



WHAT'S NEW?

Takoma Trukgarten
Saturday, June 4, 12 – 5 p.m.
www.mainstreettakoma.org

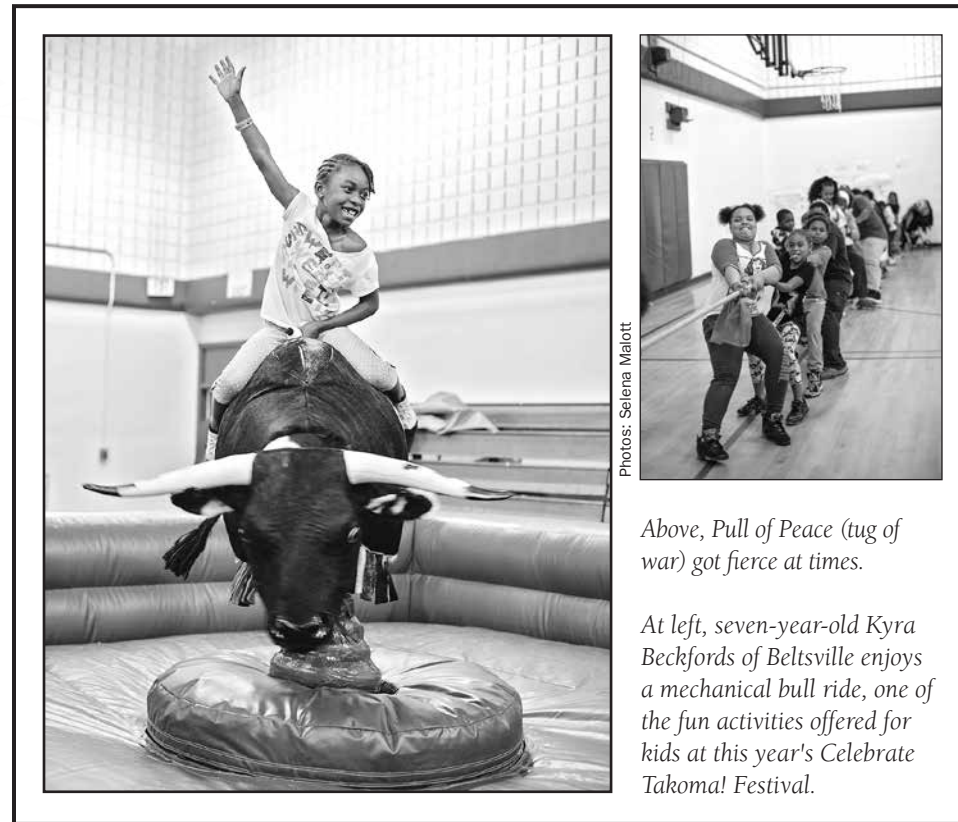
Takoma Park Jazz Fest
Sunday, June 12, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

**Community Conversation:
Youth Success**
Saturday, June 18, 12:30
Details on p. 4

**127th Independence Day
Parade, Concert & Fireworks**
Monday, July 4
Parade: 10 a.m.
Fireworks: Approximately 9:30 p.m.
Details on p. 12

City offices closed
Sunday, July 3 - Monday, July 4

Trash collection/recycling
No collection July 4
Monday yard waste collection cancelled.



Photos: Selena Malott

Above, Pull of Peace (tug of war) got fierce at times.

At left, seven-year-old Kyra Beckfords of Beltsville enjoys a mechanical bull ride, one of the fun activities offered for kids at this year's Celebrate Takoma! Festival.

Takoma got celebrated!

While this year's Celebrate Takoma! festival was moved indoors due to the rainy weather, nothing could put a damper on the spirits of the attendees who came out to fete their favorite city. There was no shortage of fun, food and fabulous entertainment as folks grabbed their passports (programs) and began their journey in celebration of Takoma Park's cultural diversity.

Their first stop before entering the performance area might have been Cheryl's Kitchen, one of the exhibitors at the festival, where they purchased maple frosted walnuts, pecans, or cashews from this long-time Takoma Park resident. Once inside festival goers were treated to a variety of musical and dance performances by the

Community Band, Panquility Steel Band, Flamenco DC, Thomas Young Ethiopian Dancers, Conjure Woman Band, Piney Branch Elementary Dancers and the Provverbs Reggae Band.

While singing and dancing along with the performances, attendees feasted on cuisine from the food trucks onsite. They might have enjoyed a refreshing fruit lemonade or smoothie from Chef Hogate's or dined on a vegan entrée from Everlasting Life. Attendees also had falafel from DC Ballers, pizza from DC Slices, and Ethiopian food from Mesob on Wheels from which to choose for their dining pleasure.

Amidst all this festivity, many of Takoma Park's youngest residents were engaged with

TAKOMA GOT CELEBRATED □ Page 5

Parking in Takoma Park under review

There's been a lot of buzz about parking in Takoma Park lately because of new businesses moving in, changes to the management and pricing of parking lots in Old Takoma, and lots of new construction just across the border in D.C. While Takoma Park is a walkable and increasingly bike-friendly city with ample bus routes connecting to Metro, driving is still a necessary part of everyday life for most residents. As a result, parking is an ever-present concern, and the City is investigating how it is managed, enforced and paid for.

Currently, the City engages in four aspects of parking:



1. Managing the Residential Parking Permit (RPP) program consisting of 900+ permits in eight active RPP zones. First initiated in 1976, each RPP zone is

PARKING □ Page 7

And the winners of the Neighborhood Energy Challenge are...

By Gina Mathias

The competition was very tight for the \$2,000 Neighborhood Energy Challenge prize. The results were so close that a tie was declared! The winning teams will work closely with staff to use their prizes for neighborhood sustainability projects, such as developing new community gardens, installing rain barrels, or helping neighbors in need.

The Neighborhood Energy Challenge was a yearlong competition among eighteen teams representing all Takoma Park neighborhoods. Individual households participated by taking actions to save energy at home, such as getting energy audits, increasing insulation levels and sealing air leaks. Points were awarded to homes that achieved Green Home Certifications. The three levels of Green Home Certification - light, medium, and dark green - corresponded to increased measures taken to save energy.

Residents who achieved Green Home Certification receive a metal yard sign and stake with a permanent sticker corresponding their level of achievement. Homes achieving the Dark Green Certification have the option to receive a locally made, sustainably harvested wood plaque. To pick up your sign, please come to the Public Works office Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

During the competition, the City of Takoma Park offered help to homeowners by providing free energy coaching, audit reviews, second opinions and rebates for energy efficiency home improvements. The City will continue to offer rebates and energy coaching assistance through next year.

Your efforts to save energy at home are helping the City compete against 50 other communities for the \$5 million Georgetown University Energy Prize. The \$5 million prize will be awarded to the

ENERGY CHALLENGE □ Page 3

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

ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

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

Inside



Vacant Property Ordinance
Page 4



Local Author Minh Le
Page 8



Safe Routes to School News
Page 9

DOCKET

City Council & Committee Calendar

OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday, June 1, 7:30 p.m. – Special Location (Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue)

Wednesday, June 8, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 15, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 22, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 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

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Thursday, June 9, 7:30 p.m.
Council Conference Room

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, June 6, 7:15 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 23, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 16, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

SAFE ROADWAYS COMMITTEE

Monday, June 20, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Lilac Room

TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, June 14, 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 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.

ADA NOTICE

The City of Takoma Park is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in public meetings. Anyone with a disability who 1) wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services, or accommodations at a City of Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing; or 2) cannot attend a public meeting but would like to record an audio comment to be played during the public comment period of the meeting, is invited to contact Jason Damweber, Deputy City Manager, at jasond@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7202 at least 48 hours in advance.

City Council Action

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF A PERSONAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM

An administrative regulation is being proposed to implement a Personal Recognition Program developed by the Takoma Park Commemoration Commission. The Commission is charged with recommending 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. The first program introduced is the Personal Recognition Program.

Pursuant to the requirements of the “Administrative Regulations Ordinance” (Authority: Chapter 2.12 “Administrative Regulations,” of the Takoma Park Code), notice of the City’s intention to adopt an administrative regulation must be publically noted, allowing residents the opportunity to comment on the proposal. The proposed regulation is available for review online at www.takomaparkmd.gov. To obtain further information about the proposed regulation, contact Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, at clerk@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7267. Written comments on the proposed regulation may be sent to the City Clerk, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland 20912 or by email to clerk@takomagov.org. The deadline for receipt of public comments is July 8, 2016.

ORDINANCE 2016-15

Adopted April 27, 2016

Flower Avenue Green Street

Extends the contract for Flower Avenue Green Street design with Rummel, Klepper and Kahl to complete the final design. The additional amount authorized is \$74,578.

ORDINANCE 2016-16

Adopted April 27, 2016

Pavement Condition Study

Authorizes a contract with Enterprise Information Solutions for street pavement survey and evaluation using digital technology. The cost for the survey, evaluation, ranking, and software and training is \$26,500.

CITY COUNCIL ACTION ☐ Page 3

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. 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 May 13, 2016:

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. Up to four vacancies.

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. One vacancy (currently no members from Ward 6).

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. Four vacancies (currently no members from Wards 4 or 5).

