



WHAT'S NEW?

The Takoma Insider

Stay in the loop! Learn all about what is going on locally and get need to know information straight from Takoma Park staff. The City Manager comments, public works, housing, recreation, arts and much more... you'll get news & notes from the City of Takoma Park sent straight to your inbox once a week! Sign up for the City of Takoma Park's weekly eNews at <http://eepurl.com/gg4dMb>.

Crossroads' Multi-Farm CSA

Details, page 11

Annual Meeting Friends of Takoma Park Maryland Library

Tuesday, March 25, 7:30 p.m. Details, page 8

Trash/recycling collection

No changes this month



Recently, a large, diseased oak tree uprooted and fell causing significant damage to a house in Takoma Park.



Tree Safety 101

By Jan van Zutphen, Urban Forest Manager

Trees are a great resource for a community. The environmental and social benefits trees provide are significant. However, trees need to be maintained to provide those benefits in a safe manner. Large trees located near, for example, buildings, roads and playgrounds need to be monitored regularly to ensure any dying branches, structural problems or

insect/disease issues get identified and addressed. Tree hazards can be easily overlooked by the untrained eye. In our busy lives, few of us spend much time looking up into the tree canopy of the trees in our yard. A large tree branch can weigh several hundred pounds, and if it fails, can cause extensive property damage and severe injury or even death.

TREE SAFETY □ Page 3

WSSC water bills sometimes pack a surprise

By Bob Guldin

The Washington Suburban Sanitation Commission (WSSC) usually has a low profile in our lives, but sometimes it really gets the attention of Takoma Park homeowners and renters. That's because every once in a while, WSSC sends out bills that are surprisingly, even shockingly, high – and residents must determine how to handle this unwelcome news.

The good news is that WSSC will discuss these events and try to help residents figure out why the bill is so large. The bad news is that it may take many conversations with a sometimes unwieldy bureaucracy to solve the problem.

One story with a happy ending came from Paula Sanjines on Jackson Avenue:



WSSC meter in writer Bob Guldin's front curb strip

"We got a WSSC bill for \$1,400 once. Just about passed out when I opened it. I called them, and they came out and read our meter. It had been a human error (mistyped number or a decimal place, can't remember which). They adjusted our bill."

Susan Bailey of Silver Spring had a more difficult experience. "Our usual bill

WATER BILLS □ Page 9

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 ፓርክ » 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 ባለው የድር ገጽ የላይኛው የቀኝ ጠርዝ ላይ ይመልከቱ እና ተቆልቋይ 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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# DOCKET

## City Council & Committee Calendar

### OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

#### CITY COUNCIL

Wednesday, March 6, 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, March 13, 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, March 20, 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, April 3, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, April 8, 7:30 p.m. (Budget Work Session)  
TPCC Auditorium

#### ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION

Tuesday, March 26, 7 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Monday, March 4, 7 p.m.  
Monday, April 1, 7 p.m.  
TPCC Council Conference Room

#### COMMEMORATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, March 5, 7 p.m.  
TPCC Rose Room

#### COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, March 4, 7:15 p.m.  
Monday, April 1, 7:15 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 28, 7 p.m.  
TPCC Lilac Room

#### FACADE ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, March 12, 6:30 p.m.  
TPCC Auditorium

#### GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 7, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Council Conference Room

#### NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 12, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Lilac Room

#### POLICE CHIEF'S ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, March 20, 7 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### POLICE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 12, 8:30 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 21, 7 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, March 12, 6:30 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### YOUTH COUNCIL

Monday, March 11, 6:30 p.m.  
Monday, March 25, 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](http://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](http://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 [jason.d@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:jason.d@takomaparkmd.gov) or 301-891-7202 at least 48 hours in advance.

## CityCouncilAction

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

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**March 13, 2019 – 7:30 p.m.**  
**Takoma Park Community Center**  
**Auditorium**  
**7500 Maple Avenue**

On Wednesday, March 13, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Auditorium, the City Council will hold a public hearing on a proposed ordinance to ban the commercial use of plastic beverage straws and plastic stirrers in the City. The draft ordinance is available for review online at [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov). All interested parties should attend the public hearing and sign up to speak.

## FY 2020 BUDGET SCHEDULE

### Wednesday, April 3

- City Manager's Budget Presentation, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Auditorium

### Monday, April 8

- Budget Open House, 6 – 7:15 p.m.  
TPCC Hydrangea Room
- Budget Work Session, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Auditorium

### Wednesday, April 10

- Public Hearing on FY 2020 Budget, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Auditorium

### Monday, April 15

- Budget Open House, 6 – 7:15 p.m.  
Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Avenue)
- Budget Work Session, 7:30 p.m.  
Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Avenue)

### Monday, April 22

- Budget Work Session, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Auditorium

### Wednesday, April 24

- Public Hearing on the FY 2020 Tax Rate (Constant Yield Tax Rate), 7:30 p.m.
- Public Hearing on the FY 2020 Budget  
TPCC Auditorium

### Monday, April 29

- (tentative) Budget Work Session, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Auditorium

### Wednesday, May 8

- First Reading Ordinances Adopting the FY 2020 Tax Rates and Budget  
TPCC Auditorium

### Wednesday, May 15

- Second Reading Ordinances Adopting the FY 2020 Tax Rates and Budget  
TPCC Auditorium

## 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: <http://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](http://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. **(5 vacancies)**

The **Committee on the Environment** advises the City Council on all environmental issues, including, but not limited to, stormwater management, greenhouse gas reduction, tree protection, open space conservation, biodiversity, watershed functioning and restoration, energy use, transportation, energy conservation, and recycling. The Committee meets the first Monday of the month at 7:15 p.m. **(1 vacancy)**

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. **(1 vacancy)**

TREE SAFETY
From page 1

Preventing tree (limb) failure

Tree or tree limb failure is usually preventable. It is recommended that trees, especially large trees, be inspected by a Licensed Tree Expert (LTE) every two to three years. These regular inspections by a trained professional can identify structural issues, dead or dying branches or tree illness and disease. Typically, it does not cost anything to have a LTE visit a property and inspect trees.
If a more detailed inspection is recommended, a tree care company will provide an estimate of the cost for those services. It is recommended that you contact several tree care companies and have their LTEs visit the property and provide recommendations and quotes for any needed tree work. Be sure that the tree care company you hire is licensed by the State of Maryland and insured. It is also beneficial to develop a long-term relationship with an LTE who will become familiar with your trees and their health over time.
Determining the likelihood of tree failure requires a significant level of experience and knowledge about how trees grow, how they fail and what characteristics make a tree "risky." Assessing tree risk requires special training and experience, and LTEs are specifically knowledgeable in determining the structural integrity of a tree and the risk it may present. While there are self-surveys of trees that property owners can conduct to determine obvious issues, there is no substitute for a professional assessment of the health of a tree.

Following City and state regulations

When you have any tree work done on your property make sure you adhere to the City's tree regulations, which can be found on the City's website at takomaparkmd.gov/services/permits/tree-permits. The removal of any tree 7 5/8" in diameter or greater requires a tree removal permit or waiver. The pruning of more than 5 percent of the live canopy of a tree 7 5/8" in diameter or greater requires the submission of a tree impact assessment. An emergency tree removal waiver will be issued to a property owner if a tree is highly hazardous, poses an immediate threat to people and property and the hazard cannot be mitigated through pruning or other tree maintenance.
What about my neighbor's trees? Maryland has adopted the "Massachusetts Self-Help Rule" that says you must assume responsibility for the care and preservation of your own property. This means that you can cut branches from a tree on your neighbor's property that extend into your property. Always notify the tree owner first. However, you may not destroy the tree in the process, nor can you cut the tree down. Also, you must stop at the property line unless the neighbor has given you permission to do otherwise, and it is best to have that permission in writing.
When a tree or its branches fall, it is considered an "Act of God" unless the tree was known to be dead or hazardous. This means the portion of the tree and the damage from it that is on your property is your responsibility to clean up. The portion of the tree that ends up

RESOURCES

- To determine if a Licensed Tree Expert (LTE) needs to be contacted for a tree evaluation, read:
"Is My Tree Safe? Recognizing Conditions that Increase the Likelihood of Tree Failure" (bit.ly/2HZtRIa) and/or "How Do You Decide When to Remove a Tree?" (bit.ly/2DcemHe). In addition, the University of Maryland Extension Home and Garden Information Center provides an online ask-the-expert resource (extension.umd.edu/learn/ask-gardening) for residents with questions about their trees and shrubs. When asking a question, it is best to be as descriptive as possible and include pictures
- To find a LTE, visit:
www.treesaregood.org/findanarborist and/or dnrweb.dnr.state.md.us/forests/tree\_expert\_search.asp
- If your tree is posing a threat to electrical lines or your house connection, contact:
PEPCO to get the issue addressed (bit.ly/2ScFwbk)
- If you want to report an unsafe tree condition on City property, contact:
The City's Urban Forest Manager at janvz@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7612 to get the issue addressed. After hours, contact the Takoma Park Police Department at 301-270-1100.
- To report tree issues on State roads such as Carroll, Ethan Allen, New Hampshire and Philadelphia Avenues, Piney Branch Road, and University Blvd, contact:
The State Highway Administration at sforce.co/1hzPnhS or 410-582-5650 (District 3)
- To report tree issues on Montgomery County Parks property, contact:
Montgomery Parks Information and Customer Service at bit.ly/2MSRQYv or 301-495-2595

