

March 2020



## WHAT'S NEW?

**Annual Arbor Day Celebration**  
Saturday, April 4, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Details, page 4

**Annual Meeting  
Friends of Takoma Park  
Maryland Library**  
Tuesday, March 24, 7:30 p.m.  
Details, page 8

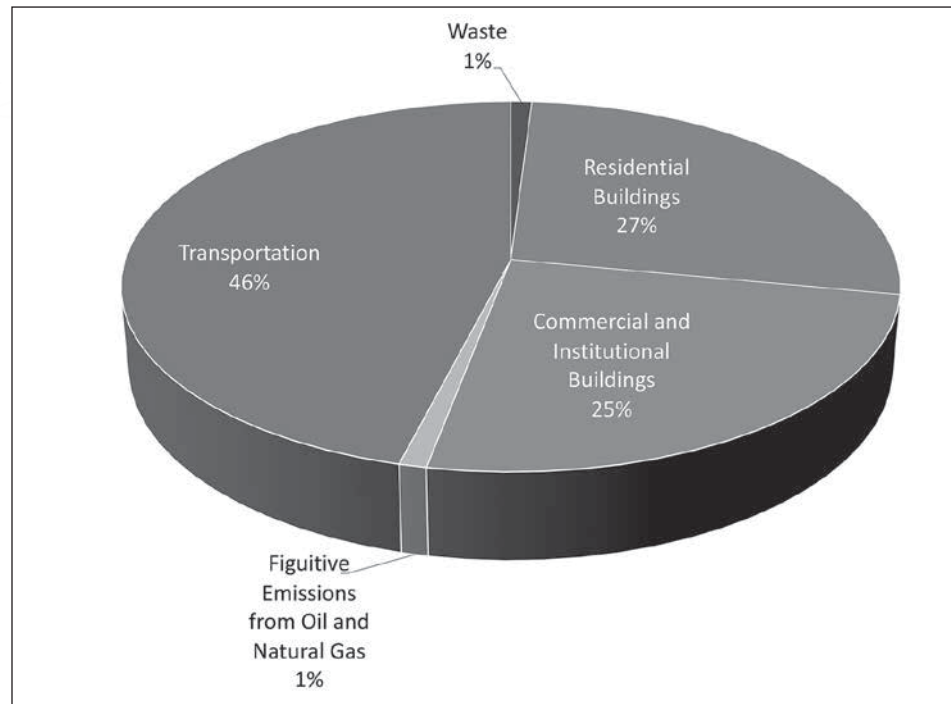
**Local Band Helps Raise Funds  
for Library's SummerQuest  
Program**  
Details, page 11

**Trash/recycling collection**  
No changes this month

# TAKOMA PARK

A newsletter published by the City of Takoma Park, Maryland

Volume 59, No. 3 ■ takomaparkmd.gov



## Climate Emergency Response

### *A total reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2035*

By Gina Mathias, Sustainability Manager,  
City of Takoma Park

Climate action is not new in Takoma Park. The City completed its first greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction plan in 2000 and has completed three subsequent plans. The last GHG reduction plan, the 2014 Sustainable Energy Action Plan, contained 17 key strategies to reduce emissions city-wide, and the City implemented all feasible strategies. In Maryland, energy efficiency incentives and programs have been widely available for well over a decade, since 2008 when EmPower Maryland was written into law. In Takoma

Park additional incentives and voluntary programs were heavily pursued, helping the City to win several awards including a Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) award, Sustainable Maryland Certified award, and a Georgetown University Energy Prize award.

The Takoma Park City Council is currently considering next steps on climate action with a resolution that identifies key strategies to begin the City's journey toward net zero emissions. This resolution

CLIMATE RESPONSE □ Page 3



## 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.

### 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.

### Spanish:

Busque este icono 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:

ከታች ያለውን ደህን ክፍል ይፈልጉ የዚህ መጽሔት አርባዎ ራስዎ ናቸው በሌሎች ቋንቋዎች በመስመር ላይ ማንበብ ይቻላል ትርጉሙን በመጠቀም በታክሜ ከተማ ውስጥ ያለውን ባህሪ የፓርክ ድር ጣቢያ ጠቀ ክፍረንን በሪ ስጽ ሕፃ-ክንኝ ላይ ይመልከቱ በላይኛው ቀኝ ጥን ላይ ታስባለች የአሰሳ አሞሌን ይምረጡና ይምረጡ የሚጠቀሙበት ቋንቋ ትቀልቋይ ሳጥን፡

Everyone Counts in Montgomery County



## 2020 Census: Be Counted

The City is working hard to make sure that everyone regardless of age be counted in the 2020 Census. The Census is coming and we want the residents to know that it's more than just a population count. It's an opportunity to shape the future of our community.

### Did You Know?

The results of the census determines the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts. The more representation we have in our community the stronger our voice will become.

### Let's Be Clear

The law says that no personal information can be shared or used against you by any landlord, government agencies, or courts in any way. Your confidentiality is protected.

### Join us for 2020 Census Party in the City of Takoma Park

We want to help you fill out your 2020 Census Questionnaire!

### Available at both locations:

The Census Party will include food, computers to complete your online Census form, and activities for kids. Translation in Spanish, Amharic, and French will be available.

### Recreation Center

**Date:** Monday, March 23, 2020  
**Time:** 6:30–8:30 p.m.  
**Date:** Saturday, March 28, 2020  
**Time:** 3:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Takoma Park Recreation Center (Front Room)  
7315 New Hampshire Ave.,  
Takoma Park, MD 20912

### Community Center

**Date:** Saturday, March 21, 2020  
**Time:** 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 25, 2020  
**Time:** 4:30–8:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Community Center,  
(Hydrangea, Rose & Game Room)  
7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912

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7500 Maple Ave.  
Takoma Park, MD 20912

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## Inside



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and Friends**  
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**Introducing  
Sharyn Neuwirth**  
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**Q&A with  
Suzie Ludlow**  
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# DOCKET

## City Council & Committee Calendar

### OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

#### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday, March 11, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 18, 7:30 p.m. \*\*

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

Wednesday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Auditorium

\*\*The March 18 City Council meeting will be held at the Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue

#### ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION

Tuesday, March 24, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Thursday, March 12, 7 p.m.

TPCC Council Conference Room

#### COMPLETE SAFE STREETS COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 12, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 26, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### FACADE ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, March 10, 6:30 p.m.

TPCC Auditorium

#### GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 4, 6:30 p.m.

TPCC Council Conference Room

#### NOISE CONTROL BOARD

Tuesday, March 17, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 10, 7:30 p.m.

TPCC Lilac Room

#### PARKING MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE

Wednesday, March 11, 6:30 p.m.

TPCC Atrium Meeting Room

Wednesday, March 18, 6:30 p.m.

TPCC Council Conference Room

#### POLICE CHIEF'S ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, March 18, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

#### TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, March 10, 6:45 p.m.

TPCC Council Conference Room

#### YOUTH COUNCIL

Monday, March 9, 6:30 p.m.

TPCC Hydrangea Room

Monday, March 23, 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 hearing but would like to record an audio comment to be played during the public comment period of the meeting, is invited to contact Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, at [jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov) or 301-891-7267 at least 48 hours in advance.

## CityCouncilAction

*Only negative votes or abstentions are reported here. Resolutions and ordinances are published online after adoption.*

On **January 15, 2020**, the Council adopted **Ordinance 2020-1**, Authorizing Purchase of LED Decorative Streetlight Fixtures for Old Town. The ordinance authorized a contract with C.N. Robinson Lighting Co. for the purchase of 24 LED fixtures at a total cost of \$38,750.

At the meeting on **January 22, 2020**, the Council adopted **Resolution 2020-1**, Upholding the City's Commitment to Human Rights and Inclusivity. The resolution recognizes and affirms the importance of the human rights principles of dignity, equity and opportunity; commits to uphold and promote human rights, in collaboration with other levels of government agencies and officials and with the active support of residents; and reaffirms a commitment to building a welcoming, inclusive community that celebrates diversity and strives for equity and respect for all.

On the same evening, **Resolution 2020-2**, Bus Shelter Plan and Prioritization was adopted. The resolution affirms that the Council seeks to install more bus shelters throughout the City and directs staff to move forward on installation of

bus shelters as funds and staff time permit, with the following criteria: ridership of 30 or more boardings per day, racial equity, climate impact, cost and safety. Finally, the Council appointed Juan Canalas

CITY COUNCIL ☐ Page 3

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

**March 18, 2020 –  
7:30 p.m.**

On March 18, 2020, at 7:30 p.m., there will be two public hearings at the Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue:

1. Traffic Calming on the 7300 Block of Wildwood Drive
2. Traffic Calming on the 7600 Block of Wildwood Drive

The hearings will be held in the order listed. All interested persons should attend the public hearings and sign up to speak.

### Important Takoma Park Election Dates

The next City of Takoma Park election for Mayor and City Council will take place on Tuesday, November 3. This is the same date at the Presidential Election. Voters will cast ballots at their usual assigned voting location but will check in and vote first in the Presidential Election, and then check in and vote in the Takoma Park Municipal Election.

- Tuesday, Sept. 15 – Nominating Caucus
- Thursday, Oct. 22 through Thursday, Oct. 29 – Early Voting
- Election Day – Tuesday, Nov. 3.

## BE A 2020 TAKOMA PARK ELECTION WORKER

**Support the democratic process and  
be paid for your work!**

As an election worker for the Takoma Park election, you provide an essential service to the functioning of democracy. You contribute to the community's governance and the free and fair election of its leaders. You will also meet neighbors and friends. You are a point of contact between the Board of Elections and the general public. You work with a team to administer the voting procedures and give voters a positive experience. And with five City Election polling places for the first time in 2020, plus eight days of early voting, there are more opportunities than ever before to serve.

