Help give back at the Alternative Gift Fair

By Sean Gossard

Looking for something special to give a loved one this holiday season that goes beyond the usual stocking-stuffers and gift cards? The annual Takoma Park Alternative Gift Fair gives holiday shoppers a more charitable option when trying to find gifts in what’s become a stressful time of the year.

At the Alternative Gift Fair taking place Saturday, Dec. 2, at the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church, shoppers can meet and talk with local, national and international nonprofits and donate to different organizations in a loved one’s name. Shoppers receive a certificate of the donation that can be put into cards for all occasions. The donations don’t require any sign-up unless specifically stated, so no mailing lists. Some previous gifts have included music lessons for an incarcerated youth, a newborn welcome bag of baby essentials for a low-income family, and educational money in a loved one’s name.

Arts and Humanities Commission soon to present updated cultural plan

By Kevin Adler

The Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission is putting the finishing touches on its new five-year Cultural Plan, the first update since the plan was created in 2005. The original plan had a huge impact on the City, and the priorities that it set continue to provide benefits for residents today.

“The change since that first plan was written is amazing,” said Sara Daines, Takoma Park’s housing and community development director and the City’s liaison with the all-volunteer Arts and Humanities Commission. “When it was first established, there was no facility for performing arts and almost no space for public art. The auditorium’s renovation was driven in large part by the recommendations in that Cultural Plan.”

The auditorium’s renovation was driven in large part by the recommendations in that Cultural Plan. Now, the renovated auditorium hosts the Commission’s We Are Takoma series — free lectures, films, music, poetry and dance performances each month. The municipal building also provides gallery space for the Commission-sponsored monthly art shows, as well as the Commission’s Holiday Art Sale in December. Plus, the Commission has funded nu-

CULTURAL PLAN Page 9

DEER MANAGEMENT IN SUBURBIA Page 11
On Sept. 20, 2017, the City Council established a Takoma Park Youth Council by Resolution 2017-50. It is anticipated that appointments to the nine-member Youth Council will be made on Nov. 1.

The City Council adopted an amendment to the City Code, Chapter 13.16 Special Traffic Regulations, to permit the use of wheelchairs on city sidewalks and to permit the riding of bicycles on sidewalks by children 12 years old or younger and adults actively supervising such children, between a bike share station and the nearest accessible curb cut, and on certain sidewalks designated by the City Manager. This amendment was adopted on Sept. 27, 2017 by Ordinance 2017-45.

On Oct. 4, 2017, the City Council authorized execution of Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreements for Parkview Towers, 7867 Maple Avenue (Ordinance 2017-46), Cambridge Apartments, 676 Houston Avenue (Ordinance 2017-47), and Winslow House, 666 Houston Avenue (Ordinance 2017-48). Councilmember Male voted no on Ordinance 2017-47 and 2017-48. Also on Oct. 4, the Council adopted Ordinance 2017-49 approving a contract with The HON Company for purchase of office furniture for the Housing and Community Development Department at a cost of $91,400.

All actions take place in scheduled legislative meetings of the City Council. Only negative votes and abstentions/recusals are noted.

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/city-council/ agendas.

Adopted legislation is available for review online at www.takomaparkmd.gov (search “resolutions” or “ordinances”).
Update from the City Manager

By Suzanne Ludlow, City Manager of Takoma Park

So much is happening in Takoma Park! A number of topics were covered during the October City Council Meetings, including:

- Getting the sense of the current Council on the Takoma Junction Concept Plan recently presented by NDC – this involved a Work Session discussion on October 11 and a vote on October 25 (See page 4 of this newsletter for an update.)
- Presentation of the draft Housing and Economic Development Strategic Plan
- Appointing members to the newly established Takoma Park Youth Council
- The possibility of allowing sidewalk cafes that serve alcohol in Takoma Park
- Overview of appropriate City financial reserve levels and policies
- Taking a position on the proposed northern bridge crossing of the Potomac River
- Adding neonicotinoids to the classes of pesticides that cannot be used for cosmetic lawn care

I’d like to focus on three of these that will have long-term impacts on Takoma Park: Takoma Junction, the Housing and Economic Development Strategic Plan, and Appropriate City Financial Reserves.

Takoma Junction

I know it is a hot topic for some Takoma Park residents right now. It is a critical project at a key location that sets an example for future economic development that is appropriate for Takoma Park.

The project on the City’s parking lot at Takoma Junction will help the walkability and appearance of the Junction while adding community amenities and to the commercial tax base. How it exactly works and functions is a continuing process of proposals and reviews, with multiple opportunities for public comment. The presentation reviewed actionable steps for the City to take over the next few years to keep Takoma Park lively by having a stronger tax base and more, and more varied, housing options for residents of different income levels. Two open houses will be held this month to get your input. See details on page 4 of this newsletter.