VACANCIES
From page 2

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 in Old Town or Takoma Junction)
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 Youth Council provides an opportunity for youth to learn and appreciate local government, helps the City Council address problems by working directly with the representatives of youth, serves the youth of Takoma Park by providing information to and planning and implementing activities for youth, and providing leadership opportunities for youth in Takoma Park. Members must be Takoma Park residents in 7th to 12th grade. (1 vacancy for a resident of Ward 4)

on a neighbor's property, and any damage to the neighbor's property, is his/her responsibility. Such accidents are normally covered by the affected owner's home owner's insurance and are usually resolved by reporting a claim. The exception to this general rule is that the owner of the property where the tree originated may be responsible for damage to a neighbor's property if the owner knew, or had good reason to know, that the tree presented a danger. A tree whose trunk (even a small portion of the trunk) straddles the property line may be a shared tree, and therefore, any cost for pruning, maintenance or removal would be a shared cost.
Working together on safety
The City of Takoma Park encourages neighbors to discuss tree issues long before tree failure becomes a problem, and responsibility for any damage becomes part of the discussion. If your neighbor's tree is hazardous, you have communicated that to your neighbor and your neighbor is not addressing the issue, then the City may step in and require the neighbor

to have the hazard mitigated.
As the City's Urban Forest Manager (UFM), my focus is primarily on City trees and inspecting trees on private property related to review of permit applications for tree removal or tree protection. However, when a tree on private property is hazardous and I become aware of it either by noticing it myself or being notified by someone else, then I notify the property owner of the hazard and their responsibility. The City Code allows for the issuance of a notice of violation to the property owner requiring that the hazardous tree issue be addressed within a certain time frame.
For those property owners who have limited income, the City has established an Emergency Tree Fund to assist with the costs of removal of a hazardous tree. Residents can apply for those funds through the UFM.
In closing, I hope you will be able to join us for the Tree Canopy Assessment Seminar taking place on March 23. See page 12 of this issue for details.

Important City Phone Numbers

Table with 2 columns: Department and Phone Number. Rows include City Information, City Clerk, City Manager, Finance, Housing & Community Development, Library, Neighborhood Services, Police, Public Works, and Recreation/Facilities Rental.

THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER
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Name, address and telephone number must accompany all submitted material. Editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, style, spelling and grammar.
Published material containing opinions does not necessarily reflect the views of the Newsletter or the City of Takoma Park.
The Newsletter does not accept commercial, classified or political advertisements.
The Newsletter is printed on recycled content paper.



# BUILDING COMMUNITY

## Grants Review Committee Vacancies

The City is now accepting applications for the Grant Review Committee (GRC). This committee was established by the City Council to evaluate funding applications for the City's Community "Quality of Life" Grants Program. The GRC is comprised of up to nine Takoma Park residents with demonstrated expertise in community development, grants management, public arts or related areas of interest. Committee members may serve a maximum

of two consecutive three-year terms. The role of the GRC is to evaluate grant applications based on established program priorities, program guidelines and available funding and to forward funding recommendations to the City Council for consideration.

To apply to serve on the Grants Review Committee, visit [takomaparkmd.gov/government/boards-commissions-and-committees](http://takomaparkmd.gov/government/boards-commissions-and-committees) or a link to the online application.



## TP Listserv connects communities

By Sean Gossard

From lost dogs and advice on handymen to tips on composting and local political debate, the Between the Creeks Listserv has been trying to connect communities in Takoma Park.

The Listserv — an electronic mailing system in which subscribers can post topics of their choosing and spark discussions with other members — mostly serves members of Ward 5 between Takoma Park and Silver Spring (between Sligo and Long Branch creeks) and is looking to bolster its numbers to fuel further discussion and a sense of community.

Keith Berner, who works in tech support and strategy, moderates the Between the Creeks Listserv, which began as an active neighborhood association.

"At the time [in the early 2000s] we held one meeting and a bunch of us showed up and really nothing else happened except I took over the Listserv," Berner said.

After a few years, the Listserv began to shrink until only a few users in Silver Spring were active on it. "Over a period of time, I felt we needed greater geographic area and diversity," Berner said.

So Berner merged another existing Listserv with Between the Creeks to create a larger online community in the area. The Listserv now has around 75 active members, making several posts a week. That's far fewer than the Takoma Listserv, which has nearly 3,000 users but focuses on a much larger portion of the region.

"What I simply would like to do is get more people to join, so there can be a variety of conversations," Berner said. There are around 1,000 people in the Between the Creeks area, so Berner says there is plenty of room to grow.

Berner also likes to keep discussions open to a variety of topics, not just the hyper-local ones other Listservs may have. "I found most Listservs to be too limiting," Berner said. "Most were trying to find a handyman or borrow sugar, but I wanted one to be able to talk about the issues of the day."

Berner said Between the Creeks is a safe and open space for larger national conversations, as long as there are no ad hominem or other personal attacks on users.

Still, topics tend to trend light, with the most active user — a Silver Spring resident — posting most frequently about bluegrass and other concerts.

Berner now hopes to grow the Listserv to get more people in underserved communities involved. "I've seen that poorer communities are less likely to engage than more affluent white members," Berner said. "And renters are also less likely to participate than those that own homes."

If you're interested in becoming a member of the Between the Creeks Listserv, send an email with your name and address to [TKPK@KBerner.us](mailto:TKPK@KBerner.us). You can join even without living in the designated area that it serves.

## Transportation to Thomas Edison Spring Open House

The City of Takoma Park is providing transportation to the Thomas Edison High School Spring Open House on Thursday, March 7 from 5–8 p.m.

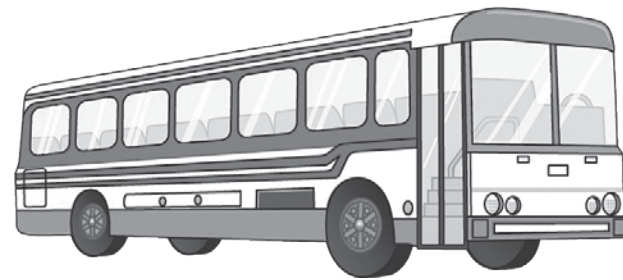
Buses will pick up and drop off from two locations at 4:30 p.m. Buses will return to the drop off locations at 7:30 p.m. Students and parents can register for the free bus transportation through the Takoma Park Recreation Department ([apm.activecommunities.com/takomaparkrecreation/Activity\\_Search/6326](http://apm.activecommunities.com/takomaparkrecreation/Activity_Search/6326)).

Location 1 - Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue

Location 2 - Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue

The Thomas Edison High School of Technology is unique among Montgomery County public high schools. Students enrolled in all MCPS comprehensive high schools may apply for enrollment in one of Edison's 18 highly acclaimed career and technology education programs. In addition to offering valuable professional certifications

and licenses, many programs are articulated with colleges and universities for college credit. Learn more about getting a head start on college and careers at the Spring Open House.



## Why License your Rental Property?

*Why bother licensing my single-family home if I'm only renting it out for a year while I'm out of the country? I'm just renting out my condo now that I've moved into a larger place. I don't need to involve the City, do I? It's only a little apartment in my basement, right?*

It's not just a good idea; it's the law. Takoma Park Code 6.08.010 states "...rental facilities and premises in the City shall be licensed and regulated in such a manner as to ensure the protection of the health, welfare, and safety of those persons residing in or visiting such premises..." This covers all rental units — multifamily buildings, of course, but also single family homes, individual condominiums and accessory apartments (i.e. basement apartments). Operating an unlicensed rental property can subject you to a municipal citation of \$1,000.

### Advantages of licensing rental property

As a property owner, providing a safe and well-maintained dwelling for your tenants is your responsibility. Annual or biennial inspections as a part of the licensing process ensure the property meets health and safety code requirements. This establishes some level of safety for tenants and allows for the early detection of problems. It also lessens the possibility of tenants becoming

injured on the property or having trouble exiting the dwelling if there is an emergency.

The Department of Housing and Community Development can assist you in licensing your rental property. The application and requirements are available on the Rental Housing Licensing page of the City's website: [takomaparkmd.gov/government/housing-and-community-development/rental-housing/rental-housing-licensing](http://takomaparkmd.gov/government/housing-and-community-development/rental-housing/rental-housing-licensing).

For more information, contact the City's licensing specialist at 301-891-7255 or email [pattim@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:pattim@takomaparkmd.gov).



# Artists Explore Strength and Struggles of Women Around the World

## Women of the World

### Opening Reception

March 14, 7 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center

7500 Maple Avenue

Free event

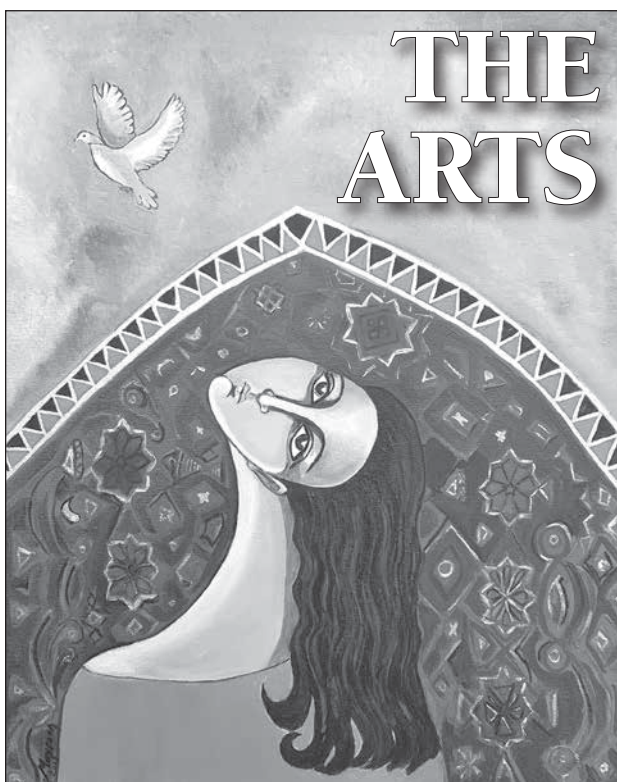
Across the centuries in countries spanning the globe, women often have been denigrated as the “weaker sex” and faced pervasive discrimination both in the workplace and at home. They also are embroiled in political battles over control of their own bodies, but progress is happening as more women are elected to political office and sexual harassment is confronted by the #MeToo movement.

