



WHAT'S NEW?

Preferred Registration for Takoma Park Residents

Details on p. 7

City offices closed

Nov. 11, 24, 25, 26 & 27
Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving

Trash holidays

Veteran's Day
No collection Friday, Nov. 11
Trash, food waste, and recycling will be collected on Saturday, Nov. 12.

Thanksgiving
No collection on Thursday, Nov. 24 or Friday, Nov. 25.

Thursday, Nov. 24 trash pickup on Wednesday, Nov. 23.

Friday, Nov. 25 trash pickup on Saturday, Nov. 26



The Takoma Park Recreation Center where the newly formed friends group held its first meeting last month

That's what friends are for

By Rick Henry

Upon visiting the Takoma Park Recreation Center on New Hampshire Avenue a couple of years ago, Priscilla Labovitz decided to exercise more than her body; she decided to exercise her organizing abilities.

"I saw it (the Center) for the first time when I went to take a Pilates class there, and I couldn't believe how poor the facilities were, especially compared to the Community Center (on Maple Avenue)," she said. "I thought this inequity needed fixing, so I decided to do something."

She joined the City's Recreation Committee and researched information about the center and its administration. But the

main result of Labovitz's effort was the formulation of the Friends of the Takoma Park Recreation Center, a group dedicated to improving, advocating and developing programming for the center. The group held its initial meeting on Oct. 5, and Labovitz said approximately 25 people attended, including numerous youths from the community around the Rec Center, who came with enthusiasm and ideas for the facility.

"I was thrilled at the turnout and enthusiasm and the many ideas that members of the community had," Labovitz said. "They have clearly been thinking about this and are ready to move."

FRIENDS □ Page 3

Parking in Takoma Park: Studying spaces

By Helen Lyons

Takoma Park is doing a comprehensive review of all of its parking practices in response to new development and changes in some of the parking pressures, as well as management in the City, says Erkin Ozberk, the City's senior planner for Housing and Community Development.

"We're taking a look at everything we do, and we're trying to bring it up to speed and be more proactive," Ozberk explained.

The study covers parking issues, including meters, handicap parking, residential parking permit (RPP) zones, commercial vehicle parking, parking "hot spots," enforcement and City Code and regulations. Many of the pressures are particularly



felt in Ward 1, where recent development in the Old Town area of Takoma Park is one factor that has contributed to increased traffic and demand for parking. "There are parking challenges in Montgomery College, Takoma Park Elementary School and at times around the Presbyterian church on Tulip Avenue," said Council-

PARKING □ Page 3

Takoma Tidbits



City residents show their support for the Takoma Park Dog Park during a recent 4th of July Parade.

Dog park permit received; construction is under way

The City finally has the MNCPPC permit necessary for dog park construction, and construction began Oct. 20. Construction is expected to take six to ten weeks, and a grand opening date will be set soon.

Parkmobile is now available in Takoma Park

Residents and visitors may now pay for parking at Takoma Park parking meters using their mobile phones for a \$.45 transaction fee. To use the new Parkmobile system, customers register free through the app or online at www.parkmobile.com. Once registered, they can use the mobile app, the internet, or call the toll-free number listed on the green meter stickers to pay for parking. Residents are encouraged to download that app and begin using the City's newest tool. For more information about City parking regulations, please visit takomaparkmd.gov/government/police/parking-information.

Residents appointed to Noise Control Board

At its Oct. 19 meeting, the City Council passed resolution appointing these residents to the newly re-established Noise Control Board: Beau Archer (Ward 6), Nicholas Kowalski (Ward 3), Adriana Kuehnel (Ward 6), Anne Perrault (Ward 3), and Josh Rudder (Ward 3). The board's primary responsibility is to adjudicate two-party noise disturbance complaints and assist and advise the City on noise control issues.

Washington Adventist hosts Diabetes Expo

Get the latest information on diabetes management and learn how to prevent complications through

TAKOMA TIDBITS □ Page 11

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

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Literacy for All
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DOCKET

City Council & Committee Calendar

OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday, Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m.
 Wednesday, Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m.
 Wednesday, Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m.
 Wednesday, Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m.

Regular City Council meetings will take place in the Community Center Auditorium. The meeting on Nov. 16 will take place at the Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue.

CITY COUNCIL/TREE COMMISSION JOINT MEETING

Monday, Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m.
 TPCC Azalea Room

ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION

Tuesday, Nov. 22, 7:00 p.m.
 TPCC Hydrangea Room

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

(tentative) Thursday, Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.
 TPCC Council Conference Room

COMMEMORATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, November 15, 7 p.m.
 TPCC Hydrangea Room

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, Nov. 7, 7:15 p.m.
 TPCC Hydrangea Room

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m.
 TPCC Hydrangea Room

FACADE ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, Nov. 15, 6:30 p.m.
 TPCC Council Conference Room

RECREATION COMMITTEE

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

SAFE ROADWAYS COMMITTEE

Thursday, Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.
 TPCC Lilac Room

TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, Nov. 8, 6 p.m.
 TPCC Hydrangea 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/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

All actions take place in scheduled legislative meetings of the City Council. Only negative votes and abstentions/recusals are noted. Adopted legislation is available for review online at www.takomaparkmd.gov.

Important City Phone Numbers

Main	301-891-7100
City Clerk.....	301-891-7267
City Manager	301-891-7229
City TV	301-891-7118
Finance	301-891-7212
Housing & Community Development.....	301-891-7119
Library.....	301-891-7259
Lifelong Takoma	301-891-7232
Police	301-270-1100 / Emergency 911
Public Works.....	301-891-7633
Recreation/Facilities Rental.....	301-891-7290



RESOLUTION 2016-37

Adopted Sept. 28, 2016

Naming "Dorothy's Woods"
 The resolution names the City-Owned Parcel of the Washington-McLaughlin Property "Dorothy's Woods" in honor of Dorothy Barnes, longtime City resident, local historian, longtime occupant of a house adjacent to the woods.

RESOLUTION 2016-38

Adopted Sept. 28, 2016

Ethics Commission Appointments
 The resolution reappoints Arthur Gary (Ward 6), Patricia Anne Murphy (Ward 2); Anthony Pegues (Ward 4), and Michael Richards (Ward 1) to the Ethics Commission.

RESOLUTION 2016-39

Adopted Sept. 28, 2016

Tree Commission Appointment
 The resolution reappoints Tina Murray (Ward 4) to the Tree Commission.

RESOLUTION 2016-40

Adopted Oct. 12, 2016

Paramedic for the Takoma Park Fire Station

The resolution urges the Montgomery County Executive and County Council to include funding for a paramedic at the Takoma Park Fire Station in the county's fiscal year 2018 budget.

RESOLUTION 2016-41

Adopted Oct. 19, 2016

Providing Direction on Conversion to LED Street Lighting
 The resolution supports converting streetlights on wooden poles in Takoma Park to LED lights through the PEPCO conversion program.

RESOLUTION 2016-42

Adopted Oct. 19, 2016

Noise Control Board Appointments
 The resolution appoints Beau Archer (Ward 6), Nicholas Kowalski (Ward 3), Adriana Kuehnel (Ward 6), Anne Perrault (Ward 3), and Josh Rudder (Ward 3) to the Noise Control Board.

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 Oct. 17, 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. Two vacancies.

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.

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.

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 two 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.

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. Up to five vacancies.

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. Up to two vacancies.

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.

City would welcome aquatics center

In a joint letter to Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett dated Oct. 25, Takoma Park Mayor Kate Stewart (on behalf of the City Council) and Erik Wangsness, president, Adventist Healthcare/Washington Adventist Hospital, conveyed their support for the construction of a Montgomery County Department of Recreation aquatics center on the Takoma Park campus of Washington Adventist Hospital. Their letter noted that “an aquatics center would be an asset to both the hospital and the community.”

