



WHAT'S NEW?

Gubernatorial Election Day

Nov. 6
Vote from 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

City offices & facilities closed

Veteran's Day, Nov. 12
Thanksgiving, Nov. 22 - 25

Trash holidays

Veteran's Day
Monday, Nov. 12
Yard waste collection canceled

Thanksgiving
No collection on Thursday, Nov. 22 or
Friday, Nov. 23.
Thursday, Nov. 22 trash,
food waste and recycling collected
on Wednesday, Nov. 21.

Friday, Nov. 23 trash,
food waste and recycling collected
on Saturday, Nov. 24



Credit: Takoma Park Presbyterian Church

The Union Chapel, built in 1888, sits on Maple Avenue, where the church's current education wing is now located.



At TP Presbyterian, 125 years of service

By Sean Gossard

For 125 years, Takoma Park Presbyterian Church has grown alongside the community, giving back and striving to speak out against social injustice and be a place of inclusion.

The church celebrated its 125th anniversary with a gala in late October, and each month this year has focused on a different decade in the church's history. The

church's organist also composed a special anthem for the milestone that premiered during a Sunday service after the gala.

The church's roots can be traced back to the founding of Takoma Park when congregations originally met in a tent on the site. "Someone would bring an organ in a wheelbarrow," said Elder Jill Feasley, who joined the church with her husband

TP PRESBYTERIAN □ Page 3



photo by Selena Malott

Mayor Kate Stewart speaks to Blair High School student George Ashford and other local youth about what it means to be a Sanctuary City.

Takoma Park Youth Council marks one-year anniversary with town hall

By Rick Henry

With a guest list that would be the envy of even the most well-connected Montgomery County politico, members of the Takoma Park Youth Council marked their first

year of existence with a "Town Hall" held at the Takoma Park Community Center on Sunday, Oct. 14.

Congressman Jamie Raskin, State Del-

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Editor's note



English:

Look for this icon next to newsletter articles that you can read online in other languages using the translation feature on the City of Takoma Park's website. After clicking on the link for the article, look in the upper right hand corner of the web page next to the navigation bar, and select the language you want using the drop-down box.

Spanish:

Busque este ícono junto a los artículos del boletín que puede leer en línea en otros idiomas usando la función de traducción en el sitio web de la Ciudad de Takoma Park. Después de hacer clic en el enlace del artículo, busque en la esquina superior derecha de la página web junto a la barra de navegación y seleccione el idioma que desee con el cuadro desplegable.

Amharic:

በ « ታኮማ ፓሮክ » ድህረገጽ ውስጥ የትርጉም ባህሪን በመጠቀም ሌሎች ቋንቋዎችን በመስመር ላይ ለማንበብ ከሚታተሙ የዜና ማተሚያ ጽሑፎች ቀጥሎ ያለውን ደህን አጾ ይፈልጉ. ለጽሑፉ አገናኙ ላይ ጠቅ ካደረጉ በኋላ, ከአሰሳ አሞሌው ቀጥሎ በለው የድር ገጹ የላይኛው የቀኝ ጠርዝ ላይ ይመልከቱ እና ተቀልቋይ ሳጥኑን በመጠቀም የሚፈልጉትን ቋንቋ ይምረጡ.

French:

Recherchez cette icône à côté des articles du bulletin que vous pouvez lire en ligne dans d'autres langues à l'aide de la fonction de traduction disponible sur le site Web de la ville de Takoma Park. Après avoir cliqué sur le lien de l'article, regardez dans le coin supérieur droit de la page Web à côté de la barre de navigation, puis sélectionnez la langue souhaitée à l'aide du menu déroulant.

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Park Alternative
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DOCKET

City Council & Committee Calendar

OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Nov. 7, 14, 28 and Dec. 5
TPCC Auditorium

ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION

Tuesday, Nov. 27, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Monday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m.
TPCC Council Conference Room

COMMEMORATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, Nov. 27, 7 p.m.
TPCC Atrium Room

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Tuesday, Nov. 12, 7:15 p.m.
TPCC Azalea Room

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, Nov. 29, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

FACADE ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, Nov. 13, 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium

LEGAL SERVICES REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Monday, Nov. 5, 6 p.m.
TPCC Council Conference Room

NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, Nov. 13, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Lilac Room

POLICE CHIEF'S ADVISORY BOARD

Thursday, Nov. 15, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, Nov. 15, 7 p.m.
Council Conference Room

TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, Nov. 13, 6:30 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.

City Council Action

All ordinances and resolutions are posted on the City's website.

On **September 19, 2018**, the City Council adopted **Resolution 2018-45** reappointing Carol Hotton (Ward 3) to the Tree Commission.

The City Council adopted **Ordinance 2018-37** on **Sept. 26, 2018**, amending Takoma Park Code, Ch. 3.04, Ethics, to conform to a change in the State Ethics Code. **Ordinance 2018-40** was also adopted, authorizing the purchase of digital signage for the Community Center. The service and equipment will be provided by Contract Video Specialists for \$14,125. By **Resolution 2018-46**, the City Council approved a settlement with Fairview Investment Fund for the preservation of Dorothy's Woods. The City paid \$250,000 in exchange for release of the property from a lien and dismissal of the foreclosure action. Approximately \$100,000 of the settlement amount was donated by residents to maintain the City's ownership of the Woods. The Council adopted **Resolution 2018-47** reappointing Ellen Maidman-

Tanner (Ward 2), Arthur Gary (Ward 6), and Patricia Anne Murphy (Ward 2) to the Ethics Commission. By **Resolution 2018-48**, the Council appointed Kopal Jha (Ward 2) and Andrew Siltan (Ward 1) to the Committee on the Environment, and reappointed Hellen Gelband (Ward 3) and Geoffrey Short (Ward 4) to the Committee.

On **Oct. 3, 2018**, traffic calming for Hilltop Road, between Geneva Avenue and Mississippi Avenue, was approved by **Ordinance 2018-38**. A Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement was approved for 126-128 Lee Avenue by **Ordinance 2018-39**. The properties will be operated by Lee Homes, LLC, affiliated with the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless, and will provide affordable housing for low and moderate income residents. Also on October 3, **Ordinance 2018-41** was adopted to authorize purchase of Adobe licenses at the cost of \$34,183.

Vote for Takoma Park Mayor and City Council in 2020!

City elections have moved! The next Takoma Park city election is in 2020, not 2018.

The City Council changed the election date to synchronize with state and federal elections. This change takes effect in 2020, and there are no regular city elections prior to 2020. Until then, don't forget to vote in 2018 for Maryland State, Montgomery County, and U.S. congressional races.

VACANCIES ON CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

The City Council is seeking applicants for a number of boards, commissions and committees. Takoma Park residency is required unless noted below. If you are interested in appointment, please submit the online application: bit.ly/committee-application. Feel free to drop by to observe a meeting. Meetings are listed on the City Calendar on the website. Additional information is available at takomaparkmd.gov/government/boards-commissions-and-committees.

The **Arts and Humanities Commission** advises the City Council on ways in which the City might best serve the public with regard to matters involving the arts; encourages and aids the appreciation and awareness of, and participation in, the arts among all Takoma Park residents; encourages cooperation and coordination among individuals, organizations and institutions concerned with the arts in Takoma Park; and facilitates employment opportunities for artists and the development of self-sustaining arts programs. The Commission meets every other month on the fourth Thursday. Up to one-third of the members may be non-residents. **(3 vacancies)**

The **Commemoration Commission** documents, maintains, and preserves past, present, and future memorials, commemoratives, and recognitions in the City; recommends to the City Council procedures and programs to honor and commemorate individuals, organizations and businesses that have made significant contributions to the social, cultural, historical, political, economic, or civic life of the City as a whole or to a neighborhood/local area as well as programs for individuals to honor others; implement such programs within its scope and budget; and decide on recognitions after opportunity for public review and

comment. The Commission usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. **(4 vacancies)**

The **Emergency Preparedness Committee** assists in reviewing the City's Emergency Operations Plan and other supporting emergency documents and recommending changes; explores the formation of volunteer teams that can assist City in carrying out emergency activities when called upon; coordinates with the City, County, and other agencies to educate residents on their individual responsibilities in preparing for emergencies; provides information on what residents can expect from the City and County during an emergency; collects and provides research and data and comments on emergency-related events for the Council; identifies and promotes volunteer opportunities in emergencies; and advises the City on strategies to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of City preparedness activities. The Committee meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. **(2 vacancies)**