Appropriate City Financial Reserves

The Takoma Park city government provides a large number of services to our residents with a relatively small budget. Since much of the City’s revenue comes from State and County payments, the City’s finances can be strongly impacted when those payments are reduced due to economic downturns or other unforeseeable circumstances. Natural and manmade disasters seem to be occurring weekly in the United States and we need to be able to meet our financial obligations even when emergencies occur. For this reason, a discussion of the appropriate level of City financial reserves is timely. The Council that is seated in November will be establishing the level of reserves in advance of the preparation of the FY 2019 City Budget. I am committed to ensuring that City tax dollars are handled carefully, spent frugally, and protected in the long run. Please feel free to contact me or your City Council representative with your thoughts about the appropriate level of City reserves.

In the Near Future

Besides the issues that are before the current Council, the incoming Council will be reviewing many projects, including the City Parking Study (nearing completion), the now razed and expanded Takoma Park Library; working on issues such as tax duplication, the future of the Takoma Park Recreation Center, construction of the Flower Avenue Green Street and Ethan Allen Gateway projects, and continued innovative environmental sustainability work; all while examining our programs through a Racial Equity lens. In the spring, we will also have a new Residents Survey to help us find out what residents believe we are doing right and where we need to improve.

All of this work will impact the City’s residents and visitors. Please share your thoughts and, most importantly, VOTE in the Nov. 7 City Council Elections.

Editor’s Note: A slightly different version of this article appeared on the City’s website on Oct 4: takomaparkmd.gov/city-blog/october-update-from-the-city-manager.

GIFT FAIR

[From page 1]

For a girl’s school in Malawi, “We’re trying to remind people that the holidays don’t have to be a time of craziness and stress,” says fair co-director Mimi Ikle-Khalsa. “The theme of the holidays is being with people and slowing down.”

Now in its 19th year, the event is an excellent opportunity for people to get to know different nonprofits whose staff and volunteers are on hand to answer any questions. “For me the most amazing thing is that when talking to an organization you are under no pressure whatsoever to donate,” says longtime volunteer Steve Whitney. “You and the representatives simply talk about the mission, etc. Later, using the ‘shopping list’ you decide which organizations you will buy gifts from and how many.”

The 16 nonprofits at the fair this year are smaller charities that don’t often get the major exposure of bigger nonprofits. Some of the charities this year include the Afghan Relief Fund, Christ House, Meals on Wheels Takoma Park, Project Knit-
Takoma Junction Redevelopment:
Project update

On Oct. 25, the City Council voted on a resolution expressing the sense of the Council regarding the Takoma Junction redevelopment concept plan submitted by Neighborhood Development Company. The resolution identified features of the project that need to be considered for the upcoming traffic studies, and specified characteristics the Council expects to see in the future site plan/preliminary plan.

This vote was a follow up to the City Council meeting on Sept. 27 when Neighborhood Development Company (NDC) presented the design concept plan for the Takoma Junction Redevelopment project. The presentation provided an overview of the plan that included:
- emphasis on access and mobility
- public/gathering space
- incorporation of green space, including a large green roof
- large green roof

The Council meetings on Oct. 11 and 25 were very long as many residents expressed concern about the design of the project and the potential impact to the Takoma Park Silver Spring Co-op. The Council addressed these concerns in its resolution. The next step are the traffic studies and more design work.

For a complete overview of the Takoma Junction Redevelopment project, please take a moment to view the project page: takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/Takoma-Junction-redevelopment.

VOTE
• From page 1

Rizzy Qureshi (Ward 3), and Council-member Fred Schultz (Ward 6) will be stepping down on Wednesday, Nov. 15, when the new City Council is sworn in.

The public is invited to a reception to welcome the new Council and say farewell to the departing members. The reception will take place in the Atrium Lobby. Please join us.

Open Houses for the Strategic Plan for Housing and Economic Development

Tuesday, Nov. 7, 6 – 8 p.m. - Takoma Park Community Center
Monday, Nov. 13, 6 – 8 p.m. - 7676 New Hampshire Avenue, Suite 303

Come learn about the data, SWOT analysis and recommendations for Takoma Park.

The City authorized the development of a community-wide strategic plan for the purpose of ensuring that a “range of safe, quality, and stable housing options are available for residents of varying incomes” and “to attract new businesses to the community and prepare for economic development within the City and the region.” (Council Resolution 2016-04, adopted Feb. 24, 2016)

For more information, check the webpage: takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory/housing-and-economic-development-strategic-plan.
The Angie Zapata Story: Transgender Life in American Law
with Liz Seaton
Thursday, Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
Free event – Donations welcome

Angie Zapata dreamed of being Miss Latina and a supermodel. But in 2008, Allen Ray Andrade killed Angie for being transgender. Her legal case includes a secret bipartisan backstory and it helped us pass the federal Hate Crimes Law to protect transgender people in this country. It’s a great story about an amazing young woman and her incredible family. The latest offering in a series of Humanities Lectures presented by We Are Takoma.