### Requirements

- Be a registered voter in Maryland or Takoma Park.
- Cannot be a candidate in the city election nor working on a city election campaign.
- Complete a three-hour training session.
- Deal courteously and patiently with the public and coworkers.
- Be available for election day or early voting.
- No prior experience needed.

### Additional Considerations

Bilingual workers are especially needed.

Youth ages 14 and up may serve as election volunteers and earn SSL hours.

Apply Now! [takomapark.seamlessdocs.com/f/ElectionWorkerApp](http://takomapark.seamlessdocs.com/f/ElectionWorkerApp). For more information, contact: Irma Nalvarte, Assistant City Clerk, 301-891-7214, [irman@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:irman@takomaparkmd.gov)

## 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. If you are interested in appointment, please drop in to observe a meeting then submit the online application: <http://bit.ly/bcc-application>. Meetings are posted on the City website calendar. Additional information is available at [takomaparkmd.gov/government/boards-commissions-and-committees](http://takomaparkmd.gov/government/boards-commissions-and-committees). Positions are available or terms are expiring on the following:

**Commemoration Commission:** The Commission documents, maintains, and preserves past, present, and future memorials, commemoratives and recognitions in the City and recommends to the City Council procedures and programs for honors and commemorations.

**Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs:** The Commission adjudicates complaints for violations of the City's Landlord-Tenant Relations law; rules on petitions for rent

increases above the rent stabilization allowance; and decides on appeals from the City Manager's decision to deny, suspend or revoke a rental housing license.

**Emergency Preparedness Committee:** The Committee works in coordination with the City Emergency Operations Manager to encourage planning and preparation for emergencies which might affect the City, City staff, residents, and businesses.

**Ethics Commission:** The Commission devises, receives and maintains all forms generated by the Ethics Ordinance; provides advisory opinions to persons subject to the Ordinance; hears and decides any inquiry or complaint regarding an alleged violation of the Ethics Ordinance; conducts a public information program regarding the purposes and applications of the Ordinance; recommends legislative changes and improvements to the Ordinance; promulgates regulations to accompany the Ordinance; and provides and annual certification to the State Ethics Commission.

**Grants Review Committee:** The Committee evaluates grant applications for funding from the City's Community Quality of Life Grants Program based on established program priorities, guidelines, and available funding. Applicants should have demonstrated expertise in community development, grants management, public arts, or related areas of interest.

**Noise Control Board:** The Board assists and advises the City on noise control issues, including administration and enforcement of the Noise Control Ordinance, and adjudicates two-party noise disturbance complaints.

**Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee:** The Committee arranges for lectures, film screenings, and other outreach and educational events. The Committee also oversees implementation of and adherence to the Takoma Park Nuclear Free Zone Act.

**Recreation Committee:** The Committee advises the City Council on how best to serve the diverse recreation needs of Takoma Park residents.



is the follow-up to the March 13, 2019 Climate Emergency Declaration. It is important for the City Council to adopt the Climate Emergency Response Resolution to keep the City moving forward and to direct resources to further develop the key strategies.

The Declaration

The Climate Emergency Declaration recognized that we are in an emergency state with devastating consequences for inaction. Trends for our region include more severe weather events more often, continued increases in extreme rainfall events, and more frequent and prolonged stretches of extreme heat. The City needs to implement best practices as well as explore new solutions to meet its goal of net zero emissions city-wide by 2035.

The climate emergency declaration directed the sustainability manager to undertake specific tasks; two highlights include:

- 1. Accelerate an update of its Sustainable Energy Action Plan and GHG inventory for all sectors of the City. This was completed in conjunction with expert consultants with the Cadmus Group and a community engagement process that included a webinar, public workshop, neighborhood meetings, event tabling, and an online survey completed by more than 200 residents.
- 2. Identify the most aggressive local actions its authorities and resources will allow, along with costs and benefits of these actions. The declaration specifies a focus on dramatically improving efficiency of all our buildings (single family, multifamily, commercial and institutional) as well as a transition to renewable energy in electricity and heating/cooling. The Cadmus Group's report contained a list of 18 strategies to reduce GHG city-wide. Of the 18 strategies, 9 were prioritized and evaluated. Buildings were a heavy focus because the City has more legal authority and opportunity to make new policies affecting buildings, which also have a large impact on emissions. The priority strategies in the resolution were amended from the Cadmus report based upon community feedback on the Cadmus Group's work; further research conducted by the Sustainability Manager; the Committee on the Environment input; expert advice and information sharing through community members and national organizations, including the Urban Sustainability Director's Network, Rocky Mountain Institute, Ameri-

County Connections

Montgomery County is developing its comprehensive climate action plan to achieve its goal of 100% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2035. The county convened expert workgroups to develop recommendations in specific categories including transportation, buildings, clean energy, adaption and sequestration, and public engagement and education. Fifteen residents of Takoma Park and the sustainability manager serve on the planning workgroups for the Montgomery County climate planning process. They represent the city's interests and are actively advocating for programs and policies at the county level that will benefit Takoma Park and help the city reach its goals faster. Some of the major areas that the county is best suited to act on include green building incentives and codes; and green power procurement and potential aggregation.

can Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, National Association of State Energy Officials, and the Department of Energy; and consideration of the city's legal authority and regional context.

The Resolution

The resolution calls for staff to prepare implementation options and information on specific factors for the strategies identified in the resolution for City Council consideration, paying close attention to disproportionate impacts on vulnerable populations and mechanisms to assist those residents or businesses, who may need help. The priority strategies include:

Buildings

- Rating (benchmarking) the energy use of all feasible buildings within the City limits by dates to be determined, using nationally established tools
- Establishing minimum energy efficiency standards or scores for all feasible buildings within the City by dates to be determined, to bring the least efficient buildings up to the average, using national established tools
- Implementing energy efficient lighting upgrades, with specific guidelines, in rental units, commercial and non-residential properties by dates to be determined, taking into consideration technological changes that may occur over the next few years
- Policy changes to the City's Façade Advisory Board and advocacy for County and Takoma Park Historic District rules and guidelines to encourage more energy efficient and renewably powered buildings.
- Coordination with and advocacy to the county on building codes and other methods to achieve greater energy efficiency in new construction and significant renovations, including adoption of green building standards

Transportation

- Facilitating greater use of electric vehicles by measures such as amending the City right of way permit process to allow installation of curbside EV equipment; installing, in all multifamily residential buildings with parking lots over a certain size, accessible outlets for vehicle charging by a certain date; and, adopting a policy of purchasing or leasing electric vehicles for the city fleet
- Measures to reduce the use of single-occupancy vehicles in general and non-electric vehicles especially through a variety of measures
- Developing comprehensive approaches through a community conversation about policies and strategies to decarbonize transportation in Takoma Park, implement changes in transportation infrastructure, discourage use of personal vehicles, and encourage other modes of transportation, such as the addition of bus shelters, implementation of the Montgomery County Bikeways Plan within the City, and any recommendations from the City's Parking Task Force and other strategies
- Collaboration, partnership and advocacy with other jurisdictions and organizations for transportation infrastructure changes

Renewable Energy

- City advocacy for State legislative authority to establish a 100% renewable electricity community choice aggregation program through Montgomery County, potentially by the City alone, or with one or more other municipalities or entities
- Policies and strategies that continue, expand and coordinate existing solar energy programs within the City such

- as solar co-ops
- Changes to City procurement policy for consideration of replacing gas heating and hot water equipment with electric appliances whenever the equipment needs replacing, up to a certain higher initial price

Toward a Fossil Free Community

- Policies to eliminate the use of fossil fuel-based leaf blowers and other lawn care equipment by a certain date, considering changing technology for electric-powered equipment, alignment with District of Columbia requirements, and commercial and resident use
- Sustainable investment and banking policies and practices
- Providing for food waste collection for composting for all single family, multifamily and commercial properties, as enough capacity becomes available
- Long-term policies to dramatically reduce fossil fuel use for space and water heating based on the natural replacement cycle of equipment, to advocate for prohibiting fossil fuel-based equipment in new construction and renovations through County building, and to move to a fossil fuel-free community in the long term, assuming that technologies and policies make renewably produced electricity readily available

The resolution also calls for options for priority local actions aimed at increasing the community's ability to adapt and be resilient to climate change. This may include continuing the City's commitment to tree protection and plantings as expressed in Tree Ordinance amendments and the resolution on urban forest policies and tree canopy principles; improved stormwater management for both the public space and stormwater flows on and between private properties; efforts identified in the Public Space Management Plan process; greenhouse gas capture and sequestration; and strengthened emergency preparedness plans and activities.

Community and Collaboration

The Climate Emergency Response Resolution is the beginning point for a robust, equitable and thoughtfully implemented community collaboration process. Stakeholder engagement will be central to the development of specific ordinances and

CITY COUNCIL
From page 2

and Gehmelle Johnson to the Commission on Landlord Tenant Affairs by Resolution 2020-3. By Resolution 2020-4, Linda Pentz Gunter was appointed to the Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee. The Council adopted approved purchase and lease of replacement Police Department

vehicles at its meeting on February 5, 2020. Ordinance 2020-2 approved a three-year lease of three Chevy Bolt electric cars for use by the Neighborhood Services Team. The monthly lease payment will be \$834 per month. Ordinance 2020-3 approved purchase of two Ford Interceptor Hybrid SUVs from Apple Ford at the total cost of \$111,672. The cost of one vehicle is partially offset by an insurance payment of \$16,825.