It went on to make the case for locating the aquatics center in Takoma Park by highlighting several key fiscal and social issues. Here are some of the main points that were outlined:

- Small, standalone swimming pools are expensive to operate and do not meet the needs of a large, diverse population. In contrast, aquatics facilities have pools for several uses, including meeting therapeutic needs, recreational needs, exercise needs and providing space for competitive swimming.
- As Washington Adventist Hospital prepares to move its main hospital to White Oak, the City of Takoma Park and hospital leaders are looking at the current site for uses that complement the health services that will remain and, also importantly, improve the overall health



The strong need for the pool by children and seniors in this area of the County convinced the County Council to provide funds to keep the swimming pool at Piney Branch Elementary School open, despite the pool's limitations of size and accessibility.

and wellbeing of the community.

- An aquatics center in Takoma Park, on the edge of East Silver Spring, would provide an enormous community

service. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), African-American children between the ages 5 and 14 are three times more likely to drown than white children. One of the factors the CDC points to for this disparity is the lack of access to swimming pools. For the young people who live in the Takoma Park/East Silver Spring community, especially young children of color and low-income residents, having a place close to where they live to learn water safety helps our community address these disparities and provides important life skills to our young people.

The letter concluded by stating that “The City and the Hospital wish to work with the Department of Recreation on evaluating the space needs for the aquatics facility, as well as determining the likely costs of development.” It also indicated that the two organizations want to request a General Assembly bond bill for the project and asked for the support of Leggett and the County Council. Both Dr. Weymouth Spence, president of Washington Adventist University, and Dr. Brad Stewart, vice-president and provost of Montgomery College, support this effort.

To read the entire letter, visit takomaparkmd.gov/news-alert/letter-from-city-council-and-wah-president-regarding-aquatics-center.

FRIENDS

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Those who attended the meeting are not the only ones who have been thinking about the Rec Center. Gregory Clark, director of recreation for the City, said that the New Hampshire Avenue facility is an important issue.

He said the City has completed two recreation studies in the past year, one to determine what type of programming and amenities residents would like to see for the facility and the other to determine the feasibility of acquiring the property, which is owned by the Maryland National

Capital Parks and Planning Commission (MNCPPC), or building a new facility on other existing property owned by the city.

According to Clark, MNCPPC owns the facility and leases it to Montgomery County, which then tasks the City with providing programming. “The first thing the City needs to do is to figure out whether to acquire the property,” he said. “If we don’t do that, there are limitations to what we can do because we don’t own the building,” Clark said.

Clark said that the results of the survey findings and a discussion about future steps for recreation in the City are on the agenda for the next City Council meeting

on Wednesday, Nov. 16, which will be held at the Recreation Center. No matter what the council decides, Clark says he welcomes the opportunity to work with the Friends.

“We (the City) have a lot of desire to improve that facility and better serve the residents, especially in that ward, and working with the Friends and the Recreation Committee will only improve whatever situation we have,” he said.

Takoma Park Recreation Supervisor Vince Cain, who is in charge of the facility, agrees. Cain attended the initial Friends meeting on Oct. 5 and came away impressed and energized. Given that the

facility serves a lot of youth from the immediate area, he was especially pleased so many attended the event and provided input. “There were a lot of good ideas, especially from the kids in the community, focusing on new programming,” he said.

He said believes the work of the Friends and other recreation advocates will allow the New Hampshire Center to build on the programs that are already in place and “enhance the fitness and wellness of the residents of Takoma Park.”

“It’s always good to have extra resources and advocates,” he said, especially those like Labovitz.

PARKING

■ From page 1

member Peter Kovar (Ward 1). “In Ward 1, just about every street and every block has a different parking issue of some concern, and it’s quite local in that sense, so we’re going to have to find a policy that works for the city but is also sensitive to the specific concerns that arise in these areas.”

Kovar is already seeking solutions across the DC boundary and hopes that the parking study will help in his efforts. “I’ve reached out to the city council mem-

ber from Ward 4 of the District of Columbia,” Kovar said, “to talk about whether there are ways, through more collaboration between Takoma Park and the district, that we could get a better common approach to parking in Old Town.”

Laura Barclay, the executive director of the Old Takoma Business Association, said that people were concerned that maximum capacity was being reached in the commercial district, but that “based on studies during peak and nonpeak times, it’s been shown that there are definitely still spaces available.”

“That doesn’t minimize the fact that there are indeed pressure spots or areas

that still have parking challenges, where parking isn’t readily available or easily noticeable,” Barclay added.

Her ideas for solutions include additional cross-jurisdictional signage and efforts online on behalf of businesses and the City to include more information about available parking on their websites. “We’ve been thinking about this for a long time,” Barclay said, “so it was good to see the study and get it all official.”

The study builds on survey results, community input and grant-funded research and mapping.

Residents completing the survey can check off which items being considered for review in the study they consider a priority, such as “supporting opportunities for car-share and ride-hailing” or “improvements to bike and pedestrian facilities.”

“There’s some tension between providing ample parking and providing alternatives to driving,” said Joe Edgell, the chair of the City’s Safe Roadways Committee. “One of the City Council’s directives when they set up the Safe Roadways Committee was to provide people alternatives to driving. If there are plenty of places to park, people will be encouraged to drive.”

Edgell pointed to the benefits of cutting back on car use. “It reduces pollution lo-

cally,” he said. “It’s far healthier to walk and bike than use your car, and it’s cheaper. It’s better for the environment; it’s better for the people. Communities are more livable if they have fewer cars. Study after study proves this.”

If parking is readily available, Edgell said, people would have less incentive to not drive.

“If you want to get people out of their cars, you need to make it easier for them to not use their cars or harder for them to use the cars - one of the two. The City wants to be responsive to its voters. People want ample parking, but that has secondary effects. It’s good that we’re looking at this issue comprehensively, but the difficult decision is the one the City Council has to make: Okay, now what do we do with this data?”

Senior Planner Erkin Ozberk hopes to present the recommendations that come as a result of the parking study to the City Council in January. “Now is the time for folks to look at the information that’s been posted,” Ozberk said, “and let us know how they feel about it.”

To learn more about the parking study and submit their comments, residents can go to takomaparkmd.gov/parking-study.



THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

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Assistant: Sean Gossard
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Letters to the editor, reports by community groups, calendar items and other submissions will be considered for publication; send to tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov

takomaparkmd.gov or Newsletter, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912.

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

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

The Newsletter is printed on recycled-content paper.





BUILDING COMMUNITY

Dorothy's Woods dedicated

A brief ceremony was held last month to celebrate the dedication of "Dorothy's Woods." The woods on the City-owned parcel of the Washington-McLaughlin property were named for longtime Takoma Park resident and local historian, Dorothy Thomsen Barnes, by City Council Resolution 2016-37. At the dedication, Mayor Kate Stewart presented a copy of the resolution to Ms. Barnes.



Longtime Takoma Park resident Dorothy Barnes and Mayor Kate Stewart at the dedication of Dorothy's Woods on Sunday, Oct. 23

The City purchased the land at a tax auction on Jan. 22, 2015. The Takoma Park community supported this action and made more than \$53,000 in contributions towards its purchase. The property is home to a diversity of mature trees, birds and other wildlife as well as a natural spring. The preservation of this natural area is important to the community.

Residents requested that the parcel be named "Dorothy's Woods" in recognition of the relationship between Dorothy Barnes, lifelong resident, local historian, and avid lover of nature, and the property that was behind the house she has lived in nearly all her life.

As per the City Council's resolution, "naming the area as Dorothy's Woods serves as recognition of the contributions that Dorothy has made to Takoma Park by telling our story and preserving our history, and moreover, the name will continue the lifelong association between Dorothy and the woods." The resolution is available for review online at documents.takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/resolutions/2016/resolution-2016-37.pdf.

New Maryland laws

Various new Maryland laws went into effect on Oct. 1, 2016. The most well-known may be the Drunk Driving Reduction Act of 2016, also known as Noah's Law, named after slain Montgomery County Police Officer Noah Leotta. Leotta, 24, was hit Dec. 3, 2015, by a car on Rockville Pike; he died a week later. The driver charged with fatally striking Leotta – while he was working as part of a holiday task force fighting drunk driving – pleaded guilty to a manslaughter charge.

