TAKOMAPAF

A newsletter published by the City of Takoma Park, Maryland Volume 57, No. 4 🔲 takomaparkmd.gov

City Manager proposes new staff, tax increase to advance priorities

City Manager Suzanne Ludlow will present the Proposed FY 2019 Budget to the City Council and the public on April 4. Her draft budget proposes to increase the tax rate by 1.02 cents and phase in five new staff positions to address the priorities recently set by the City Council (see page 9) and the need to be proactive as regional changes occur.

Ludlow proposes to increase the tax rate from \$0.5348 to \$0.545 per \$100 real property valuation. Because property assessments have increased over the past

By Helen Lyons

slogans

ed in front of the Capitol and

"We have a serious gun issue

in this country that our policy making in-

stitutions aren't addressing," said Blair stu-

dent Ben Miller, "and when problems like

that are occurring, popular outcry is typi-

cally what it takes to get something done."

Chanting

White House.

year, keeping the rate the same will increase real property tax revenue by about \$653,000. The additional 1.02 cent rate increase would add about \$244,000.

"We are in a time of transition in Takoma Park right now," said Ludlow. "It's both exciting and challenging. We have the Purple Line coming in, we have a housing and economic development strategic plan to implement, we have three large projects that are moving into the construction phase all at once, and we need to make

FY2019 BUDGET D Page 8

Budget Highlights

- Budget structured to implement City Council Priorities
- Increase of tax rate from \$0.5348 to \$0.545 per \$100 valuation
- No increase in stormwater fee • Creation of economic development
- division in Housing and Community Development department, with two new staff
- Better aligning of structure of police department to meet community policing vision, with two new officers
- · Add staff person to Human Resources division
- Make \$200,000 contribution to housing reserve
- Major street and library projects underway
- Continued work on sustainability and youth outreach efforts

FY 2019 Budget and **Public Hearing Schedule**

Wednesday, April 4-7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

Presentation of the City Manager's **Recommended Budget**

Saturday, April 7 – 2 to 5 p.m. in the Azalea Room

Budget Open House (Learn about the proposed budget and ask questions. Child care will be provided during the open house.)

Wednesday, April 11 - 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget

Monday, April 16 - 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

First Budget Work Session (Council Priorities)

Monday, April 23 - 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

Second Budget Work Session (Capital Projects)

Wednesday, April 25 - 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

Public Hearing on the Constant Yield Tax Rate

Public Hearing on the FY 2019 Budget Monday, April 30 - 7:30 p.m. in the

Auditorium Third Budget Work Session

(Overview of Departmental and Non-Departmental Budgets) **Budget Reconciliation**

Wednesday, May 2 - 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

Final Budget Reconciliation

Children's

Book Week

SCHEDULE
Page 8



iCan Shine **Bike Camp** Page 15

WHAT'S NEW?

Love Takoma! April 14 Details, page 4

More FY19 budget info See page 8

City Council Priorities Details on page 9

> **MLK Memories** See page 12

Takoma Junction Redevelopment Project Update See page 13

Trash/recycling collection No changes this month



Photo: Helen Lvons Students at Montgomery Blair High School walked out to protest gun violence

Housing

Mailbox

Page 4

ahat

Students joined the likes of Rep. Jamie Raskin and Sens. Nancy Pelosi, Bernie Sanders, Chuck Schumer, Ben Cardin, Chris Van Hollen, and others at the capitol on Feb. 21 and March 14. The walkout





Inside



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

Time for T-Ball! **Details on** page 6.

)CKFT

City Council & Committee Calendar

OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday, April 4, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 11, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 25, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 2, 7:30 p.m. All in the TPCC Auditorium

CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSIONS Monday, April 16, 7:30 p.m. (Budget Work Session) Monday, April 23, 7:30 p.m. (Budget Work Session) Monday, April 30, 7:30 p.m. (Budget Work Session) All in the Takoma Park Auditorium

BOARD OF ELECTIONS Monday, April 9, 7 p.m. **TPCC Council Conference Room**

COMMEMORATION COMMISSION Tuesday, April 17, 7:30 p.m. **TPCC Hydrangea Room**

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT Monday, April 9, 7:15 p.m. **TPCC Lilac Room**

ETHICS COMMISSION Wednesday, April 4, 7 p.m. TPCC Atrium Room

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE Thursday, April 26, 7 p.m. **TPCC Hydrangea Room**

FACADE ADVISORY BOARD Tuesday, April 10, 6:30 p.m. **TPCC** Auditorium

NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE Tuesday, April 10, 7:30 p.m. TPCC Lilac Room

POLICE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN COMMITTEE Tuesday, April 3, 8:30 a.m.

TPCC Council Conference Room **RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Thursday, April 19, 7 p.m. TPCC Hydrangea Room

TREE COMMISSION Tuesday, April 10, 6:30 p.m. TPCC Hydrangea Room

YOUTH COUNCIL

Monday, April 9, 6 p.m. **TPCC Hydrangea Room** Monday, April 23, 6 p.m. TPCC Hydrangea Room

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

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

CityCouncilAction

On Feb. 21, 2018, the City Council adopted Ordinance 2018-8 amending Takoma Park Code Chapter 8.16, Sale of Food and Drink, to provide for the issuance of outdoor cafe permits for use of the right-of-way by local restaurants and other food establishments. The ordinance would allow, if approved by the City, the serving of alcohol as part of food service. Applicants would also be required to obtain the approval of the County Board of License Commissioners before alcohol is permitted to be served.

The same evening, the Council adopted Resolution 2018-12 and 2018-13. Resolution 2018-12 authorized submission of the proposed FY 2019 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project. The City anticipates receiving \$91,000 from the CDBG program and proposes to use it for streetscape and ADA improvements. Resolution 2018-13 endorsed

FY 2019 Living Wage Rate Established

Every City contract for the provision of services awarded after a competitive bid or proposal process requires the contractor and any subcontractor to pay each employee assigned to perform services under the City contract a living wage. The current living wage rate is \$14.55 per hour. Effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, the Takoma Park living wage rate will be \$14.75. Certain contracts are exempted from this requirement. Additional information can be found at https://takomaparkmd.gov/ services/bids-contracts.

ideas for improvement.

State legislation - HB 988 - 2020 Census Grant Program – Establishment and Funding

At the City Council meeting on March 7, 2018, the City Council adopted its Priorities by Resolution 2018-14. The priorities inform the development of the City Manager's Recommended Budget and, more generally, indicate the strategic direction the Council intends to move the City during its term. Also on March 7, 2018, the Council adopted Resolution 2018-15 requesting that

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.

> Montgomery County Public Schools consider a new school site in the Takoma Park area and that MCPS study the feasibility of using the Washington Adventist Hospital campus as a school site.

The Council adopted two procurement ordinances on March 7, 2018. Ordinance 2018-9 awarded a contract for a stormwater rate study to Black & Veatch. The first phase

CITY COUNCIL Page 3

Notice of Proposed Administrative Regulation for the Implementation and Enforcement of Takoma Park Code, Chapter 8.16, Sale of Food and Drink, Section 8.16.090 Outdoor Cafes on Public Sidewalks

An Administrative Regulation is being proposed for the implementation and enforcement of Chapter 8.16, Section 8.16.090 Outdoor Cafes on Public Sidewalks. The regulation addresses permit modifications, renewal and revocation procedures, application fees, annual permit fees, calculation of annual fee increases, right-of-way lease terms and conditions, insurance and indemnification requirements, City approval of alcohol sales, City-imposed limitations on the hours, additional permit criteria and standards, and prohibited activities.

Pursuant to the requirements of the "Administrative Regulations Ordinance" (Authority: Chapter 2.12 "Administrative Regulations," of the Takoma Park Code), notice of the City's intention to adopt an administrative regulation must be publicly noted, allowing for the opportunity to comment on the proposal. The proposed regulation is available for review at www.takomaparkmd.gov. To obtain further information about the proposed regulation, contact Sara Anne Daines, Director, Housing and Community Development Department, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912, 301-891-7224, sarad@takomaparkmd.gov. Written comments should be submitted through the website. A link for comments is included with the online notice. The deadline for receipt of public comments is Tuesday, April 25, 2018.

Boards, Commissions, and Committees

The City Council values the efforts of the volunteers who apply and serve on City boards, commissions and committees. It is a Council priority to improve and formalize systems for the committees to ensure they are successful. In the near future, the Council will be conducting an online survey to hear from current and former members about their experience and

The member rosters and vacancies are listed on the City website. Interested applicants should review the information on the website (Board, Commission, and Committee pages) and consider attending a meeting to see if it is a good fit. Feel free to contact your City Councilmember or the chairperson of the committee to discuss your interest, or contact the staff member who works with the committee.

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.

Important City Phone Numbers

City Information	Housing & Community Development301-891-7119
City Clerk	Library
City Manager	Police 301-270-1100 / Emergency 911
City TV301-891-7118	Public Works
Finance	Recreation/Facilities Rental







Students stand in solidarity

By Rick Henry

March 14 was a day of activism for area students, as hundreds of them at middle and high schools marked the one-month anniversary of the tragic shootings at Marjory Stoneman High School in Parkland, Fla. by demonstrating their opposition to gun violence through a variety of protests and vigils. At Takoma Park's Don Bosco Cristo Rey (DCBR) High, a private catholic school affiliated with the Archdiocese of Washington, members of the senior class felt compelled to act.

"We felt it was important to take part in something that was happening nationwide, and the issue of gun control affects everyone," said Student Government Association President Ada Gonzalez, 18.

Harry Christian, DCBR's assistant director of development and communications said the school staff and administration stood behind the student's organizing efforts. "The Class of 2018 felt that these senseless shootings were happening far too often and wanted to do something to share in solidarity with the rest of the United States. The discussions that took place amongst the teachers/administrators about how to approach the situation were all about making sure that we supported our students as they expressed themselves during this demonstration," he said. "The only thing that we could do was to show them support and encourage them to be leaders during times like this."