Update on Possible Parking Meter Changes, 7300 Block of Carroll Avenue and adjacent Grant and Lee Avenues

After receipt of public comments by email and through a meeting with owners of area businesses, a decision has been made to make only one change at this time to parking meters and spaces in the affected area. The one change is to change the first parking space on Grant Avenue at Carroll Avenue (next to Spring Mill Bakery) to an accessible parking space to meet ADA requirements.

THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER
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Assistant: Sean Gossard
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Letters to the editor, reports by community groups, calendar items and other submissions will be considered for publication; send to tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov or Newsletter, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912.
Name, address and telephone number must accompany all submitted material. Editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, style, spelling and grammar.
Published material containing opinions does not necessarily reflect the views of the Newsletter or the City of Takoma Park.
The Newsletter does not accept commercial, classified or political advertisements.
The Newsletter is printed on recycled content paper.





# BUILDING COMMUNITY

## Community Grants Application Closing This Month

The application for the Community Grants program will close to the public on Thursday, March 12, 2020, at 5 p.m. Nonprofit organizations and business associations serving, or interested in serving, Takoma Park residents, should visit [takomaparkmd.gov/grants](http://takomaparkmd.gov/grants) to review the program guidelines and get information on applying.

The Community Grants program offers up to \$10,000 in financial support for projects that provide greater access and opportunities for participation in the arts and sciences in Takoma Park. Addition-

ally, while not required, the City is encouraging applications for programming that connects arts and sciences with skills that promote job-readiness for low- and moderate-income Takoma Park residents.

Funding is available for projects taking place between July 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021.

For more information, contact the City of Takoma Park's Housing and Community Development Department at 301-891-7119 or email Jennifer Hale, grants coordinator, at [jenniferh@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:jenniferh@takomaparkmd.gov).

## 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 (e.g. basement apartments). Operating an unlicensed rental property can subject you to a municipal citation of \$1,000.

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 [pattim@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:pattim@takomaparkmd.gov).



## Arts and Humanities Commission Meeting

**Tuesday, March 24, 7 p.m.**  
**Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium**

Please join us for a public meeting to discuss the upcoming Lincoln Avenue Mural project.

The City of Takoma Park recently closed submissions from artists for a mural covering sections of a concrete retaining wall stretching three blocks along Lincoln Avenue in Takoma Park, Md. The mural will cover five sections of the new concrete retaining wall built next to a sidewalk on Lincoln Avenue between Jackson Avenue and Larch Avenue. The wall is divided into sections along three blocks but does not cover the entire distance of those blocks. The wall sections are approximately 3 feet tall and 1 foot deep. The top of the wall abuts the front yards of neighbors' homes while the bottom of the wall connects to the sidewalk.

This project is part of the City's ongoing commitment to public art everyone can enjoy. For more info about our public art program and examples of previous projects, go to [takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/arts-and-humanities/public-art](http://takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/arts-and-humanities/public-art).



**Crossroads  
Farmers  
Market**

**MULTI-FARM  
CSA**

GET A BOX OF FRESH, LOCALLY GROWN FRUITS  
AND VEGETABLES DELIVERED EVERY WEEK!

CSA stands for Community Supported Agriculture, and it's a great way to support your local food system! CSA members buy a "share" of local farmers' harvests and pick up their weekly boxes of fresh produce at one of a handful of convenient sites throughout Takoma Park, MD, and Takoma, DC.

Sign up online at [www.crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org](http://www.crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org)  
Questions? Email [lwhitehurst@crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org](mailto:lwhitehurst@crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org)



## Annual Arbor Day Celebration

You are invited to join the City of Takoma Park for the annual Arbor Day celebration and tree seedling give-away on Saturday, April 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Takoma Park Library grounds.

The City's Arbor Day event and seedling give away will take place on Saturday, April 4 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). We hope to see you there!



# TAKOMA PARK ARTS

Takoma Park Arts is a cultural series offered by the City of Takoma Park. All programs are free and donations are welcome at concerts to support the performers. To learn more about our upcoming events, go to [takomaparkmd.gov/arts](http://takomaparkmd.gov/arts) and sign up for our weekly e-newsletter. Please join us and celebrate the arts!

## Third Thursday poetry

### Speaking Our Truths Poetry Reading

March 19, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

7500 Maple Avenue

Free Event

Local poets Marti Pates, Sosha Pinson, Tatiana Figueroa Ramirez, and Susan Scheid will read their work focusing on ideas of community and personal identity.

As a woman of color, Pates has dedicated her work to

the healing of her community in Baltimore where she challenges the social climate of urban areas by sharing poetry that finds beauty in local neighborhoods.

Originally from an area of eastern Kentucky ravaged by the coal industry, Pinson's poetry focuses on the complicated nature of survival and dealing with the aftermath of devastation. She received her BFA in creative writing from Morehead State University and her MFA in poetry from Drew University.

Born in Puerto Rico and raised in the mainland United States, Ramirez teaches poetry workshops in the D.C. area. She is the author of *Coconut Curls y Café con Leche*, and she has read her work at New York University, the Kennedy Center, Howard Theatre, and other venues.

Scheid is the author of the poetry collection *After Enchantment*, and her work has been published in many journals, including *Gargoyle Magazine*, *Truth to Power*, and *Beltway Quarterly*. She serves on the board of directors for the Split This Rock poetry organization.



Munit Mesfin

### Ethiopian Funky Soul Concert Munit Mesfin and Friends

April 3, 8 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

7500 Maple Avenue

Free Event with \$10 Suggested Donation

Munit Mesfin performs in a genre-defying way, combining Ethiopian, reggae, and jazz classics with her original songs in a funky, energetic and soulful performance. She loves getting audiences involved and getting them to sing along in Amharic or English. Whether in a duet or with a full band, the sound and energy of her performances is big enough for a festival stage while feeling as intimate as a house concert.

Mesfin is an Ethiopian-American singer, songwriter, cultural organizer, and Wolf Trap Teaching Artist who has been active in the local Ethiopian contemporary music scene for a decade. She has performed in Ethiopia, Egypt, South Africa, Spain, Germany, and the United States. She is now working on her first solo project while performing with a wide array of musicians from across the world in multilingual sets.



### An Evening of Latin Guitar and Percussion Concert

#### John W. Warren and Bruno Lucini

March 28, 8 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

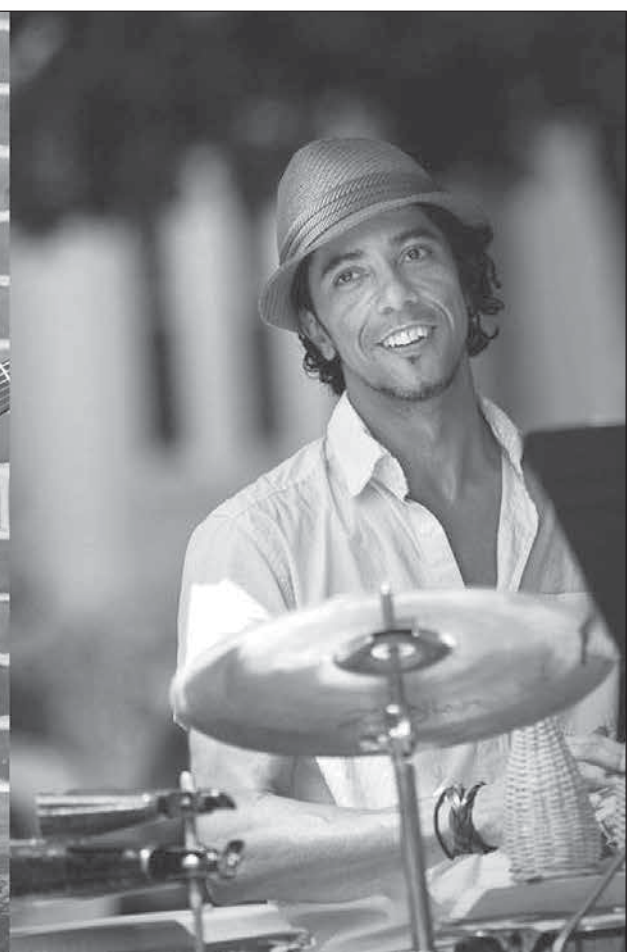
7500 Maple Avenue

Free Event with \$10 Suggested Donation

Performing music from the rich musical traditions of Latin America and Brazil, John W. Warren (classical and electric guitar) and Bruno Lucini (percussion) entertain audiences with entertaining rhythmic music. The concert includes classical, folk, and popular music from Brazil, Cuba, Paraguay, and Argentina, as well as Warren's original compositions and arrangements of popular songs.

Warren is a classical guitarist, composer, and publisher who lives in Takoma Park. Specializing in Latin American classical guitar, he performs his own compositions as well as the music of Baden Powell, Agustín Barrios Mangoré, Luis Bonfá, and other composers. He has performed in the United States, Brazil, Peru, Mexico, and Spain.

As a percussionist and world-fusion musician, Lucini performs with a unique mixed set of percussion, showcasing polyrhythms across a diverse range of Latin American musical traditions. He performs frequently on the East Coast at venues including the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage, Duke Ellington Jazz Fest, Blues Alley, and Smithsonian Jazz Café.



John Warren on left and Bruno Lucini on right



RECREATION

Registration for Spring & Summer activities  
opens March 16, 8:30 a.m. for City residents.

