



WHAT'S NEW?

Mayor's Message on TPS

Un Mensaje de la Alcaldesa sobre el Status de Protección Temporal

Message du Maire sur le Statut de protection temporaire (TPS)
p. 4

Dockless Bikeshare

Details, p. 4

Calligraphy Art Exhibit Opening

Jan. 4, 7 p.m.
Details, p. 5

City offices & facilities closed

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
Sunday, Jan. 14 - Monday, Jan. 15

Trash/recycling collection

No yard waste collection
Monday, Jan. 15

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



Residents look on as Takoma Park Mayor Kate Stewart is sworn in for a second term.
(Nov. 15, 2017)

The second time around: Q&A with Takoma Park Mayor Kate Stewart

By Apryl Motley

The New Year will be one full of promise, priorities, and policy for Mayor Kate Stewart and the other members of the Takoma Park City Council. As they begin work on a very full agenda, we caught up with Mayor Stewart to get her take on her previous term and what lies ahead for this one.

TP News: What was most rewarding about your first term as mayor?

Stewart: The most rewarding aspect has been getting to know more people around the City and engaging with residents. We held community coffees and lunches. We also held City council meetings at the New Hampshire Avenue Recreation Center. In addition, two Community Conversations happened.

Speaking of which, the work we did around affordable housing is an excellent example of how I hope we as a community can work on big priorities. We started with a community conversation with experts from around the country and then broke up into small discussion groups. After the City Council reviewed all that information, during budget process we set up affordable housing reserve, next the housing stretch program was initiated (The first person used in it August.), and now we're moving forward with the strategic plan for housing. Seeing all of that come to fruition over two years has been very rewarding. There's still more work to be done, but we've made good progress.

Q&A □ Page 3

City Councilmembers and State Delegates discuss shared priorities

By Kevin Adler



Jheanelle K. Wilkins

December is a time of traditions, and Takoma Park has started a new one that City Councilmembers and Mayor Kate Stewart hope will pay dividends. On Dec. 13, they hosted their 2nd annual Joint Priorities public meeting with members of the Maryland District 20 delegation. Before a turnout of about 40 people, Stewart and four members of the City Council met with State Senator Will Smith and Delegates David Moon and Jheanelle Wilkins for nearly two hours.

SHARED PRIORITIES □ Page 3

City Manager selects new Police Chief

Last month City Manager Suzanne Ludlow announced that Antonio "Tony" DeVaul has accepted an offer to serve as the next Police Chief of the City of Takoma Park. DeVaul has worked for the Maryland-National Capital Park Police for the past 23 years, where he was the Police Chief and oversaw a department of 151 staff members and a \$13 million budget.

During DeVaul's tenure with the Park Police, he worked his way up through the ranks, beginning as a patrol officer and serving as a supervisor of every division in the department before becoming an assistant chief and ultimately chief in 2012. He holds a Bachelor's degree in management from Johns Hopkins University and is currently a candidate for a Master of Science degree in organizational leadership, also from Johns Hopkins.

A 2015 graduate of the FBI National Academy, DeVaul stood out among an excellent field of candidates for the Takoma Park Police Chief position, performing very well in each step of the rigorous selection process. Of particular interest and importance regarding his selection was his dedication to community policing and a guardian philosophy, and a proven track record of building and nurturing strong community relationships, especially with

POLICE CHIEF □ Page 3



Credit: Maryland-National Capital Park Police
Antonio "Tony" DeVaul

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Inside

we are
TAKOMA

Call for
Proposals
Page 5



Upcoming
Author Event
Page 8



FSGW Midwinter
Festival
Page 11

DOCKET

City Council & Committee Calendar

OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday, Jan. 10, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 17, 7:30 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 22, 6:30 p.m. Closed Session
vote in Auditorium
Wednesday, Jan. 24, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 31, 7:30 p.m.
All in the TPCC Auditorium

CITY COUNCIL RETREATS

Friday, Jan. 19, 4 – 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room
Thursday, Jan. 25, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea room

ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION

Tuesday, Jan. 23, 7. p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, Jan. 8, 7:15 p.m.
TPCC Azalea Room

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, Jan. 25, 7 p.m.
TPCC Council Conference Room

FACADE ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, Jan. 9, 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium

GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Thursday, Jan. 18, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, Jan. 9, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Lilac Room

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, Jan. 18, 7 p.m.
TPCC Council Conference Room

TREE COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, Jan. 9, 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Council Conference Room

TREE COMMISSION HEARING

Thursday, Jan. 11, 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

YOUTH COUNCIL

Monday, Jan. 8, 6 p.m.
TPCC Council Conference Room

*All meetings are open to the public unless noted otherwise. Schedule changes can occur after the *Takoma Park Newsletter* deadline. For the most up to date information, visit www.takomaparkmd.gov and click on "Events and Meetings." Most meetings are held in the Takoma Park Community Center – Sam Abbott Citizens' Center, 7500 Maple Avenue (TPCC). Individuals interested in receiving a weekly Council agenda and calendar update by e-mail can sign up at takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/agendas.

ADA NOTICE

The City of Takoma Park is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in public meetings. Anyone with a disability who 1) wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services, or accommodations at a City of Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing; or 2) cannot attend a public meeting but would like to record an audio comment to be played during the public comment period of the meeting, is invited to contact Jason Damweber, Deputy City Manager, at jasond@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7202 at least 48 hours in advance.

City Council Action

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

On Nov. 15, 2017, the outgoing City Council adopted **Ordinance 2017-52** effecting FY 2018 Budget Amendment No. 2 (Councilmember Kovar voted against the ordinance). **Also on Nov. 15**, the newly sworn City Council adopted three resolutions recognizing the contributions of retiring Councilmembers: **Resolution 2017-57** recognized Rizzy Qureshi, **Resolution 2017-58** recognized the contributions of Tim Male, and **Resolution 2017-59** recognized the contributions of Fred Schultz.

The City Council adopted **Ordinance 2017-56** on **Nov. 29, 2017**. The ordinance authorized the City Manager to contract with A. Morton Thomas and Associates, Inc. for services required to complete a traffic study that will augment the traffic study to be completed by Neighborhood Development Company (NDC) for the Takoma Junction redevelopment. That evening, the Council also adopted **Resolution 2017-60** setting forth the dates of the City Council's winter recess.

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 (jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7267) or your City Councilmember) with questions.

The February issue of the Takoma Park Newsletter will feature more information about the activities and membership of the various committees.

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.

Public Hearing Regarding Takoma Park Streets Potentially Named after Civil War Generals

(Grant, Hancock, Lee, Sheridan, and Sherman Avenues)
Monday, Jan. 29, 2018 - 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue

On Sept. 13, 2017, the City Council held a work session discussion about names of City streets and parks that are associated with Civil War figures. Some options under consideration by the Council include the following: 1) seek authority from the Montgomery County Planning Department to change the street names; 2) rely on the procedure already in place for residences and businesses on a street to petition the Montgomery County Planning Department for a street name change; or 3) maintain the current street names but add commemorative names or markers to the streets to provide a historical context. Any of these options would require a community process to ensure that the decision reflects the views of the residents on the streets in question.

The Commemoration Commission is developing a recommendation for the City Council's consideration. To inform the recommendation, the Commission is holding this public hearing to gather comments and suggestions from residents, especially those living on the streets potentially named for Civil War generals: Grant Avenue, Hancock Avenue, Lee Avenue, Sheridan Avenue, and Sherman Avenue.

Comments and suggestions are requested on the following options: 1) pursue renaming of the street(s) through the formal process with Montgomery County; 2) maintain the street names but add a commemorative name and signage to provide historic context for the existing names; or, 3) make no change.

The meeting will begin with an explanation of the process for making a street name change request to the Montgomery County Planning Department.

Please plan to attend the public hearing on Monday, Jan. 29, 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Auditorium. Written comments are also being accepted through a survey form located at www.takomaparkmd.gov or by email to clerk@takomaparkmd.gov.

The Commemoration Commission is a City Council-appointed commission that documents, maintains, and preserves past, present, and future memorials, commemoratives, and recognitions in the City. The Commission also recommends to the City Council procedures and programs for honors and recognitions and implements those programs.

Important City Department Phone Numbers

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



Stay connected when it snows!

Conditions leading to a declared snow emergency include the expectation of a significant quantity of snow or an ice event. The city manager may declare a snow emergency and will announce the status through Takoma Park Alert, local media, and on the City's website, Facebook and Twitter. The following restrictions go into effect during declared snow emergencies:

- Sign up for Takoma Park Alerts by visiting: takomaparkmd.gov/services/takoma-park-alert.
- Residents are strongly encouraged to park vehicles in their driveways whenever possible. Fewer cars on the street allow city plows to more quickly and safely clear the roads.
- If you must park on the street, make sure to park your car as close to the curb as possible, and maintain a distance of at least 25 feet from an intersection.

Q&A

■ From page 1

TP News: In what areas do you see room for improvement during your second term?

Stewart: There are a few areas that immediately come to mind. We've taken the first step to put the Racial Equity Framework in place, and I am looking forward to determining how to apply it to policies and programs.

We're also going to take another look at our tree ordinance. We began the process by talking to Tree Commission and putting an emergency tree fund in place. Now that the forest manager position is filled, we can return to working on the tree ordinance.

And I am always looking at new ways to engage members of community. That work is never done. I am thrilled about having new councilmembers, who will



The City Manager, Mayor, and new Councilmembers went on a roadshow of Takoma Park (Dec. 20, 2017).

bring new energy and ideas to how we engage members of our community.

TP News: What do you think will be the biggest challenge for you and the City Council in 2018? The biggest opportunity?

Stewart: Takoma Park is a city within a county in a state of the country. At the national level, we have challenges in mak-

ing sure that all members of community feel included and safe and that their needs are being met. We are always working on this issue, but given the policies and rhetoric of current federal administration, we have to work even harder now. There are members of community who will be more hesitant to come forward and participate.

