours a week during the summer with you (to begin at the end of June). Be the memorable business that gives teens their first jobs and teaches them important life lessons they will carry with them forever. To register for the interest meeting or for more information, please call Leicia Monfort at 301-891-7290.

TP Community Center Auditorium  
Tuesday, March 8, 10:30 a.m.  
Free



### Celebrate Takoma Committee Volunteers Needed

The Recreation Department is beginning to plan the 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, please email Debby Huffman at [deborahh@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:deborahh@takomaparkmd.gov). The committee meets monthly in the evenings. Come join the fun!



## REGISTRATION UNDERWAY FOR SPRING BREAK CAMPS!!

### YOUTH

#### Drizzle, Pass & Shoot Basketball Camp Ages 5-12

Emphasizing individual improvement is one of the guiding philosophies of camp. Campers will be provided with excellent coaching which allows each participant to develop a sense of pride and individual accomplishment. The level of instruction will be adjusted to fit the individual needs of each participant. Before and after care available for an additional fee for youth camps.

TP Recreation Center Gymnasium  
Monday-Friday, March 28 - April 1, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
\$200

**REGISTRATION BEGINS  
MARCH 15 AT 8:30 A.M. FOR:  
CLASSES, PROGRAMS AND EXTENDED  
CARE FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR**

### TEENS

#### Teen Spring Break Camp - Career Week Ages 13-17

Spring break Career Week is fast approaching! What are you going to do with all of this valuable spare time? Ever wonder what type of profession will fit your future? During Career Week, we've invited a few professionals to stop by to guide participants in exploring some of today's hottest careers. Participants will receive insider advice on the knowledge and skills needed for success. Spend the mornings with our career introductions and the afternoons attending our break away field trips. TP Community Center  
Monday - Friday, March 28 - April 1, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
TP Resident \$100 per week  
Non-resident \$120 per week

## Save the Dates:

### Annual Egg Hunt

The City of Takoma Park Recreation Department will host its annual Egg Hunt at Ed Wilhelm Field. The pursuit of eggs will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m. and is for youth ages 2-8. Come on out and join the fun. Make sure you say hi to Stevie the Bunny. This eggtravaganza is one that promises to be fun for all.

Saturday, March 26  
11 a.m.  
Takoma - Piney Branch Neighborhood Park (behind Piney Branch Elementary School)  
Rain date will be March 28.  
For more information, please call 301-891-7290.



### Celebrate Takoma Festival

This family festival will celebrate the cultural diversity of Takoma Park and its residents. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and spend the afternoon with your neighbors. All vendors and entertainers are local to the Takoma Park area. Nominal fees for food and vendor stands  
Saturday, May 14  
4 - 7 p.m.  
Event held rain or shine  
For more information, please call 301-891-7290 or visit [takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/celebrate-takoma](http://takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/celebrate-takoma).



www.npr.org

## Kavitha Cardoza to speak at the library

Join us at the Friends of the Library Annual Meeting on Tuesday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Library when NPR reporter Kavitha Cardoza will be our guest speaker.

Cardoza is a senior reporter for WAMU, who covers area news with a special focus on children, education and poverty. She has won numerous awards for her work. In 2012 she received the regional Edward R. Murrow Award for Hard News. That same year, her five-part series on childhood obesity won first place in the series category in the National Awards for Education Reporting and recognition from the Chesapeake Associated Press Broadcasters Association.

On Feb. 23, 2011, she was interviewed on "People's District of Washington D.C." Here is an excerpt: "I made a decision to go into radio, which was new for me because we don't have public radio in India. I got my start in Springfield, Illinois and then moved to Washington almost three years ago. Working as a journalist in this country, I have come to realize how nuanced this place is."

"Because I have not grown up here, I am constantly asking questions about everything. Sometimes, those questions are about language and how English is used differently in America and India. Sometimes, the questions are about how things work here. Sometimes, those questions are about the bag tax and Michelle Rhee. In asking these questions, it gives me a really broad view of this place and lets me see things that some here don't see because they may be so used to seeing things a certain way."

"I feel like I learn more about myself in this profession than in any other profession out

there. Every day I meet someone new and match what they say with what I believe. It forces me to always think about every angle of an issue and take a very nuanced approach to things." (See more at peoplesdistrict.com/kavitha-on-asking-questions#sthash.rS63KVOG.dpuf)

Cardoza joins other distinguished journalists who have been guests at the Friends' annual meetings, including Jeffrey Bartholet, Armando Trull, Richard Harris, Clarence Page and Michael Dirda.

