



WHAT'S NEW?

Takoma SEED Seminars
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A Conversation with Cuba
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Winter preparedness check-up
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City offices and facilities closed
Sunday, Feb. 19 - Monday, Feb. 20
President's Day holiday

Trash/recycling collection
No yard waste collection on Feb. 20



Takoma Park resident Nadine Bloch led a community workshop on Nonviolent Direct Action.

Photo by Jamal Francis

City Council votes unanimously to move forward with Takoma Junction Redevelopment

At its Jan. 11 meeting, the Takoma Park City Council voted unanimously (7-0) to move forward with the redevelopment of the City lot at Takoma Junction. The vote authorizes the City's development partner, Neighborhood Development Company (NDC), to proceed with seeking a letter of intent with an anchor tenant other than the Takoma Park-Silver Spring Co-op.

While it was, and still is, the council's hope that the Co-op would expand into a newly constructed facility at the site, NDC and the Co-op were not able to reach an agreement within the five-month window permitted by the development agreement between the City and NDC. As a result, the council was faced with the decision to either end the agreement with NDC and pay up to \$75,000 for expenses incurred to date in preparation for redevelopment of the site or to allow the project to move forward without an agreement between NDC and the Co-op, which will allow NDC to seek a different anchor tenant if they are unable to come to agreement with the Co-op. In such case, NDC will be required to make reasonable accommodations to allow the Co-op to continue its operations in its current space.

During its discussion, the council made it very clear to NDC representatives its hope that, although the deadline had passed, the developer would continue to work with the Co-op to facilitate its incorporation into the new development, and language to that effect was included in the final Council resolution. If they are not able to reach agreement, NDC has 18 months to find a new anchor tenant and must submit to the City a letter of intent and must make reasonable accommodations for the Co-op's continued operation of its business, including access for loading of deliveries and customer parking.

As noted by residents during public comments as well as mem-

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Residents "workshop" King's legacy of nonviolence

By Helen Lyons

More than 50 people gathered at Historic Takoma on Martin Luther King Jr. Day to attend a workshop on Nonviolent Direct Action led by Takoma Park resident Nadine Bloch.

"This isn't just an anti-Trump thing or anti-Fascist thing, but a way that we can actually transform how we live and take care of each other," said Bloch, who described herself as "a neighbor, activist, educator, and artist."

Participants honored Dr. King's legacy of nonviolent protest during the Civil Rights Movement by coming together to

learn about the various forms of peaceful resistance and their effectiveness in ushering in political change.

"I want to welcome people into the waking-up place," Bloch said in her opening remarks for the workshop, "and I want to also remind us that we're in a position right now that's really different than my 35 years of being involved in the movement, where the masses of people are potentially woke and ready to take action."

That action, according to Bloch, is more effective when it's nonviolent. "Twice as

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City to hold community teach-in on its Sanctuary City status

On Saturday, Feb. 4, the City of Takoma Park and several community organizations will host a public forum, "Takoma Park: Sanctuary City – Then & Now." The event will explore the City's 30-year-old Sanctuary City ordinance and its amendments while underscoring the City's ongoing commitment to protect its immigrant residents under the letter and spirit of the law. Takoma Park is one of 300+ sanctuary jurisdictions throughout the nation.

The teach-in, co-sponsored by the City of Takoma Park, the Mayor Sam Abbott



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

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Clearing the Way
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DOCKET

City Council & Committee Calendar

OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 7:30 p.m.
 Wednesday, Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m.
 Wednesday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m.
 Wednesday, Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m.
 Wednesday, March 1, 7:30 p.m.
 Regular City Council meetings will take place in the Community Center Auditorium.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Tuesday, Feb. 21
 TPCC Council Conference Room

COMMEMORATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, February 21, 7:30 p.m.
 TPCC Lilac Room

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

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

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

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

GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Thursday, Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m.
 TPCC Hydrangea Room

NOISE CONTROL BOARD

Tuesday, Feb. 28
 TPCC Hydrangea Room

NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 7, 7:30 p.m.
 TPCC Hydrangea Room

RECREATION COMMITTEE

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

SAFE ROADWAYS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m.
 TPCC Hydrangea Room

TAKOMA JUNCTION COMMUNITY CONSULTATION PROCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, Feb. 9
 TPCC Council Conference Room

TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, Feb. 14, 6:30 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.

The City Council returned from winter recess on Jan. 11. That evening, the Council voted on and adopted the following:

Resolution 2017-1 affirming the FY 2018 Green Team Priorities. *The priorities were developed jointly by the Committee on the Environment and City Council. They will be incorporated into the City Council's priorities for the next fiscal year.*

Resolution 2017-2 appointing a replacement member (Janet Williams) from Ward 4 to serve on the Takoma Junction Community Consultation Process Advisory Committee.

Resolution 2017-3 authorizing NDC to seek another anchor tenant for the redevelopment of Takoma Junction. *For complete information, see elsewhere in this newsletter or view the Takoma Junction page on the City's website: takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/takoma-junction-redevelopment.*

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.

Stay informed about City Council meetings and agendas! Subscribe to our weekly email list. You'll find the subscription form on the Council agenda page: takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/agendas.

Memorial Scatter Garden supporters to host meeting

Nearly 200 people have signed a petition supporting creation of a memorial scatter garden in a city park. To hear their latest plans, join them for a public meeting on Sunday, Feb. 5 from 4 - 5:30 p.m. at Historic Takoma, 7328 Carroll Avenue. According to Jennifer Beman, one of the organizers, "the discussion will focus on the idea of creating a lovely spot where people can scatter the ashes of their loved ones and recommendations for which park might be best. Please bring your questions, concerns and enthusiasm!" To learn more, visit takomascatter.com or contact Jennifer Beman at bemanwhite@gmail.com.



Important City Department Phone Numbers

City Information	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
Police	301-270-1100 / Emergency 911
Public Works.....	301-891-7633
Recreation/Facilities Rental.....	301-891-7290

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 Jan. 14, 2017:

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

SANCTUARY CITY

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Living Legacy Project of Historic Takoma, CASA de Maryland, and Takoma Mobilization, will take place at 3 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center.

The program will feature a panel discussion moderated by Mayor Kate Stewart, with City Manager Suzanne Ludlow, Police Chief Alan Goldberg, Montgomery County Councilmember Marc Elrich, Gustavo Torres, Executive Director of CASA de Maryland, and Denyse Sabagh, Esq., Partner, Duane Morris. Other speakers include Maryland State Delegate Ana Sol Gutierrez, and Ward 4 Councilmember Terry

Seamens.

In the early 1980s, local churches began offering sanctuary to some of the thousands of refugees fleeing brutal civil wars in El Salvador and Guatemala. This led to a series of supporting resolutions initiated and adopted by then Mayor Sam Abbott and the Takoma Park City Council. In 1985, the ordinance was passed making Takoma Park a "Sanctuary City." Affirmed and amended several times, the last in 2007-08, the Takoma Park Sanctuary law (Municipal Code, Chapter 9.04) prohibits city police and other city employees from asking Takoma Park residents about their citizenship or immigration status; it also prohibits them from cooperating in the en-

forcement of federal immigration laws that could lead to the deportation of residents.

In his message to the City on Nov. 11, Takoma Park Police Chief Alan Goldberg said, "Our Constitution specifically prohibits a National Police Force. ...We have no interest or authority in the deportation of immigrants. The mission and commitment of the Takoma Park Police Department is the safety and welfare of all our residents."

Safeguarding and building trust are key community values, and Mayor Kate Stewart warmly affirmed the City's support for its immigrant neighbors. "We are a city that welcomes those who are the victims of terrorism and violence regardless of their

national origins and that refuses to demonize Muslims. We are a city that upholds the right of all people to live their lives with dignity and respect."

Attendees will have the opportunity to speak as well as pose questions to the panel. The program will also include Takoma Park Poet Laureate Merrill Leffler and singer Rudy Arredondo. It is free and open to the public.

Editor's Note: On Jan. 25, President Donald Trump signed "Executive Order: Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements." City leadership and staff are reviewing the order to determine its potential implications for Takoma Park. For more information, visit www.whitehouse.gov/blog.

