Back to school at Bosco

By Helen Lyons

In the evening they return home to 52 different zip codes, but during the school day they’re part of Takoma Park.

The students of Don Bosco just celebrated ten years in the Takoma Park Community, and you may have seen them around during the last decade—working at the Rec Center, for the Police Department or CHEER, or a local catering businesses. You may have even seen them taking the metro on a 9-5 commute.

That’s because students at Don Bosco in Takoma Park don’t just come to the neighborhood to learn. They’re also here to work.

The school was first formed in 2007 in response to a need for underserved populations to have a strong college preparatory education. Schools that offer such robust training for university level work abound in the D.C. area, but come with a steep price tag. And if you’re in an underserved population, explained President Rev. Michael Conway, “You can’t afford that.”

The solution for Don Bosco was a work study program. The students are hired by outside businesses and corporations that allow them to work one full day each week, primarily to offset the costs of tuition but also to give them a broader experience of what it means to work within the corporate world and equip them with the skills they will need to be commensurate with that.

The results are a 100 percent college acceptance rate, said Ana Chapa, executive director for the work study program. “We’re known as the school that works, in Bosco you graduate and you work.”

Montgomery College
final plan for new science building coming soon

By Kevin Adler

Within the next few weeks, Montgomery College President Dr. DeRionne Pollard is expected to announce her final decision about how the college will proceed with an approximately $85-million investment to build a new science center at the Takoma Park campus.

While most in the Takoma Park-Silver Spring community agree that an overhaul of the college’s science classrooms and laboratories is long overdue, some residents are concerned about the scale of the newest plan. They have asked Dr. Pollard to return to an earlier proposal that kept the footprint of the buildings smaller, further from the road and less intrusive on the surrounding neighborhood and Belle Zigler Park across the street.

“It’s complicated,” said Peter Kowar, Takoma Park City Councilmember for Ward 1, where Montgomery College is located. “The college needs to update the labs, and it has acknowledged the need to do it in a way that’s respectful of the neighborhood around it. The impacts are big, both during construction and after completion.”

The question is how to build the facility cost-effectively with the minimum sacrifice to other activities that are important to students. Nearly a year ago, the College came up with an answer in a revised Master Plan 2013-2023 that replaced an earlier Master Plan 2006-2016.

At issue are three buildings, which Dr. Pollard points out are 56 years old (Science South), 38 years old (Science North) and 36 years old (Falcon Hall). An independent facilities audit, performed in 2013, found that all three buildings “are woefully out of date,” she stated in an email.

The question is how to build the facility cost-effectively with the minimum sacrifice to other activities that are important to students. Nearly a year ago, the College came up with an answer in a revised Master Plan 2013-2023 that replaced an earlier Master Plan 2006-2016.

Takoma Park Play Day grows to Play Week

By Sean Gossard

Takoma Park Play Day is returning for its ninth year, and organizers say it will be bigger than ever. This year the event that invites children and adults to take a break from social media and their smartphones and enjoy good, old-fashioned fun is expanding into Let’s Play Takoma Week, says Pat Rumbaugh, aka the Play Lady, who organizes the annual event.

Play Week kicks off with a ribbon cutting at Capital City Cheesecake in Takoma Park on Sept. 17 from 4 – 6 p.m. Board games will be available for both kids and adults as well as childhood favorite foods like root beer floats.

Community Grant Winners Announced

Page 4

New Class, New Instructor

Page 7

More Music at the Library

Page 9

PLAY DAY  Page 9

Inside

WHAT’S NEW?

Folk Festival insert
See inside!
Nominating Caucus
Tuesday, Sept. 12
p. 3
Election Info
p. 2, 3, 11
Labor Day weekend
Sunday and Monday, Sept. 3 and 4
City offices and facilities closed
Trash Collection
Monday yard trimming collection canceled

Montgomery College
final plan for new science building coming soon

By Kevin Adler

Within the next few weeks, Montgomery College President Dr. De-Rionne Pollard is expected to announce her final decision about how the college will proceed with an approximately $85-million investment to build a new science center at the Takoma Park campus.

While most in the Takoma Park-Silver Spring community agree that an overhaul of the college’s science classrooms and laboratories is long overdue, some residents are concerned about the scale of the newest plan. They have asked Dr. Pollard to return to an earlier proposal that kept the footprint of the buildings smaller, further from the road and less intrusive on the surrounding neighborhood and Belle Zigler Park across the street.

“It’s complicated,” said Peter Kowar, Takoma Park City Councilmember for Ward 1, where Montgomery College is located. “The college needs to update the labs, and it has acknowledged the need to do it in a way that’s respectful of the neighborhood around it. The impacts are big, both during construction and after completion.”

The question is how to build the facility cost-effectively with the minimum sacrifice to other activities that are important to students. Nearly a year ago, the College came up with an answer in a revised Master Plan 2013-2023 that replaced an earlier Master Plan 2006-2016.

At issue are three buildings, which Dr. Pollard points out are 56 years old (Science South), 38 years old (Science North) and 36 years old (Falcon Hall athletic center). An independent facilities audit, performed in 2013, found that all three buildings “are woefully out of date,” she stated in an email.

The new Master Plan proposes to tear down the South Science Building and next-door athletic facility Falcon Hall to make room for a single, unified Math and Science Building. The new plan was developed in response to community feedback on the earlier plan, which was to tear down Science South and Science North one after the other and replace them with a four-story building. Residents had ex-
**City Council & Committee Calendar**

**OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS**
TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

**CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**
- Wednesday, September 6, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 13, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 27, 7:30 p.m.