Liz Seaton is an attorney-activist, a founding board member of the Transgender Law and Policy Institute, who has lived in Takoma Park for 23 years. A former staffer at the National Center for Lesbian Rights, the Human Rights Campaign and Maryland’s Free State Justice, Seaton worked for many years to end hate violence against LGBT people and secure equality under the law.

Community Stories Festival
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
Free events – Donations welcome

We are Takoma is proud to participate in the seventh annual Community Stories Festival. Organized by Docs in Progress, the festival spotlights local stories and local filmmakers. This year three of the screenings will be held in Takoma Park: a work-in-progress screening of The Quince Orchard Project; a screening of Let the Fire Burn with the filmmakers in attendance; and a showcase of locally produced shorts.

The Quince Orchard Project
Monday, Nov. 13, 7:30 p.m.
“The Quince Orchard Project” explores issues of slavery, land ownership and sale, preservation, gentrification, race relationships and community engagement while examining what was lost and gained along the way.

Let the Fire Burn
Friday, Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.
Director Jason Osder and Editor Nels Bangerter join us for a screening and discussion of “Let the Fire Burn,” the award winning archival documentary which recounts how a longtime feud between the City of Philadelphia and the controversial radical group MOVE came to a tragic confrontation.

Showcase Screening
Saturday, Nov. 18, 2:00 p.m.
Community Stories Festival showcase of locally produced shorts produced by film makers who represent the next generation of documentarians.

Third Thursday Poetry Reading
With featured poets Randolph Bridgeman, Grace Cavalieri and Richard Lorr
Thursday, Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
Free event – Reception following

Takoma Park Holiday Art Sale
Saturday, Dec. 9
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center
Searching for a truly one-of-a-kind expression of love and friendship? Takoma Park’s annual Holiday Art Sale is coming! With more than 30 jury selected artists, there is a lot to choose from, including painting, photography, ceramics, jewelry, wearable art, and more.
YOUTH

CAMPS

Winter Break Camp
Come experience Winter Break Camp with the Takoma Park Recreation Department. Campers will have the opportunity to add some excitement to their break with games, group activities and crafts. This winter break is set to be a whole lot of fun. Paperwork will need to be submitted prior to first day. Please bring a lunch and snack with you daily. There will be no camp on Monday, Dec. 25, 2017.

Takoma Park Community Center
Azalea Room
7500 Maple Avenue
5-12 years
1 Week
Tuesday-‐Friday
December 26-‐December 29
(No camp 12/25)
9 – 4 p.m.
Resident: $100 / Non-‐resident: $120

Winter Break Before and After Care
Available for those families who require or desire additional activities beyond the regular camp hours. Activities may include outdoor play, game room and sports.

Takoma Park Community Center
Azalea Room
7500 Maple Avenue
5-‐12 years
1 Week
Tuesday-‐Friday
December 26-‐December 29
(No camp 12/25)
7 – 8 a.m. and 4 – 6 p.m.
Resident: $25 / Non-‐resident: $35 (per activity)

DROP-IN

Kids Night
Need a little time to yourself while your kids have a blast with their friends? Bring your children to the Takoma Park Recreation Center’s Kids Night. This will be a fun-‐filled night centered on fun games, arts & crafts, movies and themed nights. This program is free with a membership card. Co-‐sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Azalea Room
7500 Maple Avenue
5-‐12 years
1 Week
Tuesday-‐Friday
December 26-‐December 29
(No camp 12/25)
7 – 8 a.m. and 4 – 6 p.m.
Resident: $25 / Non-‐resident: $35 (per activity)

MARTIAL ARTS

Kung Fu for Kids
This ancient form of self-‐defense provides physical and mental exercise, which help the students defend themselves by strengthening hand and eye coordination. The student will gain physical fitness, mental and spiritual strength. There is a one-‐time, non-‐refundable fee of $50 paid to the instructor at the first class for a uniform. Instructor: Master T. Thompson

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
4-‐16 years
Saturday, 10 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
(No class on 11/11 & 11/25)
Beginning: $15 – 11:15 a.m.
Advanced: $15 – 11:15 a.m.
Resident: $129 / Non-‐resident: $149

SPORTS

Futsal League 2018
Futsal, a sport that is similar to soccer, offers the perfect combination of learning and fun. It is designed to improve fundamental technique and skill development during the winter months. It’s also a great opportunity to meet new friends, stay in shape and prepare for the upcoming season. Please note that program registration is first come first serve and space is limited to 60 participants. Parents are encouraged to volunteer as coaches.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
5-‐12 years
6-‐8 Week Season
First and Third Fridays, ongoing
7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Free with Recreation Center membership card