*Women of the World*, a new group exhibition at the Takoma Park Community Center, explores the inspiring power and ongoing struggles of women around the world. The exhibition, which celebrates Women’s History Month, features artwork by Sobia Ahmad, Maysoon al Gburi, Olivia Tripp Morrow, Elayna Speight and Evans Thorne. The show will be on view until May 8.

Born and raised in Pakistan, Ahmad moved to the United States when she was 14 years old, becoming an immigrant straddling two vastly different cultures on opposite sides of the world. Her video installations and mixed-media work grapple with the nuances and complexities of national identity, notions of home, cultural memory and gender issues.

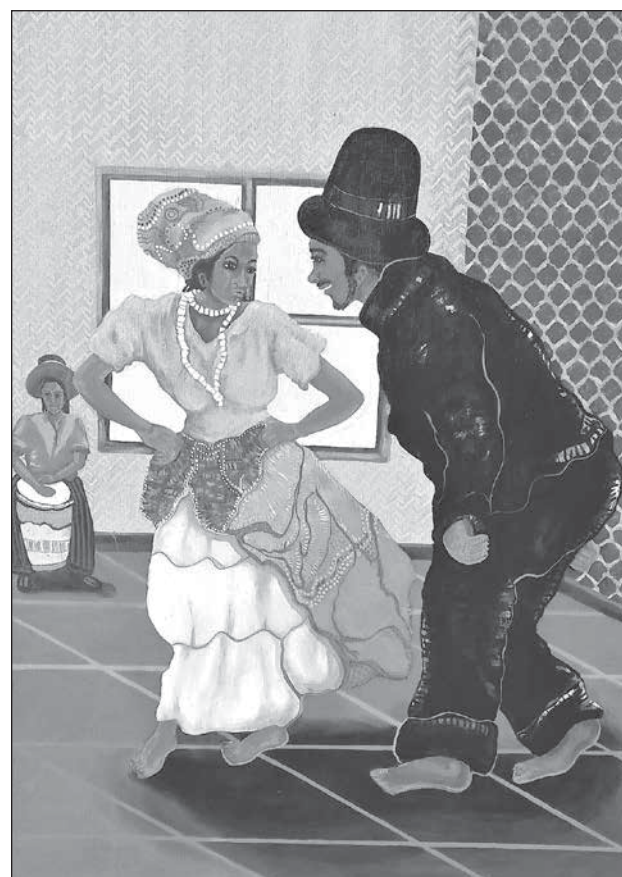
Gburi was born in Iraq and lived through the hardships of multiple wars before moving to the DC area where she is the associate director at Dara Global Arts Gallery. The richness of Mesopotamian history coupled with the dire outcomes of war influence her work. She seeks to reflect compassion for women who struggle to survive the barbarian acts of war, which men often inflict upon women.

Morrow will create a site-specific installation suspended 30 feet in the air from cables in the Takoma Park



Above, *Hope* by Maysoon al Gburi

At right, *Tobago Jig* by Evans Thorne

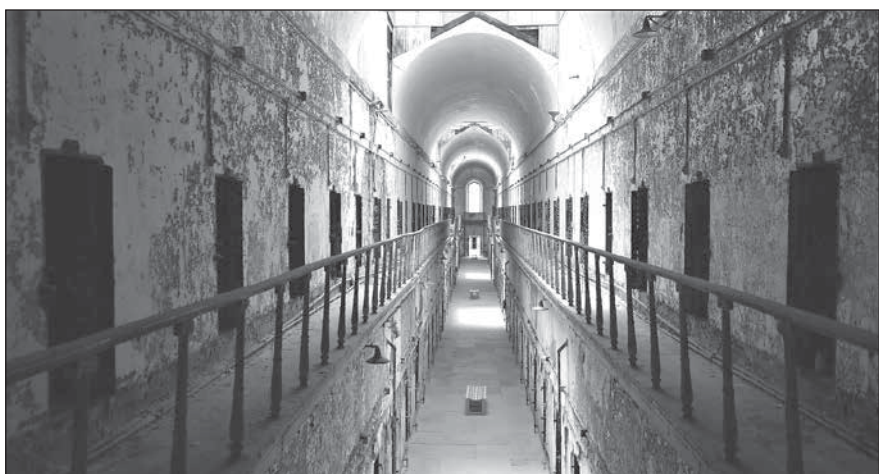


Community Center atrium. The installation titled *Stretch* is comprised of clothing and undergarments donated by women, which have been deconstructed into strips of fabric that are intricately woven, wrapped, stretched and layered over armatures of chicken wire. By re-contextualizing the personal histories associated with the clothing, Morrow hopes viewers will be inspired to reflect upon the legacy of the women in their lives and past generations.

As an artist and graphic designer born and raised in Maryland, Speight’s watercolor and metallic ink work is inspired by the strength, vulnerability, royalty, joy and

magic of black women. Her recent series titled *Her Crown and Glory* shows positive images of black women, featuring their various skin tones and natural hair styles (their crowning glory). She wants to instill confidence and self-respect for black women, who often are oppressed or misunderstood.

After growing up in Trinidad, Thorne moved to the DC area to study art. His paintings explore his cultural roots in the Caribbean with scenes of folk dances and portraits of multiple generations of women in families.



## In the Executioner’s Shadow Film Screening

March 14, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

7500 Maple Avenue

Free event

*In the Executioner’s Shadow* is a new documentary that offers a penetrating look at the consequences of the death penalty through three powerful stories – the rare perspective of a former state executioner who comes within days of executing an innocent person; a Boston Marathon bombing victim who struggles to decide what justice really means; and the parents of a murder

victim who choose to fight for the life of their daughter’s killer against a prosecutor who demands the death penalty. As the battle to overturn capital punishment continues in the United States, this provocative film challenges viewers to question their deepest beliefs about justice, revenge and the death penalty.

The filmmakers, Maggie Stogner and Rick Stack, will conduct a Q&A with the audience after the film. Stogner, executive director of American University’s Center for Environmental Filmmaking, previously produced and directed documentaries for National Geographic. Stack is a public communication professor at American University and has written two books on criminal justice reform.

## 3<sup>RD</sup> thursday poetry.

### Reading

March 21, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

7500 Maple Avenue

Free event

Local poets Zelda Dilworth, Donald Illich, David Martin (aka Quasar) and Pamela Murray Winters will read their original poetry with introductions by Takoma Park Poet Laureate Kathleen O’Toole. A reception will follow the reading.

## The Revolution Is in Your Head Film Screening

March 30, 8 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

7500 Maple Avenue

Free event with \$10 suggested donation

Fifty years ago, thousands of protesters descended on Washington, DC, during

President Richard Nixon’s 1969 inauguration where rallies and marches resulted in clashes with police.

Local filmmakers Gene Rosenthal and Joel Jacobson captured the boisterous scene on 16mm film. Their documentary titled *The Revolution Is in Your Head* hasn’t been screened since 1970, but it remains timely and relevant today.

Through an agreement with the National Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, the filmmakers had unfettered access behind the scenes of rallies and street protests. They also recorded an evening ball held under massive tents on the Mall, which featured music and speeches by Paul Krassner, Phil Ochs, The Fallen Angels, the Fuggs and others. The filmmakers will be joined by members of the 1960s local psychedelic rock band The Fallen Angels for a Q&A after the screening.



# RECREATION

Spring/Summer Class  
Registration for Residents  
Begins March 15!

## YOUTH

### CAMPS



#### Drizzle, Pass & Shoot Basketball Spring Break Camp

Emphasizing individual improvement is one of the guiding philosophies of camp. Campers will be provided with excellent coaching, which allows each participant to develop a sense of pride and individual accomplishment. The level of instruction will be adjusted to fit the individual needs of each participant. Pack a non-perishable lunch each day. Instructor: Joe Dobbins

Takoma Park Recreation Center  
Gymnasium  
7315 New Hampshire Avenue  
5-12 years  
3 Day Session  
Wednesday-Friday  
April 17-April 19  
9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
\$120

### EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

#### Think Tank

The purpose of this program is to improve student success in school by providing help with homework assignments. Our homework tutors will help your child lower frustration, boost comprehension and learn how to apply new skills by monitoring homework and providing help when needed. Instructor: Doris Duarte

Hampshire Tower Apartments  
Community Room  
7401 New Hampshire Avenue  
10 and older  
Tuesdays & Thursdays  
March 18-June 11  
4-5:30 p.m.  
Free



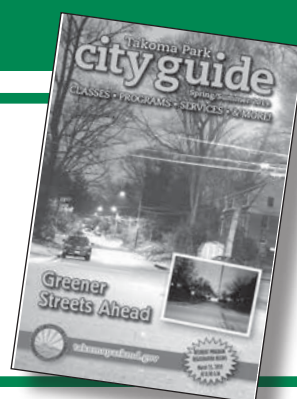
#### Registration for 2019-2020 School Year Before & After Care

City Residents begin registering  
April 1, 8:30 a.m.

Non-Residents begin registering  
April 8, 8:30 a.m.