TAKOMA JUNCTION

■ From page 1

bers of the City Council, it has been a long road getting to this point. However, as the Mayor stated during the meeting, the vote to proceed really represents a new beginning for the project. Much work is ahead to reach a final design of the Takoma Junction project. Most importantly, there is an entire Takoma Park community process ahead, which is being designed by a council-appointed committee, as well as the site plan review process through Montgomery County, which will include a thorough traffic analysis. With input from the community, the council will weigh many aspects of the site plan, including design, parking, loading, community use space and safety. Because this is a City-owned property, the council has

final say, within the parameters of the county's Codes.

The primary goal of the council regarding the Takoma Junction project is to improve the aesthetic appeal of the commercial district in the interest of revitalization with a development that is contextually sensitive and environmentally sustainable. And the Council is looking at the long-term needs of the City's taxpayers by putting a key property back on the tax rolls.

More information on the Takoma Junction Redevelopment project is available on the City's website at takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/takoma-junction-redevelopment.

**This is an edited version of a blog post on the City's website on Jan. 12: takomaparkmd.gov/city-blog/council-votes-unanimously-to-move-forward-with-tj-redevelopment.*



A workshop participant transforms herself into a sculpture representing nonviolent resistance.

KING'S LEGACY

■ From page 1

successful," Bloch said. "Let that soak in. If we take a look at what has changed the world, it's not violence. It's people-powered movements. In order to not miss this moment of transformation, we need to dedicate ourselves to overcoming the systemic violence of the system."

Joe Bentley and Sam Contrino plan to be a part of the movement growing in Takoma Park in response to the election of President Donald J. Trump. "A friend of ours lives over on Sycamore Avenue, and she sent us an invite to the training," Bentley said. "I'm frightened for what could happen going down to a protest, so I'm here to learn the right responses and plans for action so that I can be prepared for various situations."

"I want to participate, not just talk," Sam Contrino added. "And I want to learn from others instead of teaching myself." Some of the learning that took place at the workshop included using hand signals to communicate with other activists and showing agreement without talking over a speaker by wiggling fingers instead of applauding.

Many of the attendees had decades of experience in nonviolent movements, and some Takoma Park residents said they attended the workshop to brush up on skills and knowledge they hadn't used since the 1980s.

Emily Warheit, a graduate student at the University of Maryland, came as part of her preparation to participate in the Women's March on Jan. 21. "I'll be more confident if I feel more prepared," she said.

The workshop was an active one, with participants moving about the room in

various exercises, including one in which they were asked to transform their bodies into sculptures that represented nonviolent resistance. Many struck poses reminiscent of Dr. King delivering his famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

Bloch asked the room, "What do we want?" And the response was a shout of "power," which Bloch went on to explain was "not power to, but power with," emphasizing the need for unity in times that many Takoma Park residents feel are divisive.

"When we fight with weapons, we fight in a way that they are going to win," Bloch told the participants. "That is their playground. When we fight in another way, in a more creative way, it's not their playground; it's our playground."



Workshop participants learned to use hand signals for communicating with other activists.

Piney Branch Elementary School Feasibility Study: Be Heard!

Montgomery County Public School officials are discussing ways to address the growing school-aged population in the County in the context of its Capital Improvement Plan for school facilities. Piney Branch Elementary School (PBES) will be the subject of a "feasibility study" to evaluate space needs and options for addressing those needs, including trade-offs and costs of various options.

One option that has been discussed and will be part of the study is to close the pool at PBES to make way for additional classroom space. While the City of Takoma Park recognizes the need for classroom expansion, we have

heard from many residents who hope that such growth does not come at the cost of the existing pool facilities. To that end, we wanted to make sure you were aware of upcoming opportunities for in-person public engagement in the process. These are opportunities to make your voices heard.

Meetings will be held at the following dates and times in the Piney Branch Elementary School Media Center.

Jan. 31 at 4:15 p.m.
Feb. 7 at 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 21 at 4:15 p.m.
March 1 at 6:30 p.m.
March 28 at 7 p.m. (PTA Presentation)



THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

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

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

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

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

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

The Newsletter is printed on recycled—content paper.





BUILDING COMMUNITY

A Message from the TPPD Chief of Police Alan Goldberg - Armed Robberies

I want to warn community members, particularly our Hispanic community, of a recent crime trend. Many in the Hispanic community do not use credit cards; thus, they tend not to use licensed and insured ride services such as Uber or Lyft. There are a number of unlicensed ride companies operating in the Langley Park area. These drivers do not have company insurance or background checks. Additionally, it is a cash business. These drivers are people trying to pick up some extra money. Many of the drivers are undocumented, which increases their risk of being targeted as they are often reluctant to report crimes.

Last month, both Takoma Park and Langley Park, Prince George's County, have experienced a number of armed robberies by Hispanic gang members where the driver is called to a secluded neighborhood. Generally, they commit several crimes in one night. We are aggressively working with Prince George's County detectives on these cases.

Supporting these services creates the opportunity for crime against the drivers



as well as a risk to the passengers. First, using these illegal ride services is risky to the consumer. There is no way to know the level or kind of insurance coverage, experience or background the driver has. The success of these services has created a real risk to the drivers. As a cash business, the drivers are very vulnerable to be victimized. Please be safe.

This article originally appeared on the Takoma Park Police Department's Facebook page on Jan. 8: www.facebook.com/The-City-of-Takoma-Park-Police-Department-238446732028.

New businesses open in Takoma Langley

Fiesta Laundromat opened at 7601 New Hampshire Ave. (a door down from ALDI). It is a modern, clean facility with washers and dryers and a children's play area. One can throw in a load of quilts and bedspreads and then go next door to ALDI for grocery shopping.



JK Mart opened in mid-December at 7603 New Hampshire Avenue (between ALDI and Fiesta Laundromat), relocating from Union Market in northeast DC. The family-owned business sells cookware, small appliances, African fabrics, bedding sets, CDs and DVDs and other housewares.

In addition to these new businesses opening, Taco Bell construction has begun at Holton Lane & New Hampshire Avenue with construction fencing installed and site preparations under way.

For more information, visit www.takomalangley.org.



Takoma Park SEED

Working in partnership, Unity in the Community and the City of Takoma Park will host a series of Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity (SEED) seminars beginning in March and continuing through June.



No matter how many advancements we make as a society, it seems we can't escape prejudice. Of course, our first reaction to prejudice is usually to blame someone else. Our second reaction may well be to blame ourselves. Blame, shame and guilt don't get us anywhere. However, Takoma Park SEED will help you understand what's happening in your life and connect you to the lives of people around you. It will challenge you to push for change.

Takoma Seed is part of the National SEED Project, which entails a group of about 20 people coming together for a series of conversations twice a month for four months. The seminars are fa-

cilitated, but not lectured, by local residents who have been trained as SEED leaders. They will guide you in interactive activities and conversations often stimulated by films and readings.

Through personal reflection and testimony, listening to others' voices, and learning experientially and collectively, SEED equips participants to connect their lives to one another by acknowledging systems of oppression, power and privilege—and challenges them to push for change. SEED values your voice so you can, in turn, better

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Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center begins operations

The Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center began operating on Thursday, Dec. 22. The Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center provides bus service to more than 12,000 customers daily, making it the largest non-Metrorail station transfer point in the Washington region. The center features a large well-lit canopy, ADA-accessible bus loading areas and real-time bus arrival screens. The center also provides an off-street location for safe bus boarding and transfers and decreased vehicular-pedestrian incidents.



Photo: Selena Malott

Outside the new transit center.