Students at the school wanted to insure that whatever action they took was in accordance with the school's mission, which stresses faith (along with family, future and fun in education). The result was a Walkout Prayer Vigil featuring 17 chairs lined up in a row to represent the 17 victims of the shooting. Attached to the chairs were balloons with each victim's picture attached. After each name was read, the balloon string was cut followed by a Hail Mary recited by the students and staff. "The important part was that this was a Walkout/Prayer Vigil and not just a Walkout," said Christian.

"The school's mission to serve others can be seen in our vigil," said Gonzalez. Senior Domota Byrd agreed, citing the effect the vigil had on him and the rest of the school's 393 students, who were all in attendance. "It was very impactful. My job putting the event together was to make sure we got the message across to everyone at our school, and I think that we did



Don Bosco Cristo Rey Senior Yaquelin Robles cuts a ribbon to release one of 17 balloons during the school's Walkout Prayer Vigil on March 14.

because people were in tears," he said. "In the moment I was tearing up because my school did something so beautiful."

Both Gonzalez and Boyd say they are also inspired to continue their advocacy on the issue. "Our safety in school is something very important and having these walk outs and marches shows how strongly everyone feels," said Gonzalez. "This issue is bigger than me," said Boyd. "We can't just have the walk out and forget about the event, this is something that should keep happening because it shows everyone that we are united and that things don't tear us apart but brings us together much stronger."

Takoma Park looks to re-examine its Socially Responsible Investing policy

By Sean Gossard

Takoma Park officials say they want to re-examine the city's Socially Responsible Investing policy, including its Nuclear-Free ordinance, environmental goals, racial equity goals and affordable housing goals, among others.

Takoma Park City Manager Suzanne Ludlow announced in a press release that the City Council will be investigating the issue over the coming months, with planned input sessions from members of the public.

Part of the effort will include a presentation in the coming months from an expert on socially responsible investing, including investing in entities that align with the City Code and reflect the spirit of Takoma Park and avoiding investment from those that the Council does not wish to support. The Council will also be updated on the extent Takoma Park funds are being held in cash in banks.

"The goal is to come to the Council and speak on socially responsible investing and what it can mean," Ludlow said.

Public input on the investments will be a major part of the process. According to the press release, "This will be a good opportunity for those who wish to help direct investments to or away from certain entities to weigh in on what they would like to see the Council do."

The Council will then weigh the risks, costs, opportunities and benefits of advancing Takoma Park's Socially Responsible Investing goals. This includes the city's goal of fiscal responsibility and the understanding that it is using money from taxpayers. "It's a very careful balance because we want to make sure we're being responsible investing tax-payer money," Ludlow said.

Non-permanent steps, like investing in short-term options that align with the city's mission, are also available. Longterm options may include changing investments and retaining an advisor for investments and beginning the process of finding a new bank to do business with. The Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee is a major proponent of the city's disinvestment from Sun Trust Bank, which they say has loaned more than \$1 billion to the nuclear and weapons industries, and instead invest in a local bank with no ties to the industry. "The Nuclear-Free group has been very active in getting the city to relook at its funds and where they are," Ludlow said.

The Nuclear-Free Committee also recommends having an ongoing representative to be present during discussions between the Council and financial officials regarding Takoma Park's steps toward reinvestment. "Ongoing representation at these discussions would be very helpful to the committee in carrying out our responsibilities," said Julie Boddy, a member of the Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee. "That's the conclusion we came to at our most recent meeting."

Since the 1980s, the Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee has enforced the city ordinance (Chapter 14.04 of the Takoma Park Municipal Code) to remain nuclear free. That also bars Takoma Park from contracting with companies that benefit from the nuclear industry.

While the committee offers recommendations on which companies the City can and can't deal with regarding nuclear weapons, it is possible to for Takoma Park to get a waiver under certain circumstances.

The committee has proposed switching to any locally-based bank that does not have ties to the nuclear industry. "We'd like to do it local because we like to keep our money in the neighborhood," Boddy said.

The Committee on the Environment has also sought to re-examine the city's investments to see if there are more Earthconscious areas in which it could be putting its funds.

"These are all very important things we'll be looking at," Ludlow said. "We want to see how Socially Responsible Investing can be done in different ways."



THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER Editor: Apryl Motley

Assistant: Sean Gossard www.takomaparkmd.gov Vol. 57, No. 4

The Takoma Park Newsletter is published 12 times a year as the official publication of the City of Takoma Park, takomaparkmd.gov. 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.

CITY COUNCIL ACTION From page 2

of the study, to be conducted this fiscal year at a cost of \$26,635, will be an impervious area analysis of property parcels to determine the appropriate Equivalent Residential Unit rate. A second phase of the study, anticipated for FY 2019 at a cost of \$69,555, includes developing a five- year financial plan for the program, development of a credit program, and development of a revised rate structure that would propose tiered charges for single family residential properties based on impervious area. **Ordinance 2018-10** approved selection of CleanChoice Energy as part of a voluntary community sign-up campaign to purchase renewable energy electricity.

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.



BUILDING COMMUNITY

Ethan Allen Gateway Streetscape Project construction begins

The City of Takoma Park is beginning construction of the Ethan Allen Gateway Streetscape project. The project will create an attractive streetscape for local residents and shoppers at the intersection of Ethan Allen/East-West Highway and New Hampshire Avenue. The project employs Complete Streets principles, promoting walking, biking, and public transportation, while adding green space and improving water quality with stormwater management facilities. Improvements will include increased pedestrian safety, new crosswalks, curb extensions, new sidewalks and widened sidewalks, bioretention facilities, bike lanes and racks, trees and greenery, upgraded streetlights to LEDs, and decorative light poles.

The Streetscape project will take six months to complete with four phases, ending in September. The project will be managed by the City's Special Projects Coordinator Nima Upadhyay, who will be in contact with the construction inspector on the job daily. Construction will be done from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. daily and on some weekends.

Phase 1. Traffic control devices and

Construction overview

sediment and erosion control devices will be installed along Ethan Allen Avenue, East West Highway, and New Hampshire Avenue. Left turn lanes from Ethan Allen Avenue to north-bound New Hampshire Avenue, and from East West Highway to south-bound New Hampshire Avenue, will be closed. Drainage structures and pipe connections and median curb and gutter will be constructed.

Phase 2. The north and southwest traffic islands will be reconstructed and the permanent traffic signal head modification will be performed.

Phases 3 and 4. Curb and gutter, and sidewalk will be installed and the bus pad will be relocated. During the project construction, access to all roadways and driveway entrances will be maintained at all times.

For more information

For questions regarding this project, please contact Nima Upadhyay (project manager) at nimau@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7621. To review construction plans, please visit Takoma Park website at takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory/ethan-allen-gateway-streetscape.



First-Time Home Buyers Seminar

Saturday, May 12, 2018 • 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Takoma Park Community Center 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD

Make a well-informed decision when you purchase your first home. Come and join us for this free, first-time home buyer seminar led by the Latino Economic Development Corporation (LEDC), a HUD certified housing organization. This seminar is the opportunity to get answers to your many questions from the professionals involved in the home buying process. Attend the entire session and receive a Certificate of Completion, allowing you access to low interest loans.

Class size is limited and pre-registration is required. To register, please contact the Housing & Community Development Department at (301) 891-7119 or sign up at http://bit.ly/2BWg0Lq

Continental breakfast and light lunch will be provided.

Love Takoma!

Love Takoma! will take place on Saturday, April 14, from 2–4 p.m. at the Takoma Park Recreation Center on New Hampshire Avenue. This new event, hosted by the Takoma Foundation's racial equity committee, aims to show Takoma Park, and its families, some love, by providing an opportunity for exchanging information on local programs, free services, and volunteer opportunities while sharing light refreshments and having some fun.

This free afternoon event is for everyone. Volunteer Spanish, French, and Amharic translators will be on hand. A supervised play area for children will be set up, so parents can browse the community tables. Community groups from Ayuda to the Village of Takoma will be on hand to explain their services and recruit volunteers. If you want to attend, just walk on in. If you can volunteer, contact Shana at sabbathshana@ gmail.com or Carolyn at clearybobb@gmail.com.

And Let's Play America activities will give young and old a chance to enjoy a fun afternoon.

Takoma Park Councilwoman Searcy (Ward 6) says, "I am excited to be a part of this effort. I hope it is just the first of many future events that engage all Takoma Park residents; especially recent immigrants, low- and moderate-income households, and families in need." Takoma Park Councilwoman (Ward 2) Cindy Dyballa noted, "It's so important to connect folks who've just joined our community, such young families or new tenants, to the various programs for youth that we have."

Theme announced for Takoma Park 2018 Independence Day celebration

"A City of Dreamers" is theme for this year's July 4 celebration in Takoma Park. Dreamers have played an important role in shaping Takoma Park into the progressive, diverse community we love today. Starting with B.F. Gilbert's vision of a healthy resort town in the forest outside of Washington, D.C., farsighted dreamers shaped us into a unique community that is admired around the world. Yesterday's dreamers led us:

- To implement one of the Nation's first recycling programs,
- To take a stand against the dangers of nuclear technology,
- To insure we have quality schools,



By Moses A. Wilds Jr. Landlord-Tenant Mediation Specialist

A tenant whose one year lease ends in July wants to know if his lease automatically becomes month-to-month at the end of his lease term.

We have had lots of people contact us about this issue. The short answer is, no, your lease does not automatically convert to a month-to-month at the end of the first year. But that "first year" qualification is important.

Section 6.16.070B of the Takoma Park

- To protect our environment,
- To implement rent controls so anyone can live here and
- To make us a more sustainable community.

The 2018 Independence Day celebration calls on today's dreamers to share their vision for Takoma Park's future. Register your entry in this year's annual parade and help lead us into tomorrow at www.takomapark4th.org.

The 2018 Grand Marshal is the City's new Police Chief Antonio "Tony" DeVaul, who dreams of changes to guide policing to higher levels through the 21st century.