EXTENDED CARE

After The Bell Childcare
2017-‐2018 School Year
After The Bell childcare program is offered at the Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Ave). This program will provide a safe environment for children grades K-5 where they will engage in daily indoor/Outdoor group activities and holiday based events. Each day kids will receive a snack, have time to complete homework, and enjoy arts and crafts, sports, board games, plays, free play and more. Parents can arrange transportation through MCPS by calling 301-‐840-‐8180 to change your bus route (New Hampshire Towers) and we will meet them at the bus stop.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
Kindergarten-‐5th Grade
10 months
MCPS school year
3:30 – 6:30 p.m.
$1,250 (Prorated based on registration date)

For a full listing of our programs and classes please see our City Guide or visit takomaparkmd.gov/recreation.

TEENS

DROP-IN

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

Takoma Park Community Center
Teen Lounge
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6-‐12
Monday-‐Thursday, ongoing
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Free

Teen Lounge
This special room is for teens only (middle school and high school students!) You are welcome to watch two 50-‐inch and one 70-‐inch LED SMART TVs. We also have X-‐Box One and Wii Games, workstations, board games and comfy sitting areas for socializing with friends. Come join us after school for fun and laughs and at special events for an amazing time.

Takoma Park Community Center
Teen Lounge
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6-‐12
Monday – Friday
3 – 7 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday: Closed
Free

Teen Night
Teen night is a great way for teens to meet their need for social interaction. The Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Avenue) provides high quality, affordable, safe and FUN activities for teens. Come on out to a night of games, activities and more. Co-‐sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
Grades 6-‐12
Monday – Friday
9:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Free

SPECIAL EVENTS

Cemaria Celebration
Join the Teen Program for a night to celebrate a season of gratitude. Participate in creating thankful art, silly games and fun activities. End the evening with a family style dinner catered by Boston Market. All activities will take place at the Takoma Park Recreation Center on New Hampshire Avenue.

Various Local Schools
Gymnasium
Kindergarten-‐8th Grade
8 Week Session
Games on Saturdays, starting January 13
Resident: $70 / Non-‐resident: $80

TRIPS

GO-‐TO HIGH SCHOOL

Go to High School, Go to College Fair
Join the Teen Program as we head to the Southern Maryland Technology and Recreation Complex in Ft. Washington, MD, for the “Go to High School, Go to College Fair.” More than 100 colleges and universities are anticipated to participate in this college fair. Colleges including public, private, faith-‐based, men only, women only, military academies and historically black colleges and universities have confirmed their participation. Attendees will be able to gain information concerning internship opportunities from various government agencies and attend financial aid workshops. Come dressed to impress, there will be on site interviews. Be prepared to present multiple copies of your report card and official SAT information. In person or online registration with the Recreation Department is required. Transportation to and from Ft. Washington will be provided. The bus will depart TP Community Center at 8:15 a.m. sharp!

Takoma Park Community Center
Teen Lounge (Meeting place)
7500 Maple Avenue
Ages 14-‐17
Saturday, November 11
8:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
FREE

ADULTS

ART

Ceramics: Hand Building & Sculpture
The class focuses on basic hand-‐building techniques including pinch, coil and slab construction as well as surface treatment and glazing. Open to all levels of experience. Students can create functional items, such as vases, soap dishes and teacups as well as sculptures, including portrait heads and whimsical animals. All glazes are lead free and food safe. $20 materials fee due to instructor first day of class. Registration for Monday’s class includes studio time on Friday. Instructor: Caroline MacKinnon

Takoma Park Community Center
Art Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
Ages 16 and older
7 Week Session
Mondays, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
October 30-‐December 18
Resident: $75 / Non-‐resident: $85

Ceramics: Wheel Throwing
Receive instruction on using the potter’s wheel. Participants will make cups, bowls and dishes. Tools and other materials provided. There is a $20 materials fee due to the instructor on the first day of class. Instructor: Art for the People

Takoma Park Community Center
Art Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
Ages 16 and older
7 Week Session
Mondays, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
November 6-‐December 18
Resident: $75 / Non-‐resident: $85

TRIPS

GO-‐TO COLLEGE

Trips for the People
Takoma Park Recreation Center
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
Grades 6-‐12
Friday, November 17
6 – 9 p.m.
Free

For a full listing of our programs and classes please see our City Guide or visit takomaparkmd.gov/recreation.
Resident: $95 / Non-resident: $105
October 10-December 5
Tuesdays, 7 – 8 p.m.
8 Week Session
7500 Maple Avenue
Dance Studio
Takoma Park Community Center
Instructors: Patrick Smith and Joann Malone