Online via ActiveNet or in person at  
either location:  
7500 Maple Ave. or  
7315 New Hampshire Ave.

For a full listing of our Spring &  
Summer programs and classes,  
see the City Guide or visit  
[takomaparkmd.gov/recreation](http://takomaparkmd.gov/recreation)



### DANCE

#### Step Team

Stepping is a form of dance in which you use your entire body as an instrument to produce rhythms and beats through footsteps, clapping and words or chanting. Presently, stepping is popular among college fraternities and sororities. This program also includes learning to jump rope Double Dutch style. Participants will learn how to turn the ropes as well as have fun jumping.

Takoma Park Recreation Center  
Front Room  
7315 New Hampshire Avenue  
6-18 years  
9 week session  
Tuesdays and Thursdays  
April 2-May 30  
6:30-7:30p.m.  
Free

### SPORTS



#### 2019 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 gloves. All teams will be formed by the Recreation Department. Games will be hosted at Ed Wilhelm Field. Games are played on Saturday mornings. Registration opens March 15 for City residents and March 22 for non-residents. Parents are encouraged to coach. No games on July 6. For more information, email [tpsports@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:tpsports@takomaparkmd.gov).

Belle Ziegler Field  
7350 Takoma Avenue  
5-7 years  
8 Game Season  
Saturdays, June 1-July 27  
9 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. games  
Resident: \$60 / Non-resident: \$70

## TEENS

### SPRING BREAK CAMPS

#### Spring Break P.R.E.P.S. Camp

Spring Break P.R.E.P.S. (Planning and Researching for Educational and Professional Success) camp is about assisting teens in planning for their future. During this three-day session, teens will be able to participate in discussions with business professionals and take a few college tours to get a sense of life

after high school. Occasional break away trips, such as bowling, laser tag or roller skating, will be included. Come with questions, an open mind and a bag lunch! Before and After care are available for an additional fee.

Takoma Park Community Center  
Teen Lounge  
7500 Maple Avenue  
Grades 6-12  
Wednesday-Friday  
April 17-April 19  
9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Resident \$75/Non-resident \$100

### DROP-IN

#### Let's Chat

This program provides a small group environment at Takoma Park Middle School designed to promote positive dialogue and nurture meaningful relationships between 6-8th grade students who need academic, emotional, and/or social support. Mentors commit to one lunchtime visit per month for the duration of an academic year. Participants must be submitted via school counselors.

Takoma Park Middle School  
7611 Piney Branch Road  
Grades 6-8  
Second Tuesday of each month  
February-June  
12-2 p.m.  
Free

### EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

#### Black College Expo

Decisions, Decisions!  
Who has the best academics? Who has the best athletics?  
Should I stay on campus? How far is comfortable enough for me to travel? Jump on board as we visit the Black College Expo at Bowie State University. Register in advance space. Space is limited. Transportation is provided. The bus will depart the TP Community center at 8:30 a.m. sharp!

Takoma Park Community Center  
Teen Lounge (meeting location)  
7500 Maple Avenue  
Grades 9-12  
Saturday, March 16  
8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Free

#### Careers for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Let us help you prepare for Careers in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century as you discover your interests, abilities, values and aspirations and relate them to occupational choices. During this eight-week, hour long course, we will engage in discussion, activities and role play to gain self-knowledge, explore career and educational options and begin basic career planning. Instructor: Tawanda Anderson

Takoma Park Community Center  
Multi Media Lab  
7500 Maple Avenue  
Grades 6-8  
Tuesdays  
April 2-May 21  
4-5 p.m.  
Residents: \$20 / Non-residents: \$30



#### 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  
Ages 14-17  
Tuesday, April 30 & Thursday, May 2  
4-6 p.m.  
Saturday, May 4  
10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Resident: \$25 / Non-resident: \$35

#### Healthy Cooking for Teens

The Healthy Eating Program is a fun and interactive course about basic cooking and kitchen skills as well as healthy recipes (easy to replicate at home). Teens will be able to learn some nutritional components and how to create their own recipes. Teens will also take a trip to the Crossroad's Farmer's market and learn about growing and purchasing the right foods. Instruction will be provided by Crossroads Farmers Market. Participants will meet at Takoma Park Community Center at 3:30 p.m. to be transported to site. Instruction will be provided by Crossroads Farmers Market.

Takoma Park Community Center  
7500 Maple Avenue (meeting location)  
Grades 6-12  
Mondays  
April 1-May 20  
3:45-4:45 p.m.  
Resident: \$10 / Non-resident: \$15

#### Skills to Pay the Bills

This eight-week course will prepare you with soft or applied skills, such as teamwork, decision-making and communication, that will help you become effective employees and managers. Each lesson is designed to get you thinking about practicing and discussing skills important for career and personal success. Instructor: Tawanda Anderson

Takoma Park Community Center  
Multi Media Lab  
7500 Maple Avenue  
Grades 9-12  
Wednesdays, April 3-May 29  
(No class 4/17)  
4-5 p.m.  
Residents: \$20 / Non-residents: \$30

#### Telling Your Story 101

Introspection is essential in the healthy development of any adolescent. In the spirit of fostering self-expression and boosting writing skills, this six-week writing workshop aims to push students to write about a conflict they've faced in their lives and explore how it changed them as people. In the process of crafting their stories, students will learn about the relationship between conflict and character development, analyze published writings and navigate the writing process to create their own narrative that they'll present before an audience during the final session. Instructor: Sam P. Collins, AllEyesOnDC LLC

Takoma Park Community Center  
Hydrangea Room

RECREATION

■ From page 6

7500 Maple Avenue  
Grades 6–12  
Mondays, April 22-June 3  
4–5:30 p.m.  
Residents: Free / Non-residents: \$10

Youth Summer Employment Program Interest Meeting

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. Parents and teens come to the interest meeting and learn about this eight-week program, which will begin June 24 and will end August 17. 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. To register for the interest workshop or get more information, call Leicia Monfort at 301-891-7283. Participant must be a Takoma Park Resident and age 16 by June 1, 2019.

Takoma Park Community Center  
Azalea Room  
7500 Maple Avenue  
Ages 16–21  
Friday, March 29  
6–8 p.m.  
Free

FITNESS



Hip Hop Yoga

Join us during lunch break for Hip Hop Yoga! This program is bridging the gap between self-care and cultural relevance. Each session promotes physical strength, emotional stability and yoga practices backed to the rhythms of hip hop. This program is only open for Takoma Park Middle school students. (No experience needed) Instructor: Khepera Wellness

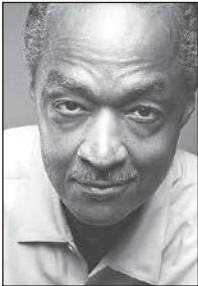
Takoma Middle School  
7611 Piney Branch Road  
6–8th grade  
8 Week Session  
Tuesdays and Thursdays  
April 2-May 23  
12–2 p.m.  
Free

ADULTS

DRAMA & THEATER

Acting Technique for the Stage

“How did you learn all those lines?” Learning to create a believable three-dimensional character for the stage is an extraordinary process. The lines are only the beginning for developing a successful performance. After selecting a monologue with the instructor, you will learn (through lively theatre exercises) the fundamentals of acting and stage technique, script analysis and character development that will heighten your performance and provide a dependable process for continued growth. In addition, the class will prepare you with essential tools for auditioning, including techniques for cold-readings and scene callbacks. The class will culminate with a performance of the monologues in a final public presentation. Instructor: W. Allen Taylor



Takoma Park Community Center  
Azalea Room  
7500 Maple Avenue

16 years and older  
10 Week Session  
Mondays, April 1-June 10  
7–9 p.m.  
Resident: \$175 / Non-resident: \$205

FITNESS

Total Body Tabata

A form of high intensity interval training (HIIT), this class consists of eight rounds of ultra-high-intensity exercises in a specific 20 seconds on, 10 seconds off interval. It encompasses upper body, lower body, balance, core and flexibility. Just a short workout will leave you sweaty, full of energy and ready to take on your packed schedule. Instructor: Kimberly James

Heffner Park Community Center  
42 Oswego Avenue  
16 years and older  
6 Week Session  
Wednesdays, April 3-May 8  
6:30–7:30 p.m.  
Resident: \$85 / Non-resident: \$95  
Drop-In: \$15 (check or credit card only)

Zumba

Come out and enjoy an hour of Zumba. Zumba is a total workout, combining all elements of fitness with cardio, muscle conditioning, balance and flexibility. Zumba takes the work out of workout, by mixing low and high intensity moves. The class will incorporate



Latin music that will easily move you through your workout. Instructor: Laura Stewart

Takoma Park Recreation Center  
Gymnasium  
7315 New Hampshire Avenue  
16 and older  
6 Week Session  
Saturdays, February 23-March 30  
11:45 a.m. –12:45 p.m.  
\$50  
Drop in: \$10

MULTI MEDIA

Documentary Photography

We are constantly taking photos but they don’t come out the way we imagined. In this class, learn the intros to photography as an art form and help you step up your photography game. The majority of the class will be spent taking photos at different places in the DMV areas and some time will be spent in the classroom. The class will



cover shooting manually on your DSLR, rules of composition, portrait photography, object photography, landscape photography, posing 101, editing your photos, using natural light vs. non natural light, composition and turning your phone into a camera. Course Requirements: Participants should have basic knowledge of computers and own a DSLR. All participants will need an external memory device (stick or drive) of at least five gigabytes to store and save photographs. Instructor: Vinny Mwano