Landlord-Tenant Law indicates that your landlord must offer you the opportunity to renew your lease for an additional year by providing you with a written notice two months prior to the end of your initial lease term. This lease renewal opportunity is not required if:

- The landlord has given you a written one month written notice to vacate (such a notice must be for a material breach of the lease);
- The landlord has given you a written two months no fault notice to vacate;
- You have given the landlord a written one month notice of your intent to vacate; or
- The landlord has given you a written notice at least two months prior to the end of the initial lease detailing

HOUSING MAILBOX 🗌 Page 12



Photo: World Telegram & Sun photo by Dick DeMarsico, 1964

Celebrating the life and legacy of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

The day before his assassination on April 4, 1968, Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. seemed to predict his own death after more than a decade of nonviolent protest, 30 arrests, and a near-fatal stabbing while leading a civil rights movement that shook a nation by challenging the pervasive racism that denied equal rights to African Americans.

King spoke about the threats against him by "some of our sick white brothers" during an address at the Bishop Charles Mason Temple in Memphis.

"Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place, but I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will, and He's allowed me to go up to the mountain and I've looked over and I've seen the Promised Land," King said. "I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land."

The City of Takoma Park's *We Are Takoma* cultural series will host a series of events in April marking the 50th anniversary of King's death. The events include a lecture by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Clarence Page, a documentary film screening about protests at North Carolina A&T State University in 1969, and po-

ems about civil rights read by Takoma Park Poet Laureate Merrill Leffler at the April 19 poetry reading. More details can be found in the articles on this page and at www. takomaparkmd.gov/arts.

"King gave so much and made the ultimate sacrifice in the fight for civil rights," said Takoma Park Mayor Kate Stewart. "As we mark the 50th anniversary of his tragic death, we take this time to listen again to his teachings and calls to action. We renew our commitment to his legacy in our work toward a more just and equitable world for all people."

Takoma Park City Manager Suzanne Ludlow said King captured "the attention of our nation at a critical point in time and crystallized a better vision of who we could be." (On page 12, see Ludlow's personal reflection about the day he died.)

"Just as King did not just focus on one issue, we in Takoma Park continue to address multiple challenges within ourselves, our community, and our nation," Ludlow said. "The overall message of love – in every language – is our guiding light."



Clarence Page

"A Drum Major for Justice" Lecture

Thursday, April 5, 7:30 p.m. Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium - Free event

How would Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. have fared in the age of Twitter, the Black Lives Matter movement, and #MeToo? In an engaging lecture and discussion, Pulitzer-Prize winning journalist Clarence Page examines King's legacy and the evolving fight for civil rights. A longtime Takoma Park resident, Page was attracted to a career in journalism by the civil rights revolution in the 1960s. Through King's prophetic vision, Page suggests how we might answer King's great question that still resonates today: "Where do we go from here?"

"Walls That Bleed" Film Screening Thursday, April 12, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium - Free event

"Walls That Bleed: The Story of the Dudley/A&T Uprising" is a compelling documentary film that chronicles an overlooked chapter of the civil rights movement. While Greensboro, North Carolina, is well-known for the nonviolent sit-ins at segregated drug store counters in 1960, those demonstrations eventually led to a more violent student-led uprising in 1969. What started as a protest over a student council election at James B. Dudley High School quickly erupted into a threeday gun battle on the campus of the historically black North Carolina A&T State University, with the local African-American community defending itself against law enforcement. Film director Michael Anthony will discuss the film after the screening, which is presented in partnership with Docs in Progress.

American Primitive Guitar Festival April 13-15

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium and other venues

Born in 1939 in Takoma Park, John Fahey created the American Primitive Guitar style with a \$17 guitar from Sears and founded the influential Takoma Records label in 1959 with \$300 from his meager wages as a gas station attendant. The Thousand Incarnations of the Rose festival will celebrate Fahey's legacy with performances by more than 25 acoustic guitarists and banjo players at the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium and other venues around Takoma Park. Some events are free while others require the purchase of a festival pass. More details can be found at www.1000rose.org. The festival is presented by Rhizome DC, the City of Takoma Park, and Main Street Takoma.



Third Thursday Poetry Reading Thursday, April 19, 7:30 pm Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium – Free event The Glen Echo Poets take over the mic at the Third Thursday Poetry Reading, including poets Nancy Arbuthnot, Anne Sheldon, Saundra Maley, and Matt Westbrook. Stay for the reception and learn more about the 30-year history of the group and their collaborative process to develop their original poetry.

Takoma Park Poet Laureate Merrill Leffler also will read some poems about civil rights as part of the City of Takoma Park's commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the death of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.



Margaret Halpin, Bahama Dream Weave

MERGING WORLDS Art Exhibition

On display until May 6

Takoma Park Community Center

In the *Merging Worlds* exhibition, five talented artists display artwork featuring collage or layering techniques, thus merging different mediums in their own work while also combining their unique perspectives in one group show. Spread across the galleries of the Takoma Park Community Center, the exhibition includes mixed-media collage, paintings, digital photos, glass sculpture, and artwork suspended from the ceiling in the 30-foot-tall atrium. The artists include Roslyn Cambridge, Margaret Halpin, Keith Kozloff, Kathryn McDonnell, and Phillip Schewe.

RECREATION

TOTS

DANCE

Pre Ballet

Join this class and watch your child blossom! Pre Ballet for ages 3–4 emphasizes learning basic ballet vocabulary, movement patterns and musicality in a creative movement.

Takoma Park Community Center Dance Studio 7500 Maple Avenue 3–4 years 8 Weeks Sundays, April 8-June 3 (No class 5/27) 3–3:45 p.m. Resident: \$105 / Non-resident: \$125

Zumbini

Let the shenanigans begin! Moms, dads, grandparents, caregivers...get ready to sing, dance, and rock out with instruments while creating new and meaningful memories with your little ones. Created by Zumba and BabyFirst for kids ages newborn to four years, Zumbini is an early childhood education program utilizing music and movement to promote cognitive, social, emotional and motor skill development for the children in class, all while creating the ultimate bonding experience for them and their caregivers. Each session will include a \$35 fee for a Zumbini bundle, which should be paid directly to the instructor. The bundle includes an original songbook, making it easy to sing along, and a musical CD to listen to at home or in the car. Instructor: Miko Machingura

Heffner Park Community Center 42 Oswego Avenue Newborn–4 years 6 Week Session Saturdays, April 7-June 9 (No class 5/9 & 5/19) 10–10:45 a.m. Resident: \$100 / Non-resident: \$120

YOUTH

ART



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: May 7-June 18 (No class 5/28) Wednesday Session: April 25-May 30 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 Session Thursdays, May 3-June 7 4–5:45 p.m. Resident: \$155 / Non-resident: \$175

MAKE/Shift Studio II: Drawing and Watercolor

Have fun learning to draw with black and white and colored drawing materials, paint with watercolors, use pen and ink and explore mixed media approaches to representational imagery. Subjects will include still life, portrait, landscape 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, April 24-May 29 3:30–5:30 p.m. Resident: \$145 / Non-resident: \$165

CAMP

New Ave. Adventure Camp

Get ready for a fun-filled summer of adventure, games and activities with our New Ave Adventure Camp! Campers will go swimming, have a weekly field trip, create arts and crafts projects and play various games based on the theme of the week. You can choose 1 week or as many as you need. Takoma Park Recreation Center 7315 New Hampshire Avenue 5–12 years Monday-Friday Openings in weeks 1 & 2

Week 1: June 27-29; \$75 Week 2: July 2-6 (no camp on 7/4); \$100 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

DANCE

Pre Ballet

Join this class and watch your child blossom! Pre-Ballet for ages 4-5 emphasizes learning basic ballet vocabulary, movement patterns and musicality in a creative movement. Takoma Park Community Center Dance Studio 7500 Maple Avenue 4–5 years

8 Weeks Sundays, April 8-June 3 (No class 5/27) 4–4:45 p.m. Resident: \$105 / Non-resident: \$125



Look for more information in the Spring/ Summer issue of the City Guide.

EXTENDED CARE

SPORTS

2018 Co-ed T-ball League

This co-ed league allows girls and boys to have fun while learning the basic fundamentals of baseball. Emphasis will be on fun, learning to hit, running bases and catching. No experience is necessary, as all skill levels are welcome. Participants must bring their own baseball glove. All teams will be formed by the Recreation Department. Games are played on Saturday mornings. Parents are encouraged to coach. No games 4th of July weekend. Ed Wilhelm Field 2 Darwin Ave 5–7 years

8 Week Season Saturdays, June 9-July 28 9 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. games Resident: \$60 / Non-resident: \$70

TEENS

CAMPS

Counselor in Training (CIT)

Sign up now for a three day training to become a Certified CIT while becoming First Aid/CPR certified. Work with children ages 5-12 during our youth summer camps and earn your SSL hours while having fun! Takoma Park Community Center 7500 Maple Avenue 14–17 years Tuesday, May 1 & Thursday, May 3 4–6 p.m. Saturday, May 5

10 a.m.–5 p.m. Resident: \$25 / Non-resident: \$35

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 Ongoing Monday-Thursday 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 70inch 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 on special events for an amazing time.