The **Ethics Commission** provides written advisory opinions; investigates, hears, and decides in ethics inquiries and complaints; conducts a public education program; recommends legislative changes and improvements to the Ethics Ordinance; and promulgates regulations to accompany the Ethics Ordinance. **(2 vacancies)**

The **Facade Advisory Board** helps to ensure that facade designs and their maintenance are harmonious and consistent with the intended quality and character of the commercial areas of Takoma Park and provides guidance and assistance to commercial building and business owners seeking permits for facade alterations, signs, and new construction work. The Board meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. **(1 vacancy for a business owner)**

The **Noise Control Board** assists and advises the City on noise control issues, including administration and enforcement of the Noise Control Ordinance. The Board adjudicates noise disturbance complaints. Board members serve staggered three-year terms. **(1 vacancy)**

The **Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee** oversees implementation and adherence to the Takoma Park Nuclear Free Zone Act and provides public information and issues related to the Ordinance. The Committee meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. **(1 vacancy)**

The **Recreation Committee** advises the City Council on how best to serve the diverse recreation needs of Takoma Park residents, including but not limited to reviewing and recommending policies and programs that concern recreational opportunities within the City, with a special emphasis on youth and seniors and broad and diverse participation. The Committee meets the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. **(4 vacancies)**

The **Takoma Park Tree Commission** was established to preserve, protect and promote the urban forest of Takoma Park. The Commission's activities include proposing City policies and procedures that benefit the urban forest, providing public education and outreach, and adjudicating appeals of the Urban Forest Manager's decisions on tree permit applications by conducting evidentiary hearings and applying the criteria of the Tree Ordinance. The Commission is composed of five City residents appointed to three-year terms. The Commission generally meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. **(1 vacancy)**

25 years ago during its 100th anniversary. “And in winter they would meet in people’s homes.”

In 1888, a few years after the creation of Takoma Park, the city’s founder Benjamin Franklin Gilbert donated land on what is now Maple Avenue for the congregation’s original church building. Several years after the original wooden church was built for non-denominational worship and the congregation began having trouble pay bills, the Presbyterians took over the mortgage and provided a minister.

By 1922, the congregation had moved the church down the road to the stone building that’s there now on the corner of Tulip and Willow avenues. “From the earliest days it was a place for people to go for lectures and plays and where the town council held its first meetings,” Feasley said. “And when the stone sanctuary was built that tradition continued on.”

The high-point of the church came in the early 1950s in terms of membership, when the congregation was around 1,500 people. And by the 1960s, the church began to change its focus and direction. “From the 1890s through the 1950s the church mission was very outward,” Feasley said. “They sponsored refugees and missionaries in other countries.”

But in the 1960s under Minister John Patterson, whose wife Katherine Pater-son wrote the children’s book “Bridge to Terabithia,” the congregation took steps to integrate and become more diverse. The congregation now includes families and individuals from all over the globe, including Cameroon, the Congo, India, Jamaica, Russia and South Korea to name just a few.



Credit: Takoma Park Presbyterian Church

Takoma Park Presbyterian Church’s Sanctuary was built in 1922 on the corner of Tulip and Willow Avenues.

And that level of social awareness and diversity has continued through the years at TPPC. When CASA de Maryland, a Latino and immigrant advocacy organization, was founded in 1985 the basement of the church served as its original headquarters.

“CASA may no longer be housed at the church, but we always describe our origin story as one in which North American and Central American activists came together in a church basement at Takoma Park Presbyterian to provide sanctuary and support to those fleeing oppression,” said CASA Executive Director Gustavo Torres.

The building is currently the headquarters of Community Mediation Mary-

land, which advances conflict resolution through education, training and research. And the Takoma Park Child Development Center, the county’s first day-care center, started there in the early 1980s.

The church also has a “Black Lives Matter” banner that it hangs prominently up-front, carrying on a tradition of speaking out on social injustice that dates back to the 1970s when the church spoke out on apartheid policies and racial discrimination. “We’ve been using the space to speak out on issues,” Feasley said. “Before that in the 1960s, the sign just read ‘Welcome.’ “

They’ve also hosted several Girl Scout troops and for nearly 100 years have been the home and sponsor of Boy Scout Troop 33.

In the past few years, the church renovated its kitchen area and is now working with Takoma Park Silver Spring Community Kitchen to support and empower low-income food entrepreneurs. Now those starting a food business can get training and work out of the kitchen to help cut start-up costs.

“Without the partnership between the church and Crossroads Community Food Network, we wouldn’t be able to offer this critical infrastructure, and many of the food entrepreneurs we serve would need to defer their dreams,” said Christie Balch, executive director of Crossroads, which helps run the kitchen.

Balch says that 11 businesses are now using the kitchen, with many sourcing their produce from farms in Maryland and neighboring states. “They produce food for farmers markets and catering gigs, and many users are low-income, so the space is made available for free,” Feasley said.

The church is also open to Buddhist and Jewish groups as well as meditation classes and Masons. The church’s gym is used by soccer and basketball teams in the winter and as a home court for a couple of nearby schools. “There’s something going on there every day,” Feasley said.

And what’s in store for the next 125 years for Takoma Park Presbyterian Church and its roughly 200 members?

The church currently has an interim pastor, and Feasley says part of that involves revisioning and thinking about what they want to do next. “We need to think about what kind of church we want to be,” Feasley said.

But it seems like its goals for social justice and inclusion will always remain, much like the spirit of Takoma Park itself. And like its mission says, it is a “Church for ALL People.”

The Takoma Park Project Directory

What is going on in Takoma Park? The Project Directory can fill you in! The Project Directory lists all major projects currently being worked on or planned citywide and includes need-to-know information for each one. To check it out, visit takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory.

Important City Phone Numbers

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



THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

Editor: Apryl Motley
Assistant: Sean Gossard
www.takomaparkmd.gov
Vol. 57, No. 11

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

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.



YOUTH COUNCIL ADVISOR WANTED

The Takoma Park City Council is seeking an adult volunteer to serve as the Advisor to the Takoma Park Youth Council. The Youth Council Advisor will work directly with the Youth Council to plan and coordinate meetings, guide and help prepare the Youth Council in its activities, encourage and empower Youth Council members in building their communication and leadership skills, and to facilitate their decision-making processes without controlling their decisions. The Youth Council Advisor will attend all meetings of the Youth Council. For more information, contact Jessie Carpenter at 301-891-7267 or clerk@takomaparkmd.gov.



BUILDING COMMUNITY



Register Your Owner-Occupied Group House

An Owner Occupied Group House is a single-family home:

- Occupied by the owners or a family members as their primary residence; and
- One or more unrelated individuals who pay rent or share the costs of utilities.

The ability to rent out a private bedroom and then share common space in single-family homes creates affordable housing opportunities in our terrific Takoma Park neighborhoods as well as providing income for homeowners.

These houses are not considered rental properties by the City, although they are required to be registered. This is the same registration that is required for homeowners who rent rooms in the homes they live in through short-term services, such as Airbnb. Registration lasts for three years, expiring December 31 of the third year.

Register in three easy steps

1. Complete a brief application, on the City web site at [takomaparkmd.gov/government/housing-and-community-](http://takomaparkmd.gov/government/housing-and-community-development/rental-housing/owner-occupied-group-house)

development/rental-housing/owner-occupied-group-house.

2. Pay the \$50 registration fee.

3. Pass an inspection conducted by City staff to ensure the home meets health and safety standards.

The inspector will test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, both of which need to be either hard-wired or the ten-year, tamper-proof type. They will verify that each bedroom has a key-operated lock on the exterior and a thumb turn on the interior and as well as a window that provides safe exit in case of a fire or other emergency. The inspector will also check that the cooking and sanitation facilities are in good working order. This inspection is repeated at the time the registration is renewed, every three years.

Do you have questions about the registration process or want to verify that your group house is already registered? Contact Housing and Community Development at 301-891-7119 or housing@takomaparkmd.gov.

New service for streaming and archiving meeting video

The City has contracted with Open Media for streaming and archiving of meeting videos, moving away from our previous service, Granicus. Open Media is an open source and nonprofit organization with a focus on government transparency. Municipalities of our size are eligible for a 50 percent matching grant from the Open Media Foundation to use the software. With the grant, we will be paying \$3,000 per year, a savings of \$12,000 per year.

Open Media partners with YouTube to provide high quality and flexible video streaming of meetings accessible from any device that can access YouTube. We expect this change to resolve issues our residents have sometimes encountered when viewing our meetings online.