Regionally, one concern for the City is the construction of the Purple Line and its impact on the New Hampshire Avenue corridor. We want to ensure that the area continues to thrive and that small businesses are able to take advantage of new opportunities that may arise. We'll need to look at working with our representatives in Annapolis to bring needed improvements to New Hampshire Avenue, which is a State highway. I am going to be focused on bringing attention to that area

and the possibilities there for our different communities.

TP News: What do you want residents to know most about your approach to serving as mayor?

Stewart: Last March, I actually got a black tattoo with a drawing of a dogwood that my 17-year-old designed on my left forearm that says "be kind, be bold, resist." It represents how I approach the job of mayor. Be kind: To each other in our community and remember that we can disagree respectfully. We can look for commonalities even in our differences because as a community, we're working towards the same goals. Be bold: Thinking of how we can do things differently and taking advantage of new opportunities and not shying away from that. We're known for a lot of firsts in the City, and we will continue to be bold. Resist: What's happening at the national level and the status quo. We need to keep pushing ourselves to do better for all of our residents.

SHARED PRIORITIES

■ From page 1

"It's a great opportunity for our Council, staff and residents to meet with our state representatives before the session starts in Annapolis," said Stewart. "Takoma Park has a strong relationship with our representatives, and individually we speak to them on a regular basis. But this is different; it's all of us together, [communicating] our priorities."

The meeting provided a valuable give-and-take, added Kacy Kostiuk, who was elected to represent Takoma Park's Ward 3 in November. "I was excited to hear that some of the priorities of our delegates and senator closely align with our own," she said.

At the meeting, Stewart presented two major state legislative priorities and four additional goals. First is the library renovation and expansion. Stewart thanked the state for issuing a \$150,000 bond last year for work on the library project, and said Takoma Park will seek another bond in 2018. "We pack a lot of activity into that library," Stewart said, including toddler programs in four languages, after-school programs, book clubs and author readings.

The city has lined up \$7 million in borrowing for the project, and it hopes to start construction in about a year, she said. "Even though we have an amazing library, we need more space and to make it ADA [Americans with Disabilities Act] compliant and to improve energy efficiency.... We view this as a legacy for the District 20," she added. Local resident and Takoma

Park poet laureate Merrill Leffler touched on the same theme, calling the library "the soul center of our city."

Second is support for redevelopment of New Hampshire Avenue along the eastern edge of the city. Because the road passes through both Montgomery and Prince George's counties, it's a bit of an "orphan" that doesn't receive enough attention from any jurisdiction, said Stewart. "Unfortunately, it is unattractive and difficult to navigate," she said.

It's unsafe for pedestrians, too, said newly elected Takoma Park Councilmember Talisha Searcy (Ward 6). A pedestrian was hit by a car and killed in November when trying to cross New Hampshire Avenue, she said. Searcy called New Hampshire Avenue "a vital lifeline for Ward 6 residents and the city as a whole."

The city has developed the New Hampshire Avenue Corridor Concept Plan and even lined up some funding already for specific projects, such as bikeways. "The zoning is in place, and we have the concept plans done. As I like to say, Takoma Park has set the table, and we're now asking for your help to flag down the waiter, so we can get something served," Stewart said.

Sen. Smith signaled his strong interest, as he arrived for the meeting with a well-thumbed copy of the New Hampshire Avenue plan. "I've read this—thank you for keeping this at the forefront of our consideration," he said. "We should breathe new life into this project."

Montgomery County and Prince George's County leaders, as well as Governor Larry Hogan, are aware of the potential for the area, Smith said. "We can use the

Purple Line as leverage," he said, praising the plan for its "economic impact, walkable communities, pedestrian safety and fusion of housing and businesses." Added Del. Wilkins, "I hear you loud and clear."

Both the library renovation and New Hampshire Avenue plan link to other issues that Ward 3 Councilmember Kostiuk raised at the meeting: diversity, equity and inclusion. She reminded the delegates that almost half of Takoma Park residents are renters, and about a third of public school students receive free or subsidized lunches. The City's demographics are less white and less wealthy than is commonly assumed, she said, so the city's needs for state funds are real, despite a perception that "when Takoma Park is asking for something, we are a bunch of people who could afford to do it for ourselves anyway—and it's not the case."

After the meeting, Kostiuk expanded on the importance of the city's new diversity initiatives. "I would like to see more situations where diverse groups of residents are coming together to learn from each other and share their experiences," she said. "As I noted at the meeting, one of the places where this happens is the Takoma Park Library, which is why it is an important resource for our community. We also need to focus on areas of the city that have been less traditionally focused on, such as making improvements to New Hampshire Avenue."

Local residents also told the state's delegates what's on their minds, with the redevelopment of Takoma Junction topping the list. Co-op Board President Rachel Hardwick and numerous residents who live near the Junction raised their concerns about traffic congestion, the need for delivery vehicles to have access to the Co-op,

affordability of housing and retail space in the new development, and more.

Several speakers credited the City Council with working diligently on the Junction for many years, but said the issues are far from resolved. Resident Mark Sherman observed that the impact of the Junction goes beyond Takoma Park. "The Junction is where two state highways coincide," he said. "Local and state representatives have worked together with us in the past to try to make sure it was not the bottleneck that it frequently is today. The current proposal will only make it worse because it will put additional demands on the intersection, including possibly a new traffic light."

Stewart said that Takoma Park is paying for its own traffic study of the Junction, independent of and "more detailed" than the one the developers are required to do. She reminded the delegates that the City is seeking their help to shift control of the intersection's traffic signals from the State Highway Administration to Montgomery County.

Stewart and Councilmember Peter Kovar (Ward 1) also mentioned a few more items the City seeks from state legislators: restoration of funding of Highway User Revenue for road repair to pre-recession levels (only about 2/3 of that level today); financial assistance to businesses affected by Purple Line construction; and backing for a possible new public school in Takoma Park to ease local school overcrowding; and support for Takoma Park's status as a sanctuary city.

To wrap up the meeting, the delegation invited the City's representatives and all others to visit Annapolis on Feb. 20 for District 20 Night.

POLICE CHIEF

■ From page 1

youth, neighborhood associations and businesses.

"I am honored to be selected as the Chief of Police for the City of Takoma Park," said DeVaul when asked for comment. "The Takoma Park Police Department has an exceptional reputation and

is known for its active community policing. I look forward to engaging all city residents and continuing to build lasting partnerships with all of our stakeholders."

DeVaul grew up in Takoma Park and is a lifelong resident of Montgomery County. He is married with five children and two grandchildren.

Chief DeVaul was sworn in and began his first day with the City on Jan. 2.



THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

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

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

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

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

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

The Newsletter is printed on recycled—content paper.





BUILDING COMMUNITY

Mayor's Message on TPS

As we begin a new year, we want to take this time to reaffirm our values as a welcoming and inclusive community and to voice our opposition to the continued attacks on our neighbors who are immigrants. Approaching issues such as immigration with compassion and empathy are key to building strong, inclusive and healthy communities.

Those members of our community now being targeted are our neighbors with Temporary Protected Status (TPS). TPS is a form of immigration status created by Congress in 1990 that provides employment authorization and protection from deportation for foreign nationals who cannot safely return to their home countries because of extreme conflict, disaster or other critical situations. In November, the Department of Homeland Security announced its intention to end TPS for persons from Haiti and Nicaragua, and it is considering the same for individuals from El Salvador and Honduras.

At this difficult time for members of our community and their families, we want to provide what support we can. Here are two resources:

Charles W. Gilchrist Immigrant Resource Center

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/gilchrist

Montgomery County Legal Immigration Service Providers

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/partnerships/resources/files/mc_legal_providers_directory.pdf

At the City Council's next meeting on Jan. 10, we will consider a resolution calling on Congress to extend Temporary Protected Status and to protect DACA recipients.

Un Mensaje de la Alcaldesa sobre el Status de Protección Temporal

Al comenzar un nuevo año tomamos este tiempo para reafirmar nuestros valores como una comunidad inclusiva donde todas las personas son bienvenidos y para expresar nuestra oposición a los continuos ataques contra nuestros vecinos que son inmigrantes. Temas como inmigración se tienen que abordar con compasión y empatía para construir una comunidad fuerte, inclusiva y sana.

Estos miembros de nuestra comunidad que están siendo atacados son nuestros vecinos con Status de Protección Temporal (TPS). TPS es una forma de estatus migratorio creado por el Congreso en 1990 que proporciona autorización de empleo y protección contra la deportación para extranjeros que no pueden regresar con seguridad a sus países debido a conflictos extremos, desastre u otras situaciones críticas. En Noviembre el Departamento de Seguridad Nacional anuncio el propósito de terminar con Status de Protección Temporal para personas de Haiti y Nicaragua y además están considerando lo mismo para personas de El Salvador y Honduras.

Durante este tiempo difícil para miembros de nuestra comunidad y sus familias, queremos ofrecer el apoyo que podemos dar. Lo siguiente son dos recursos:

Charles W. Gilchrist Immigrant Resource Center (Centro de recursos de inmigración)

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/gilchrist

Montgomery County Legal Immigration Service Providers (Proveedores de servicios legales de inmigración)

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/partnerships/resources/files/mc_legal_providers_directory.pdf

En la próxima reunión del Concejo Municipal el 10 de Enero vamos a considerar una resolución que pide al Congreso extender el Status de Protección Temporal y proteger los recipientes de DACA.

Message du Maire sur le Statut de protection temporaire (TPS)

Alors que nous entamons une nouvelle année, nous voulons réaffirmer nos valeurs en tant qu'une communauté accueillante et inclusive, et d'exprimer notre opposition aux attaques continues contre nos voisins immigrés. Les questions de approche telles que l'immigration avec la compassion et l'empathie sont principales en communautés fortes, incluses et en bonne santé de construction.

Ceux qui sont actuellement ciblés sont nos voisins avec le statut temporaire protégé (TPS) -- une forme de statut d'immigration créée par le Congrès en 1990 qui fournit l'autorisation d'emploi et de la protection de l'expulsion aux ressortissants étrangers qui ne peuvent rentrer en toute sécurité dans leurs pays d'origine à cause du conflit extrême, ou d'autre cas de force majeure. En novembre, le Department of Homeland Security a annoncé l'intention de mettre fin au TPS pour les personnes d'Haïti et du Nicaragua, et envisage la même chose pour les personnes originaires du Salvador et du Honduras.

