Gone to the dogs

By Rick Henry

It was a classic Takoma Park scene on Sunday, April 2. A diverse group of City residents, representing all genders, origins and nationalities, came together to celebrate the opening of a new community space. Some human beings were also in attendance.

The occasion was the grand opening and ribbon cutting for the new Takoma Park Dog Park located at the top of Takoma-Piney Local Park at the end of the parking lot on Darwin Avenue. Among the humans in attendance were Mayor Kate Stewart, City Council members and staff, and members of the Takoma Park Police Department, including, appropriate for the occasion, McGruff the Crime Dog.

Judging by the reactions of those diverse attendees – shepherds and pugs and beagles and, in most cases, some sort of mix of origins – and their owners, the park was well-received and a total blast.

Allie, a six-year-old Shepherd mix, said through her owners, Lacy Alison and daughter, Andi, 8, that she was “super excited” about the park and planned to spend “a lot of time” there. Lacy Alison echoed Allie’s sentiments. “We used to live

**DOG PARK**

Takoma Park Car Free Challenge begins May 19

Takoma Park’s next big challenge to help the city reduce its greenhouse gas emissions is here. The Takoma Park Car Free Challenge will kick off on Bike to Work Day (May 19) and run through Oct. 19. The Car Free Challenge is a competition for everyone who lives or works in Takoma Park. Participants will earn points for the number of miles and the number of trips they take without using their cars.

Biking, walking and using mass transportation, including metro, commuter trains and buses, and carpooling all can earn you points. The main rule of the competition is that for any trip to count it must be a trip that you would normally take by car, such as going to work or the grocery store. Air travel will not earn you mass transportation points however, no matter how overbooked your flights might be.

You can compete as an individual and on a team. If you live in Takoma Park, you will compete with the same neighborhood teams from the Neighborhood Energy Challenge. Will Forest Park and Long branch Sligo win again, or maybe Hodgen Heights will step up and snag a top prize?

Anyone working in Takoma Park can create a new workplace team. Kids can join the challenge too and create classroom or school teams.

There will be lots of prizes throughout the competition. Monthly prizes will be awarded to keep momentum going, and there will be team challenges as well to help us find the greenest workplaces in

**FARMERS MARKET**

Leo Elias as the Easter Bunny

The farmer’s market 2017 summer season officially kicked off on Easter Sunday, April 16, with the return of summer-only vendors.

“A handful of the vendors only come during the summer months,” explained Laura Barclay, executive director of Old Town Takoma Business Association. “The kick off of the farmer’s summer growing season is always the third weekend in April. Waterpenny farms, Potomac Vegetable farms, Calvert Gift farms – those are some of the big farms we see return that don’t participate in the winter months.”

A variety of farm stands and purveyors of locally produced goods were back on Laurel Avenue, selling everything from mushrooms and catnip to apples and apple pies. There were vegetable and herb plants for purchase, milk and cheeses and even wine from local vineyards, not to mention a special guest.

The Easter Bunny was present for the kick-off, but instead of handing out candy, Leo Elias of Education First was passing out vegetables.

“I’ve got radishes, carrots, cucumbers and some apples as well,” Elias said. “It’s something great for the kids.”

With the start of the summer market season, there are now more than 20 local farmers and producers gathering in downtown Takoma Park every Sunday, rain or shine, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to sell a wide range of goods.

In addition to farmer’s market staples like apples, green beans and...
At the meeting on March 15, 2017, the City Council adopted Ordinance 2017-8 awarding a contract to Summer Winter Automation for installation of digital controls for the heating, ventilation and air conditioning units in the Community Center. The contracted amount is $115,000. The Council also approved a consent agenda that included Resolution 2017-23 appointing Lori Grazia (Ward 2) and Stephanie Welch (Ward 4) to the Board of Elections and Resolution 2017-24 appointing Stephanie Kaufman (Ward 3) to the Safe Roadways Committee.

On March 22, Resolution 2017-25 was adopted to affirm support for the request of the Superintendent of Montgomery County Public Schools for a CIP Budget Amendment “Outdoor Play Space Maintenance Project for FY 2018.” Of particular concern for the Council and residents is the condition of the Takoma Park Elementary School field. On March 22, two ordinances were adopted for the Sligo Mill Overlook Playground project: 2017-10 authorized execution of contracts for $173,279 with SDX Inc. for construction of the playground. Ordinance 2017-11 authorized execution of contracts for purchase of playground equipment from three vendors for a total cost of $67,743.

Ordinance 2017-12 was adopted on April 5. The ordinance authorized additional funding in the amount of $12,831 for completion of the door security hardware and ID software project. Also on April 5, the Council approved Resolution 2017-26 which authorized execution of a consent order in City of Takoma Park v. Marcial Properties Inc. Under the consent order, the City of Takoma Park will obtain a right of way easement over the alley connecting Winding Hill Way to Flower Avenue and install speed humps if feasible under City of Takoma Park quality and standards requirements. The Ordinance requires the Respondent to keep the right of way free of parked cars and other obstructions in exchange for the City’s payment of $15,000, and grants the Defendant the right to retain gates across the alley and close the gates overnight so long as Defendant owns the property. CityCouncilMember Male voted against the Resolution.