As with our prior service, meetings can be indexed by agenda item to make it easy to jump to a particular point. With YouTube, closed captioning of archived meetings in multiple languages is available for

free. The agendas and captions are searchable by keyword, and any search matches bring people to the relevant point in the video. Archived meetings can be replayed at slower or accelerated speeds. The City Council online video archive, which goes back to 2006, is being migrated to our Open Media site.

Although meetings can be viewed live on YouTube, we encourage people to access the video through the City's website so that the meeting agenda and indexing will be available: takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/meetings-and-documents/city-council-video.



TOWN HALL

■ From page 1

egates David Moon and Jheanelle Wilkins, Montgomery County Councilmember Hans Reimer, Takoma Park Mayor Kate Stewart, Takoma Park Police Chief Antonio DeVaul, City Manager Suzanne Ludlow and student activists Sofia Flynn and Tiffany Missembe participated in the event.

Congressman Raskin gave a keynote speech, while the others held small group roundtable discussions as members of the Youth Council and other guest youth rotated through, giving participants the opportunity to meet with each speaker.

According to the Youth Council Chairperson, 17-year-old Kiran Kochar McCabe, who represents Ward 6, the event sprang from responses to a survey of city youth the Youth Council conducted shortly after assembling. "We asked if people would be interested in a youth town hall, and there were a lot of positive responses," she said.

Vice Chairperson, 17-year-old Emma Morgenstern (Ward 1), said the goal of the event was "to make youth more aware of who is serving them and who is making the decisions that affect them."



City Manager Suzanne Ludlow and TPPD Police Chief Antonio DeVaul speak of ways to better connect with the local youth, as well as what the upcoming winter months mean for Public Works and other City staff to keep our streets safe.

Mayor Stewart said the event benefitted the officials in attendance just as much as the youth participants. "The Town Hall was an excellent opportunity to hear from young people about their concerns and what they would like to see in the City," she said. "Conversations I had ranged from addressing climate change to property taxes to housing issues."

Police Chief DeVaul echoed the Mayor's sentiments. "I commend the Youth Council for putting this event on because it is a great way to connect with youth, and one of our most important initiatives at the department is to develop trust with the youth of the city," he said.

Another issue uniting both the Youth Council and the elected officials present is the importance

of voting. Because Takoma Park allows 16-year-olds to vote in local elections, it is especially important for youth to be engaged, said Kochar McCabe.

"One of the values the council holds dear is youth engagement," she told the crowd in her opening remarks. She then shared evidence that engagement is taking place, noting that 48 percent of 16-17-year-olds



Adelaide Harris (Council Member, Ward 2), Emma Morganstein (Vice Chairperson, Ward 1) and Kiran Kochar McCabe (Chairperson, Ward 6).

voted in the last local election, compared to 22 percent of the other eligible voters.

In his closing remarks, Congressman Raskin also spoke about the importance of youth engagement in government, specifically pointing out the significance of the movement to lower the voting age to 16 in different parts of the country.

Building momentum for that movement has been one of the key focuses for the members of the Youth Council, and they have provided testimonials regarding youth voting to other municipalities across the country.

The Town Hall represented a great opportunity for the Youth Council members and City officials to look back on the first year and look ahead to the future. "The Youth Council has been terrific over the past year. Members have engaged with other young people, City staff and elected officials at the City, County, State and Federal levels, and they have provided feedback to the Council on a number of projects," said Mayor Stewart. "I look forward to working with them in the upcoming year."

For Kochar McCabe and the other Youth Council members, the town hall validated their efforts and success. "I think the event went really well," she said. "It was a great opportunity for youth to learn more about various topics and people, and for our guests to connect with youth. Having so many officials attend represented how far we've come as a Youth Council in one year."



Elected Delegates Jheanelle Wilkins and David Moon speak with local TPMS/PBES students Henry Merrill, 13 and Rosaline Merrill, 10 about schools lunches.

photos by Selena Malott

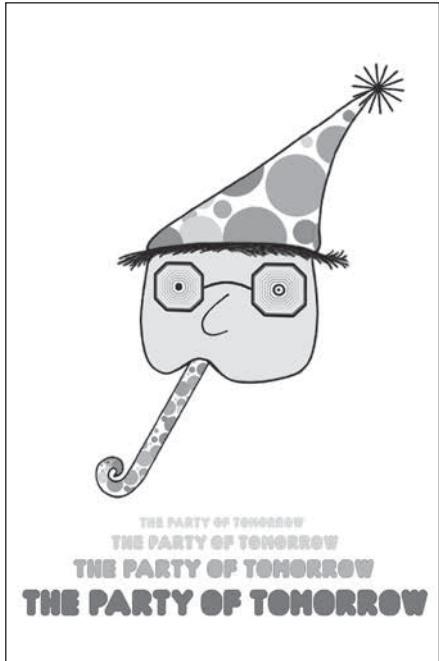
WHEN WORDS MEET ART Opening Reception

Nov. 8, 7 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Avenue
Free event

The worlds of art and literature merge in WHEN WORDS MEET ART, a group exhibition with five artists who specialize in illustration or mixed media, exploring how ideas can be expressed through the head and the heart.

Eric Gordon pens comic strips loaded with amusing text about Binny the Recycling Ghost, a giant robot named Mega Turg and other crazy creatures. Inspired by his love for music and city



Martin Graff, *The Party of Tomorrow*



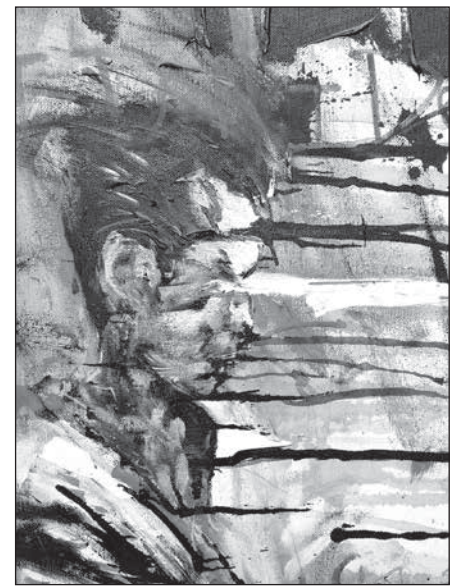
living, Eric has created a new series of colorful mixed-media paintings featuring emotive musical phrases, recycled paint scraps, and other found objects. As a social worker, he shares his love for art at Art Enables, a vocational day program for artists with disabilities in Washington, D.C.

Martin Graff creates amusing illustrations with captions that revel in the lighthearted and absurd in his ongoing art project called *Enter the Face Zone*. "I create surreal daydreams to trip people's imaginations," he says. "I hope my art inspires us to notice the world through creative eyes, to ask deeper critical questions, and to enjoy the ride along the way."

Esther Iverem has crafted doll-like

figures from recycled jeans and other reclaimed materials in her suspended installation titled *Olokun of the Galaxy*. Olokun is an African spirit which protects the oceans and honors the millions of Africans who were forced into slavery during the Middle Passage to North America. Some of the figures wear medallions that read "Water is Life" or "Mni Wicomi" (Lakota for "Water is Life") or carry small photos of African Americans killed by state violence, such as Eric Garner and Sandra Bland.

Growing up in a small fishing village in Iceland, Kolbrun Kristjansdottir was shaped by the untouched natural beauty that surrounded her. After moving to the D.C. area, she felt overwhelmed by the last toxic presidential campaign and



Above, Eric Gordon, *It Made Sense*
At left, Esther Iverem, *Olokun of the Galaxy*

wanted to share some positive messages. In her *Timeless Calendar*, she paired inspiring quotes from every U.S. president with 365 of her photographs of famous D.C. landmarks, nature scenes and other locales.

Joan Waites is an award-winning author and illustrator, who has illustrated more than 45 children's or educational books. A former adjunct faculty member at the Corcoran School of Art and Design, Joan has shifted from watercolor and colored pencil to a more stylized look rendered in gouache or painted paper collage. Some of her book covers and illustrations will be on display, including several books authored by Edward Allan Faine. He is the author of 19 books and is loved by kids as the "How-To Cowboy" children's entertainer.

Community Stories Festival Opening Night Documentary Shorts

Nov. 8, 7 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue
Free event

See short documentaries about local people, places and happenings from across the D.C. area. Meet the filmmakers and celebrate community stories. Please join us at 7 pm for a joint reception for the screening and the opening for the WHEN WORDS MEET ART exhibition. The screening will start at 7:30 pm. To see what is showing, go to www.docsinprogress.org/communitystories.