En cette période difficile pour les membres de notre communauté et leurs familles, nous voulons fournir le soutien que nous pouvons. Voici deux ressources:

Charles W. Gilchrist Immigrant Resource Center

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/gilchrist

Montgomery County Legal Immigration Service Providers

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/partnerships/resources/files/mc_legal_providers_directory.pdf

Lors de la prochaine réunion du Conseil municipal le 10 janvier, nous examinerons une résolution demandant au Congrès d'accorder le statut de protection temporaire et à protéger les bénéficiaires de la DACA.

Dockless bikeshare now available in Takoma Park

**By Jeremy Dickey, Media Specialist,
City of Takoma Park**

If you've traveled around Takoma Park the past month or so you've probably noticed green, orange, and yellow bikes in all sorts of places. Montgomery County has partnered with several dockless bike-share companies to increase access to

sustainable transportation options in our area. Unlike the Capital Bikeshare, the new dockless bikes do not rely on fixed biking stations and can be parked almost anywhere. Customers use a mobile phone application to locate a nearby bike with GPS. The process for using this new

BIKESHARE □ Page 9



Community leaders and City staff attend racial equity training

Takoma Park's entire senior leadership team, all three police captains, and five out of seven Councilmembers kicked off the month of December by attending racial equity training to learn how we can make our community even more inclusive. To learn more about the racial equity lens being applied to all government decisions, takomaparkmd.gov/city.../racial-equity-in-takoma-park.

Car Free Challenge winners

In November, the winners from Takoma Park's first Car Free Challenge, a five-month competition to help Takoma Park reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation and reduce the number of cars on the road, were honored for their efforts in being sustainability champions. Thanks to all who participated. Together, participants saved 33,045 pounds of CO2. The following individuals deserve special recognition for their car free efforts:

Most Miles Walking

1. Sharon Milgram, 285 miles
2. Jason Damweber, 267 miles
3. John Sener, 219 miles

Most Miles Biking

1. Jim Hahn, 2,819 miles
2. Christopher Dame, 2,219 miles
3. Jorge Brito, 1,616 miles

Most Metro Miles

1. Mimi Ikle-Khalsa, 1,563 miles
2. Lori Hill, 1,216 miles
3. Sharon Milgram, 1,083 miles

For team results and additional information about the challenge, visit takom



Sharon Milgram, who logged the most miles walking during the challenge, is congratulated by Takoma Park Mayor Kate Stewart.

aparkmd.gov/government/sustainability/car-free-challenge. While the challenge might be over for now, you can still be car-free. Try substituting a few of your regular errands done by car with biking, walking, carpooling, or taking the bus, train or metro.

Calligraphy Art Exhibition

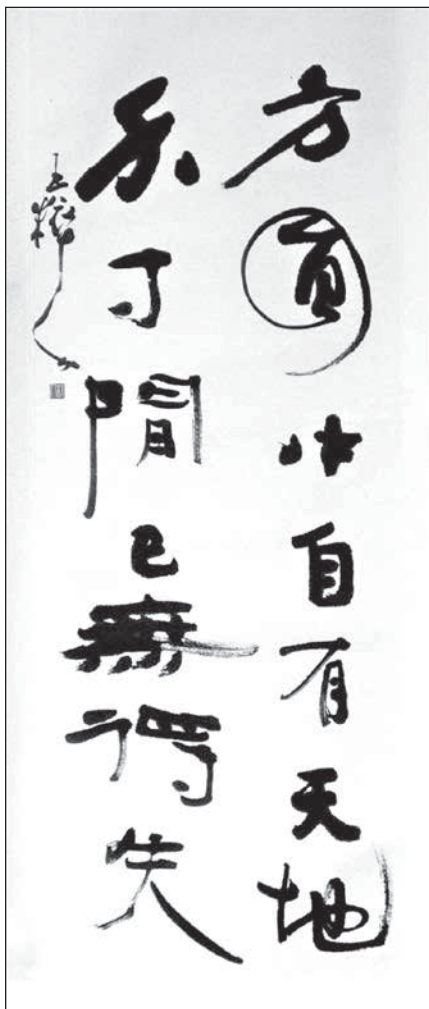
Letters: Modern Calligraphy and Intercultural Communication

January 4 - March 4, 2018

Takoma Park Community Center

Calligraphy has developed in different forms in diverse cultures across the world, transforming letters and words into beautiful artwork that communicates with its own voice and passion. A diverse mix of artists will offer their contemporary interpretations of calligraphy in this exhibition organized by Nahid Tootoonchi, an Iranian-American graphic designer and associate professor at Towson University. She taught an advanced typography course that introduced students to various writing styles, including Chinese, Devanagari, Hebrew and Farsi.

"I have always been fascinated by the magical effect of pen and ink on paper and the vast potential of letter forms, not only to convey meaning as language but also to create art based on its shape, form and flow of movement for self-expression," Tootoonchi said. "As a graphic designer, I experienced the replacement of traditional tools and handmade works by computers and software. With the advent of the Internet and the constant flood of information, I find a meditative state in calligraphy."



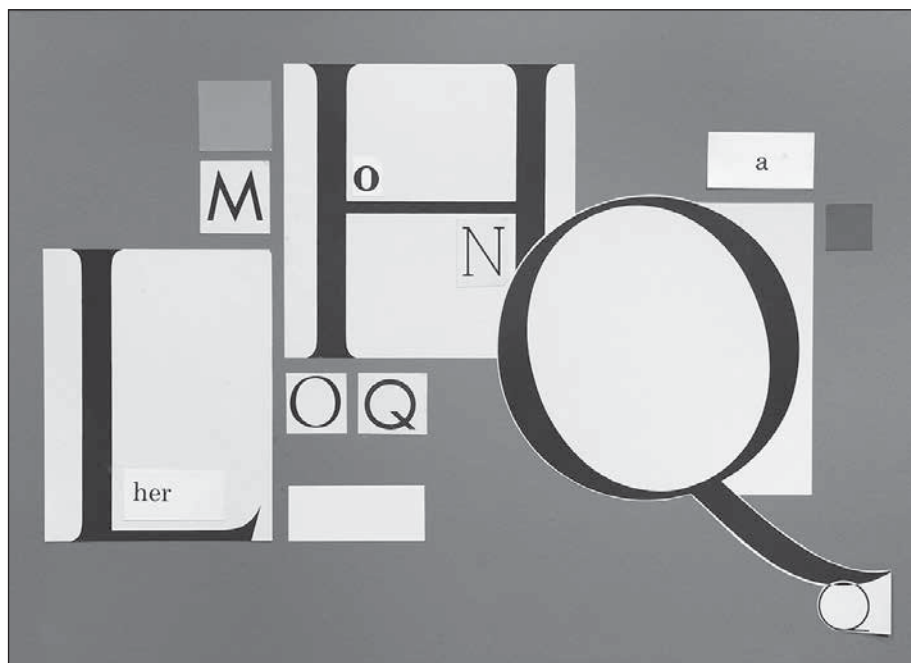
John Wang, *Square & Round*

Her students' artwork will be showcased in this exhibition along with artwork by Tootoonchi and five professional artists, including Riva Brown, Ruth Lozner, Manzar Moghbeli, Shanthi Chandrasekar and John Wang, three of whom taught workshops in the typography class.

More than 40 pieces of artwork will be displayed in the exhibition in galleries throughout the Takoma Park Community Center. Light refreshments will be provided along with an opportunity to meet some of the artists.



Nahid Tootoonchi, *Sun*



Ruth Lozner, *The Other LHOQQ*



THE ARTS

Community Stories Festival Shorts Showcase I (encore screening)

Thursday, Jan. 11, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

Free event – Donations welcome

This collection of 11 shorts, which premiered at the Community Stories Festival last year, includes documentaries by professional filmmakers and by first-time filmmakers who participated in Docs in Progress' video production workshops. The films highlight the joys and struggles of local people and organizations, revealing the common threads that weave our community together. Some of the filmmakers will discuss their films in a Q&A after the screening. Here's a brief look at a few of the shorts:

The Vinyl Underground by Ellen Daniels, Monique Isaac, and Priyanka Pardasani. Founded in 1974 in Takoma Park, Joe's Record Paradise is one of the few remaining independent record stores in the D.C.

area that survived the advent of CDs and proliferation of digital audio files. The store owner talks about his father's role in creating the store and its long storied history.

Making of the Marvin Gaye Mural - 7th & S St. by Amy Corrine. Local artist Aniekan Udofia's quest to honor musician Marvin Gaye started with a street mural that was lost when a new condo covered it during a recent wave of gentrification in D.C.'s Shaw neighborhood. But Gaye's irrepressible musical spirit survived when Udofia persevered and painted a new mural of Gaye across the street next to the Hollywood Barber Shop.

The Potter Violin Company by Zahra Ahmed, Khayla Deans, and Jabir Hassen. The Potter Violin Company made a risky move into the beautiful but crumbling Blair Mansion in Takoma Park, choosing a historic building rather than a strip mall. The longtime company has supported musicians both young and old by selling and tuning stringed instruments.



We Are Takoma Cultural Series: Call for Proposals

The City's *We Are Takoma* arts series has issued a call for proposals for programs for its 2018-2019 cultural calendar. If you are a musician, dancer, artist, actor, performer or lecturer, we want to hear from you! Application forms are available online at takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/arts-and-humanities. The deadline for performance and lecture submissions is Monday, Feb. 5. The deadline is March 2 for visual artists and May 4 for poets. A stipend is provided to performers and lecturers. Please share your creative spirit with Takoma Park.