**NOMINATING CAUCUS**
- Tuesday, September 12, 7:30 p.m.
- TPCC Auditorium

**ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION**
- Tuesday, September 26, 7 p.m.
- TPCC Hydrangea Room

**BOARD OF ELECTIONS**
- Monday, September 11, 7:30 p.m.
- TPCC Council Conference Room

**COMMENORATION COMMISSION**
- Wednesday, September 27, 7:30 p.m.
- TPCC Alps Room

**COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT**
- Monday, September 11, 7:15 p.m.
- TPCC Hydrangea Room

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE**
- Thursday, September 28, 7 p.m.
- TPCC Hydrangea Room

**FAÇADE ADVISORY BOARD**
- Tuesday, September 12, 6:30 p.m.
- TPCC Hydrangea Room

**NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE**
- Tuesday, September 12, 7:30 p.m.
- TPCC Lilac Room

**POLICE EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT PLAN COMMITTEE**
- Thursday, September 14, 8:30 a.m.
- TPCC Hydrangea Room

**RECREATION COMMITTEE**
- Thursday, September 21, 7 p.m.
- TPCC Hydrangea Room

**SAFE ROADSWAY COMMITTEE**
- Tuesday, September 19, 7:30 p.m.
- TPCC Hydrangea Room

**TREE COMMISSION**
- Tuesday, September 7, 6:30 p.m.
- TPCC Hydrangea Room

**TPCC Rose Room**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nominating Caucus</td>
<td>Tuesday, September 12, 7:30 pm</td>
<td>Auditorium, Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Voting</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 1, 2 pm to 8 pm, Takoma Park Community Center</td>
<td>Thursday, November 2, 8 am to 2 pm, Takoma Park Community Center</td>
<td>Friday, November 3, 2 pm to 8 pm, Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Election Day</td>
<td>Tuesday, November 7, 7 am to 8 pm, Takoma Park Community Center</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mayor and Council Swearing In</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 15, 7:30 pm, Auditorium, Takoma Park Community Center</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VOTING**

For more info: takomaparkmd.gov/election-2017

301-891-7267

(cut this out and save)

**VACANCIES ON CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES**

Review the information on the City website (Board, Commission, and Committee pages) and consider attending a meeting to see if it is a good fit for you. Appointments are made by the City Council. Apply by completing the online application and submit it along with a resume or statement of qualifications. Contact Jessie Carpenter (jessie@cakomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7267) or your City Councilmember with questions. As of August 11, there are vacancies or expiring terms* on the following:

- Board of Elections
- Commemoration Commission
- Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs
- Committee on the Environment
- Ethics Commission
- Façade Advisory Board
- Grants Review Committee
- Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee
- Recreation Committee
- Safe Roadways Committee
- Tree Commission

*Unless term-limited, members with expiring terms may apply for reappointment.

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: takomaparkmd.gov/government/citycouncil/agendas.
balance work and activities with grades. I grew up here, and I found myself in a professional and emotional sense here.

The jobs these high schoolers work are real — the sort of entry level professional positions most of their public school friends will apply to after finishing their four-year degrees. This experience gives the young men and women of Don Bosco a leg up as they apply for admission to college, whether it be at Yale or Georgetown (which has accepted five of Don Bosco’s students just this year) or one of Maryland’s many local community colleges.

What’s important, Rev. Michael emphasizes, about these benefits is that the opportunities are going to young men and women for whom they’d otherwise be out of reach. These students from underserved communities are often the ones forgotten in public schools — lost among hundreds of other teenagers from low-income families, like Kevin was.

“All my life I’ve been in public schools,” the rising senior said. “There was more trouble, there were more fights, and the education wasn’t up there where it was supposed to be. Then I came here into this completely different environment where teachers actually care about you and want to help you. They stay after school for you.”

While Don Bosco is a Catholic school, it has no religious restrictions on admissions and boasts a diverse student population. Junie, a rising sophomore, is Haitian. “Everybody’s from a different country,” said Junie. “We have [students from] South America, Central America, the Caribbean, Africa, even Europe. Our student life here is very open. We have the Latino Dance Club, Caribbean-American Student Association, African Student Association, and our Social Justice Group. We keep an atmosphere of openness.”

The need for such a welcoming atmosphere is being felt more keenly since the 2016 Presidential Election. “The vast majority of our students — 83 percent — are Hispanic,” explained Rev. Michael, “and a great number of those families are immigrants. So it’s been challenging. Soon after the election, there was a great deal of somberness within the school community. For three days, it was just comatose.”

Don Bosco’s faculty and staff have worked hard to support their students in maintaining a welcoming environment. There have been school meetings about the immigration issues facing the country and their expected impact on the community. Lawyers were brought in to meet one on one with students and their families.

While Rev. Michael rarely brings up religion when discussing the achievements of his students or the school, his Catholicism does come to mind as he looks toward the future. “As a Catholic school, one of the things that we can hold onto and promote with our families and our staff is that we hope, we believe, we trust that God will take care. And it’s not lip service. It’s really something that we believe in and hold onto very strongly.”

If you’d be interested in hiring Don Bosco students as part of their work study program, please contact Ana Chapas, executive director of the Corporate Work Study Program (CWS/P), at chapas@dbcs.org.
Congratulations to July’s Car Free Challenge winners!

The July challenge was for MOST TRIPS taken without a car in a month. The top three finishers won their choice of a loaded SmarTrip card or gift card to a local bike shop. Congrats to Sharon who took a whopping 79 trips in July without a car! How does someone take so many trips without a car in one month? If you have a daily commute each way, go out for lunch and run errands on the weekend it’s easy to log that many trips in 30 days. Way to go everyone!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Trips</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Milgram</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Hanh</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jorge Briz</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Dame</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce Sawtelle</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Nadel</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lori Hill</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharon (Wren) Rogers</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Tucker</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Sener</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sharon Milgram (79 trips)
Jim Hanh (46 trips)
Jorge Briz (46 trips)
Christopher Dame (44 trips)
Bruce Sawtelle (39 trips)
Steve Nadel (39 trips)
Lori Hill (34 trips)
Sharon (Wren) Rogers (34 trips)
Steve Tucker (32 trips)
John Sener (28 trips)

The Car Free Challenge is still going strong and runs through Oct. 19, 2017. You can still join at CarFreeTKPK.com.

FY18 Community “Quality of Life” Grant recipients announced

The City of Takoma Park’s Community “Quality of Life” Grants program is designed to provide financial support for specific programs, projects and events that improve residents’ quality of life by providing greater access and opportunities for participation in the arts and sciences. The Grants Review Committee completed its selection process for the FY18 grant cycle in late spring. In June, the City Council approved the Committee’s recommendation that ten organizations receive funding for their proposed projects (listed here from highest amount awarded to lowest):

1. Historic Takoma Inc. for Takoma Radio/WOWO $9,043 ($10,000)
   Project Name: Takoma Radio Presents URadio
   URadio is a 40-week, after-school audio production course for 12 underserved Takoma Park teens. Working in pairs and supervised by mentors, selected students will gather sound, conduct interviews and create two 60-second audio pieces based on their life experiences. The produced pieces will be broadcast and podcasted by Takoma Radio. This hands-on weekly course will build community through storytelling.

2. Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families Inc. ($8,882)
   Project Name: African Arts Culture and Education (ACE) Academy (Essex House Friday Program)
   ACE (African Arts, Culture and Education) Academy Essex House Friday Program is a 21st Century Community Learning Center project that operates from Mondays to Thursdays at Essex House in Takoma Park, focusing on reading, language arts and African culture for students in grades 1-5. This project will allow ACE Academy to offer and focus on teacher-led, STEM activities for all participants on Friday evenings as we meet the needs of working parents.

3. Docs in Progress, Inc. ($9,175)
   Project Name: Documentary Dialogues Takoma Park
   Documentary Dialogues Takoma Park will provide a combination of documentary film screenings/discussions and hands-on video production activities where Takoma Park youth and seniors will learn how to document local and personal stories.

4. Dance Exchange, Inc. ($8,000)
   Project Name: Moving Field Guide Camp
   Dance Exchange will lead a five-day Moving Field Guide Camp for 30-40 Takoma Park youth in grades 3-5, with scholars providing free tuition for 15-20 youth from low-income families. This camp will be led by Dance Exchange (DX) artists and naturalist in areas throughout Takoma Park, including Sligo Creek and the DX studios. The camp is tentatively planned for the week of MCPS spring break or during a week in summer 2018.

5. Real Food for Kids – Montgomery (6,000)
   Project Name: Nutrition Science After School Program
   Nutrition Science After School Program is a multi-week after school program that will serve up to 15 students during the spring 2018 semester. The goals of this program are to advance literacy in nutrition and health and to engage students, parents and schools in building a culture of health that spreads to their homes and communities. There will be no cost for students to participate in the program.

6. Boy Scout Troop 33 ($7,368)
   Project Name: Send a Scout to Summer Camp
   Send a Scout to Summer Camp will provide scholarship funding to scouts and leaders from low-income families to participate in a fun, safe, STEM-focused learning and leadership development experience at Boy Scout summer camp, Camp Horsehoe.

7. District of Columbia Arts Center Inc. ($6,575)
   Project Name: Takoma Park Refugee Theater Project
   The Takoma Park Refugee Theater Project will provide 15 adult refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants who reside in Takoma Park the opportunity to participate in the co-creation of an original theatrical collage based on their life stories and hopes and dreams for the future. The project will culminate in a presentation of this original theatrical collage before a live audience in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium.

8. Pyramid Atlantic Arts Center ($6,000)
   Project Name: Pump House Pop-Up
   Pyramid Atlantic Arts Center (PAAC) will transform the former structure located adjacent to Sligo Creek on Hilltop Road into an indoor “pop-up” gallery for local artists. The Pump House Pop-Up gallery will present two shows. The first show will investigate the historical mystery of the site through consultation with Historic Takoma Inc. and real estate records. The second show will feature the work(s) of Takoma Park artist(s), who will receive technical and artistic support at the site and at PAAC. Show postcards, artist talks and history tours will further convey themes and inspiration.

9. CREATE Arts Center, Inc. ($5,000)
   Project Name: smARTkids at Takoma Park Elementary School (TPES)
   smARTkids at TPES is a free after-school art program that aims to positively impact the learning abilities and success of at-risk students by using visual art techniques and art therapy principles.

10. Montgomery Community Television, Inc. ($5,000)
    Project Name: Exploring Media
    Montgomery Community Television Inc. (MCT) will offer a 12-week, after-school Media Explorer Program, serving 20 students at Takoma Park Middle School. Students will work with media professionals to learn the basics of creating content, including storyboard ing, scriptwriting, filming, and editing. Working in groups, students will create a short multimedia piece, such as a public service announcement, book review, or video blog. Completed student work will be shared on MCT’s broadcast channels, on YouTube, and through social media.
Wits End Puppets
Saturday, Sept. 23, 7:30 p.m.

Wits End Puppets, with support from the National Capital Puppetry Guild, brings together the region’s best puppet creators for a night of serious, abstract, silly and thought-provoking puppet theater – think poetry slam but with puppets! With featured musical group, Petty Indulgences, performing in between puppet pieces, our slam brings together creative spirits for one lively evening you don’t want to miss. Performances are suitable for young and old with some material aimed more at the adult crowd.

The Real “Father” of the Constitution
Lecture by Christopher J. Bissex
Thursday, Sept. 7, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

Despite his modern anonymity, at the 1787 constitutional convention, Gouverneur Morris (not James Madison) led the debates, and wrote much of the final document. Morris wanted a constitution that would reign in the wealthy, protect the people and end slavery. He attempted to create a new kind of institution to accomplish these goals. This lecture will highlight some of Morris’s successes and failures at the convention and show how his ideas help us understand our current historical moment.

Chris Bissex received his doctorate from Baylor University in 2014 with a dissertation titled “ Institutionalizing Class Conflict: Gouverneur Morris on Class Warfare and Separation of Powers.” After completing his graduate studies, he taught American politics and political theory at the College of the Holy Cross in Massachusetts. Chris now lives in DC and works as an education analyst for a private consulting firm.

Third Thursday Poetry Reading
Thursday, Sept. 28, 7:30 p.m.
Reception following the reading
Meet the Poets:

Ellen Aronofsky Cole

A poet, actress, and teacher. She teaches Physical Diagnoses at GW Medical School. Her chapbook, Prognosis, reflects on her diagnosis with a rare blood cancer. Her poems have been published in numerous journals including Tailfins and Sealskins: An Anthology of Water Lore and The Innisfree Poetry Journal.

Henry Crawford

2016 nominee for a Pushcart Prize for his poem “The City of Washington,” has had his work published in several journals and online publications including Boulevard, Copper Nickel, Folio, Borderline Press and The Offbeat. His first collection of poetry, American Software, was published this spring by WordTech Communications through its imprint, CW Books.