### Friends Board Election

Following the program, there will be a brief election of board officers and time for refreshments and socializing. The following positions are up for re-election: president, vice president, secretary, and one or more member at large positions. Candidates for president must have served previously on the board for at least one two-year term.

Any member of the Friends whose dues are current may be a candidate for office and may vote in the election. Those wishing to be candidates for vacant positions should send a brief biographical statement to Anand Parikh at llgg23@hotmail.com by March 8. for inclusion in a printed ballot. Nominations may also be taken from the floor at the election.

The Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library have been active in fundraising and advocacy for the Library since 1994. For information about their many activities, see their newsletters and other information at [www.ftmpl.org](http://www.ftmpl.org).

## 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

### MOOC Discussion of *England in the Time of Richard III*

Sundays, March 13 through April 24, 12:30 p.m.  
(Note: No meeting on March 27)  
Computer Room B

### Petites Chansons/French Circle Time

Saturday, March 5, 10:30 a.m.  
Led by Madame Marie

### LEGO Club

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

### Author Winifred Conkling

Monday, March 7, 7:30 p.m.  
Conkling will present *Radioactive!* her biography of two overlooked women scientists.

### Comics Jam

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

### Crafts for Kids

Sunday, March 13, 2-3 p.m.

### Caldecott Club

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

### Kids Author/Artist Ursula Vernon

Thursday, March 14, 7:30 p.m.  
Vernon will talk about *Of Mice and Magic*, the second book in her *Hamster Princess* series.

### Friends of the Library Annual Meeting

Tuesday, March 15, 7:30 p.m.  
Special Guest Speaker: Kavitha Cardoza  
All are welcome.

### Friends Fortnightly Book Club

Wednesday, March 23, 7:30 p.m.,  
TPCC Hydrangea Room  
Our book is *The Hiawatha* by David Treuer.

### Looking ahead.....

- *Origami Yoda* author Tom Angleberger kicks off a new series with *Rocket & Groot: Stranded on Planet Strip Mall* on Wednesday, April 6, 7:30 p.m.
- Picture book creator Ruth Chan will discuss her new book "Where's the Party?" on Wednesday, April 7 at 7 p.m.
- Introducing a discussion series by the Friends' Big Book Club, Lecture on Theodore Dreiser's *An American Tragedy* by Prof. Adam Wood at Historic Takoma on Thursday, April 7 at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments served.

## LIBRARY BRIEFS

### Visiting authors

We've got two interesting author programs in March, so mark your calendars!

First, on March 7 at 7:30 p.m., award-winning author Winifred Conkling will help us kick off Women's History Month as she discusses her new book *Radioactive! How Irene Curie and Lise Meitner Revolutionized Science and Changed the World*. Aimed at readers in middle school and high school, *Radioactive!* tells of how two overlooked women scientists made major contributions in the field of nuclear science; Curie won the 1935 Nobel Prize in chemistry, along with her husband, Frederick Joliot, while Meitner had a periodic table number – 109, Meitnerium – named after her.

In a starred review, *Booklist* called the book "a thorough and engaging study of two female scientists worth their weight in radium." *School Library Journal* noted, "Luminous and fascinating, it recounts the lives and amazing findings of chemist (and daughter of Curie) Irène Joliot-Curie, co-discoverer of artificial radiation, and physicist Lise Meitner, co-discoverer of nuclear fission."

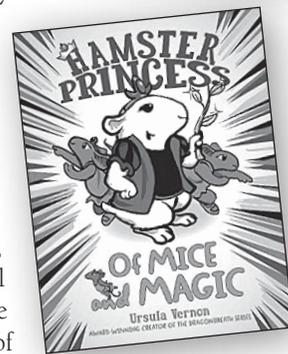
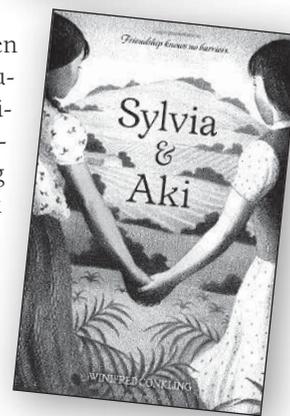
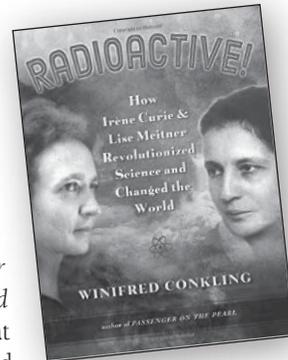
Conkling is the author of two other books for young readers. In her novel *Sylvia & Aki*, she tells the

well-researched, but fictionalized, story of how institutionalized racism connected two real girls, Aki Munemitsu and Sylvia Mendez during World War II. When Aki's family was forced to move to a Japanese internment camp,

Sylvia's family moved into their house, and Sylvia's father became the plaintiff in a landmark case when he challenged California's segregated schools law.