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, Jan. 18, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

Free event – Donations welcome

Jason Gebhardt and Clara B. Jones will read some of their original poems at this popular monthly event. Gebhardt studied at The Writer's Center in Bethesda, and his poems have appeared in several literary journals. As a woman of color, Jones has examined issues of identity and power through her poetry. Her poetry collection titled *Ferguson and Other Satirical Poems About Race* won the 2015 Bitchin' Kitsch Chapbook Competition.



RECREATION

TOTS

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Zumbini

A happy hour for you and your baby? Created by Zumba and BabyFirst for kids ages 0-4, the Zumbini program combines music, dance, and educational tools for 45 minutes of can't stop, won't stop bonding, learning, and fun. Zumbini is an early childhood education program using music and movement to promote cognitive, social, emotional, and motor skill development for children, while creating the ultimate bonding experience for them and their caregivers. Each session includes a \$35 Zumbini bundle (paid to the instructor), which includes an original songbook, making it easy to sing along, and a musical CD to listen to at home. Instructor: Miko Machingura

Heffner Park Community
42 Oswego Avenue
Newborn-4 years
7 Week Session
Thursdays & Saturdays, 10 – 11:15 a.m.
January 4-February 17
Resident: \$100 / Non-resident: \$120

New Class!

Takoma Park Community Center
Art Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
8 and older
8 Week Session
Thursdays, January 4-February 22
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Resident: \$150 / Non-resident: \$170
(Fee covers: one child and one parent)



Clay for Kids

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

Takoma Park Community Center
Art Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
4-13 years
6 Week Sessions
Monday Session: January 8-February 26
Wednesday Session: January 10-February 14
4 – 5 p.m.
Resident: \$130 / Non-resident: \$150

MAKE/Shift Studio I: Art Inspirations

Elementary students create exciting two- and three-dimensional projects in this after school class. Lessons include drawing, painting, collage, assemblage and mixed media. Every class focuses on a different subject and medium. Children learn to express themselves and engage in visual problem solving while producing beautiful works using color, shape, line, texture and pattern. Contemporary and historical artists provide inspiration for this art program geared for 3rd through 6th graders. Beginning students welcome. Materials fee included. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman

Takoma Park Community Center
Art Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
8-11 years
6 Week Sessions
Thursdays, January 11-February 22
4 – 5:45 p.m.
(No class 1/25)
Resident: \$155 / Non-resident: \$175

MAKE/Shift Studio II: Drawing and Watercolor

Learn to draw with black and white and colored drawing materials; paint with watercolors; and explore mixed media approaches to representational imagery. Subjects will include still life, portrait, landscape and floral studies. Focus of class appropriate for students interested in developing a portfolio for entry into the Visual Art Center at Albert Einstein High School. Materials/model fee of \$25, paid directly to the instructor, will be due on the first day of class. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman

Takoma Park Community Center
Art Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
11-14 years
6 Week Session

Tuesdays, January 9-February 13
3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Resident: \$145 / Non-resident: \$165

CAMP



Dribble, Pass & Shoot Basketball Spring Camp

Emphasizing individual improvement is one of the guiding philosophies of camp. Campers will be provided with excellent coaching, which allows each participant to develop a sense of pride and individual accomplishment. The level of instruction will be adjusted to fit the individual needs of each participant. Participants must pack a lunch. Paperwork will need to be completed prior to the first day of camp. Before and after care is available at additional cost. Instructor: Joe Dobbins

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
5-12 years
1 Week Session
Monday-Friday, March 26-March 30
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
\$200

YOUTH

ART

Ceramic Wheel Throwing: Parent and Child

Parent and child will work together on the potter's wheel and learn about throwing pots. The food-safe pieces will be fired and glazed. One parent per one child please. Children must be at least eight years old. There will be a \$25 materials fee per family due the first day of class. Instructor: Alice Sims

Taming Those First-Time Camp Butterflies

By Michael Kurland, Camp Recreation Supervisor

The benefits of sending kids to camp are abundant, but when nervous kids become overwhelmed about heading off to this new adventure, fears and anxiety can sometimes undermine feelings of excitement. Before letting your homesick youngster wiggle out of going to camp, pack up these tips on how to tackle summer camp anxiety. Summer camp is a positive way for kids to gain life skills and independence, but not all campers are excited about getting away.

Although your own summer camp memories make you happy, be wary of pushing your child to go to summer camp before he or she is ready. Going to summer camp is often a child's first step towards independence. The experience is a great way for children to develop self-reliance in a nurturing, safe and supportive environment created just for them. While it's exciting for the child, parents often experience anxiety about letting their kids go to camp and navigate without them.

When you are choosing a camp, ask questions and get to know the staff. Ask about the camp's philosophy and how the staff implements it. Make sure the philosophy reflects your own family's value system. Find out about the camp staff's background and the staff training, the age of the counselors and the counselor-to-camper ratio. Learning about the program will ease some anxieties you may have. Keep in mind that camp staff has your child's best interests in mind and the skill to guide your child towards an appropriate level of independence, self-confidence and success.

Remember that kids often get over the adjustment to a new environment before parents. While your child is



adjusting to camp, don't make pick-up deals and offer to rescue your child. Instead, offer positive encouragement that you know he or she will have a successful summer.

Following these tips will lead to you and your child

having an experience that will be fun, educational and pleasurable. See you in June!

In-person and online registration begins at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 5 for residents and Monday, Feb. 12 for non-residents.

DRAMA & THEATER

On Stage: Scene Study

Develop your skills as an actor! Looking to dig deep into character and acting technique? This class is comprised of acting exercises/ warmups and application of acting theory to scenes in the theatre space at the Takoma Park Community Center. Students will partner up and work on one scene for the 8-week session. We will be applying acting theory from Konstantin Stanislavski and Sanford Meisner, and we have lots of great material from award winning plays and popular films for teen students. Instructor: Gretchen Weigel

Takoma Park Community Center
 Auditorium
 11-15 years
 8 Week Session
 Mondays, January 22-March 19
 (No class 2/19)
 3:30 – 5 p.m.
 Resident: \$168 / Non-resident: \$188

EDUCATIONAL & DEVELOPMENT

Babysitting Class

This class is designed for those interested in learning more about babysitting. Topics covered include CPR, fire safety, First Aid, infant and child care, and personal safety. A certificate will be issued upon completion of all five classes and the exam. Cosponsored by the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department. All classes will be held at the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire House. Instructor: Chief Jarboe
 Takoma Park Volunteer Fire House
 7201 Carroll Avenue
 11-13 years
 5 Week Session
 Mondays, February 5-March 12
 (No class 2/19)
 7 – 9 p.m.
 Free

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 Thompson
 Takoma Park Community Center
 Dance Studio
 7500 Maple Avenue
 4-16 years
 10 Week Session
 Saturdays, January 6-March 10
Beginners: 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.
Advanced: 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
 Resident: \$129 / Non-resident: \$149

Taekwondo

Taekwondo is composed of three parts as shown in the English spelling, though it is one word in Korean. “Tae” means “foot,” “leg,” or “to step on;” “Kwon” means “fist” or “fight;” and “Do” means the “way” or “discipline.” So it can mean the way or discipline of foot and fist. Martial arts are studied for various reasons, including combat skills, cultivation (meditation), mental discipline, character development and self-confidence. There is a one-time, non-refundable, \$40 uniform fee paid to the instructor at the first class. Instructor: Felix Lindeire
 Takoma Park Community Center
 Dance Studio
 7500 Maple Avenue
 6 years and older
 10 Week Session

Mondays, January 8-March 26
 6 – 7 p.m.
 Resident: \$145/Non-Resident: \$165

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
 16 and older
 7 Week Session
 Mondays, January 8-February 26
 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
 Resident: \$75 / Non-resident: \$85

Collage

Have fun working with found, purchased and altered papers, while learning how collage methods can enhance your art making process, whatever medium you use. You will be introduced to a variety of collage techniques, work with elements and principals of design, and explore creative two- and three-dimensional assembly. Instruction will be given in surface preparation, adhesives, color theory and composition and is suitable for beginners as well as more experienced students. Basic materials (adhesives, supports, papers and paints) will be available (Some personal or found collage elements may be desirable in addition to materials provided.). A materials fee of \$30, paid directly to the instructor, will be due on the first day of class. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman
 Takoma Park Community Center
 Art Studio
 7500 Maple Avenue
 16 and older
 6 Week Session
 Tuesdays, January 9-February 13
 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
 Resident: \$210 / Non-resident: \$240

Make a Teapot Workshop

Learn how to make a teapot in this three-day workshop. Clay and tools will be provided by a \$10 materials fee, which is due at the first workshop. The teapot will be made, assembled and glazed. Participants must attend all three days. Instructor: Art for the People

Takoma Park Community Center
 Art Studio
 7500 Maple Avenue
 16 and up
 3 Day Session
 Saturday, March 10
 Sunday, March 11
 Saturday, March 17
 1 – 4 p.m.
 Resident: \$100 / Non-resident: \$120

Paint a Masterpiece

In this uncritical and instructive painting class, we will look at what you believe a masterpiece to be and why. Examples will

be shown or bring your own. We can explore through art history why some art works are considered great. Then you will choose a painting and paint your version of it. You will choose your art materials and bring them to class. Therefore, there are no material fees. Classes will consist of part discussion and part painting. By exploring a masterpiece, you will learn more about it and increase your own skills. Instructor: Art for the People
 Takoma Park Community Center
 Art Studio
 7500 Maple Avenue
 16 and up
 5 Week Session
 Saturdays, January 13-February 10
 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 Resident: \$100 / Non-resident: \$120

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Writing Life Stories

Do you want to share important life experiences through your writing? Our stories are part of what makes us human. Whether you are a lifelong writer or a beginner, this class is for you! This class will help you jump-start your memories, organize your ideas and edit your work. Bring a notebook or laptop to each class and be ready to have fun. Instructor: Barbara Rosenblatt
 Takoma Park Community Center
 Rose Room
 7500 Maple Avenue
 16 and older
 8 Week Session
 Wednesdays, January 10-February 28
 7 – 8:30 p.m.
 Resident: \$125 / Non-resident: \$145