Carol Jennings

An accomplished scientist, Carol Jennings grew up in western New York State. For most of her career, she served as an attorney with the Federal Trade Commission’s Bureau of Consumer Protection. She is now retired, and last year her first poetry collection, “The Dead Spirits at the Piano,” was published by Cherry Grove Collections. Her poems have appeared in numerous journals, and she is the author of an article on “The Woman Poet,” published in The New York Quarterly.

Wits End Puppets
Saturday, Sept. 23, 7:30 p.m.

The new WE ARE TAKOMA season kicks off in September. Information about these upcoming events can be found on the City of Takoma Park’s Facebook Events page. All events are held in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Events are free. Donations are welcomed and go directly to the performer.

Thursday, Sept. 7, 7:30 p.m.
The Real “Father” of the Constitution
Lecture by Christopher J. Bissex

Thursday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m.
“Rough Cuts”
Docs in Progress film screening

Saturday, Sept. 23, 7:30 p.m.
Wits End Puppets

Thursday, Sept. 28, 7:30 p.m.
Third Thursday Poetry Reading
Featuring Ellen Aronofsky Cole, Henry Crawford and Carol Jennings

Thursday, Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m.
“How Did We Get Here? Marijuana’s Past, Present, and Potential Future”
Lecture by Dr. Emily Duford

Thursday, Oct. 12, 7:30 p.m.
“Back to the Future”
Vintage Movie Night with Richard Hall and Docs in Progress

Thursday, Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m.
Third Thursday Poetry Reading
Featuring Indran Amirthanayagam, Nancy Naomi Carlson and Joanne Rocky Delaplaine

Saturday, Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m.
“Dances from the Heart of Asia”
Performance by the Silk Road Dance Company

NEW WE ARE TAKOMA 2017-2018 Series

Docs In Progress “Rough Cut” Screening
Thursday, Sept. 14, 7:30 pm

Be a part of the creative process. Just as authors and playwrights often workshop their writings before they are completed, so too do documentarians with their films. Watch a doc-in-progress and participate in a facilitated feedback session with the documentary filmmaker. This will help that filmmaker move forward when it comes to story and character and get a reality check on the film prior to completion and distribution.
After The Bell Childcare
After The Bell child care program for the 2017-18 school year is offered at the Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Ave.). This program provides a safe environment for children grades K-5 where they engage in daily indoor/outdoor group activities and holiday based events. Each day kids will receive a snack, have time to complete homework, enjoy arts and crafts, sports, board games and more. Parents can arrange transportation through MCPS by calling 301-840-8130 to change their bus route to (New Hampshire Towers) and we will meet them at the bus stop. Twenty percent is due at the time of registration and the next payment is due October 1.
Takoma Park Recreation Center Back Room
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
Kindergarten-5th Grade
10 months
MCPSS school year
3:30 – 6:30 p.m.
$1,250

DRAMA & THEATER
On Stage: Scene Study
Scene Study is an acting class that focuses on scene work. Students participate in warm-ups and games and then work a portion of each class on a scene over the eight weeks. Students learn to apply Stanislavski-based acting techniques (objective/obstacle, subtext, sensory perception, truth, belief, substitution, imagination, etc.). Students will pair up and work on a scene throughout the course, culminating in a performance for family/friends, so you can see the fruit of their labor. Material is provided or students may bring their own scenes to be approved. Instructor: Gretchen Weigel
Takoma Park Community Center
Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue
11-16 years
8 Week Session
Mondays, September 18 – November 6
3:30 – 5 p.m.
Resident: $168 / Non-resident: $188

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT
ESL for Teens
ESL programs for teens offer a great opportunity not only to practice English, but also to meet and learn about different cultures from around the world. This class is a play-based education course in a full immersion language setting. You will learn to communicate in English through songs, games, books, stories and much more. Instructor: Link Education
Takoma Park Community Center
Hydrangeas Room
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6-12
Thursdays, September 28-December 21
No class 11/17 and 11/23
4 – 5:30 p.m.
Residents: $20 / Non-resident: $30
First of Many
There’s something special about being the first, especially being the first in your family to attend and graduate from college. First of Many is a series of informative workshops to help you discover and take advantage of the possibilities offered for first-generation students. Find answers to your questions about college and receive guidance on the road to applying and getting the most out of college.
Takoma Park Community Center
Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue
16 and older
8 Week Session
Thursdays, September 28-December 21
No class 11/23
4 – 5:30 p.m.
Resident: $120 / Non-resident: $140

FITNESS
Qi Gong - Five Animal Play
This form of Qi Gong is one of the most ancient continuously practiced healing exercise systems in the world. Enjoy peaceful movements modeled on the crane, bear, monkey, deer and tiger. Participants will develop more strength, grace, flexibility, balance and healing in a relaxed group setting. You will feel the effects in your body, mind and spirit as you find more harmony with nature and yourself. No experience necessary. Instructors: Patrick Smith and Joann Malone
Takoma Park Community Center
Azalea Room
7500 Maple Avenue
16 and older
8 Week Session
Wednesdays, September 6-October 25
7 – 8:30 p.m.
Resident: $125 / Non-resident: $145

TEENS
DANCE
Just Dance
A series of music and creative movement classes for teens grades 6-12. These classes will celebrate your natural ability to move in an expressive way. Learn the fundamental hip-hop moves including basic body isolations, precision, performance quality and choreography. Build team work and bonding skills, through music.
Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6-12

For a full listing of our programs and classes please see our City Guide or visit takomaparkmd.gov/recreation.
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 Recreation Center Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
55 and older
Thursdays, September 14-November 16
12 – 1:00 p.m.
Free

**Check out Yoga classes online!**

**ART**

Ceramics Clay Workshop
Create your own beautiful cup, small plate and teaspoon (glazed, fired, washable, and food safe) needed for a tea party held on the last day of the workshop.
All supplies provided. This is a free workshop however online or in-person registration is required with the Recreation Department.
Instructor: Alice Sims
Takoma Park Community Center
Art Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Wednesdays, September 20-October 18
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Free

**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, September 28
12 – 2 p.m.
Free

**SPRINTS**

Trip #1: National Geographic Museum
“Sharks” Exhibit
Washington, DC
Wednesday, September 13
8:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Trip #2: NASA Goddard Spaceflight Visitor Center
Greenbelt, MD
Thursday, September 21
8:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
For trip details and procedures please see the Forever Young Fall 2017 newsletter online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/news/forever-young-newsletter.