TOTS

**DANCE**  
**Music and Movement**  
Students will learn about beats, tones, lyrics, balance, coordination and general body awareness. Students can use instruments and props. We believe that music and movement activities have a positive impact on cognitive development. Instructor: Edurama  
Heffner Park Community Center  
42 Oswego Avenue  
3–6 Years  
8 Week Session  
Saturdays, April 4-June 6  
11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.  
Resident: \$100 / Non-resident: \$120

YOUTH

**ART**  
**Clay in the Studio**  
Students will utilize a variety of hand-building techniques (slab, pinch, coil) to create functional and non-functional vessels and sculptures out of clay. Caregiver participation required with young children (Ages 4–6). Adult students (Ages 16+) with experience may use the studio’s electric wheels. There is a non-refundable \$20 materials fee (per child) due to the instructor on the first day of class. All glazes are non-toxic and food safe. Fetting knives and other tools with sharp edges or points, such as skewers and cookie cutters, are used in the class. Instructor: Caroline MacKinnon  
Takoma Park Community Center  
Art Studio  
7500 Maple Avenue  
4 and older  
8 Week Session  
Wednesdays, April 15-June 10  
10–11:30a.m.  
Resident: \$170 / Non-resident: \$190

Attn: Home  
schoolers!



**SDC Spring Break Basketball Camp**  
Emphasizing individual improvement is one of the guiding philosophies of this basketball camp. Campers will be provided with excellent coaching which allows each participant to develop a sense of pride and individual and team accomplishments. Counselors will focus on personal improvement, sportsmanship and fun. Paperwork will need to be completed prior to the first day of camp. AM and PM Care is available for this program at an additional fee. Instructor: Ray Brewer  
Takoma Park Recreation Center  
Gymnasium  
7315 New Hampshire Avenue  
5–12 years  
1 Week Session  
Monday-Friday, April 6-April 10  
9 a.m.–4 p.m.  
\$220

**MARTIAL ARTS**  
**Kung Fu**  
Bungo Fu is the Jamaican style of Kung Fu. Come learn meditation, self-defense, improved flexibility and self-awareness. This ancient form of self-defense provides physical and mental exercise, which could help the students defend themselves by strengthening hand-eye coordination. The student will gain physical fitness as well as mental and spiritual strength. There is a one-time, non-refundable fee of \$50 paid to the instructor at the first class for a uniform. Instructor: Master Robert Thompson

Takoma Park Community Center  
Dance Studio  
7500 Maple Avenue  
4-16 years  
10 Week Sessions  
Saturdays, April 4-June 20  
**Beginners:** 10:15–11:15 a.m.  
**Advanced:** 11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.  
Resident: \$155 / Non-resident: \$175

**SPORTS**  
**T-Ball League**  
This coed league allows participants 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. Participants must bring their own baseball glove. Practices are 30 minutes prior to the games on Saturday mornings. Registration opens March 16 for residents and March 23 for non-residents. Parents are encouraged to coach. No games on July 4. For more information, email tpsports@takomaparkmd.gov.  
Belle Ziegler Field  
7350 Takoma Avenue  
5–7 years  
8 Game Season  
Saturdays, May 30-July 25  
9 a.m.  
Resident: \$70 / Non-resident: \$80

TEENS

**CAMPS**  
**Spring Break PREPS Week**  
Spring Break PREPS (Planning and Researching for Educational and Professional Success) week is about assisting teens in planning for their future. During this week, 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!  
Takoma Park Community Center  
Teen Lounge  
7500 Maple Avenue  
Grades 6–12  
Monday-Friday, April 6-April 10  
9 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Resident \$175 / Non-resident \$225

**Spring Break Filmmaking Camp: Intrepid Interviewers Focus on Takoma Park**  
A spring break camp intended for budding journalists. Youth (ages 12–17) will learn the basics of video production while also discovering more about Takoma Park. Campers will gain skills in how to shoot video on professional cameras, will learn how to conduct interviews with residents, and how to film “b-roll” footage of Takoma Park in supervised production shoots. The collected footage will be edited together as a single piece by the instructor after the camp and will be shared with participants and the broader Takoma Park community via YouTube.  
Takoma Park Community Center  
MultiMedia Lab  
7500 Maple Avenue  
Grades 6–12  
Monday-Friday, April 6-April 10  
9 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Resident \$120 / Non-resident \$140

**EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT**  
**Entrepreneurship for Teens**  
This class engages teenagers in entrepreneurial activities to set them up for long-term success. All rooted in the fundamentals of entrepreneurship, these programs prepare students for college, teach them to follow their passions, and inspire them to create their own ventures. George Washington University professor Ellen M. Zavian leads students in using their new entrepreneurial skills and working in teams to develop a venture idea that creates economic and social value.  
Takoma Park Recreation Center  
7315 New Hampshire Ave  
Grades 5–12  
6 Week Session  
Tuesdays, April 14-May 26  
(No class May 12)  
7:30–8:30 p.m.  
Free

**Montgomery County National College Fair**  
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 Montgomery County National College Fair in Gaithersburg, MD. Register in advance. Space is limited. Transportation provided. We will meet in the Teen Lounge. Bus will depart TP Community Center at 4:30 p.m. and return by 9 p.m.  
Takoma Park Community Center  
Teen Lounge (meeting location)  
7500 Maple Avenue  
Grades 9–12  
Tuesday, March 31  
5:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m.  
Resident: Free / Non-resident: \$10

**MULTI MEDIA**  
**Photography 101**  
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 class will cover how to shoot manual on your DSLR, rules of composition, portrait photography, object photography, landscape photography, posing 101, how to edit your photos, natural light vs. non-natural light, composition and turning your phone into a camera. Instructor: Vinny Mwano  
Takoma Park Community Center  
Multi Media Lab  
7500 Maple Avenue  
18 years and older  
8 Week Session  
Tuesday, April 7-May 26  
6–7 p.m.  
Resident: \$80 / Non-resident: \$90

**SPECIAL EVENT**  
**Youth Success Field Day**  
The Takoma Park Recreation Dept. will host a community field day full of friends, food, and fun at Ed Wilhelm Park. Kick back with some ice cream, and listen to beats by a live DJ. Engage in classic field day games like potato-sack races, relays and tug-of-war. Don’t miss out on face painting, giant lawn games, water play and prizes!  
Ed Wilhelm Field  
2 Darwin Avenue  
All Ages  
Tuesday, April 14  
3–5 p.m.  
Free

ADULTS

**ART**  
**Collage**  
Have fun working with found, purchased and altered papers, while learning how collage methods can enhance your art making process, whatever medium you use. This class explores ways of combining collage materials and art media. You will be introduced to a variety of collage techniques, work with elements and principals of design, and explore creative two- and three-dimensional assembly. Instruction will be given in surface preparation, adhesives, color theory and composition and is suitable for beginners, as well as more experienced students. Basic materials (adhesives, supports, papers and paints) will be available (some personal or found collage elements may be desirable in addition to materials provided). A materials fee of \$30, paid directly to the instructor, will be due on the first day of class. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman  
Takoma Park Community Center  
Art Studio  
7500 Maple Avenue  
17 years and older  
6 Week Session  
Tuesdays, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.  
**Winter:** March 3-April 7  
**Spring:** May 5-June 16  
Resident: \$230 / Non-resident: \$260

**Crafting Polymer Jewelry**  
Polymer clay is a versatile artistic material that offers amazing possibilities for design and creativity. In this class, you’ll learn dozens of skills and

New class,  
check out  
article next  
page

techniques for creating unique surface patterns. You’ll then learn them to design and craft your own one-of-a-kind polymer earrings, brooches and necklaces. A \$35 materials fee will be due to the instructor on the first day of class and includes jewelry findings, professional-grade polymer, craft supplies and use of tools and equipment. Instructor: Sharyn Neuwirth  
Takoma Park Community Center  
Art Studio  
7500 Maple Avenue  
17 years and older  
3 Week Session  
Saturday, April 18-May 2  
1–4 p.m.  
Resident: \$165 / Non-resident: \$185

**DANCE**  
**Mindful Movement**  
This open and inviting class combines elements of meditation, dance, yoga, and authentic movement. This class is for dancers and non-dancers alike. Using creative movement and principles from different dance styles, we will explore and observe, through sensing and moving, our mind and body connection to bring awareness and creative freedom to the wonderful world of your body. Expect free dancing, some technical elements of dance, (e.g. African, jazz, contemporary, modern) breathing techniques, meditative stretching, and lots of insight and fun! Whether you want to view your body with more compassion and understanding, or you want to gain dancing insight and creativity, or you just want to move, this class is for you! Instructor: Beth Mwano  
Heffner Park Community Center  
42 Oswego Avenue  
16 Years and Older  
8 Week Session  
Wednesdays: July 8-August 26  
6:30–7:30 p.m.  
Resident: \$90 / Non-resident: \$100

**MULTI MEDIA**  
**Photography 101**  
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 step up your photography game. The class will cover how to shoot manual on your DSLR, rules of composition, portrait photography, object photography, landscape photography, posing 101, how to edit your photos, natural light vs. non natural light, composition and turning your phone into a camera. Course Requirements: Participants should have basic knowledge of computers. All participants will need an external memory device (stick or drive) of at least 5 gigabytes to store and save photographs. Instructor: Vinny Mwano  
Takoma Park Community Center  
Multi Media Lab  
7500 Maple Avenue  
18 years and older  
8 Week Session  
Tuesday, April 7-May 26  
7:15–8:15 p.m.  
Resident: \$80 / Non-resident: \$90

### Instructors needed (to teach Grades 6–12)

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

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



## RECREATION

■ From page 6

## SPORTS

### Takoma Park Adult Softball League

Dust off your glove and warm up your swing, the Takoma Park Adult Softball League is back! This is a fun and exciting co-ed recreational program for competitive adults of all skill levels. Gather some friends to enjoy the spring season on the softball field! Team registrations must contain a minimum of 50% Takoma Park residents to qualify for Resident Team entry fee. Roster limit 15. Top 4 teams advance to the playoffs.