The much anticipated opening has resulted in a number of route changes that could impact Takoma Park Metrobus and Ride On riders:

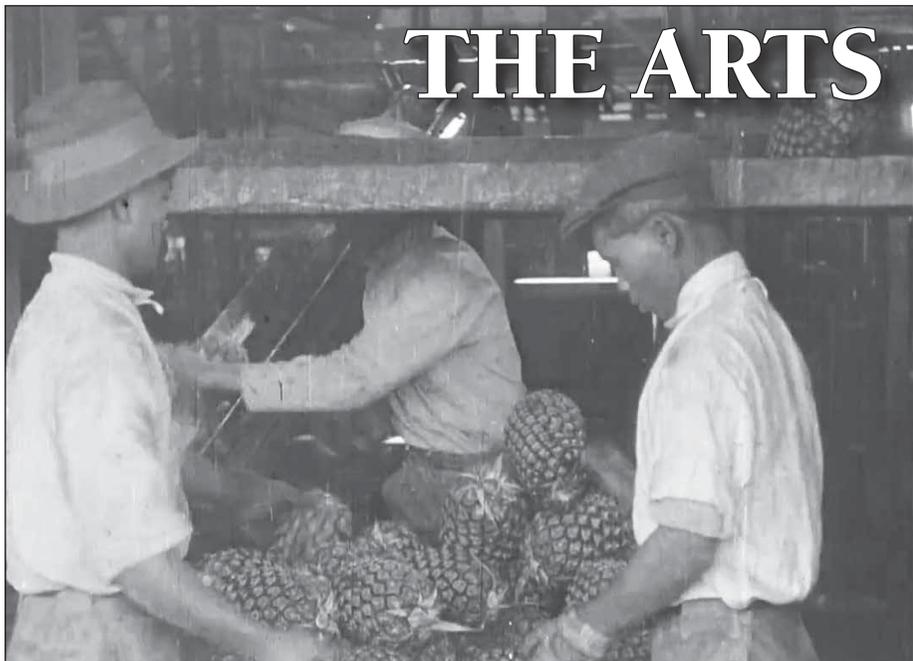
- Metrobus stops for routes C2, C4, F8,

J4, K6 and K9 near the new transit center at New Hampshire Ave. and University Boulevard have moved to the transit center.

- Ride On routes 15, 16, 17, 18 and 25 will service the new transit center along with 111 of the UM Shuttle.

For more information, visit www.wmata.com/service/bus/upload/takoma-langley-brochure.pdf.

THE ARTS



Screenshots from archival travel films.

Screening the Past

Get ready to be an armchair tourist. On Thursday, Feb. 9, Docs in Progress presents Vintage Movie Night with Richard Hall. This month, Hall takes audience members to distant lands long ago through his selections of short, fun archival films.

Richard Hall began presenting Vintage Movie Night with Docs in Progress in 2015, and February 2017 will be his fifth screening. Hall is a volunteer with Docs in Progress. He and his wife, Simone Fary, moderate the organization's monthly WIFV/DIP Documentary Roundtable.

We Are Takoma wanted to know more about Vintage Movie Night, so we reached out to Richard Hall via email. This is the interview in its entirety.

WAT: What got you started doing Vintage Movie Night?

Hall: I was inspired, in 2013, by meeting and interviewing Rick Prelinger in

San Francisco at the Prelinger Archives and learning about his public programs of home movies, industrial and educational films. He has collected thousands of films since 1982, and many are available for free download. I've used them for many years, but didn't know about his screenings.

WAT: What is your goal for the event?

Hall: To have an audience experience educational films in a setting the films were designed for, a small group in a classroom with undivided attention and no multi-tasking with YouTube and smartphones. The films are time machines to faraway places that are sometimes just like the present.

WAT: Where do you find the vintage movies? What are your sources?

Hall: The U.S. National Archives YouTube channel and Prelinger Archives

and sometimes the random YouTube channel devoted to educational film. I also use several books, such as Rick Prelinger's The Field Guide to Sponsored Films, which is free online, and Learning with the Lights Off.

WAT: Just how vintage are these films?

Hall: The earliest film I screened was set in Washington, DC - 1901, President William McKinley's inauguration. There are many films from the 1970s, but I tend to stop at the point videotape took over the educational market around 1980. The industry was surprisingly big early on, with thousands of films being produced between 1910 and World War II, and it exploded more thereafter.

WAT: Where were these films first shown?

Hall: Most of the films are designed for the classroom, but some were shown

widely in civic clubs, libraries, churches and movie theaters as fillers. Many public and school libraries had collections of 16 mm films.

WAT: If a person is attending Vintage Movie Night for the first time this month, what can he/she expect?

Hall: I usually show a variety of eight to 10 short films, never longer than fifteen minutes each and some as short as five minutes. I generally show the films chronologically—oldest to youngest—to give a sense of how society and the style of film change through time. The theme this time will be travel films. I am selecting films that profile Haiti, Cuba, and the Middle East, and I'm still deciding, but there also may be a trip to North Carolina in the 1950s.

An auditorium seat awaits you, your friends and family members for Vintage Movie Night on Thursday, Feb. 9 at 7:30 pm. Join us for this fabulously unique free event.



Georgetown Professors Robert Patterson, PhD, and Soylica Diggs Colbert, PhD. Photo Credit: Georgetown University

Psychic Hold of Slavery: Why Slavery Still Matters Thursday, Feb. 2, 7:30 pm. Free.

Georgetown professors Robert J. Patterson, PhD, and Soylica Diggs Colbert, PhD, examine contemporary moments in American culture, including the Black Lives Matter movement, police brutality, economic (dis)empowerment, and political enfranchisement to analyze both the material and psychic legacies that American chattel slavery has imprinted on our

society. In addition, the lecture considers how a variety of artists have reimagined a future full of possibility for all Americans and explores what conditions are necessary to shape a future in which all individuals have both the opportunity and possibility to thrive. Patterson and Colbert are authors of the new book *Psychic Hold of Slavery: Legacies in American Expressive Culture* (Rutgers University Press).



Third Thursday Poetry Thursday, Feb. 16, 7:30 pm. Free.

This month Third Thursday Poetry features poets Mary Anne Larkin, Jonathan Katz, Gary Stein and Bernadine Watson. Hear the poets read their own works and meet them afterwards during a reception.



Takoma Ensemble on stage performing.

Takoma Ensemble Peanut Butter and Jam Session Saturday, Feb. 18, 4 pm.

Clap, move, and play! Takoma Ensemble Peanut Butter and Jam Session returns to our stage with original music by Montgomery County composer Charlie Barnett, and the composer himself! This concert, designed for children ages 1.5 to 7 and their accompanying adults, encourages



Composer Charlie Barnett

kids to become active and enthusiastic listeners through music, movement, and games. While the performance is free, a suggested donation of \$10 per person is greatly appreciated.



Terrific Tuba, mixed media on handmade paper, Cynthia Farrell Johnson

The Human Element Exhibit on view through March 5, 2017

Enjoy works by artists Cynthia Farrell Johnson, Maria Simonsson, and Suzheila Reyes-Bunnag. Free.

RECREATION

For a complete list of programs offered by the Recreation Department please visit takomaparkmd.gov/recreation. Registration opened in mid-December or earlier for winter programs. Don't miss out — keep those New Year's resolutions going!

YOUTH

ART

Clay for Kids

In this class, children will receive instruction on how to utilize a variety of techniques (coil, pinch, slab work) to create one-of-a-kind sculptures and vessels out of clay. Caregiver participation required for children 4 – 5 years old. There is a \$15 materials fee (per child) due to the instructor on the first day of class. Instructor: Caroline Mackinnon.

TP Community Center Art Studio

Ages 4 – 8 years

Six-week Sessions

Mondays, March 6 – April 10; 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. or 4 – 5 p.m.

Wednesdays, March 8 – April 12; 4 – 5 p.m.

Resident: \$130 / Non-resident: \$150

CAMP

Spring Break Camp: Heroes & Villains

Do you pretend that you are a superhero saving the galaxy against a villain? Well, join us for our Heroes & Villains themed week. Trips, activities and performers are subject to change. Must pack a lunch. Space is limited, so sign up early. Paperwork will need to be completed prior to the first day of camp. Before and After Care are also available for an additional fee.

TP Community Center Azalea Room

Ages 5 – 12 years

Monday, April 10 – Friday, April 14; 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Residents: \$125 / Non-residents: \$145

On Stage: Spring Break Workshop

In On Stage: Spring Break Workshop, students get on the stage and get to work acting, singing and dancing. We'll start each day with physical, vocal, imagination and focus building warm-ups. We will work on group scene-work from the musical "The Wiz." On Stage: Spring Break Workshop will end with a performance so parents can see what we've been working on.