**SAV E THE DATE**

MONSTER BASH 2017
Saturday, October 28
1 – 6 p.m.
Starts at TPSS Co-op

**RECREATION Special Events**

**Family Outdoor Movie Night**
Get ready for another Family Outdoor Movie Night. The movie will start at dusk at Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary School). Bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a movie under the stars with your family. The movie will be a family friendly “PG” rated hit. Bring snacks and your own water. The Recreation Department will provide one small bag of popcorn and water per person.
Due to limited parking, walking is encouraged.
Ed Wilhelm Field
Saturday, September 9
All Ages
Starting at dusk (approx 7:15 p.m.)
Free

**Let’s Play America 9th Annual Play Day**
It’s time for you to let your hair down and get ready to play! Let’s Play America and the Takoma Park Recreation Department have teamed up to present the 9th Annual Play Day, Rain or Shine. This event will have fun activities for the entire family to enjoy, including the infamous Touch-A-Truck. To see a full listing of activities and performances, please visit www.letspayamerica.org. See you there! Volunteers needed.
Takoma Park Middle School
7611 Piney Branch Road
All ages
Saturday, September 23
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Free

**BRINGING BERKELEY TO TAKOMA PARK**

W. Allen Taylor
MaMa Experimental Theater Club. He has also performed on Broadway in August Wilson’s “Seven Guitars” and has appeared on network television and in feature films.
In addition, Allen co-founded the Ol’Cats Repertory Ensemble, an Audeleco Award nominated theater company in New York City dedicated to producing original plays by African-American playwrights. He served as co-producer and performed with this off Broadway company for seven years.
His solo show, “In Search of My Father...Walkin’ Talkin’ Bill Hawkins,” which he wrote and performed, made its professional debut at the Marsh Theater in Berkeley in 2006 and won the Best Solo-Performance Award from the San Francisco Bay Area Theater Critics Circle. The play was also nominated for an Audeleco Award for Best Solo-Performance in New York City (2007). This show will be appearing at the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium during next year’s Black History Month on Saturday, Feb. 17. It will be a fund-raising event for the Takoma Park Mobilization organization.
Allen received his Masters of Fine Arts (MFA) from the American Conservatory Theater and has served on the theater faculties of the East Bay Center for the Performing Arts, Laney College and the College of Marin, where he retired in 2010 as a full-time drama professor.
In addition to the audition class, which includes basic stage and acting techniques, Allen is looking forward to bringing beginning acting classes to Takoma Park that take a deeper dive into the acting technique, script analysis and character development processes. He also wants to offer an intermediate acting class that includes relationship techniques and scene study as well as a one-on-one class for actors as an audition coach.
Be on the lookout for Allen’s “Acting Audition Preparation” class for adults, which will be on Mondays starting on Sept. 11 from 7-9 p.m. Registration is currently open, so don’t wait to sign up. He is a valuable resource to the community and will give Takoma Park residents another avenue for participating in Recreation Department classes.
New music at the library!

By Ellen Robbins

Whether your musical taste runs to the classics, jazz, country, hip-hop, or world music across different countries and genres, here are some of the best new albums for music lovers, now available at the Library.

Tracks by Johannes Brahms and Robert Schumann are featured in a new recording featuring violinist Joshua Bell, cellist Steven Isserlis and the Academy of St. Martin in the fields: For the Love of Brahms (CD 2055).

“Kendrick Lamar has already taken hip-hop to the outer galaxies of style, sound and resonance,” writes a Rolling Stone reviewer (4/18/17). In his dazzling new album, DAMN., he goes “deeper into his own mind.” (CD 2052).

Nearly all the tracks on Cover Stories, Brandi Carlile celebrates 10 years of the story: An album to benefit War Child were recorded in 1916. All proceeds from the album will go toward War Child UK, which aims to help children affected in war-torn regions. It features interpretations of Carlile’s songs by Dolly Parton, Kris Kristofferson and others. (CD 2061).

Of Cheryl Crow’s recent album, Rolling Stone writes, “Her excellent new Be Myself is her toughest and best in a decade, a full-blown return to her fierce rock-queen glory….” (CD 2066).

Chuck Berry: The definitive collection, has been called “by far the best, most comprehensive single-disc Chuck Berry set yet assembled.” Allmusic.com critic Bud Scoppa writes, “Berry was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1986 along with Presley. While there’s no disputing his chieftain’s greatness, it was Berry who set the template for the songwriter-artist, and his songs have provided this enduring American art form with its essential storylines.” [liner notes] (CD 2065).

Undercurrent, by Sarah Jarosz won the Grammy for Best Folk Album in 2016. Thom Jurek of AllMusic writes that “Jarosz reaches through her musical and personal histories with vulnerability and willingness. She comes out on the other side with songs that possess narrative, melodic invention and a refreshing sense of self- assuredness.” (CD 2057).

Erroll Garner: Ready Take One is a newly issued 14-song album of previously unreleased material recorded between 1967 and 1971. Music historian Robin D.G. Kelley writes, “Garner’s studio sessions resembled his concerts—predictable, pleasant, and swinging from the gate. Ready Take One not only showcases his genius as a player and composer, but sheds some light on Martha Glaser’s role as producer and long-time collaborator.” [liner notes] (CD 2067).

Encore: Movie Partners Sing Broadway is a抛弃-the-thirties studio album by Barbra Streisand. It debuted at the top of the U.S. Billboard 200 Chart, extending Streisand’s record as the woman with the most number one albums in chart history. It received a nomination for Best Traditional Pop Vocal Album at the Annual Grammy Awards in 1977. [Wikipedia] (CD 2063).

CALAENDER

Circle Time
Tuesday, 10 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

Spanish Circle Time
Thursday, 10:15-10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:30 a.m.

Led by Senora Geizel

Petits Chansons/French Circle Time
Saturday, Sept. 2, 10:30 a.m.

Madame Marie returns for another season of rhymes and songs in French.

Bedtime Stories & a Craft
Wednesday, Sept. 6, 7 p.m.

SummerQuest Wrap-Up Party
Friday, Sept. 8, 7 p.m.