On May 19, Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan signed SB 945, also known as Noah's Law. The law requires the use of ignition interlocks for convicted drunk drivers; the devices prevent vehicles from starting when they detect a certain level of alcohol on the driver's breath and require the driver to retest at random points while they are driving.

During the past five years, impaired drivers have accounted for roughly one-third of all roadway deaths in Maryland. Under Noah's Law, drivers are required to participate in Maryland's Ignition Interlock Program for the following convictions:

- Driving under the influence
- Driving while impaired while transporting a minor under the age of 16
- Driving while intoxicated with an initial breathalyzer test refusal
- Homicide or life-threatening injury by motor vehicle while DUI or DWI

Below are some of the other new laws, but this list is not all inclusive.

Providing Alcohol to Underage Drinkers/Alex and Calvin's Law (HB409): Following the death of Alex Murk and Calvin Li in a 2015 drunken-driving accident after a party in Montgomery County, this law prohibits people from allowing underage individuals to consume alcohol if they should have known those individuals would drive under the influence.

Child Abuse and Neglect (SB310, HB245): Anyone involved in an investigation of child abuse or neglect must report suspicions of another individual knowingly failing to report child abuse to the appropriate board, agency, institution or facility.

Criminal Law-Stalking (SB278/HB155): This law expands the definition of stalker from inciting physical fears or threats to include causing emotional distress.

Death or Injury by Vehicle (SB0160, HB157): The law increases penalties for offenders who commit vehicular manslaughter who have been convicted of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol previously. Offenders can now face up to 15 years in prison and \$15,000 in fines.

For more information about new laws that have recently gone into effect in Maryland, visit mgaleg.maryland.gov.

Community Quality of Life Grants recipients announced

Designed to provide financial support for specific programs, projects and events which improve residents' quality of life by providing greater access and opportunities for participation in the arts and sciences, the City's Community Quality of Life Grants program has completed its selection process for FY17. The Grants Review Committee recommended that eight organizations receive funding for their projects (listed here from highest amount awarded to lowest):



An October 2015 photo from "New Hampshire Ave: This Is a Place To..." a multi-year creative placemaking project in collaboration with the City's Department of Housing and Community Development that utilized the power of artmaking and performance to bring new meaning to the relationships between individuals, communities, and the places in which they live and work.

1. Adventist Community Services of Greater Washington (\$10,000)

This grant will enable ACSGW to offer a basic computer repair program at a reduced cost. Fifteen young people will be trained in ACSGW's Basic Computer Repair Program. Participants will learn to disassemble, repair and reassemble computers.

2. Collaboration Council - African Arts Culture and Education Academy (ACE) Essex House Friday Program (\$9,412)

ACE is a 21st century community learning center project operating four days each week from Mondays to Thursdays at Essex House in Takoma Park, focusing on reading, language arts and African culture for students in first through fifth grades.

3. Artivate - Takoma Wings Academy (\$9,000)

Takoma Wings Academy is a three-week summer camp in which middle school boys and girls from low-income, immigrant families investigate the science and engineering of flight in nature, aviation, and space exploration as well as flight as a means of self-expression in the arts.

4. Docs In Progress (\$8,238)

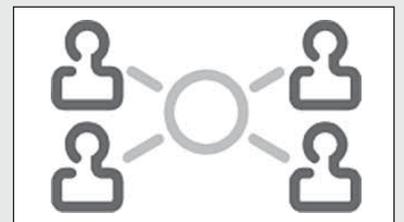
Documentary Dialogues Takoma will harness the power of video technology to engage Takoma Park residents through screenings, discussions, and hands-on activities to explore how stories define us, express our values, relate our experiences in human dimensions and connect us with each other and the world around us.

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



2016 Community Stories Festival: Q&A with Doc in Progress Executive Director Erica Ginsberg

Considering a third party candidate for any office in this month's election? Would you vote for a candidate with a reduced vocabulary, one name and more hair than what you'd find on your Uncle Louie's back?



Photo by Dented Lens Photography

Hank, the feline star of *Wild about Hank*; We're talking about a cat (What were you thinking?) that ran for the U.S. Senate seat against Tim Kaine and George Allen during the 2012 election in Virginia. *Wild about Hank*, directed by Emma Kouguell, debuts at the free Community Stories Festival at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 10, at the Takoma Park Community Center, and is one of many films presented by Docs in Progress.



Erica Ginsberg

We Are Takoma asked Docs in Progress Executive Director Erica Ginsberg to tell us more about Community Stories Festival and this year's films. Questions were submitted to her by email, and her answers have been lightly edited for space and grammar.

We Are Takoma: Describe the Community Stories Festival.

Ginsberg: The Community Stories Festival grew out of Docs in Progress wanting to give filmmakers a showcase for their documentaries about local topics. The festival celebrates how documentary film can be used both to reveal untold stories of our local community and also bring that community together.

The festival has been a program of Docs in Progress since 2010. That year, we held a one-night showcase screening in a small auditorium of films produced by adult and youth students in our documentary filmmaking classes. All the topics were local. While we expected their friends and family would show up, what we had not counted on was that we would have a standing room only crowd. What started as a one night festival for 75 people has grown into a multi-day event which, last year, attracted more than 500 people. Since 2013 one of the most popular nights of the festival has taken place at the Takoma Park Community Center, and we expect this year to be no different.



Mr. Gabe and the Circle Time All-Stars

Enjoy an afternoon of children's songs and music with Mr. Gabe and the Circle Time All-Stars at the Community Center auditorium on Saturday, Nov. 12, at 4 p.m. Winners of two Parents' Choice Awards, the group performs a highly interactive mix of songs from many cultural traditions, family-friendly folk and pop songs, and Mr. Gabe originals. The program is free.

We Are Takoma: How has the festival been received in the community/surrounding area?

Ginsberg: We do year-round screening programs in partnership with We Are Takoma and get a respectable number of engaged Takoma Park residents for those events. However, Community Stories is on a whole other level. It's no surprise that Takoma Park residents are engaged with the community around them, and this is clear at Community Stories, where many locals attend and engage with the filmmakers, the people in the films and

their neighbors.

We Are Takoma: What impact has it had?

Ginsberg: The biggest impact I see is for the filmmakers and those in the films. The films we show at Community Stories may not get distribution because it is really difficult for short films to make their way in the world of film distribution. They may also be pegged as "local interest" films, even when they have universal themes. Therefore, you are unlikely to see these films at the Sundance Film Festival

or on Netflix. It is really rewarding to see the filmmakers get a chance to see their films on a big screen with a super-engaged audience.

We Are Takoma: What has been the most memorable moment from the Community Stories Festival for you?

Ginsberg: The Q&A's are always memorable because they are a chance for the audience to interact with the filmmakers and also some of the people who are in the films. It is exciting to see that "fourth wall" broken, where the people on the screen are there in the flesh. I also love when people learn new things about their own community—interesting people, untold history or a small business that perhaps they did not know about before.

We Are Takoma: What can you tell us about this year's event?

Ginsberg: While the early years of Community Stories featured only work by our students, since last year, we have opened up submissions to other filmmakers, as long as the topic is local (and, by local, we mean the whole DC Metro area). This year's festival takes place from November 9-12.

Wednesday, Nov. 9 is the opening night. This will take place at the AFI Silver Theatre in Downtown Silver Spring. The early show (6:30 p.m.) features short documentaries about local topics produced by students in our classes. The late show (8:45 p.m.) is the Maryland premiere of *Indivisible*, a film about young "Dreamers" fighting to reunite with their parents, who have been deported for being undocumented immigrants. Both of those screenings are ticketed events (tickets through Docs in Progress.)

Thursday, Nov. 10 takes place at the Takoma Park Community Center with a program of short documentaries. The films take us on a journey from the sorriest bus stop in America to the bike trails of DC. We will meet senior citizens energized by a love of the blues, local artists who find inspiration in unusual places, and a feline politico who decides to run for office. The filmmakers are both emerging filmmakers and seasoned pros. Thanks to a partnership with We Are Takoma, the screening in Takoma Park, will be completely free.