In *Passenger on the Pearl*, Conkling tells the story of Emily Edmonson, who at the age of 13 was part of the largest slave escape in U.S. history. The slaves were eventually captured, but Emily was ransomed by her parents and abolitionist Harriet Beecher Stowe. After graduating from Oberlin College, Emily became a teacher in the first school in Washington, D.C. dedicated to the education of African-American girls.

Our second author event is something totally different, but also a way of celebrating strong females during Women's History Month. On Monday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m., author/illustrator Ursula Vernon will present the second book in her *Hamster Princess* series, *Of Mice and Magic*. The series is focused on



# At the Crossroads

By Kevin Adler

The Crossroads Community Food Network will celebrate the 10th season of its weekly farmer's market when it opens on Wednesday, June 1. But Crossroads is so much more than a great midweek option for local produce and prepared foods. Find out why in this conversation with Christie Balch, who became executive director 2.5 years ago.



Christie Balch

of the things she grows is chipilin. It sells out every week. It's a fresh herb that many people haven't seen since they were at home, and now they can buy here from a woman who speaks their language.

**TP News: It's a taste of home, quite literally.**

**Balch:** Part of nurturing healthy food is having foods and ingredients that are culturally familiar. I'll give Michelle

Dudley, one of our program managers, the credit. She's been with Crossroads since 2008, and she's the reason why the market is so culturally sensitive.

Reaching people in their language is important, too. Many of our written announcements are in six languages: English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Mandarin and Cantonese Chinese and Russian.

**TP News: Russian?**

**Balch:** Yeah, in Langley Park. Who knew? We have a group of Russian seniors, and they come every week. They're some of our best customers.

**TP News: The market has a social service component that's pretty special.**

**Balch:** It was a totally crazy idea at the time – the first farmer's market in the country to provide "Fresh Checks" that

**TP News: Please start with the basics about the market.**

**Balch:** The Farmer's Market is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesdays. We are located on Anne Street, near University Blvd., in Takoma Park, near Langley Park. Our season will open on June 1. Last year, we had 14 vendors selling locally grown produce, prepared foods and plants.

**TP News: What makes this market a little different than other markets in the area?**

**Balch:** We do have some of the same vendors you'd see at the Takoma Park or Silver Spring weekend farmer's markets, but many of our vendors are unique.

As an example, we have a vendor, Rosa Linares, who came here from El Salvador. She has a small farm in Adelphi, and one



Fresh checks

match the value of food stamps as an incentive for low-income buyers. Now that idea has expanded to more than 500 farmers markets across the country.

Last year, we had 1,475 WIC and SNAP families registered. Overall, we distributed over \$60,000 in Fresh Checks in 2015, and over the course of our existence we've given out \$360,000.

**TP News: You have special programs for farmers and vendors, too.**

**Balch:** Our microenterprise training program. This came up because people would come to the market with something they made at home and wanted to sell. But

we'd have to turn them away because they weren't certified.

The program consists of 10 workshops

**CROSSROADS** □ Page 11

*Want to learn more about the Crossroads Community Food Network and the people who make it thrive? The Takoma Park Community Center is showing a series of short documentaries about the Network's impact on the community on March 10 at 6:30 p.m.*

## LIBRARY BRIEFS

■ From page 8

a hamster named Harriet Hamsterbone, a "warrior princess" who "prefers sword-fighting and fractions to sighing and fainting."

In the first book in the series, Harriet learns that like Sleeping Beauty, she was cursed at birth to fall into a deep sleep at the age of 12. Undaunted, Harriet realizes that until then, she's invincible, and she plans to make the most of it. *Kirkus* praised the book, calling it "creatively fresh and feminist" while *Booklist* noted in a starred review: "The spunky, slightly bonkers Harriet is a delightful heroine who turns this fairy tale on its head, and the book is peppered with clever two-color cartoon illustrations that will attract even the more reluctant readers."

Harriet's adventures continue in the new book, which offers a twist of the tale of the Twelve Dancing Princesses. In a starred review, *School Library Journal* concluded, "A quick and satisfying read that is as hilarious as it is fun."