Puppet Slam!

Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue
Free event with \$10 suggested donation

Wit's End Puppets returns to Takoma Park for another popular Puppet Slam bringing together some of the best



local puppet makers and performers for a night of serious, abstract, silly and thought-provoking puppet theater. Puppet performances will be interspersed with live music in an entertaining event for audiences of all ages.

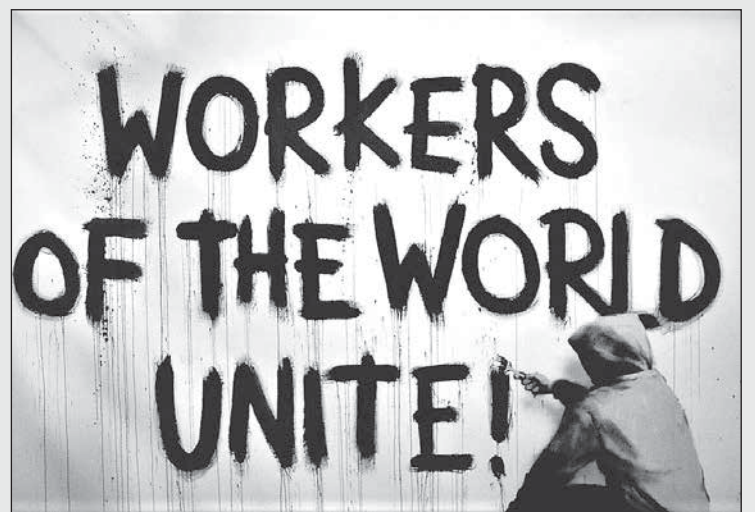
Wit's End Puppets is an innovative and experimental puppet theater group that produces original work for adventurous audiences in the D.C. area, collaborating with local partners to stage performances that educate children and adults about the evolving craft of puppetry.

Workers' Poetry Fest

Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue
Free event

Work. It's just a four-letter word for some people or a life's calling for others. The world of work raises fundamental questions about our society, including workers' rights, income inequality and the benefits and pitfalls of capitalism. Please join us to hear local poets and labor activists read poems about work at the Workers' Poetry Fest. The speakers include Bomani Armah, Sarah Browning, Yolanda Gee, Angelique Palmer, Brenardo Taylor and Raymond Nat Turner. This free event is organized by DC LaborFest, which celebrates work, workers and their issues through the arts.



Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue
Free event

Please join us for the next Third Thursday Poetry Reading where local poets Kateema Lee, Sunil Freeman, J. Morris and Lily Scialom-Herman will read their original work. Visitors can meet the poets at a reception following the reading.

RECREATION

TOTS

DROP-IN

Community Playtime

Enjoy open playtime, read stories, work on craft projects, enjoy the playground and socialize. Organizers will provide toys, craft supplies, story time and snacks. Visit www.takomaplaytime.org for more information. This is a drop-in program; no registration is required.

Heffner Park Community Center
42 Oswego Avenue
Newborn–5 years
Ongoing
English: Mondays
Spanish: Fridays
10 a.m.–12 p.m.
Free

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
Mondays, through December 10
Wednesdays, through December 19
4–5 p.m.
Resident: \$130 / Non-resident: \$150

MARTIAL ARTS



Taekwondo

Taekwondo is not only a combat sport, but it is also a way of life for enthusiasts around the globe. Taekwondo itself is made up of three Chinese/Korean words: Tae meaning to kick or jump; Kwon meaning first or hand; and Do which means “the way.” Taekwondo benefits include enhancing self-esteem by heightening your physical and mental powers. It builds confidence by encouraging you to succeed and to take control of your life. Develop discipline by thoroughly training your body and mind in the tenets and techniques of

Taekwondo. Taekwondo emphasizes kicking techniques and is a fun way to achieve fitness and focus. There is a one-time, non-refundable \$40 uniform fee paid to the instructor at the first class. Instructor: Felix Lindeire

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
6 years and older
Mondays, through December 3
(No class on 11/12)
6–7 p.m.
Resident: \$165 / Non-resident: \$185



SPORTS

Futsal League 2019

Futsal, a sport that is similar to soccer, offers the perfect combination of learning and fun. It is designed to improve fundamental technique and skill development during the winter months. It's also a great opportunity to meet new friends, stay in shape and prepare for the upcoming season. Please note that program registration is first come first serve, and space is limited to 40 participants per division. Parents are encouraged to volunteer as coaches. **There will be no games on January 20 and February 17.**

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
7–9 Year Division
10–12 Year Division
8 Game Season
Practices: Saturdays, January 5–March 23



Games: Sundays, January 27–March 24
\$60

Winter Basketball League 2019

The Winter Basketball League is a developmental, community league. Program goals are to introduce boys and girls to the fundamentals of basketball and to emphasize that playing the game and being a member of a team are more important than winning. The coaches in this league will focus on personal improvement, sportsmanship and fun. Practice times (1 hour a week) vary throughout the week at various local schools. Games are held on Saturdays; times vary. Specific details regarding each league will be available on takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/sports/winter-basketball-league.

Coaching Information: Volunteer coaches are always needed; training is provided. Please contact the Takoma Park Recreation Department if interested, 301-891-7284.

Team Assignments: Co-ed divisions will reflect gender equity based on number of participants.

Special Requests: Requests must be made in writing and submitted through ActiveNet at time of registration.

Various Local Schools
Gymnasiums
Kindergarten–8th Grade
8 Week Season
Games on Saturdays, starting January 12
Resident: \$70 / Non-resident: \$80

TEENS

DROP-IN

Teen Lounge

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

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 given snack and invited to lounge, play games, and/or participate in activities. Registration is not required. Free for residents and non-residents.



Takoma Park Community Center
Teen Lounge
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6–12
Ongoing during the school year
Monday–Thursday
3:30–4:30 p.m.
Free

Smashing Smoothie and Movie Rap Night

Round up your friends and join us as we enjoy smoothies while watching movies. After the movie, teens will participate in a discussion designed to stimulate positive and informative conversation to assist in developing respect for themselves and others. A raffle will be drawn at the end of the discussion.

Takoma Park Community Center
Teen Lounge
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6–12
Friday, November 30
5–7 p.m.
Free

Xpression Tuesdays

Allow your imagination and creative juices to come alive on Tuesdays in the Teen Lounge. Join the teen staff as you express yourself through art. Create pieces that you can take home or give as a gift. We are always looking for more ideas of ways to create and express ourselves.

Takoma Park Community Center
Teen Lounge
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6–12
Ongoing
Tuesdays, 4:30–5:30 p.m.
Free

ADULTS



Instructors needed (to teach Grades 6–12)

**Seasonal, Year Round, Flexible,
Afternoon/Evening Preferred**

Teen Programs is seeking instructors to facilitate a variety of classes for Grades 6–12. Currently instruction is needed for Drama, SAT Prep, STEAM, Job Training, Dance, Art, etc. For more information, please contact Ms. Leicia at leiciam@takomaparkmd.gov.

FITNESS

Qi Gong - 12 Postures

The exercises of Lang Ye 12 Postures Qi Gong enhance flexibility, core strength and alignment, prevent stiffness and help to relieve back/neck pain. Learning these standing and seated movements will bring relief, joy and energy to your mind, body and spirit. If your vital life energy has been blocked by illness or injury or you are just “low energy,” then this class will revitalize you. No experience is needed. Instructor: Joann Malone



Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
16 years and older
Tuesdays, through December 4
7–8 p.m.
Resident: \$95 / Non-resident: \$105
Drop-In: \$15 (check or credit card only)

Yoga (Iyengar): 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: Tehseen Chettri

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
18 years and older
Wednesdays, through December 19
7:30–9 p.m.
Resident: \$180 / Non-resident: \$210
Drop-In: \$15 (check or credit card only)

Walking in a Winter Wonderland

By Michael Kurland, Recreation Supervisor

The weather outside may be frightful, but the Winter Break Camp for the Takoma Park Recreation Department will be delightful. During the winter, kids have visions of snowy days with sledding and hot cocoa. They dream of staying home from school for snow days. Most parents are looking for something to do with their children during winter break. When children are out of school for winter holiday breaks, it's important to keep them busy.

Every winter, the Takoma Park Recreation Department holds the Winter Break Camp for kids ages 5–12. This year's camp will be from December 26–28 at the Takoma Park Community Center (7500 Maple Avenue). Winter Break Camp offers parents a place to bring their kids as well as keep them active and off the couch. This camp is not just a place to send the little ones until school



resumes in January, but it connects kids to real-life skills and experiences they are not going to find anywhere else.