TP Community Center Auditorium

Ages 7 – 14 years

Tuesday – Thursday, April 11 – 13; 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Residents: \$130 / Non-residents: \$150

DRAMA & THEATER

Dungeons and Dragons

Use your imagination and storytelling ability in this classic fantasy role-playing game. Roll dice to cast spells and battle monsters. Creativity and cooperation help the group "survive." Taught by the library's own Dave Burbank.

TP Community Center Auditorium

Ages 9 – 18 years

Five-week sessions

Thursdays, Feb. 9 – March 9 and

March 16 – April 13; 4 – 6 p.m.

Resident: \$55 / Non-resident: \$65

MARTIAL ARTS

Kung Fu for Kids: Beginners

Kung Fu helps with our health and mental state of mind. Students will partake in meditation, stretching, strengthening and forms. There is a one-time, non-refundable fee of \$50 paid to the instructor at the first class for uniform. Instructor: Master Thompson.

TP Community Center Dance Studio

Ages 4 – 12 years

10-week sessions

Saturdays, until March 18

Session 1: 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

Session 2: 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Resident: \$129 / Non-resident: \$149

Taekwondo

Taekwondo is composed of three parts in the English spelling, which loosely mean the way or discipline of foot and fist. Martial arts are studied for various reasons, including combat skills, cultivation (meditation), mental discipline, character development and building self-confidence. There is a one-time, non-refundable \$40 uniform fee paid to the instructor at the first class.

TP Community Center Dance Studio

Ages 6 years and older

14-week session

Mondays, until April 17; 6 – 7 p.m.

Resident: \$165 / Non-resident: \$185

SPORTS

Flag Football League

This is a non-competitive, instructional, community league. The goal is to teach the fundamentals of flag football in a safe environment. Registration opened Jan. 15. Practice begins: March 27

First game is on Saturday, April 8

Ed Wilhelm Field

Divisions: 6 – 8 years, 9 – 11 years, 12 – 14 years

Five-week season

Saturdays, April 8 – May 13; noon – 3 p.m.

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

TEENS

CAMP

Spring Break P.R.E.P.S. Week

Spring Break P.R.E.P.S. (Planning and Researching for Educational and Professional Success) week is about assisting teens in planning for their future. During this week, teens will be able to participate in discussions with business professionals and take a few college tours to get a sense of life after high school. Occasional break away trips, such as bowling, laser tag or roller skating, will be included. Come with questions, an open mind and a bag lunch. Now starting at 9 a.m. with Before Care and After Care available for an additional fee.

TP Community Center Teen Lounge

Grades 6 – 12

One-week session

Monday, April 10 - Friday, April 14; 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Residents: \$100 / Non-residents: \$120

DROP-IN

Power Hour

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

TP Community Center Teen Lounge

Grades 6 – 12

Ongoing Tuesdays; 4 – 5 p.m.

Free

Teen Night

The Takoma Park Recreation Center provides high quality, affordable, safe and fun activities for teens. Come out for a night of games, activities and more. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department.

TP Recreation Center Gymnasium

Ages 12 – 16 years

Ongoing second and fourth Fridays; 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.

Free with Recreation Center membership

Valentine's Day Party

Come join us as we celebrate Valentine's Day in the Teen Lounge with Valentine-themed

games, crafts and food.

Play V-Day Bingo and

win prizes for your

sweetheart or keep

them for yourself.

TP Community Center

Teen Lounge

Grades 6 – 12

Tuesday, Feb. 14; 4 – 7 p.m.

Free

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). Beginners are welcome. This program is a partnership between the Takoma Park Recreation Department and the Penn State University Karate Club. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Instructor: Penn State University Karate Club.

TP Recreation Center Back Room

16 years and older

Ongoing Mondays and Wednesdays; 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Free with Recreation Center membership card

TRIPS

Teen Snow Tubing Trip

Join us as we hit the slopes at Boulder Ridge Snow Tubing located at Liberty Mountain Ski Resort in Carroll County, Pa. Snow tubing is so much fun and no experience is necessary. Space is limited so sign up with a friend today. The bus will depart and return to Takoma Park Community Center. Please bring money to purchase food and beverages. Remember to dress accordingly since the temperature drops in the afternoon and the resort is extremely cold.

TP Community Center Teen Lounge

Grades 6 – 12

Saturday, Feb. 4; noon – 6 p.m.

Resident: \$20 / Non-resident: \$30

ADULTS

ART

Encaustic Collage Weekend Workshop

Encaustic collage uses bees wax as an adhesive and allows for layering of papers and lightweight found materials as a base for painting with oil and encaustic paint. This workshop will cover collage layering processes using translucent and opaque papers and sculptural effects that can be created with the wax with stencils, stamps and incising. All materials will be provided for the \$50 materials fee. A letter outlining optional collage materials to bring will be sent out after you register. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman.

TP Community Center Art Studio

16 years and older

Two-day session

Saturday, Feb. 25 – Sunday, Feb. 26;

9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Resident: \$255 / Non-resident: \$285

FITNESS

Cardio Kickboxing

Thursday, 7:45 – 8:45 p.m.;

Saturday, 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

Drop-in \$10.00

NEW

New Time!

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.

TP Recreation Center Gymnasium

16 years and older

Ongoing, Saturdays; 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Drop-in: \$5

Jazzercise

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. For more information and to register, contact 301-351-4575.

Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Instructor: Jazzercise.

TP Recreation Center Gymnasium

16 years and older

Mondays and Wednesdays, 7 – 8 p.m.;

Saturdays, 8 – 9 a.m.

EFT Pass \$45 month /12 month minimum +

Joining Fee

\$50 month / 6 months + Joining Fee

Drop-in: \$15

Register through Jazzercise



Ladies Boot Camp

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. Students are required to bring their own mats. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Instructor: KJ Total Fitness.

TP Recreation Center Gymnasium

16 years and older

Tuesdays and Thursdays; 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

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. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Students are required to bring their own mats and hand weights. Instructor: Nancy Nickell.

TP Recreation Center Front Room

16 years and older

Six-week sessions

Wednesdays, Feb. 15 – March 22; 6 – 7 p.m.

\$60

Qi Gong Moonlight

Qi Gong Moonlight enhances the quiet, gentle, peaceful yin side of our energy in the fall months, balancing the warm, active, bright sunlight yang energy. These six beautiful movement forms strengthen and align the body, focus the mind, reducing stress and tension while bringing body and mind together in the breath. No experience necessary. Instructor: Patrick Smith.

TP Community Center Dance Studio

16 years and older

Eight-week session

Tuesdays, until March 7; 7 – 8 p.m.

Drop-in: \$15 (credit card only)

Iyengar Yoga: Beginners

Yoga is about awareness and alignment. In this class you will start with the foundation poses, spread your awareness throughout the body and develop the connection between the body and the breath and the body and the mind. Mats and props will be provided to make each pose accessible to all levels of flexibility.

RECREATION

■ From page 6

Wear comfortable clothing (not too baggy) and do not eat at least two hours prior to class. Instructor: Tehseen Chettri.

TP Community Center Dance Studio

18 years and older

15-week session

Wednesdays, until April 12; 6 – 7:15 p.m.

Drop-in: \$15 (credit card only)

55+

DROP-IN

Bingo

Come and try your luck. Win a prize. No registration required.

TP Community Center Senior Room

55 and older

Thursdays, Feb. 23 and March 23; noon – 2 p.m.

Free

Blood Pressure Screening

Adventist Healthcare will be doing a monthly blood pressure screening. Drop-in. No registration is required.

TP Community Center Senior Room

55 and older

Thursdays, Feb. 23 and March 23;

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Free



Table Tennis

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

RECREATION □ Page 9

They Shoot ... They Score!

The Takoma Park Recreation Center is offering its annual Dribble Pass and Shoot spring break basketball camp for youth ages 5 – 12. The Dribble Pass and Shoot Camp is one of our most popular camps and has a lot of returning kids. Campers will be provided with excellent coaching that allows each participant to develop a sense of pride and individual accomplishment. The level of instruction will be adjusted to fit the individual needs of each participant.