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. One vacancy (currently no members from Ward 5).

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. Two vacancies (currently no members from Wards 4, 5 or 6).

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. Two vacancies (currently no members from Wards 3 or 5).

The **Facade Advisory Board** helps to ensure that facade designs and their maintenance

are harmonious and consistent with the intended quality and character of the commercial areas of Takoma Park and provides guidance and assistance to commercial building and business owners seeking permits for facade alterations, signs, and new construction work. One vacancy.

The **Noise Control 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. Up to six vacancies.

The **Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee** oversees implementation and adherence to the Takoma Park Nuclear Free Zone Act and provides public information and issues related to the Ordinance. One vacancy (currently no members from Wards 2, 4, or 6).

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. Four vacancies (currently no members from Ward 4).

The **Safe Roadways Committee** advises the City Council on transportation-related issues including, but not limited to, pedestrian and bicycle facilities and safety, traffic issues, and transit services and encourages Takoma Park residents to use alternatives to driving, including walking, bicycling, and transit. Five vacancies (currently no members from Wards 1 or 4).

The **Personnel Appeal Board** adjudicates employee appeals of the City Manager’s decisions regarding employee grievances or dismissals. The Board meets annually unless called to convene a hearing. Three vacancies.

ENERGY CHALLENGE
From page 1

community with the greatest reductions in residential and municipal energy use, using replicable and innovative programs. Takoma Park's Neighborhood Energy Challenge was a huge success in helping the City's effort.

Outstanding challenge participants

The Neighborhood Energy Challenge would not have been possible without all of the enthusiastic support and hard work by the team captains, volunteers, and residents who opened up their homes for meetings, posted on their neighborhood listservs, and recruited participants. While there were too many wonderful advocates to count, four residents stood out.

Outstanding Team Captain, Lori Hill: Lori held many meetings during the challenge, encouraging neighborhoods to attend, helping with certification applications and answering questions. Lori tirelessly promoted the competition.

Outstanding Supporter, Cindy Dyballa: Cindy championed the neighborhood energy challenge from before its launch, en-



Forest Park Team receiving their First Place win



Longbranch Sligo Team receiving their First Place win

couraging staff and council. She helped organize her neighborhood, which turned into a true powerhouse of a team. She also helped connect many of the impressive environmentalists and community activists that live in Takoma Park to the challenge.

Outstanding Example, Kate Stewart: As a City Council member and now Mayor, Kate's excitement helped staff gain the support needed to bring the competition to

life. Kate invited TV cameras into her home to film her energy audit, which CityTV broadcast, enabling residents to learn more about the value of energy audits, find out about the challenge, and see ways to make energy improvements to their homes.

Ward Prize - Ward 2, Tim Male, City Council Member: Tim was a vocal supporter of the Neighborhood Energy Challenge. He quickly signed up and had an energy

Competition Summary
18 - Teams
746 - Households Signed Up
4 percent* (or 171) of the City's single family homes are now Green Home Certified in Energy Efficiency
Certifications:
63 - Light Green Certifications
90 - Medium Green Certification
18 - Dark Green Certifications
*4 percent is great! Similar projects have taken longer to even achieve 1 percent.

audit and got into the competitive spirit. Tim is a champion for environmental action in Takoma Park, and it is no surprise that with his leadership and encouragement, Ward 2 had the most certifications of any Ward in the City.

What's next?

The Green Home Certification program is an evergreen program. Anyone who would like to get Green Home Certified for Energy Efficiency may do so, even though the challenge has ended. Residents can also continue working towards and earn their Dark Green Certification. Future Green Home Certification themes may include backyard habitat and lawn care, zero waste and more. The next Green Home Certification category will be announced in early 2017. To apply for a Green Home Certification visit takomaparkmd.gov/government/sustainability.

If you were on one of the winning teams and have an idea for how your team should use the prize money, contact your team leader or the sustainability manager at ginam@takomaparkmd.gov.

Neighborhood Energy Challenge Winners

Grand Prize \$2,000

Forest Park for highest:

- Average Points per Participating Household
- Average Points per Home in Neighborhood
- Certification Rate of those Participating

Longbranch Sligo for highest:

- Total Number of Points
- Total Certifications
- Average Certifications in Neighborhood
- Percent of Households in Neighborhood Participating

Second Place Prize \$1,500

Central Carroll for second place in:

- Percent of Households in Neighborhood Participating
- Average Points per Participating Household
- Average Points per Home in Neighborhood

Runners Up \$500

BF Gilbert & Old Town Residents

Community consultation process advisory committee for the Takoma Junction redevelopment

The City Council has approved the appointment of a Community Consultation Process Advisory Committee to help facilitate community input and feedback at critical stages of the Takoma Junction development project. Neighborhood Development Company, the firm selected for the Takoma Junction redevelopment project, has proposed the establishment of the committee to assist in the development of a process for community participation appropriate for Takoma Park.

The committee's efforts will focus on creating, in conjunction with NDC, the process needed to guide community participation on important aspects of the development project effectively. The committee will not be responsible for making substantive decisions or providing specific recommendations to the Council about the design, layout or use of the planned development.

The City Council is seeking to appoint not more than seven residents with representation from each Ward to serve on the proposed committee. Members would serve for a few months, developing a process to ensure community engagement. Members should be skilled in outreach and social media, knowledgeable about local resources, and familiar with the best means of reaching residents throughout the community. The work of the committee will be finished when the community consultation period in the development process is completed.

The committee would:

- Clarify with NDC the aspects of the project's program and design for which community input is important for the project outcome
- Identify the best means for community members to engage in the development process
- Determine the details of meetings needed to ensure sufficient opportunity for community input, such as number and frequency of meetings, locations, times, format;
- Assist with promotion and outreach regarding meetings;
- Provide opportunities for online community feedback for community members who are unable to attend meetings

To apply for appointment, complete and submit an application: https://takomapark.seamlessdocs.com/f/bccapplication.

The Takoma Park Newsletter



THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

Editor: Apryl Motley
Assistant: Sean Gossard
www.takomaparkmd.gov
Vol. 55, No. 6

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

takomaparkmd.gov or Newsletter, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912. Name, address and telephone number must accompany all submitted material. Editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, style, spelling and grammar. Published material containing opinions does not necessarily reflect the views of the Newsletter or the City of Takoma Park. The Newsletter does not accept commercial, classified or political advertisements. The Newsletter is printed on recycled-content paper.

CITY COUNCIL ACTION

From page 2

ORDINANCE 2016-21

Adopted May 11, 2016

Multimedia Lab Equipment

Authorizes a contract to upgrade equipment in the Multimedia Lab with Absolute Mac, Inc. to provide Apple iMac hardware, compatible

software, peripherals, a server, and installation for a not to exceed amount of \$45,000.

RESOLUTION 2016-9

Adopted April 27, 2016

Grant Avenue Closure

Authorizes the temporary closure of the upper portion of Grant Avenue on May 8, 2016 for the Grant Avenue Market.



BUILDING COMMUNITY



Seminar for first time homebuyers

Buying a home is one of the most important decisions you will make in your lifetime. Learn from the experts and do it right. The Takoma Park First Time Homebuyer seminar covers the entire home buying process from how to obtain a mortgage and to understanding the terms of the loan. Attend the entire session and receive a Certificate of Completion, allowing you access to low interest loans. Class size is limited, and pre-registration is required.

First Time Home Buyer Seminar

Saturday, June 25, 2016 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue

To register, call 301-891-7119 or email us at housing@takomaparkmd.gov

Important City Department Phone Numbers

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

JOIN US FOR

COMMUNITY
CONVERSATION:
Youth Success



SATURDAY | JUNE 18

CONVERSATION STARTS AT 12:30 PM
TAKOMA PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
7500 MAPLE AVE

FOR YOUTH AND PARENTS

WWW.TAKOMAPARKMD.GOV

SHARING IDEAS AND PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH SUCCESS
ACCEPTING LIGHTLY USED SCHOOL SUPPLIES

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: I have a child that has a disability and will be attending camp in Rockville in the summer. I need a car to transport her, but I can't afford one. Could you please help?



A: There are two nonprofits that come to mind. You may want to call 1-800-Charity Cars or 800- 242-7849. Their website has additional information at www.freecharitycars.org.

Also, there is Vehicles for Change (www.vehiclesforchange.org). This nonprofit sells inexpensive, older-model cars to families who need them but don't have

much money. Car prices start at \$750, and the organization provides loans. Diedre Smith (410-242-9674) is the person to talk with and ask about a deeply discounted older model car.

In the interim, you could contact Village Rides (301-646-2109), a Village of Takoma Park volunteer driving program that provides free rides to those who join as members.

Did you know?

We compiled a list of local nonprofits that are seeking volunteer help. Interested in volunteering but missed the Fair? You can find the volunteer guide on the City's Lifelong Takoma webpage (takomapark-md.gov/government/lifelong-takoma), and there are also printed copies in the Community Center.



New vacant property ordinance

The City Council recently passed a new ordinance to address the issue of vacant properties. The purpose of the ordinance is to discourage the neglect of unsafe vacant properties in Takoma Park. The new ordinance requires that vacant properties that have been empty for over 30 days must be registered with the City and pay a \$200 registration fee unless they are furnished and have operating utilities.