On April 12, the City Council adopted a consent agenda. It included Ordinance 2017-13 approving a contract with Tito Contractors in the amount of $151,320 for removal of the Kehoe Bridge Room. The second consent agenda item was Ordinance 2017-14 approving a contract with Taser International for replacement of the police Interview Video system; software, data storage and retention, and additional body worn camera hardware. The cost for the first year of the five-year contract is $20,193.34. The ongoing cost is $5,965 per year. The third item in the consent agenda was Ordinance 2017-15 approving a three-year lease agreement for two electric vehicles for the Neighborhood

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 April 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; 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. (2 vacancies)

The Commemoration Commission documents, maintains, and preserves past, present, and future, memory, commemorative, and recognitions in regard to matters involving the arts; 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; 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. (2 vacancies)

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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. (2 vacancies)

The Facade Advisory Board serves as an advisory panel to help ensure that the architecture and historic character of the City’s buildings and their materials, colors, light, landscape, and overall massing are harmonious and consistent with the intended quality and character of the commercial areas of Takoma Park; provide guidance and assistance to commercial building and business owners seeking permits for facade alterations, signs, and new construction work; and inform residents and business owners of the historic district benefits and the requirement to continue coordinating with the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission regarding necessary approvals. (1 vacancy)

The Grants Review Committee evaluates applications for a number of City grant programs and makes funding recommendations to the City Council. The grant programs are: Cultural and S.T.E.M. grants, Program and Operational Support grants; Capital Project grants; and CDBG grants. (1 vacancy)

The Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee oversees implementation and adherence to the City of Takoma Park Nuclear Free Zone Act and provides public information and issues related to the Ordinance. (1 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, programming policies and programs that concern recreational opportunities within the City, with a special emphasis on youth and seniors and broad and diverse participation. (3 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 bicycling, public, and transit. (4 vacancies)

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

There is much we have preserved and much that has changed during my 35 years as Takoma Park’s City Attorney. I smile every time I walk to the metro station and see that it is still framed in green despite efforts to build townhouses there. Route 410 is still a two-lane road, not a freeway. Children who attended Takoma Park Middle School send their own children to the same vibrant, diverse classrooms despite multiple attempts to shut it down.

Every day I pass by the Sammie Abbott Citizen’s Community Center, and every weekend I stroll along the Sligo Creek Park Hiker-Biker trail. Now bustling with the farmer’s market, restaurants and colorful shops, it’s hard to recollect how quiet and vacant the streets of Old Town Takoma were back in 1981 when I was first appointed. Today, as we see so many of our community values under attack, I reflect on how this Azalea city, this city of trees, was built and has flourished due to our collective vision and the legal groundwork to support it.

What gives me the most pride in the deliberative way the Takoma Park government has consistently promoted public policies that nurture inclusiveness, equity and diversity in our community. The work of a city attorney is often based in the routine details of advising a municipality in our community. The work of a city attorney is public policies that nurture inclusiveness, equity and diversity in our community. The work of a city attorney is often based in the routine details of advising a municipality in our community. The work of a city attorney is public policies that nurture inclusiveness, equity and diversity in our community. The work of a city attorney is often based in the routine details of advising a municipality in our community. The work of a city attorney is often based in the routine details of advising a municipality in our community. The work of a city attorney is public policies that nurture inclusiveness, equity and diversity in our community. The work of a city attorney is often based in the routine details of advising a municipality in our community. The work of a city attorney is public policies that nurture inclusiveness, equity and diversity in our community. The work of a city attorney is often based in the routine details of advising a municipality in our community. The work of a city attorney is

• Voting: To stimulate civic engagement and representation, Takoma Park adopted a system of ward representation (to replace at-large voting districts). We opened voting to non-citizens and to 16 and 17 year-old youths to give them a voice in shaping City policy.

• Sanctuary: In 1985 Takoma Park legislated its commitment to protecting all immigrants (including those without documentation) in all City functions and services. This policy has been re-affirmed and expanded over many years as conditions changed nationally and as the federal policies have shifted.

• LGBTQ families: Takoma Park has not only welcomed diverse families, we have attracted them based on our leadership in advancing LGBT legal recognition. Takoma Park was a plaintiff in successful litigation to keep a hostile group (“Citizens for Decent Government”) from forcing a referendum on the Montgomery County civil rights law. Our City Charter and Code were revised to ensure that LGBT families receive equal treatment. We created our own Domestic Partner Registry and spearheaded the ability to provide health insurance to same-sex partners in a plan provided statewide for local governments.

• Landlord-tenant rights, COLTA, and rent stabilization: Almost half of our residents are renters. We have tried to ensure good living conditions through code enforcement efforts and fair treatment of tenants. Rent stabilization provides housing stability by ensuring affordability. We also established a Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (“COLTA”) to resolve landlord-tenant disputes outside of the court system. Takoma Park’s laws have been revised and improved several times during my tenure and have survived legal challenges.

City Attorneys never work in isolation; we achieve by working together. I have been fortunate to work with excellent city managers: Jim Wilson, Bev Habada, Rick Finn, Barb Matthews, Brian Kenner and Suzanne Ludlow; effective mayors: Sammie Abbott, Steve Del Guidence, Ed Sharp, Kathy Porter, Bruce Williams and Kate Stewart; and committed, responsive councilmembers, City staff, and volunteers too numerous to name. My work has been supported by members of my law firm as well, especially Ken Sigman and Linda Perlman. Ken has been selected to carry on as City Attorney following my retirement.

Takoma Park has not only been a wonderful client, it is my community and my home. I served here as Takoma Park City Attorney for 35 years, started my private law practice, and raised my two children, Danielle and Avi, here. I am confident Takoma Park will continue to follow its vision of acting locally, while working toward a just global community. It has been quite a run! Carry on!

The City Council will present a resolution to Silber at its June 14 meeting in recognition of her many years of dedicated service to the community. A reception will precede the meeting at 6:30 p.m., and residents are invited to attend.

Editor’s Note: Susan Silber continues her private practice of law in Takoma Park with Silber, Perlman, Sigman & Tilev.
Rent Stabilization Allowance (Annual Rent Increase) 1.3%

Effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

The Takoma Park’s law (City Code Chapter 6.20 Rent Stabilization) maintains the affordability of rental units in the community by limiting the number and amount of rent increases that may be charged for a specific rental unit. Generally the rent may be increased only once in a given 12 month period and rent increases are limited to the annual increase in the Consumer Price Index. The rent stabilization allowance is calculated on an annual basis and applies to all licensed multi-family rental facilities with two or more rental units and to all licensed condominium units.

The 2017-2018 Rent Stabilization Allowance is 1.3% and will be in effect beginning July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Landlords required to comply with Takoma Park’s Rent Stabilization law cannot increase the rent on occupied units any higher than this allowance.