Come celebrate the end of SummerQuest 2017!

Lemonade & cupcakes served.

LEGO Club
Sunday, Sept. 9, 10:30 a.m.
Building fun for ages 3-10.

Young People’s Poet Laureate Margaretta Engle
Tuesday, Sept. 12, 7 p.m.

Engel & illustrator Mike Curato present their new picture book, All the Way to Havana.

Caldecott Honor Illustrator Peter Brown
Wednesday, Sept. 13, 7 p.m.

Brown talks about his new picture book, Creepy Pair of Underwear.

Graphic Novelist Alex Alice
Thursday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m.


Kids Art
Sunday, September 17, 2-3 PM

September kids author & illustrator programs

Want to get your child more interested in reading? Take them to meet a children’s book author or illustrator! Our amazing September line-up of author and illustrator programs offers some great choices for all ages.

Tuesday, Sept. 12, 7 p.m. – Margaretta Engle, the first Latina ever named as Young People’s Poet Laureate, joins with illustrator Mike Curato to present their new picture book, All the Way to Havana.

Thursday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m. – Graphic Novelist Alex Alice spotlights his new kids’ book, Castle in the Stars: The Space Race of 1869.

Tuesday, Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m. – Newbery Medalist Katherine Applegate takes talks about her new kids’ novel, wishing. Note: The event will take place in the Takoma Park Community Center auditorium.

Wednesday, Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m. – Award-winning Argentine graphic novelist Liniers spotlights his newest comic for beginning readers, Good Night, Planet.

LIBRARY BRIEFS

SummerQuest Wrap-Up Party

We’ll conclude another successful summer reading program with a party on Friday, Sept. 8 at 7 p.m. For this special event, we’ll re-open the library at 4 p.m. after our normal Friday closing time of 6 p.m.; everyone who participated in SummerQuest is invited – you don’t have to have finished all 10 challenges. At the party, we’ll talk about books we read and loved, spotlight some of the things that participants created for our “make or do” SummerQuest challenge, and enjoy cupcakes and lemonade, courtesy of the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library. All party-goers will head home with a free book or two. No registration required.

Banned Books Picture Book “Read Out”!

Join us on Saturday, Sept. 30 at 2 p.m. for our Mutual Friend Book Club discussing a banned picture book, Good Night, Planet by Katherine Applegate. This is one of the books we’ve chosen as part of our annual Banned Books Week Book Club. Some kids have felt the book was too controversial, so let’s read it together to see what all the fuss was about. We’ll have copies available, and you can check one out in the library if you’re interested.

BRAHMS & ROBERT SCHUMANN

For the Love of Brahms

Sunday, September 17, 2-3 PM

September 2017

Page 8 Takoma Park News

Library at the Takoma Park Library.
For Dr. Pollard, it’s all about the educational experience. “Math and science courses are degree requirements—every student must take them to get an associate’s degree,” Dr. Pollard noted. “MC is a community college, and we must be able to offer comprehensive degree options in the community it serves—zip code should not be a barrier to a degree. The county’s economy is knowledge-based, and the college has an obligation to provide a pathway to such jobs for local residents.”

According to the college, the new plan would result in a complete new Math and Science Center in four years instead of eight, with an estimated savings of $2 million. The new plan would be three stories, not including roof equipment, instead of the four proposed in the earlier plan, while the square footage for the science facility would remain the same in both plans.

From the perspective of nearby residents, some of whom have been using the athletic facility for years, the college is incorrectly labeling it as an issue of education vs. fitness or neighborhood vs. students. “The new plan was a surprise to a lot of people,” said Peter Asch, who lives on Philadelphia Ave. “The college has never really been open with the community about its plans.”

“After the new science complex is completed, then Science North could be demolished to make way for construction of a new athletic facility. However, no capital funds have been allocated for a new athletic facility.”

For the science center project, the college said it’s not feasible for many reasons, until the question of the location and size of the Math and Science Building is resolved. The resolution and letter cited inadequate time and opportunity for public input, including “poorly publicized public meetings where no written information or few details about the Plan were provided.”

For the science center project, the Takoma Park City Council and Montgomery College co-hosted three public meetings and received nearly 150 online comments. Representatives of Historic Takoma, North Takoma United, other groups and individuals asked the college to return to the original plan. Also, they asked the college to investigate building the Math and Science Center on the other side of the railroad tracks near Georgia Ave., where the construction would not be in a residential neighborhood. But the college said it’s not feasible for many reasons,contingent that the small size of the site would require a taller, more costly building to achieve the square footage needed and a vertical building would create obstacles to interdisciplinary teaching. In addition, utilizing the land currently occupied by aging buildings at the end of their life span is a more efficient use of the campus and retains the Georgia Avenue site as an affordable expansion site for the college.

“Although everyone was provided ample opportunity to speak their minds at the meetings, the process was opaque,” said Asch. “Furthermore, it felt to me and many other community members like there was nothing that could be said that would convince the college to waver from the new plan.” Despite this sentiment, Dr. Pollard has repeatedly asked the community to “trust the process,” noting that no decision has been made.

The online comments show a mixed reaction to the new plan. Some local residents oppose the new plan, which they say would demolish a three-story structure almost to the edge of Montgomery College’s property, as well as leave the school without an athletic facility for an unknown period of time. But other commenters, including many members of the college’s faculty and administrative staff, wrote that any effort that can advance the science facilities more quickly is a great idea.

Meanwhile, Dr. Pollard noted that even if Falcon Hall is demolished, the college will still offer students aerobics, Zumba, yoga classes, and other fitness activities in the dance studio space in its cultural arts center. Replacement of Falcon Hall with a better athletic facility remains in the master plan.
Moving beyond the solar eclipse: Don’t get stuck in the dark; be prepared all year

By Claudine Schwebel, Co-Chair, Emergency Preparedness Committee

On August 21, the great Solar Eclipse passed through the U.S. on a diagonal line south east from Salem, Oregon to Charleston, South Carolina. Were you directly in its path, and could see the total eclipse darkness? Or were you outside this path seeing a partial solar eclipse, where the moon covers part of the sun’s disk? In either case, were you prepared for looking up at the sun? Did you have special eclipse glasses?