Friday, Nov. 11 features a partner program with the Wheaton Film Festival at Chuck Levin's Music Center in Wheaton. This will include film screenings and professional development panels for filmmakers or aspiring filmmakers.

Saturday, Nov. 12 is a day to try your own hand at documentary filmmaking. Docs in Progress will be offering two modestly-priced workshops at our space in Downtown Silver Spring – one on how to shoot documentary video using a mobile phone or tablet and the other on the art of the interview. To find out more: www.docsinprogress.org/communitystories.

Holiday Art Sale

This year give the gift of art – local art – for the holidays. Shop at the Holiday Art Sale on Saturday, Dec. 10, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center. Browse handmade works by local jewelers, potters, painters, knitters, photographers, woodworkers and other artists. Bring your friends and family and make it a social shopping experience. Hope to see you there!



Five Drawer Chests by Kristin Helberg (2015) AND Fountain Pen by Matthew Davis (2015)



RECREATION

Great News!

This winter registration, Takoma Park City residents can register Thursday, Dec. 15 beginning at 8:30 a.m. Non-residents can register on Thursday, Dec. 22 beginning at 8:30 a.m. To confirm if you are a City resident, visit takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council.

YOUTH

EXTENDED CARE

After the Bell 2016-17

This after school childcare program for MCPS 2016-2017 school year will provide a safe environment for children in grades K-5. Participants will engage in daily indoor/outdoor group activities and special events. Each day they will receive a snack, have homework time, and enjoy arts and crafts, sports, board games, free play and more. Transportation will not be provided by the Recreation Dept., please contact MCPS Transportation (301-840-8130) to change your bus route to New Hampshire Towers and we will meet them at the bus stop. The "After the Bell" Program will not operate on days MCPS is closed. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
Kindergarten-5th Grade
Monday-Friday, August 29, 2016-June 16, 2017
3:30 - 6:30 p.m.
\$1,250



SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH



Basketball Skills Clinic

Emphasizing individual improvement is one of the guiding philosophies of this skills clinic. Participants will be provided with excellent coaching which allows each person to develop a sense of pride and individual accomplishment. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Instructor: Greg Harris.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
6-12 years
Saturdays
6 Weeks
November 5-December 17 (No class on 11/26)
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
\$60

Futsal League 2017

Futsal, a sport that is similar to soccer, offers the perfect combination of learning and fun. It is designed to improve fundamental technique and skill development during the winter months. It's also a great opportunity to meet new friends, stay in shape and prepare for the upcoming season. Please note that program registration is first come, first serve and space is limited to 60 participants.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
7-10 years
6 Week Season
Sundays, January 8, 2017-March 12, 2017 (No game on 1/15/17 and 2/12/17)
1 - 4 p.m.
\$60



Winter Basketball League

The Winter Basketball League is a developmental, community league. Program goals are to: - introduce boys and girls



to the fundamentals of basketball - emphasize that playing the game and being a member of a team are more important than winning by not establishing league standings or having playoffs/championship games but rather encourage personal improvement, sportsmanship, and fun - provide comparable playing time for all participants - meet new kids from community and surrounding areas. Practice times vary throughout the week at various local schools. New this year: Grade 7-8 Girl's Division!

Coaching Information: Volunteer coaches are always needed, training is provided. Please contact the Takoma Park Recreation Department if interested 301-891-7284.

Team Assignments: Coed divisions will reflect gender equity based on number of participants.

Special Requests: Requests must be made in writing at time of registration.

Various Local Schools
Gymnasiums
Kindergarten-8th Grade
8 Week Season
Saturdays, January 14, 2017-March 11, 2017
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sundays, January 15 - March 12, 2017
Resident: \$70 / Non-resident: \$80

TEENS

DROP-IN



Teen Lounge

This special room is for TEENS only (Middle School and High Schoolers). You are welcome 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. Stick around on Tuesdays for MANUP!

Takoma Park Community Center
Teen Lounge
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6-12
Monday-Friday
3 - 7 p.m.
Free

M.A.N.U.P.

MANUP is dedicated to developing the next generation of successful leaders by teaching the importance of education, social responsibility, self-empowerment, and economic awareness. Several programs include guest speakers, field trips to various educational and fun locations, career development and more. This mentoring program is made possible by countless volunteer hours. These mentors work in cooperation with the Takoma Park Recreation Department. This is a drop-in program and permission slips are required for trips.

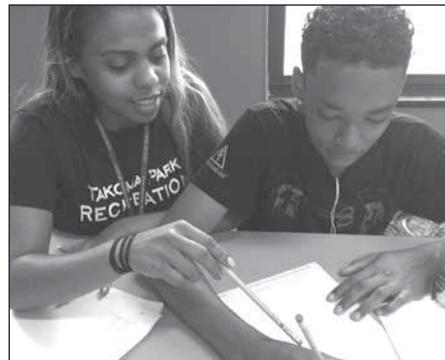
Takoma Park Community Center
Teen Lounge
7500 Maple Avenue
13-21 years
Ongoing Tuesdays
6:30 - 8 p.m.
Free

Education/Development

First of Many

There's something special about being the first, especially being the first in your family to attend and graduate college. First of Many is a series of workshops to help you discover colleges that care about first-generation students, find answers to your questions about college and receive guidance on the road to college. Instructor: Department Staff.

Takoma Park Community Center
Rose Room
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 10-12
Wednesdays, November 2-9
4 - 5 p.m.
Free



Power Hour

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

Takoma Park Community Center
Teen Lounge
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6-12
Ongoing Tuesdays
4 - 5 p.m.
Free

Wisdom in Minutes 101: Life Skills

Taking Teens from Ordinary to Extraordinary! Wisdom in Minutes 101 - Life Skills is a series of workshops to provide strategies and techniques used to guide teens into real world decision making. Some course may include: Resume Basics, Time Management, Interview Preparation, Public Speaking, Essay Writing and Presentation.

Takoma Park Community Center
Rose Room
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6-12
Wednesdays, November 3-17
3 - 5 p.m.
Free

ADULTS

MARTIAL ARTS

Karate Self-Defense

Promote physical fitness, self-defense, leadership and cultural exchange through the practice of a traditional Okinawan karate style, Isshinryu (which means One Heart Way). This program is a partnership between the Takoma Park Recreation Department and the Penn State University Karate Club. Cosponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Instructor: Penn State University Karate Club.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
16 and older
Ongoing Mondays and Wednesdays
7 - 8:30 p.m.
Free with Recreation Center membership

SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH



Go-Go Fitness

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

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
16 years and older
Ongoing Saturdays
12 - 1 p.m.
Drop-in: \$5

Ladies Boot Camp

A total body program that includes a circuit of drills such as jumping jacks, running, push-ups, squats, crunches and weight training. A challenging workout within a quick hour. Students are required to bring their own mat. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Instructor: KJ Total Fitness.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
16 and older
8 Week Sessions
Tuesdays and Thursdays
Session 2: November 1-December 22 (No class on 11/8 and 11/24)
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
\$85
Drop-in: \$10

Pilates

A fun and invigorating workout that teaches controlled movements utilizing the body's "core" - abdomen, back, and hips. Pilates improves core control, coordination, standing alignment and balance with mat exercises. Pilates is the ultimate mind-body exercise for anyone who wants to tone, streamline, and realign their body. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Students are required to bring their own mat and hand weights. Instructor: Nancy Nickell.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Front Room
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
16 and older
Wednesdays
6 Weeks
October 19-November 23
6 - 7 p.m.
\$60

FOREVER YOUNG: 55 PLUS

ART

De-Stress and Self-Express

When was the last time you took time away from carpools, work deadlines, emails and phones? Come relax and color your stress away - not just for kids, coloring has been proven to reduce stress and promote mindfulness, creativity and mental focus. Socialize with friends and neighbors. All

supplies are provided. No rules here, you may color outside the lines. In-person or on-line registration is required with the Recreation Department.

TP Community Center Hydrangea Room
Wednesday evening, November 2, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Free

DROP IN



Harp Happy Singers

Join this happy group of four harp musicians in this audience participation program called "Name that Show." During this special interactive program, participants will hear theme songs associated with the radio, TV and the movies, past and present and have fun guessing musical trivia. Drop-in. Registration is not required.