Various Field Locations

16 and up

8 Week Season

Sundays, April 5-June 28

9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Resident Team Fee: \$645 / Non-resident Team Fee:

\$745



2019 Champions!

### Takoma Park Adult Softball League – Free Agent

Interested in joining the fun but don't have a team? Sign up as a free agent to be placed on a waiting list. You will be contacted if a space becomes available. Should you join a team, you will be responsible to pay your registration and any other associated team fees. \*Spaces are not guaranteed\*

55+

## ART

### Creative Craft Jewelry Workshop

Create beautiful craft jewelry. All materials provided. Limited space. Online or in-person registration

is required with the Recreation Department.

Instructors: Alice Sims and Sue Bracey

Takoma Park Community Center

Azalea Room

7500 Maple Avenue

55 and older

1 Day Session

Monday, April 20

10 a.m.-12 p.m.

\$5

## CAMPS



### Culinary Camp – Part Deux

Takoma Park Community Center

55 and older

1 Week Session

Monday-Friday, June 1-June 6

11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Residents: \$90 / Non-residents: \$110

### Documentary Film Camp, Docs In Progress

Takoma Park Community Center

Multi-Media Lab

55 and older

1 Week Session

Monday-Friday, June 8-June 12

9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Residents: \$125 / Non-residents: \$225

## DROP-IN

### Virtual Visit to Southern Africa

A visit to southern Africa with traveler and photographer Barry Hinderstein. Come enjoy the beauty and majesty of Botswana and Zimbabwe in this enjoyable slide show with commentary. Drop-in;

no registration required.

Takoma Park Community Center

Azalea Room

7500 Maple Avenue

55 and older

Tuesday, May 5

1-2 p.m.

Free

## EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT



### Smart Phone and Tablet Application

This workshop will lead participants through some of the standard apps that come with smartphones and tablets with additional focus on the video and picture app. Bring your questions and smart devices.

Instructor: Isaac Asare

Takoma Park Community Center

Hydrangea Room

7500 Maple Avenue

55 and older

1 Day Session

Saturday, May 9

10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

\$5

### Finding Your Fitness Personality Workshop

Are you interested in how your personality may influence your fitness approach? Based on two widely researched and trusted theories, the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and Stages of Change Model, this workshop may help participants find the best exercise program for them. Instructor: Cynthia Luna, Certified Health and Wellness Coach

Takoma Park Community Center

Multi-Media Lab

7500 Maple Avenue

55 and older

1 Day Session

Monday, April 20

10 a.m.-12 p.m.

\$5

### Introduction to IMPROV Workshop

Are you interested in exploring ways in which an improvisational mindset can help you unleash possibilities for your life? During this workshop participants will explore the fundamentals of IMPROV and have an opportunity to participate in several foundational exercises that can help them become better problem solvers, creators and communicators. Instructor: Cynthia Luna, Certified Health and Wellness Coach

Takoma Park Community Center

Azalea Room

7500 Maple Avenue

55 and older

1 Day Session

Tuesday, April 21

10 a.m.-12 p.m.

\$5

## TRIPS



### Dallas Black Dance Theater

Publik Playhouse, Cheverly, MD

Friday, April 24

9:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

\$5

### National Museum of the Marine Corps and US Marine Corps Memorial

Triangle, VA

Thursday, April 30

8:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

\$5

### Washington County Museum of Fine Arts

Hagerstown, MD

Thursday, May 21

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

\$5

RECREATION □ Page 11



# Introducing a new instructor & art class at the Community Center: Q&A with Sharyn Neuwirth

### Q: For those who have never heard of Crafting Polymer Jewelry, what is the history of polymer jewelry?

A: Polymer clay is a relatively new artistic material that allows for incredible creativity in fashioning jewelry with unique shapes, texture, and color. Polymer clay is not really a clay. It's a plasticized material that comes in blocks of vivid colors. Before it's cured, it can be stretched, cut, extruded, stamped, stenciled, and rolled. Using simple tools, it can be shaped and embellished with amazing surface effects, then cured in an ordinary oven. In the past two decades, polymer jewelry has become a phenomenon with crafters around the world connecting and sharing new ideas and artists gaining awards and recognition at national museums. And if you've been watching "Frankie and Grace" on Netflix, you've seen Lily Tomlin wearing PC jewelry on TV!

### Q: How did you get involved in teaching Crafting Polymer Jewelry?

A: I was first turned on to polymer clay 21 years ago at a crafting party when I created a colorful pin and earrings on my first try. I went home, collected a few tools, and began experimenting. For me, clay is about trying new things and



sharing what I learn. My first students were my 5-year old niece, who learned to mix colors and make beads, and my 8-year old nephew, who crafted polymer burgers. Since then, as I've learned and developed new techniques, I've presented workshops at clay guilds, local craft shops and national conferences. I was also featured online at Polymer Clay Daily.

### Q: What led you to become a polymer jewelry instructor?

A: I love to teach and help people develop new skills. And when I'm passionately engaged in something, as I am with crafting polymer jewelry, I want to ignite others. Creating polymer jewelry requires developing certain skills, but it's not hard or technical. I have the joy

of seeing participants create successful pieces early on.

### Q: What do you want a potential first-time participant to know about this class?

A: First, you don't need prior experience with polymer clay or jewelry construction. I'll be demonstrating and explaining each step and providing individual support. Second, we won't be using soft clays like Sculpey. In this class, we'll be using professional grade clays, which maintain their shape and fine details. Most of the tools and equipment we'll be using are commonplace items they may already own. We'll also use a few specialized tools like the pasta machine, which is an important tool for more sophisticated claying.

### Q: What should the participant expect to get out of the class?

A: Each participant will create several pieces of jewelry using different techniques. As we design and construct each piece, participants will acquire skills and knowledge that they can apply to their future polymer projects. I'll also suggest a variety of alternative construction and design options, encouraging them to experiment and develop their own style. I love exploring polymer's jewelry design possibilities, and I hope to pass along that sense of curiosity and adventure.

For more details about the Crafting Polymer Jewelry class, see page 33 of the Spring/Summer City Guide!

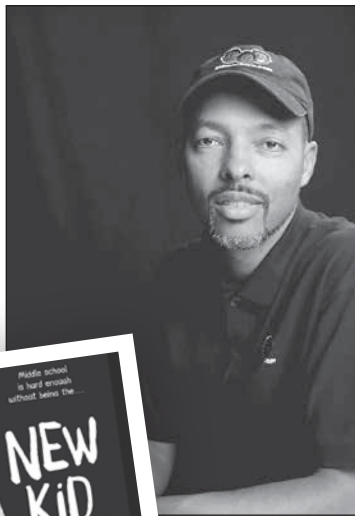




## Children's & Teen Book Awards

The American Library Association recently announced its annual awards for the best children's and teen books in several categories. The big news this year is that – for the first time – a graphic novel, *New Kid*, written and illustrated by Jerry Craft, won the 2020 Newbery Medal. Considered the most prestigious award in U.S. children's literature, the Newbery Medal is given for text – not pictures. The 2020 Caldecott Medal, given to the best-illustrated children's book, was awarded to *The Undefeated*, illustrated by Kadir Nelson; Kwame Alexander, who wrote the text, won a Newbery Honor.

Several dozen other books for kids and teens won awards this year. Find the



full list at [americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/2020-youth-media-award-winners](http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/2020-youth-media-award-winners).

All of these winners, as well as several dozen more, are included in the "Notables" booklist of the 100 "Best Books" of the year for kids ages birth-14. The "Notables" list is created each year by a committee of the Association for Library

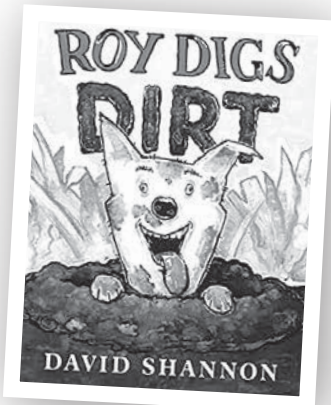
Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association.

At our Library, we make sure to have all the "Notables" each year, and we put an "Award Winner" sticker on the spine of each, so that kids and parents can easily find them on the shelves. In addition, we do an annual display of the current year's "Notables." Come take a look!

## Can You Dig it?

Please join us on Tuesday, April 7 at 8 p.m. when Caldecott Honor illustrator David Shannon will present his newest picture book, *Roy Digs Dirt*. In this hilarious book, Shannon – who won a Caldecott Honor for *No, David!* – tells the story of a white terrier named Roy, who is crazy about dirt. He loves to roll in it, play in it, and of course, dig in it. One thing Roy doesn't like, though, is what happens when he gets too dirty; it's bath time!

In its review, *Kirkus* said: "This is a



rollicking story that will especially resonate with readers who are unapologetically messy.... Shannon's illustrations are comically energetic, and Roy's expressions are hilariously wild-eyed, tongue-lolling, and frenzied. Roy's white coat helps keep the focus on dirty patches. Here's the dirt on this one: Kids will dig it."