Takoma Park Community Center  
Multi Media Lab  
7500 Maple Avenue  
17 and older  
8 Week Session  
Mondays, April 1-May 20  
6–8 p.m.  
Resident: \$125 / Non-resident: \$145

How to Manage Your Digital Photos

Do you know how many photos you have on your smart phone? Can you locate them? This class will teach you how to organize, store, protect, enhance and use hundreds, possibly thousands of photographs on your computer, tablet and smart phone. Students will be introduced to programs that make it easier to work with digital photos. Students will learn how to scan old family photos for the purpose of retouching and



The Many Benefits of Volunteering

The City of Takoma Park offers a myriad of opportunities to volunteer. Whether it is for a special event (Monster Bash, Celebrate Takoma, etc.), sports (Winter Basketball, Futsal, etc.), senior programs (Fitness, Art, etc.), or for SSL hours, the City of Takoma Park is the place to be for volunteering. Volunteering makes a difference in the lives of others, and you will also benefit in a number of ways. From lowering stress to boosting self-confidence, volunteering offers many health benefits—especially for retirees. Some of the benefits of volunteering are:

- 1. **Decreasing the risk of depression.** Volunteering increases social interaction and helps build a support system based on common commitment and interests—both of which have been shown to decrease depression.
- 2. **Enjoying a sense of purpose and fulfillment**—and increase your self-confidence while you’re at it!
- 3. **Staying physically and mentally active.** Volunteer activities get you moving and thinking at the same time.
- 4. **Reducing stress levels.** By savoring your time spent in service to others, you’ll feel a sense of meaning and appreciation—both given and received—which can be calming.
- 5. **Experiencing “The Happiness Effect.”** The feeling you get after a vigorous workout is the same feeling you get after volunteering. Helping others has that exact same effect—so the more you volunteer, the happier you become!

An example of this is Alice Sims, who teaches art classes for the City of Takoma Park Recreation Department. Alice volunteers her time with the 55+ program. She is an enthusiastic supporter of the



KINDNESS, like a boomerang always returns.

Do small things with great love.



One of the greatest gifts you can give is your time.



Plant a seed and watch it grow.



55+ program and dedicated to providing opportunities for seniors to be creative in the arts. Alice makes it possible for seniors to participate in a variety of free arts and crafts workshops, such as basket weaving and painting silk scarves at the Takoma Park Community Center.

Her latest endeavor was the “Empty Bowls” project. Alice worked with the youth in the after care programs at both the Community Center and the Recreation Center locations, as well as the teen program, to make bowls to help bring awareness of hunger in our society. Alice helped the youth paint and glaze the bowls and talked to them about the

importance of giving back. Alice said, “I find working on these volunteer opportunities rewarding. After the completion of a project, I feel so overcome with joy.”

Get ready to start experiencing the joys and health benefits of volunteering for yourself. Try volunteering at summer camps, coaching a sport or exploring other ideas. Get active now! Come to Takoma Park and enjoy the opportunities to volunteer. Contact us at 301-891-7290 or search for an activity at [www.montgomeryserves.org](http://www.montgomeryserves.org)

Our upcoming Special Events are:  
Egg Hunt, April 20  
Celebrate Takoma, May 18



Takoma  
Park  
Maryland  
Library



## Library renovation update

By Ellen Robbins

People frequently ask library staff about the status of the library's plans for renovation and expansion. While there has not yet been any construction, the reality is that in the past two years, we have made considerable progress. We have a signed contract with our architect. We were successful in acquiring Capital Grant Funding through the State. The City Council also approved borrowing to complete the project through the State Infrastructure Loan Program. Schematic design is in progress, and a site survey and an engineering study were completed in 2018.

Library staff have worked hard to weed collections and prepare for moving mate-

rials out of our 64 year-old building. And library patrons continue to express enthusiasm for the Library project.

Inevitably, development and engineering questions come to light in the examination of a built environment, and indeed light was shed by the 2018 engineering report. The engineers concluded that the City needed a new flood plain delineation study to determine if the current flood wall (which was planned to be incorporated into the expanded library building) was adequate. While a flood plain study was done in 2002, hydrology improved significantly in the ensuing 16 years, and it made sense to conduct the new study.

LIBRARY RENOVATION □ Page 9

## 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

### Petites Chansons/French Circle Time

Saturday, March 2, 10:30 a.m.

Madame Marie leads songs and rhymes in French.

### LEGO Club

Sunday, March 3, 1:30–3 p.m.

Building fun for ages 3–10.

### Bedtime Stories & a Craft

Tuesday, March 5, 7 p.m.

Join Ms. Kati for some bedtime fun.

### Author/Explorer Fabien Cousteau

Friday, March 8, 7:30 p.m.

Cousteau presents *Great White Shark Adventure*, the first volume in a new graphic novel adventure series for kids.

### My Monster & Me

Saturday, March 9, 10:30 a.m.

We'll read some fun monster picture books and then craft our own little monsters.

Presented in partnership with local nonprofit Small Things Matter

### Caldecott Club

Monday, March 11, 7 p.m.

Join us as we read some wonderful books that are "Calde-Nots" – books that were ineligible for the 2019 Caldecott.

### Comics Jam

Tuesday, March 12, 4 p.m.

Join Dave Burbank for our fun comic book club

### Kids Art

Sunday, March 17, 2–3 p.m.

### Graphic Novelist Gareth Hinds

Monday, March 18, 7:30 p.m.

Hinds will present his newest book, an adaptation of *The Iliad*.

### Friends of the Library Fortnightly Book Club

Tuesday, March 19, 7:30 p.m.

Our book is *When the Emperor Was Divine* by Julie Otsuka. Books are available in the library. Hydrangea Room, Takoma Park Community Center. All welcome!

### Drawing Fantastic Beasts & Magical Hogwarts Creatures

Sunday, March 24, 2–4 p.m.

Led by local artist Kate Lanxner and open to kids ages 9–14. Spaces are limited, so registration is required for this program; to register, go to [www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents](http://www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents)

### Friends of the Library Annual Meeting

Monday, March 25, 7:30 p.m.

Bob Mondello, senior NPR arts critic, will be the featured speaker. All welcome. (See article.)

### Friends of the Library Big Book Club

Monday, March 27, 7:30 p.m.

Big Book Club begins discussions of *100 Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez with a lecture and reception at Historic Takoma. Subsequent discussions take place at Takoma Park Community Center on April 3 and 17, and May 1. Books are available at the library. All welcome!

### Newbery Medalist Linda Sue Park

Thursday, March 28, 7 p.m.

Park presents her newest picture book, *Gondra's Treasure*.

### Alternative Games

Saturday, March 31, 2–4 p.m.

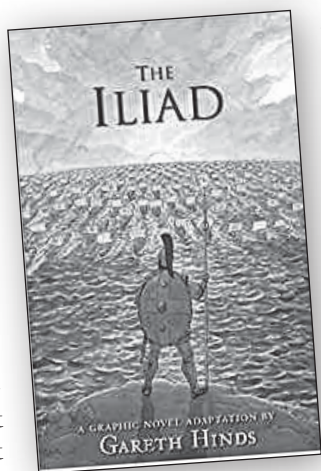
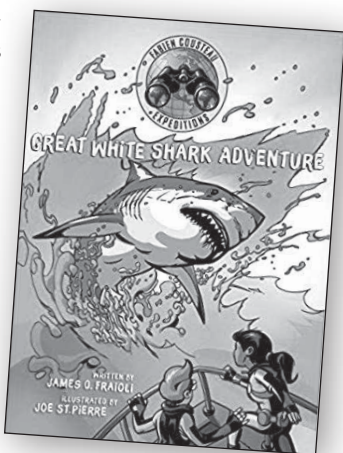
Join Dave Burbank for a rousing session of *Dungeons & Dragons*. Ages 8 up.

### COMING UP...

- **Author Susan Kuklin** discusses her newest non-fiction book for teens, *We Are Here to Stay: Voices of Undocumented Young Adults*, on Monday, April 8 at 7:30 p.m.
- **Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Children's Book Week, April 29-May 5**  
Join us for some special events celebrating children's books!
- **Favorite Poem Evening - May 7**

## A terrific trio of author events for kids and teens

We've got three wonderful author events for kids and teens this month! First up is author/explorer Fabien Cousteau, who will talk about *Great White Shark Adventure*, the first book in his new graphic novel adventure series for kids on Friday, March 8 at 7:30 p.m. Cousteau, the grandson of famed sea explorer Jacques Cousteau, will read from his book and talk about his work making ocean exploration documentaries with National Geographic, PBS, Discovery and CBS. Cousteau's new kids' book is a combination of fiction and non-fiction as fictional junior explorers Bella and Marcus join Cousteau and his research team to investigate and track a massive white shark off the coast of South Africa. (Note: the Library will close as usual at 6 p.m. and then re-open at 7:15 p.m. for this event.)



Then, on Monday, March 18 at 7:30 p.m., noted graphic novelist Gareth Hinds will present his stunning new adaptation of *The Iliad*. In its review, Publishers Weekly called Hinds' book "an accessible entrée into an enduring classic," and added, "Hinds takes painstaking efforts with his fine-lined watercolors to depict each character in a readily distinguishable way, even while in pitched battle, fully armored. The excellent visual guides, maps, and notes aid in this task and further contextualize the epic's time, place, and significance." (Note: Because of the graphic battle scenes, the book, and our event, are best for ages 10 up.)

Our final March author event takes place Thursday, March 28 at 7 p.m., when Newbery Medalist Linda Sue Park spotlights

AUTHOR EVENTS □ Page 9



## Mondello to speak at FTPML annual meeting

Bob Mondello, NPR senior arts critic, will be the featured speaker at the Friends of Takoma Park Maryland Library annual meeting on Monday evening, March 25, at the library.