TP Community Center Azalea Room
Monday, November 14, 1 - 2 p.m.
Free

Recreation Advisory Meeting

Ages 55 and older

Boomers and seniors, let's hear from you. It's

time again to assess your needs for planning your 55 plus recreation program activities for next year. Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager, will host an advisory meeting. Choose the meeting that fits your schedule. Drop-in. No registration is required.

TP Recreation Center Back Room
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
Thursday, November 3, 2 - 3 p.m.

-or-

TP Community Center, Hydrangea Room
7500 Maple Avenue
Saturday, November 5, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Free

TRIPS

Trip #1 National Building Museum

Washington, DC

Thursday, November 10, 8:45 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Trip #2 Smithsonian Museum of African American History & Culture

Washington, DC

Tuesday, November 15, 8:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Trip #3 MusicalTea Performance

Silver Spring, MD

Thursday, November 17, 9:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center
Recreation Office

7500 Maple Avenue

Ages 55 and older

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 Fall 2016 newsletter online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/news.



William Rice helps Trevor Williams in the Multi Media Lab.

Multi Media Lab

By John Webster

The City of Takoma Park has a lot to be thankful for. With the help of City TV, IT and Recreation Department staff, the City of Takoma Park now has a fully functional Multi Media Lab. The lab opened its doors on Monday, Oct. 3 with eight computers that can be utilized by the Takoma Park community with all of the newest software. The Multi Media Lab is open Monday - Wednesday & Friday from 3 - 8 p.m. and Saturday from 12 - 5 p.m.

The staff for the Multi Media Lab are William Rice and Rob Radcliffe. Their goal is to ensure that the Takoma Park community residents are as knowledgeable about internet and communication technology as their peers in other communities.

"The new Multi Media Lab is amazing. It is exactly what we need in the current technological world," Radcliffe said.

"We have an incredible range of professional software, including the entire

Adobe Creative Cloud Suite; Photoshop; Dreamweaver; Premier Pro; Audition; Illustrator; Photoshop; Lightroom; InDesign; Animate and After Effects, as well as Apple's powerful production tools such as FCPX, Motion, Compressor Garageband and others," Rice said.

This lab has the potential to be an oasis for everyone to use the newest software. "I would like the community to be able to learn and use these programs since these skills can provide them with a lot of opportunities in the future, and the cost of Adobe products can be a barrier to people being able to learn and use these programs", Radcliffe said.

"The Multi Media Lab creates a number of positive opportunities. If you want to be creative, we have the tools," Rice said. "Music, art, video, photography, web design, and animation, etc. Wherever your imagination wants to take you, we will help you get there. All ages are welcome. Bring your curiosity and imagination, come learn and have fun."

Both Rice and Radcliffe believe that the goal for the Multi Media Lab is to help people in the community see that they are capable of learning and creating the same content that they see on YouTube or on posters they see and providing them a space where they can learn these skills at their own pace. They also believe that the Multi Media Lab provides opportunities for everyone. There are great computer resources available for the Takoma Park community in this state-of-the-art facility, including the most powerful iMac computers that are fully loaded with a wide range of professional creative software. Come on out and enjoy the fun of the Takoma Park Multi Media Lab.

NEW! Multi Media Lab Open Hours

Located on the second floor of the Community Center, participants will have access to the latest Mac computers, word processing and editing software including but not limited to Final Cut Pro and a variety of other programs. Utilizing this equipment will allow you to produce professional work of the highest quality at your own pace. No instruction provided, work independently. The Multi Media Lab will be closed on Thursdays and Sundays. Instructors: William Rice and Rob Radcliffe.

TP Community Center Multi Media Lab
Monday - Wednesday & Friday, 3 - 8 p.m.
Saturday, 12 - 5 p.m.
Closed on Thursdays and Sundays



A resident registers online for the City's 55+ programs.

Residents register first

By Apryl Motley

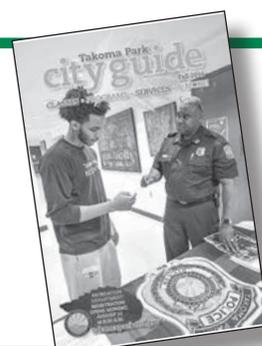
Beginning with registration for winter recreation department classes on Thursday, Dec. 15, Takoma Park residents won't have to worry as much about spaces filling up in some of the more popular programs, such as the ones for seniors. They will register a full week earlier than non-residents, who will be eligible to register for classes on Thursday, Dec. 22.

"We started looking at implementing this policy about a year ago based on the popularity of our programs and classes, which increasingly are full and have waiting lists," said Takoma Park Recreation Director Gregory Clark.

"There needed to be a mechanism in place so that residents would have the first opportunity to participate since we are supported by City tax dollars."

Before coming to Takoma Park 10 years ago, Clark worked in Prince Georges County where early or preferred registration for residents was already in place. "This practice is used in other jurisdictions in our area and around the country," he said.

Residents can take advantage of preferred registration both online and in person. Residency is based on having an address within the City limits. To confirm whether you are a City resident, visit takomaparkmd.gov/news.



For a complete list of offerings, check out the Fall City Guide.

LIBRARY



Photo: Maurice Belanger

Graphic novelist Maris Wicks signs books for her young fans

Pathways to literacy

By Karen MacPherson

Creating pathways to literacy – for various ages and stages – infuses all Library programs. Our efforts start with the youngest children – and their families and caregivers – because research shows that the earlier children are introduced to literacy concepts, the better their chances are for school success. As recent research has shown, by the time children from low-income families reach the age of four, they will have heard 30 million fewer words than their more advantaged peers. Clearly, these children will start school at a huge disadvantage unless there is some intervention.

That's where our Library programs for young children and their parents and caregivers can play a key role in the community. All of our early literacy programs are free, of course, and they are built on research disseminated by the American Library Association showing best practices for getting children ready to read.

A key part of these programs is modeling these best practices for parents and caregivers, so they can bring those practices back into the home. Our Library programs range from the hugely popular Circle Times on Tuesdays and Spanish Circle Times on Thursdays (both now offered twice weekly) to our Wednesday morning early literacy programs offering age-targeted activities for babies, toddlers and preschoolers. We also offer a monthly Petites Chansons (French Circle Time) and are working to create a second monthly French program for preschoolers; our current program is popular with both native French-speakers, many from African Francophone countries, as well as parents who are hoping to start their children on French as a second language.

One Monday evening each month, we provide a fun family literacy activity in our Caldecott Club, where we read and discuss some of the best new picture books, using the criteria of the prestigious

Caldecott Medal. Besides giving families a chance to read some new books together, the Caldecott Club helps develop visual literacy, an increasingly important kind of literacy in our screen-filled world.

Our monthly Comics Jam offers another opportunity to develop visual literacy for both kids and adults. Comics Jam allows us to showcase our greatly-in-demand collection of kids' and teen graphic novels, which are popular with both reluctant and eager readers. In fact, we see our graphic novel collection as one way to convince kids, especially reluctant readers, to trade their digital screens for illustrated books that actually require a different kind of brainpower to read the information in both pictures and words to make sense of a story.

Our monthly LEGO Club highlights STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) skills in a fun way. Kids can build around a particular theme or just enjoy the pleasure of using their math, science or math skills to create with LEGO, inspired by the numerous LEGO idea books that are part of the library's collection.

In addition, we have strong literacy-focused partnerships with the neighboring schools. For example, for nearly a decade, the 4th grade classes at Piney Branch Elementary School have visited the Library each week for a program focused on their language arts curriculum (i.e. historical fiction, mythology, etc.).

We also regularly host programs for other grades at both Piney Branch and Takoma Park Elementary School and have offered programs for English as a Second Language students at Takoma Park Middle School. We're currently part of a Takoma Foundation grant (in its second year) as a partner with Takoma Park Elementary School in its Books & Breakfast program. This program is focused on literacy activities – including an introduc-

CALENDAR

Circle Time

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

Spanish Circle Time

Thursdays, 10:15-10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:30 a.m.