All vacant properties must be secured, and the exterior of the building and the grounds must be maintained. The owner, agent or property maintenance company is required to post contact information inclusive of a name and a 24-hour phone number. If the property has code violations, the City may issue a notice to cor-

rect the violations and may also issue a citation for a Class A violation and impose penalties against the owner, agent or other responsible party.

There are exceptions, such as if a property has building permits and is under construction or renovation. If owners or agents are actively attempting to sell or rent a property, they are exempt for six months or more.

The ordinance officially goes into effect July 1, 2016. If you wish to read the ordinance in more detail, it can be found on the City's website by searching "vacant property registry" in the site's search field. To register a property, or if you have further questions, please call 301-891-7119.

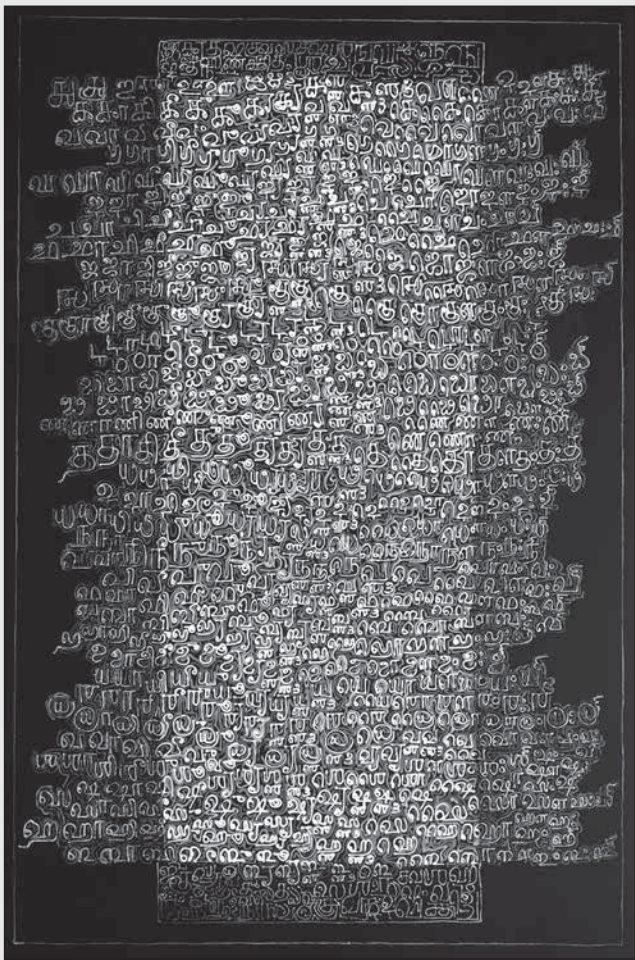
**Spandha:
Cosmic Vibrations
Through June 30
Free**

Works by Takoma Park Gallery Coordinator and artist Shanthi Chandrasekar are now on exhibition in Spandha: Cosmic Vibrations. Ms. Chandrasekar finds fascinating both science and spirituality, especially the ancient Indian philosophy Tantra, which seeks to infuse the divine with the human. She explores the space where the two areas overlap, and it is there she draws the magic and mystery for Spandha: Cosmic Vibrations.

Acrylic paintings and multimedia sculptures with handmade paper, wood, clay, and stone explore the vibrations in our universe. Ms. Chandrasekar explains, "It is within these vibrations that forms manifest themselves as sound, light, matter, thoughts and syllables."

Ms. Chandrasekar has had many exhibitions in the Washington, DC metro area. She won the Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Award in both 2013 and 2016 for Works on Paper. The Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County, Maryland, awarded her Individual Artist grants in 2009, 2013, and 2016.

THE ARTS



**Vintage Classroom Movies
Thursday, June 2, 7:30 p.m.
Free**

Many students today may learn science, math, art and history from videos on YouTube or from podcasts. Teachers also can incorporate live video in their curricula streaming from curators in museums to scientists in federal agencies.

In the mid-20th century, teachers en-

hanced learning with short informative films. They instructed students on science, safety, relationships and hygiene. These were productions with serious messages, but by today's standards, the films are quirky and funny.

Here's your chance to see some of these period films. Local documentary filmmaker Richard Hall will screen educational films from the 1940s through 1960s. The films provide a window into life in post-WWII America.

**3rd Thursday Poetry
Thursday, June 16, 7:30 pm
Free**

Poet and painter Lawrence Ferlinghetti said, "Poetry is eternal graffiti written in the heart of everyone." Bring your hearts to 3rd Thursday Poetry. This month's event is an open session. his popular series is now its eleventh year.



The Arts and Humanities Commission wants to thank everyone who took part in its Culture Survey. Your feedback will help guide in writing the commission's future strategic plan. Stay tuned for that report.

Be a Part of Art

Want to help advise the City on matters involving the arts? There are four vacancies open on the Arts and Humanities Commission. To apply, complete the on-line application and submit it along with a resume and statement of qualifications. Appointments will be made by the City Council.



Foreign Puzzle Screening • Thursday, June 9, 6:30 p.m. • Free

Docs In Progress presents the story of dancer, choreographer, teacher and mother Sharon Marroquín who is diagnosed with breast cancer. As she undergoes intensive cancer treatments, she channels her frustration with mortality into an artist project Materiality of Impermanence. Through her creative process she escapes into a realm free from physical limitations, disease, child-rearing and teaching. Director Chithra Jeyaram will have a question and answer session following the screening.



The Celebrate Takoma! festival was very much a celebration of the arts as seen in these performances



Flamenco DC finishes with a flourish.



Top left: The festival day ended with a performance by Proverbs Reggae Band.



Bottom left: Young Ethiopian dancers perform.

Photos:
Selena Malott

TAKOMA GOT CELEBRATED
■ From page 1

activities in the games and craft area. The mechanical bull was clearly the central attraction as kids waited anxiously in line for their turn at besting the beast. Others opted for tamer activities, such as playing giant chess, dominoes or Chinese checkers, although the Pull of Peace (tug of war) did get fierce at times.

In addition to these activities, there were plenty of opportunities to learn more about community organizations in Takoma Park. Both the Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness and Independence Day Committees manned tables. Nearby at the Crossroads Community Food Network's table, residents tasted samples of organic greens. These other community vendors participated as well: CHEER, City of Takoma Park Sustainability Office, EF International Language Center, Gustus Orthodontist, Holy Cross Hospital, Maryland Physicians Care, Takoma Park Community Band, Takoma/Langley Crossroads Development Authority, Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department, Toastmasters and Takoma Foundation, which gave out its annual Azalea Awards during the festival.

These awards honor residents who have helped the community be the place it is and

inspired us all to make it even better. Here are the 2016 winners listed by category.

Arts: Yvonne Edwards, founder of Knock on Wood and Busy Graham

Business Leaders: Eric Hardy, manager, Ace Hardware, Old Town

Coach: Brian Baker, soccer and cross country coach, TPMS

Green Activist: Lori Hill and John Robi-nette

Educator: Holly Pasquale, instrumental music teacher, TPMS

Mentor: Abby Golden, guidance counselor TPES

Neighborhood Volunteer: Margaret Buraimoh, tenant rights/housing reform activist

School Activist: Ray Moreno, Blair High School

Takoma Spirit: Tara Egan and Gene Herman, organizers, July 4th parade

Tak-Tivist: Cindy Dyballa, member Takoma Park Environment and Recreation Committees

To a person, each of the winners humbly received his or her award and attributed the motivation for their efforts to living in a wonderful city. One winner summed up the entire festival day well, "Takoma Park is a great community."

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 and 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



T-Ball League 2016
Ages 5 – 7

This co-ed 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 glove. Volunteer coaches needed. Games are played at 9 and 10:30 a.m.
Ed Wilhelm Field and Belle Ziegler Park
Saturdays, June 11 – Aug. 6 (8 weeks)
TP residents \$60
Non-residents \$70



Y.E.S. League Summer Basketball
Grades 5 – 12

This program provides a positive venue for youth to express themselves through the game of basketball. Teams will be guaranteed six games and each participant will receive a Y.E.S. League t-shirt. Games will be played at either 6 or 7 p.m.

Piney Branch Elementary School Gym
Middle School Division (Grades 5 – 8)
Mondays, June 20 – Aug. 8

High School Division (Grades 9 – 12)
Tuesdays, June 21 – Aug. 9
TP residents \$25
Non-residents \$35

TEENS

CAMPS



Teens on the Move Summer Edition
Ages 13 – 17

Registration is open and spaces are filling fast. Four weeks of summer fun. Each day is a trip on a new adventure. Broaden your horizons and maximize your courage and strength. Take trips such as rock climbing, horseback riding, zip-lining, etc. Challenge yourself and overcome your fears during this 4-week Adventure Camp.

TP Community Center
Teen Lounge
Monday – Friday, July 5 – July 29, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
TP residents \$120 per week
Non-resident \$140 per week

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 chelsean@takomaparkmd.gov.