FITNESS



Cardio Kickboxing

Don’t miss out on the fun! We have a class that is in full swing. Cardio Kickboxing is a great class to help you maintain your summer beach body. This class will improve your strength, aerobic fitness, flexibility, coordination and balance. Great music and a professional instructor will move you through the workout.
 Takoma Park Recreation Center
 Gymnasium
 7315 New Hampshire Avenue
 16 years and older
 Thursdays 7:45 – 8:45 p.m
 Saturdays 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.
 January 11-March 3
 \$85

Whine Up Time

Whine up is a time to free up yourself in this raw energy, action-packed movement class that feels more like a party set to Afro/Carib rhythms. Class begins with a deep warm up opening up the hips and core and then continues with across-the-floor steps and freestyle techniques. This is a free-spirited, cultural rich movement class open to all. This class is drop-in only. Instructor: Miko Machingura
 Takoma Park Community Center
 Azalea Room
 7500 Maple Avenue
 18 and older
 6 Week Session
 Saturdays, January 6-February 10
 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.
 Drop-in: \$10
Yoga (Iyengar): Beginners
 This class will introduce to you Yoga as taught by the Iyengar Method. In this method the emphasis is on alignment and precision. The basic postures are introduced, and awareness

is created in the whole body. As awareness of every part of the body is felt, so also energy is generated, and the breath is engaged. Instructor: Tehseen Chettri
 Takoma Park Community Center
 Dance Studio
 7500 Maple Avenue
 18 and older
 13 Week Session
 Wednesdays, January 3-March 28
 6 – 7:15 p.m.
 Drop-in: \$15 (Check or credit card only; No cash)



Yoga (Iyengar): Intermediate

Practice and persistence brings transformation! After achieving a firm foundation from the beginner’s class, a student wishes to go forward in her/his exploration of the discipline of yoga. This intermediate level class offers a deeper penetration of the consciousness from the periphery towards the core. The more advanced postures are introduced, and inversions are included. The practice of pranayama (breathing) is included in the session. Mats and props are provided. Instructor: Tehseen Chettri
 Takoma Park Community Center
 Dance Studio
 7500 Maple Avenue
 18 and older
 13 Week Session
 Wednesdays, January 3-March 28
 7:30 – 9 p.m.
 Resident: \$180 / Non-resident: \$210
 Drop-in: \$15 (Check or credit card only; No cash)

MARTIAL ARTS

Kung Fu (Adult)

Bungo Fu is the Jamaican style of Kung Fu. Come learn meditation, self-defense, improved flexibility and self-awareness. This ancient form of self-defense provides physical and mental exercise, which could help the students defend themselves by strengthening hand-and-eye coordination as well as assist with the maintaining of balance as they get older. The student will gain physical fitness as well as mental and spiritual strength. Instructor: Master Thompson
 Takoma Park Community Center
 Dance Studio
 7500 Maple Avenue
 17 and up
 10 Week Sessions
 Mondays, January 8-March 26
 (No class 1/15 & 2/19)
 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.
 Resident: \$150 / Non-resident: \$180

MULTI MEDIA

Video Production and Editing

Learn to create high-quality video using professional software. Come learn the structure of video production from preproduction and production to postproduction and learn to create your own story. This class is designed for all levels of expertise and teaches the basic techniques of videotaping and editing. Instructor: Isaac Asare
 Takoma Park Community Center
 Multi Media Lab
 7500 Maple Avenue

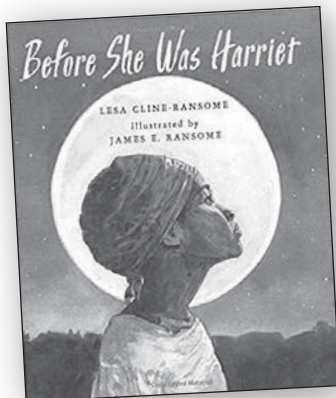
LIBRARY



Upcoming author program

Author Lesa Cline-Ransome and her husband, illustrator James Ransome, will present *Before She Was Harriet*, their new picture book biography of Harriet Tubman, on Thursday, Feb. 8 at 7 p.m.

In the book, which is geared towards ages 5–8, Cline-Ransome spotlights the many different roles that Harriet Tubman had during her life. Known for her life-saving work as a conductor on the Underground Railroad, Tubman also was a well-known



suffragist and a spy for the Union troops during the Civil War. In its review, *Kirkus* especially praised Ransome's watercolor illustrations, which "reveal Tubman's humanity, determination, drive and hope."

Politics & Prose will be selling copies of the book at our event, but the program is free, and no purchase is required to attend. Join us at this special event – a great way to celebrate Black History Month!

New African Hip-Hop music in the library

By Nic Fontem, Library Manager, Technical Services

Many patrons have expressed interest in our contemporary African music CD collection, and it has been our desire to increase the collection with selections from different regions of the continent. We try to acquire contemporary music that graces many discotheques and dance parties. This latest batch is mostly hip-hop, whose flavor would easily find a place in boom boxes in the U.S. as well, thanks to the discernible American Rap influence.

Our effort to grow the collection, how-

ever, has been hampered by the scarcity of consumer market outlets. The growing trend in the music market has witnessed the closing of physical music and book stores. The sources where music CDs were easily available for shopping have been replaced by online stores, but worse, these online music stores have begun selling songs by the slice or per download. This makes procuring music in CD format quite a challenge, especially African music, whose niche in the popular marketplace had al-

ways been something of a rare species in the first place. Even worse, the producers'



HIP-HOP □ Page 11

CALENDAR

Circle Time

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

Spanish Circle Time

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

Led by Senora Geiza

Bedtime Stories & a Craft

Thursday, Jan. 4, 7 p.m.

Petites Chansons/French Circle Time

Saturday, Jan. 6, 10:30 a.m.

Join Madame Marie for our monthly program of rhymes and songs in French.

LEGO Club

Sunday, Jan. 7, 1:30–3 p.m.

Building fun for ages 3–10.

Bad Kitty Author Nick Bruel

Monday, Jan. 8, 7:30 p.m.

Comics Jam

Tuesday, Jan. 9, 4 p.m.

WinterQuest Wrap-Up Party

Thursday, Jan. 11, 7:30 p.m.

Kids Art

Sunday, Jan. 21, 2–3 p.m.

Caldecott Club

Monday, Jan. 22, 7 p.m.

Join us as we re-read our finalists and choose our mock 2018 Caldecott Medal winner.

Mock Caldecott for Adults

Saturday, Jan. 27, 1–4 p.m.

Come vote on our mock choice for the 2018 Caldecott Medal.

Lemonade and cookies served.

Alternative Games

Sunday, Jan. 28, 2–4 p.m.

Join Dave Burbank for a session of *Dungeons & Dragons* and alternative games.

Ages 8 up, registration required:

www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents

Friends Reading Group

Wednesday, Jan. 31, 7:30 p.m.

Join the group in the Hydrangea Room to discuss *The Wizard of Earthsea* by Ursula Le Guin.

Coming up....

- Thursday, Feb. 8, 7 p.m.
Picture Book Creators Lesa and James Cline Ransome discuss *Before She Was Harriet*, their new biography of Harriet Tubman for young readers.

Early literacy Wednesdays

It's never too early to start kids on the road to literacy. That's why we offer a number of programs, including weekly Circle Times and Spanish Circle Times, geared to very young children.

We also host age-specific early literacy programs each Wednesday morning, from 11–11:30 a.m. October through June. The programs are geared to three different age groups: Babytime (ages birth through 12 months); Wonderful Ones (ages 12 months through 24 months); and Twosies (ages 24 months through 36 months).

The programs are filled with songs and rhymes, plus a book or two (or 3 or 4 for the Twosies, who also get to do a craft). Once the program is ended, young participants and their grown-ups are welcome to stay and play and get to know each other. It's a great way to make some new friends.

Each month, we feature a different age group in these Wednesday morning programs. In January, for example, we're hosting the Babytime program. In February, we'll switch to Wonderful Ones, and then in March, it's time for Twosies. In April, we start the cycle over again with Babytime.

We deliberately keep these programs small so that participants can get to know each other – and so we can get to know them. So spaces are limited, and registration is required. Registration for each program begins the first of the previous month; for example, registration for the Wonderful Ones in February begins Jan. 1, while registration for Twosies in March begins Feb. 1.

To register, go to www.takomapark.info/library.

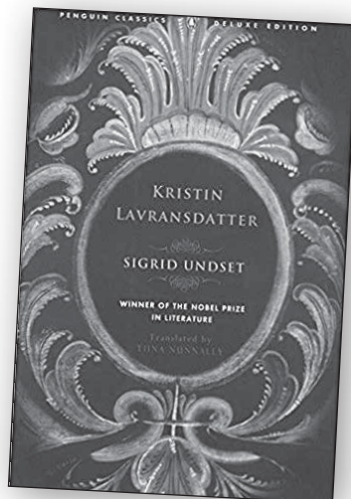
Big Book Club announces next selection

By Phillip F. Schewe

Literature allows you to see what it's like to be another person living in another time. This imaginative exercise will often enhance your own life. That's why millions of books are read each year, to obtain all that vicarious living.

Book clubs further this process. Right here in Takoma Park, the Big Book club tackles two books each year, one in fall and one in the spring. We invite an expert on that book to address the club, and then in the weeks following we meet for several discussion sessions.

The book chosen for spring 2018



is *Kristin Lavransdatter*, a trilogy by Sigrid Undset (1882 - 1949) about life in Medieval Scandinavia, especially one woman's tribulations and her eventual conversion to Catholicism. These novels were the principal work that earned Undset the Nobel Prize for literature in 1928.

An introductory speaker will soon be announced, and copies of the trilogy are available in the library. Discussions will begin in March or April. All are welcome to attend the Friends Big Book club discussions!