This fun-filled camp will focus on fundamentals. Experienced co-ed counselors with positive attitudes will be on hand to provide fun basketball related games that will keep the participants enthusiastic and engaged while getting them in shape.

Participants love this camp because of the professionalism of the staff and the fun activities they provide. Ryan Bobb one of our returning campers said, "I really liked the three-point contest and the pizza on Friday."

Romel Williams, our camp director, will be returning for his fourth year with this camp. Coach Williams has put together a fun-filled curriculum that includes games that allow the campers to use their brains as well as their physical skills. Coach Williams said, "I love coming back to this camp year after year because the campers are eager to learn and I love sharing my passion for the game of basketball with them."

Campers will have an opportunity to

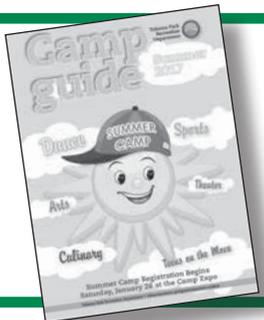


play full-court basketball games with a referee and scoreboard. Teams will be divided evenly by age and skill set. This is a great opportunity for kids to make new friends or spend time with classmates during their spring break.

Camp will be held from April 10 – April 14 at the Takoma Park Recreation Center Gymnasium. Camp will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. We ask that you bring a non-perishable lunch Monday

through Thursday. On Friday, lunch will be provided by the recreation center. For parents that need additional activities beyond the regular camp hours, we are offering before care as well as after care for an additional fee. During before and after care, kids can take advantage of this time with staff improving their dribbling or shooting skills. For more information or to register for camp, visit takomaparkmd.gov.

RECREATION *Special Programs*



Summer Camp Registration Open

Registration recently opened – some camps fill quickly! Don't miss out! Register in-person or online at takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/camps

Childcare Programs 2017-2018

Registration for Takoma Park residents opens Wednesday, March 15; non-residents March 22

At the time of registration, 20% of the total fee is due, with the next payment being due Oct. 1.



Media Lab

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. For more information, please contact John Webster at 301-891-7225 or johnw@takomaparkmd.gov.

TP Community Center

Multi Media Lab

Mondays – Wednesdays and Fridays; 3 - 8 p.m.

Saturdays; noon – 5 p.m.

Closed on Thursdays and Sundays



Summer Camp Employment

Looking for something fun and rewarding to do this summer? Look no further! Takoma Park Recreation Department will soon be looking for summer camp staff. Apply online at takomaparkmd.gov/hr/careers.

It's Snowing — Is My Class Canceled?

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

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

Local Businesses Wanted

Are you a business looking for summer help? The Recreation Department is looking for businesses to partner with for its Summer Youth Employment Program. The Business Interest Meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 15, 10:30 a.m. @ TPCC**. For more information or to RSVP, email leiciam@takomaparkmd.gov. "Empowering Youth through Employment"



Celebrate Takoma Committee Volunteers Needed

The Recreation Department is beginning to plan the fourth annual Celebrate Takoma Festival for Saturday, May 20, from 4 - 7 p.m., and we need your help. The festival celebrates the cultural diversity of Takoma Park. We will be looking for food, merchandise vendors and local entertainers. If you would like to volunteer to be a part of the steering committee, email Debby Huffman at deborahh@takomaparkmd.gov. The committees meet monthly in the evenings. Come join the fun!





Politics & Prose author line-up

By Karen MacPherson

Mark your calendars for another stellar season of visits by top children's authors and illustrators, courtesy of our partnership with Politics & Prose bookstore.



Emily Jenkins



And, under the pen name E. Lockhart, Jenkins is a best-selling author for teens; her teen novels include the National Book Award finalist, *The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks* and *We Were Liars*.

Jenkins' newest picture book, *A Greyhound, A Groundhog*, has received four starred reviews. Illustrated by Chris Appelhans, the book recounts how a friendship blooms between two very different creatures. In its review, *Kirkus* noted that "this delightful story is a feast for the eyes and the ears." And *School Library Journal* called the book "a lovely, lyrical paean to the natural order, with an element of wonder and grace."

On Wednesday, March 8, we welcome noted picture book author/illustrator Susan Stockdale, who will present her newest picture book, *Fantastic Flowers*. In its review, *Publishers Weekly* noted: "In crisp acrylic paintings, Stockdale highlights 17 flowers that resemble a variety of objects

or creatures, as described in a jaunty series of rhymes: "Prim ballerinas, wild baboons./ Snakes standing guard, and spiraling spoons."

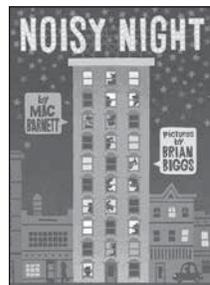
Fantastic Flowers concludes with photographs of the actual flowers, plus more information about them, including their scientific names. In her presentation, Stockdale will read the book and then show how she researched and illustrated the flowers.



Susan Stockdale



Mac Barnett



while, is popular among young readers for his trio of *Everything Goes* picture books focused on various modes of transportation as well *Tinyville Town*.

At the March 10 program, Barnett and Biggs will read from *Noisy Night*, in which

the occupants of a high rise apartment building try to figure out just who is making so much noise. In its review, *The Horn Book* said: "The high energy and bright contrasts from the bold cartoon drawings, along with the call-and-response question-and-answer format of the text, create a wild and interactive read aloud." Audience members – both kids and adults – are welcome to come in their pajamas and enjoy some lemonade and cookies at this special Friday night program.

The mysterious author Pseudonymous Bosch will launch the third book in his best-selling *Bad Books* series on Tuesday, March 28 at 7:30 p.m. Titled *Bad News*, the book again features the intrepid Clay and his Secret Series Allies battling against the white-gloved members of the Midnight Sun. There's lots of adventure as well as comedy, as Bosch employs his typically irreverent authorial tone. Bosch's previous books in-



Pseudonymous Bosch



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.

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, Feb. 1, 7 p.m.
Join Ms. Anne for this fun monthly program.

LEGO Club

Sunday, Feb. 5, 1:30 – 3 p.m.
Building fun for ages 3–10.

Caldecott Club

Monday, Feb. 6, 7 p.m.
All ages welcome; lemonade & cookies served!

Petites Chansons/French Circle Time

Saturday, Feb. 11, 10:30 a.m.

Kids Art

Sunday, Feb. 12, 2 – 3 p.m.

Comics Jam

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

Author Emily Jenkins

Wednesday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m.
Jenkins discusses her new picture book, *A Greyhound, A Groundhog*.

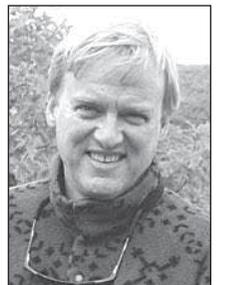
Books to Action: A Social Justice Book Club for Kids & Adults

Saturday, Feb. 18, 2 p.m.
Read and discuss some kids' books about inspiring people.
All ages welcome.

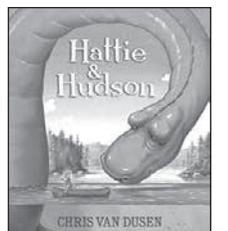
clude the first two books in the *Bad Books* series, *Bad Magic* and *Bad Luck*, as well as the popular *Secret* series, which began in 2007 with *The Name of This Book Is a Secret*.

Our final author event will take place on Tuesday, May 23 at 7 p.m. when author/illustrator Chris Van Dusen showcases his newest picture book, *Hattie and Hudson*. Van Dusen, the illustrator of the *Mercy Watson* chapter books by Kate DiCamillo as well as numerous picture books, is known for his humorous, vibrantly colored illustrations. In *Hattie & Hudson*, Van Dusen tells of the unlikely friendship between a girl and a lake monster.

At all of these events, Politics & Prose will be selling copies of books by the authors and illustrators. But the events are free, and no purchase is required. So please plan to join us for these wonderful – and inspiring – programs where kids get to meet "real" authors and illustrators.