Winter Break Camp is mostly an indoor camp, but it is still very active with great activities, such as arts and crafts,

indoor games and other recreational activities. Deborah Jackson says, “We sign our two kids up every year for the Takoma Park Recreation Department’s Winter Break Camp. It gives them a chance to get that energy out in a structured setting.”

A well-deserved break from academic life, Winter Break Camp with the Takoma Park Recreation Department will allow your child to feel accomplished and entertained. Creative play will be encouraged, and imaginations ignited. Don't get left out in the cold. Be sure to register soon.

Staff members are eagerly waiting to have some fun and holiday joy with your little ones. Courtney McQueen, Recreation Department staff member says, “We really enjoy the kids warming up our cold wintery season with their enthusiasm and energy.” Before you know it, the school break will be here. Come on out and join the fun!

RECREATION

■ From page 6

MARTIAL ARTS

Karate Self-Defense

Promote physical fitness, self-defense, leadership and cultural exchange through the practice of a traditional Okinawan karate style, Isshinryu,

which means “one heart way.” This program is a partnership between the Takoma Park Recreation Department and the Penn State University Karate Club. This program requires a recreation center membership. Instructor: Penn State University Karate Club

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Back Room
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
16 years and older



Wednesdays, through December 19
7–8:30 p.m.

Free with Recreation Center membership card

55+

DROP-IN

Game Room Open Play

The game room is available for adults age 55 and older to play pool, table tennis, basketball arcade and other active games. The game room is a great place to join friends for lively conversation, and just to “hang out” before, in-between and after classes during the day. **Game Room not available during Table Tennis Skills Class fall session, Thursdays 9/6-11/8, 12–1 p.m.**

Takoma Park Community Center
Game Room
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Ongoing

Monday-Wednesday: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Thursdays: 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

Fridays: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Saturdays: 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

Free

RECREATION *Special Events*



Is My Class Canceled Due to Weather?

The City of Takoma Park has several ways to let you know if City facilities are closed and Takoma Park Recreation programs are canceled: get notices via Takoma Park Alert (www.takomaparkmd.gov/alert); check the City's website; or call the Recreation Department's Inclement Weather Line (301-891-7101, x5606). In general, if the Federal Government closes or has a delayed opening in the morning, the City does the same. Classes that begin before a delayed opening are usually canceled. Morning and Afternoon Addition and After the Bell programs follow the Montgomery County Public Schools declarations. If there is a two hour delay in the morning, Morning Addition starts at 9 a.m.



9th Annual Mid-Year Play Day

Attention! Attention! Yes, that's right. Let's Play America and the Takoma Park Recreation Department has teamed up to present to you the Ninth Annual Mid-Year Play Day! Come join Let's Play America and the Takoma Park Recreation Department for a fun afternoon of indoor play. Free fun for all. It's time for you to let your hair down, put on your comfy clothes and get ready to PLAY! To see a full listing of activities and performances please visit www.letsplayamerica.org. See you there!!

Takoma Park
Community Center
7500 Maple Avenue
All ages
Sunday, February 10
1–4 p.m.
Free





In search of more American Indian voices

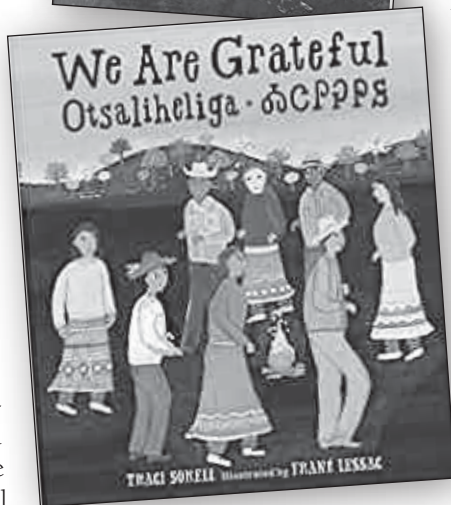
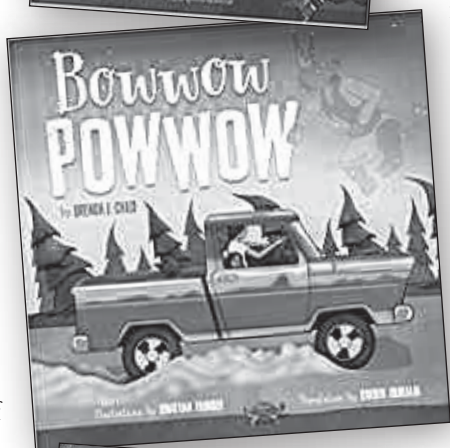
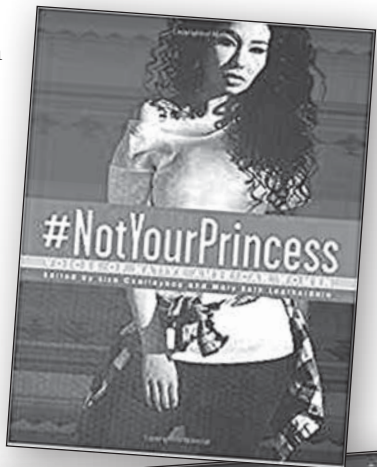
By Karen MacPherson

November is American Indian Heritage Month. One way that we've celebrated for almost two decades is by hosting Eaglebear, who share stories, songs and dances from his Xicano and Apache heritage. This year, our program featuring Eaglebear will take place on Monday, Nov. 5 at 7 p.m.

Another way we celebrate each year is by putting up a display of books by and about American Indians and encouraging young readers to check them out. In the past few years, we've put more emphasis on finding and purchasing books by American Indians as opposed to books about them by authors of other races or cultures. This is both a reflection of the Library's effort to mirror our local community's wonderful diversity as well as the larger push for "#OwnVoices" within the children's literature world.

The #OwnVoices movement calls for more cultural authenticity in children's books, which means, for example, having more books about American Indians written by American Indian authors – not by authors of other races or cultures. There's a good reason for this effort. One example: two of the best-known children's books featuring American Indians are the 1975 Caldecott Medal winner, *Arrow to the Sun*, written and illustrated by Gerald McDermott, and the 1979 Caldecott Medal winner, *The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses*, written and illustrated by Paul Goble. Neither author, however, was American Indian, and in recent years, American Indian scholars have found major flaws in the way Native culture is presented in both books.

While children's publishers are – after



decades of stops and starts – now clearly making a determined effort to search out more authors of color and publish more culturally authentic books, there's still a long way to go. The latest statistics from the University of Wisconsin's Cooperative Children's Book Center show that, of the 3,700 children's books the Center received from publishers in 2017, only 72 had "significant" American Indian/First Nation content or characters. And, of those 72 books, only 38 were by American Indian/First Nations authors and/or illustrators.

However, there are some wonderful children's and teen books by American Indian authors that have been published in recent years, and we are happy to purchase them for the Library. One great source of information about the best American Indian books for kids is the blog American Indians in Children's Literature, created and maintained by Debbie Reese, a children's literature scholar and member of the Nambe Pueblo in New Mexico. Using Reese's lists of recommended books, we are building our Library's collection of #OwnVoices American Indian books.

Among our newer books by American Indians are picture books such as *We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga* by Cherokee author Traci Sorell and *Bowwow Powwow* by Red Lake Ojibwe author Brenda Child; the award-winning kids' novel, *How I Became a Ghost*, by Oklahoma Choctaw author Tim Tingle; and *#Not Your Princess: Voices of Native American Women*, a collection of stories, poems and artwork by women authors of various tribes. These are just a few of the new books we have by American Indian authors. Come browse our collection and check some out!

CALENDAR

Circle Time

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

Spanish Circle Time

Thursdays, 10:15–10:45 a.m. OR 11–11:30 a.m.
Led by Senora Geiza

LEGO Club

Sunday, Nov. 4, 1:30–3 p.m.
Building fun for ages 3–10.

Eaglebear & Friends

Monday, Nov. 5, 7 p.m.

Join us for this fun annual celebration of Apache culture in honor American Indian Heritage Month.

Friends Fortnightly Book Club

Wednesday, Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m.

Our book is *The Great Fire* by Shirley Hazzard (copies available in the Library)
All welcome.

Location: Hydrangea Room, Takoma Park Community Center

Alternative Games: International Games Week

Saturday, Nov. 10, 2–4 p.m.