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

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Youth Summer Employment Program Interest Meeting Parents and teens come to the Interest Meeting and learn about this 8-week



program which will begin June 25 and will end Aug. 18, 2018. Is your teen in need of a summer job? The City of Takoma Park is pleased to announce the return of the City's Youth Summer Employment program. The purpose of the Youth Summer Employment Program is to provide young people with a summer-long adventure that is more than just a job, but a true learning experience. There are a limited number of meaningful employment opportunities available this year. Register for the Interest Workshop through ActiveNet or to find out more information, please call Leicia Monfort at 301-891-7283.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium 7500 Maple Avenue Ages 16–21 Friday, April 27 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free

ADULTS

ART

Ceramics: Hand Building & Sculpture

This 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, May 7-June 18 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 threedimensional 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, April 24-May 29 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Resident: \$210 / Non-resident: \$240 **RECREATION** Page 7

RECREATION

From page 6

DRAMA

Acting Technique for the Stage

Would you like to be in a play? Learning to audition is the first step and this class will prepare you with the primary tool you'll need which is having an effective monologue to perform. After selecting a monologue with the instructor, you will learn (through lively theatre exercises) the fundamentals of stage technique, script analysis, and character development that will heighten the performance of your piece. In addition, the class will cover the other essential audition tools: pictures, resumes, and techniques for cold readings and scene callbacks. The class will culminate with a performance of the monologues in a final public presentation! No materials needed. Instructor: W. Allen Taylor

Takoma Park Community Center Azalea Room 7500 Maple Avenue 18 and older 10 Week Session Mondays, April 2-June 11 7-9 p.m. Resident: \$125 / Non-resident: \$145

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. It 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 Sessions Session 1: April 4-May 23 Session 2: July 11-August 29 Wednesdays, 7–8:30 p.m. Resident: \$125 / Non-resident: \$145

FITNESS

Qi Gong - Energize Your Work

A five-session introduction that will integrate Mindfulness practices and Qi Gong exercises into the work day. Learn to transform your onthe-job stress reactions with active attention and listening to cultivate a richer professional presence and communication style. Develop your personal mindfulness strategy to cultivate positive responses and serenity to your ongoing professional pressures. Nourish your energies with Qi Gong and mindfulness practice throughout our work day and extend their benefits throughout your life and the lives of those you serve. Make better decisions. Be a more effective leader. Experience serenity now. All that is required is an open mind and a willingness to experiment by integrating these mindfulness tools to truly energize our work. Instructors: Joann Malone & Patrick Smith

Takoma Park Community Center Azalea Room 7500 Maple Avenue 18 and older **5 Week Session** Wednesdays, May 2-May 30 7-8 p.m. Resident: \$75 / Non-resident: \$85

Qi Gong - Energy Circles

Energizing simple movements designed to improve health, mobility, flexibility, general happiness and peace of mind. You will develop a daily routine by selecting from a variety of exercises that are easy to learn. You will find immediate benefits; invigorating energy systems, opening up joints and relaxing our bodies, minds and spirits. No experience needed to connect with our vital life energies. Instructors: Joann Malone & Patrick Smith Takoma Park Community Center Dance Studio

All-Stars Enroll Here

Do you have a budding basketball player, or a child who is interested in learning? Either way we have a spot for them in our camp.

The Takoma Park Recreation Center is now accepting registration for its Dribble, Pass, and Shoot Summer Basketball 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. This fun filled camp will focus on fundamentals, such as dribbling, shooting, and passing as well as proper defensive techniques. Experienced co-ed counselors with positive attitudes will be on hand to provide fun basketball related games that will keep the participants enthusiastic and engaged.

Past participants love this camp because of the various basketball activities as well as games that coaches plan using cones and other equipment, which provided participants cardiovascular challenges in a fun way. Coach Joe Dobbins and his staff will be returning with a fun-filled curriculum that allows the campers to use their brains as well as their physical skills. Campers will have

7500 Maple Avenue 16 and older 8 Week Session Tuesdays, April 10-May 29 7–8 p.m. Resident: \$95 / Non-resident: \$105

Yoga (lyengar): Intermediate

Practice and persistence brings transformation. After achieving a firm foundation in the beginner's class, a student wishes to go forward in her/his exploration of the discipline of Yoga. This intermediate level 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: Tesheen Chettri

Takoma Park Community Center Dance Studio 7500 Maple Avenue 18 years and older 10 Week Session Wednesdays, April 11-June 13 7:30-9 p.m. Resident: \$120 / Non-resident: \$140 Drop-in: \$15

MULTI MEDIA

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Introduction to Photoshop Photoshop is the most

widely used computer program for the creative enhancement or alteration of digital photographs. This class will emphasize several basic methods to retouch, restore and save photographs. Course requirements: Participants should have basic knowledge of computers. All participants will need an external memory device (stick or drive) of at least five gigabytes to store and save photographs. Instructor: Barry Hinderstein Takoma Park Community Center Multi Media Lab 7500 Maple Avenue 18 and older 8 Week Session Tuesdays, April 3-May 29

Resident: \$150 / Non-resident: \$180

NFW



Last year's participants "having a ball"!

an opportunity to play full-court basketball games as well as participate in skill challenges such as a three point shooting contest. Teams will be divided evenly by age and skill set. This is a great opportunity for kids to make new friends or spend time with classmates during the summer.

Now on

Tuesdays!

Now on

Tuesdays!

For more details, pick up a copy of our Summer Camp Guide at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue or the Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue. Or view the Summer Camp Guide online at takomaparkmd.gov/government/ recreation/camps.

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 Tuesday, April 24 12-2 p.m. Free



Adventist Healthcare will conduct a monthly blood pressure screening. Drop-in. No registration is required. Senior Room 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older Tuesday, April 24 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT Fit4Function Workshop

The Fit4Function workshop will explore ways to help older adults get started with regular physical activity using educational, instructional, and motivational materials to engage participants in discussions, reflection and goal-setting designed to move from sedentary (or semi-sedentary) to physically active behavior. This workshop is not for people who already exercise on

a regular basis. This program is designed to help participants identify strategies to overcome barriers to regular exercise and craft a successful approach to starting and maintaining a regular physical activity program that works for them. Registration with the Takoma Park Recreation Department is required to participate.

Takoma Park Community Center Azalea Room 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older Friday, April 13 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Free

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: Anne LeVeque

Takoma Park Community Center **Computer Lab** 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older 3 Week Session Wednesdays, April 4-18 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, April 9-June 18 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free

Blood Pressure Screening

Takoma Park Community Center

changes within the Takoma Park Police Department to more easily realize the Council's goals of community policing."

Last year, the City Council reduced the tax rate from 56 cents to a level below the Constant Yield level, meaning that the amount of real property tax revenue the City received was less than it had received the previous year. "Unfortunately, that reduction means that we really need the funds this year," Ludlow noted.

"There's a lot of economic uncertainty right now at the national level given the new tax law and trade tariffs. As a small city with a small budget, we need to have a reasonable level of financial buffer in a time of risk," she continued. "That is part of the reason I am recommending increasing the tax rate a small amount. Even with the tax increase, we will be operating with limited reserves in the coming year."

Big projects are underway

Last year, the City borrowed \$2 million and \$7 million, respectively, to help pay for two major street projects and the Library renovation and expansion. The Ethan Allen Gateway project at New Hampshire Avenue is now under construction and the Flower Avenue Green Street project will begin construction in the summer. The Library project detailed design and engineering are underway. Next steps for the Library are dependent on the results of a flood plain delineation study that is in progress.

These projects, plus the City's regular street and sidewalk projects, will keep Public Works staff extremely busy in the coming year. Staff will also be working on the many sustainability and stormwater projects that advance the Council's environmental priorities.

New staff to help guide, not react

Five new staff positions are proposed: two economic development positions, two police officer positions and a human resources position. The economic development and police positions would be phased in during the second half of the fiscal year so will not be fully funded in FY 19. Only the human resources position would begin at the start of the fiscal year on July 1.

All of the new positions are to help address Council priorities, Ludlow said. A new Economic Development division of the Department of Housing and Community Development, with a manager and specialist position, is to meet the Council's goal to plan and prepare for development in the City and region while maintaining the special character and diversity



 0
 Capital Outlay
 Police
 Public Works
 General Gov't
 Recreation
 Housing and Communications
 Library
 Communications
 Debt Service

of Takoma Park.

"We can't rely on the private sector to craft and maintain the special character and diversity of Takoma Park – it will take work on our part to make it happen," said Ludlow.

The proposed two new police officer positions will help advance the Council's goals for the police department, as expressed in Resolution 2017-45. After three months on the job, Chief DeVaul has evaluated staffing in the department in the context of the Resolution and is recommending several changes. The two positions will allow the department to be more appropriately structured to meet the Council's stated vision.

The new human resources position is badly needed, as the division only has two staff and their workload is heavy. Additional responsibilities for the division include helping staff apply the Council's Racial Equity framework to internal operations and working with the police department to improve recruitment and retention of excellent police staff.

Time to hear from the public

"I am fortunate to work with a City Council that is very serious about setting priorities and expectations," Ludlow said. "Now it's time to hear from the public and the Council about what should be in the proposed budget to carry out these priorities."

Residents can learn more about the proposed budget and ask questions at the Budget Open House scheduled for Saturday, April 7 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Community Center. Child care will be provided. The Takoma Junction Open House will be occurring at the same time in the building, so residents can participate in both. If your owner-occupied home's taxable assessment value for 2018 was:



If your home's taxable assessment value increases by the maximum 10% for 2019:



Of the \$214 increase in City tax, just \$41 is due to the proposed tax rate increase and \$173 is due to the increase in home value.

City General Fund Revenues

TOTAL	\$25,316,715		
Other	\$1,772,170	7.0%	
Interjurisdictional	\$6,443,242	25.5%	
Income tax	\$3,400,000	13.4%	
Property taxes	\$13,692,572	54.1%	

\$5 million in Special Revenue (Grant) Funds help pay for major road projects and many community programs

There will be no increase in the City's Stormwater Fee for FY 19 but the charge will appear on the property tax bill from the County, not billed separately.

SCHEDULE

From page 1

Wednesday, May 9

Council vote on first reading of the budget and tax rate ordinances

Wednesday, May 16

Second reading and adoption of the budget and tax rate ordinances

Agendas for City Council meetings and budget work sessions are posted online: www. takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/agendas. City Council meetings and budget work sessions can be viewed live on City TV (Comcast and RCN - Channel 13; Verizon FIOS - Channel 28; Municipal Broadcast Network high definition - Comcast Channel 997 and RCN Channel 1057). Meetings are also streamed live online and available as archives on the City's website.

Takoma Park Budget: General Fund Expenditures - FY '17 through FY '19

TAKOMA PARK

City Council PRIORITIES

🜄 A Livable Community For All

- Identify programming needs emphasizing youth, families, seniors, and our more vulnerable residents, such as those with lower incomes, immigrants, and people with developmental disabilities.
- Ensure we have a range of safe, quality, and stable housing options for residents of varying incomes.
- Defend status as a Sanctuary City and continue to be a welcoming and inclusive community for all residents.
- Further efforts related to racial equity.

Community Development for an Improved & Equitable Quality of Life

• Plan and prepare for development in the City and region while maintaining the special character and diversity of Takoma Park.

Environmentally Sustainable Community

- Continue to be a leader in community programs and policies for energy and environmental sustainability.
- Preserve and grow tree canopy.