TP Community Center, Teen Lounge
Ongoing, Monday-Friday, 3 – 8 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday, closed
Free

Teen Night
Ages 12 – 17

Looking for something exciting to do? The

FEW SPACES LEFT IN THE AFTER THE BELL EXTENDED CARE PROGRAM FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

Ages Kindergarten – 5th grade

It is time to start thinking about next school year. The After the Bell after school childcare program for the MCPS 2016-2017 school year will provide a safe environment for children in grades K-5. Transportation will not be provided by the Recreation Department. Please contact MCPS Transportation at 301-840-8130 to change your bus route to New Hampshire Towers and we will meet students at the bus stop and walk them over each day for after care. Homework and study time will be provided each day. For more information, contact Vincent Cain at 301-891-7289 or vincentc@takomaparkmd.gov.

TP Recreation Center

Monday – Friday, 3:30 – 6 p.m. (On-going/School Year)
\$125 per month/\$1250 for the year



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

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 workout set.

TP Recreation Center Gymnasium
Saturdays, noon – 1 p.m.

\$5 Drop-in Fee

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

\$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, 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

RECREATION □ Page 7

Giving back to Takoma Park

Rochelle Coleman, a former professional athlete and current high school varsity coach at Paint Branch High School, understands the importance of setting a strong foundation and goals, and she is making an impact with youth in Takoma Park.

As an athlete, Coleman has played basketball on many levels. She played as a member of the Celeritas Donar Professional Team in the Netherlands. As a member of the Syracuse University women's basketball team, she is listed in the school record book for the top ten all-time three-point field goals and the all-time scorers' list. She served as a graduate assistant coach for the women's basketball team at Slippery Rock University and has coached many youth basketball teams in the U.S. and abroad.

In May 2008 she started her training company Rochelle



Athletic Consulting. Under Rochelle Athletic Consulting, RAC Basketball was born introducing the Washington, D.C., area to individual basketball training, clinics and camps. Coleman brought her dream to the City of Takoma Park in 2013, helping with coaching clinics as well as operating the Recreation Department's Girls Basketball Camp that takes place over the summer. Coleman also is part of the Takoma Park Recreation Committee.

RECREATION

■ From page 6

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, 6 – 7 p.m.

\$60/6 weeks

TP Adult Summer Basketball League

Ages 18 and older

Join our Adult Basketball League this summer. Assemble your winning team and compete against other area teams in order to win the league championship. Teams will be provided uniforms. Individual participants will be placed on a waiting list and contacted if space becomes available on a team. If space becomes available on a team you will be responsible to pay your registration and any other associated fees to that team.

Takoma Piney Branch Local Park (Behind Piney Branch Elementary School)

Wednesdays and Thursdays, June 22 – July 28

Games will be played at either 6 or 7 p.m.

Team Fee \$200

FOREVER YOUNG: 55 PLUS

DROP IN

Bingo

Ages 55 and older

Try your luck. Win a prize.

TP Community Center senior room

Thursday, June 23, 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, June 23, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Free

Table Tennis

Ages 55 and older

Come play this fun, energetic game. It's a great way to improve eye-hand coordination and helps keep the body healthy and the mind sharp. Drop-in.

TP Community Center game room

Ongoing Mondays - Saturdays, 10 a.m. – noon

Ongoing Saturdays, 10 a.m. – noon

Free

SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

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

TRIPS

Franciscan Monastery Tour and Gardens

Wednesday, June 8, 11:45 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Hampton Historic Site Mansion Tour

Saturday, June 11, 8:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager at 301-891-7280 or paulal@takomaparkmd.gov Registration is required. For trip details and procedures, please see the Forever Young Spring 2016 newsletter online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/government/recreation.

Few Spaces Left in:

Rookie Sports Camp

Ages 3 – 4

Have the little ones join us for a week of unique activities including T-ball, soccer, bowling, kickball, relays and more exciting daily events. Sessions take place in a safe, structured environment and sports are played through a series of games and activities. All the sports promote hand-eye coordination, motor skills, group participation and communication skills. All participants must wear sneakers and dress appropriately. Paperwork will need to be submitted prior to the first day of camp. TP Community Center Rose Room Monday – Friday, June 27 – July 1, July 11 – July 15, August 1 – 5, 9 a.m. – noon TP residents \$80 Non-residents \$90

Tots Nature Camp

Ages 3 – 4

Tots Nature Camp introduces children to the artistic beauty of one of the world's greatest creations, Earth. In this camp children spend time connecting with nature through a series of fun activities such as making bird feeders and nature scrapbooks. The best part is that they make their creations using all recycled materials that they collect, which also teaches them about the importance of preserving nature's beauty by being responsible. This camp allows children to expand the creativity within them that comes naturally. Paperwork will need to be submitted prior to the first day of camp. TP Community Center Rose Room Monday – Friday, July 18 – July 22, July 25 – July 29, 9 a.m. – noon TP residents \$125 Non-residents \$145

Girls Basketball Camp

Ages 8 – 14

Participants will learn basketball fundamentals, which include but are not



limited to: ball handling, shooting skills, foot work, and overall knowledge of the game. Campers will also improve communication skills and teamwork all

while having fun. This girl's only camp is operated by Rochelle Coleman, a former collegiate (Syracuse University) and professional basketball player and current head varsity girls basketball coach at Paint Branch High School. Paperwork will need to be submitted prior to the first day of camp.

TP Community Center Lilac Room

Monday - Friday, July 25 – July 29,

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

TP residents \$175

Non-residents \$195

Visual Arts Camp

Ages 11 – 14

Have fun and express yourself through color, shape, drawing and design. Each session includes a new art related theme and group of art processes and activities. Sharpen your drawing skills, explore new materials and exercise your imagination with inspiring art projects. Two hours of drawing in the morning using graphite, pen and ink, colored pencils, charcoal pencils, pastels, oil pastels or crayon, etc., followed by two or more hours of painting and/or collage and assemblage in the afternoon. Media, such as watercolor painting, sumi-e, mixed-media painting, texture and found-object assemblage, will be explored. Art related movies, access to the game room during the day and outdoor art adventures are all included in what will certainly be a memorable summer experience. All materials included. Paperwork will need to be submitted prior to the first day of camp. TP Community Center Art Studio Monday – Friday, July 18- July 22, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. TP residents \$295 Non-residents \$325

PARKING

■ From page 1

established by a citizen-led petition process and approved by the City Council. Designed to suit the needs of the community, petitioners request the geographical boundaries and the days and times when permit parking is in effect

2. Maintaining metered parking in the Old Takoma commercial district and near Montgomery College
3. Enforcing parking (i.e. issuing tickets) on city streets with a focus on parking meters and RPP zones
4. Commenting on parking waiver requests from new businesses or developments that can't meet the required number of parking spaces specified in the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance

In 2014 the City started making changes to parking management and enforcement. A parking pay station was installed at the public lot at Takoma Junction, adding to the 105 parking meters on city streets. A second officer was hired to ensure more consistent parking enforcement around town. A city-wide parking management study was initiated in 2015, with the goal of exploring ways on-street parking in Takoma Park can be better managed in the service of economic development, envi-

ronmental sustainability, fiscal responsibility and community livability. The study kicked off with online surveys of residents and business owners in fall 2015, garnering nearly 300 responses from residents, visitors and business operators.

With new restaurants and other businesses contributing to a more vibrant Old Takoma commercial district, one aspect the study specifically explores is the pressure point where residential and commercial areas meet in Takoma Park. The study is also exploring ways to make the City's parking programs more convenient to use and efficient to manage. One result is a contract executed in spring 2016 with ParkMobile, and drivers will soon be able to pay for City parking meters by phone using a credit card.

On the evening of June 15, a consultant team from Sabra, Wang & Associates will present to the City Council a set of findings and recommendations contributing to the study. City Council meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend. Visit the Parking Management Study project page on the City website to see the results of the survey, learn more about the project, submit comments and stay tuned for updates leading up to the June 15 presentation: takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory/parking-study.

Save the Date:
Family Outdoor Movie Night



Get ready for another Family Outdoor Movie Night. The movie will start at dusk at Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary School). Bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a movie under the stars with your family. The movie will be a family friendly "G" or "PG" rated hit. Bring snacks and your own water. The Recreation Department will provide one small bag of popcorn per person. Due to limited parking, walking is encouraged. Don't forget your flashlight to help you pack up after the movie. Visit our website takomaparkmd.gov/recreation to vote on the movie.

Ed Wilhelm Field
Saturday, June 4, dusk
For more information, please call 301-891-7290



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.

LIBRARY



Takoma Park resident, new author Minh Le

By Karen MacPherson

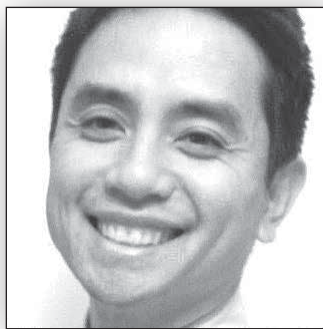
Come meet a rising star in the children's literature world on June 7 at 7 p.m. when Takoma Park resident Minh Le unveils *Let Me Finish!*, his debut picture book.