Vernon first found popularity among young readers with her *Dragonbreath* series. Like the books in that series, the *Hamster Princess* books are "hybrid" books with numerous illustrations interspersed with the text. The books are aimed at readers ages 7-10.

Politics & Prose bookstore will be selling copies of the authors' books at both of these events. But the programs are free, and no purchase is required to attend. Please join us for one or both of these great events.

## RECREATION

■ From page 7

improves core control, coordination, standing alignment and balance with mat exercises. Pilates is the perfect mind and body exercise for anyone who wants to tone, streamline, and realign their body.

TP Recreation Center Front Room  
Wednesdays, April 6 - May 11, 6 - 7 p.m.  
\$60/6 weeks

### FOREVER YOUNG: 55 PLUS

#### DROP IN

##### Bingo

*Ages 55 and older*

Try your luck. Win a prize.

TP Community Center senior room  
Thursday, March 24, noon - 2 p.m.  
Free

##### Blood Pressure Screening

*Ages 55 and older*

Adventist Healthcare will be doing a free monthly blood pressure screening.

TP Community Center senior room  
Thursday, March 24, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Free

#### Table Tennis Open Play

*Ages 55 and older*

Come play this fun, energetic game. A great way to improve eye-hand coordination: helps keep the body healthy and the mind sharp.

Drop-in

TP Community Center Game Room  
Ongoing Mondays - Friday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Ongoing Saturdays, 10 a.m. - noon  
Free

## SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

#### Line Dancing

*Ages 55 and older*

Learn how exercise can be fun with music. Instructor: Barbara Brown. For more information, contact Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager at 301-891-7280 or paulal@takomaparkmd.gov.

TP Community Center Dance Room  
Wednesdays, until March 30,  
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.  
Free

#### Senior Free Fitness Pass

*Ages 55 and older*

This is a pass that is offered at the Takoma Park Recreation Center for seniors 55 and over who would like to use the fitness center. Registration is open! You can register today at the Recreation Center on New Hampshire

Avenue or the Community Center on Maple Avenue.

TP Recreation Center fitness room  
Ongoing Monday - Friday, 2:30 - 9 p.m.  
Ongoing Saturdays, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Free

#### Zumba Gold

*Ages 55 and older*

Zumba Gold was designed for the active senior with less intense dance routines for beginners and older adults using modified movements. Instructor: Yesika Flores. You may register for one class per week only, choose the day that fits your schedule. For more information, contact Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager at 301-891-7280 or paulal@takomaparkmd.gov.

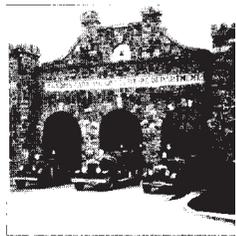
TP Community Center Dance Studio  
Thursdays, until March 31, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Saturdays, until April 2, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.  
Free



## In this issue:

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





## THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

As of Jan. 31, 2016, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the station have responded to 56 fire-related incidents in 2016. The department addressed or assisted with 303 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 359. Totals for 2015 were 49 and 227, representing an increase of 83 incidents.

During the month of January 2016, the Takoma Park volunteers put in a total of 1,235.5 hours of standby time at the station, compared to 1,482.5 in January 2015, a decrease of 247 hours.

### Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported that 12 people have died in fires in 2016 as of Feb. 12, compared to 13 in 2015.

### House Fires Hit Takoma Park

Three fires did major damage:

1. Jan. 25 at 6:17 p.m. in the 1100 block, Kingwood Drive; Cause: candle
2. Jan. 29 at 10:12 a.m. in the 7400 block, Garland Ave.; Cause: electrical

3. Jan. 30 at 8:55 p.m. in the 100 block, Park Ave. Cause: electrical  
No injuries reported.

### Safety Message

- **Never discard hot ashes inside or near the home.** Place them in a metal container outside and well away from the house.
- **Never use a range or an oven as a supplemental heating device.** Not only is it a safety hazard, it can be a source of potentially toxic fumes.
- **If you use a fireplace, before you go to sleep, be sure your fireplace fire is out.** Never close your damper with hot ashes in the fireplace. A closed damper will help the fire to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide into the house.
- **Make sure space heaters are kept at least three feet** from any object or furniture.

Finally, be sure every level of your home has a working smoke alarm, and be sure to check them **monthly**.