He has been reviewing movies and covering the arts at NPR News for more than three decades. By his count, he watches at least 300 films annually and critiques the most interesting for All Things Considered, the network's award-winning news program. He also was a theater critic for Washington City Paper for many years. Among his many other notable accomplishments: "American Stages," an eight-part series on the regional theater movement that he conceived and co-produced at NPR.

Mondello grew up in Bethesda, attended Walt Whitman High School and went to the University of Maryland. He now lives in Takoma, DC with his husband, poet and teacher Carlos



Bob Mondello

Schroder.

Everyone is welcome at the free event, which will begin at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

There will be a brief FTPML membership meeting and board elections afterward. Seven seats on the Friends' board of directors are up for election. Five are for two-year terms, and two are for one-year terms. Three incumbents are running for two-year terms: Anand Parikh, Claudine

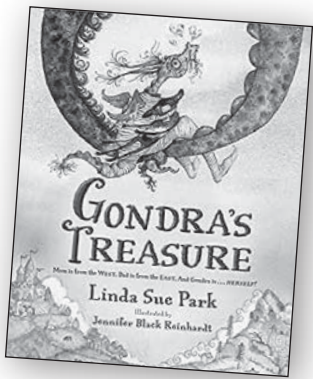
Schweber and Walter Mulbry. Mulbry also is running for re-election as treasurer.

Any FTPML members interested in running for the board should contact the FTPML nominating committee at [ftpmlnominatingcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:ftpmlnominatingcommittee@gmail.com). Nominations also will be taken from the floor. Not a member? You can join by visiting the Friends' website at [ftpml.org](http://ftpml.org).

—Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library

AUTHOR EVENTS
From page 8

her newest picture book, Gondra's Treasure. In the book, aimed at readers ages 4-8, Park tackles the issue of mixed-race identity through the story of Gondra, a young dragon whose mother is from the West and whose father is from the East, and who wonders



exactly where she fits in. In its review, Kirkus said: "While it's not a profound look at mixed-race identity, it is a playful one, and readers will enjoy the cultural examination of dragons." At all three of these events, Politics & Prose will be selling copies of the authors' books, but our programs are free, and no purchase is required to attend. Please join us!

LIBRARY RENOVATION
From page 8

As the saying goes, measure twice and cut once. A preliminary report was concluded in August of 2018 and submitted to the County's Department of Permitting Services for review. Based on the conclusions of the new flood plain study, it was determined that a higher elevation for the Library would be required. The architect has submitted design options for a library building that would meet the elevation criteria based on the new information, but would preserve the same footprint. The new design options are all predicated on constructing a new library building on the existing site, as an alternative to changing the parking lot elevation relative to the Library, which we understand would be a significantly more costly option. The flood plain study is important in

advancing the City's goals in other ways. The effect of climate change on the water table, as well as the flood plain, makes the recent delineation study a foresighted and practical necessity as the City plans the future purposes and locations of its facilities. Immediate next steps for the library renovation project include consideration of the new concept designs. Because they don't depend on modification of antiquated systems or constraints in the deployment of existing resources they offer new opportunities to imaginatively recreate and enliven existing space. We are eager for things to progress now that we know what we need to do in response to the flood plain study. We look forward to sharing new information as it becomes available and to continued public discussion as the library project continues. The architect will make a presentation to the City Council on March 20.

WATER BILL
From page 1

was about \$200, but one time I got a bill for over \$1,200" she said. She complained to WSSC. They inspected the house and found the meter was OK, and there were no leaks. Bailey entered a long process of negotiations and formal adjudication with the utility. Eventually, worried about possible damage to her credit, she paid the bill in full. Lynn Riggins, a spokesperson for WSSC, told TP News that if customers suspect that something is wrong with their water supply, sewer or meter readings, they should contact the utility as soon as possible at 301-206-4001. (Call 206-4002 at any time for an emergency.) Riggins reports that the cause of overly high bills can be unnoticed water leaks, including underground leaks and leaking toilets. WSSC can send customers dye tablets (or you can use food dye) to place in the tank of the toilet. That will quickly show if a toilet is leaking, so it can be repaired. In addition, if a house has landscaping or gardens that the resident waters in the summer, you can expect that water usage will be higher during the growing season, especially when there's been little rain. Bills are sent out every three months. Moreover, Riggins said, WSSC will work with customers who may have difficulty paying extra-high bills. "We offer high-bill adjustments. In addition, we have flexible-payment options with extended due dates." See www.wsscwater.com/assistance.

WSSC also has a Dispute Resolving Board, which hears complaints from customers. (Those must be filed within 60 days, though requests for refunds may be filed within three years.) WSSC is unusual in that it is a bi-county agency, under the joint supervision of Montgomery and Prince George's counties. It is in charge of both water supply and sewage disposal so that customers see two charges on their bills, one for water and one for sewer service. In addition, WSSC customers who are curious about their water usage can in most cases read their own water meters to monitor their water usage. The utility does not have remote monitoring of water use from a distant location. Instead, it has meter readers who visit in person to read each meter. Meters are not all the same: some are outside the residence, and some are inside, in which case there is an outside connection that allows meter readers to do their jobs without entering the home. This reporter was pleasantly surprised to find out that the WSSC meter in his front curb strip could be read quite easily. He lifted the WSSC cover plate, which looks like a manhole cover but only about a foot in diameter, and after scraping away a thick layer of mud could read the meter. See photos. To see your billing history online, you can log on to www.wsscwater.com, set up an account, and then look up your history at my.wsscwater.com.

RECREATION
From page 7

restoring. This includes Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop. You will be able to use these programs on the iMac computers in the Multi Media Lab. It is recommended that students have an external memory drive of at least 3 gigabytes to store photos used in the class. Written material will be provided. Instructor: Vinny Mwano Takoma Park Community Center Multi Media Lab 7500 Maple Avenue 17 years and older 8 Week Session Wednesdays, April 3-June 5 6:30-8:30 p.m. Resident: \$75 / Non-resident: \$85

SPORTS 2019 Adult Co-ed Volleyball League The Takoma Park Co-ed Volleyball League is a fun and exciting recreational program for competitive adults of all skill levels. Teams will play games weekly. Games will be played with a 6 vs. 6, rally scoring format. Roster limit is 15. Stay active, meet new friends and get on the court for an eight-week season! Registration starts March 15 for City residents and March 22 for nonresidents. Games are set for Monday and Wednesday evenings. For more information, please email tpsports@takomaparkmd.gov. Takoma Park Recreation Center Gymnasium 7315 New Hampshire Avenue 18 years and older 8 Game Season April 8-June 10 Games: Monday or Wednesday 6:30pm or 7:30 p.m. Team Fee: \$250

2019 Adult Summer Basketball League Join our Adult Basketball League this summer at the Steve Francis Courts. Put together your winning team and go against other area teams to win the league championship. 6 games guaranteed, top 4 teams will advance to the playoffs. No games on July 3 or 4. Teams will be provided uniforms. For more information, please email tpsports@takomaparkmd.gov. Takoma-Piney Branch Park Steve Francis Courts 18 years and older 6 Game Season Wednesdays & Thursdays June 19-August 14 6-8 p.m. Team Fee: \$200

55+ Programs

ART



Spring Workshop, Glazing Ceramic Bisque Coming soon! A new workshop for early spring with a variety of ceramic items available for you to choose from and decorate! All materials will be provided. Space is limited, and registration is required. Instructors: Alice Sims and Sue Bracey

Takoma Park Community Center Azalea Room 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older Tuesday, March 12 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Free

DROP-IN MARCH 26 BLOOD PRESSURE: 11:30am-12:30pm BINGO: 12-2pm In the Senior Room, TPCC

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT Computer Extras In this three week course experiment with social media, master the calendar and other computer/smart device apps. Bring your questions. A Takoma Park Library card is needed to access the computers, and take this course. Instructor: Anne LeVeque Takoma Park Community Center Computer Lab 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older 3 Week Session Wednesdays, March 6-20 10 a.m. -12 p.m. \$10

ENVIRONMENTAL Bees, Beneficials and Blooms Want to help honeybees and other pollinators but confused about what plants to put in the garden? Find out who those beneficial insects are, what services they provide and how to convince them to set up shop in your yard! Drop-in, no registration required. Presenter: Montgomery County Master Gardener, Maria Rojas Takoma Park Community Center Azalea Room 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older Monday, March 11 11 a.m. -12 p.m. Free



Managing Garden Pests Are organic pesticides always safer than synthetic ones? Are there safer, more sustainable ways to manage problems in your garden? Learn about what really works and what doesn't, which insects and diseases are common in our landscapes, and how to prevent them from becoming a problem. Drop-in, no registration required. Presenter: Montgomery County Master Gardener, Maria Rojas Takoma Park Community Center Azalea Room 7500 Maple Avenue 55 and older Monday, March 25 11 a.m. -12 p.m. Free



## THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

As of Jan. 31, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and Montgomery County Fire and Rescue personnel assigned to the station have responded to 51 fire-related incidents in 2019. The department also addressed or assisted with 263 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 314. Totals for

2018 were 51 and 226, representing an increase of 37 incidents.

During January, Takoma Park volunteers put in a total of 1117.5 hours of standby hours in the station compared to 1,547 in January 2018, a decrease of 429.5 hours.

### Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported as February 19, 9 people have died in fires compared to 3 in 2018.

### Fire Safety Message

*What not to do when the power goes out in your home*

- **Candles** – Never leave them unattended. When you leave a room, put them out or take them with you.
- **Generators** – Never use one in your home or garage. Never!