Chris Van Dusen



Books to Action: A Social Justice Book Club for Kids & Adults

Join us on Sat. Feb. 18 at 2 p.m. as we launch Books to Action: A Social Justice Book Club for Kids & Adults at the library. We'll meet every other month to read and discuss some kids' books about inspiring people, who helped make important social justice changes in our country and our world. To conclude each program, we'll do some type of simple community service activity.

Our book club is designed to be a place where families can gather and discuss social justice issues as we read about some people who truly changed the world. While we will be reading children's books as a way to include young readers in our



community, the book club will hopefully be inspiring for people of all ages.

Registration is optional. We hope you can join us at the kick-off of an innovative book club where we hope to turn books into action.

A Conversation with Cuba

Sunday, Feb. 5, 4p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

The Takoma Park community has a rich history with Cuba and the Cuban people. Recent changes in the relationship between Cuba and the United States (namely, the reestablishment of diplomatic relations) have created increased opportunities for people-to-people exchange and government-to-government negotiations. Where



Photo: www.southalabama.edu

Miguel Fraga

CUBA □ Page 11

Clearing the way

By Helen Lyons

English Ivy, Wintercreeper, Porcelain-berry, Bush Honeysuckle and Multiflora Rose - these are some of Takoma Park's most common and visible plants, climbing the sides of brightly painted bungalows and decorating the yards of 1930s brick homes. But they're also invasive, and some of the most aggressive non-native plants to dominate the neighborhood landscape.

"The invasive species, aggressive ones especially, don't let the native species grow," said botanist and Takoma Park resident Gorky Villa Muñoz. "There is a small threshold for change between animals, insects and plants. If insects use a plant to pollinate other plants and that plant disappears, the insect population can disappear."

Villa Muñoz is a staff botanist at Find-

ing Species with over fifteen years of field experience identifying plants. He joined a group of volunteers from Friends of Sligo Creek, as well as nearby neighbors, in trying to clear some of these invasive plant species from Dorothy's Woods as part of Takoma Park's Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service.

"Japanese honeysuckle, multi-flora rose, English Ivy or hederella helix - it's so invasive that it's more damage control than removal," said Luc Phinney, a volunteer who lives close to the woods and came to help with the project. He estimates that many of these plant species, while not native to Takoma Park, have been here for over a century.

"Some of them are long-term problems, things that came in with European settlement or trade with Asia - a hundred years ago, two hundred years ago," said Phin-



Photo: Jamal Francis

Takoma Park residents work together to clear invasive plants from Dorothy's Woods

ney. "Some of them are more recent, and sadly, some are even from people's gardens, [like] Bush Honeysuckle."

Fliers on hand at the clean-up, produced by Friends of Sligo Creek, warned that "non-native invasives crowd out native plants and could be spreading from your yard."

Among the culprits are Mile-a-Minute, a vine with triangular leaves and bright blue-black berries in the summer; Norway Maple, a tree with spiny leaf tips; Bittersweet, a vine with drip-tip leaves that gets orange berries in the fall; and the beautiful Bush Honeysuckle with its yellow flowers so often planted along the borders of Takoma yards.

Removing the plants isn't easy. Phinney used a special device called a Pullerbear Tree Puller Tool to give him the leverage needed to yank up the root of a Kudzu plant, which can get as thick as four inches according to the Forest Invasive Plants Resource Center. Vines on the ground will set roots at the leaf nodes, creating more Kudzu plants that are capable of growing a foot a day.

It's hard work, but if the invasive plants aren't controlled, they could take over the woodland and kill the native species. "Even a small break in the chain of what is natural can cause problems," Villa Muñoz said.

After hours of back-breaking work at Dorothy's Woods, the flora was visibly improved and children set off to play in the forest, which was officially christened on Oct. 23 last year and named after long-time Takoma Park resident Dorothy Barnes, 94, who has lived next to the woods for most of her life.

But beyond the stretch of woods at the intersection of Woodland Avenue and Circle Avenue, invasive species are still running rampant in Takoma, stifling the growth of native plants and killing trees that have stood for decades or longer. Friends of Sligo Creek offers assistance in plant identification, removal techniques, and ideas for native replacements. Residents seeking help in removing the invasive non-native plants from their yards can visit www.fosc.org for more information.



Photo: Jamal Francis

Volunteer Luc Phinney lives near the woods

RECREATION

■ From page 7

TP Community Center Game Room
55 and older
Ongoing
Mondays - Fridays, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. - noon
Free

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Adventist Healthcare Diabetes Self-Management

Six-week workshop for those who want to learn to better manage and maintain an active life with Type 2 Diabetes, Type 1 Diabetes or Pre-Diabetes. This is a free workshop; however, registration is required directly with Adventist Healthcare. For more information and to register, please call Michele McBride at 301-315-3129.

TP Community Center Lilac Room
55 and older
Six-week session
Wednesdays, March 1 - April 5; 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Free

Resources for Family Caregivers and Older Adults

Learn about online resources for locating reliable health information relevant to family caregivers and older adults. Online or in-person registration with the Recreation Department is required. Instructors: Joelle

Mornini and Michael Honch from the National Library of Medicine.

TP Community Center Hydrangea Room
55 and older
Three-week sessions
Thursdays, March 2 - March 16; 5 - 6 p.m.
Free



FITNESS

Cardio Groove

High-energy and fast-paced, low-impact aerobics that get the heart pumping and feet moving quickly. Followed by a cool down and stretch. Instructor: Nancy Nickell.

TP Community Center Dance Studio
55 and older
10-week session
Thursdays, until March 9; 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
Free

Line Dancing

Line Dancing is a great physical and mental exercise and an enjoyable social activity that leads to meeting new people and making new

friends. Learn how exercise can be fun with music. No experience necessary. Limited availability remaining. Instructor: Barbara Brown.

TP Community Center Dance Studio
55 and older
12-week session
Wednesdays, Jan. 11-March 29 (No class Feb. 1 and Feb. 8)
Late Session: 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
Free

Zumba Gold

A Latin-inspired dance fitness program designed for the active senior, the Zumba Gold workout provides participants with the opportunity to improve balance, flexibility and cardiovascular strength. Due to the popularity of the Zumba classes, you may only register for one class per week. Instructor: Yesika Flores.

TP Community Center Dance Studio
55 and older
10-week sessions
Thursday Session: Through March 16; 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Saturday Session: Through March 18; 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Free

Table Tennis Tournament

Sunday, May 26
Reserve your spot today - limited spaces



FAMILY

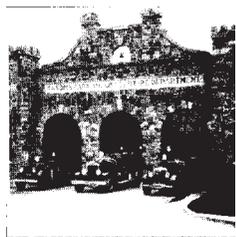
SPECIAL EVENTS



Seventh Annual Mid-Year Play Day

Attention! Attention! Yes, that's right ... Let's Play America and the Takoma Park Recreation Department have teamed up to present to you the Seventh Annual Mid-Year Play Day. Come join Let's Play America and the Takoma Park Recreation Department for a fun afternoon of indoor play. Free fun for all. It's time for you to let your hair down, put on your comfy clothes and get ready to play. To see a full listing of activities and performances, please visit www.letsplayamerica.org. Also, this year there will be transportation for the seniors to and from Play Day.

TP Community Center
All ages
Sunday, Feb. 12; 1 - 4 p.m.
Free



THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

The Firehouse Report

In 2016 the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the station have responded to 610 fire-related incidents. The department addressed or assisted with 3,067 rescue or ambulance related incidents for a total of 3,677. Totals for 2015 were 627 and 3,300, representing a decrease of 250 incidents. During 2016, Takoma Park volunteers put in a total of 15,376 hours of standby time at the station compared to 15,687.5 hours in 2015, a decrease of 311.5 hours.

Maryland fire death totals

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported that the total for 2016 was 67 people that died in fires compared to 61 in 2015. As of Jan. 30, 2017, 10 have died compared to 11 in 2016.

Safety Message Home Fires! You must be prepared!

Your first defense is to have working smoke alarms on all levels of your home and to check them monthly. Beginning Jan. 1, 2018, all smoke alarms must be replaced when they reach 10 years old. That will be the law.