Le will be joined by illustrator Isabel Roxas, who did the artwork for the book, which tells the story of a child who just wants to finish his book in peace. Each time he starts on a book, however, one of a series of well-meaning, and obviously well-read, animals inadvertently let slip plot spoilers in their eagerness to launch impromptu book discussions. Le's comically antic plot is perfectly matched by the vibrant colors and energy of Roxas' illustrations.

While this is Le's first time as a picture book author, he's well versed — and well-known — in the children's literature community. He's known for his blog, Bottom Shelf Books (www.bottomshelfbooks.com), on which Le shares thoughtful and quirky posts about children's books. In addition, Le regularly writes a picture book round-up for *The Huffington Post*. Just recently, he published his first children's book review in *The New York Times Book Review*.

Le grew up in Middletown, Conn., the middle of three children, and the only son. His parents came to the United States on college scholarships from their native Vietnam and decided to settle here. Le graduated from Dartmouth College in 2001 with a degree in psychology and a minor in religion and then moved to Washington, D.C.

Over the next few years, Le worked at the circulation desk at the Mount Pleasant branch of the DC Public Library, did a teaching stint in the U.S. Marshall Islands, and also worked for a non-profit focusing on programs for Vietnam youth. It



was through that program that he eventually met his wife, Aimee Oberndorfer Le, an international education expert; the two were married in 2008 and now have two young sons.

Several years ago, Le earned his master's in education policy from the Harvard University Graduate School of Education.

He now works as a federal early childhood policy expert at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's Administration for Children and Families.

As his policy career developed, however, Le also felt the pull of a long-held dream of creating a children's picture book. After several years of effort, and thanks to a nudge from his wife, Le realized that he would do better to focus on crafting a picture book text as his writing skills were stronger than his artistic ones.

The decision to focus on writing, rather than art, finally unlocked Le's creativity and the result was *Let Me Finish*. Working with his agent Stephen Barbara, Le has already completed, and sold, his second picture book and

now is working on several others. And he'll start out the summer with a bang, doing promotional programs for *Let Me Finish!* at the American Library Association's annual conference as well as at the Children's Institute of the American Booksellers Association.

Meanwhile, *Let Me Finish!* will be formally released on June 7, the day that Le and Roxas present it at the Library. Join us to learn more about an up-and-coming picture book author who lives in Takoma Park. Politics & Prose will be selling copies of Le's book, but our event is free, and no purchase is required to attend.



LIBRARY BRIEFS

- Summer Quest 2016 will formally kick off on Monday, June 13 at 7:30 p.m. Join us then for an introduction to this year's story and game board as well as to register for the program. If you can't make it on June 13, you can register any time during the summer as we won't conclude Summer Quest (with a party!) until early September. As always, thanks to the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library

- for sponsoring our unique summer reading program and to library assistant Dave Burbank for creating it.
- Ben Hatke, best known as the creator of the popular *Zita the Spacegirl* graphic novels, also creates wonderful picture books. The always-entertaining Hatke will present his latest picture book *Nobody Likes a Goblin* on Thursday, June 9 at 7 p.m. Politics & Prose will sell copies of Hatke's books, but our event is free, and no purchase is required to attend.

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

Wednesday, June 1, 7 p.m.
Join Ms. Kati for this fun monthly program.

Petites Chansons/French Circle Time

Saturday, June 4, 10:30 a.m.
Led by Madame Marie

LEGO Club

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

Picture Book Creators Minh Le and Isabel Roxas

Tuesday, June 7, 7 p.m.

Le and Roxas will unveil *Let Me Finish!*

Author/illustrator Ben Hatke

Thursday, June 9, 7 p.m.
Hatke, known for his *Zita the Spacegirl* graphic novels, will discuss his new picture book *Nobody Likes a Goblin*.

Kids Art

Sunday, June 12, 2-3 p.m.
Theme: Father's Day crafts

Summer Quest 2016 Kick-Off

Monday, June 13, 7:30 p.m.
Come get started with our unique summer reading program.

Comics Jam

Tuesday, June 14, 4 p.m.
Come read comics with Dave Burbank.

Yoga Storytime for 2-4 Year Olds

Saturday, June 25, 10:30 a.m.
Registration required; to register, go to www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents or call 301-891-7259.

New audiobooks to take to the beach

By Ellen Robbins

The Library has a large selection of brand new audiobooks for adults, including award-winning renderings of best-sellers, top literary fiction and in-demand non-fiction. Stop by and check them out!

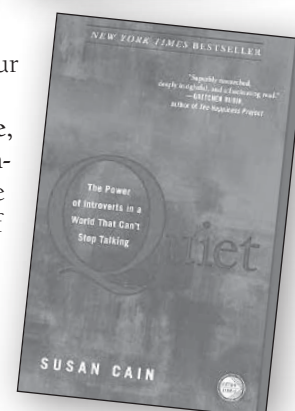
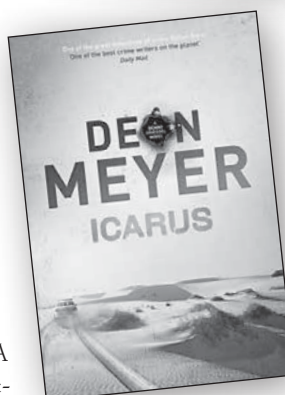
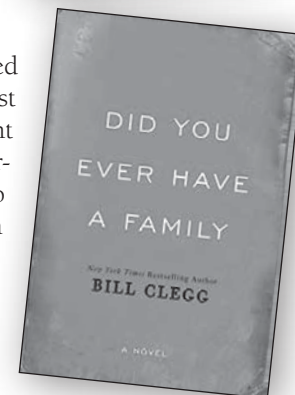
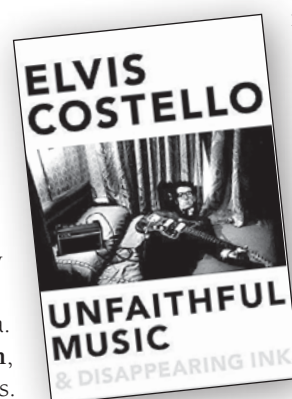
Lin-Manuel Miranda. *Hamilton – The Revolution*, read by the author and others. "Miranda, along with Jeremy McCarter, a cultural critic and theater artist who was involved in the project from its earliest stages...trace its development from an improbable performance at the White House to its landmark opening night on Broadway six years later."

Elvis Costello, *Unfaithful Music and Disappearing Ink*, read by the author. "This memoir, written entirely by Costello, offers his unique view of his unlikely and sometimes comical rise to international success."

Bill Clegg, *Did you ever have a family*, read by the author. "A powerful story about a circle of people who find solace in the least likely of places as they cope with a horrific tragedy"

Vu Tran. *Dragonfish*. "A top-notch mystery – Note-perfect, heartbreaking, profound...a polished dagger of a novel that will cut out your heart" [Author Charles Bock]

Pamela Newkirk. *Spectacle, the Astonishing Life Ota Benga*, read by Bahni Turpin. The heart-breaking, true story of a young Congolese "pygmy" brought to America in 1904 and displayed in an anthropological exhibit at the St. Louis World's Fair, inspiring an international controversy, and profoundly changing both his



future and that of the man responsible for his capture and exploitation.

J.K. Rowling. *The Casual Vacancy*. This is first novel for adults by this renowned creator of the Harry Potter series.

Geraldine Brooks. *The Secret Chord*. An exploration of the life of the Biblical King David, told by the courtier Nahan, who is said to have chronicled his life, this book won the Pulitzer Prize in March.

Deon Meyer. *Icarus*. A riveting new mystery by "South Africa's preeminent crime fiction writer, internationally acclaimed for his razor's-edge thrillers, unforgettable characters, and nuanced portrayals of contemporary life in his native country."

Robert Repino. *Mort(e)*. This unusual and engrossing novel tells the story of war between a race of intelligent ants, determined to eradicate humans, and a former house cat turned war hero, who is searching for his best friend, a dog named Sheba.

Jenny Lawson. *Furiously Happy*, read by the author. Jenny Lawson writes a popular blog and is an award-winning humorist. *Furiously Happy* explores her struggle with mental illness.

Susan Cain. *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking*. Cain's book shows "how dramatically we undervalue introverts, and how much we lose in doing so."

Mary Norris. *Between You and Me: Confessions of a Comma Queen*, read

Food for families in need: Q&A with Dunrick Sogie-Thomas, EduCare Support Services

By Kevin Adler

It's 6:30 a.m. on a Saturday, and Dunrick Sogie-Thomas is at Costco. He's accompanied by a team of volunteers to pick up perishable and non-perishable food items that will be distributed to needy households in Takoma Park.

By 8 a.m., he and the volunteers are at EduCare's first mobile distribution site at the Franklin Apartments near Sligo Creek Parkway for their first distribution of the morning. Five more distribution points follow. By noon, he's leading another group of volunteers at the final distribution point, Grace United Methodist Church on New Hampshire Avenue.

But his day has just started because Sogie-Thomas has reams of paperwork to file, phone calls to field and questions to answer. That's the busy routine of the director of programs for EduCare Support Services, a social service organization that received a grant of \$23,900 from the City of Takoma Park this year.

TP: How did EduCare get started?