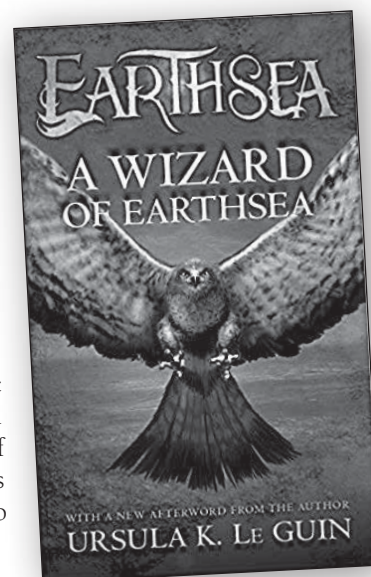
Friends to explore a timeless fantasy

By Tim Rahn

The Friends Book Group will discuss Ursula Le Guin's *The Wizard of Earthsea* on Jan. 31, at 7:30 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room of the Takoma Park Community Center.

Since its publication in 1968 for ages 11 and up, *The Wizard of Earthsea* has become a classic fantasy and one for all ages. As Le Guin herself as said, "Fantasy crosses generation lines like no other literature."

The Wizard of Earthsea tells the journey of Ged, a boy born with magical powers, who must learn to balance his powers



or risk losing everything. Considered by many to be a *Bildungsroman*, the novel uses elements of Taoism and Jungian psychology to explore how we must confront and reconcile both external and internal demons.

Le Guin at 88 is still active as a writer and speaker. She has won numerous awards for her stories and novels including the Hugo, Nebula, and Locus awards. In recent years, she has been mentioned as a possible recipient of the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Though the Friends Reading Group is for adult readers, anyone is welcome to join the discussions. Additional copies of *The Wizard of Earthsea* are available in the Library.

BIKESHARE
From page 4

bikeshare is quick and easy. Although each dockless bikeshare company has its own process, many follow the same basic steps:
1. Download the dockless bikeshare mobile application.
2. Open the mobile application, create a profile, and locate a bike using GPS.
3. Unlock a bike by scanning a code and start the ride.
4. Park your bike in a responsible location and close your lock to end the trip.
For a complete overview of each company's process, we suggest you review their websites (links below) or mobile applications.
The dockless bikeshare pro-

gram in Montgomery County is still in the pilot stage and that means that their might be a few "speed bumps" along the way. It's important to remember these best practices while you are using the dockless bikeshare.
We hope this brief overview will help make the dockless bikeshare pilot go smoothly. As always, if we all do our part and are respectful of other's space and property, we can make this program a success. Takoma Park has a strong commitment to both sustainability and access for all, and we see these new bikeshare programs as a nice intersection of both. For further information or to submit a comment, visit Montgomery County's website: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/bikeshare. Happy and safe riding!

- 1. Don't block sidewalks or driveways when parking your bike. Dockless bikeshares only work if we all take responsibility and park in places that don't block car traffic, impede pedestrian access, or encroach on private property. If you see a bike in a place it should not be, you can contact the individual companies via email:
• LimeBike: support@limebike.com
• Ofo: cs@ofobike.com
• Spin: support@spin.pm
2. Direct any feedback about the program to the County's 311 line. This can be done by calling 240-777-0311 or visiting the website: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mc311.
3. Visit the dockless bikeshare company's website for more information. Whether you're riding with LimeBike (www.limebike.com), Ofo (www.ofo.com), Mobike (mobike.com/global), or Spin (www.spin.com), it's important you review the FAQs.
4. Remember bike safety! Wear a helmet, reflective clothing, and obey all bike laws wherever you go.



RECREATION
From page 7

16 and older
3 Week Session
Thursdays, January 11-January 25
6 - 9 p.m.
Resident: \$100 / Non-resident: \$120

55+

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, January 25
12 - 2 p.m.
Free



Game Room Open Play
The game room is available for adults age 55 and older to play pool, table tennis, basketball

arcade and other active games. The game room is a great place to join friends for lively conversation and just to "hang out" before, in-between and after classes during the day.
Takoma Park Community Center
Game Room
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Ongoing
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Thursdays: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Saturdays: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Free

Walking Group
Don't worry about the cold weather, and join your neighbors and friends for indoor lap walking. Drop-in. No registration is required.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
55 and older
Tuesdays, January 2-30
12 - 1 p.m.
Free

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

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

Takoma Park Community Center
Computer Lab
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older

3 Week Session
Wednesdays, January 17-31
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
\$10 (Plus a Takoma Park Library card)

SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

Cardio Groove Classes
High energy and fast-paced, low impact Aerobics that get the heart pumping and feet moving quickly, then a well-earned cool down and stretch. Moves follow the beat of music designed for Aerobics. Instructor: Nancy Nickell
Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Room
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Mondays, January 8-March 26
(No class 1/15, 2/19)
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Free
Tennis Fun and Fitness
This class blends exercise with learning or reviewing tennis skills utilizing special equipment for indoor play. All equipment provided, but you can bring your own racket. Instructor Coach SJ

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
55 and older
Thursdays, January 11-March 15
12 - 1 p.m.
Free

Zumba Gold
Zumba Gold was designed for the active senior with less intense dance routines for beginners and older adults using modified movements. Instructor: Yesika Flores

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio

7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Saturdays, January 13-March 17
2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Free

PETS

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Puppy Kindergarten
Early puppy socialization and training has been shown to help prevent behavior problems later on. Each class includes supervised, off-leash play for the puppies where you'll learn dog body language and appropriate play. The class will cover foundation behaviors (sit, down, stay, attention, etc.), leash manners, polite greetings, and socialization experiences. Instructor: Joyce Loebig
Heffner Park Community Center
42 Oswego Avenue
Dogs 8 weeks - 6 months
5 Week Sessions
Thursdays, January 4-February 1
6:45 - 7:45 p.m.
Resident: \$125 / Non-resident: \$145

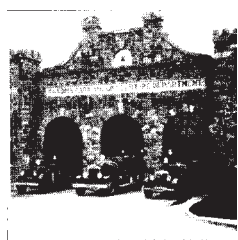


RECREATION Special Events

8th Annual Mid-Year Play Day
Attention! Attention! Yes, that's right. Let's Play America is preparing for the Eighth Annual Mid-Year Play Day. Come join us for a fun afternoon of indoor play. Free fun for all! It's time for you to let your hair down, put on your comfy clothes and get ready to play! To see a full listing of activities and performances, visit www.letsplayamerica.org. Brought to you with support from the City of Takoma Park.
Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Avenue
All Ages
Sunday, February 11
1 - 4 p.m.
Free

Fitness Expo
The Takoma Park Recreation Department staff is preparing for our 6th Annual Fitness Expo Saturday, April 7, at the Takoma Park Recreation Center. Come join us for an exciting day that will include demonstrations of our fitness programs as well as presentations from local community health and fitness organizations. The expo will kick off at 9 a.m. with our first 20-minute demonstrations. For additional information or to volunteer for this event, please contact Vincent Cain at 301-891-7289 or vincentc@takomaparkmd.gov.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
All Ages
Saturday, April 7
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Free

Annual Egg Hunt
Get your baskets ready and join the Takoma Park Recreation Department for an "egg" citing time! There are four age categories: 2 and under, 3-4 years old, 5-6 years old, and 7-8 years old. Games will begin at 10 a.m. and the hunt will begin at 11 a.m. sharp! Don't miss out. Don't forget to bring your basket to Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary School) for a morning of fun.
Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary School)
Saturday, March 31
10 - 11:15 a.m.
Free
Rain Date (if needed): April 2 at 4 p.m.



THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

As of Nov. 30, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue personnel assigned to the station responded to 488 fire-related incidents in 2017. The department also addressed or assisted with 2,818 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 3,306. Totals for 2016 were 548 and 2,825, representing a decrease of 67 incidents.

During November, Takoma Park volunteers put in a total of 1,303.5 hours of standby time at the station compared to 1,300.5 hours in November 2016. Grand totals as of November 2017, were 16,026.5 hours compared to 14,444 in 2016, an increase of 1,582.5 hours.

Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported that as of Dec. 28, 70 people have died in fires compared to 68 in 2016.

Hot vehicle deaths

As of Dec. 28, 42 children across the country have died in hot vehicles. It's a must that when you leave your vehicle, everyone leaves with you. This should also apply in the cold

weather. Check your back seat, and don't forget to lock your vehicle.

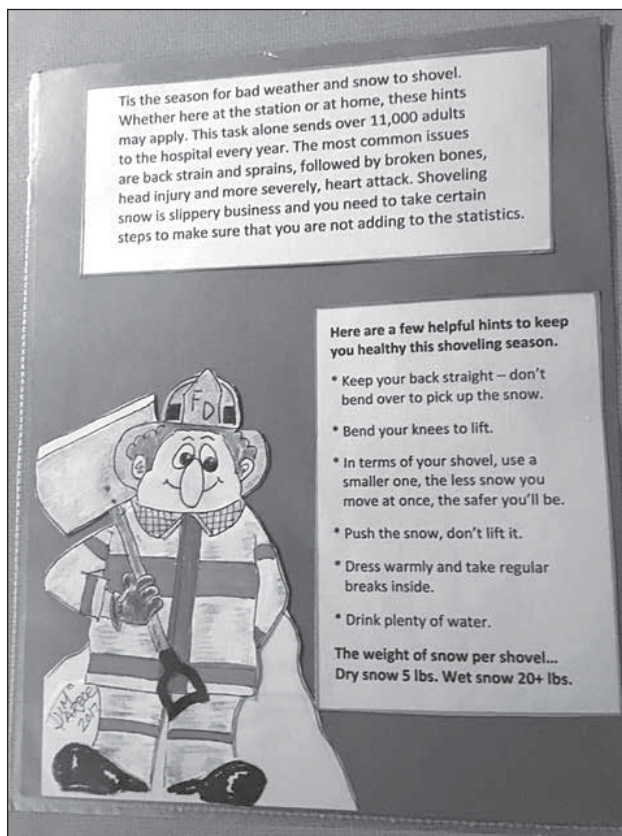
Safety message

The New Maryland Smoke Alarm Law went into effect on Jan. 1, 2018. All smoke alarms over 10 years old (manufacturer date inside) must be replaced with 10-year smoke alarms. Please check yours!