Celebrate International Games Day 2018 by joining Dave Burbank for a session of *Dungeons & Dragons* and rounds of collectible card playing.
Ages 8 up, registration required:

www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents

Comics Jam

Tuesday, Nov. 13, 4 p.m.

Join Dave Burbank for our fun comics book club!

Friends "Big Book" Club

Wednesdays, Nov. 14, 28 & Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m.

Discussions continue on our book choice, "The Biblical Book of Genesis."
Takoma Park Community Center

Petites Chansons/French Circle Time

Sat. Nov. 17, 10:30 a.m.

Madame Marie leads our half-hour program of French rhymes and songs.

Kids Art

Sunday, Nov. 18, 2–3 p.m.

Caldecott Club

Monday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m.

Join us for a look at some 2019 Caldecott Medal contenders.
Lemonade and cookies served.

Coming Up....

- **LEGO Club**, Sunday, Dec. 2, 1:30–3 p.m.
- **Bedtime Stories & A Craft**, Tuesday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m.
- **Winter Solstice Celebration**, Thursday, Dec. 20, 6:30 p.m.



N. Jeremi Duru



E. Ethelbert Miller



Ralph Steinhardt

Sports, law and race: A conversation

The Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library (FTPML) will host a wide-ranging, provocative conversation on sports by a panel of leading literary and legal voices on Thursday, Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center. FTPML is partnering with "We are Takoma" for this special evening.

N. Jeremi Duru and E. Ethelbert Miller will discuss political activism, historically and today; the NCAA and exploitation of collegiate sports; head trauma in football and soccer and its implications in relation to race.

Miller is a poet and literary activist who has served as board chair of the Institute for Policy Studies. His most recent book of poetry is *If God Invented Baseball*. Duru is a sports law expert and professor at American University, who wrote *Advancing the Ball: Race, Reformation, and the Quest for Equal Coaching Opportunity in the NFL*. He is a Takoma Park native and Blair High School graduate.

Takoma Park resident Ralph Steinhardt, a human rights and international law expert, will moderate the discussion.

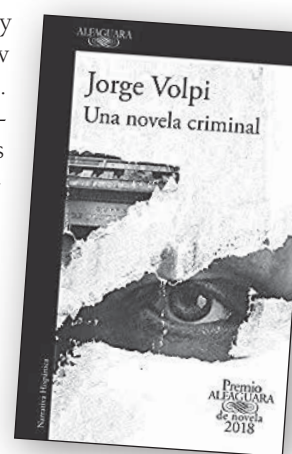
Libros Nuevos en Espanol

The Takoma Park Library has an exciting variety of new books for adults in Spanish. They include fiction and non-fiction – both original works by Latin authors and translations of books originally published in English.

Some fiction titles not to be missed are:

El dia en que los leones comeran ensalada verde by Raphaëlle Giordano

Una novella criminal by



Jorge Volpi

En un Rincon del alma by Antonia J. Corrales

Las Hijas del Agua by Sandra Barneda

El Aroma del Tiempo by Nuria Pradas

Negro Como El Mar by Mary Higgins Clark

Volveras a Alaska by Kristin Hannah

Artemisa by Andy Weir

LIBROS NUEVOS □ Page 9

Creating less waste: Two Takoma Park women take action

One day while walking her dog through Sligo Creek Park, Takoma Park resident Lori Hill picked up some trash. It's something she has always done, but this time she asked herself, "How can I inspire my neighbors to pick up trash, too?" She quickly realized, however, that trash was the side effect of a much bigger problem. She then asked, "How can I inspire my neighbors to stop creating so much waste in the first place?"

That thinking led Hill, of green lifestyle company Sister Eden Media, to present the workshop, *Trash Talk with Lori Hill: Tips for Living a Low Waste Life*, at the Takoma Park Community Center in May 2018.

Rini Saha was in the audience. A few years before as a high school teacher, Saha wanted to teach her students about recycling. From that research sprung a passion for living zero waste. She "was elated to see the talk Lori was putting on. It was the thing I was looking for." Saha particularly appreciated Hill's practical advice, such as how to avoid plastic when doing laundry or storing food.

Since the workshop, Saha was inspired to start a Zero Waste/Minimalist Lifestyle Support Group, which held its first meeting Oct. 12.

"It's not easy to be zero waste. It's the opposite of how we are raised as Americans these days," Saha said. "There is very little infrastructure that supports someone who does not want to create trash. I would like to gather like-minded people, so we can become a resource and support to each other. This group is open to anyone, people who just want to learn more and people who are living the zero waste lifestyle."

"The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) just released a report calling for urgent action around the world to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. One of the key actions we can take is to reduce the amount of waste we create. Using reusables, not disposables, and composting our food waste is a start," Hill said.

Saha added, "One of the major ways that



Rini Saha and Lori Hill

we in modern society create greenhouse emissions is in our landfills and incinerators (where we get rid of our trash). Recycling in many ways has been a failure. Only 10 percent of plastic gets recycled. It's important that we reduce our trash by avoiding single-use plastics."

For information about Rini Saha's Zero Waste/Minimalist Lifestyle Support Group, email her at rinisaha@gmail.com.

Lori Hill will present her low waste living workshop again on Saturday, November 17 at 10 a.m. in the auditorium of the Takoma Park Community Center. This free, hour-long workshop will include low-waste living tips for your kitchen, laundry, grocery shopping, bathroom, entertaining, gift giving, wardrobe, and travel.

There will also be door prizes from companies that help you live low waste. Each attendee will receive an electronic resource guide as well as a free copy of *The Sister Eden Citizen Action Plan: 31 Daily Tips to Take Care of Yourself and Take Care of the Planet*.

Registration is required. For more information about the workshop, visit www.sistereden.com/lowwaste.

LIBROS NUEVOS

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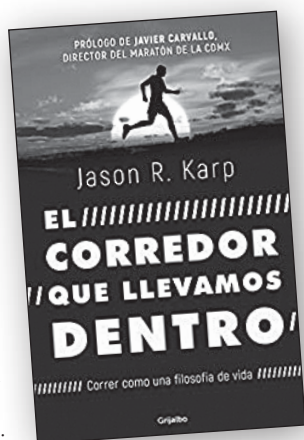
Casa de Espias by Daniel Silva

Hijos de Hombres by P.D. James

Non-fiction titles offer advice on child-raising, self-care and ways to deal with life's challenges:

El Cerebro Afirmativo del Niño: Ayuda a tus Hijos a Ser Mas Resiliente, Autonomo y Creativo by Daniel J. Siegel and Tina Payne Bryson

La Dieta del Cuerpazo: Plan Para Transformar tu Cuerpo Radicalmente en 28 Dias by Michelle Lewin



El Corredor que Llevamos Dentro: Correr Como una Filosofia de Vida by Jason R. Karp

Libera Tu Cerebro: Las Cuatro Reglas de Oro Para Romper to Adiccion a la Comida, Alcanzar tu Peso Ideal y Ser Feliz ! by Dr. Susan Pierce Thompson

Por Que Los Ricos se Vuelven Mas Ricos: Que es Realmente La Educacion Financiera by Robert T. Kiyosaki

El Camino de la Diosa Guertera: Un Programa Practico Para Convertirt en la Mujer que Quieres Ser by Heatherash Amara.

This is just a sampling of the new Spanish titles on display in the library. Come and check them out!

Street Festival Snapshots



Quinn Taylor, 4, enjoys every carefree second of her moon bounce experience.



The spirit of the day was all around high-fives.



Above, Wicked Sycamore - String Quartet

Below, Carolina McCandless owner of Takoma's newest restuarant, Cielo Rojo, serving up her delectable tacos to festival goers.



Locals get their groove on as they undoubtedly feel the rhythm and musical sounds of *The Night Hawks*.

photos by Selena Malott



Newly Trained Babysitters

The following individuals recently completed the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department Babysitter's Training Course. Left to Right: (Front Row) Allyson Banks, Eliza Bevington, Charlotte Goldberg, Norah Wilson, and Sylvia Myers-Copp; (Middle Row) Leda Pelton, Caroline Gagnon, Mara Chen-Goldberg, Siena Cimmino, and Riana Earle; (Standing) Kayla Woods, Destiny Brown, Mackenzie Eccleston, and Charles Wajda-Gotwals. Special thanks to Tina and Ashlee Wille and Nissi Powell of TPVFD and Corporal Jessica Garrison of TPPD who assisted Jim Jarboe with the class.



THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

As of Sept. 30, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and Montgomery County Fire and Rescue personnel assigned to the station have responded to 451 fire-related incidents in 2018. The department also addressed or assisted with 2262 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 2713. Totals for 2017 were 407 and 2246, representing an increase of 60 incidents.

During September, Takoma Park volunteers put in a total of 998 hours of standby hours in the station compared to 1307.5 in 2017. Grand totals as of Sep 2018 were 9749 hours compared to 13727.5 in Sep 2017, a decrease of 3978.5 hours.

Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported as of Oct. 24, 2018, 50 people have died in fires compared to 53 in 2017.

Hot vehicle deaths

As of Oct. 24, 2018, 48 children have died in hot vehicles across the country. We must remember when you leave your vehicle everyone goes with you. That means the children, seniors and pets and don't forget to lock your vehicle. Should you see children alone in a vehicle, call 911. On an average, 37 children die in hot vehicles each year. One is too many!



TPVFD Awards

At the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Rescue Association 96th Annual Banquet, the following members of the TPVFD were honored: Treasure Bruce Allen and Fire Chief Tom Musgrove, the 50 Year Plus Service Award; Auxiliary President Tina Willey, the MCVFRA Administrator of the Year Award; and Chief Jim Jarboe the 60 Year Plus Service Award



High-Rise Living... Being Prepared

By Claudine Schweber, Co-Chair, Emergency Preparedness Committee



What do you call someone who lives on the 12th floor and gets up at 5 a.m. each day? A high-riser. All kidding aside, what makes a building a high-rise? That's the designation for buildings with seven floors or more. According to the U.S. the National Fire Protection Association, a high-rise building is higher than 75 feet (23 meters) or about 7 stories (www.fireline.com).

Do you live on the 8th floor of a building or know someone who does? What would you do if there's a fire? Where would you go if you needed to get out of the apartment or if you are ill and need to call for help? Do you have flashlights nearby in case the electricity is out? NOTE: Most firetruck ladders only reach to the 7th floor.

Basic safety

- Whether you just moved in or have lived in a high-rise for years, make sure you have and read the emergency plan for your building.
- Learn about your building's safety features, including smoke alarms, sprinklers, voice communication, and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Identify all the exits near your apartment, since the one closest to you may be blocked. Make sure you can open them. Find the special fire doors.
- Know the evacuation plan. If you will need help, tell management in advance. Plan and practice two ways out of the building. Get on the stay-in-place list if you are not mobile.
- In cases of evacuation, go outside away from the building. Do not return until the firefighters say it's ok. If you think someone is still inside, tell the firefighters or other emergency personnel.
- Stay away from windows, glass, exterior walls, or things that might fall, such as file cabinets or book shelves.
- Have emergency contact and medical information posted in plain sight.

- Don't use the elevators!

Fire safety

- Unattended cooking is the #1 cause of home fires. Surprised? Stay in the cooking area until you've turned the heat off completely. If a fire does start, get out, close the door, and call 911.
- If you need to test heated doors, use the back-of-hand technique. Instead of touching a door with your palm, gently use the back of your hand to test for heat.
- Check if your apartment has sprinklers. New building codes require all residential buildings above 100 feet to have working sprinklers by 2019.
- "Close before you doze." Keep bedroom doors closed when you are inside. This could prevent smoke from entering the room and give you time to call 911.
- When calling 911, be sure to clearly give the apartment number. If you cannot get out, make sure to tell the 911 operator immediately.
- If you cannot evacuate, go to a window if possible, wave a white sheet/towel to alert the firefighters. If you can open the window a bit, hang the white item on the window sill, and close the window. Do not keep window open since that may feed the fire.

Thank you to Adam Bearne of the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and Jacqueline Davison at Victory Tower for your help with this article. And to the entire TPVFD for always being ready!

Join EPC on WOWD radio for Dear Bea(trice) Prepared at 1 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month.



Passport Services

Passport services are available on first come, first served basis Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center on the second floor. Takoma Park staff encourage calling the City's main phone number at 301-891-7100 and checking if the office is open before departing for the Community Center for passport services.

For additional information, visit takomaparkmd.gov/services/passports.



Kids decorating cookies for the homebound



Welcoming a hall full of happy, caring people.



Meeting people who deliver services you care about

Takoma Park Alternative Gift Fair: Celebrating 20 years of holiday generosity

The 20th Takoma Park Alternative Gift Fair will be held on Saturday, Dec. 1 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church (310 Tulip Avenue, corner of Tulip & Maple, three blocks from the Takoma Metro Station). Sixteen locally based non-profit organizations working on local, national and international causes will talk with “shoppers” and explain their work.

What is an alternative gift fair?

- It’s a fun holiday bazaar where “shopping” means donating money to non-profit organizations in the name of your loved ones. For your donation you get a certificate to drop into a holiday

card. Shoppers also give these certificates for birthdays, weddings, bar and bat mitzvahs and other events.

- It’s where you learn about locally-based charities serving local, regional and international needs. There is a cause for everyone on your shopping list.
- It brightens the experience of giving at holiday time by supporting worthy causes about which you care deeply.

All charities are represented by their own staff members and volunteers eager to share their mission and message. Gifts are priced from \$10 to \$100. Here’s a sample of the gifts available this year:

- A poetry-writing workshop for incarcerated youth in the DC jail.

- Food basics for a week for a needy immigrant family in the DC area
- Education for girls at a school in Central America

You can bring the whole family. A supervised Kids Corner with special staff will entertain your children while you shop. At the “Eat One/Share One” cookie booth run by Girl Scouts, kids can decorate and donate cookies for the homebound. The event also features live music appropriate for the season and great raffle prizes contributed by local businesses. Enjoy sweet and savory delectables at the AGF bake sale.

100% of the gifts you purchase go to the charities, no matter how you pay: cash,

check or credit card. Prices start at \$10. All gifts are tax-deductible and include a certificate to drop into a holiday card.

This year’s event is sponsored by the Alternative Gifts of Greater Washington (www.aggw.org), the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church, and Crossroads Community Food Network, with the participation of the Takoma Park Child Development Center and Girl Scout Troop 1456.

For information or to volunteer, contact Mimi Ikle-Khalsa, fair director, at 301-891-8891 or aggw_inc@yahoo.com.

Takoma Park is more than 100 miles away from the Atlantic Ocean, but a 17-foot-long octopus somehow found its way here and wrapped its giant tentacles around the downtown clock tower.

In a public art project commissioned by the City of Takoma Park, fiber artist Stacy Cantrell crocheted the huge octopus in the City’s colors of orange, yellow, green and blue. With help from her husband and a friend, she installed the creature recently on the clock tower in Ward Sinclair Plaza at the intersection of Laurel Avenue and Carroll Avenue. Then she watched the smiles and dropped jaws from surprised people walking by.

“I’ve always been in love with the ocean and sea creatures,” Cantrell said. “I also like crocheting things that are the exact opposite of what people would expect. People are used to seeing a crocheted afghan lying on their couch but not a humongous yarn octopus eating a clock tower.”

The installation titled *Oct O’Clock* will be on view for several months before the colorful cephalopod is donated to a local school or children’s organization. Cantrell used more than 120 pounds of yarn to create the deep-sea beast with some intricate details, including 360 crocheted suckers on its tentacles. The octopus is stuffed with more than 100 pounds of recycled plastic, including bags, water bottles, etc.

The City of Takoma Park also commissioned Cantrell to install two giant



Credit: Sam Kittner

crocheted caterpillars in the City’s colors on a fence at 7676 New Hampshire Avenue south of University Boulevard. One 80-foot-long caterpillar and its 65-foot-long friend are climbing down a hill past a bus stop in the installation titled *Scoochin’ Down the Avenue, Two by Two!*

After that installation is removed in a few months, Cantrell will wash and disassemble the pieces to make baby blankets that will be donated to local organizations serving families in need.

“I love bringing these creatures to life, but I also want to reuse these materials to

help others,” she said. The City of Takoma Park commissioned the fiber installations as part of its commitment to support and promote the arts, including public art that can inspire or surprise people in their daily lives without visiting a museum or art gallery.

“Stacy’s work is so delightful. It really exceeded all of our expectations,” said Sara Anne Daines, director of the City’s Housing and Community Development Department.

Cantrell learned how to crochet when she was four years old and has displayed



Credit: Sam Kittner

her work at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, Arlington Arts Center, Torpedo Factory, and other locales.

“It’s been great working in Takoma Park where there’s a real love for the arts and a willingness to take some chances,” she said.