September is National Preparedness Month — a reminder that being prepared can prevent emergencies and panic — such as losing contact in a crowd — or help you survive when an emergency occurs, such as looking at the sun without protection, being in a fire, thunderstorm, tornado or a flood. What should you do to be prepared, just in case?

First, here’s a monthly reminder: Do 1 thing (do1thing.com). This site provides “small steps” for monthly preparations, such as making a plan, having a “go bag,” making sure you have sufficient water and shelter, and establishing communication. You can sign up for the monthly notice or click on the panel that shows icons for the 12 items. Second, view the video made specifically for the Takoma Park community by Ron Hardy, our emergency preparedness manager: http://tinyurl.com/ygej67y.

Third, remember:
• Don’t wait; communicate. Identify a contact person in case you or family members are injured or in distress, and let the person know. Note: If you designate more than one person, make sure they know about each other.
• Identify a meeting place. Where will you gather after the fire, flood or other emergency? Share that information with your emergency contact.

For more information, check the website: takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory/montgomery-college-facilities-master-plan.

Maryland fire deaths
The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported that as of Aug. 24, 45 people have died in fires compared to 36 in 2016.

Fire safety message
Make sure you have working smoke alarms on all levels of your home, and make sure they all work. Test them monthly!

Hot vehicle deaths
As of Aug. 24, 35 children have died across the country in hot vehicles. It’s a must. When you leave your vehicle, check the back seat.

Fire safety presentation
The Takoma Park VFD will again present a special fire safety presentation entitled “Home Fire Safety.” We’ll discuss very important information that you and your family need to know in the event of an emergency in your home. The presentation will be on Tuesday, Oct. 10, 7:30–9 p.m. in the meeting room in the rear of the Takoma Park fire station. You must register; call 240-773-8954.

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.

Montgomery College

From page 9

Plus, Pollard stated that when the new Silver Spring Recreation Center at Elizabeth Square is built in 2019, the College will seek to facilitate students’ access to the facility. The center will have a large fitness center and gymnasium, a 56,000 square-foot aquatics space and a community center. While this facility would be about a mile from campus, the college is not a residential school with the same expectations on on-campus facilities. “As a commuter institution at which the majority of students attend part-time, many students are only on campus to attend classes and then leave to balance work and family obligations,” she noted.

However, in recent years the two other Montgomery College campuses in Rockville and Germantown have had investments earmarked for athletic facilities, such as upgrades to the Rockville campus’s turf soccer field. “The college takes pride in what it calls the common student experience at each of the three campuses, but the students in Takoma Park-Silver Spring will have a second-class experience without an athletic facility for years,” Asch said.

For more information, check the website: takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory/montgomery-college-facilities-master-plan.
In good company

By Helen Lyons

A lot of people call themselves coffee enthusiasts, but how many of them bought their first espresso machine at age 12?

Seth Cook, co-owner of the newly opened Takoma Bev Co. on Carroll Avenue (his cousin Chris Brown is the other half of the venture), has been taking his drinks seriously since the seventh grade and has pursued that passion all the way to college or out of the country! His cousin was a full-time teacher at Blair High School, working with him at a restaurant in the summertime, and together they decided to open their own place where like-minded lovers of all things drinkable could convene to delight in the ancient tradition of grabbing a cup of something.

By Helen Lyons

A tuba player currently performing with the Washington National Orchestra, Cook’s appreciation for specialty beverages began on the road. “When I was younger I started traveling a lot with orchestras on tours, and I started just seeing the way coffee was in all these different societies and how in each culture they had a different type of coffee, service and style,” he said. “As I got older, I saw that it wasn’t just true for coffee but all specialty beverages. There are historical implications, cultural implications and societal implications.”

Cook worked in the industry when he wasn’t playing music, even competing in the U.S. Barista Championships, a grueling competition in which drink-making professionals from around the country prepare three courses of drinks consisting of cappuccinos, espressos and signature beverages for seven certified judges, including four sensory judges.

His cousin was a full-time teacher at Blair High School, working with him at a restaurant in the summertime, and together they decided to open their own place where like-minded lovers of all things drinkable could convene to delight in the ancient tradition of grabbing a cup of something.

After a DMV-wide search that left Cook wanting more, Chris Brown introduced him to Takoma. “We would come by a lot,” remembered Cook. “One night in February, we came to Republic at like 9 p.m. It was snowing, it was kooky weather, and [Republic] was full with a forty-minute wait for tables. I thought, this community loves to go out.”

It was a perfect fit. “This place is different,” said Cook. “It’s special.”

People flockeding to Takoma Bev Co. as soon as it opened, assuming the space left behind by Bread and Chocolate’s closing.

For those who were looking for another food option to fill the void left by the previous bistro, the menu, featuring creations from Bar Civita’s Liam Laccivita, wasn’t disappoint. With everything from pulled pork to octopus, ingredients are carefully chosen in line with Cook and Brown’s values regarding sustainability, local sourcing and organic growing practices, and great care is taken to ensure that when products (especially the coffees and teas) are imported from other countries, their farmers are properly compensated.

Kelly Jacobs and Erik Allé were among the patrons one February night. “It was a bit cold, a bit chilly, a bit wintry of the heat trickled in for refreshment. “It’s a pretty cool place,” said Jacobs, iced coffee in hand, and Allé agreed. “It fits into Takoma Park,” he said as he enjoyed his draft soda water. “It’s very neighbor-hoody.”

Prepárese para Votar el 7 de Noviembre: Calificaciones de los votantes en las elecciones de Takoma Park

Usted puede registrarse para votar en las elecciones de Takoma Park si:

- Es residente de la Ciudad de Takoma Park
- Declara no tener derecho a votar en ninguna otra elección
- Tendrá al menos 16 años de edad en el día de la elección
- No se encuentra bajo custodia por incapacidad mental o, si lo estuviese, no ha sido determinado por la Corte que usted no puede comunicar su deseo de votar
- No ha sido condenado por la venta o compra de votos
- Tanto los ciudadanos estadounidenses como los residentes de Takoma Park tienen derecho a registrarse para votar en las elecciones de Takoma Park. No todas las personas que se registren para votar en las elecciones de la ciudad tendrán derecho a votar en las elecciones del Condado, Estatales o Nacionales. Lea con cuidado los requisitos para votar en el Estado de Maryland.