Dinners at Thanksgiving: Another successful year

The Takoma Park VFD, in partnership with TPVFD and Auxiliary and the Takoma Park Lions Club, provided funds to purchase 20 dinners. A special thanks to TPVFD members Steve Novik and Kiki Alfaro, also TPLC President Kirk Szymanski, for assisting Jim Jarboe with the pickup and delivery of the dinners.

Practice safety when shoveling snow (See tips in the photo below)



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.



Time for your annual winter safety check-up

By Claudine Schweber, Co-Chair, Emergency Preparedness Committee

It's time for an annual Winter Preparedness Check-Up (WPC). How well-prepared are you to manage snow, icy roads, freezing temperatures, power outages, and school/business closings? Can you contact kids in school, or have them reach you? Can you help elderly relatives, neighbors or someone who doesn't speak English? Here's a winter safety check list:

At home

If you must remain inside, you should have:

- Three days of supplies, including
 - Water for three to six days (about a gallon per person per day)
 - Non-perishable food that doesn't require refrigeration or cooking
 - Can opener that's hand-operated
- Lighting and radio, such as:
 - A flashlight or a lantern with working batteries
 - Portable radio that is battery-operated, solar-powered or hand-cranked
- Health support, including:
 - Prescription medication, sufficient supply for at least a week
 - Medical professionals' contact list
 - Copies of health insurance information, medical records, other health documents (easily accessible)
 - Contact information for nearest hospital and emergency personnel

Away from home

If you have to leave your home for several days, you will need:

- A "go bag" with the supplies listed above
- Games, books, or puzzles, etc. to keep busy if the internet is down
- Warm clothing, including a complete change of clothes/ underwear and sturdy shoes
- External contacts list
- Cell phone and charger

Communication/contact information

Make sure you have the following:

- An easily accessible emergency contact list inclusive of phone numbers and email addresses as well identifiers (such as cousin, neighbor, etc.)
- A list of out-of-area emergency contacts with name, relationship, and contact info (Be sure to tell these



people they are on your list!)

- Cell phone charged before the storm; consider getting a portable charger (and make sure it's ready for use)
- A land-line as back-up

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

You should have:

- Support for caregivers as well as the elderly
- Mobility help for those needing wheel chairs, special medical equipment
- Contact information for deaf interpreters
- Contact information for language translators

*Reminder: The Takoma Park Police Department's CARE program will call registered residents, who live alone or have special needs. To sign up, call 301-270-1100.

School information

Make sure you have:

- The school's emergency number
- Information about when the school becomes an overnight shelter
- Contact information for school personnel
- Method of contact to reach your child and for him/her to contact you
- Information for the school if someone else needs to pick up the student

As you review this checklist, make a note for yourself about the status of each item (yes, no, or in progress). Once you've completed your checklist, despite the preference for using technology, post paper copy of this information, so it's visible and accessible.

Have you passed your check-up? Questions or concerns? It's easy to contact us at tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7126.

Dance and sing away the winter blues at FSGW Mini-Fest

Sure, the days may be dark and cold, but here's something to look forward to: the annual Folklore Society of Greater Washington (FSGW) Midwinter Festival. For more than 10 years, Takoma Park residents and folklore enthusiasts in surrounding areas have enjoyed this day-long winter-doldrums mood-buster, featuring all kinds of music, dancing, workshops, storytelling, artisan makers and spontaneous jams on seven stages and in the hallways of Takoma Park Middle School (7611 Piney Branch Road).

Mark your calendars for Saturday, Feb. 3, and come join us inside where it will be cozy and warm. Bring your voices, rhythm and instruments; many of the events are participatory. Daytime festivities are from 12–6 p.m. followed by an evening concert and a dance beginning at 7:30 p.m. The kids will love this, and parents can take advantage of a maximum ticket rate for families.

The 2018 Midwinter Festival, also known as the Mini-Fest, will include six hours of fabulous concerts on the Main Stage, featuring the Squeezers, DC Ambience, Lyuti Chushki, and Washington Revels Maritime Voices. There will also be Storytelling Track with Ming Diaz, Janice Curtis Greene, Penelope Fleming, Bunjo Butler, Geraldine Buckley, Laura Bobrow, Miriam Nadel, the young and talented Twinbrook Tellers, and host Tim Liven-good, as well as an Audience Storyswap. In the Jams Room, festival attendees can enjoy a Gospel Sing and Shape Note Singing, a blues jam featuring musicians from Archie's Barbershop, and more.

The Traditional Song Room will delight



Photo: Steve Tuttle

Local fiddle trio MAELSTROM performed at last year's Mini-Fest.

with Linda Rice-Johnston singing Scottish tunes; Martha Burns performing old-time and cowboy songs; the harmonies of *Two Sisters*, ballad singers Guen and Liz Spilsbury; Celtic singer Connie McKenna with harpist Sue Richards; Stephen Winick and Don Stallone, whose repertoires includes songs of power, comedy, tragedy and love; Sarah White and Nora Rodes, two young singers from Pennsylvania rediscovering great old songs; Steve Woodbury, featuring 19th-century New England songs; and local favorites Darriel and Jocelyn Day, who mingle the old with the new. Be prepared to sing along and per-

haps to laugh and weep as the afternoon unfolds.

The Living Traditions track will spotlight Orfeia, a Balkan women's vocal ensemble; Michael Sevener and his daughter Patricia singing boleros and other songs in Spanish, Miles Spicer and Friends, Seán Heely playing the Scottish fiddle, Molly Hickman and Corinne Ducey, Severn Savage featuring a cappella song with audience participation, and Maryland Renaissance Festival regulars Cat and the Fiddle.

For the second year, a Family Room will offer special activities for the youngest fes-

tival goers with lots of participatory song and dance. Performers include Massive Donut, The All New Genetically Altered Jug Band, an introduction to dancing workshop with music by Sibling Rivalry and calling by Penelope Weinberger, a lullaby hour with Celtic harpist Abigail Selby, and an Open Mic for Kids Only (under 13). Then Bill Jenkins will sit on the floor and teach us how to get grooving with percussion.

In the Main Gym prepare to dance your socks off with six hours of opportunity to move your feet with an English Country Dance, Scandinavian, Morris, Tango, Scottish Country Dance, and perhaps even a Flamenco workshop. And there's more. In the Auxiliary Gym, there will be waltzing, couples dancing, contra and possibly a rollicking barn dance for all ages.

Finally, from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m., there will be two simultaneous evening programs. In the Main Gym, attendees can enjoy an evening of contras and squares with members of the Glen Echo Open Band. In the Cafetorium, a concert will be held featuring Potomac Revelers, The Rick Franklin Trio, Bill Destler, and Sara Murdoch. It will be a tuneful, engaging evening.

Ticket prices vary, depending on whether you want to come for the day, evening, or both and whether you are a member of the Folklore Society of Greater Washington. More information about tickets and the festival can be found at fsgw.org. To inquire about volunteering or becoming an FSGW member, contact April Blum at president@fsgw.org.

HIP-HOP

■ From page 8

web sites, when available, also follow the trend of selling by download and not by album collection.

That notwithstanding, we recently acquired some two dozen African dance music CDs for the library. The selections we found are mostly from Nigerian hip-hop and rap artists, which is no accident because this is the genre prevalent on today's dance floors across the continent and in the diaspora. Contemporary African dance music is heavily dominated by Nigerian artists with dancehall hip-hop brands.

Several factors belie Nigeria's rise in the popular music paradigm. First, unlike in the West, where internet is readily available and music enthusiasts can purchase songs or download music online, internet is still a hard-to-find commodity in many African settings, both in non-ur-



ban areas and major cities. However, the vacuum created by the absence of internet service is filled with cellphones, and their access reaches many communities.

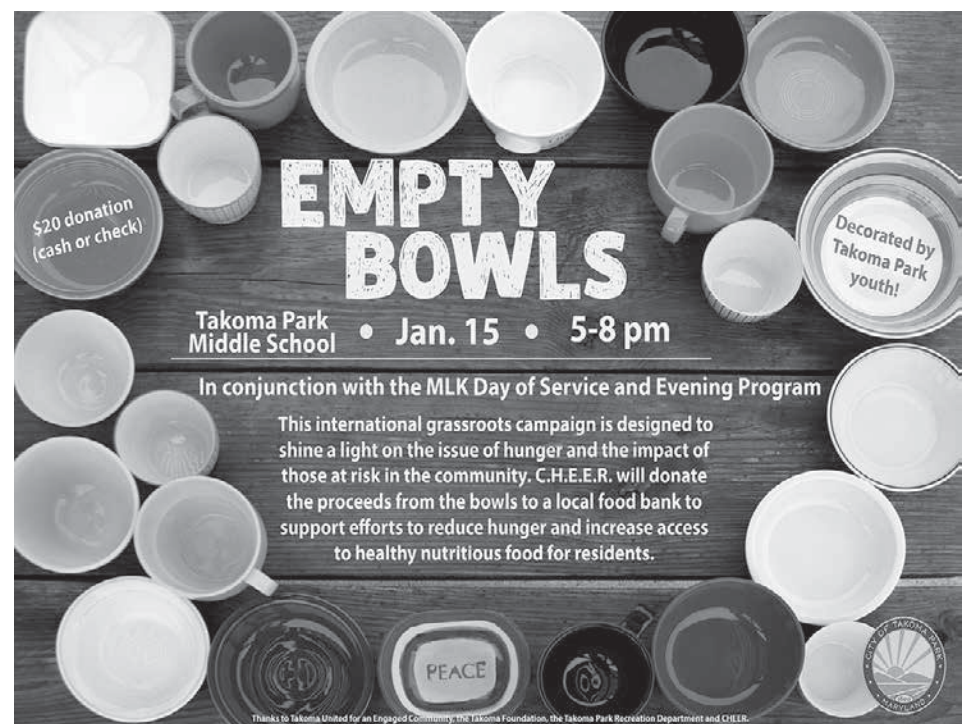
Cellphone service providers like MTN and Vodaphone have resorted to making downloads commercially available through their networks, even as ring tones. In South Africa for instance, MTN, one of the biggest service providers, sponsors the Annual Hype Awards for music. Vodacom uses hip-hop in their advertising campaigns. The response has been huge, particularly among young people, who happen to be the biggest segment of consumers of hip-hop music. Cellphone networks understand that hip-hop is big among youth and thus have made them their target audience.