This article originally appeared on the City’s website: takomaparkmd.gov/uncategorized/giant-octopus-attacks-downtown-clock-tower.

NOVEMBER '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 December issue is Nov. 9, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning Nov. 23. 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, Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Nov. 28, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium
Detailed agendas are always available for review online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas.

Veterans Day - City Offices Closed

Monday, Nov. 12
All City offices and facilities will be closed Monday, Nov. 12 for Veterans Day. The Takoma Park Police Department is open 24/7 for emergency services. Yard trimming collection is canceled.

Thanksgiving - City Offices Closed

Thursday and Friday, Nov. 22-23
All City offices and facilities will be closed Thursday, Nov. 23 through Sunday, Nov. 26, and 23, for the Thanksgiving holiday. The Takoma Park Police Department is open 24/7 for emergency services. Trash, recycling and food waste collection will take place Wednesday and Saturday

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 teach early literacy concepts in a fun way. The program is geared for infants through preschoolers and their grown-ups.
Takoma Park Maryland Library

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

The Spirit Club

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.

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
Every Sunday in the historic business district of the city, local, seasonal produce, breads, pasture-raised meats, artisan cheese, eggs, baked goods and more from farms located within 125 miles of Takoma Park are offered.

Top Notch Toastmasters

Second and fourth Tuesdays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
TP Community Center
Improve your communication and leadership skills. Top Notch Toastmasters meetings provide opportunities for positive, supportive development

of personal and interpersonal skills that make you a better communicator, a better leader. Come to our meetings to sharpen your abilities, meet new friends, and make a difference in your life.

Crossroads Farmers Market

Wednesdays, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., April 18 – Nov. 28
Anne Street at University Blvd. East (across from Rite Aid)
The market offers the season's freshest fruits and vegetables, free-range meats and eggs, herbs, honey, local flour, locally-roasted coffee, fresh-cut flowers, potted plants, and healthy snacks, as well as scrumptious lunch fare, live music, cooking demos, and health information and screenings. Proceeds go toward cultivating a more inclusive food system in Takoma/Langley Crossroads. SNAP and WIC accepted, and those shopping with SNAP/EBT can get up to \$20 in free fruits and vegetables every week.

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
TP Community Center
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.

Discover Long Branch 5K run/walk

Sunday, Nov. 4, 8 a.m.
Race starts at Long Branch-Garland Neighborhood Park (8601 Garland Avenue)
Lace up your shoes for the Discover Long Branch 5K run/walk, benefiting youth arts programs in Long Branch and extending access to the Long Branch pool for local families and children. The run/walk follows a USATF-certified 5K course along the Long Branch trail, Takoma Park neighborhoods and Sligo Creek. Pre-register at racewire.com/register.php?id=9797, or on race day at 7 a.m. at Long Branch Community Center.
Info: discoverlongbranch.com/event/
Cost: \$30

Preschool Time!

Mondays, Nov. 5 & 19, Dec. 3 & 17, 10 – 10:45 a.m.
Takoma Park library
Introducing a new early literacy program. Help your kids with school readiness. We will have fun learning and strengthening key concepts (shapes, counting, colors, etc.) and skills (scissor practice, name writing, taking turns, etc.) through songs, stories, fingerplays and activities.
Register online or call 301 891 7259

Bedtime Stories and Craft

Tuesdays, Nov. 13 & Dec. 4, 7 p.m.
Takoma Park library
Wear your PJs and bring a favorite lovey as we read some stories and sing some songs. After our stories and songs, we will do a simple craft. Perfect for babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and their grown-ups.

Let's Play America's Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 7 p.m.
The play events in Takoma Park require coordination and planning. If you are interested in being involved, attend a monthly meeting. Teens can receive community service for doing behind the scenes work, and adults of all ages are welcome. Meetings are the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center. They usually last an hour. For more information, email (theplaylady@gmail.com) or call (301-928-9962) Pat.

Trash Talk with Lori Hill: Tips for Living a Low Waste Life

Saturday, Nov. 17, 10 a.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
This free, hour-long workshop will include low-waste living tips for your kitchen, laundry, grocery shopping, bathroom, entertaining, gift giving, wardrobe, and travel. Registration is required. For more information about the workshop, visit www.sistereden.com/lowwaste.

Small Business Saturday

Saturday, Nov. 24, All-day
Shop local around Takoma Park this holiday season. Choose cash over credit and make a point to spend at least \$10 in a local business.
Various locations

VILLAGE OF TAKOMA PARK EVENT

The Village of Takoma Park presents Emergency Preparedness for Seniors

Friday, Nov. 30, noon – 2 p.m.
TP Community Center, Azalea Room
Join The Village of Takoma Park to gain knowledge about how to be better prepared for and safely manage two types of emergencies. Wolfgang Mergner, president of The Village, will address such personal emergencies as falls, illness, food and finances. Emergencies in the community, including natural disasters, power outages, sheltering in place or evacuations, will be addressed by Claudine Schweber, Senior Co-Chair of the Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness Committee. This event is free and open to all, no pre-registration required. Refreshments will be provided. villageoftakomapark.com

Pajamarama

Sunday, Dec. 2, 8 – 11 a.m.
Join in this favorite Takoma Park tradition and shop in your pajamas to enjoy special promotions and discounts at Takoma's locally-owned, independent businesses.

ARTS AND LITERATURE

People's Open Mic

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

Takoma Park Community Band

Mondays, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Heffner Park Community Center, 42 Oswego Ave.
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

We Are Takoma presents: Wit's End Puppets

Friday, Nov. 2
TP Community Center
Wit's End Puppets returns to Takoma Park for a Puppet Slam featuring some of the best puppet makers and performers in the D.C. area. Puppet performances will be interspersed with live music in an entertaining event for audiences of all ages.
www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts

Celebrate Democracy Concert

Saturday, Nov. 3, 7 – 9 p.m.
Seekers Church, 276 Carroll Ave.
Renowned vocalist LEA and popular entertainer Nick Newlin perform songs from "Vote for Me," an all-

new, original children's show that celebrates voting and other civic values. "Vote for Me!" is a project of The Civic Circle, a Silver Spring nonprofit that will bring democracy alive for kids through music and drama in after-school and assembly programs. A free reception will follow. Everyone is invited to this free, family-friendly concert and reception.

Art Exhibition

Thursday, Nov. 8, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
TP Community Center
Artists from across the D.C. area display their work in bimonthly exhibitions that explore different themes in the galleries at the Takoma Park Community Center

Carroll Cafe

Friday, Nov. 9, 7 p.m.
Carroll Cafe at Seekers Church
In Process, local a capella African-American women's group born out of workshops with Sweet Honey in the Rock perform.
\$18 in advance, \$20 at the door
Tickets & info at carrollcafe.org

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, Nov. 15, 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. Held in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, the free readings are followed by a light reception and an opportunity to meet the featured poets.

We Are Takoma presents: Poetry Reading

Friday, Nov. 16
TP Community Center
A poetry reading will explore the history of the labor movement and the struggle for workers' rights.
www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts

We Are Takoma presents: Mystical Poets Productions

Friday, Nov. 30
TP Community Center
Mystical Poets Productions will stage a multicultural evening of performances branching across dance, poetry, hip hop, R&B and world music.
www.takomaparkmd.gov/arts

Photo Salon

Monday, Nov. 26, 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

Sports, Law and Race: A Conversation

Thursday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center
The Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library will host a wide-ranging, provocative conversation on sports by a panel of leading literary and legal voices. The event is part of the "We Are Takoma" series. N. Jeremi Duru and E. Ethelbert Miller will discuss political activism, historically and today; the NCAA and exploitation of collegiate sports; head trauma in football and soccer and its implications in relation to race. Ralph Steinhart, a human rights and international law expert, will moderate. For more information, write to ftpml.org/contact

Christmas Revels: An Elizabethan Winter Celebration

Saturday, Dec. 8, through Sunday, Dec. 16; various times
Bring the whole family and spend a festive holiday evening or afternoon with Queen Elizabeth the First and Shakespeare's favorite Fool. Merry mummers meet "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in this boisterous blend of high and low, city and country, art and folk. A cast of over 100 — ages 8-88 — are joined by guest actors Mark Jaster and Sabrina Mandell, with Katrina Van Duyn as Queen Elizabeth and the world-renowned early music ensemble Piffaro: The Renaissance Band.
GW Lisner Auditorium 730 21st Street NW
Price Range: \$12-60
Visit: revelsdc.org