### The Blizzard of 2016

Members of the Takoma Park VFD and career personnel assigned to the station were kept busy responding to over 75 incidents from Friday evening, Jan. 22 until Wednesday morning Jan. 27. The following volunteers put in a total of 307 hours during this period: Jorge Alfaro, 66; Enrique Alfaro, 52; Zenia Ramirez, 45; Pamela Vega, 42; Mike Livingston, 37; Andrew Willey, 31; Adam Bearne, 14; Tina Willey, 8; Oscar Gonzalez, 7 and Jordan Van-Ryan, 5. On behalf of the entire fire department, we want to thank the volunteer and career personnel for a job well done during this extremely cold and hazardous weather.

## Winter storm warning: Be prepared with more than toilet paper, bread and milk

By Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness Committee

The blizzard in January 2016 was a reminder that we need to be prepared for storms or other emergencies (it's Takoma Park, so think power outages!) While we may fill our supermarket carts with food and paper goods, that's not enough. Every household also needs a school preparedness plan and an inside emergency kit.

### School Preparedness Plan

If the storm or outage occurs while your child is in school:

- Do you know the school's emergency plan?
- Under what conditions does the school become an overnight shelter?
- Do you know the appropriate school contact and how to reach him/her quickly?



- Does the school know how to contact you?
- Does your child know how to contact you?
- Does the school have necessary permissions for medications or other needs?

### Inside Emergency Kit

Here's a checklist of items you should include:

Item	Yes or No/date	To do/ date
Enough water for 3-6 days (about a gallon per person per day)		
Flashlight close by and working batteries (that fit the flashlight!)		
Lantern with working batteries		
Portable, battery-operated or solar powered hand crank radio		
Waterproof matches		
Prescription medication, sufficient for at least a week		
Emergency contact list with identifiers (such as grandmother, neighbor) and easily accessible		
Out of area emergency contact—name, relationship, contact info.		
Medical professionals' contact list		
Copies of health insurance information, medical records, and other health documents		
Non-perishable food that doesn't require refrigeration or cooking		
Can opener that's hand operated		
Indoor activities/games		
Cell phone charged before the storm; landline as back-up		
Is support for elderly persons set up? Contact identified? Medications?		

You should also make sure that support for elderly family members or friends in place. All of the information included in this checklist should be updated regularly; keep it current and visible.

When you have school and inside-emergency plans in place, then you can truly be "singing in the rain" or dancing to "let it snow, let it snow, let it snow."

## The City's Community Cam Program

On July 30, 2015, the Takoma Park Police Department announced a new crime fighting/prevention tool which detectives can use in partnership with the community to assist in solving crimes. Today's video technologies have become commonplace and affordable, creating a proliferation of video systems in both commercial and residential applications. The systems oftentimes provide critical evidence in criminal cases as well as helping to prevent crime. Traditionally, investigators knock door to door, looking for witnesses and evidence. Our Community Cam Program will streamline and enhance this process.

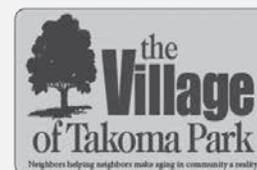
The new Community Cam Program allows members of the community who live in the City of Takoma Park to register any residential or commercial video surveillance system with the Police Department free of charge. If and when a crime occurs in an area of a registered camera system, detectives will have immediate access to

the location of any registered cameras on their mobile devices. This will allow them to quickly obtain valuable video evidence to enhance apprehension capabilities.

Working in partnership with the owner of the system is just one more tool in the police-community partnership to make Takoma Park a safe community. The registration information is confidential and can only be accessed by detectives and the police department's crime analyst. Participation is voluntary, and the system owner may withdraw at any time.

Takoma Park Police is the first department in the Washington Metropolitan area to institute this type of program. There are other programs in Philadelphia, New Orleans, Ventura, California and Lenexa, Kansas that are similar to the Community Cam Program and have proven to be effective crime fighting tools. The registration process is three steps and

## Seniors in Takoma Park



**Need a ride to church, the doctor's office, or the grocery store? Join the Village of Takoma Park and get free rides.**

- Step 1.** Join the Village of Takoma Park by visiting [villageoftakomapark.com](http://villageoftakomapark.com) or calling 301-646-2109.
- Step 2.** Enroll in the Village Rides program by calling 301-646-2109.
- Step 3.** Request a ride by calling 301-255-4212 two weeks in advance.

# Bienvenido a TACOMA

By Patti Mallin

"I'm so glad you are here!" More often than not, that is how customers react upon entering TACOMA Yucatan Chicken (353 Cedar St., NW just behind the Takoma Metro station). That's how Daniel Villena, one of the new restaurant's owners, describes the mostly positive reception they have received since opening their doors a few weeks ago. They are still in soft open stage, working out all the details, before an upcoming celebratory ribbon-cutting makes it official.