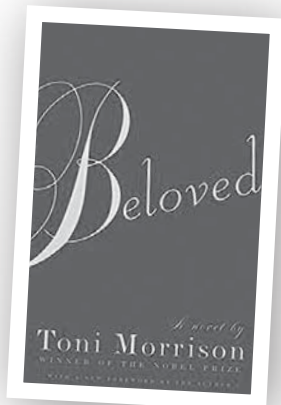
Politics and Prose will be selling copies of Shannon's books, but our event is free, and no purchase is required.

## Big Book Club to discuss Toni Morrison's *Beloved* with Phil Schewe

The Takoma Park Big Book Club resumes its deliberations this spring with Toni Morrison's novel *Beloved*. As usual, we'll begin with a lecture by a noted expert on the book, in this case Dr. Augustus Durham of the University of Maryland. We'll follow this with three discussion sessions. The schedule is as follows:

- March 25, lecture at Historic Takoma
- April 1, discussion at Community Center, Hydrangea Room
- April 15, discussion at Community Center, Azalea Room
- April 29, discussion at Community Center, Azalea Room

Remember, you don't have to have read the book to attend the lecture. All events are free, and newcomers are welcome. Copies of *Beloved* are available at the Takoma Park Maryland Library



## CALENDAR

### Circle Time

Tuesdays, 10:30–11 a.m.

### Spanish Circle Time

Canceled for March

### LEGO Club

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

### Best-selling Kids Author Ally Carter

Tuesday, March 3, 7:30 p.m.  
Carter will talk about her new kids' fantasy novel, *Winterborne Home for Vengeance and Valor*

### Petites Chansons

Saturday, March 7, 10:30 a.m.  
Led by Madame Marie

### Kids Art Special: Women's History Month

Sunday, March 8, 2–4 p.m.  
Ms. Kati leads a special "art exploration" of women's art, including Yayoi Kusama's polka dots, Lois Ehlerts' collage & Faith Ringgold's story quilts.  
Ages 4 up; register at [www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents](http://www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents) or call 301-891-7259.

### Caldecott Club

Monday, March 9, 7 p.m.  
We'll be reading "Calde-Nots" – great books published last year that weren't eligible for the Caldecott Medal. Lemonade, cookies and allergy-free treats will be served. All welcome.

### Comics Jam

Tuesday, March 10, 4 p.m.  
Come read some great comics!

### Bedtime Stories & a Craft

Tuesday, March 10, 7 p.m.  
Join Ms. Kati for some stories and a take-home craft project.

### Saturday Circle Time

Saturday, March 14, 10:30–11 a.m.  
Join Ms. Karen for a monthly Saturday morning Circle Time.

### "El Deafo" Author Cece Bell

Wednesday, March 18, 7 p.m.  
Bell, who won a Newbery Honor for her comics memoir "El Deafo," presents "Egg or Eyeball?," her newest book for in the "Chick and Brain" series for beginning readers.

### Friends of the Library Annual Meeting (see article)

Tuesday, March 24, 7:30 p.m.  
Featuring sports journalist Kevin Blackistone

### Friends of the Library "Big Book" Club (see article)

Wednesday, March 25, 7:30 p.m.  
Introductory lecture for our book, *Beloved*, by Toni Morrison  
Location: Historic Takoma, 7329 Carroll Ave.

### Alternative Games

Sunday, March 29, 2–4 p.m.  
Join Dave Burbank for a rousing session of *Dungeons & Dragons*. Ages 8 up.

### Friends Bi-monthly Book Club (see article)

Tuesday, March 31, 7:30 p.m.  
Our book is *The Winter Soldier* by Daniel Mason  
Led by Tim Rahn  
Location: Hydrangea Room, Takoma Park Community Center



## Kevin Blackistone at Friends Annual Meeting!

By Francis Nugent

National sports columnist, Kevin Blackistone, will be the featured speaker at the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library's annual membership meeting. The annual meeting will take place Tuesday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Children's Room at the Takoma Park Maryland Library. The event is free and open to the public. The presentation will be followed by a Q&A, refreshments, and board elections.

Kevin is a sports columnist for *The Washington Post*, a visiting professor at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism at the University of Maryland, a panelist on ESPN's "Around the Horn," a sports roundtable television show, and a regular contributor to National Public Radio. Kevin has written thought-provoking columns and journal articles about the intersection of race, sports, and the media. Featuring a local literary talent at the annual meeting is a long-time FTPML tradition, and the Friends are excited to have Kevin continue the tradition this year.

After the presentation, there will be a very brief membership meeting to hold elections for board positions. This year, the following positions



Kevin Blackistone

are up for reelection: president, vice president, secretary, and members-at-large. Additionally, there are four vacant board positions. Any member of the Friends whose dues are current may be a candidate for office and may vote. Members interested in joining the board should send an email and brief bio to [ftpmlnominatingcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:ftpmlnominatingcommittee@gmail.com). Nominations also will be taken from the floor at the annual meeting.



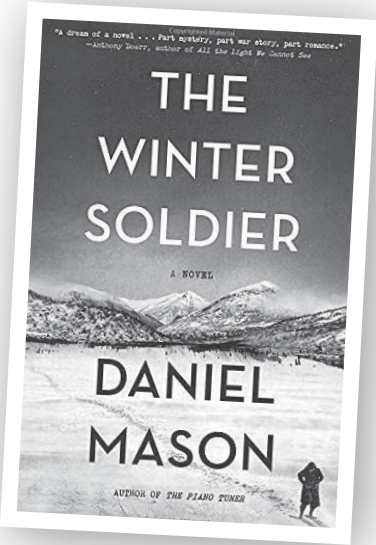
# Spring selection for the Friends Bi-monthly Book Club

by Tim Rahn

The Friends Book Group will discuss *The Winter Soldier*, a novel about Vienna and the Eastern Front of World War I by Daniel Mason on Tuesday, March 31 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room of the Community Center.

Although broad in sweep, *The Winter Soldier* is unlike other war novels that describe epic battles. The story focuses on a young Polish medical student, Lucius Krzelewski, posted from Vienna to an almost forgotten field hospital on the eastern flanks of the Carpathian Mountains. There Margarete, a gun-toting nun and the only remaining member of the hospital staff, greets him and introduces him to the rigors of battlefield medicine.

Mason drives the novel’s narrative with intricate storytelling and pow-



erful descriptions. Whether describing the sunlight on snowdrifts, the clash of cultures, or the amputation of a limb, his prose leads the reader to understand the trauma of war. As might be expected, the narrative also tells a love story between Lucius and Margarete that blooms amidst the horrors they face.

*“The Winter Soldier,”* wrote Anthony Marra in his *New York Times* review, “brims with improbable narrative pleasures. Mason is a practitioner of storytelling backhandedly praised as ‘old-fashioned.’ In fact, it’s timeless.” Copies of *The Winter Soldier* are available to borrow at the library. All are welcome to attend the Friends Book discussions!

# Five Questions for Takoma Park City Manager Suzanne Ludlow

After close to three decades of service to the City of Takoma Park, City Manager Suzanne Ludlow recently announced her retirement in July 2021. Ludlow has held several different positions through the years. She became Deputy City Manager in 2008, served as Acting City Manager twice, and then was named City Manager in 2015.

“I had learned the job and wanted to have the opportunity to handle things a bit differently, more collaboratively,” said Ludlow of her decision to pursue the City manager position. “Also, as a woman, I wanted to show that I could lead, not just be in a support position.”

Ludlow’s tenure has not been immune from the challenges of the current political climate. “My biggest challenge has been in dealing with the acute pain of seeing Councilmembers and staff disrespected by folks simply wanting to make a point,” she said. “I have been so proud to work with excellent Councilmembers and staff who work so hard on behalf of Takoma Park.”

“Vitriol at the national level filters down to local issues, and that is so difficult,” she continued. “This has lessened recently because people are seeing that passion combined with civility helps build community, which is what everyone wants.”

Building community has been a key focus throughout Ludlow’s career with the City. “From years ago, I am proud that the 1997 Unification (placing all of Takoma Park in Montgomery County) went smoothly,” she noted when recalling what has brought her the greatest joy in serving the City.

“As a City Manager, I am glad that a strong Housing and Economic Development Strategic Plan was adopted by Council, and I am very pleased that the Council has invested in staff and programming that really helps young people and families in Takoma Park,” she added. “We make differences in people’s lives every day. It’s wonderful.”

What are her plans for retirement? “I’d like to do some adjunct teaching about



city management,” Ludlow said. “I’d also like to visit my family members around the country. and I’d love to spend more time at concerts and museums.”

Also topping Ludlow’s list is spending more time on education and support for people with neuroendocrine tumor cancer, which her late husband had. She is already helping the Neuroendocrine Tumor Research Foundation prepare and distribute materials for patients to use.

Here’s her take on TP News’ five questions:

**Favorite Place/Activity in Takoma Park:** Mansa Kunda Restaurant on Flower Ave. (favorite place); Attending Monster Bash (favorite activity)

**On My Desk Right Now:** Budget spreadsheets

**What I Do in My “Spare Time”:** I’ve been designing and doing needlepoint artwork. I also like crossword puzzles and reading mysteries.

**Best Advice I Ever Got (and from whom):** “Know what you’re talking about.” This was from my husband when I was speaking about something I didn’t know enough about!

**If I had a magic wand for a day:** I would get Montgomery County to pay the full tax duplication amount owed to the City - including back pay from 2012!

Call to register today!  
202-393-3572



## BECOME A U.S. CITIZEN

### Citizenship Application Clinic

Free consultation with immigration attorneys and assistance with naturalization/citizenship applications.\*

**Saturday, March 7th, 2020**

**10:30 AM - 2:30 PM**

**Takoma Park Community Center**

**7500 Maple Ave.**

**Takoma Park, MD 20912**

**Registration Recommended: 202-393-3572**

**All Nationalities Welcome!**

#### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

You can vote in U.S. and run for elected office.