Multi-family rental properties and individually-owned condominium units are subject to Takoma Park’s Rent Stabilization laws; however the following units may be exempt from many of the requirements of rent stabilization:

- Rental units leased to tenants under the Housing Choice Voucher Program.
- Any rental facility that is subject to a regulatory agreement with a governmental agency that controls the rent levels of not less than one-half of the rental units in the rental facility and restricts the occupancy of those rental units to low and moderate income tenants; and
- Newly constructed rental units for a period five years after construction.

The exemption is not automatic and is subject to the approval of the City. If you have any questions about the rent on your unit or Takoma Park’s Rent Stabilization law, please contact Jean Kerr at 301-891-7216.

Racial equity in Takoma Park

This January the City Council held its yearly retreat to discuss our priorities and to take a step back from our weekly meetings to look at long-term goals for our community. This year, as part of our retreat meetings, we invited a speaker from the National League of Cities to present and facilitate an open and honest dialogue about racial equity and the way in which we can proactively address issues of racism and inequality in our community.

Prior to and during our retreat, we looked at the history of racism in our country and how this has led to current day disparities in education and job attainment, housing, and many quality of life indicators for people of color. In particular, we examined how racial inequity today is not just overtly racist talk or action but rather racial inequities have come to be ingrained and institutionalized in our policies and practices, even those we believe to be race neutral. And therefore, we must disrupt and unpack seemingly neutral policies and practices to see if they are contributing to inequity.

Specifically, when we discuss racial equity, we mean the development of policies, practices, and investment in the community to reverse racial disparity trends, dismantle institutional racism, and ensure that outcomes and opportunities for all people are no longer determined by race.

We plan to institute methods that have worked in cities around the country to take a step back from our weekly meetings to look at long-term goals for our community. We ensure a vibrant and healthy community for all our residents.

Effective Wednesday, April 5, 2017, the Council began including a “Racial Equity Impact Statement” on all its agenda items. A slightly longer version of Stewart and Smith’s statement appeared on the City’s website: takomaparkmd.gov/city-council-and-mayor-blog/racial-equity-in-takoma-park.

First-Time Home Buyers Seminar

Saturday, May 6, 2017 • 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center

Are you ready to buy a home, but not sure where to start? You can take the first step by attending this free first-time home buyer seminar to be led by the Latino Economic Development Corporation (LEDC), a HUD certified housing organization. You will learn the entire home buying process from how to obtain a mortgage and to understanding the terms of the loan. Attend the entire session and receive a certificate of completion, allowing you access to low-interest loans. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required. To register, please contact the Housing & Community Development Department at 301-891-7119 or email us at housing@takomaparkmd.gov. Continental breakfast and light lunch will be provided.

Building Community

Bond bill for library renovation approved

Takoma Park’s Bond Bill request for $150,000 for library renovation has been approved. Many thanks to former Friends of the Library Board President Tim Rahn, who raced to the library on a rainy night to testify before state legislature representatives in support of this bill. Thanks also to Ward 1 Councilmember Peter Kovar, who testified in support of the bond bill in Annapolis and was instrumental in securing its approval. We are on our way!
The Space Between
Thursday, May 4, 7–8:30 p.m.
Join us for a free reception to celebrate the opening of our new exhibition The Space Between. Art is made in the space between our lives, the spaces between daily events and challenges – both negative and positive. Featuring works by Elizabeth Ashe, James Cassell, Sarayu Iyer, Lauren Kotkin, and Lisa Rosenstein. Meet the artists and discuss their works. We hope to see you there.

Docs in Progress Presents Screening of The Crooked Tune
Thursday, May 11, 7:30 p.m.
We Are Takoma partners with Docs in Progress to bring you the story of one man's journey to keep alive a slice of musical Americana. Fiddler Dave Bing toils to play and preserve West Virginia old-time music. Come for the film and stay for the question and answer session with filmmaker Charles Cohen.

Holton Mural - Community Paint!
Saturday, May 20, 10 a.m.; Tuesday, May 23, 4 p.m.; Saturday, May 27, 10 a.m.; Wednesday, May 31, 4 p.m.
Help artist Peter Krsko paint a new community mural! The mural will be on the side of El Alazan Western Wear, 1337 Holton Lane. Community painting days happen May 20, 23, 27, and 31. The massive mural is made possible with support from the City of Takoma Park, Takoma/Langley Crossroads Development Authority and JBGR Retail. For further information, please contact Melanie Isis at 301-445-7910 or misis@takomalangley.org.

We Are Takoma 2017-18 Season Call for Artists
Calling all creatives! We Are Takoma is now accepting online applications for its 2017-18 art and humanities program season.
“We are looking for performers, lecturers, and poets,” says Marilyn Sklar, arts coordinator. “We have had performances from dance and folk groups, as well as a combination of both. Our talk series is open to writers, researchers, curators, professors and others. Finally, our call for poets is for our Third Thursday Poetry monthly readings.”

Washington, DC, poet Bernadine “Dine” Watson has read twice now for Third Thursday Poetry, most recently March 2017, and she said she has enjoyed We Are Takoma: “I found a very supportive staff, an appreciative audience and had a thoroughly satisfying experience.”

And, Watson is telling other DC poets about Takoma Park’s poetry series: “I’m spreading the word and encouraging them to apply.”

Third Thursday Poetry
Thursday, May 18, 7:30 p.m.
Third Thursday Poetry brings you the best poets from around Maryland, Washington, DC, and Virginia. This month, enjoy readings by Mary Stone Hanley, Ryan Holman, Samantha Magrath and Robert Soley. Event and following reception are free.

English folk group Callithump—made up of (left to right) Abraham Joyner-Meyers, Andrew Marcus, and Glyn Collinson—performed in March for a We Are Takoma event.

We Are Takoma programs are open to artists from Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC. Some have come from farther away. The arts and humanities series offers honoraria. Speakers receive $100, and new for the 2017-18 season, performers receive $200.