Sogie-Thomas: I started EduCare in 2010 soon after I moved to Takoma Park from Gaithersburg. I asked the previous pastor of Grace United Methodist Church, Pastor Paul Johnson, and members of the church if we could assist them with a food pantry they had started. The church has been very supportive from the beginning; they provided us with space for the pantry, including an office space for staff and volunteers.

TP: What does EduCare do?

Sogie-Thomas: EduCare provides monthly supplementary food baskets to eligible residents of Takoma Park at Grace UM Church and about 134 seniors and persons with disabilities at our off-site distribution locations.

On each delivery, EduCare provides the following perishable and non-perishable food items: bread, milk, orange juice, eggs, peanut butter, chicken, mixed vegetables, assorted canned fruits, rice, fresh produce, pasta and pasta sauce.

TP: What has been the response?

Sogie-Thomas: The need is great. EduCare provides a two-week supply of food for each household, and we distribute once per month. We serve about 285 households each month. The majority of our participants are senior citizens or persons with disabilities. We distribute over 180,000 pounds of food each year.

In addition to the food pantry, we provide case management services, notary services, and CPR and First Aid training to individuals who are unemployed and actively seeking employment. I am trained to teach CPR and First Aid through the American Red Cross. And we provide referral services to people who call in every day looking for other services that we do not provide, such as utility assistance.

TP: Where do you get your food and your funding?

Sogie-Thomas: The mobile food pantry



is currently funded by City of Takoma Park and Montgomery County. We also received assistance from the Capital Area Food Bank and food donations from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). We also receive food donations from businesses, individuals and schools in the community,

including the Takoma Park Neighborhood Food Project. The Takoma Park Food Project conducts food drives for EduCare from local residents; Geoff Maxson is the leader of this program, and they have been great.

The City of Takoma Park has been very supportive of the food pantry. A few years ago, we needed more freezers to store chicken and dairy, and they provided the funding for us to purchase two freezers.

TP: Are you meeting all of the needs that you see?

Sogie-Thomas: With regular food donations and more people coming to volunteer, we could serve over 500 households per month. And we receive a lot of requests from persons who are not eligible [because they do not meet income limits or are already receiving other government support]. It is terrible to turn them away; some people are desperate. In such cases, we are able to give them the food from the Takoma Park Neighborhood Food Network and the Capital Area Food Bank.

TP: What other services would EduCare like to provide?

Sogie-Thomas: At the moment, our Job Club, our employment assistance program, is on hold because we do not have the volunteers to manage it. Our First Friday Night youth program and citizenship classes are also on hold. EduCare would like to provide a range of services to residents of Takoma Park, including utility and rental assistance, employment assistance, life skills training for at-risk youth and immigrants and a community-inclusive day program for seniors.

TP: What inspired you to do this work?

Sogie-Thomas: I know what it's like to be hungry. I was born in Sierra Leone, and I moved to England and lived there for almost 12 years before I immigrated to the United States. I started a one-stop social services center at a church in England.

My passion for social work started when I was in high school in Sierra Leone. After I moved to the United States, I went to Montgomery College and then received a degree in social work from the University of Maryland Baltimore County. I'm going to start a master's program in management of aging services at UMBC because I enjoy working with the senior population.

TP: Final words?

Sogie-Thomas: On behalf of the board of EduCare, I want to say we are very appreciative of the City's support to relieve hunger in our community.

To learn more about EduCare, visit www.educare-supportservices.org.

Safe Routes to School News

At the **Safe Routes to School 5K Challenge** (TKPK5K) on May 1, hundreds of runners braved the rainy morning to earn bragging rights in less than optimal conditions. Of the nearly 1400 registrants, over 850 showed up to complete the TKPK5K and other events. The Race Committee and many volunteers marveled at the positive attitude of the wet runners. Smiles and high fives abounded! Proceeds from the race will fund PTA programs that foster health, wellness and safety at Piney Branch, East Silver Spring, Takoma Park and Rolling Terrace Elementary Schools and Takoma Park Middle School.

Bike to School Day on May 4 welcomed riders at four area schools. Helmets, bike bells and spoke lights were supplied by SRTS to Piney Branch ES, Takoma Park Middle School, East Silver Spring ES and Rolling Terrace ES. The Takoma Park Police Department was on board to help keep riders safe. One fifth grader from Piney Branch ES was a rider at the Safe Routes to School hosted iCan Shine Bike Camp last summer. After success at the camp, he admitted, "This is the first year I've been a good enough biker to ride in it." And he rode up Maple Avenue to school just like the 70 other kids from Piney Branch.

Takoma Park Crossing Guards Appreciation Day is Tuesday, June 7. Our wonderful Crossing Guards play an important role in many Safe Routes events and activities in addition to standing post to ensure that the students in the City arrive at school safely. Please remember your Crossing Guard with a small token of appreciation on the morning of June 7.

This year the **iCan Shine Bike Camp** will be June 27 – July 1. Registration is open for riders and volunteers. Maryland residents between the ages of 8 and 14 are invited to participate free of charge. Takoma Park will host the iCan Shine Bike Camp for students with special needs at Takoma Academy, 8120

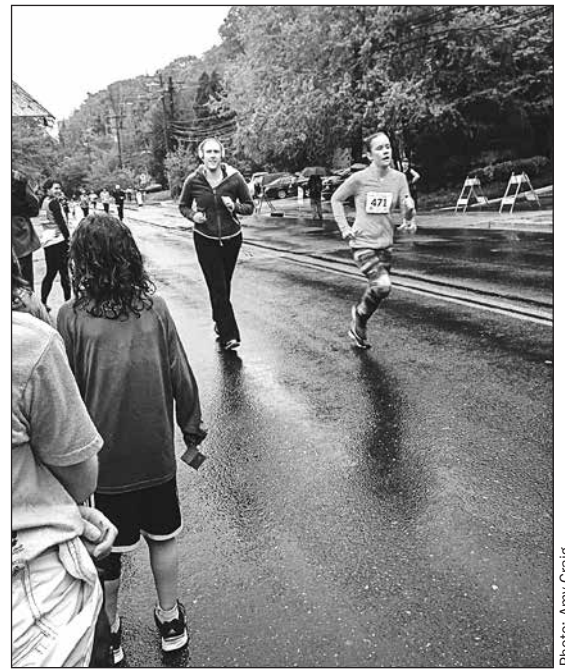


Photo: Amy Craig

Eleven-year-old Marin Barclay (right) ran in the Safe Routes to School 5K Challenge.

Carroll Avenue, June 27 – July 1. Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age. For registration information, visit takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/safe-routes-to-school.

Pedestrian Improvements

Thanks to Safe Routes to School funding, the construction of ADA compliant sidewalk on Elm Avenue from Larch Avenue to Linden Circle is nearly complete. And pedestrian improvements will be coming soon along Maple Avenue including the installation of crosswalk markings at three intersections: Maple Avenue and Sherman Avenue, Maple Avenue and Ritchie Avenue and Maple Avenue and Lincoln Avenue and construction of ADA compliant ramps at two intersections, Maple Avenue and Ritchie Avenue and Maple Avenue and Lincoln Avenue.

Safe Routes to School Parent Survey

Look for the bi-yearly Safe Routes to School Parent Survey in your in-box soon. Your feedback and comments help inform future programming.

AUDIOBOOKS

■ From page 8

by the author. This *New York Times* copy editor for more than 30 years offers us a humorous, irreverent guide to the English language.

Ta-Nehisi Coates. **Between the World and Me**, read by the author. Coates attempts to answer important life questions in a letter to his adolescent son in this extraordinary and deeply moving work.

Dean Jobb. **Empire of Deception**. This is the true story of Leo Koretz, who swindled hundreds of people out of millions through investments in nonexistent timberland and oil wells.

Paul Fischer. **A Kim Jong-Il Production: The Extraordinary True Story of a Kidnapped Filmmaker, His Star Actress, and a Young Dictator's Rise to Power**. The amazing, true story of the South Korean famous actress and her filmmaker husband who were kidnapped and forced to make films for the North Korean government under Kim Jong-Il for several years.

Kelly Link. **Get in Trouble: Stories**, read by a full cast. Brilliantly dramatized short stories. Great tales for the road!

These new audiobooks for adults, and others for kids, are available now at the Takoma Park Maryland Library.



THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

As of April 30, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue assigned to the station have responded to 184 fire-related incidents in 2016. The department addressed or assisted with 1,080 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 1,264. Totals for 2015 were 208 and 1,040 representing an increase of 16 incidents.

During April, Takoma Park volunteers put in a total 1,585.5 hours of standby time at the station compared to 1,672.5 hours in April 2015. Grand totals as of April were 6,485.5 hours compared to 6,084.5 hours in 2015, an increase of 401 hours.

Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported as of May 19, 21 people

have died in fire compared to 26 in May 2015.

Smoke alarms must be replaced after 10 years

Smoke alarms do not last forever. If your alarms are 10 years old or older, they need to be replaced with new alarms.

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Test alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or if they do not sound when tested.

Maryland's new smoke alarm Law requires the replacement of any battery-only smoke alarms with new smoke alarms powered by 10-year, long-life, sealed-in batteries by January 1, 2018.