Fewer worries about being deported or losing your immigration status.

You will be eligible for a U.S. passport, making travel easy.

You can apply for government jobs that require U.S. citizenship.

You can sponsor certain family members to get a green card/ permanent residence status.

#### YOU QUALIFY IF YOU:

Are at least 18 years old ;

Lived in the U.S. as a green card holder for more than 5 years (3 years if married to U.S. citizen);

Have been physically present in the U.S. for more than 2.5 years (18 months if married to U.S. citizen);

Can show you have good moral character;

Can speak, read and write basic English; and,

Can pass a test on the U.S. government and American history.

*\*assistance with Fee Waiver or Reduced Fee application too, if applicable.*

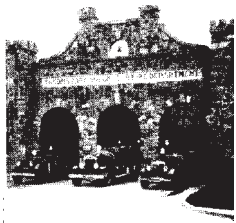


## Important City Department Phone Numbers

City Information.....	301-891-7100
City Clerk.....	301-891-7267
City Manager .....	301-891-7229
Finance .....	301-891-7212
Housing & Community Development.....	301-891-7119
Library .....	301-891-7259
Neighborhood Services.....	301-891-7113
Police .....	301-270-1100 / Emergency 911
Public Works.....	301-891-7633
Recreation/Facilities Rental.....	301-891-7290







## THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

As of February 29, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue personnel assigned to the station responded to 76 fire-related incidents in 2020. The department also addressed or assisted with 599 rescue or ambulance-related for a total of 675. Totals for 2019 were 86 and 490, representing an increase of 99 incidents. During February, Takoma Park volunteers put in a total of 558 hours of standby time at the station, compared to 1,035 in 2019. Grand totals as of March 2020 were 1,097.5 hours compared to 2,125.5 in 2019, a decrease of 1,028 hours.

### Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland Fire Marshal Office reported as of March 2, 2020, 3 people have died in fires, compared to 17 in 2019.

### Hot vehicle deaths

As of March 2, 2020, 0 children across the country have died in hot vehicles. It can also happen in cold weather. Check the back seat when you get out of your vehicle. To help you not to forget... put your cell phone, purse, wallet or your grocery list on the back seat. Whatever it takes to remind you to check. Everyone goes with you - children, seniors and pets. And don't forget to lock your vehicle.

### Spring Forward March 8

Daylight Saving Time begins! When you change your clocks, check your smoke and CO alarms; also review your family escape plan.

### A Takoma Park VFD Milestone

On January 10, 2020, EMS/Lieutenant Jorge Alfaro put in his 20,000th standby hour at the station. He has been a member for over 10 years. Congratulations!



## 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).

## STAY CONNECTED!

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

- **Social Media:** Follow TakomaPark - 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](http://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

## Emergency Preparedness Check-Up: What Would You Do?

By Claudine Schweber, Co-Chair, Emergency Preparedness Committee

### Scenario #3

**Question:** My niece and her dog in California had to evacuate during the fires. As for me, if that happens here, I'm not leaving without Jack Daniels. He's a friend, confidant and much more than a dog! If I go down, JD and I will be in heaven together. Can't I just take him to a hotel or shelter?

**Answer:** NO! Pets are not typically accepted. It's critical that you check with the local shelters or hotels and make plans for care of your pets. Check with the county emergency management office (240-777-0311), animal shelters and veterinarians. You should also consider having JD microchipped in case there's a problem. (See <https://www.ready.gov/pets>)



What would you do in situations such as power outages, thunderstorms, a call from Pepco or IRS saying you owe money? What would you do with your pet if you must evacuate for a while? What could you do to help someone who is bleeding until help arrives? These questions and others were raised on WOWD-LP radio -Talk of Takoma ([takomaradio.org](http://takomaradio.org)) and in this newsletter column. Here's a sample. What would you do?

### Scenario #1

**Question:** Last week it was windy, and our house and trees were shaking. Sure enough, the power went out for several hours. We finally found candles and matches and had enough light to get changed, have a dinner snack and go to bed. The lit candles were so pretty. My neighbor, who thinks he knows everything, told me that what we did was dangerous. Is he right?

**Answer:** YES! The lit candles could have resulted in a fire! Be prepared. Have several working flashlights nearby for each person and fresh batteries. Get a battery-powered lantern in advance. Make sure the phone charger has maximum power. Develop a plan.

### Scenario #2

**Question:** I got a call from the IRS, saying I owed money for back taxes. The caller's ID looked like IRS. The person knew four digits of my social security number, told me to buy a gift card, and call with the code or send a wire transfer. If not, I would be arrested. Does the IRS want gifts from the public?

**Answer:** NO! This scam is one of many, including fake Pepco callers, asking for gift cards. Some claim to be helping an injured family member. Never respond to any such requests. See Takoma Park police Bulletin, Feb. 5, 2020 and [www.aarp.org](http://www.aarp.org) (search fraud watch).

### Scenario #4

**Question:** My close friend bled to death a year ago after an accident. Last month my neighbor told me there's training to learn how be helpful. Is this true? How can this help? I want to sign up!

**Answer:** YES! One-hour training classes for Stop the Bleed will begin this April in Takoma Park. This program was started by the American College of Surgeons to "enlist bystanders to become trained, equipped, and empowered to help in a bleeding emergency before professional help arrives" ([www.stopthebleed.org](http://www.stopthebleed.org)). The Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness Committee and the Police Dept. held several training sessions last year. For details, contact [tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov) or 301-891-7126. Details will be on the City's website soon.

It's easy to contact us at [tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov) or 301-891-7126.

Join us for "Dear Bea(trice) Prepared" on Talk of Takoma WOWD/LP 94.3 at 1 p.m., the first Sunday of the month.

### Be aware and be prepared in Takoma Park:

- Sign up for the Alert system ([takomaparkmd.gov/services/takoma-park-alert](http://takomaparkmd.gov/services/takoma-park-alert)) and
- Police notices ([takomaparkmd.gov/government/police](http://takomaparkmd.gov/government/police)).



## CIMATE RESPONSE

■ From page 3

implementation details. This community collaboration process will take place with the assistance of a professional facilitator. Specific attention will need to be paid to potential economic development impacts, racial equity impacts, beneficial co-benefits, costs of doing nothing, and other impacts as identified by the community collaboration process.

The resolution is a necessary step that cannot wait, but it is not the only step needed for Takoma Park to be net-zero. Additional plans will be needed, along with coordination at the city, county, state, and regional levels. It may be necessary for Takoma Park to purchase offsets to cover what emissions it cannot reduce by 2035. The City will need to develop implementation steps for the Resiliency and Adaptation Memo prepared by the Cadmus Group.

## Transportation and Trees

Transportation is such a large issue that it warrants a separate community engagement process with collaboration with the Takoma Park Complete Streets Committee, Parking Task Force, and at the regional level with Montgomery County, WMATA, and the MWCOC Transportation Planning Board. It is recommended a transportation planning process kick off this year.

The tree canopy should also be addressed through a separate process. This is currently underway as the review of the Tree Ordinance is occurring with participation by the Tree Commission, the Committee on the Environment and interested residents. It is expected to include development of an implementation plan for additional tree planting and establishment of a citywide tree canopy goal. Staff has applied for a special grant to help the City determine the sequestration potential of the city's trees.

As specific ordinances and implementation plans are developed and considered, supplemental analysis focusing on more detailed fiscal impacts will be shared with the City Council and public. This includes the costs of doing nothing and the anticipated impacts of climate change on Takoma Park, as well as co-benefits such as improved indoor air quality and reduced energy bills. The positive and negative impacts on economic development are particularly important. As implementation plans are developed for each strategy, it will be important to determine what

economic infeasibility means for each and include provisions for exemptions in the case that a cost is too burdensome, or the result does not warrant the expense. These considerations will be developed through the community collaboration process.

As of this writing, City Council has not yet voted on the Climate Emergency Response Resolution. It is currently on the Council agenda for Wednesday, March 4, 2020. If you would like to provide comments on how the community collaboration process should be structured or what the implementation plans should include, you may do so by emailing your councilmember or the City Clerk at [jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov).

You can find documents and other information at [takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory/sustainability-and-climate-action-plan-2019](http://takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory/sustainability-and-climate-action-plan-2019).

# Funds for a Quest

By Rick Henry

There is nothing like a concert by the Airport 77s to help a fundraising campaign take off and soar.

Such was the case at the VFW Hells Bottom Post 350 on Saturday, Feb. 8 as the band lent its talents to a fundraiser for the Takoma Park Library's Summer Quest program.

The combination of a popular local band performing at one of Takoma Park's most well-oved community spaces for a good cause proved to be a powerful draw.

"The event exceeded our goal and our expectations, as we almost doubled our goal," said Francis Nugent, president of the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library (FTPML, or "Friends") Board of Directors, which sponsored the event which raised more than \$2,300, a record number for the program.

Nugent added that the event represented a conscious effort by the Friends to broaden its fundraising efforts and strategies in an attempt to increase revenue and support.

"This past year, the library's budget was cut, so we decided to be more proactive and creative in our fundraising efforts to ensure that the library could maintain its robust array of programming," he said.

"Plus we wanted to host an event that would allow supporters of the library and members of the Friends to have fun and socialize, while also raising money for an important cause."

That cause is Summer Quest a unique summer reading adventure game that the Library hosts every summer. Takoma Park Library Associate Dave Burbank develops a one-of-a-kind whimsical reading program that encourages Takoma Park youth to read and to imagine over the summer months.