Qi Gong - Waking Up Together
This class is a mindfulness based approach to relationships that deepens awareness of ourselves and our partners, fosters communication and awakens joyful energy. By utilizing mindfulness meditation practices and simple Qi Gong exercises, couples will learn ways to nourish the positive elements in themselves and one another. We will offer exercises in listening and compassionate speech. The class will meet for four sessions, every other week. No experience necessary, just an open heart. Wear comfortable clothes as there will be simple movements offered.
Instructors: Patrick Smith and Joann Malone
Takoma Park Community Center
Azalea Room
7500 Maple Avenue
16 and older
4 Week Session
Every other Wednesday
October 18-November 29
7 – 8:30 p.m.
Resident: $75 / Non-resident: $85

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, November 16
12 – 2 p.m.
Free

Blood Pressure Screening
Adventist Healthcare will conduct a monthly blood pressure screening. No registration required.
Takoma Park Community Center
Senior Room
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Thursday, November 16
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Free

Walking Group
Don’t worry about the cold weather and join your neighbors and friends for indoor lap walking. Go at your own pace. Drop-in.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
55 and older
Ongoing, Tuesdays
12 – 1 p.m.
Free

SPORTS/FITNESS
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 through November 16
12 – 1 p.m.
Free

Zumba Gold
Zumba Gold was designed for the active senior and older adults using modified movements.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older

TRIPS
Trip #1: National Capital Radio & Television Museum
Bowie, MD
Thursday, November 9
8:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Trip #2: Glenview Mansion Art Gallery
Rockville, MD
Wednesday, November 15
8:45 a.m. – 3 p.m.

At left, volunteers Ty Sun, 11, and Philip Damici, 12, get nostalgic playing Candy Land.

Below left, brothers Adam and Aamir Beidel explore PW Trucks

Below right, Sasha Allob, 7, turns the tables painting Tiara Oldfield, 16.

Play Day Pix
Credit: Selena Meleth
A terrific trio of kids’ authors

We’ve got a trio of kids’ author programs this month, including one starring a Takoma Park dad. Politcs & Prose will sell books at each event, but the programs are free and no purchase or registration is required to attend.

First up is kids’ author Jeanne Walker Harvey who will discuss her new picture book biography of architect Maya Lin titled Maya Lin: Artist-Architect of Light and Lines, the book was called “an artful resource for dreamers of all ages” by Publishers Weekly.

Next, on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 7:30 p.m., kids’ novelist Rob Buyea will introduce The Perfect Score, introduces a new series with his debut book, The Little Girl Who Didn’t Want to Go to Bed. In the book, Engeldow combines hilarious photos of himself, his wife and their young daughter Alice Bee, as he tells the story of a child who adamantly stays up until dawn. In its review, Publishers Weekly noted: “The consequences are standard for this genre—she uses her pancakes for a pillow, drowsily combs her teeth, and snoozes through a birthday party—but seeing a real girl act them out (especially one who embraces slapstick and is so natural in front of the camera) is a fun twist, and will remind readers of their favorite live-action comedies.” And Kirkus added: “While it may not make kids excited for bedtime, this book is one they’ll want to read.”

Finally, on Thursday, Nov. 16 at 7 p.m., Dave Engeldow, a Takoma Park photographer who has found Internet fame as the self-proclaimed “World’s Best Father,” presents his debut picture book, The Little Girl Who Didn’t Want to Go to Bed. In the book, Engeldow combines hilarious photos of himself, his wife and their young daughter Alice Bee, as he tells the story of a child who adamantly stays up until dawn. In its review, Publishers Weekly noted: “The consequences are standard for this genre—she uses her pancakes for a pillow, drowsily combs her teeth, and snoozes through a birthday party—but seeing a real girl act them out (especially one who embraces slapstick and is so natural in front of the camera) is a fun twist, and will remind readers of their favorite live-action comedies.” And Kirkus added: “While it may not make kids excited for bedtime, this book is one they’ll want to read.”

Next Friends Book Club Selection!

By Tim Rahn

The Wife of Martin Guerre by the American novelist, poet, and librettist Janet Lewis will be discussed by the Friends Book Group on Dec. 6 at 7:30 in the Azalea Room of the Community Center.

Published in 1941, The Wife of Martin Guerre was the best-known of three novels Lewis wrote based on her reading of Famous Cases of Circumstantial Evidence with an Introduction of the Theory of Presumptive Guilt. Lewis’s interest in how circumstantial evidence is used in trials was piqued when a close friend was almost convicted of murder.

The story of Martin Guerre was the subject of a well-known 1983 French film and subsequent novel, The Return of Martin Guerre. In the story, which takes place in the 16th century, Martin Guerre leaves his wife and young family for seven or more years.