How did Villena, along with two other investors from Takoma Park favorite Roscoe's Pizzeria, come to open a Mexican restaurant over the D.C. line, a few blocks away? Opportunity knocked when the owners of My Little Bistro, the Peruvian chicken place on the corner of Cedar and Blair, declared their intention to retire. The location had real possibilities, and the owners weren't the only ones noting the lack of good Mexican food in the immediate area. Enter Chef Glen Adams, of three Northern Virginia-based Cal-Mex restaurants, and TACOMA Yucatan Chicken was born.

When asked about competition with so many new restaurants appearing in the past year, Villena focused on how the concentration of eateries on both the Takoma Park and Takoma DC sides of "the line" will help make the neighborhood a destination place, which will benefit all the businesses. He named building a connection be-

tween the two areas as a goal for TACOMA, saying that people don't often cross from one side to the other to eat, but they were hoping to change that. It may be urban legend, but a tale was told of staff from one local restaurant knocking on the door of another when they ran out of eggplant.

What about the "mostly positive" reception? Villena reported a few negative reactions to the prices. These aren't corner taco stand cheap eats. The vegetables are fresh and the free-range chicken is locally sourced from Shenandoah Organic. Meats marinate for hours. Villena assures that they take the time needed to create the best products they can. Prices reflect the extra care and quality.

In the best Takoma tradition, the new owners are reusing what they can from the previous incarnation. My Little Bistro's rotisserie conveyed, so TACOMA created a Yucatan style chicken, seasoned with achote, and served with, you guessed it, secret sauce. A lovely bar also survived the transition, so once the liquor license is approved, Chef Adams' award-winning margaritas will be available. This will give folks waiting for a to-go order a place to pass the time with a cocktail, and the area near the bar will become a sit-down dining section.

When you stop by the current quick service counter for lunch or dinner, you may recognize a few familiar faces as some staff is shared between TACOMA and Roscoe's as the former ramps up. Some Little Bistro staff has re-



The rotisserie at TACOMA.

mained as well. The current menu of chicken, tacos and burritos is small, with a few specials on the board each day. This will expand as the restaurant progresses, so if Cal-Mex is what you've been waiting for, check in regularly or go to the restaurant's Facebook page.

## Takoma/Langley Crossroads readies for spring

Takoma Park's most international neighborhood lies at the edge of Langley

Park/Prince George's County, the Takoma/Langley Crossroads. This commercial area extends south from University Blvd. to IHOP and is represented by a business association, the Takoma/Langley Crossroads Development Authority (CDA).

In 2013, the CDA adopted a one-mile section of New Hampshire Avenue from the MD State Highway Administration, in keeping with its mission of maintaining the Takoma/Langley Crossroads Commercial Management District. Every year, the

CDA organizes four roadside cleanups. The first cleanup of 2016 will be on March 19 from 10-11:30 a.m. beginning at 6900 New Hampshire Ave. Volunteers from civic associations, churches and the University of Maryland will pick up trash and recyclables. The cleanup is scheduled to occur before plants break dormancy and bury winter trash under leafy vegetation.

On April 4 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., the CDA will hold its first Spring Cleanup Day with property owners and businesses performing "spring cleaning" and maintenance on their properties. The CDA has litter picked up and illegal signs removed along all public sidewalks in the District every week and plans to increase maintenance in the coming year.

Other recent activities the CDA has undertaken promote their eight specialty food markets. The CDA is advertising its food markets on thirty UMD shuttlebus routes, targeting the university's large in-

ternational student population. In addition, the CDA distributed a direct mailer about the markets to 10,000 Takoma/Silver Spring households, promoting the authentic ingredients available at its Asian, African, Afro-Caribbean, Latino, South Asian and Halal-(Middle Eastern and African) markets.

The ads feature Angkor Market (Southeast Asian), ALDI (European/discount), Malik Grocers (South Asian), Megamart (Latino/American), Red Apple Farmers Market (African), The Caribbean Market (Afro/Caribbean) as well as Halal Meat & Grocery (Middle Eastern) and Star Halal Meat & Grocery (African). In mid-March, CDA ads promoting its specialty markets will appear in 13 area bus shelters, where they'll remain until July, building public awareness of the Takoma/Langley Crossroads.

For more information, visit [takomalangley.org](http://takomalangley.org).