We Are Takoma staff members will hold a Facebook Live event on Wednesday, May 3, at 1:30 p.m. about the applications and program series. Follow the City of Takoma Park on Facebook @ TakomaparkMD and tune in with your questions and comments.

Performers, lecturers, and poets simply complete an online application on the City of Takoma Park’s website: takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/arts-and-humanities.

Deadline for applications is 5 p.m. on May 31. Submissions then will be reviewed by the Arts and Humanities Commission, and finalists will be notified by June 28. So, what creativity can you share with area residents? Apply today!
RECREATION

For more information and a full listing of our camps, classes and programs please visit takomaparkmd.gov/government/recreation.

TOTS

CAMPS

Rookie Sports Camp

Have the little ones join us for a week of unique activities including: T-ball, soccer, bowling, kickball, relays and more exciting daily events. Sessions take place in a safe, structured environment and sports are played through a series of games and activities. All the sports promote hand eye coordination, motor skills, group participation and communication skills. All participants must wear sneakers and dress appropriately. Paperwork will need to be submitted prior to the first day of camp.

Takoma Park Community Center
Rose Room
7500 Maple Avenue
3 - 4 years
Monday - Friday
Session 1: June 26 - 30
Session 2: July 24 - 28
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Residents: $80 / Non-residents: $90

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 is 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.
Takoma Park Community Center
Art Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
4 - 8 years
6 Week Sessions
Monday Session: April 24 - June 5
Wednesday Session: April 26 - May 31
4 - 5 p.m.
Resident: $130 / Non-resident: $150

MAKE/Shift Studio

Art: Inspirations

Elementary students create exciting two- and three-dimensional projects in this after school class. Lessons include drawing, painting, collage, assemblage and mixed media – every class a different subject and medium. Contemporary and historical artists provide inspiration for this art program geared for 3rd through 6th graders. Beginning students welcome. Materials fee included. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman.
Takoma Park Community Center
Art Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
8 - 11 years
6 Week Sessions
Thursdays, May 4 - June 8
3:45 - 5:45 p.m.
Resident: $150 / Non-resident: $170

MAKE/Shift Studio II: Drawing & Watercolor

Have fun learning to draw with black, white and colored drawing materials, paint with watercolors, use pen and ink and explore mixed media approaches to representational imagery. Subjects will include still life, portrait, landscape (weather permitting) and floral studies. Beginning students welcome. The focus of the class is appropriate for students interested in developing a portfolio for entry into the Visual Art Center at Albert Einstein High School. Materials fee of $25, paid directly to the instructor, will be due on the first day of each session. Instructor: Katrina Dell Kaufman.
Takoma Park Community Center
Art Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
11 - 14 years
6 Week Session
Tuesdays, May 2 - June 6
3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Resident: $140 / Non-resident: $160

CAMPS

New spaces added to CAMP RECESS at the Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue. Grab your spots soon!

Girls Basketball Camp

Participants will learn basketball fundamentals which include but are not limited to: ball handling, shooting skills, foot work, and overall knowledge of the game. Campers will also improve communication skills and teamwork while having fun. This girls-only camp is operated by Sonia Chase, a former undergrad of the University of Maryland, and WNBA basketball player, Charlotte Sting. Please bring a non-perishable lunch every day. Paperwork will need to be completed prior to the first day of camp.

Takoma Park Community Center
Lilac Room
7500 Maple Avenue
7 - 14 years
Monday-Friday, July 24 - 28
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Residents: $175 / Non-residents: $195

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.
Takoma Park Community Center
Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue
9 - 18 years
5 Week Sessions
Thursdays, April 20 - May 18
4 - 6 p.m.
Resident: $85 / Non-resident: $95

SPORTS

T-Ball League 2017

This coed league allows girls and boys to have fun while learning the basic fundamentals of baseball. Emphasis will be on fun, learning to hit, running bases and catching. No experience is necessary as all skill levels are welcome. Participants must bring their own baseball glove. Volunteer coaches needed. Games are played at 9 and 10:30a.m. at Ed Wilhelm Field.

Ages 5 - 7
8 week season
June 26 - July 22
Residents: $60 / Non-resident: $70

TEENS

Y.E.S League Summer Basketball

This program provides a positive venue for youth to express themselves through the game of basketball. Teams will be guaranteed six games and each participant will receive a Y.E.S. League t-shirt. Games will be played at either 6 or 7 p.m. at Pinny Branch Elementary School Gym Middle School Division (Grades 5 - 8) Mondays, June 12 - July 31
Resident: $25 / Non-resident: $35

TEENS

CAMPS

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Resident: $25 / Non-resident: $35

TRIPS

Teen Ultimate Fitness Challenge Trip

The Ultimate Fitness Challenge is the nation’s largest mobile fitness event traveling from coast-to-coast. At The Kids Ultimate RECREATION Page 7

May 2017
**ADULTS**

**FITNESS**

Cardio

Kickboxing is designed to improve strength, aerobic fitness, flexibility, coordination and balance. This two-day a week new class will soon become a favorite! Please bring a water bottle and a towel.

Takoma Park Recreation Center

**Gymnasium**

7315 New Hampshire Avenue

16 years and older

7 weeks

April 6-May 20

Thursdays, 7:45 – 8:45 p.m.

Saturdays, 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

$75

Go-Go Fitness

Go-Go Fitness is a comprehensive 60-minute 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.

Takoma Park Recreation Center

7315 New Hampshire Avenue

16 years and older

Saturdays, Ongoing

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Drop-in: $5

**SPORTS**

TP Adult Summer Basketball League

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

Takoma Piney Branch Local Park

(Behind Piney Branch Elementary School)

Ages 18 and older

Wednesdays and Thursdays, June 14 - August 3

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

Team Fee $200

**RECREATION**

What does Celebrate Takoma celebrate?