Nugent pointed out that while the event



Francis Nugent

was organized to raise money for Summer Quest, its success will provide additional resources for the library. "We spend \$1,200 a year to fund Summer Quest," said Nugent. "The surplus from the fundraiser will allow the Friends to not only fully pay for it but also fund additional library programs and help the Library develop innovative projects that meet community needs."

Takoma Park Library Director Ellen Arnold-Robbins noted that the VFW event showcased the dynamic that new members bring to the Friends board. "This event was pretty unique," she said. "It was much more open and that's reflective of a new, younger board with enthusiastic and energetic members."

The Friends were not the only group of people who brought enthusiasm and energy to the fundraiser. Local merchants Ace Hardware, The Girl and The Vine, Yoga Heights, TPSS Co-op,

MAD Fitness, Takoma Bev Co., and Olive Lounge & Grill donated raffle prizes. Food truck Cheros Grill, located in the Junction, and Azalea Award-winning artist and Takoma Park resident, Todd Carter, donated artwork. The VFW generously donated the venue.

"We also had two middle school volunteers, Ada Greenfield and Stella Lesnick, who created the fundraising thermometer, which incorporated artwork from Summer Quest," said Nugent. "And, of course, the Airport 77s were a huge draw for the event. They were eager to support our cause and they advertised to their fans to bring people in the door."

Band member Andy Sullivan said the group jumped at the chance to play the

benefit.

"We were more than happy to rock out for a good cause," he said, noting that his family uses the library on a regular basis, and both of his daughters participated in the summer reading program.

He also cited the band's strong affinity for Takoma Park, adding that it has played in the City's Fourth of July parade the last two years. "We play all over the DC region, but we love playing Hell's Bottom – truly a community gem," he said. "Last Saturday's show was extra exciting as there was a large, enthusiastic crowd that filled the dance floor."

And those vibes will echo into the summer, when a new group of young readers embark on another Summer Quest.

## RECREATION

■ From page 7

**Senior Day, Montgomery County Agricultural Fair**  
Gaithersburg Fairgrounds, MD  
Tuesday, August 13  
8:45 a.m.–3 p.m.  
\$5

For more information, contact Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager at 301-891-7280 or [paulal@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:paulal@takomaparkmd.gov). Trip registration is required and begins April 1 for residents and April 2 for non-residents. For trip details and procedures, please see the Forever Young Spring/Summer newsletter online at [takomaparkmd.gov/news/forever-young-newsletter](http://takomaparkmd.gov/news/forever-young-newsletter).

## SPECIAL EVENTS



### Annual Egg Hunt

Get your baskets ready and join the Takoma Park Recreation Department for an "egg" citing time! There are 4 age categories: 2 & under, 3-4 years old, 5-6 years old, and 7-8 years old. Games will begin at 10 am and the hunt will begin at 11:00 a.m. SHARP! Don't miss out. Don't forget to bring your basket to Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary

School) for a morning of fun. New this year, we will be collecting the eggs at the end of the event to reuse next year.

Ed Wilhelm Field  
(behind Piney Branch Elementary School)  
Saturday, April 11  
10 a.m.  
Rain Date: Monday, April 13 at 4 p.m.  
Free



### Fitness Expo

The Takoma Park Recreation Department staff is preparing for our Annual Fitness Expo Saturday, April 4, at the Takoma Park Recreation Center. Come join us for an exciting day that will include demonstrations from our fitness programs as well as presentations from our local community health and fitness organizations. The expo will kick off at 9 a.m.

Takoma Park Recreation Center  
7315 New Hampshire Avenue  
All ages  
Saturday, April 4  
Starting at 9 a.m.  
Free



# MARCH '20

## 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 13, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning March 27. 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 11, 7:30 p.m.  
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, March 18, 7:30 p.m.\*\*  
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, March 25, 7:30 p.m.  
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.  
TPCC Auditorium  
\*\**The March 18 City Council meeting will be held at the Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue.*  
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, 10:30–11 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

#### 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  
Improve your communication and leadership skills. Top Notch Toastmasters meetings provide opportunities for positive, supportive development of personal and interpersonal skills that make you a better communicator, a better leader. Come to our meetings to sharpen your abilities, meet new friends, and make a difference in your life.

#### 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, 7 p.m.  
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).

#### Caring for Soils and Lawns Organically

Monday, March 16, 7 p.m.  
TP Community Center Azalea Room  
Join us for a talk by Mary Travaglini, the City's sustainable landscapes manager, to learn about the importance of healthy soils for an organic lawn and tips for caring for your lawn without synthetic pesticides and fertilizers.

#### VILLAGE OF TAKOMA PARK EVENT

##### Trip to Rosa Parks Exhibit at Library of Congress

Friday, March 27, 8:45 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
In celebration of Women's History month, join us on a trip to the Library of Congress to visit "Rosa Parks: In Her Own Words." An icon of the civil rights movement, Parks is often characterized by misconceptions. This exhibit showcases rarely seen materials that offer an intimate view of Rosa Parks and document her life and activism. This event is free and open to all; registration is required. A maximum of 25 spaces will be available. For more information on transportation, and/or to register, go to [villageoftakompark.com/calendar](http://villageoftakompark.com/calendar), or contact Gina Gaspin at [gina.chef@verizon.net](mailto:gina.chef@verizon.net) or 301-891-2549.

#### Arbor Day Event

Saturday, April 4, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Takoma Park Library Main Entrance  
The City's Arbor Day event and seedling give away will take place on Saturday, April 4 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).

### 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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

#### Puppet Lab

First Saturdays, 10 a.m. – noon  
Rhizome DC, 6950 Maple St NW  
Puppet Lab's purpose is to be a hub for all those interested in puppet theater who would benefit from boosting creative power, honing puppet-manipulation skills, cross-pollinating ideas, receiving feedback about works in progress, and building local puppet community.  
Suggested \$5–10 donation

#### Carroll Cafe

Friday, March 13, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
Seekers Church, 276 Carroll St. NW  
In Process, an African-American women's a cappella ensemble from the D.C. area, brings their wonderful sound to Carroll Cafe. Tickets are \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door.  
[carrollcafe.org](http://carrollcafe.org)

#### Next to Normal Auditions

Monday, March 16, 5 – 10 p.m.  
Living and Growing, 8777 1st Ave., Silver Spring  
Encore Theater Company, a new nonprofit theater based in the Takoma Park community, will hold open auditions for *Next to Normal*, which will run August 14-22 at Seekers Church. Interested actors can sign up for a time slot and view a casting breakdown at [www.encoretheaterco.org](http://www.encoretheaterco.org).

#### Takoma Park Old-Time Jam

Wednesday, March 18, 7:30 – 10 p.m.  
Takoma BevCo, 6197 Laurel Ave.  
All ages and skill levels are welcome to join the jam

session every third Wednesday. Bring your guitars, fiddles, banjos, tubas, flutes, penny whistles, flat feet, singing voices or just listening ears.

#### Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, March 20, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
You can hear poets from across the region read their original work. A reception follows the readings with an opportunity to meet the poets.

#### Carpe Diem - Revels Community Family Sing!

Saturday, March 21, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
Seekers Church, 276 Carroll St. NW, Washington, DC  
Free and open to everyone, regardless of singing ability! This month we sing songs of welcome for the spring. \$5 donation suggested

#### Montgomery Symphony Orchestra

Sunday, March 22, 3:00 p.m.  
Sligo Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 7700 Carroll Ave.  
The MSO, led by Blair Skinner, presents Beethoven's Symphony No. 6 "Pastorale," Berlioz' "Les nuit d'été" featuring mezzo-soprano Kate Jackman, and Bornfield's "Vessel," winner of the Macht Prize for excellence in composition. Everyone of all ages is welcome. Free, no tickets. [www.msomd.org](http://www.msomd.org)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Annual Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m.  
Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary School)  
Get your baskets ready and join the Takoma Park Recreation Department for an egg-citing time. There are four age categories: 2 & under, 3-4 years old, 5-6 years old, and 7-8 years old. Games will begin at 10 a.m. and the hunt will begin at 11 a.m. Bring your basket to Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary School) for a morning of fun. New this year, the Recreation Department will be collecting the eggs at the end of the event to re-use next year. Rain date is Monday, April 13.

#### Tree Care Forum

Saturday, April 18, 9:45 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
TP Community Center Auditorium  
Join the City of Takoma Park, the Takoma Horticultural Club, and Friends of Sligo Creek for expert information on tree selection/planting, four season tree care/maintenance, and how to identify and treat common tree problems/pests. This timely forum will help residents understand and combat tree die-off, plan for the effects of climate change on our trees and understand how to care street trees. Visit [takomhort.org](http://takomhort.org) for more information.

## Make a Difference - Plant a Tree

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

The spring season is an excellent time to plant trees. Takoma Park residents can help replenish the aging tree canopy and take advantage of this incentive. The City will contribute \$110 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 \$210 plus 6 percent sales tax. The trees are warranted for one year. The \$110 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: black gum, river birch, Southern magnolia, swamp white oak, sycamore, white oak, and willow oak. Trees can be ordered through April 20. 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 20.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

#### Please include a map of property/tree installation locations.

\_\_\_ Black Gum (2") \$210

\_\_\_ Southern Magnolia (2") \$210

\_\_\_ Sycamore (2") \$210

+ 6% sales tax

Total \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ River Birch (7' - 8') \$210

\_\_\_ Swamp White Oak (2") \$210

\_\_\_ White Oak (2") \$210

\_\_\_ Willow Oak (2") \$210