Led by Senora Geiza

Bedtime Stories and a Craft

Wednesday, Nov. 2, 7 p.m.

Join Ms. Anne for this fun monthly program.

Friends Big Book Discussions of St. Augustine's Confessions

November 2, 9 & 30, 7:30 p.m.

Community Center

All welcome.

LEGO Club

Sunday, Nov. 6, 1:30-3 p.m.

Building fun for ages 3-10.

Mega-Authors Eoin Colfer and Jonathan Stroud

Monday, Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m.

Colfer will present *Iron Man: The Gauntlet*, Stroud will present *Lockwood & Co.: The Creeping Shadow*

Takoma Park Community Center auditorium

Comics Jam

Tuesday, Nov. 8, 4 p.m.

Come read comics with Dave Burbank.

Petites Chansons/French Circle Time

Saturday, Nov. 12, 10:30 a.m.

Join Marie-Fraise des Bois (a.k.a. Madame

Marie) for songs and rhymes in French. Registration encouraged if you want to be updated with future program dates.

To register, go to www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents or call 301-891-7259.

Eaglebear & Friends

Monday, Nov. 14, 7 p.m.

Join us for this annual celebration with Eaglebear, a.k.a. Tomas Shash

Friends Fortnightly Book Club

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

Our book is *The Secret Chord* by Geraldine Brooks

Community Center

All welcome.

International Games Day Celebration

Saturday, Nov. 19, 2-4 PM

We'll be playing Dungeons & Dragons.

Age 8 up; registration required.

Kids Art

Sunday, Nov. 20, 2-3 p.m.

Caldecott Club

Monday, Nov. 21, 7 p.m.

All ages welcome; lemonade & cookies served!

Coming Up...

- Tuesday, December 6, 7:30 p.m. Discussion of *The Spy Who Couldn't Spell* by Yudhijit Bhattacharjee at the Library. (See article)
- Thursday, December 15, 6:30 p.m. Annual Winter Solstice celebration

Praise for a new French graphic novels

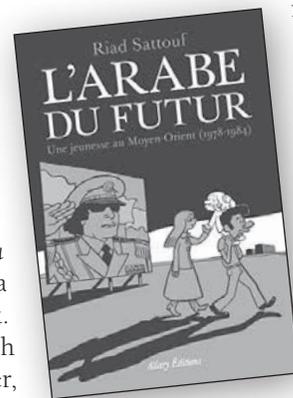
By Pat Hanrahan

French language readers take note. The Takoma Park Maryland Library has expanded its French collection with the purchase of two volumes of graphic memoir by Riad Sattouf, *L'arabe du futur*, an autobiography of a childhood in the Middle East.

The product of a French mother and Syrian father, young Sattouf spent his early childhood in Libya and Syria.

His story of these years (1978 – 1985) is gripping. It helped me understand a bit better what is happening now in Syria.

Sattouf père believed the Arab world of the 70's was poised for outstanding achievements. With his wife and child, he moved to his birth village to participate in the glorious future which as we know never happened. The author writes about Syria from a child's point of view and without censure. His parents, his teacher and his peers dominate his days. The illustrations enhance the childish perception. For instance the teacher is always enormous, and when she's angry, her



mouth can take over an entire graphic square in the band of illustrations. Characters who are outraged express themselves in deep red text balloons.

A best seller in France, Sattouf's book has been translated into English with positive reviews. The TPML has the English editions of the first two books and will purchase the subsequent volumes as they are translated into

English. So far three volumes — of an expected five volumes — have been published in French, and all three are available at the Library, so try the books in French. Reading French graphic books is fun. Even if you aren't bilingual (which I am most definitely not), the illustrations help comprehension when words are baffling, and graphic book text is often minimal anyway.

So go for it! Enjoy a feeling of accomplishment from reading a book *en français*, particularly one that is as hard to put down as Sattouf's *bande-dessinée*.

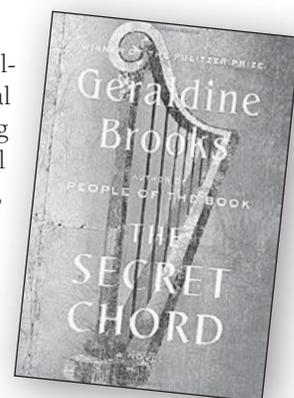
Pat Hanrahan is a Takoma Park resident and serves on the Board of the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library.

Fortnightly Book Discussion in November

By Tim Rahn

The Secret Chord, a retelling of the story of the Biblical David by the award-winning author Geraldine Brooks, will be discussed on Wednesday, November 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room of the Community Center.

Narrated by the court prophet-advisor Nathan (Nathan), *The Secret Chord*,



tells the often bloody story of David's reign as king of Israel. Brooks uses David's complexity to explore loyalty and treachery that comes with power. She also explores David's relationships with the members of his extended family including his wives.

Published in 2015, *The Secret Chord* was the recipient of con-



Highlights from the 2016 Takoma Park Street Festival

Top left, Sirens of Song: Nicole Belanus, Annette Wasilik and Lynn Hollyfield

Top right, Olivia Ensign, Rose Resnick, Jessica Kulp

At left, Karla Lawrence, KMMS Art



THE ARTS

■ From page 5



Zeina Azzam

3rd Thursday Poetry

They've made it so there is no room for me, she said defeatedly, like an old building about to be torn down.

—“Allahu Akbar” (God Is Great) by Zeina Azzam

You've probably read Zeina Azzam's articles on Israel, U.S., and Middle Eastern affairs at Huffington Post and Al Jazeera English and Al Jazeera America. Zeina Azzam, executive director of The Jerusalem Fund, has worked in education and Middle East affairs for more than thirty years, mostly at the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University. The scholar is also a poet. Her works have been published in *Mizna*, *Sukoon Magazine*, and the anthologies *Gaza Unsilenced* and *Yellow as Turmeric, Fragrant as Cloves*.

Azzam joins three other poets Thursday, Nov. 17 at 7:30 p.m. for an international and multi-lingual evening of poetry. Anne Becker curates the night of poetry featuring Donuta Kosk-Kosicka (Polish), Martha Sanchez-Lowery (Spanish), Yer-

miyahu Ahron Taub (Yiddish), and Zeina Azzam (Arabic). Poets will read works in their native languages and in English. The event is free.

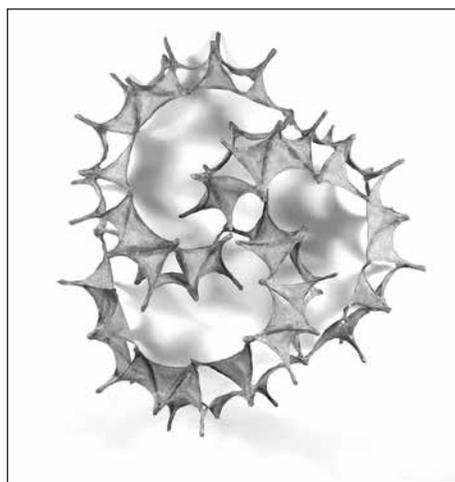


Photo by Jessica Beels

Dodecamer300, Jessica Beels

Man/Made Exhibition

Man/Made, curated by Gallery Coordinator Shanthi Chandrasekar, opens Thursday, Nov. 10. Join us for a free opening reception 6:30 to 8 p.m. to welcome artists Jessica Beels, Alexis Cohen, Allan Leventhal, and Dilip Sheth and celebrate their art.

Highlights of Italian Renaissance Sculpture at the National Gallery of Art

Take a tour of Italian Renaissance sculptures from the comfort of our auditorium. Lara Langer, PhD in Art History, features works from the National Gallery of Art and introduces some of the most renowned artists of that era in her lecture on Thursday, Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center auditorium.

poetry readings

performances

film screenings

lectures

art exhibits

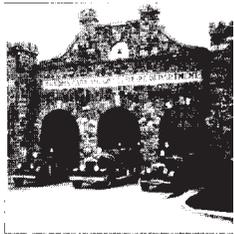
we are
TAKOMA

free events that connect the community

www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts



AT YOUR SERVICE



THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

The Firehouse Report

As of Sept. 30, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County assigned to the station have responded to 444 fire-related incidents in 2016. The department addressed or assisted with 2,335 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 2,779. Totals for 2015 were 480 and 2,447, representing a decrease of 148 incidents.