Engaged, Responsive & Service-Oriented Government

- Identify policing priorities and explore options for enhanced police/community relations.
- Improve communications with residents, especially two-way online and social media communication.
- Improve policies and processes related to the tree ordinance; traffic calming; sidewalk requests, repair and maintenance; and residential/commercial boundary conflicts.
- Improve and formalize systems for Council-appointed committees and external committees on which Councilmembers serve.

IIII Fiscally Sustainable Government

- Increase funding from County and State to address tax duplication and other City needs.
- Adopt financial policy to determine the appropriate level of designated reserves.
- Minimize adverse impacts of changes to the federal tax system.
- Adopt sustainable investment and banking policy and practices.

To view the priorities online visit: bit.ly/CityCouncilPriorities

TAKON

LIBRARY



Children's Book Week

By Karen MacPherson

The 99th annual Children's Book Week will take place around the country from April 30-May 6, and here at the library we'll be celebrating with two great programs featuring nationally-known authors.

Author Samantha Berger and illustrator Mike Curato will kick things off on Monday, April 30 at 7 p.m. when they present their new picture book, *What If...* As the book opens, a young African-American girl with purple hair who loves to

draw thinks about what she would do if one day her pencil disappeared. As Berger details, the girl digs



deeper and deeper into her creativity, realizing, for example, that she could make art from anything, sculpting from leaves, chiseling from wood, telling stories with her shadow, etc. Her final conclusion: "If I had nothing, but still had my mind; there would always be stories to seek and to

find." What If has won raves

from critics, with *Kirkus* calling the book a "testament to the power of an imaginative mind," adding: " While readers will find much to love in the exuberant rhyming verse, attending closely to the illustrations brings its own rewards given the fascinating combinations of mixed

BOOK WEEK 🗌 Page 12

A Long Separation traveling exhibit comes to Takoma Park

On Sunday, May 6, the Library will feature a special visit by Laura Elizabeth Pohl's traveling exhibit, a portrait and audio series which highlights the stories of people separated from their family members in North Korea since the Korean War ended in armistice in 1953. The exhibit will be parked in front of the Takoma Park Community Center from 12 to 5. In case of rain, the exhibit will be held in the Library.

This year is the 65th Anniversary of the war's end. The portraits of people in the exhibit (yisan kajok as they are called in Korean) are focused on faces that show the passage of over half a century of waiting to be reunited with relatives in the north. As yisan kajok pass away in the next decades, so will all direct family ties and living memories between the two Koreas.

Laura Pohl is an award-winning filmmaker sand photographer based in Baltimore. This exhibition is dedicated to her great uncle Yu Il-Sang, who was separated from family members when he moved from the north to the south before the Korean War.

Next Friends Book Group choice announced

By Tim Rahn

A Place on Earth by Wendell Berry will be discussed by the Friends Book Group on Tuesday, April 17, at 7:30 pm in the Azalea Room of the community center.

First published in 1967, *A Place on Earth* describes the lives of the families in Berry's fictional Port William, Kentucky, from March to August 1945. Focused primarily on Mat Feltner, his extended family, and the loss of his only son in the war, the novel is part of what has become known as the Port Williams Membership.

The story of the Port Williams Membership is told in more than 40 stories and eight novels about the town, its agrarian environs, and people. It begins with the Civil War and continues through the latter part of the 20th century. Of his fiction writing, Berry has said, "The only thing I try to accomplish in fiction is to show how people act when they love each other."

h o e y

RΥ

ER

B

At 84 Berry is as

well-known for his activism as his writing. He protested the Vietnam War in the 60s and George W. Bush's post-September 11 strategy in 2003. He opposes the death penalty and has been outspoken about various environmental causes, especially the adverse effects of coal mining. As well as his career as a poet, essayist, novelist and short story writer, Berry has been a working farmer in Henry County, Kentucky since 1965.

Copies of *A Place on Earth* are available in the library. All are welcome to attend Friends Book Group discussions!

CALENDAR

contenders.

All welcome.

Favorite Poem Evening

Alternative Games

Sun. April 29, 2-4 p.m.

collectible card playing.

Monday, April 30, 7 p.m.

• Friday, May 4, 7:30 p.m.

& Mike Curato

book, What If...

Coming Up....

Tuesday, April 24, 7:30 p.m. See article for more information.

Lemonade and cookies served. Friends Fortnightly Book Club Tuesday, April 17, 7:30 p.m.

Azalea Room, Community Center

Join Dave Burbank for a session of

Dungeons & Dragons and rounds of

Ages 8 up, registration required:

www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents

Picture Book Creators Samantha Berger

Berger & Curato will discuss their new

Newbery Medalist Rebecca Stead and

their new book, *Bob.* This event will be

best-selling author Wendy Mass present

held in the community center auditorium.

Discussion of A Place on Earth by Wendell Berry

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

LEGO Club

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

Petites Chansons/French Circle Time Saturday, April 7, 10:30 a.m. Join Madame Marie for our monthly program of rhymes and songs in French.

Comics Jam Tuesday, April 10, 4 p.m.

Friends of the Library "Big Book"

Discussion on Kristin Lavansdatter Wednesdays, April 11 and April 25, 7:30 p.m. We'll continue our discussions in the community center

Kids Art Sunday, April 15, 2–3 p.m.

Caldecott Club

Monday, April 16, 7 p.m. It's time to start another season! Join us for a look at some early 2019 Caldecott Medal

Book sale returns!

By Pat Hanrahan

It's that time of year again! The Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library is holding its Spring Book Sale on Saturday, May 12, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., rain or shine.

If shine, the sale will be on the library lawn at 101 Philadelphia Ave. If rain, it will move inside the community center. We'll have many great books — some new — for all ages, at rock-bottom prices. Early-birds get the pick of the bunch, of course. Donate your gently used books to the sale. Please bring them to the library during regular hours. Do you have many boxes or bags of books to give? Call the library to schedule a time that works well for everyone and when staff be available to help you get the books into the library storage space.

Interested in volunteering at the sale for 8 a.m. set-up, 3 p.m. take-down, or at the sales table during two-hour segments from 10 to 3? Send an email to pat@pathanrahan.com. Hope to see you there!

Share your favorite poem

The 20th annual "Favorite Poem" evening, sponsored by the Takoma Park Maryland Library and the Friends of the Library, and hosted by Takoma Park Poet Laureate Merrill Leffler, will be held on Tuesday, April 24, at 7:30 p.m. in the Library. Modeled after the national event begun by Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky, this event has attracted poetry lovers of all ages and occupations to come together and share poems that have been meaningful to them at some point in their lives.

If you are interested in participating in this year's event, choose a poem that you have read or admired by a published poet (other than poems written by you or your

Hora del Circulo Espanol

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library April 3, 17 and May 1, 15; 10–10:30 a.m. Kool Smiles, 1147 University Blvd.

Hora del Circulo Espanol has expanded to serve children (and their parents or caregivers) at a second site in Takoma Park. Songs and pre-literacy friends). Please include an English translation for poems written in a language other than English. Inspiration may be found in the hundreds of books of poetry available at the Takoma Park Maryland Library.

So that we may include the names of the poems, the poets, the readers and their occupations in a program to be distributed at the event, please submit this information by April 17 to the Takoma Park Maryland Library, Attn. Ellen Robbins. Questions may be directed to Ellen at the library (ellenr@takomaparkmd.gov). The Friends of the Library will sponsor a reception following the readings.

activities in Spanish, led by our beloved Señora Geiza, are offered the first and third Tuesday's from 10–10:30 a.m. at Kool Smiles in East Langley Park (next to Chuck E. Cheese). The sessions are aimed at reaching out to the broader community. All are welcome; no dental appointments necessary!

TAKOMA PARK

5K RUN, 5K WALK, 1 MILE FUN RUN, 1/4 MILE YOUTH RUN

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

TAKOMA PARK COMMUNITY CENTER SUNDAY, MAY 6 • 8:00AM • TKPK5K.COM



CHEERS TO 10 YEARS

EAST SILVER SPRING ES PINEY BRANCH ES ROLLING TERRACE ES TAKOMA PARK ES TAKOMA PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Working for more than the summer

By Rick Henry

Though the calendar only says April and Spring Break is just beginning for some, many area youths are already focusing on finding summer employment. At the same time, area business owners are focusing on ramping up for the summer, hoping to find quality young people to employ and mentor. The Takoma Park Recreation Department is here to help both.

On February 21, the department launched its annual Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) by holding a business interest meeting. The SYEP program is an eightweek City program that connect local youth with training and employment opportunities. Participants complete a "boot camp" in June learning various soft skills (i.e. customer service, diversity training, fiscal responsibility, time management, etc.) and receive job-specific training and coaching on site.

Local business owners who have participated in the program in previous years say they partnered with the program to provide much more than just a summer job to the youth they employ. For them, it's an opportunity to help mentor young and influence their careers.

"Experience and exposure changes lives," said Taleesha Richardson, operations manager at the Richardson School of Music. "When the program was introduced to us (in 2014), we were so excited to have an opportunity to help encourage, cultivate and promote someone else's dream."

In the four years since, Richardson said program participants have worked with the school's summer music exploration program, record label and artist management company. And, she said, the benefits of the experience have extended past the summers the youths were employed. "We've had a few program participants go on to pursue music as a career and or future degree option, start their own band or ensemble, and decide to start



Mikentha Bobo (pictured here) worked with Let's Play America last summer and "was a huge help," according to Pat Rumbaugh. "She helped us with several play events and created the video for the home page on our website."

their own record label," she said.

Pat Rumbaugh, (AKA Pat the Play Lady), who has employed youths from the program to assist her nonprofit Let's Play America the last two years and plans to do so again this year, has had a similar experience. One of the young people she employed through the program, Miken-tha Bobo, continues to work with the organization.

Rumbaugh said the program provides value to businesses, students and the community as a whole. "Businesses, nonprofits and other organizations that participate have the chance to mentor a young person and give them a paid summer job," she said.

Erin Benton, manager of Roscoe's Neapolitan Pizzeria, echoes Rumbaugh's sentiments. "Programs like these, that benefit our youth, make our close knit community even closer and more connected," she said. "I would definitely encourage local businesses to participate in the SYEP as it is a great way to interact with the young people in the community."