Correction: To the Nuclear Free Committee article in the October Newsletter (p. 3): The article states that a waiver was approved in 2012 “after the library purchased computers from Hewlett Packard without knowing of its ties to the nuclear industry.” This is incorrect. We knew that HP was included on the City’s list of nuclear associated companies, and all purchases were checked against the existing list. What we didn’t know was that we were going to be sent HP computers. Our vendor, Useful Corp., based in Canada, makes and sells multi-station computers. In this instance, they were made with HP computers – which we didn’t know until they were shipped to us.

–Ellen Robbins
Accepting applications for Community Police Academy

The Takoma Park Police Department is now accepting applications for its Community Police Academy. The Community Police Academy will start on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2018. The Community Police Academy is a 12-week long program consisting of one class a week on Tuesday evenings from 7 – 9:30 pm. The classes cover topics such as patrol, traffic enforcement, use of force, criminal investigations, etc. The presentations are slide show/lecture style and will be given by officers, detectives and civilians of the Takoma Park Police Department. There will also be multiple opportunities for hands-on learning through equipment demonstrations, practical scenarios, field trips and ride-alongs with patrol officers.

The Takoma Park Police Department believes that educating the community will result in gaining their understanding and support. Through implementation of the Community Police Academy, the community will gain new insight into how law enforcement officers perform their duties. The success of any law enforcement agency depends largely upon the amount of cooperation and support it receives from the community it serves.

The Community Police Academy is free to the public. Seats are limited to the first 25 students and will be filled based on a lottery system.

5 Questions for Lars DeSalvio, IT Manager, City of Takoma Park

In September, the City welcomed a new IT Manager, Lars DeSalvio, to the team. Immediately prior to working with City, he served as the director of information technology at the Association of Corporate Counsel for three years and as the director of information technology and web services with PricewaterhouseCoopers and other organizations in the greater Washington area. Moving forward, Lars will be taking the reins on all things IT related, including chairing the City’s Technology Steering Committee and managing its technology investment strategy.

1. Favorite Place/Activity in Takoma Park: Being a foodie, I would have to say that my favorite place/activity is eating lunch at the Tiffin Indian restaurant on University Blvd. The all-you-can-eat buffet is outstanding and puts me into a food coma after every visit.

2. Best Thing about Working in Takoma Park: See question #1. Really, it’s the challenging work, my staff, and the great people that I work with every day. Everyone has been friendly to me, so far, and it’s been a pleasure working for the City.

3. What’s on Your Desk Right Now: Lots of computer equipment, chicken from Sardis (emerging food theme?), miscellaneous papers and an antique Swing-line electric hole-punch that I don’t know what to do with. Send me an email and it’s yours.

BONUS QUESTION: If I had a magic wand for a day, I would blink (like in “I Dream of Jeannie”) the entire staff of Takoma Park to Tarpon Belly Keys where we would drink microbrews, eat pizza from the No Name Pub (think they deliver?) and swim in the man-made channels. Perhaps not in that order.

CULTURAL PLAN

The plan is on track to be presented to the City Council early next year after the new Council is sworn in after November’s elections.

Editor’s note: Kevin Aller is a member of the Arts & Humanities Commission.
As of Sept. 30, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue personnel assigned to the station responded to 407 fire-related incidents in 2017. The department also addressed or assisted with 2,246 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 2,653. Totals for 2016 were 444 and 2,335 representing a decrease of 126 incidents.

During September, Takoma Park volunteers put in a total of 1,307.5 hours of standby time at the station compared to 1,166 hours in September 2016. Grand totals as September 2017, were 13,727.5 hours compared to 11,720.5 in 2016, an increase of 2,007 hours.

Maryland fire deaths
The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported that as Oct. 25, 54 people have died in fires compared to 40 in 2016.

Hot vehicle deaths
As of Oct. 25, 40 children across the country have died in hot vehicles. It’s a must that when you leave your vehicle, everyone leaves with you. Check the back seat, and don’t forget to lock your vehicle.

MCVFRA Hall of Fame
Congratulations to TPVFD member Richard “Rusty” Willey for being inducted into the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire-Rescue Association on Sept. 21.

SRTS infrastructure Pop UP-DATE

Comments
Very few formal comments were registered online. In person, positive comments outweighed the negative ones. Many expressed gratitude and understanding of the problem. Negative comments centered on inconvenience.

Programming Action and Traffic Calming Improvements
• Continue to encourage walking and biking to school and educate students and parents about safe practices for walking and biking.
• Schedule regular enforcement details to discourage illegal behavior that impacts student safety.
• Alert the schools and PTAs of the problem in an attempt to enlist their support.
• Install two speed bumps in the parking lot and a raised crosswalk on Grant adjacent to the charging station.
• Install a stop sign at the Grant Avenue exit of the parking lot and a No Thru Traffic sign at the Philadelphia Avenue entrance.
• Install parking stops in all parking spaces next to the sidewalk to prevent cars from overhanging the sidewalk.
• Cut foliage back along sidewalk.