This family festival celebrates the cultural diversity of Takoma Park and its residents. On May 20 from 4 – 7 p.m. on Maple Avenue, The City of Takoma Park Recreation Department will sponsor Celebrate Takoma. This will be the 5th installment of the annual community festival and the second year for the location being on Maple Avenue. This event becomes even more significant because of the heightened concerns surrounding the immigration status of some residents and funding for Sanctuary Cities. According to the Census Bureau, with high concentrations of residents from Ethiopia, El Salvador and Guatemala among other countries, Takoma Park is the true definition of a “melting pot.” Celebrate Takoma features arts, crafts, entertainment, music, games, and food from around the world as well as the Azalea Awards.

Howard Kohn, long-time Takoma Park resident and community activist, thought that this was a much needed event. Kohn said, “There are lots of festivals in Takoma Park, but not one that concentrates on the people that live in Takoma Park. This is like one big neighborhood block party. It is an event that exhibits the diversity that Takoma Park is known for.”

This event offers a social benefit to Takoma Park and brings the community together. “In a small town such as Ta-koma Park, it is sometimes hard to find reasons to hang out with new people,” Kohn said. “Celebrate Takoma gives kids the opportunity to play, adults the chance to dance in the streets, and you as a community resident can end up meeting someone you don’t know. All of this is pretty cool in my opinion.”

In reference to this year’s event, Howard said, “There will be a new band perform-ing, Black Masala. They will get you out of your seat, and you will be dancing the night away. Also, the Riding Bull is returning. This was extremely popular last year. If you did not ride the bull last year, you need to put it on your bucket list for this year.”

As you can see from Kohn’s comments, Celebrate Takoma fosters community pride, teaches people new things and strengthens relationships. This is the kind of special event that generates interest from community residents and motivates them to have hometown pride. It leads to new friendships and allows for a community that is strong in diversity to come together as one.

Bring a lawn chair or blanket and spend the afternoon with your neighbors.

**DROP-IN**

**Bingo**

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

Takoma Park Community Center

Senior Room

7500 Maple Avenue

55 and older

Thursday, May 25

12 – 2 p.m.

Free

**Blood Pressure Screening**

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

Takoma Park Community Center

Senior Room

7500 Maple Avenue

55 and older

Thursday, May 25

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Free

**Game Room Open Play**

The game room is available for adults age 55 and older to play pool, table tennis, basketball arcade and other active games. The game room is a great place to join friends for lively conversation, and just to “hang out” before, in-between and after classes during the day.

Takoma Park Community Center

Game Room

7500 Maple Avenue

55 and older

Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Free

**Needlework Get-together**

Work on your knitting and crochet with other needlework enthusiasts. Join us for fun, conversation and support with your projects. This is not an instructional class. Drop-in. No registration required. The group will not meet
Award-Winning books for kids and teens
By Karen MacPherson

The Newbery Medal and the Caldecott Medal may be the best-known, but they are just two of the awards given annually by the American Library Association (ALA) to great books for kids and teens.

Here’s a look at some of the awards that ALA bestows each year in addition to the Newbery (given to the best-written children’s book) and the Caldecott (given to the best-illustrated children’s book). It’s important to note that, besides the top winner of each award, there usually are “honorable” books as well. In our Library, we put yellow “Award Winner” stickers on the spine of all these books, so you can easily spot them on the shelves.

The Coretta Scott King Award honors the best children’s books created by African-Americans and is named for the civil rights activist and wife of Martin Luther King. Two awards are made annually, one given to an author and the other to an illustrator. Every other year, there is a third, related award given by the Coretta Scott King Award jury, the John Steptoe New Talent Award.

The Pura Belpre Award honors the best children’s books by Latinas/Latinos and is named for the first Latina librarian at the New York Public Library. Two awards are made annually, one given to an author and the other to an illustrator.

The Theodor Geisel Award is given to an author and the other to an illustrator. Every two years, there is a fourth, related award given by the Geisel jury, the Dr. Seuss Endowment Award.

The Odyssey Award is for the best audiobooks for children and teens.

The Schneider Family Book Award is given for a book “that embodies an artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences.” Awards are given in three age categories: young children, middle school, and teens.

The Circle of Silent Voices Award is named for Katherine Schneider and her family. Schneider, who was born blind, was inspired by books to pursue a career as a clinical psychologist.

The Stonewall Book Award is named for the newly-designated National Monument in New York City where the modern gay rights movement got its start, and is given to books of “exceptional merit” relating to the GLBTQ experience. Two books are chosen annually for the Stonewall/ Mike Morgan and Larry Romans Children’s and Young Adult Literature Awards.


The American Indian Youth Literature Awards are given every two years to honor the best books about American Indians. Awards are presented in three categories: picture book, middle school, and young adult.

All of the award winners each year, plus other great books, are included in the annual list of 100 “Notable Children’s Books.” We have copies of this year’s list, which you’ll find in a rack near a display of award-winning books in the Children’s Room. So come and check out some great books for young readers!

Friends book group
By Tim Rahn

Red Sorghum: A Novel of China, by the Chinese Nobel laureate Mo Yan will be discussed by the Friends Book Group on Wednesday, May 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room of the Community Center.

In Red Sorghum, Mo Yan uses first person narration, magic realism, and shifts in time to tell the story of three generations of a family of sorghum distillers and resistance fighters in the Shandong province of China. The story, which takes place from 1923 to 1976, happens against a backdrop of interfamily violence, political intrigue, and the Second Sino-Japanese War.

In the words of one reviewer, “Mo Yan turns these events over and over, introducing each fragment at a time and exploring their significance as they pass from one character’s experience into another’s memory.”

Originally published in serial form as three volumes, Red Sorghum was first translated and published in English in 1993. It has twice been made into a movie. Mo Yan was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2012. Copies of Red Sorghum are available at the library for readers interested in joining the discussion.

Takoma Park Folk Festival: Celebrating 40 years of community
Save the date for the Takoma Park Folk Festival (TPFF), September 10, 2017. The TPFF committee is in all-out planning mode for its 40th year, led by co-chairs Sarah Lanning and Robin Stearn, and a great team of new and veteran volunteers.

TPFF is currently accepting applications from artisans who want to participate in its diverse and highly regarded juried craft show (applications due June 30) and food vendors (applications due July 1). Applications and information are available at tpff.org.