Planning to Vote by Mail in the November 7, 2017 City Election?

Any registered voter may vote by mail – but don’t wait to apply if you will be away at college or out of the country! Any registered voter may request to receive a ballot by mail. If residing locally, complete and submit an application to the City Clerk by October 31. Emergency requests may be submitted after that date, but there may not be time to receive and return a ballot by November 7.

Takoma Park residents temporarily out of the United States should apply now. Ballots will not be available for mailing before September 22. There will be limited time for voters out of the country to receive and return a ballot by mail.

To be counted, vote by mail ballots must be received by the City Clerk before the polls close on November 7.

¿Está planeando votar por correo en la elección municipal que se lleva al cabo el 7 de Noviembre?

Cualquier votante capacitado puede votar por correo – pero no espere para solicitar si está fuera de la ciudad asistiendo a una universidad o si está fuera del país. Cualquier votante capacitado puede solicitar a recibir una boleta electoral por correo. Para residentes de Takoma Park que se encuentren en el área, completa y someta una aplicación a la Secretaría Municipal para el 31 de Octubre. Se puede someter solicitudes de emergencia después de esa fecha pero puede que no haya tiempo de recibir y someter la boleta electoral para el 7 de Noviembre.

Residentes de Takoma Park que se encuentren fuera del país temporalmente deben solicitar ahora. Boletas electorales no estarán disponibles para mandar por correo antes del 22 de Septiembre. Habrá tiempo limitado para votantes fuera del país para recibir y retornar una boleta electoral por correo. Para que cuente un voto por correo, la boleta electoral debe ser recibido por la Secretaría Municipal antes que cierren las urnas electorales el 7 de Noviembre.

Election Helpers Wanted

The November 2017 City Election is fast approaching. The Board of Elections needs volunteers to ensure an election that is both fair and efficient. Applicants should be Takoma Park registered voters, detail-oriented, and impartial for this election. Those who speak a language in addition to English are encouraged to consider helping, as are 16 or 17 year old voters and non-U.S. citizen voters. Application materials are available online www.takomaparkmd.gov/election-2017 or call 301-891-7214.

Se Solicita Trabajadores para la Elección

La elección de Noviembre del 2017 se acerca. La Junta Electoral de Takoma Park solicita la ayuda de residentes de la ciudad para asegurar que la elección municipal sea justa y eficiente. El/La solicitante debe ser registrado como votante y residir en Takoma Park. Además debe ser una persona orientada a detalles e imparcial en esta elección. Animamos a los que hablan otros idiomas además del inglés que considere ayudar en la elección y también a los votantes de 16 o 17 años de edad y votantes que no son ciudadanos Americanos. La aplicación se encuentra en la página web: www.takomaparkmd.gov/election-2017 o llame al 301-891-7214.

In good company

By Helen Lyons

A lot of people call themselves coffee enthusiasts, but how many of them bought their first espresso machine at age 12?

Seth Cook, co-owner of the newly opened Takoma Bev Co. on Carroll Avenue (his cousin Chris Brown is the other half of the venture), has been taking his drinks seriously since the seventh grade and has pursued that passion all the way to college or out of the country! His cousin was a full-time teacher at Blair High School, working with him at a restaurant in the summertime, and together they decided to open their own place where like-minded lovers of all things drinkable could convene to delight in the ancient tradition of grabbing a cup of something.

After a DMV-wide search that left Cook wanting more, Chris Brown introduced him to Takoma. “We would come by a lot,” remembered Cook. “One night in February, we came to Republic at like 9 p.m. It was snowing, it was kooky weather, and [Republic] was full with a forty-minute wait for tables. I thought, this community loves to go out.”

It was a perfect fit. “This place is different,” said Cook. “It’s special.” People flockeding to Takoma Bev Co. as soon as it opened, assuming the space left behind by Bread and Chocolate’s closing.

For those who were looking for another food option to fill the void left by the previous bistro, the menu, featuring creations from Bar Civita’s Liam Laccivita, wasn’t disappoint. With everything from pulled pork to octopus, ingredients are carefully chosen in line with Cook and Brown’s values regarding sustainability, local sourcing and organic growing practices, and great care is taken to ensure that when products (especially the coffees and teas) are imported from other countries, their farmers are properly compensated.

Kelly Jacobs and Erik Allé were among the patrons one February night. “It was a bit cold, a bit chilly, a bit wintry of the heat trickled in for refreshment. “It’s a pretty cool place,” said Jacobs, iced coffee in hand, and Allé agreed. “It fits into Takoma Park,” he said as he enjoyed his draft soda water. “It’s very neighbor-hoody.”
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 and chronic psychiatric challenges usually meets the fourth Thursday of every month at the home of a Takoma Park resident. For more information, contact Mary Mucchi at mucchailot.com or 301-466-2119.

Village of Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry
You are invited to join Mayor Kate Stewart as she hosts lunches in the restaurants in the Takoma Laneleigh Crossroads – Takoma Park’s neighborhood of international food, shopping and culture.

Village of Takoma Park Event
A Conversation with Dr. Atul Gawande
Monday, Sept. 25, 5 – 6 p.m.
TP Community Center, Atrium Room
The Village of Takoma Park is hosting a webinar event—a conversation with Dr. Atul Gawande, renowned surgeon, researcher and author of the book “Being Mortal.” Gawande will speak about the value of community and opportunities as we move older. The program will be hosted by Robin Young of NPR, and is presented by the Beacon Hill Village of Boston. To register, go to villageoftakomapark.com/calendar.

Let’s Play America – Ninth Annual Play Day
Saturday, Sept. 23, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Takoma Park Middle School, 7111 Piney Branch Rd.
Let your hair down, put on your comfy clothes and get ready to play. The Takoma Park Recreation Department has teamed up to present to you the ninth annual “Play Day.” Rain or Shine. This event will have activities for the entire family to enjoy, including the infamous Touch-A-Truck. To see a full listing of activities and performances visit letsplayamerica.org.

Discount Trees Available to Beautify Yards, Replace the Canopy
‘17

**Deadline for the October issue is September 15, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning September 29. To submit calendar items, email tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov.**