Babysitter’s grads
On Oct. 9, the following girls and boys completed the TPVFD Baby Sitters Training Course. Seated Row 1, left to right: Ellie Hassett, Luisa Mini, Choe Sherrell-Howell, Harper Bender, Anina Gonzalez-Sol; Seated Row 2, left to right: Alicia Conlon, Aiden Markle, Josie Gleason, Elizabeth Warren, Alaina Villatoro, Alyse Majors, Sarah Blum, Stella Ryan, Sophie Bender, Erika Pfeifer, and Ben Repress.
Assisting Jim Jarboe were KiKi Alfaro, Ntshiuwa Sato Bess, Tina and Ashlee Willey, TPVFD, Capt. (Acting Chief) Tyrone Collington, TPPD.

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.
Managing deer in Takoma Park

By Rick Henry

Many of the approximately 50 people who came to the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium on Monday, Oct. 16 for what was billed as a “Suburban Deer Management Presentation,” were undoubtedly just looking for ways to keep the white-tailed visitors out of their hostas. What they got instead was an informative, 30-minute lesson in biology, ecology, landscape and urban planning—a lesson that illustrated the complex challenges that surround deer management, especially in a suburban locale like Takoma Park.

The presentation was sponsored by the City of Takoma Park and coordinated by Rick Baravechia, Neighborhood Services Manager for the City. “The city manager thought it would be a good idea to put out some information regarding deer in urban areas, so we contacted the state, which is in charge of deer management, and they agreed to send a representative,” Baravechia said.

Baravechia said.

“Managing deer in Takoma Park. We are here to clear up some common misconceptions about the relationship between deer and suburban areas. The most common misconception is that deer are getting pushed into suburban areas due to development (though some of that may happen),” when in reality development actually improves deer habitat,” he said.

Timko went on to explain that “edge,” which he defined as the green space, flowers and landscaping that surround suburban homes and buildings such as schools and churches, is the preferred habitat for deer. “It’s deer nirvana,” he said. Deer numbers often increase in these areas over time, he said, as mortality is lower, habitat conditions are improved, and deer longevity and survival is higher in these areas. Compounding the situation is what Timko termed the animals’ “high reproductive potential.” Twinning is the most common birth pattern, he said, although triplets do occur. In addition, fawns born in summer will often breed in the immediate fall and give birth the following summer. Because of the favorable conditions cited earlier, suburban deer can live up to 15 years and reproduce throughout much of that time. Beyond the biological factors, suburban deer management is challenging because of community dynamics and regulations. Deer management strategies must take into account local ordinances concerning what methods are acceptable (i.e. sharp-shooting, bow hunting), public perceptions about those methods and limited land access because of individual ownership and property rights, Timko said.

Timko laid out the options that are available and the pros and cons of each. He divided those options into non-lethal and lethal, while emphasizing that there is “no silver bullet or magic potion” for suburban deer management. Among the lethal options are traditional hunting, which is not conducive to suburban settings.

Non-lethal options, such as sterilization and other fertility control methods are expensive and difficult to do in a suburban area, while individual options such as using deer repellents (sprays) or deterrents (electric fences, motion activated sprinklers, etc.) may have mixed results, but are the most practical options in those settings.

Timko recommended exclusion (using netting, fencing, tree shelters, plastic mesh, etc.) as the most effective non-lethal method. “Most people don’t want their yards looking like a fortress, but exclusion works to keep deer out of areas,” he said. Timko said any fences should be at least eight-feet high to keep deer out.

Ultimately, Timko said that while MD-DNR recommends using a combination of lethal and non-lethal options where appropriate to manage deer, communities must collectively decide how/if deer should be managed.

For more information on deer in Maryland and deer management options and recommendations visit dnr2.maryland.gov/wildlife and search for deer management.
Do you have an item for the city calendar? Do you have an item for the city calendar? Let us know if you have a nonprofit event that would be of interest to City of Takoma Park residents, and we’ll consider it for inclusion in the calendar. Deadline for the December issue is November 10, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning November 24. To submit calendar items, email tpneweditor@takomaparkmd.gov.

*TP Community Center* is the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park. All addresses are in Takoma Park or Takoma, D.C., unless otherwise noted.

**PUBLIC MEETINGS OF NOTE**

**City Council**
- City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Nov. 1, 7:30 p.m.
- City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Nov. 8, 7:30 p.m.
- City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m.
- City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Nov. 22, 7:30 p.m.
- TPCC Auditorium

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

**Veterans Day - City Offices Closed**

Friday, Nov. 10
All City offices and facilities will be closed Friday, Nov. 10, for the Veterans Day holiday on Saturday, Nov. 11. The Takoma Park Police Department is open 24/7 for emergency services. Trash, recycling and food waste collection will be moved to Saturday, Nov. 11.