The festival will feature community taco-loving, dragons, and take questions from the audience.

Then, on Tuesday, May 23 at 7 p.m., picture book author/Illustrator Chris Van Dusen will present his newest picture book, Hattie & Hudson. Van Dusen, the illustrator of the popular Mercy Watson chapter books written by Newbery Medalist 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.

Politics & Prose will be selling books at both of these programs, but the programs are free, and no purchase or registration is required to attend.
Thunderbolts announce schedule for summer camps and games

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

The team also runs summer baseball camps in June and July for boys and girls ages 7 to 15. Instruction is from Doug Remer, the Thunderbolts head coach. He will be assisted by T-Bolts coaches and players. This is a camp for baseball players, kids have fun, and they learn the game of baseball. The emphasis is on fundamentals, baseball values and discipline, conditioning, and healthy lifestyle choices. After camp in the evenings, campers can attend T-Bolts games where they can cheer on their coaches. The location for these camps is Montgomery Blair Baseball Stadium.

Weeklong camps: The week long camps are June 15-23, June 26-30, July 3-7 (no camp July 4), July 10-14, and July 17-21, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. each day. The location is Montgomery Blair Baseball Stadium. The cost is $220 per week except for week of July 4, which is $190. Each week-long camp session is limited to a total of 50 campers.

Three-day specialty camps: We also offer three-day specialty camps for kids ages 11-16. In these camps there will be intensive training from Thunderbolt coaches on batting (Day 1), pitching and catching (Day 2), and the camper’s choice of an expanded session on pitching or catching (Day 3). There will be 3 a 3 to 1 camper to counselor ratio. The dates are June 19-21, June 26-28, and July 5-7. The hours are 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. each day, and the price is $250 for each three-day session.


Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts
Charter Member Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League

THUNDERBOLTS 2017 SEASON HOME SCHEDULE FOR JUNE
Home games are at Montgomery Blair Baseball Stadium
51 East University Boulevard, Silver Spring, Maryland in the Four Corners Area

Admission Prices: Adults - $6.00; Children under 18 - $2.00
Youth baseball and softball players in uniform and children under the age of 5 get in FREE

Mon.-Sat. games start at 7 p.m.; Sunday games start at 6 p.m.
Schedule is subject to change. Check website, www.tbolts.org, for updates.

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<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>OPPONENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>6/9</td>
<td>Bethesda Big Train</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>6/10</td>
<td>Alexandria Aces</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>6/11</td>
<td>Herndon Braves</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6/15</td>
<td>Baltimore Redbirds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>6/17</td>
<td>Gaithersburg Giants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>6/18</td>
<td>Baltimore Dodgers (DH)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>6/19</td>
<td>Bethesda Big Train</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>6/20</td>
<td>Rain Make-Up Date (If Needed)</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>6/23</td>
<td>Rockville Express</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>6/26</td>
<td>Baltimore Dodgers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6/29</td>
<td>Gaithersburg Giants</td>
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</table>

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.

Community Coffee
When: May 19 from 8-9:30 a.m.
Where: Los Pollos Restaurant, 6842 New Hampshire Avenue
Who: Join City councilmembers, Mayor Kate Stewart, and City staff for coffee and conversation.
All residents are welcome to attend.

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

Mayor Kate Stewart

FOLK FESTIVAL
From page 8

TPFF is working to increase the number of participating groups to highlight the event’s unique community feel. Community groups, please look out for an announcement to secure your spot soon. If you’d like to volunteer at the festival, look for a call for volunteers in June or July.

The program committee is currently evaluating performer applications and will announce the 2017 lineup shortly. As with past festivals, the lineup will showcase musicians from diverse folk genres (including a youth stage) along with some dance and storytelling. Mark your calendars and plan for a delicious, fun day with musical and visual treats and the community connections that make Takoma Park special. Thanks to the City of Takoma Park for instrumental support that makes TPFF sing!
Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported that as of April 28, 31 people have died in fires compared to 19 in 2016.

Safety message - Close the door

New research from Underwriters Laboratories Firefighter Safety Research Institute shows a closed door not only blocks smoke, it can also slow the flow of heat and toxic gases to give people the extra time they need to wake up and get out alive. It’s important that when everyone goes to asleep at night that they sleep with their bedroom door closed.

Fire safety presentation

Don’t forget! The TPVFD is presenting a special fire safety presentation entitled “Home Fire Safety.” We’ll discuss very important information that you need to know in the event of an emergency in your home. Wednesday, May 31, 7:30–9 p.m. It will be held in the meeting room in the rear of the TPVFD fire station. You must register; call 240-773-8954.

Baby sitter grads

On March 27, the following girls and boys completed the TPVFD Baby Sitters Training Course: seated (left to right) Finnegan Hairston, Macee O’Keefe, Brier Jackson, Lucinda Daughertry; standing (front row left to right) Ellicbeth Durney, Liv Dussere, Dixie Tavela, Indiia Michael; standing back row (left to right) Zoe Frost, Kate Wachler, Seth Michaela, Tyler Scovarz and Zion Frost; (not pictured) Rudy Shumaker. Assisting Jim Jarboe with the class were Tina and Ashlee Willey, Nidhiuna Sato Hess, TPVFD and Sgt. Jerome Erwin, TPD.

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.

A prescription for avoiding a medical care disaster

By Claudine Schwoebel, Co-Chair, Emergency Preparedness Committee

To be sure you have the appropriate care in case of an accident, weather disaster or other health problem and that you don’t take old medications, here are three important components of a prescription for health care safety.

1. Emergency Contact: Post ‘emergency contact’ information in your cell phone—person and phone number. In addition to listing the contact person, make sure this person has a list of your medications. This will enable the paramedics to continue care, follow medical protocol and especially avoid medication complications. Also, give your PC person pharmacy and doctor(s) numbers/email addresses, and tell this person where to find the medications in your home. Please note that HIPPA forbids giving specific information re your condition to your emergency contact person without your permission; however, hospital personnel can use the information to contact this person if you cannot speak for yourself.