During September, Takoma Park volunteers put in a total of 1,166 hours of standby time at the station compared to 1,234 hours in September 2015. Grand totals as of September were 11,720.5 hours compared to 11,979 hours in 2015, a decrease of 258.5 hours.

Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported as of Oct. 17, 38 people have died in fires compared to 52 in October 2015.

Hot car deaths

As of Oct. 17, 38 children have died across the country in hot vehicles. When you leave your vehicle, check the back seat and lock up your vehicle.

Safety Message

Don't wait; check the date! Replace your smoke alarms every 10 years.



Accessing, not hacking: Emergency preparedness in the digital age, part I

It is common these days to use the internet to pay bills via automatic bill pay or to have the utility or mortgage company automatically deduct the monthly payments. We're on Facebook, Google, Twitter, LinkedIn, and other sites. We access our bank statements online. We store other information, such as pictures or private notes in the cloud.

What happens if you or a loved one is incapacitated or passes away...do the bills automatically stop? No! Can family members access bank accounts? Not until probate or power of attorney is established. How would family members even know what to access or at which banks? What happens to the person's Facebook account or Google mail or Apple accounts? What happens to the domain name of the person's website?

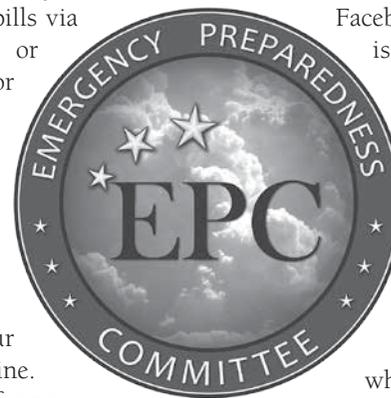
True story #1: Arthur's father passed away. The family had no idea what was getting paid via auto pay, what bills were involved, or how to find and access bank accounts.

True story # 2: Martina was an only child whose parents had died years ago. Then, Martina was killed in an accident. Yet, her Facebook account lives on. Some people still comment, wishing her a joyous afterlife, peace, etc.

In 2016 and beyond, we need to be prepared for these kinds of scenarios by providing access to trust others, or our digital lives could continue beyond our lifespans with consequences that could become emergencies.

To avoid the situation becoming an emergency, here are some points to consider:

- What do you know about dealing with a Facebook account for someone who is incapacitated or has died? What about your account? What are the limits? Facebook calls these *memorialized accounts*, which allows for deletion or saving some aspects of the account, so friends can still see the profile.
- Google offers a service called *inactive account manager*, which allows the account holder to have Google notify someone if they've been inactive for X amount of time. Since Google has varied services, such as Picasa, Google Plus and more, this action affects all accounts per the direction of the account holder.
- <https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/3036546?hl=en>
- If you have two-factor authentication, how could a trusted person access your accounts? Two-factor authentication requires a password and username and information known only to the user.
- Have you safely stored a list of your varied accounts, and can someone you trust access this? Keep in mind that passwords stored with an account may change due to requirements or personal choice, so you'll need to update those changes.



On Oct. 17, the following girls competed the five-week Baby Sitters Training Program sponsored by the Takoma Park VFD and Takoma Park Recreation Department. Special thanks to Takoma Park VFD members Rusty, Tina and Ashlee Willey and Ntshiuwa Sato Bess and Takoma Park Police Department PFC Jessica Garrison for their assistance. Pictured (left to right): sitting, Lane Cunningham, Lauren Berley and Charlotte Jackson; standing, Alexandra Lange, Ceilidh Wagner, Maybelle Patterson and Lucia Cangelosi.

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 takomaparkmd.gov/services/passports.



City Council provides direction on conversion to LED street lighting

After extensive investigation into options and costs and a presentation to the City Council on Sept. 21, City staff have been directed to pursue converting the PEPCO streetlights on wooden poles in the city to LED lights through the PEPCO conversion program. The conversion will be phased in on a neighborhood by neighborhood basis and will allow for adjustments to the program if needed.

At its Oct. 19 meeting, the City Council passed a resolution supporting the conversion of streetlights on wooden poles in Takoma Park to LED lights through the PEPCO conversion program and directed staff to work to ensure that lighting specifications and placement minimize costs, energy use, and light pollution, while enhancing safety and attractiveness.

In terms of environmental impact, conversion of existing streetlight fixtures to ones that are more energy efficient (LED technology) would reduce the City's streetlight electricity use from 765,599 kwh to 382,800 kwh annually. LED fixtures

also will be night sky compliant, within the 3,000 Kelvin level, to minimize light pollution. From a fiscal standpoint, the City could save between \$746,000 and \$904,000 in current dollars over a 20-year period by converting streetlights to LED fixtures through PEPCO.

LED conversion has already begun with the Flower Avenue Green Street project, and five percent of the City's streetlights have already been converted. PEPCO will continue to own and maintain the lights, and the City will continue to pay for monthly maintenance charges per the rates set by the Public Service Commission. Further, the City will continue to procure its electricity through the Montgomery County purchasing group which enables the City to be part of a large buying group and thereby reduces the rate per kilowatt, and City staff will work with PEPCO staff to ensure that the replacement lighting is appropriate for City streets.

LIFE GRANTS

■ From page 4

5. Montgomery Housing Partnership - 7610 Maple Outdoor Mural (\$6,500)

MHP will facilitate the creation of an outdoor mural at its 7610 Maple apartment property. This 36-unit affordable housing property houses a total of 80 residents, including 27 children. Residents, in particular children ages 9-12 who participate in our site-based homework club, will play an active part in creating the mural.

6. Dance Exchange (\$5,740)

Dance Exchange sought support for a reboot of its youth programs for the 2016-17 season, which include weekly classes for youth ages 8-18; a series of off-site youth classes held at the Takoma Park Recreation Center and the New Hampshire Avenue Recreation Center; an end of season performance called Youth Arts

Night, and a week-long Teen Leadership Institute.

7. Takoma Ensemble - Takoma Ensemble Community Outreach Initiative (\$5,740)

The project is to directly provide tickets to low-income/underserved residents of Takoma Park for four concerts.

8. Community Bridges (\$5,370)

Community Bridges and Catylator propose a year-long program to bring middle-school-aged young women to Catylator Makerspace to help them develop more positive attitudes and confidence about STEM and stay engaged with STEM, so they may be better prepared to choose any career.

The City's FY17 budget includes \$60,000 for the Community Quality of Life Grants program. Requests for funding totaled \$166,521. Look profiles of some of the grant recipients in future issues of the Takoma Park Newsletter.

TAKOMA TIDBITS

■ From page 1

proper diet, lifestyle, and exercise. Washington Adventist Hospital will host a Diabetes Expo in honor of National Diabetes Day on Friday, Nov. 11 from 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. in its conference center located at 7620 Carroll Avenue. Screenings and cooking demos are included in the scheduled activities. The expo is free, and registration is not required. For more information, call 301-891-6105

New Sligo trail guide is now online



Long-time Friends of Sligo Creek board member and past-president Bruce Sidwell created a section-by-section trail guide to Sligo Creek Park based on

his long experience in promoting the ecological health of the watershed. The guide helps users better appreciate the natural and historic features of the park and adjacent areas. The guide follows Sligo Creek from its headwaters at Channing Drive to its confluence with the Northwest Branch after flowing better than eight miles. One theme of the new trail guide is that to fully appreciate the park, one needs to go slowly, look closely, carry a couple of plant and animal field guides and wear sensible footwear. Access the guide at www.fosc.org by going to the "trail guide" page under the "About Sligo" tab on the home page.