## Avoiding Financial Fraud: Not just for the elderly

By Claudine Schweber, co-chair, Emergency Preparedness Committee



Don't wait until April to pay attention to your financial situation. The people trying to separate you from your money are ready to act now—by phone, text, or email (online). While many financial preparedness advice columns and websites focus on the elderly, millennials have joined the “seriously at risk” group for being scammed. Indeed, “millennials lose more money to financial scams than seniors” according to a Federal Trade Commission Report issued in March 2018 (See Zach Friedman's March 9, 2018 article online at Forbes.com.).

Are you prepared to avoid the traps? Last March I wrote about the need for basic Financial Preparedness. A year later, being prepared also means being aware of and prepared to avoid scams and other thefts.

### Step 1: Awareness

- **Identity theft:** This may involve bills for items you didn't buy, debt collection for accounts you didn't open, use of your social security number, medical theft of health insurance information, and stealing your ID for social media purposes (See [www.consumer.ftc.gov/topics/identity-theft](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/topics/identity-theft)). In a 2018 report, Maryland was one of five states with the highest rate of identity theft.
- **Scams and fraud:** This is the category where 40 percent of millennials and 18 percent of those 70 and older reported financial losses in 2018. Imposter scams include someone pretending to represent the government. For example, there's the tax collection scam where callers have claimed to be from the IRS demanding that you pay towed taxes immediately with a prepaid debit card or wire transfer. You may even be threatened with arrest if you don't pay. This has also been done via email and text. Another scam is verification, an email or text message requiring that you verify your personal information. The message often includes a hyperlink phrase “click here” or a button to a fraudulent form or website. The IRS will always contact you by mail first. Call the IRS immediately 1-800-366-4484; for email contact, report to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov).

There are also charity scams, tickets scams, housing scams, lottery and sweepstakes scams, banking scams and many more. See [www.usa.gov/common-scams-frauds](http://www.usa.gov/common-scams-frauds) for more schemes and what to do if you encounter them.

### Step 2: Action

Do you know exactly what your assets and expenses are? Is there a list with specifics? If you are ill, is there a back-up person/s? Do they know how to contact key persons?

Create a financial checklist that identifies the income, asset and expenses and medical information, etc. Give one copy to a trusted person/s and save one for yourself (paper or electronic).

### Documentation

For each item, list its name, the supporting documents, and reminders, such as renewals, contact persons and account numbers.

- Income, assets, financial accounts, such as checking, savings, retirement, investments
- Checking accounts, savings accounts with name, numbers
- Bank/Credit union: name, account number
- Retirement accounts: IRA, 401K, other
- Gov't benefits: social security, Medicare/Medicaid, veterans benefits, etc.
- Investment: stocks, bonds, mutual funds, other
- Insurance company
- alimony or child support income
- Expenses (housing, medical (+ insurance info), varied monthly bills and other expenses)

### Education

- Prepare students in high school (or earlier) to be financially responsible and aware. For example, see “Personal Finance in High School—When I'm 65” (4:30 min) at [vimeo.com/227765856](https://vimeo.com/227765856).
- Teach young children some financial basics, such as spending some, but not all of their money, giving some away and keeping track of their money.

Thank you Dr. Kathleen Sindell, certified financial planner ([www.fpedec.org](http://www.fpedec.org)); Kathleen Quinn EPC Committee and JumpStart Clearing House ([www.jumpstart.org](http://www.jumpstart.org)) for your assistance with this article.

Contact us at [tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov) or 301-891-7126. Listen to Bea(trice) Prepared the first Sunday of the month on WOWD/ Talk of Takoma.



## SafeRoutes



## NEWS

- **Bike Rodeos and Cross Safe/Cross Smart:** All direct education in area schools will be complete by the end of February. Bike Rodeos were conducted with the fourth graders at East Silver Spring and Piney Branch elementary schools last fall. The Cross Safe/Cross Smart pedestrian safety education activity reached all kindergarteners at Takoma Park Elementary School in December and moved on to East Silver Spring Elementary School last month.
- **Lincoln Avenue Sidewalk:** The stretch of new sidewalk funded by the Safe Routes to School grant on Lincoln Avenue between Jackson Avenue and Larch Avenue is nearly complete.
- **Takoma Park Safe Routes to School 5K Challenge – Sunday, May 5, 2019:** Registration is open for the 11th annual event. Visit [tkpk5k.com](http://tkpk5k.com) to reg-

ister. Proceeds are divided among the PTAs at the five participating schools: Takoma Park, East Silver Spring, Piney Branch and Rolling Terrace Elementary Schools and Takoma Park Middle School for programming related to safety, health and fitness.

- **Bike to School Day – May 8, 2019:** Plan to ride your bike on Bike to School Day, the first Wednesday of May. Contact your school administration or PTA for details on how your school celebrates.
- **iCan Shine Bike Camp – June 24–28, 2019:** Takoma Park Safe Routes To School will offer a bike riding education camp for 30 students with special needs, ages 8–14. Riders must be Maryland residents. Sixty volunteers are also needed. Visit [icanshine.org/ican-bike-takoma-park-md](http://icanshine.org/ican-bike-takoma-park-md) to sign up.



## 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](http://takomaparkmd.gov/services/passports).



# Family, fate and food

By Rick Henry

When launching a new restaurant there are many - perhaps too many - factors to consider. Demographics, building availability, and market saturation are among the criteria owners take into account in deciding whether to open in a particular city or location.

However, for Carolina McCandless and David Perez, family and fate were the ultimate deciding factors that led them to open their restaurant, Cielo Rojo (Red Sky), at 7056 Carroll Avenue in Takoma Park.

It was family that drew the couple to Takoma Park, or in McCandless' case, back to Takoma Park. She grew up in the area, and her parents have owned and operated the clothing store Amano on Carroll Avenue for more than 20 years.

But she had been living in San Francisco for the past 12 years, and in 2012 she met Perez at an organic vegan Mexican restaurant. They became a couple and then worked together at a catering company. After giving birth to daughter



Director of Operations Carolina McCandless and Chef David Perez, owners and operators of Cielo Rojo

in 2017, the couple decided they could no longer afford to live in San Francisco and elected to move back to the area and open their own restaurant. The question was "where?"

That's when fate took over. "We had just decided to move back east, and two days later, my father told me that the Subway

sandwich shop (down the street from his store) was up for lease," said McCandless. "He said, 'I know this is a crazy idea, but the location couldn't be more perfect for your idea of a Mexican restaurant.'"

Intrigued by the idea, but not willing to commit to that location immediately, the couple checked some other open spots in the area, but ultimately decided that that location and size was perfect for a first restaurant.

"I knew the Takoma Park community very well from growing up working at Amano, and I felt it would be a great fit for our concept," McCandless said.

From that moment of decision last June, it was a quick sprint to the restaurant's grand opening in late January. Here again, family comes into play. "My father helped build the restaurant and helped with my concept," McCandless said. "For instance, I bought tiles from Mexico and designed the look of the tables in the restaurant, and he actually built the tile tabletops."

Equally important to McCandless was her mother caring for the couple's daughter during the long hours of prep for the opening. And as long-term Takoma Park business owners, the parents provided invaluable advice. "The guidance they gave was to keep prices reasonable so that it could be tailored to the diversity of people living in Takoma Park," McCandless said.

That advice seems to have worked well so far, as the restaurant has been busy since its opening, drawing enthusiastic patrons, such as Carissa Marks and Jessica Carter. The pair, who work nearby,



Carissa Marks (left) and Jessica Carter (right) share a lunchtime laugh and a meal. The two work nearby and frequent Cielo Rojo often.

are frequent lunchtime customers and big fans. When asked how many times they have eaten at Cielo Rojo, Marks laughed and simply said, "Lots."

"We are both vegan, and the food is so flavorful. You don't feel that you are missing out on anything at all," said Carter, citing her favorite dishes, gorditas (organic potato and corn masa patties) and drunken mushroom tacos.

While it serves an array of vegan entrees that satisfy Marks and Carter, Cielo Rojo offers a full menu of meat, pork, chicken and fish entrees as well. Options include small plates of tacos or quesilladas to larger more ambitious full entrees of rockfish, enchiladas and posole (hominy stew).

The unifying thread is a commitment to sourcing as much local and organic food as possible, (100% organic non-GMO corn tortillas and hormone-free and humanely raised meats, for example) and the well-honed skills of chef Perez, a native of Mexico City, who has been cooking in the United States since he immigrated at age 17.

McCandless said that the restaurant has enjoyed a great response so far, even if it has tested the staff and the restaurant's capacity. "We did not anticipate being so busy when we first opened, and it's taken a lot of work to keep up with demand," she said. "We are learning a lot as we go."

For menu and hours of operation, visit [www.cielo-rojo.com](http://www.cielo-rojo.com).

## Crossroads Farmers Market Multi-Farm CSA

Members of the Crossroads Farmers Market Multi-Farm CSA not only receive delicious, locally grown fruits and vegetables from Crossroads farmers, they also help make fresh, healthy food more affordable in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads.

Basic shares include four to six types of vegetable items and one to two types of fruit items, equivalent to one half bushel of produce. Members pick up their share of freshly harvested produce and other market goods each Wednesday from various pickup sites throughout Takoma Park.

Like the farmers market, the CSA runs for 33 weeks, from April 17 through Nov. 27. This year the CSA is also offering two additional options: farm fresh eggs (lim-

ited option) and a rotating selection of market treats (coffee, local honey, cider) from Crossroads vendors.