2. Medications: Traveling? Talk with your doctor to obtain an extra supply of medication or get a second prescription. Keep the extra prescription at home until needed. While at home, make sure your medications are current.

3. Insurance: Provide insurance information to your emergency contact, including the name and contact for the primary doctor. For out of area activities, find out what your insurance covers. Note that emergency personnel will take you to the nearest facility, not your preferred one.

Here’s a chart you can use to keep track of these items, share with emergency contact and others. Update every six months.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date form completed</th>
<th>Emergency contact information: person name, phone number, primary doctor and phone number, pharmacy phone number/email; health conditions (e.g. diabetes, allergies, etc.)</th>
<th>Medications: dosage, reason for medication(e.g. allergy meds), location of medication at home</th>
<th>Insurance: contact information, policy number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Remember, being prepared prevents being scared. It’s easy to contact the Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness Committee at tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7126.

Medication Safety

1. Keep medications that you are using in a locked area.
2. Dispose of unused or expired prescription and over-the-counter medications as soon as possible.
3. Takoma Park residents have access to an easy solution for medication disposal. The Takoma Park Police Department has a Med-Return mailbox (green), open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is located in the lower level lobby area of the Community Center (7300 Maple Avenue). This box is safe and secure.
4. Safely dispose of any unwanted/unused prescription and non-prescription drugs, patches, ointments, over-the-counter medications, vitamins, or pet medication by placing the medication in the green Med-Return mailbox. No questions asked!

Note: Items that cannot be left are liquids, aerosol cans, regular household ointments/ointments, needles/sharps, and/or thermometers.
CAR FREE
From page 1

Takoma Park. The categories for prizes will include most miles, most trips and most participation. Some of the swag to be awarded will include car-free accessories like bike lights, bells, baskets or panniers and new walking shoes. You can also count on big prizes, including new bikes and loaded smart trip cards.

Residents of Takoma Park can also earn their next Green Home Certification sticker by participating in the Car Free Challenge. To earn a Light Green Certification for transportation, residents must complete 15 trips (minimum of 15 miles total) during the challenge. Medium Green Certification will be awarded to those who take a minimum of 75 trips (minimum of 75 miles total) during the challenge, and Dark Green Certification will be awarded to anyone taking 200 or more trips (minimum 200 miles total) during the Car Free Challenge.

Reducing the number of cars on the road does more than help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Biking and walking are great exercise, and fewer cars mean safer roads for everyone. You might also be able to save a little gas money. According to research from the University of East Anglia in the UK, riding or walking to work makes you happier than driving. So break out your sneakers, padded bike shorts and metro cards and get ready to burn some calories instead of fossil fuels.

There will be a number of special events throughout the challenge, including a special raffle at Celebrate Takoma on May 20. To participate, register online at www.carfreeatkpk.com. Once registered, you can log your trips two ways. Download the challenge app to your phone and track miles using GPS while logged in. You can also log your trips on the challenge website at www.carfreeatkpk.com.

Contact Sustainability Manager Gina Mathias with any questions, gmathi@takomaparkmd.gov.

EXPLORING COMMUNITY
From page 9

five areas of emphasis: career opportunities, life skills, citizenship, character education and leadership experience.

Exploring Post 7500, so named because of the police department’s address of 7500 Maple Avenue, is a shining example of the program in action, showcasing a strong commitment from Donnelly, who is in the community at large, with the Explorers and especially at the department.

“I have to thank our Takoma Park Police Department’s sworn and nonsworn staff for their dedication and commitment that they give every week, serving as advisors to the program. Without everyone’s relentless and unselfish support to the program, it wouldn’t be successful,” Collington said.

Among those advising is Takoma Park Police Corporal Roberto Rodriguez, who as a youth growing up in Montgomery County was himself enrolled in a law enforcement exploring program. “When I was young, I thought I wanted to be involved in law enforcement, but once I enrolled in the program and experienced it, I thought ‘this is for me’,” said Rodriguez, who started with the department in 2002.

As an advisor, Cpl. Rodriguez is undoubtedly busy as the program is full of activities. In addition to the weekly Thursday meetings, the Explorers have met most of the city council elected officials, city manager and city staff. Most recently, they attended the graduation for the community members that graduated from the eleven-week Community Police Academy. In the future, the Explorers plan to help Takoma Park with its many community events, including parades and festivals.

With so much to do, there is always room for more participants, Donnelly said.

“The Takoma Park Police force is invested in providing opportunities for youth to grow into helpful neighbors. Come join Post 7500! Meetings are at the station every Thursday,” he said. Interested future Explorers can contact him at stephen.donnelly@scouting.org, or they may contact the Takoma Park Police Department.

FARMER’S MARKET
From page 1

leaves, shoppers will find pasture-raised meat and eggs, baked goods like bread and pies and cookies, artisan cheeses, fermented foods, and the occasional local pop-up.

The farmer’s market runs all year long, though the number of vendors is less in the fall, winter and early spring months. There is free parking for farmer’s market customers at the Seventh Day Adventist Church lot, accessible via Eastern Avenue.

RECREATION
From page 7

during inclement weather.

Takoma Park Community Center
Senior Room 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older 10 Week Session Mondays, May 1 - 22 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Free

Walking Group
Don’t worry about the weather and join your neighbors and friends for indoor lap walking. Drop-in. No registration is required.

Takoma Park Recreation Center Gymnasium 7315 New Hampshire Avenue 55 and older Tuesdays, May 2 - 30 12 – 1 p.m. Free

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Computer Basics
This three week course will introduce people with little or no previous experience to basic skills such as sending and receiving email, internet searching, and using a word processor to compose letters, etc. You need a Takoma Park Library card to access the computers. Registration with the Recreation Department is required. Instructor: Patti Mallin.

Takoma Park Community Center Computer Lab A 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older Wednesdays, May 10 - 24 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Fee: $10

Computer Extras
In this three week course experiment with social media, master the calendar and other computer/smart device apps and learn what to do with all those pictures of family and friends. Bring your questions. You need a Takoma Park Library card to access the computers, and take this course. Instructor: Patti Mallin.