Rumbaugh says the program's personal touch can require more effort than a traditional employee-employer relationship, but feels the payoff is worth it. "It does take time and energy to do this," she said. "But training young people is something I wish all organizations could take on in our community."

"The SYEP helps to teach young people what to expect and how to navigate as they enter the workforce," Benton said. Richardson can personally attest to the importance of that lesson: "I remember how hard it was as a teen to find a job or gain any work experience outside of retail or the fast food industry. The experience and exposure I received in high school caused me to pursue a career as an opera singer and voice teacher and planted my dream of opening a music school."

"So as a business and personally, I am happy to provide youth with the opportunity, experience and exposure to accomplish and pursue their dreams and goals," she continued.

If you are a Takoma Park resident between the ages of 16-21 and you are looking for summer employment, register today for the April 27 interest meeting.

BOOK WEEK From page 10

media Curato employs."

At our program, Berger and Curato will read their book and then talk about how it came together; Curato also will do some live drawing for the crowd. Berger has written a number of picture books,

including *Crankenstein*, illused by Caldecott Medalist Dan Santat. Curato, known for his best-selling *Little Elliott* books, visited the library last fall to spotlight his illustrations for the critically-acclaimed *All the Way to Havana*, written by Margarita Engle.

Our second Children's Book Week author program stars Newbery Medalist Rebecca Stead and best-selling kids' author Wendy Mass,

who will discuss their magical new novel, *Bob*, in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium on Friday, May 4 at 7:30 p.m. Stead won the 2010 Newbery Medal for her novel, *When You Reach Me*; the Newbery Medal is awarded annually by the American Library Association to the best-written book for children. Stead's other books for young readers include *First Light, Liar & Spy* and *Goodbye Stranger*. Mass is hugely popular with young readers for her novels, which include *A*



Mango-Shaped Space, Every Soul a Star, 11 Birthdays, and The Candymakers.

In *Bob*, Mass and Stead join forces to tell the story of the unusual friendship between Livy, a 10-year-old girl, and a little green creature named Bob. Livy first met Bob when she traveled to Australia from the United States as a five-year-old to spend a few weeks with her grandmother. Now she has returned five years

later and has no recollection of Bob, who has been waiting faithfully for her in a closet. After some initial discomfort, the two pick up where they left off as Livy pledges to help Bob figure out who or what he is and where he's from.

In a starred review, *Publishers Weekly* called *Bob* an "irresistible tale of magic, mystery, and friendship that poses timeless questions about identity and belonging." At our pro-

gram, Stead and Mass will talk about how they came up with the idea for the book and what it was like to work together.

Politics & Prose will be selling books by the authors at each of our programs, but these events are free, and no registration or purchase is required to attend. Please join us for two wonderful ways to celebrate Children's Book Week 2018.

months prior to the end of your initial

lease term or provide you with written

reasonable cause for offering a term of less

than an additional year, you may provide

written notice to your landlord indicating

your intent to extend the initial lease for

an additional year. Your notification must

be provided to your landlord within two

months of the expiration of the initial

Finally, your lease does convert to

month-to-month if neither you nor your

landlord takes action at the end of your

For tenants and landlords with questions

regarding the City's Landlord-Tenant or Com-

mission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (COLTA)

laws, contact me at 301-891-7215 or Mo-

lease term.

second year lease term.

sesW@takomaparkmd.gov.

MLK Memories: The day King died

Editor's Note: To mark the 50th anniversary of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s death on April 4, we invited members of the Takoma Park community to contribute their reflections about what this day in history meant to them. City Councilmember Peter Kovar (Ward 1), City Manager Suzanne Ludlow, and Takoma Park resident Nancy Abbott Young accepted the invitation. We thank them for sharing their memories of this pivotal moment in our nation's history.



Peter Kovar

"Minister of Peace Slain" – that was the *Boston Globe* headline the day after Martin Luther King Jr.'s April 1968 murder. I was 11, figuring out my connection to national politics. And that tragic, poetic headline did connect. Dr. King wasn't just a pastor or politician. He was another type of leader: a Minister of Peace.

I grew up in a political family, though I was more focused in 1968 on the Vietnam War than racial justice. But I knew Dr. King was speaking out in ways that merged the anti-war and civil rights movements. He earned the title the Globe bestowed on him.

1968 was a banner year for banner headlines. My mother saved them, a collection that included the headline just before King's death about President Johnson not seeking reelection, along with later ones on Robert Kennedy's assassination, violence at the Democratic Convention, and finally Nixon's election. The concepts embedded in those headlines remain relevant. We still see political violence, adventurist foreign policy, distortions in our electoral process, and dishonest candidates. Above all, there's the institutional racism which both prompted Dr. King to speak out and ultimately killed him.

When he died we'd just started removing the overt prejudice in federal housing policy that has disadvantaged generations of African Americans. Working at HUD, I saw first-hand how those destructive policies continue to have devastating effects decades later.

Fifty years after Dr. King's death, his work is unfinished not only in housing, but in education, criminal justice and so many other areas. Sadly, the disparities in white and black wealth detailed in the 1968 Kerner Commission report appear to have worsened. As I work with City residents and my Council colleagues to find ways to address these wrongs, I always have in mind that 1968 headline and what it represents.

—Peter Kovar



Family photo 1967

On April 4, 1968, I was standing at the base of a flight of stairs on the inside of a small church building where my father, the campus minister of Idaho State University in Pocatello, Idaho, had his office. Near me were my father and a young Catholic nun, who worked with my father on ministering to college students and participating in anti-Vietnam War and civil rights activities. We had just learned that Martin Luther King, Jr. had been shot. Although just eight years old, I remember the scene vividly because my father and the sister were both crying and the expression of despair and pain on the sister's face was like nothing I had ever seen before. Even then I knew that if a white Protestant minister and white Catholic sister in a basement in Idaho could be hurt this way, this was a profound event.

At the time, Martin Luther King, Jr. was somewhat out of favor. Some were frustrated with his commitment to nonviolence, and others were upset that he was speaking out against the Vietnam War. But his assassination rocked the country to the core. My family had been in Dallas when President Kennedy was shot, and there had been other assassinations and riots since then, but this was different and somehow left the nation jaded and with the knowledge that equality in the United States would take a long time to be realized.

—Suzanne Ludlow

My memory of April 4, 1968, is inextricably connected to August 28, 1963. On that day, my parents, Sam and Ruth Abbott, took our family to the March on Washington for Jobs & Freedom, where we joined hundreds of thousands of brave freedom fighters from all over the country.

To know what that day felt like, you must pan away from the iconic image of Dr. King at the podium, fire in his eyes, delivering "I Have a Dream." Shift the camera back along the edges of the Reflecting Pool on that sweltering August day in D.C. and pan toward the Washington Monument and further back toward

MLK MEMORIES 🗌 Page 14

HOUSING MAILBOX From page 4

the landlord's reasonable cause for not renewing the lease or for offering a renewal lease term of less than one year.

"Reasonable cause" can include landlord hardship or plans to sell the rental facility within a year, plans for the landlord or a family member to occupy the rental unit, or plans for substantial property rehabilitation to the rental unit or rental facility that cannot be accomplished while the unit/facility is occupied. Any displaced tenant has the right to lease the rental unit when the rehabilitation is completed.

If your landlord fails to provide you a with a written one year renewal offer two

in the walkout were marked as having an

RALLY ■ From page 1

was part of a national campaign, with students across the country conducting similar demonstrations.

"It was about gun violence," said Blair senior Josephine Brane-Wright. "It was about making sure I'm safe. It was really empowering to go out and show people that we can actually make difference. It was really exciting to be a part of that. It's really important to stand up for what you believe in."

Those who remained in school observed 17 minutes of silence during class at 10 a.m., one for each victim of the Parkland shooting, while students who participated in the walkout were marked as having an unexcused absence.

"The goal was to raise awareness," explained Miller. "Considering the current political climate, it's hard to argue that it can lead to direct change, but when you have thousands of people out there, it demonstrates that there's a broad section of people that care about this issue and are willing to affect change on it. I walked out to help contribute to that."

"I hope that by walking out," he continued, "even if I couldn't create concrete change from that, it would help demonstrate that there's a serious need for change and public willingness to fight for change. We're keeping the issue in the headlines, where it belongs."

The 4th Annual Montgomery County GreenFest scheduled for May 5

The 4th Annual GreenFest, Montgomery County's largest environmental festival, will take place on Saturday, May 5 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The free event will be held at Jesup Blair Local Park located at 900 Jesup Blair Drive in Silver Spring.

GreenFest is designed to create opportunities for residents, businesses, nonprofits and neighbors to come together, share ideas and learn about local environmental initiatives. This year's event will offer a wide variety of activities to appeal to the whole family, from hands-on learning opportunities, live music and dance performances to tree climbing for kids. Takoma Park is providing logistical and planning support with the planning committee and Montgomery Parks the site host.

All the activities and exhibitors will be under pop-up tents in Jesup Blair Local Park. The park is walking and biking distance to much of Takoma Park, and parking will be available at the Montgomery College East Garage and nearby county parking lots.

This year's workshops and activities will include a "Fun with Fermentation" workshop; "Green Jobs" workshop; electric vehicle car show; dockless bike demonstrations; tree climbing; food trucks, and much more. Go to montgomerycountygreenfest.org for schedules and updates.

The Montgomery County GreenFest is planned by a coalition of partners; including the City of Takoma Park, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, Montgomery Parks, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, the City of Gaithersburg, City of Rockville; University of Maryland Extension, Montgomery College, Montgomery County Public Schools, and three local com-

RECREATION From page 7

Line Dancing

Line Dancing is great physical and mental exercise, and an enjoyable social activity that leads to meeting new people. Strengthening of bone and muscles, weight loss, increased stamina and flexibility are just some of the benefits of dancing. Learn how exercise can be fun with music. Instructor: Barbara Brown

Takoma Park Community Center Dance Room 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older Wednesdays, April 4-June 27 11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m. (No class 5/30 & 6/6)

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, April 12-June 14 12–1 p.m. Free munity green groups: Bethesda Green, One Montgomery Green, and Poolesville Green.

The GreenFest committee is also looking for Outreach Ambassadors to share information about GreenFest with their networks. For more information about the Ambassador program, please contact askdep@montgomerycountymd.gov. For more information on GreenFest, visit montgomerycountygreenfest.org.