IMPORTANT: Never remove required hard-wired smoke alarms and replace with any type of battery-only smoke alarms.

Years of service milestones

At the Takoma Park VFD membership meeting held on May 11, lifetime members Mike DeVore (45 years) and Steve Novik (40 years) were honored for their years of commitment and dedication to the department and community. Congratulations to both!

Passport Services

Passport services are available on first come, first served basis Monday through

Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center on the second floor. Takoma Park staff encourage calling the City's main phone number at 301-891-7100 and checking if the office is open before departing for the Community Center for passport services.

For additional information, visit takom-aparkmd.gov/services/passports.



HOUSING MAILBOX



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

A landlord contacted the Mailbox regarding whether a tenant could be charged a fee for extermination services.

In accordance with Section 6.16.090 (Fees) of the city's Landlord-Tenant Law Fees for routine and emergency extermination services are prohibited at all multi-family rental facilities. Landlords may not charge tenants for these services.

Effective May 1, 2016 new Administrative Fee Regulations (2016-01) were issued, which include the following general provisions:

Fees may not be charged for services and amenities previously included in the rent for the rental unit or were provided to current or prior tenants at no cost.

With limited exception landlords may not charge any fee other than those fees specified in the new Regulations.

With limited exception fees may not exceed the maximum amount established in the new Regulations.

It should be noted that the new Regulations also address previously existing fees by providing that (1) landlords who have charged fees for optional services and amenities prior to May 1, 2016 and reported these fees on their Annual Rent Reports may continue these fees but may not increase them even if these fees are not specified in the new

Regulations and (2) Landlords who have charged fees for optional services and amenities that are higher than the maximum fees established by the new Regulations may continue to charge these fees but not increase them if they were reported on their Annual Rent Report.

A complete permissible Fee Schedule may be reviewed at Section 5 of Administrative Regulation 2016-16 which may be viewed at the city's website www.takom-aparkmd.gov.

Tenants and landlords with questions regarding the city's Landlord-Tenant and COLTA Laws can contact me at 301-891-7215 or mosesw@takomaparkmd.gov.

TPMS students: Organized to make a difference for fire safety

On the morning of Saturday, April 16, two Takoma Park Middle School students rang the doorbells at many Takoma Park homes. The students at the door were part of six fire safety teams going throughout the City asking if they could assist residents with fire safety checks and information. Each team had two TPMS students, two TP firefighters and two adults.

Trained by the Red Cross, and working with the TP Fire Department, the TPMS students greeted residents, told them about the fire safety project, provided information and asked residents questions:

- When did you last check your smoke alarm?
- Do you have an agreed upon meeting place if you all get separated?
- How old is your smoke alarm? (Maximum operation is 10 years.)
- How many smoke alarms do you have? (There should be one on each floor and near the sleeping areas.)

Led by the students, these teams provided information about fire emergency preparation and dealing with power outages and distributed house plan cards so residents could mark their exits. If residents' smoke alarms were too old or not working, TP fire

department team members installed new ones at no cost. Moreover, if there were deaf people in the house, the Red Cross was immediately alerted, and a firefighter returned and installed an alarm designed for the deaf. This is the first time the

Red Cross has conducted the fire safety project with middle school students. Bravo, TPMS.

Eighth graders Helen Do and Sophia Weng, two of TPMS students who participated in the project, are members of Difference Makers (www.difference-makers.org), a Takoma Park

Middle School organization students started in 2009. Since then, the Difference Makers have grown from 40 to about 160 members, incorporated as a nonprofit organization, and sponsored and participated in many volunteer activities. The group's sponsor is science teacher Bryan Goehring.

For the fire safety program, Helen Do had contacted the Red Cross. Information was then emailed to all Difference Makers at TPMS with a registration form. Training by the Red Cross was held at the TP Firehouse. Teams were assigned to different streets with the materials and checklists. And off they went throughout Takoma Park.



CROSSROADS 2016

SUMMER SERIES Friday Nights on

Holton Lane
Across from the mural
Food & Craft Vendors
Bring a chair or Blanket

MOVIES
7:30 - 10:00 PM

June 17 Akeelah and the Bee
July 22 E.T. The Extra Terrestrial
Aug 19 Las Mujeres Reales Tienen Curvas Nombre (Real Women Have Curves)

CONCERTS
6:30 - 10:00 PM

June 24 Ruthie & The Wranglers
July 29 Elikeh
Aug 26 The U-Liners

For more info
and up-dates

takomalangley.org

Phone 301-445-7910

Takoma/Langley Crossroads



Hillary Clinton



Bernie Sanders



Donald Trump

In primary, Takoma Park voters go with the winners

By Bob Guldin

On primary election day April 26, the voters of Takoma Park did a very good job of picking winners. In other words, we voted mostly for the same candidates that our neighbors voted for in the rest of Maryland and Maryland's 8th Congressional District – despite the city's lingering reputation for being full of wild-eyed radicals.

That was especially true for the Democratic primary — and Takoma Park voted overwhelmingly Democratic. Here's how big that margin is. In the Democratic presidential primary, 4,022 people voted. In the Republican presidential primary, 167 people voted. That means 96 percent of the ballots cast for U.S. president in Takoma Park were on the Democratic side.

In our area, three Democratic primary races got the lion's share of the attention – and of the advertising and funds and lawn signs and volunteers. Those were the presidential race (Hillary Clinton vs. Bernie Sanders), the race to fill Barbara Mikulski's U.S. Senate seat (Chris Van Hollen vs. Donna Edwards and others), and the contest to fill the House of Representatives 8th Congressional District seat currently held by Van Hollen. The three heavy hitters in that race were Jamie Raskin, David Trone and Kathleen Matthews.

In the Democratic presidential race, Takoma Park voters were almost a mirror image of voters statewide. In the city, we counted 2,525 votes for Hillary (63%) and 1,449 for Bernie (36%). That compares to 63% statewide for Hillary and 34% for Bernie.

In the Democratic Senate primary, Takoma Park gave 74% of our votes to Van Hollen vs. 24% for Edwards. Statewide, the totals were Van Hollen 53% and Edwards 39%. That big Takoma Park majority is not surprising since Van Hollen has great name recognition here, having represented Takoma Park in Congress for 13 years.

But the Democratic House race was one in which Takoma Park most strongly showed its "favorite son" colors. State Senator Jamie Raskin, a resident of the city and a well-known political figure, received 2,729 votes (69% of the total). Businessman David Trone got 415 votes in Takoma Park (10%), and Kathleen Matthews got 321 votes (8%). Will Jawando came in fourth,

with 282 votes (7%).

How did those numbers compare with the totals for the entire 8th Congressional District? There, the percentages were Raskin 34% (just half the percentage he got in his home town, but still in the lead), Trone 27%, Matthews 24% and Jawando 5%.

It was widely reported that the House primary in District 8 was the most expensive ever in the United States due in large part to massive advertising and direct mail campaigns by David Trone, who funded his own campaign.

GOP Results

Republican voters also went to the polls for the presidential, Senate and House races. In Takoma Park, the presidential tally was 63 votes (38%) for John Kasich, 57 (34%) for Donald Trump and 36 (22%) for Senator Ted Cruz. Statewide the numbers were 54% for Trump, Kasich 23%, and Cruz 19%.

In the U.S. Senate race, GOP voters had a choice of 14 candidates. Takoma Park Republicans cast 32 votes (23%) for Kathy Szeliga and 20 votes (14%) for Chris Chaffee. At the state level, Szeliga also racked up the most votes with 36%, which means she will face off against Chris Van Hollen in November.

For the District 8 congressional contest, the city's Republican voters gave 51 votes (38%) to Dan Cox, 23 to Jeffrey Jones (17%), and 19 to Shelly Skolnick (14%). In this race too, Takoma Park voters were aligned with the rest of District 8, where Cox won with 44% of the votes cast.

All the figures quoted here are from the Montgomery County and Maryland Board of Elections websites, and are not officially certified. To check out the state results, which extend back to the 1980s, go to www.elections.state.md.us/elections/2016/results/primary/index.html.

We should also acknowledge that all the numbers cited above as Takoma Park totals are technically approximations for the City because Takoma Park contains four voting precincts (numbered 13-04, 13-06, 13-21 and 13-68), and all the votes are tallied by precinct. And one of those precincts contains a small sliver of Silver Spring, too, so these numbers are not 100 percent Takoma Parkian. Nonetheless, they provide an excellent point of comparison for how our City voted compared to the rest of the state and nation.

Lunch and learn gets local support

By Morgan Fecto

Come summer 2017, local bistro and raw oyster bar Republic will give more to Takoma Park than its Duck Confit Cubano. More specifically, the restaurant will give its whole kids menu to the community.

"Two dollars of every kid's menu item will go to the Lunch and Learn program," said Republic's Co-owner and Executive Chef Danny Wells. "The goal is to help provide as many as 55 laptops to the program by the end of this year."

Now kid's menu dishes, including parmesan kale cakes and house-made chicken nuggets, will feed more than one child. Wells said Republic will continue collecting donations for the Lunch and Learn program until the end of this year.