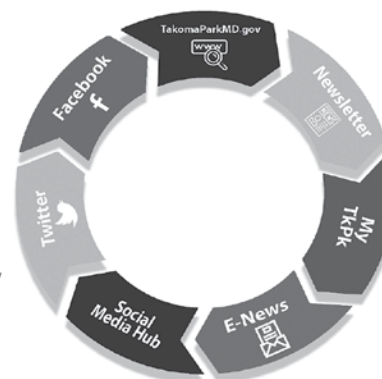
Crossroads' Multi-Farm CSA is hyper local. The two primary suppliers are Full Cellar Farm, based just 49 miles away in Jefferson, Md., and Potomac Vegetable Farms, 24 miles away in Vienna, Va.

Participating in a CSA is a great way to save time and money on shopping for quality produce and a fun way to learn about new foods and become more connected to the food you eat. And you will support local farmers who are dedicated to expanding access to fresh, local produce in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads. For more information, visit [www.crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org](http://www.crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org).

## STAY CONNECTED!

The City of Takoma Park strives to keep residents engaged and informed in a variety of ways:

- **Social Media:** Follow Takoma Park  
- Facebook: [Like us](#)  
- Twitter: [@TakomaParkMD](#)
- **NEW! Social Media Hub:** Don't like Twitter or Facebook but want to know the latest post or tweets by the City? Visit: [takomaparkmd.gov/about-takoma-park/social-media-hub/](http://takomaparkmd.gov/about-takoma-park/social-media-hub/)
- **Takoma Park Alert:** Public safety notifications - **Sign up** for Public Safety notifications on Takoma Park Alert: (emails/texts): [takomaparkmd.gov/services/takoma-park-alert](mailto:takomaparkmd.gov/services/takoma-park-alert)



- **Takomaparkmd.gov:** where you can access information on upcoming Council meetings, agendas, City news, and the status of City projects
- **Monthly Newsletter:** both in print and electronic copy
- **NEW! The Takoma Insider:** Receive our weekly eNews right to your email. **Sign up:** <http://eepurl.com/gg4dMb>
- **My TkPk:** Make a service request or report an issue using the online app. **Learn more:** [takomaparkmd.gov/services/my-tkpk](http://takomaparkmd.gov/services/my-tkpk)

#OneCommunity - TakomaParkMD.gov

# MARCH '19

## 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 April issue is March 8, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning March 22. To submit calendar items, email [tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto: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, March 6, 7:30 p.m.  
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, March 13, 7:30 p.m.  
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, March 20, 7:30 p.m.  
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, April 3, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Auditorium  
Detailed agendas are always available for review online at [www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas](http://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](mailto:educare_ss@yahoo.com)  
[www.educaresupportservices.org](http://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](mailto: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  
Top Notch Toastmasters meetings provide opportunities for positive, supportive development of personal and interpersonal skills that make you a better communicator, a better leader.

#### 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](mailto:muchui@aol.com).

### VILLAGE OF TAKOMA PARK EVENTS

#### Takoma Park's Black History

Thursday, Feb. 28, noon – 2 p.m.  
Takoma Park Community Center, Azalea Room  
In recognition of Black History Month, please join us for a discussion of African-American history relevant to our home community of Takoma Park. This event is free and open to all, no pre-registration required. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, visit [villageoftakomapark.com](http://villageoftakomapark.com).

#### Village Rides Volunteer Training

Tuesday, March 19, 7 – 9 p.m.  
Takoma Park Community Center, Lilac Room  
Orientation session for those interested in driving Takoma Park seniors once a month or more. Please register by calling The Village of Takoma Park at 301-646-2109, or email [sandyeganretired@gmail.com](mailto:sandyeganretired@gmail.com).

#### Takoma Horticultural Club event

Wednesday, March 20, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
Historic Takoma  
Modern Methods for Breeding New Plants

#### Community Clean-Up Day

Saturday, March 23, 10 a.m. – noon  
Various locations  
A community clean-up and gardening day hosted by Main Street Takoma and the Takoma Park SDA Church. Meetup locations: Laurel Avenue, by Morrison Park, Triangle Park at 4th and Blair roads, NW.

#### Takoma Park Tree Canopy Assessment Seminar

Presented by Noah Ahles, University of Vermont  
Saturday, March 23, 2019  
Morning Session 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Community Center Auditorium  
Afternoon Session 1–3 p.m., Community Center Azalea Room  
Morning session will present findings on the current status of the City's tree canopy using 2018 LiDAR data. Afternoon session will be a planning discussion about establishing a citywide tree canopy goal and implementation plan. The morning session will be a general overview; the afternoon session will be a focused discussion with members of the Council, Tree Commission and Committee on The Environment.

### ARTS AND LITERATURE

#### People's Open Mic

Sundays, 9 p.m.  
Republic restaurant, 6939 Laurel Ave.  
[www.republictakoma.com](http://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](http://www.republictakoma.com)

#### Open Mic Night

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

#### Jazz Jam

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

#### Wednesday Night Drum Jams

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

#### Carroll Café presents Tret Fure

Friday, March 8, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
Carroll Cafe at Seekers Church  
A prolific artist in the contemporary singer-songwriter arena, Tret has released 16 albums and CDs over the course of her 48-year career.

#### Author/Explorer Fabien Cousteau

Friday, March 8, 7:30 p.m.  
Takoma Park Library  
Author/explorer Fabien Cousteau will talk about Great White Shark Adventure, the first book in his new graphic novel adventure series for kids. Details on page 8.

#### My Monster & Me: Stories and a Craft

Saturday, March 9, 10:30–11:30 a.m.  
Takoma Park Library  
Kids are invited to come read some fun picture books about (friendly) monsters and then create their own "monster stuffie" toy. This program is presented in partnership with Small Things Matter, a local nonprofit created by Roxanne Yamashita and her teen daughter Lana. All materials will be provided courtesy of the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library.

#### DECAYED Art Exhibition

Through March 10  
TP Community Center  
Three talented artists display their work in DECAYED, an exhibition exploring the beauty and melancholy of decay. The exhibition will be on view until March 10. Details on page 5.

#### "In the Executioner's Shadow" documentary screening

Thursday, March 14, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
"In the Executioner's Shadow" casts a penetrating look at the consequences of the death penalty through three powerful stories. Details on page 5.

#### Writing a Village

Monday, March 18, 7 – 9 p.m.  
TP Community Center Hydrangea Room  
Led by former Takoma Park Poet Laureate Anne Becker, this free workshop provides a friendly atmosphere for writers to share their poetry and creative writing.

#### Graphic Novelist Gareth Hinds

Monday, March 18, 7:30 p.m.  
Takoma Park Library  
Noted graphic novelist Gareth Hinds presents his adaptation of Homer's *The Iliad*.

#### Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, March 21, 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.

#### Photo Salon

Monday, March 25, 7 – 9 p.m.  
TP Community Center Hydrangea Room  
Professional and amateur photographers can show and critique their work in this free monthly workshop led by photographer Rob Rudick.

#### Book signing with Chef Carla Hall

Wednesday, March 27, 5 – 7 p.m.  
Tabletop Takoma, 6927 Laurel Ave.  
Chef Carla Hall signs her new cookbook "Carla Hall's Soul Food: Everyday and Celebration."

#### Newbery Medalist Linda Sue Park

Thursday, March 28, 7 p.m.  
Takoma Park Library  
Newbery Medalist Linda Sue Park spotlights her newest picture book, *Gondra's Treasure*. Details on page 8.

#### Fairy Tale Party

Saturday, March 30, 2 – 4 p.m.  
Takoma Park Library  
Calling all fairy tale enthusiasts. Enjoy tales, crafts and snacks. Wear your favorite fairy tale-inspired get-up. Kids of all ages are invited; crafts will be most appropriate for ages 3 and up. Registration encouraged.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Arbor Day

Saturday, April 6, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.  
The City's Arbor Day event and seedling give away will take place on Saturday, April 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (weather permitting) near the main entrance of the Takoma Park Library at 101 Philadelphia Ave. If you have a story about a mature tree that grew from a Takoma Park Arbor Day seedling, please share it with the City's Urban Forest Manager at [janvz@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:janvz@takomaparkmd.gov).

## Make a Difference - Plant a Tree

### *Discount Trees Available to Beautify Yards, Replace the Canopy*

The spring season is a good time to plant trees. Takoma Park residents can help replenish the aging tree canopy and take advantage of an incentive. The City will contribute \$100 towards the first tree purchased. Residents can have a 2" diameter tree installed by the City's landscape contractor for \$95 plus 6 percent sales tax, for a total of \$100.70. Additional trees will cost \$195 plus 6 percent sales tax. The trees are warranted for one year. The \$100 discount is not available for a tree required by a tree removal permit replanting agreement. Residents can select a tree(s) from the following seven tree species: swamp white oak, Princeton elm, bald cypress, black gum, American linden, sycamore and river birch. Trees can be ordered through April 13. A limited number of grants are available for low- to moderate-income homeowners. In selecting a tree planting location, make sure to keep in mind the eventual size of the tree and pay attention to underground/overhead utilities, building foundations and walkways/sidewalks. Use the Right Tree Right Place principle for tree



location selection: <https://bit.ly/2TDUpjD>. After your order has been received, the City's Urban Forest Manager will notify you of the planting date/time.

#### ORDER FORM

Please include this completed form, with a check, payable to City of Takoma Park, for the number of trees selected, plus tax. Mail or drop off to Urban Forest Manager, 31 Oswego Ave., Silver Spring, MD, 20910. Deadline close of business April 13.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

#### 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 \_\_\_ Sycamore (2") \$195

+ 6% sales tax \_\_\_ River Birch (2") \$195

Total \_\_\_\_\_