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, April 7-June 23

(No class 5/20) 2:30–3:30 p.m. Free

TRIPS

Trip #1: "New" Museum of the Bible

Washington, DC Wednesday, April 11 8:45 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Trip #2: Walters Art Museum Baltimore, MD Thursday, April 19

8:45 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Leaving from Takoma Park Community Center 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older For more information contact Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager, at 301-891-7280 or paulal@takomaparkmd.gov. Registration

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

RECREATION Special Events

Fitness Expo 2018

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-



Save the Date for Celebrate Takoma

Saturday, May 19 4 - 7 p.m. On Maple Avenue minute demonstration. 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



Takoma Junction Redevelopment: Upcoming opportunities to learn more about the project

The City Council will be considering the Takoma Junction redevelopment project over the next six weeks. Please join us to learn more about the project and provide your comments. Unless otherwise noted, meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. and will be held in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium.

April 4 – Public Presentation of the Takoma Junction Site Plan

The Neighborhood Development Company (NDC) and members of its team will present the draft site plan to the public and the City Council. The presentation will be posted online the following day.

April 7 – Takoma Junction "Open House"

This is an informal opportunity for community members to view the site plan presented by NDC earlier in the week and to comment on their plans. The event will be held on Saturday, April 7 and will run concurrently with the City Council's FY19 Budget Open House from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center. Childcare will be provided by the Recreation Department.

April 11 – Work Session "Building Design and Placement on the Property"

This Council Work Session discussion will focus on the exterior design of the building, its "massing" or shape and the space it occupies, and its placement on the property. Specific discussion points include architectural features such as the roofline, windows and entrances, decorative elements, and building materials. The set-back of the building from Carroll Avenue will also be considered.

April 18 – Work Session "Public Space and Sustainability Features"

This Council Work Session discussion will focus on the public realm and public gathering opportunities which would be created because of the development. Sustainability features including design elements such as the proposed green roof, planned landscaping and other site features, and options promoting walking and biking will be discussed.

April 22 – Takoma Junction "Pop-Up"

Walk the site and get a sense of where the building will be located; see where you will be able to sit outdoors and enjoy a cup of coffee or a conversation with your neighbor; check out the proposed lay-by; and find out how you will be able to get to the underground parking area, walk through the building and access neighboring businesses.

This one day "Pop-Up" will be held onsite on Sunday, April 22 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. between Healy Surgeons (7211 Carroll Avenue) and the Takoma Park Silver Spring Co-op (201 Ethan Allen Avenue).

April 25 – Work Session "Traffic and Circulation"

This Council Work Session discussion will focus on vehicular and pedestrian circulation patterns and the potential impact of the project on existing traffic conditions. Specific discussion points include vehicular access to/from the site, pedestrian pathways, on-site parking facilities, and operational issues such as the delivery of goods and trash removal. Options for the mitigation of current traffic and pedestrian safety concerns identified during the City's traffic study will be discussed. *The April 25 meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. Childcare will be provided by the Recreation Department*.

May 2 – Discussion of Draft Resolution

During this final Work Session discussion, the City Council will focus on the site plan in general and develop proposed language to be included in the resolution scheduled for the following week.

May 9 – Adoption of Resolution

The Council is tentatively scheduled to vote on a resolution regarding the site plan.

In addition to these meetings, there is an opportunity for public comment at the beginning of each City Council meeting. Check out the City's website at https://bit. ly/2mgi9Jv for more details.





PTAs play ball

By Helen Lyons

Takoma Park Elementary School parents and teachers will face off against their Piney Branch Elementary School counterparts on May 3 in a basketball game at Silver Spring International Middle School.

Apart from the sporting event itself, attendees will be treated to a dance demo from The Lab Breakin' School, a threepoint shooting contest for teachers, and a student basketball relay race held during the various quarter breaks.

Food trucks will be on hand for those who come hungry and gear donated from Georgetown University will serve as prizes for those who can answer trivia questions about Takoma Park.

"We try to keep the game light and goofy and fun," said Mark Ivcevich, the parent volunteer coordinator for this year's game.

The teams are comprised of a combination of parents and teachers from each school. "It's integrated," said Anand Parikh, who has participated in the event since its inception. "It's not just people who played basketball in high school or college. It's men and women and people of all skills and ages."

In previous years, the game was a matchup between parents and teachers at Takoma Park Elementary School. This is the second year that two Parent Teacher Associations (PTA) will tip off on the court.

"It's just a nice community building event," said Parikh. "You can come see your friends and neighbors and your kids' teachers play basketball together. It's a great family event. I'm excited."

Last year's game brought in around \$3,000, but fundraising isn't the main motivation for hosting the event. "Even if it's a wash, it's more about the community aspect," Ivcevich. "The whole idea is to get people to come out, see their neighbors and have some fun."

Proceeds from the game will be divided between the two schools' Parent Teacher Associations. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the game begins at 6:30 p.m.

MLK MEMORIES ■ From page 12

the buses. There you'll see a moving pageant of humanity unlike anything before or since. Men, women, children, young and old, dressed in their Sunday best, advanced steadily forward with great seriousness, dignity, and sanctity in a river of revolution. History was being made in every footstep, and we all knew it as we advanced toward the Lincoln Memorial.

The suffocating heat and humidity, the pressing crowd, the undercurrent of fear that came from the uncertainty of not knowing whether a racist sniper was lurking in the trees above ... all this visceral electricity combined in the living moment to strengthen the collective resolve and quicken the pace. An elderly man next to me, pushing himself on a pallet with wheels, smiled through his fatigue and said, "I've come too far to turn back now." The sun bore down in the miserable midday heat, but the music kept discomfort at bay. "Got my mind set on Freedom" ... "Before I'll be a slave, I'll be buried in my grave" ... "Like a tree standing by the water, we shall not be moved."

When our family got as close as possible to the Lincoln Memorial, we stopped. From somewhere far and above this magnificent pageant of humanity in its finest hour came a deep, rolling, thunderous voice. The immense crowd became silent. Time seemed to stand still as the sound expanded. The "Drum Major" was speaking. Not for himself but for all of us. He spoke as every one of us would if we could speak truth to power, roll justice down through the ages, and challenge the three curses of racism, poverty, and militarism.

This is how, for me a half century later, the memory of August 28, 1963, eclipses



NYWT&S Collection; O. Fernandez, Photographer This photo of Bayard Rustin, deputy director of the March on Washington, and Cleveland Robinson, chairman of the administrative committee, was taken on August 27, 1963, one day before the Great March. It features the poster art of Sam Abbott (Mayor of Takoma Park 1980-85), who volunteered to design many of the iconic posters of the Civil Rights and Antiwar Movements during the 1960s-70s. Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress

that of April 4, 1968. Though Jim Crow has morphed into *James Crow, Esq.*, we can still *stay woke* and march anew with the Drum Major on the long road that bends toward justice. In the deadly hour in Memphis when they assassinated one of the greatest world leaders of all time, they still couldn't pierce the dream. The dream had already been made manifest in Washington years before, and it will continue to be defended by millions of Americans for whom there is no going back. Not one inch.

—Nancy Abbott Young



SAT, MAY 5 • 11AM – 4PM

Jesup Blair Local Park • Georgia Ave. + Blair Rd.

montgomerycountygreenfest.org





THE FIREHOUSE REPORT By Jim Jarboe

As of Feb. 28, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and Montgomery County Fire and Rescue personnel assigned to the station responded to 89 fire-related incidents in 2018. The department also addressed or assisted with 527 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 616. Totals for 2017 were 84 and 424, representing an increase of 108 incidents.

During February, Takoma Park volunteers put in a total of 1,151.5 hours of standby time at the station compared to 1,834.5 hours in February 2017. Grand totals as February 2018 were 3,331.5 hours compared to 2,509.5 in 2017, an increase of 821.5 hours.

Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported that as of March 29, 14 people have died in fires compared to 21 in 2017.

Safety message

Smoke alarms save lives only if they are properly installed and tested monthly.



On March 12, the following girls and boys completed the TPVFD Baby Sitters Training Course. Seated Row 1, left to right: Mira Berley, Sachin Parikh, Xavier Ohnona, Hannah Hekhuis; Row 2, left to right: Anna Mayer, Riley Fasteau, Theodora Chrtin, Edie Castano, Charloui; Row 3, left to right: Cora Heavin, Nora McCray, Naomi Lipshultz, Aden Jeral, Satya Hewchuck, Sylvi Grace Helzer; Standing, left to right: Xavier Eiff-Waters, Vidya Amen, Jonah Witte, Matthias Eiff-Waters, Sephira Amen. Assisting Jim Jarboe were Tina and Ashlee Willey, Ntshiuwa Sato Bess, TPVFD, and Capt. Tyrone Collington, TPPD. Not pictured: Sasha Vesensky and Larkin Brady.

Be prepared: Emergency access for the deaf and hard of hearing communities

MMI

PREPAR

By Claudine Schweber, co-chair, Emergency Preparedness Committee

If you or someone in your family is deaf or hard of hearing, where do you find emergency preparedness basics? When we're in need of immediate help, most of us would call the police, the fire department or our power company. Fortunately, there are some options for deaf or hard of hearing people who need to access these services.

New opportunities for accessing 911

Access via texting is currently possible in Washington, DC; Virginia's Arlington, Fairfax, and Loudoun counties, and in Frederick County, Md. Beginning this summer, texting services will be rolled out in the rest of Maryland_according to the Governor's Office of Deaf & Hard of Hearing. This move to internet-based 911 will eventually allow voice, photos, videos and text messages. One important new feature is the ability for text- based messages to also identify the direct location of the caller (such as a specific apartment in a large building), which is not possible in the older texting systems. Until the change to Next Gen 911, callers can access the TTY/TDD interface using their landlines.

TTY/TDD and varying degrees of online/mobile access available from power companies

Pepco enables customers to report outages online using tablets or smart phones or by downloading a mobile app. The mobile app allows for a variety of reports. Calls use TTY. Baltimore Gas &

Electric notes that requests for assistance should go to the ADA Coordinator by telephone at 1-800-233-8442. Potomac Edison Maryland allows outages to be reported online once an account is created. Outages can also be reported using TTY/TDD and/or contacting the tele-

communications relay service (TRS) at 711 to report an outage, 24

hours a day, 7 days a week. Check specifics with each company.