The Caribbean Market

### CROSSROADS

■ From page 9

on food safety, licensing, certification, and so on. We had 40 graduates last year, and the deal is that they will be eligible to use the Community Kitchen at the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church when it opens – we're one of the partners on the Kitchen.

The program is already working. Three of our existing vendors completed the course last year and expanded to prepared foods. Their sales went up an average of 33%.

**TP News: You also work with youth.**

**Balch:** We have a Healthy Eating Program at Piney Branch Elementary. All fifth graders take the class, and it's become a rite of passage. Michelle Dudley, who teaches it, is like a celebrity to those kids.

At Rolling Terrace Elementary, we have parent and student nutrition programs. We occasionally do programs at other schools,

community centers and even apartment complexes. For the kids, it's a hands-on experience of making food and tasting it. Our farmers come in and tell the kids where their food comes from, how it's grown, and so on.

**TP News: What does the support from the City of Takoma Park mean to the Crossroads Community Food Network?**

**Balch:** In the first years, funds from the city were about half of our budget. Now, it's about five percent, as we've been able to leverage the city's grants to reach out to many other government and private funders. The money is still important, but the city contributes in many other ways. It helped us move to the Anne Street location, which nearly doubled sales because we became more visible. The city installed benches so people can eat their pupusas or other food, and enjoy music. We've really been embraced – even the city police eat there.

### 5 QUESTIONS

■ From page 1

**5. Best Advice I Ever Got (and from whom):** Whenever I've found myself in a rough patch, my mom reminds me, "This too shall pass." This saying helps me stay grounded and weather out tough situations.

After reading the book during her pregnancy, she went to the Lean In website,

### COMMUNITY CAM

■ From page 10

takes about five minutes to complete. For more information or to register, visit the Community Cam website: [community-](http://community-cam.takomaparkmd.gov)

registered a Lean In circle, and started to advertise her circle on neighborhood listservs. "I now have a group of five to ten women who meet about once a month to talk about career and life issues," she said.

For more information about Takoma Park Women Leaning In or to join the group, visit [leanincircles.org/circle/takomapark-women-leaning-in](http://leanincircles.org/circle/takomapark-women-leaning-in). Send your suggestions for future interviews to [tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov).

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

The use of technology in crime fighting is essential, and this is a great way to involve our community members in actively assisting in our efforts to make our city safer.

# MARCH '16

## 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 April issue is March 18, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning April 1.

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, Wednesday, March 2, 7:30 p.m.  
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, March 9, 7:30 p.m.  
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, March 16, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Auditorium  
Detailed agendas are always available for review online at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas).

#### Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry

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

#### Registration for Spring Summer Classes/ Programs Begins

Tuesday, March 15, 8:30 a.m.  
Apply for spring and summer classes, programs and extended care.

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

#### Parents of Special Needs Adults (POSNA)

Thursday, March 24, 6:30 p.m.  
A group of concerned parents and others in Takoma Park who love an adult(s) with special needs, such as autism, Down's Syndrome and other developmental challenges as well as psychiatric disorders, meets monthly to provide support for one another. For more information, contact Mary Jane Muchui at [muchui@aol.com](mailto:muchui@aol.com).

#### Annual Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 26, 11 a.m. – noon.  
Rain date: March 28 at 4 p.m.  
Get your baskets ready and join the Takoma Park Recreation Department for an egg-citing time. Don't forget to bring your basket. Mr. Bunny will be available to take photos with you.  
Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary School)  
Free

### ARTS AND LITERATURE

#### People's Open Mic

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

#### Drum for Joy! with Jaqui MacMillan

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

#### Blues Mondays

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

#### Open Mic Night

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

#### Jazz Jam

Tuesdays, 7 – 10 p.m.  
Takoma Station, 6914 14th 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

#### Weekly Classes at Dance Exchange

Friday Class  
March 4, 11, 18 and 25  
9:30-11:15 a.m.  
Taught by a rotating panel of local and visiting artists, this class is an intermediate-advanced movement class for those comfortable in their moving body, ranging from long-time practitioners to those curious about or new to the DC dancing community.  
Ages 18 and up  
\$12 drop-in/ \$10 with a class card

#### Takoma Park MOVES

March 5, 12 and 19  
Saturdays, 10 - 11:30 a.m.  
A movement class for the entire community, Takoma Park MOVES recognizes the rich possibility of exchanges when people of all ages, backgrounds, abilities, and levels of experience come together in a creative process. Classes are \$12 or \$10 per person in a family. All ages welcome.  
[danceexchange.org/dance-with-dx/classes](http://danceexchange.org/dance-with-dx/classes)

#### The Politics of the Kitchen: Reading Women's Food Memoirs

Thursday, March 3, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center  
Caroline Smith, an associate professor in George Washington University's writing program, explores the work of contemporary female food writers and their struggles to reconcile their love of cooking with the kitchen's perceived negative associations.