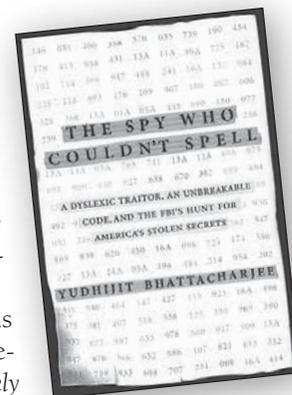
TPPD offers house checks

These services are offered to residents who will be away on vacation for a lengthy period of time (usually one week or more). A police officer responds to the residence on a daily basis to ensure that no crime (such as a burglary) has occurred to the residence. To schedule a house check, contact the Takoma Park police department at 301-270-1100.

Takoma Park author to debut his first nonfiction work

Join us on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the library for a discussion of Yudhijit's Bhattacharjee's book *The Spy Who Couldn't Spell – A Dyslexic Traitor, an Unbreakable Code, and the FBI's Hunt for America's Stolen Secrets*.

Bhattacharjee's book has been widely praised by reviewers. *Publisher's Weekly* noted that "readers...will thoroughly enjoy this fast-moving account of a failed spy who, despite his incompetence, easily filched



thousands of secrets." And from *Kirkus Reviews*: "The author offers a compellingly seedy portrait of Regan, motivated to contemplate treason due to debt, career stagnation, and marital malaise...a well-written...tale of thwarted amateur treason underscoring the disturbing vulnerability of today's intelligence systems."

This program is funded by the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing at the program.

DISCUSSION

■ From page 8

siderable praise by reviewers. Alice Hoffman, writing in the *Washington Post*, commented that "*The Secret Chord* reads like a prose poem, with battle after battle recounted in detail, but it's a page turner of a poem. We want to know how David manages to stave off his rivals and enemies, just as we want to know what love means to him and who, if anyone, will cause him to be faithful."

Brooks began her writing career as journalist before turning to non-fiction and then novels such as *The People of the Book*, *Caleb's Crossing*, and *Year of Wonder*. In 2006 Brooks received the Pulitzer Prize for fiction for the novel, *March*.

Sponsored by the Friends Book Group, the discussion is open to all. Copies of *The Secret Chord* are available on loan from the library.

Tim Rahn is the President of the Friends of the Library Board and facilitates their bi-monthly book discussions

LITERACY

■ From page 8

tion to the library and its resources – for ESL students and their families.

The library also hosts regular programs for local preschools, providing literacy-based story times and related activities. These programs are aimed both at preschoolers and their teachers, as we model best practices for reading aloud to young children and other ways to make books and reading come alive.

For older students, we offer a book reviewing student service learning oppor-

tunity. As part of this opportunity, students learn to write book reviews, which eventually are published on the library's website

One of the best – and most exciting – ways of promoting literacy is meeting a published author or illustrator. With our partnership with Politics & Prose Bookstore, our patrons can meet some of the most talented and dynamic authors and illustrators working today in creating books for kids and teens. If you've never been to one of our author programs, give it a try. We have found that these programs are both fun and inspirational for readers, young and old.

The Village of Takoma Park's mission of providing intergenerational support to seniors and people with disabilities who wish to live actively in the Takoma Park community is supported by two key programs, Villages Rides and Friendly Visitors.



As of June, 226 rides had been provided to 60 people by 28 volunteer drivers traveling 648 miles, and 11 friendly visitor volunteers had been paired with the homebound. To learn more about how to get involved, attend one of these upcoming events.

Volunteer Training: Village Rides Program

Monday, Nov. 14, 7 – 9 p.m.

TP Community Center, Hydrangea Room

Volunteer to give the "gift of a lift" to residents needing transportation.

Volunteer Training: Friendly Visitor Program

Thursday, Nov. 17, 9:30 – 11 a.m.

TP Community Center, Hydrangea Room

Volunteer to call or visit a homebound resident one hour per week.

Aging Well Seminar

Tuesday, Nov. 29, 10 a.m. – noon

TP Community Center, Azalea Room

Presentation and discussion on scams and frauds with Jeannine Robinson from the Maryland Office of the Attorney General. Refreshments and time for socializing. Free and open to all. Flu shots to follow (11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.); free to anyone with Medicare ID.

For more information about these events and to register, call 301-646-2109 or visit villageoftakomapark.com/calendar.

NOVEMBER '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 December issue is November 14, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning November 25.

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, Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m.*
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium

The City Council's Nov. 16 meeting will take place at the Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue.

Detailed agendas are always available for review online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas.

Veterans Day - City Offices Closed

Friday, Nov. 11

All City offices and facilities will be closed Friday, Nov. 11, for the Veterans Day holiday. The Takoma Park Police Department is open 24/7 for emergency services. Trash, food waste, and recycling will be collected on Saturday, Nov. 12.

Thanksgiving - City Offices Closed

Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24-25

All City offices and facilities will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24 and 25, for the Thanksgiving holiday. The Takoma Park Police Department is open 24/7 for emergency services. Trash, food waste and recycling will be collected on Wednesday, Nov. 23, and Saturday, Nov. 27.

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 E 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

Start of Fall Leaf Collection

Monday, Nov. 21

Tentative start of Public Works Fall leaf

collection. Fall leaf collection starts Monday,

Nov. 21, and continues through Friday, Dec. 23.

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

Lecture: Highlights from the Collection of Italian Renaissance Sculpture at the National Gallery of Art

Thursday, Nov. 3, 7:30 – 9 p.m.

TP Community Center

Lara Langer, a recent PhD in Art History from the University of Maryland, will highlight Italian Renaissance sculptures featured at the National Gallery of Art in D.C. This virtual tour will introduce some of the most renowned artists of that era: Andrea del Verrocchio, Lucca della Robbia, and more. Plus, learn about one of the Gallery's most treasured items, the famous painting of Ginevra de' Benci by Leonardo da Vinci.

Gallery Opening: Man/Made

Thursday, Nov. 10, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

TP Community Center

Featuring artwork by Jessica Beels, Alexis Cohen, Allan Leventhal, and Dilip Sheth. Exhibit runs through Dec. 29.

Film: Community Stories Festival

Thursday, Nov. 10, 7:30 – 9 p.m.

TP Community Center

Come celebrate our local community through documentary at this annual film festival which

spotlights short documentaries about local people, places and things. Watch the films, meet the filmmakers and people in the films, and learn more about what is happening right here in our neck of the woods.

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, Nov. 17, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

TP Community Center Auditorium

A multi-lingual evening of poetry curated and hosted by Anne Becker and featuring Zeina Azzam, Donuta Kosk-Kosicka, Konstantin Kulakov, Martha Sanchez-Lowery and Yermiyahu Ahron Taub.

Lecture: Inventing Food Traditions for D.C.

Thursday, Dec. 1, 7:30 – 9 p.m.

TP Community Center

As food activists push Washington, D.C., to be a model of local, seasonal, sustainable food production and consumption, it is worth asking why the nation's capital has taken so long to establish a distinctive food identity. Indeed, it does have great food, but not terroir, a locale-based sense of unique authenticity which is more a matter of constructed, subjective reputation than quantifiable, objective standards. In this talk University of Maryland professor emeritus Warren Belasco looks at the historical, political, ideological, and environmental obstacles to the development of a local food identity in the nation's capital.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Staging Hope

Saturday, Dec. 3, 7:30 – 9 p.m.

TP Community Center

Staging Hope is a theatre troupe made up entirely of homeless individuals. They create performances of original monologues, poetry, improvisations and songs as a means to spark conversations between housed and unhoused communities. While many of the pieces directly focus on homelessness – difficulties, political issues, humanization, etc. – others deal with universal human experiences such as loss, family, and romantic love.

Comments? Concerns? Questions?

Stop by on your way to work to talk about issues important to you. Locations will vary; stay tuned on the City's e-news and social media for locations.

Upcoming Community Coffees

Friday, Nov. 4, 8 a.m.

NaTra Teas
720 Erie Avenue
(Ward 5)

Friday, Dec. 9, 8 a.m.

The Deauville Apartments
7520 Maple Avenue
(Ward 4)

"Starting Friday mornings with coffee and conversations with residents is the best way to get things done in Takoma Park!"

—Mayor Kate Stewart