Second, you must have a Family Escape Plan. If there are children and seniors, they must be involved in the planning. You practice your plan at least twice a year. It must also show two ways out of every room, especially the bedrooms. Make sure the windows will open. Finally, make sure your home is clear of potential hazards. Take a look around your entire house.

Toy Drive - Thank You

On behalf of the Takoma Park VFD, we want to first thank the following for donating the toys: TPVFD Auxiliary, Takoma Park Lions Club, Marines Toys for Tots and the citizens throughout the community. Second, thanks to the following for assisting with the sorting and bagging the toys: TPVFD members Jorge Alfaro, Tina and Ashlee Willey, from MCFRS Captain Darrell Hout, and citizens Tina Smith, Dawn Smith-Myles, Tyle Darnnell and Ernesto Lara. The Toy Drive provided 148 children, representing 52 families, with toys. This marked the 36th year of the drive, which has provided toys to more than 5,000 children in the community since its inception.

Winter preparedness check-up: Tuning up for safety

By Claudine Schweber, Co-Chair
Emergency Preparedness Committee

Just like the annual medical check-up, it's time for the annual Winter Preparedness Check-Up. How well prepared are you to manage the snow, icy roads, freezing temperatures and rain, or power outages? Can you contact kids in school or have them reach you? Can you help elderly relatives, neighbors or someone who doesn't speak English?

So just like checking your blood pressure, heart rate, weight and medications with the doctor or getting your car tuned up, here's your winter emergency preparedness checklist focusing on four areas: shelter in place, communication and contacts, caring for the elderly, the disabled, and non-English speakers; and school contact.

Shelter-in-place

- Three days of supplies if you must remain inside:
- Water (about a gallon per person per day)
- Non-perishable food that doesn't require refrigeration or cooking
- Can opener that's hand-operated
- Flashlight close by and working batteries
- Portable radio (battery) or solar-powered, hand-crank radio

Health support:

- Prescription medication, sufficient for at least a week
- Medical professionals' contact list
- Copies of health insurance information, medical records and other health related documents
- Contact information for nearest hospital and emergency personnel



tal and emergency personnel

- First-Aid kit

Communication and contacts:

- Emergency contact list, with identifier (such as family, neighbor)
- Out of area emergency contact list (Be sure to tell people they are on your list.)
- Cell phone charged before the storm; land-line or other back-up
- Notepad/paper and pen/pencil

Assistance for the elderly, the disabled and non-English speakers

- Support for caregivers as well as the elderly
- Mobility assistance for those needing wheel chairs and/or other special medical equipment
- If needed, contact information for sign language interpreters or language translators

School information

- Do you have the school emergency number?
- Do you know when the school becomes an overnight shelter?
- Do you have contact information for key school personnel?
- Can you contact your child, and can she/he contact you?
- If someone else picks up the student, does the school have the authorization?

Are you tuned-up for safety, and prepared for emergencies? Don't wait. Being prepared prevents being scared. It's easy to contact us at tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7126.

TPPD cares for residents

Caring About Residents Everyday (CARE) is a program directed at Takoma Park residents who live alone with special needs or just need to be checked on each day. To be a part of CARE, residents who need to be checked on register with the Takoma Park Police Department. They will call TPPD once each day between 12 p.m. and 5 p.m. If they don't call, TPPD will call them. If they do not answer, patrol of-

ficer will be sent to check on their welfare. This program is designed to protect those in need and bring a sense of peace to those friends and relatives who care, but who are not close enough to check themselves. CARE is another way we can give back to the community and take care of those in need. Please contact Cathy Plevy at 301-891-7142 or cathyp@takomaparkmd.gov to register for this program.

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.

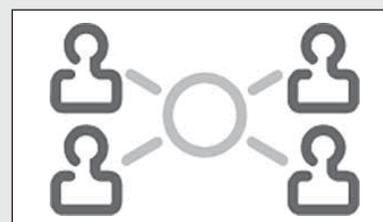
For additional information, visit takomaparkmd.gov/services/passports.



STAY CONNECTED!

The City of Takoma Parks strives to keep residents engaged and informed in a variety of ways including social media, the 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



Put a frame on it

By Helen Lyons

While factories abroad mass produce low-priced picture frames by the thousands using the latest in high-tech machinery, in Takoma Park some things are still done the old-fashioned way.

"It's more work, a lot of labor, ragged fingers and working late at night to make what ends up being minimum wage, but there's something really gratifying about it," said Mark Howard of his chosen profession. Howard of Takoma Picture Framers has been at the helm of a family business that dates back to the forties, perfecting a craft even older than that.

"This is kind of an old world type of shop," he explained, standing before shelves that seem to stretch on for miles in the basement of 7312 Carroll Ave. Upon them are countless cuts of wood, meticulously organized and waiting to be assembled carefully by hand into frames for photos, prints and original works of art.

They come in seemingly every type and color, from oak to gold-leaf, and some were once the property of the National Gallery of Art where Howard's father Alden's first frames were sold.

"He worked for a framer downtown on Constitution Avenue," Howard said, "and at the same time was going to the Corcoran School of Art, and visiting the National Gallery and doing sketches of the oil paintings that hung there."

His employer had a contract with the National Gallery of Art, and in 1950 when Alden Howard Jr. wasn't learning the skill of framing, he was flirting with a woman at the coat check who would later become his wife.

"For twenty years he built frames," Howard recalled. "My earliest memories are of my father and my uncle downstairs in the basement sawing and sanding and painting and clipping and wrapping and creating frames for the National Gallery that were sold in the gift shop."

But in 1970, the end of that contract brought the Howard family to Takoma Park, where Willard and Katherine Atherley owned and operated the first ever framing store in all of Maryland out of a downtown row home that had once been a bakery.

There were still commercial baking pans and cupcake trays in the home above the storefront when Alden Jr. bought the store from the Atherley's, but soon they were replaced with paints, putties, sandpaper and pieces of whalebone used to perfect the edging of a mat.

Not much changed when the business switched hands, including some of the help (Katherine stayed on as a part time employee.) and the name.

In the 1970s, Takoma Picture Framers was still one of the only framing places in town, and Mark Howard remembered lines out the door. "We were open to nine o'clock at night and we had lines of people here and they wouldn't leave. We'd be up until ten, eleven o'clock taking orders."

But business isn't exactly booming today, nearly 70 years after the shop first opened. Mark Howard took over the business from his father in the year 2000, and now it's only him behind the counter, instead of the whole family and an apprentice or two.

But Howard still burns the midnight oil



Photo: Helen Lyons

Mark Howard holds up one of his current orders — a painting a customer has asked him to custom frame.

from time to time, working past nightfall above the shop mixing paints and putties and operating the same old pressing machine that his father used in the 70's to fulfil his clients' orders. He even has his father's old whalebone tool, well over half a century old.

"It's not really worth it monetarily," Howard admits, gazing around the shop with its creaking stairs, sloping floors and family of squirrels embedded in the walls upstairs. "I had to find a way within myself to say, well, I took over Dad's business. I'm doing it for him."

And even on a freezing winter's day, the buzzer just outside the door rings. A cus-

tomers has arrived. She's moved to Takoma Park just recently and is looking to have something framed for her new home.

While Howard gives her a short version of his shop's rich history, she notices a book with her mother's name as the title amongst the collection of old keepsakes Mark has for sale at the front of the store (his "yard sale," he calls it). She's delighted.

There's a CVS Pharmacy on Carroll Avenue and a new Walmart just six minutes away on Rigg's Road, but in Takoma Park, these "old world types of shop" and the dedicated people who run them still manage to charm.

Awaken Your Spirit: Celebrate Black History Month with ZCAF



Jacob Lawrence



Betye Saar

As part of its Schools Out Arts Programs for preteens (grades 5-8), the Zenith Community Arts Foundation will host "Awaken Your Spirit" on Friday, Feb. 17 and Monday, Feb. 20 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at DC Arts Studios (6925 Willow Street NW, Washington, DC) located two blocks from the Takoma Park Metro Station.