#### A Seat at the Table: Film Screening and Discussion

Thursday, March 10, 7 p.m.  
TP Community Center  
Crossroads Community Food Network presents a series of short documentaries that explore how food unites and nurtures a community. Since 2007, Crossroads Farmers Market has been making fresh, healthy food more accessible to those living in the primarily immigrant, low-income community of Takoma/Langley Crossroads. Reception at 6:30 p.m.

#### Impressions Exhibit Opening

Thursday, March 10 through May 1  
TP Community Center  
An exhibit featuring artwork by Emalie Lorens, Gladys C. Lipton, Mike Guy, Helen Higgins and Mary Welch Higgins. Exhibit opens with a

reception in the community center Atrium Gallery on Thursday, March 10, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

#### Third Thursday Poetry

Thursday, March 17, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center  
The popular series, now in its 11th year, features the work of a wide range of poets from across the region.  
Free.

#### Fiddle-Folk-Fusion

Saturday, March 19, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center  
Maelstrom, a fiddle ensemble of three D.C. teens, plays music that experiments with the intersections of multiple folk traditions. Fiddle-Folk-Fusion takes the audience on a musical journey that starts in Ireland and travels through England, Scotland, France and Canada on its way to America.

#### Writing a Village

Monday, March 21, 7 p.m.  
This monthly poetry workshop is for those who love words, led by Anne Becker, poet laureate emerita of Takoma Park. All levels of experience welcome.  
Contact [annebeck48@gmail.com](mailto:annebeck48@gmail.com) for more information.  
TP Community Center, Hydrangea Room

#### Hyperballad

Saturday, March 26, 7:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center  
House of Tap combines elements of jazz, tap and modern dance in a performance that's as musically beautiful as it is spectacular. During Hyperballad, House of Tap will also invite audience members on stage to learn a quick tap routine.

#### Photo Salon

Monday, March 28, 7 – 9 p.m.  
A monthly salon for photographers to show and critique work. Professional, fine art, and amateur photographers are welcome.  
TP Community Center Hydrangea Room  
Free

#### From the Field – Bricks & Bones Performance & Process

Thursday, March 31, 7 p.m.  
Dance Exchange, 7117 Maple Ave.  
All ages  
Join Dance Exchange for a discussion and performance of segments from *Bricks & Bones: A performance series in response to the erasure of Black lives and communities in Dallas, Texas, and the movements to recover, rebuild and honor those lost histories*, which premiered in Dallas, TX in November 2015.  
\$10 suggested donation  
[danceexchange.org/home-events-2016](http://danceexchange.org/home-events-2016)

### Upcoming Events

#### Montgomery County GreenFest

Saturday, April 30, 1 – 4 p.m.  
TP Community Center  
Join your friends and neighbors in celebrating the people and environment of Montgomery County with a fun-filled day of entertainment, community and learning.  
Free

## Make a Difference - Plant a Tree

*Discount Trees Available to Beautify Yards, Replace the Canopy*

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

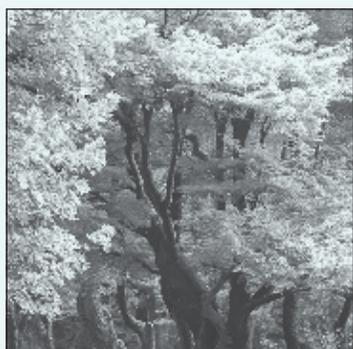


photo by Piper Vernon-Clay

Established discounts still apply as well, through the city's annual bulk buy tree sale. As a purchasing agent with Arbor Landscapers, the city is making five species available at wholesale prices. Red oak, sycamore, sweet gum, black gum and American linden—all native shade trees that usually retail for about \$350—are available to residents at \$195, installed. Sale dates run March 1 through May 14.

### 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 May 17.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please include a map of property/tree installation locations.

\_\_\_ Swamp White Oak (2") \_\_\_ \$195 Willow Oak (2") \$195 \_\_\_ Sweet

Gum (2") \$195 \_\_\_ Black Gum (2") \$195 \_\_\_ American Linden (2") \$195

+ 6% sales tax

Total \_\_\_\_\_