Another factor responsible for the rapid growth of hip-hop in the continent is the proliferation of celebrated DJs. DJ Jimmy Jatt, for instance, was responsible for scouting some of the earliest hip-hop talent in Nigeria for pioneer labels. DJ

Howie Tee famously discovered P-Square. Other aficionados like the Ivoirian, DJ Arafat (or Arafat Muana, born as Ange Didier Houon) have been influential in the growth of the *Coupé-Décalé* music brand. Another group that has defined the new Nigerian sound is producers, as some of them release albums. Prominent producer maestros include Don Jazzy, WizBoy, OJB Jezreel, Omololu, Sarz, Sheyi Akerele,

Beatz duo of Ozezi & Okiemute Oniko, and Doyinsola Adeshola.

Our recent picks include artistes like 2Face Idibia, Flavour, Asa, Davido, 9ice, Wande Coal, Blackface Naija, MC Loph, Olamide, 2-Shotz and Alaga Ibile. We hope patrons would find the new additions refreshing and enjoyable as we continue the effort to grow the collection.



JANUARY '18

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 February issue is January 12, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning January 26. To submit calendar items, email tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov. "TP Community Center" is the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park. All addresses are in Takoma Park or Takoma, D.C., unless otherwise noted.

PUBLIC MEETINGS OF NOTE

City Council

City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Jan. 10, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Jan. 17, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Jan. 24, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Jan. 31, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium
Detailed agendas are always available for review online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas.

Montgomery County Biking Master Plan Hearing

Thursday, Jan. 25, 6–9 p.m.
Montgomery County Planning Dept., 8787 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring
The public is invited to comment on the draft plan at the Jan. 25 hearing. Sign up online to testify beginning Jan. 15 at montgomeryplanningboard.org/meetings/signup-to-testify. Comments may also be submitted via email at mcp-chair@mncppc.org.

New Years - City Offices Closed

Monday, Jan. 1
All City offices and facilities will be closed Monday, Jan. 1, for the New Year's holiday. The Takoma Park Police Department is open 24/7 for emergency services.

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - City Offices Closed

Sunday, January 14 - Monday, Jan. 15
All City offices and facilities will be closed Sunday, Jan. 14 - Monday, Jan. 15, for the Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The Takoma Park Police Department is open 24/7 for emergency services.

Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry

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

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Circle Time

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.
A beloved local tradition, the 30-minute program of songs, fingerplays, rhymes, movement exercises and stories teaches early literacy concepts in a fun way. The program is geared for infants through preschoolers and their grown-ups.
Takoma Park Maryland Library



The Spirit Club

Wednesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Therapeutic recreation class for Takoma Park residents 17 and older
This class is designed for adults with developmental/neurologic challenges. For more information, contact Jared Ciner at jciner@spiritclub.com or 303-883-4364.
TPCC Lilac Room
Free

Spanish Circle Time

Thursdays, 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Join Senora Geiza for a 30-minute program highlighting basic Spanish vocabulary through songs and rhymes.
Takoma Park Maryland Library

Kid's Night Out

First and third Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Fun and games for kids

Teen Night

Second and fourth Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Games and activities just for teens

Takoma Park Farmers Market

Sundays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Year-round
Laurel and Carroll avenues in Old Town
Locally grown produce, baked goods, meats, cheeses

Community Self Defense

Wednesdays, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
6836 New Hampshire Ave., Takoma Park
Certified Gracie Jiu Jitsu Black Belt instruction
Free and open to all

Parents of Special Needs Adults (POSNA)

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

Let's Play America: Takoma Splash & Play Pool Party

Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018, 2 – 4 p.m.
(Volunteers 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.)
Piney Branch Elementary School
A day for people of all abilities, ages and backgrounds to have the opportunity to play in the pool for fun and relaxation.

Comics Jam

Tuesday, Jan. 9, 4 p.m.
Takoma Park Library
Come have fun reading comics on the big screen with our comics expert Dave Burbank. At the end of each Comics Jam programs, Dave takes "drawing requests" from the audience. Comics Jam is held on the second Tuesday of each month, September through June, at 4 p.m. No registration required.

Women Uncorked

Wednesday, Jan. 10, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Women Uncorked is a gathering for women only, talking about sex – the science, the social, the politics, the personal. It's a safe place to break free of cultural taboos on talking honestly and personally about sexual topics; a place to laugh and enjoy talking about sex in a group with no judgement — and no one saying "that's TMI!"
Rhizome DC, 6950 Maple St. NW
www.women-uncorked.com
\$10

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service & Evening Celebration

Monday, Jan. 15, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.; 5–7:30 p.m.
Volunteers will remove trash and invasive vines from at two locations: 1. Takoma Woods (Meet at the Darwin Avenue parking lot between Piney Branch Elementary and Takoma Park Middle. Bring gloves; trash bags provided.) 2. Dorothy's Woods (Meet at the corner of lower Woodland and Circle Avenues. Bring gloves; trash bags provided.) For more information about Takoma Woods, contact Howard Kohn (kohn@erols.com). For more information about Dorothy's Woods, contact Lee Howard (cubmaster@takomaparkscouts.org).

The Evening Celebration will be in the multi-purpose room at Takoma Park Middle from 5–7:30 p.m. A potluck supper begins at 5 p.m. and will be followed by a program of civil rights songs and tributes to local volunteers. Ward Six Councilmember Talisha Searcy will deliver the welcome and serve as emcee.

Empty Bowls

Monday, Jan. 15, 5–8 p.m.
Takoma Park Middle School, 7611 Piney Branch Rd., Silver Spring
In conjunction with Takoma United for an Engaged Community's Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service and evening program, the City of Takoma Park will host Empty Bowls. Guests donate \$20 (cash or check) and receive a bowl designed by Takoma Park youth. C.H.E.E.R. will donate the proceeds of the event to the local food bank to support efforts to reduce hunger and increase access to healthy and nutritious food.

Mock Caldecott for Adults

Saturday, Jan. 27, 1 – 4 p.m.
Takoma Park Library
Adult children's-book lovers are invited to participate in the library's third annual Mock Caldecott for Adults. (For anyone with kids, the library's kid-friendly Caldecott Club program will read through 10 finalists and choose a mock winner on Monday, Jan. 22 at 7 p.m.) Registration for Mock Caldecott for Adults is encouraged, but not required.

ARTS AND LITERATURE

People's Open Mic

Sundays, 9 p.m.
Republic restaurant, 6939 Laurel Ave.
www.republictakoma.com

Takoma Park Community Band

Mondays, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Heffner Park Community Center, 42 Oswego Ave.
Drop in and join the Takoma Park Community Band for weekly rehearsals at the Heffner Park Community Center. No audition required, just plenty of enthusiasm.

Drum for Joy! with Jaqui MacMillan

Mondays, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
Electric Maid, 268 Carroll St.
Learn hand drumming

Blues Mondays

Mondays, 7:30 – 10:30 p.m.
Republic restaurant, 6939 Laurel Ave.
www.republictakoma.com

Open Mic Night

Tuesdays, 9 – 11 p.m.
Busboys and Poets, 235 Carroll St. NW

Jazz Jam

Tuesdays, 7 – 10 p.m.
Takoma Station, 6914 14th St. NW
Open mic for jazz musicians

Wednesday Night Drum Jams

Wednesdays, 7 – 9:30 p.m.
The Electric Maid, 268 Carroll St. NW
Hosted by Katy Gaughan and friends

Carroll Café – Second Fridays

Friday, Jan. 12, 7:30 – 10 p.m.
Seekers Church, 276 Carroll St. NW
Danny Whitecotton performs heartfelt songs about love, life and wandering. Tickets and info at <http://carrollcafe.org>

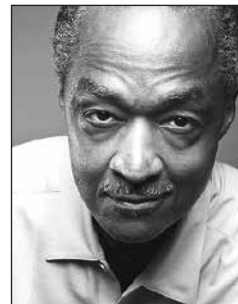


Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, Jan. 18, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
The popular "Third Thursday" poetry series features the work of a wide range of poets from across the region.

In Search of My Father ... Walkin' Talkin' Bill Hawkins

Wednesday, Jan. 24, 8 p.m. (Wednesday through Saturdays, ending Feb. 10)
The Atlas Performing Arts Center (Lab Theatre II), 1333 H. Street NE
Written and performed by Takoma Park resident W. Allen Taylor. An award-winning 90-minute solo show exploring one man's life-long spiritual journey to find his absent father, the first black radio disc jockey in Cleveland, Ohio. Special show Saturday, Feb. 17, 8 p.m. at Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Tickets will be \$25, and all net proceeds will be contributed to the Takoma Park Mobilization fundraiser organization (tpmfundraiser.brownpapertickets.com). Visit www.walkintalkin.com and/or www.atlasarts.org
\$20-\$35



UPCOMING EVENTS



Castleman in Concert

Saturday, Feb. 3, 8 – 10 p.m.
Washington Adventist University, 7600 Flower Ave.
As part of the Anna W. Wang Presidential Concert Series @ WAU, world renowned violinist Charles Castleman will present a guest artist recital on the campus of Washington Adventist University (in the Leroy and Lois Peters Music Building).
www.mainstreettakoma.org/event/anna-h-wang-presidential-concert-series-wau-presents-charles-castleman
\$25

8th Annual Mid-Winter Play Day

Sunday, Feb. 11, 1 – 4 p.m.
TP Community Center
There will be a variety of activities for all ages. Past years included everything from dress-up and cookie decorating to kids Zumba and giant chess. Teen volunteers can receive SSL hours if they help between noon and 5 p.m. For more information, contact Pat the Play Lady at theplaylady@gmail.com or visit letsplayamerica.org.