During the program, participants will review and explore the artwork and techniques of 20th Century African-American artists Faith Ringgold, Betye Saar, Jacob Lawrence, Alma Thomas, Romare Bearden and Jean-Michel Basquiat.

After the group reviews the work of these artists (first half of each day), participants will have ample time to explore techniques and approaches as they create their own unique works. Discussions will relate the artistic technique to age-appropriate science, English, history and math curriculum.

Guided by Lead Artist-Educator Liz Ashe and Secondary Artist-Educator Ella Dorsey, participants will use materials such as paper, paint, cardboard, cut newspaper and magazine, wire, found object, ink, graphite, pastels and fabric. They will also discuss and listen to musicians from the Harlem Renaissance during the studio portion of this program, including Miles Davis and Ella Fitzgerald. For more information or to register, call 202-783-8005 or visit www.zcaf.org.



Faith Ringgold



Romare Bearden

TAKOMA PARK SEED

■ From page 4

value the voices of your neighbors, colleagues and children.

What happens at a SEED seminar? We listen to each other's stories, watch videos and participate in interactive activities. A few of the exercises might make you smile, some, not so much, but all of them are meant to make you look inward in a safe environment.

SEED leaders Annie Mozer, Rachel Alexander and Sherece Millet will facilitate the seminars for interested participants on March 4 and 18; April 8 and 22; May 6 and 20; and June 3 and 17 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Topics for the upcoming seminars are listed in the shaded box.

If you are interested, please contact us by Feb. 11 as space is limited. We hope you will consider joining SEED as part of your

- 3/4/17 – Stories of our Selves
- 3/18/17 – Self & Systems of Oppression
- 4/8/17 – Race & Ethnicity
- 4/22/17 – Gender
- 5/6/17 – Sexual Identity
- 5/20/17 – Class/Socio-Economic Status/Wealth
- 6/3/17 – Age, Religion, Ableness, Culture/Regionality
- 6/17/17 – Graduation

commitment to community engagement and our commitment to diversity and inclusion in Takoma Park. Please make your applications online: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSevKZxcX1oZnF9TNfHRKwCsvcmjhnOZNYwF3ugPRVpM54rK6A/viewform>

For more information or a paper application, please email takomaparkseed@gmail.com.

CUBA

■ From page 8

is the relationship between Cuba and the U.S. going? How do the elections and the recent passing of Fidel Castro impact this relationship? What does this all mean to our local community?

Join Mayor Kate Stewart, County Executive Isiah Leggett, and County Councilmember Marc Elrich in a community conversation with Mr. Miguel Fraga, the First Secretary for the Cuban Embassy. During the conversation, Mr. Fraga will share with us his thoughts on these questions and many others.

FEBRUARY '17

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 March issue is February 10, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning February 24.

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, Feb. 1, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, March 1, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Auditorium

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

Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry

First Saturdays, noon – 3 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

Circle Time

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.

A beloved local tradition, the 30-minute program of songs, fingerplays, rhymes, movement exercises and stories teaches early literacy concepts in a fun way. The program is geared for infants through preschoolers and their grown-ups.

Takoma Park Maryland Library

Spanish Circle Time

Thursdays, 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Join Senora Geiza for a 30-minute program highlighting basic Spanish vocabulary through songs and rhymes.

Takoma Park Maryland Library

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

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

Parents of Special Needs Adults (POSNA)

This support and advocacy group of parents and other loved ones of adults with special needs including autism, Down's Syndrome, and severe chronic psychiatric challenges usually meets the fourth Thursdays of every month at the home of a Takoma Park resident. For more information, contact Mary Muchui at muchui@aol.com or 301-646-2109.

S.T.E.M Night

Thursday, Feb. 2, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

7511 Holly Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912

This night promotes Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics and ways parents, students and the community can incorporate it at home. This is a free activity and open to the community, we will have hands on activities for both parents and students, and ongoing presentations throughout the school.

Takoma Park: Sanctuary City – Then and Now

Saturday, Feb. 4, 3 p.m.

TP Community Center

A public teach-in on how the city's sanctuary ordinance protects all our immigrant neighbors. Panel Discussion moderated by Rizzy Qureshi, Ward 3 Councilmember, with City Manager Suzanne Ludlow, Police Chief Alan Goldberg, Montgomery County Councilmember Marc Elrich, Gustavo Torres, Executive Director, CASA de Maryland; and Denyse Sabagh Esq., Partner, Duane Morris. Other Speakers include Mayor Kate Stewart, Maryland State Delegate Ana Sol Gutierrez, and Ward 4 Councilmember Terry Seamens.

Public meeting on Memorial Scatter Garden

Sunday, Feb. 5, 4 – 5:30 p.m.

Historic Takoma, 7328 Carroll Avenue

The discussion will focus on the idea of creating a spot where people can scatter the ashes of their loved ones and recommendations for which park might be best. To learn more, visit takomascatter.com or contact Jennifer Beman at bemanwhite@gmail.com.

Takoma Park Middle School Used Book Sale

Friday, Feb. 10, 6 – 9 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 11, 9 a.m. – noon

Takoma Park Middle School, 7611 Piney Branch Road, Takoma Park, Md. 20912.

Thousands of books available on all subjects and for all ages. All books priced at \$1-\$2. Free

Seventh Annual Mid-Year Play Day

Sunday, Feb. 12, 1 – 4 p.m.

TP Community Center

Let's Play America and the Takoma Park Recreation Department have teamed up to present to you the Seventh Annual Mid-Year

Play Day. Come join Let's Play America and the Takoma Park Recreation Department for a fun afternoon of indoor play. Free fun for all. To see a full listing of activities and performances, please visit www.letsplayamerica.org. See you there! Also, this year there will be transportation for the seniors to and from Play Day. Free

VILLAGE OF TAKOMA PARK EVENTS

Friendly Visitors Volunteer Orientation

Thursday, Feb. 23, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

TP Community Center, room to be assigned.

If interested, please contact The Village of Takoma Park at 301-646-2109 or email sandyeganretired@gmail.com.

Aging Well Network

Tuesday, Feb. 28, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

TP Community Center Azalea Room

Free and open to all; registration not required. For more information, visit villageoftakomapark.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

Writing a Village

Monday, Feb. 13, 7 – 9 p.m.

TP Community Center Lilac Room

Led by Anne Becker, poet laureate emerita of Takoma Park, this monthly poetry workshop is for those who love words.

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, Feb. 16, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

TP Community Center Auditorium

The popular "Third Thursday" poetry series features the work of a wide range of poets from across the region. If you have not sat in one on the readings yet, stop by on any third Thursday of the month and check it out. Featuring Mary Ann Larkin, Gary Stein, and Barnardine (Dine) Watson with host Merrill Leffler.

Photo Salon

Monday, Feb. 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.

Feminist and Progressive "Doctor Who"

Thursday, March 2, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

The British television series "Doctor Who" focuses on a time-travelling wanderer and his stereotypical companion who's young, female, attractive, and not very smart. Heather McHale, PhD in literature from University of Maryland, addresses this stereotype and finds that it has almost never been accurate, and that the show has, with a few notable exceptions, depicted strong, varied companions. Focusing mostly on the revived series beginning in 2005, McHale discusses how the show has made progressive statements about LGBTQ issues, disability, race, and economic class. Suggested \$10 donation

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friends of the TP Rec Center (FORC) Meeting

Wednesday, March 9, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Recreation Center

The group will hold its second meeting. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Priscilla Labovitz at labovitz@earthlink.net.

Fitness Expo 2017

Saturday, April 1, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

TP Recreation Center

Come join us for an exciting day that will include demonstrations from our fitness programs as well as presentations from our local community health and fitness organizations. The expo will kick off at 8 a.m. with our first 20-minute demonstration. For additional information or if you would like to volunteer for this event, please contact Vincent Cain at 301-891-7289 or vincentc@takomaparkmd.gov.

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, Feb. 10, 8 a.m.

Takoma Park Recreation Center

7315 New Hampshire Avenue

Friday, March 3, 8 a.m.

Capital City Cheesecake

7071 Carroll Ave

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

—Mayor Kate Stewart