Fire services: visual smoke alarms plus TTY/TDD

The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service (MCFRS) has a web page dedicated to "Fire Safety for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing" (https://tinyurl. com/y7egtakn). One resource featured is a 12-minute video called The *Deaf and Hard of Hearing Disaster Preparedness*, which uses sign language, sub text and audio. MCFRS also offers visual smoke alarms as well as direct phone contact is via TTY/TDD.

And if you haven't already, encourage family and friends to sign up for Takoma Park Alerts: takomaparkmd.gov/services/ takoma-park-alert. The system allows for notifications via email, text and voice. We are a caring community, so use this basic guide to help family, friends and neighbors.

Thank you to Dr. Richard Jeffries at the Maryland Association for the Deaf for his assistance with this article.

iCan Shine Bike Camp call for riders and volunteers

Takoma Park Safe Routes to School brings the iCan Shine Bike Camp to Takoma Park for the fourth time. This week-long camp is designed to teach individuals with disabilities to ride conventional bikes and become lifelong independent riders. This camp is free and open to Maryland residents only. NEW THIS YEAR: Riders over the age of 14 are welcome. Minimum age for volunteers is 15.

The camp will be held June 18-22 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:50 p.m. at Takoma Academy, 8120 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, MD. Campers and volunteers are scheduled for a specific session time (i.e. 8:30–9:45 a.m. or 2–3:15 p.m.) for the duration of the camp. TP SRTS is currently recruiting both riders and volunteers for the camp.

Riders (30 total) must be:

- At least 8 years old by start of camp and have a disability
- Able to walk without an assistive device and sidestep



Vounteers Michele Pei and Liam Levine with Austin Riggins

to both sides

- Able to attend a 75-minute session each day of the fiveday camp
- Under 220 pounds and have a minimum inseam measurement of 20 inches
- Maryland residents

Volunteers (60 needed) must be:

- At least 15 years old (unless accompanied by an adult)
- Able to attend 90 minutes at the same time each day for five days (15 minutes of training/daily debriefing, 75-minute session)
- Able to provide physical, emotional and motivational support to assigned rider
- Able and willing to jog or run for a great cause!

For more information and to register, contact lucyn@ takomaparkmd.gov or visit iCan Shine.org and/or

takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/safe-routes-to-school.

APRIL **18** 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 May issue is April 13, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning April 27. 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, April 4, 7:30 p.m. City Council Meeting, Wednesday, April 11, 7:30 p.m. City Council Meeting, Wednesday, April 18, 7:30 p.m. City Council Meeting, Wednesday, April 25, 6:30 p.m. City Council Meeting, Wednesday, May 2, 7:30 p.m. TPCC Auditorium

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

Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry

First Saturdays, noon – 3 p.m.

Grace United Methodist Church, 7001 New Hampshire Ave. Bi-weekly and monthly food supplements for needy

families 240-450-2092 or educare_ss@yahoo.com

www.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.

The Spirit Club

Wadnaadaya Gi20

Takoma Park Maryland Library

Wednesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Takoma Park Community Center 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.

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

Crossroads Farmers Market Wednesdays, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., April 18 through Nov. 28

On Anne Street between University Boulevard and Hammond Avenue (across from the Rite Aid), Takoma Park

Locally grown fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs plus pupusas and other prepared food. Please note, Market customers are not allowed to park in the Megamart parking lot or at the 1021 University Blvd. office building next to the market. If they do, they will likely be towed.

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)

First Thursdays, Takoma Park Presbyterian Church 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 first Thursdays of every month. For more information, contact Mary Muchui at muchui@aol.com.

Pet Loss Support Group

Tuesday, April 3, 6 – 7:30 p.m. The Big Bad Woof, 117 Carroll St. NW This is a safe place to share your grief, stories and memories with others who have had similar experiences losing a beloved pet. Attendees should bring a photo or a memento, if they are emotionally able to do so. Facilitator: Dr. Karen Randall, DVM www.thebiohadwoof.com

Fitness Expo 2018

Saturday, April 7, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Takoma Park Recreation Center Come join The Takoma Park Recreation Department staff 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 the first 20-minute demonstration. For additional information or to volunteer for this event, contact Vincent Cain at 301- 891-7289 or vincentc@ takomaparkmd.gov.

Annual Arbor Day Celebration

Saturday, April 7, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Takoma Park library Tree seedlings will be distributed for free.

Folklore Society of Greater Washington Concert

Saturday, April 7, 8 – 10 p.m. Seekers Church, 276 Carroll St. NW Original and traditional material from Meneely van Sante

For more information, visit fsgw.org.

Comics Jam

Tuesday, April 10, 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.

VILLAGE OF TAKOMA PARK EVENT Village of Takoma Park Friendly Visitors

Volunteer Orientation Thursday, April 19, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Historic Takoma, 7328 Carroll Ave. (Note: New location – please bring quarters for parking) Orientation session for those interested in visiting a TP senior once a week for an hour. Register by calling The Village of Takoma Park at 301-646-2109 or email sandyeganretired@ gmail.com.

ARTS AND LITERATURE

Moves Community Dance Classes

Saturdays 10 – 11:30 a.m., through May 19 7117 Maple Ave, Takoma Park A class for everyone – families welcome. Takoma Park Moves recognizes the rich possibility when people of all ages, backgrounds, and levels come together to dance. Move with a mix of families, professionals, and community members of all ages. No pre-registration required; drop-in anytime for \$5/person (kids 3 and under are free). \$5 per person

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. 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

moderate-income homeowners. To apply for a free tree, visit takomaparkmd.gov/ sustainability.

Make a Difference - Plant a Tree ^{moderate-income hol} sustainability. **ORDER FORM**

Discount Trees Available to Beautify Yards, Replace the Canopy

The season is right to plant trees, and in Takoma Park that means residents can help replenish the aging tree canopy in the city. The city offers added incentive by reducing the cost of the first tree purchased by \$100 (unless it is a replacement tree required as part of a Tree Removal Permit). That means residents can add a \$195 tree to their yards for just \$95 plus 6 percent sales tax, a total of \$100.70. Add a second tree and the bill is still only \$307.40, planted and guaranteed for one year.

Established discounts still apply as well, through the city's annual bulk buy tree sale. As a purchasing agent with Arbor



Landscapers, the city is making five species available at wholesale prices. Swamp white oak, Princeton elm, bald cypress, black gum and American linden—all native shade trees that usually retail for about \$350—are available to residents at \$195, installed. Sale dates run March 1 through April 13. A limited number of grants are available for low- to

Please include check, including tax, written to the City of Takoma Park and be sure to draw a map of the property and locations for installation. Submit to Arborist, Takoma Park Department of Public Works, 31 Oswego Ave., Silver Spring, Md., 20910 by close of business April 13.				
Name				
Address				
Phone				
Please include a map of property/tree installation locations.				
Swamp White Oak (2") \$195 Princeton Elm (2") \$195				
Bald Cypress (7' - 8') \$195 Black Gum (2") \$195				
American Linden (2") \$195				
+ 6% sales tax				
Total				

Carroll Café – Second Fridays

Friday, April 13, 7:30 – 10 p.m. Seekers Church, 276 Carroll St. NW David Sacks & DC Choro Tickets and info at http://carrollcafe.org

The Thousand Incarnations of the Rose, A Festival of American Primitive Guitar

April 13 – 15, various times Various venues around Takoma Park This three-day music festival will bring together more than 25 acoustic fingerstyle guitar and banjo players from every era of the American primitive/guitar soli movement for the first time. For times, venues and tickets, visit www.1000rose.org

Writing a Village

Monday, April 16, 7 – 9 p.m. TP Community Center Rose Room Poetry writing salon led by Anne Becker, poet laureate emerita of Takoma Park, this monthly poetry workshop is for those who love words. All levels of experience welcome.

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, April 19, 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. This month features: Teri Cross Davis, Hayes Davis and Judith McCombs.

Favorite Poem Evening

Tuesday, April 24, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park library At this wonderful local tradition, sponsored jointly by the Library and the Friends of the Library, people are invited to share a favorite poem. Refreshments are served at the conclusion of the evening.

Yoga Storytime for Families

Saturday, April 28, 10:30 a.m. Takoma Park Library Yoga Storytime for families with 0-6-year olds. Enjoy yoga poses, songs and a story with your child. This is a 30- to 45-minute program. We have yoga mats available.

Art Hop

Saturday, April 28, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday, April 29, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Various locations Takoma Park transforms into a lively arts district showcasing the work of local artists. Ceramics, digital art, drawing, fiber arts, glass, jewelry, metalwork, mixed-media, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, woodworking and more will be offered for sale at a variety of price points. Enjoy live outdoor music and dance performances all weekend too. www.mainstreettakoma.org/featured-events/art-hop-takoma

Photo Salon

Monday, April 30, 7 – 9 p.m.

Takoma Park Hydrangea Room A monthly salon for photographers to show and critique work. Professional, fine art, and amateur photographers are welcome. For more information, contact arts@ takomaparkmd.gov.

Upcoming Events

Takoma Park 5K Safe Routes to School Sunday, May 6, 8 a.m.

TP Community Center

The TKPK5K is a fun, family-oriented community event that features a series of races including a chip-timed 5k (run or walk), a 1-mile fun run and ¼-mile youth run. Proceeds from the event fund health, fitness and bike and pedestrian safety activities at five local schools: Takoma Park Elementary, Piney Branch Elementary, East Silver Spring Elementary, Rolling Terrace Elementary and Takoma Park Middle. Register at www.tkpk5k.com.

Living Low Waste in Takoma Park

Saturday, May 12, 9 – 10:30 a.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium Learn how you can live low waste by joining Lori Hill of Takoma Park-based Sister Eden Media for a lively and fun discussion including tips for living low-waste including products you can buy and those you can make. Arrive early for coffee and tea time with a continental breakfast and chat with Lori in advance.

Page 16 🗖 Takoma Park News