Takoma Park Community Center Computer Lab A 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older Wednesdays, May 31 - June 14 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Fee: $10

SPORTS/HEALTH

Cardio Groove Classes
High energy and fast-paced, low impact Aerobics that get the heart pumping and feet moving quickly, then a well-earned cool down and stretch. Moves follow the beat of music designed for Aerobics. Instructor: Nancy Nickell.

Takoma Park Community Center Dance Room 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older Thursdays, May 4 - May 25 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Free

Line Dancing
Learn how exercise can be fun with music. Instructor: Barbara Brown. No class 4/12, 5/3, 5/31, and 6/7

Takoma Park Community Center Dance Room 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older Wednesdays, April 5 – June 28 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Free

Tennis Fun and Fitness
This class blends exercise with learning or reviewing tennis skills utilizing special equipment for indoor play. All equipment provided, but you can bring your own racket. Instructor Coach SJ.

Takoma Park Community Center Gymnasium 7315 New Hampshire Avenue 55 and older Thursdays, May 4 - June 1 11 – 1 p.m. Free

Sunday, May 7
8:00 AM
Takoma Park Community Center
TKPK5K.COM
5K RUN, 5K WALK, 1 MILE FUN RUN, 1/4 MILE YOUTH FUN RUN
East Silver Spring ES • Piney Branch ES
Rolling Terrace ES • Takoma Park ES
Takoma Park Middle School

Zumba Gold
Zumba Gold was designed for the active senior with less intense dance routines for beginners and older adults using modified movements. No class 5/20.

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older Saturdays, May 6 - June 17 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Free

TRIPS
Registration is required. For trip details and procedures please see the Forever Young Spring/Summer newsletter online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/trips

Trip #1
New Harriet Tubman Visitor Center CAMBRIDGE, MD Wednesday, May 10 7:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Trip #2
Washington County Rural Heritage Museum BOONSBORO, MD Thursday, May 18 8:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
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 June issue is May 12, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning May 28. To submit calendar items, email tpmn@takomaparkmd.gov.

**PUBLIC MEETINGS OF NOTE**

City Council
Budget Work Session, Monday, May 1, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, May 3, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, May 10, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, May 17, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, May 24, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, June 7, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium
Detailed agendas are always available for review online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas.

Memorial Day — City Offices Closed
Monday, May 29
All City offices & facilities will be closed Monday, May 29, for the Memorial Day holiday. The Takoma Park Police Department is open 24/7 for emergency services.

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
240-450-2002 or educare_ss@yahoo.com
www.educaresupportservices.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

The Spirit Club
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

New Farm Stand at TPES
Every Thursday, 3:30 – 5 p.m.
Behind TPES next to the playground Featuring fresh, seasonal, local produce; farm-fresh eggs and pasture-raised chicken, the farm stand is open to the public and sponsored by the PTA. Cash, credit, EBT/ SNAP accepted. No pets, please. Produce is supplied pastur-raised chicken, the farm stand is open to the public and sponsored by the PTA. Cash, credit, EBT/ SNAP accepted. No pets, please. Produce is supplied
TPCC Lilac Room
Free

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

Teen Night
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
Saturdays, 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 (PSONA)
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 Mochave at mchaelia@com or 301-646-2109
3rd Annual Montgomery County GreenFest
Saturday, May 6, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Bohrer Park at Summit Hall Farm
506 S. Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg
Activities for all ages, including an electric car show, do-it-yourself workshops, music and food trucks. Presented by the Montgomery County Government, Montgomery County Government, City of Gaithersburg, WSSC, GreenWheaton, Bethesda Green, Poolsville Green, Silver Spring Green, City of Takoma Park, City of Rockville, University of Maryland Extension, MCPS Outdoor Environmental Education
Free

TKPXSDK
Sunday, May 7, 8 a.m.
Takoma Park Community Center
5K Run, 5K Walk, 1 Mile Fun Run, 1/4 Mile Youth Fun Run

Historic Takoma House and Garden Tour
Sunday, May 7, 1 – 5 p.m.
Self-guided walking tours showcasing Takoma Park’s historic homes. This year’s event will feature the area around Spring Park that was once a Prince George’s County neighborhood (intersection of Elm and Poplar avenues).
Tours run rain or shine.
Tickets $22-325

Humane Rescue Alliance Adoption Event
Sunday, May 7, noon – 3 p.m.
Big Dog Woof, 6690 Maine St NW
The Humane Rescue Alliance will be showing off adoptable dogs and cats from its Olde Dog Street adoption center. Visit Big Bad Wolf and maybe meet your new best friend. See adoptable animals at humanrescuealliance.org/adopt.

Conversations about Montgomery College’s Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus (meeting 2 of 3)
Tuesday, May 9, 7:30 p.m.
Come share your views as the discussion about the future of the campus continues.
TPCC Azalea Room
Free

Civil Dialogue Workshop: Building Skills to Bridge the Divide
Saturday, May 13, 1 – 5:30 p.m.
Historic Takoma, 7238 Carroll Ave.
Are you concerned that political polarization is dividing us as a nation? Mobilization to learn and practice skills for conducting shouting matches. You will gain confidence in your ability to listen, take control of our health — one bite at a time.
The film will be followed by a Q&A session with a panel of experts.
Free

UPCOMING EVENTS

Third Annual Takoma Trukgarten
Saturday, June 3, noon – 9 p.m.
The third annual Takoma Trukgarten will feature offerings from local breweries, including Denizens Brewing Co., Manor Hill, and Full Tilt; food trucks; and live music.
City Parking Lot Next to 201 Ethan Allen Avenue
Tickets $10-35
For more info, visit www.mainstreettakoma.org.

Washington Adventist University Women’s Basketball Camp
June 26-30, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Washington Adventist University gymnasium, 7600 Flower Avenue
$175 (camp tee shirt included)
For information about registration, contact Jared Lyons at jlyons@wau.edu or 301-891-4554.