**Thanksgiving - City Offices Closed**

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

**Election Day in Takoma Park**

Tuesday, Nov. 7, 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
The mayor and city council will be elected to a 3-year term. All election day voting takes place at the Takoma Park Community Center. The next election will be on Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020, when two-year terms will resume.

TP Community Center

**Fall Leaf Collection**

Nov. 20 through Dec. 22
The Public Works Department will notify residents in advance of the collection. Details can be found at takomaparkmd.gov/government/public-works/curbsidecollection-services/yard-waste-and-fallleaf-collection.

**Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry**

First Saturdays, noon – 3 p.m.
Grace United Methodist Church, 7001 New Hampshire Ave.
Bi-weekly and monthly food supplies for needy families.
240-450-2092 or educare_ssi@yahoo.com www.educaresupportservices.org

**COMUNITY 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**

Wednesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Presbyterian Church
Learn about the LEAP — Maryland Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment — a document that makes your treatment wishes known to healthcare professionals. Our presenter will be Anne Butchart, MA, LSW, a social worker with the Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA) Hospice.
For more information, contact villageattpckirkpark.com.

**19th Annual Takoma Park Alternative Gift Fair**

Saturday, Dec. 2, noon – 4 p.m.
Takoma Park Presbyterian Church
Instead of shopping for gifts, donate in a loved one's name to various local, national and international charities. For your donation, you get a certificate to drop into a holiday card. Shoppers also give these certificates for birthdays, weddings, bar and bat mitzvahs and other events. It also provides an opportunity to learn about charities serving local, regional and international needs.

**ARTS AND LITERATURE**

**People's Open Mic**

Saturdays, 7 p.m.
Republic restaurant, 6839 Laurel Ave.
www.republictakoma.com

**TPPK Teen Talk — Election**

Thursday, Nov. 2, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Azalea Room
Did you know that Takoma Park teens ages 16 and over can vote in city elections (including residents that are non-U.S. citizens)? Join candidates for Takoma Park's upcoming elections and have a chance to ask questions that directly affect you. Register to vote before the Teen Talk or at the event by bringing a photo ID and a document that shows you live in Takoma Park (a mailing from MCPS, pay stub from the summer, etc.). For more information, contact Tori Barlow at muchui@aol.com or 301-646-2109.

**TPPK Teen Talk — Election**

Tuesday, Nov. 7, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Middle School
Learn about MOLST — Maryland Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment — a document that makes your treatment wishes known to healthcare professionals. Our presenter will be Anne Butchart, MA, LSW, a social worker with the Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA) Hospice.
For more information, visit villageattpckirkpark.com.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Winterfest: Arts and Crafts Show**

Saturday, Dec. 16, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Takoma Park Middle School
Come check out local vendors and artisans at this juried craft fair. There will also be face painting, ballooning and more. Proceeds from the free event go to support Differences, a student run nonprofit at Takoma Park Middle School.

**The Christmas Revels**

Saturday, Dec. 9-Sunday, Dec. 17, matinee & evening shows
GW Lisner Auditorium, 700 21st Street NW, 20052
See your neighbors in your holiday show. Journey with the Washington Revels, a cast of more than 100 people, ages 8-85, as we celebrate winter holidays in a small Québec village. This year’s show features a number of Takoma Park residents. In the late December chill, the glow of hearth fires warms the spirits of the villagers as they prepare for the time of celebration–le temps des Fêtes! This energetic Québécois winter celebration features carols, wild dancing, and foot-stomping instruments, blending old French traditions with New World ingenuity. Be prepared for a mysterious bargain, a ride in a flying canoe, and unforgettable stories and music. Tickets required. For more information, call 301-587-3830 or visit revleals.org/shows-events/christmas-revels.

**STAY CONNECTED!**

The City of Takoma Park strives to keep residents engaged and informed in a variety of ways including social media, the City website, and public safety bulletins via email and text. Name a few. Here are some tips for staying on top of the goings on around the City.

- Visit takomaparkmd.gov, where you can access information on upcoming Council meetings and agendas, City news, and the status of City projects
- Like the City of Takoma Park on Facebook or follow us on Instagram at @TakomaParkMD and on Twitter at takomaparkmd.gov/services/takomapark-city
- Sign up for Public Safety notifications on Takoma Park Alert. takomaparkmd.gov/services/takomapark-alerts
- Stay up to date with city news and blogs from City Staff, the Mayor and Council at takomaparkmd.gov/news

**TPPK**

- Make a service request or report an issue using myTPPK.org, visit takomaparkmd.gov/services/tpkp or email service@takomaparkmd.gov

**TP News**

- Get notifications on Takoma Park Alert: takomaparkmd.gov/services/takomapark-city
- Follow us on Twitter @TakomaParkMD and on Facebook
- Check out Takoma Park TV

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