"I recommended this to Danny for a number of reasons," Mayor Kate Stewart said. "One of my goals as mayor is to make sure that we have an inclusive community — that residents across Takoma Park have a sense of the whole city. There's a need for Lunch and Learn in our community, and connecting residents who frequent Danny's restaurant and making them aware of that need is important."

The Lunch and Learn program is a six-week summer program sponsored by the City and Montgomery County. The program feeds student who receive free and reduced price lunches during the school year and aims to shrink the achievement gap with reading courses, math courses, and life-skill boosters, such as swimming lessons.

"When I was first elected, Essex House became a part of my ward," said Ward 5 Councilmember Jarrett Smith. "I had a meeting with residents to find out what they needed and parents said over and over, 'We need something for our kids to do over the summer.' That's how Lunch

and Learn was born."

MCPS provides the food for the program, residents run the day-to-day activities, and local organizations can contribute. MANUP, Adventist Community Services of Greater Washington, and Pepco have sponsored Lunch and Learn in previous years.

Wells and Black Restaurant Group Owner Jeff Black found that the program's values aligned with Republic's too. "It was Jeff's suggestion that we pick a local children's-based charity. It just fit because Republic is so intertwined and such a neighborhood restaurant," Wells said. At the same time Wells and Black were considering options for children's charities, Mayor Stewart suggested that Wells and Republic fundraise for Lunch and Learn. "It was kind of serendipitous," Wells said.

With its fourth summer in view, Lunch and Learn has already registered 40 students from just one local apartment complex for the 2016 program. However, contributions from the community will be important for the program to grow, Smith said.

"It was always a goal for me for the private sector to invest in Lunch and Learn because you can't sustain these programs without public dollars," Smith said. "I think it's fantastic that Republic is going to be such a major donor."

Supporting Lunch and Learn was a no-brainer for Wells, who went to Piney Branch Elementary School and Takoma Park Middle School and realized he wanted to be a chef while washing dishes at Savory (now Capital City Cheesecake) as a 16-year-old.

"After that I knew that I wanted to open a restaurant in Takoma Park," Well said. Wells hopes to share his food with local students at a fundraising event in the coming months.

Thunderbolts June 2016 Home Schedule

The Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts play in the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League, a wooden bat league composed of ten teams in Virginia, D.C. and Maryland. Top college players are recruited to play for the team. Players from outside our area stay with host families in Takoma Park and Silver Spring. If you are interested in hosting a player, call 301-983-1358.

Home games are at Montgomery Blair Baseball Stadium. 51 East University Boulevard, Silver Spring, Maryland in the Four Corners Area

Admission Prices: Adults - \$5.00; Children under 18 - \$2.00; Youth baseball and softball players in uniform and children under the age of 5 get in free.

Mon. - Sat. games start at 7 p.m.; Sunday games start at 6 p.m.

Doubleheader on June 26 starts at 4 p.m.

Other Doubleheaders usually start at 5 p.m.

Schedule is subject to change. Check www.tbolts.org for updates.

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT
Wednesday	6/8	D.C. Grays
Friday	6/10	Alexandria Aces
Saturday	6/11	Rockville Express
Friday	6/17	Baltimore Redbirds
Saturday	6/18	Herndon Braves
Tuesday	6/21	Make-up Date (if needed)
Wednesday	6/22	Bethesda Big Train
Saturday	6/25	Vienna Riverdogs
Sunday	6/26	Gaithersburg Giants (DH)
Monday	6/27	Rockville Express
Wednesday	6/29	D.C. Grays
Thursday	6/30	Baltimore Dodgers

JUNE '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 July issue is June 13, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning June 27.

To submit calendar items, email 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, June 1, 7:30 p.m.*
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, June 8, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, June 15, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, June 22, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, June 29, 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. Detailed agendas are always available for review online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas.

Independence Day - City Offices Closed

Monday, July 4

All City offices & facilities will be closed Monday, July 4, for the Independence Day holiday. The Takoma Park Police Department is open 24/7 for emergency services.

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
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

Crossroads Farmers Market

Wednesdays, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Behind Expo Mart at 1021 University Blvd.

Locally grown fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs plus pupusas and other prepared food

Food Truck Fridays

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

Community Self Defense

Wednesdays, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
6836 New Hampshire Ave., Takoma Park
Certified Gracie Jiu Jitsu Black Belt instruction
Free and open to all

Takoma Trukgarten

Saturday, June 4, 12 – 5 p.m.
201 Ethan Allen Ave.
Come out for food trucks, local beers and live music. Event happens rain or shine. Ticket prices vary. For more information, visit www.mainstreettakoma.org/featured-events/takoma-trukgarten.

Takoma Park's 3rd Annual Adult Play Day

Saturday, June 11, 7 – 10 p.m.
Takoma Park VFW
Groove Quest will perform and food trucks will offer dinner with a variety of fun games for people to play.

GriefShare Support Seminar

Sundays through June 12, 3 – 5 p.m.
6810 Eastern Ave., NW
Help with your journey after the loss of a loved one.
Contact Mary-Helen Dove at 301-622-4999 and/or email khadenetaffe@gmail.com and/or thetpchurch.org.

Bike Ride for Clean Water

Sunday, June 12, 8:30 a.m.
Sligo Creek Park at the Channing Drive entrance
Take an inspiring bike ride along Sligo Creek to the Anacostia River and learn about special places along the way.
Free

4th Street Block Party

Saturday, June 18, 4 – 7 p.m.
6900 Block of 4th Street, NW
Food trucks, live music and family fun.
Free

Takoma Park Independence Day Committee Meeting

Tuesday, June 28, 7:30-9 p.m.
Historic Takoma, 7328 Carroll Ave.
If you have questions, contact TPIDC President Gene Herman at gene511@aol.com.

ARTS AND LITERATURE

People's Open Mic

Sundays, 9 p.m.
Republic restaurant, 6939 Laurel Ave.
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

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

Family Outdoor Movie Night

Saturday, June 4, dusk
Ed Wilhelm Field
Get ready for another Family Outdoor Movie Night. The movie will start at dusk at Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary School). Bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a movie under the stars with your family. The Recreation Department will provide one small bag of popcorn per person. Visit our website takomaparkmd.gov/recreation to vote on the movie. For more information, call 301-891-7290

Foreign Puzzle

Thursday, June 9, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
Docs In Progress presents the story of Sharon Marroquin, a dancer, choreographer, teacher and mother who is diagnosed with breast cancer. Even as she undergoes intensive cancer treatments, she channels her frustration with mortality into an artist project titled "Materiality of Impermanence." Through her creative process she escapes into a realm free from physical limitations, disease, child-rearing and teaching. Director Chithra Jeyaram will hold a Q&A after the screening.
Free

Jazz Fest

Sunday, June 12, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Streets of Old Town Takoma Park
Takoma Park once again jumps, swings and jives to the sounds of America's music: Jazz.
Free

Writing a Village

Monday, June 20, 7 – 9 p.m.
TP Community Center Hydrangea Room
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 for more information.

Make Music Day

Tuesday, June 21, all day
Shops around Takoma Park
Make Music is a free celebration of music around the world. Completely different from a typical music festival, Make Music is open to anyone who wants to take part. Every kind of musician — young and old, amateur and professional, of every musical persuasion — pours onto streets, parks, plazas, and porches to share their music with friends, neighbors, and strangers. All of it is free and open to the public.

Annual Youth Arts Night

Thursday, June 23, 7 – 9 p.m.
Celebrate youth participation in the arts at Dance Exchange's Annual Youth Arts Night. Participants of the summer Teen Leadership Institute, who have built the skills and tools it takes to be a young artist, leader and change maker present work created at the institute around a theme chosen by the group. All ages welcome.
Dance Exchange, 7117 Maple Ave.

Photo Salon

Monday, June 27, 7 – 9 p.m.
TP Community Center Hydrangea Room
A monthly salon for photographers to show and critique work. Professional, fine art, and amateur photographers are welcome. Contact Rob Rudick at robrudick@yahoo.com or at 301-270-2323 for more information.

Upcoming Events

127th Independence Day Parade, Concert & Fireworks

The parade begins at 10 a.m. at the intersection of Carroll and Ethan Allen avenues. A ceremony for parade winners, and a concert will begin at 7 p.m. at Takoma Park Middle School. A fireworks show is scheduled to take place at Takoma Park Middle School beginning around 9:30 p.m. (A rain date will be held on the first clear evening). A reminder: All fireworks, including sparklers, are illegal in Montgomery County.
Parade: Carroll and Ethan Allen avenues
Fireworks and concert: Takoma Park Middle School
Monday, July 4, Parade 10 a.m. Fireworks: Approximately 9:30 p.m.

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, 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
- Stay up to date with city news and blogs from City Staff, the Mayor and Council at takomaparkmd.gov/news
- Make a service request or report an issue using "My TkPk," an online and application based reporting tool: takomaparkmd.gov/services/my-tkpk



Community Conversation: Youth Success

Saturday, June 18, 12:30 p.m. Takoma Park Community Center

The Community Conversation on Youth Success, which will focus on youth programming, is designed to provide participants with an opportunity to learn about current programs and service offerings geared toward youth in our area, engage in a discussion about needs and gaps in what is currently being offered, and consider how the City of Takoma Park can work toward addressing those needs and gaps.

