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

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Editor’s note

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

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.

Amharic: 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, seleccione el idioma que desee con el cuadro desplegable.

Did You Know?

The results of the census determine 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.
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.
Location: Community Center, (Hydrangea, Rose & Game Room) 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912

Did You Know?

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.
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 20 or more boardings per day, racial equity, climate impact, cost and safety. Finally, the Council appointed Juan Canelas to the Board of Education.

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 Takoma Park election for Mayor and City Council will take place on Tuesday, November 3. This is the same date as 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.

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 takomapark.md.gov/government/boards-commissions-and-committees. Positions are available or terms are expiring on the following:

Commemoration Commission: Positions are available or terms are expiring on the following:

Commissio...
is the follow-up to the March 13, 2019 Climate Emergency Declaration. It is impor-
tant for the City Council to adopt the Climate Emergency 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 frequent and severe weather events, 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 Sustain-
   able Energy Action Plan and GHG inven-
tory for all sectors of the City. This was com-
pleted 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 resource-
   s will allow, along with costs and benefits of these actions. The decla-
   ration specifies a focus on dramati-
cally 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 pri-
oritized 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 on 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 shared through community members and national organizations, including the Urban Sustainability Director’s Net-
work, Rocky Mountain Institute, Ameri-
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 identi-
fied in the resolution for Council to consider, taking 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 efficien-
cy standards or scores for all feasible buildings within the City by dates to be determined, bringing the least efficient buildings up to the average, using national established tools
  - Implementing energy efficient light-
   ing 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 Ad-
   visory Board and advocacy for County and Takoma Park Historic District rules and guidelines to encourage more energy efficient and renewable powered buildings
  - Coordination with and advocacy to the county on building codes and other methods to achieve greater energy effi-
ciency in new construction and signifi-
cant renovations, including adoption of green building standards

- Transportation
  - Facilitating greater use of electric ve-
   hicles by measures such as amending the City right of way permit process to allow installation of curbside EV equip-
   ment; 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 de-
carbonize transportation in Takoma Park, implement changes in transpor-
tation infrastructure, discourage use of personal vehicles, and encourage other modes of transportation, such as the addition of bus shelters, implementa-
tion of the Montgomery County Bike-
ways Plan within the City, and any rec-
ommendations from the City’s Parking Task Force and other strategies
  - Collaboration, partnerships, and advoca-
cy with other jurisdictions and orga-
nizations for transportation infrastruc-
ture changes

- Renewable Energy
  - City advocacy for State legislative au-
chority to establish a 100% renewable electricity community choice aggrega-
tion program through Montgomery County, potentially by the City alone, or with one or more other local autho-
rities 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

City Council

The Climate Emergency Resolution Reso-
lution is the beginning point for a robust, equitable and inclusive community collaboration process. Stake-
holder engagement will be central to the development of specific ordinances and strategies.
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 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. Additionally, 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.

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.

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. For more information, contact the City’s licensing specialist at 301-891-7255 or pattim@takomaparkmd.gov.

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. We hope to see you there!
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.

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.
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: Edumara

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

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 sportstakomapark-md.gov.

Takoma Park Community Center

Dance Studio

7500 Maple Avenue

4-6 years

10 Week Sessions

Saturdays, April 16-June 20

Beginners: 10:15–11:15 a.m.

Advanced: 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Resident: $125 / Non-resident: $175

Montgomery County National College Fair

Decisions. Decisions. Who has the best academics? Who has the best athletics? Should I stay on campus? How comfortable 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 intro 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 5- May 26

6 p.m.- 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 our fun on 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 and paints 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 desired 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

8 Week Session

Tuesday, April 7-May 26

7:30-8:30 p.m.

Resident: $80 / Non-resident: $90

MULTI MEDIA

Photography 101

You are constantly taking photos, but they don't come out the way we imagined. In this class, learn the intro to photography as an art form and step up you 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

Wednesday, July 8-August 26

6:30–7:30 p.m.

Resident: $90 / Non-resident: $100

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

Grades 6-12

Monday-Friday, April 6-April 10

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Resident $175 / Non-resident $225

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

7215 New Hampshire Avenue

5-12 years

1 Week Session

Monday-Friday, April 6-April 10

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

$220

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Entrepreneurship for Teens

This class engages teenagers in entrepreneurial activities to sell them up for long-term success. All rooted in the fundamentals of entrepreneurship, these programs prepare students for college, teach them Takoma Park 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. Instructor: Ellen M. Zavian

Takoma Park Recreation Center

7315 New Hampshire Ave

Grades 6-12

6 Week Session

Tuesdays, April 14-May 26

No Class May 12

7:30-8:30 p.m.

Free

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 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-making tutorial, professional-grade polymer, craft supplies and use of tools and equipment. Instructor: Shayn Neuvorh

Takoma Park Community Center

Art Studio

7500 Maple Avenue

17 years and older

3 Week Session

Saturday, April 10-May 2

1–4 p.m.

Resident: $165 / Non-resident: $195

DANCE

Mindful Movement

This open and invigorating class combines elements of meditation, dance, yoga, and authentic movement. This class is for all ability levels. 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 worlds 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 strength, 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

Wednesday, July 8-August 26

6:30–7:30 p.m.

Resident: $90 / Non-resident: $100

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 instructor is needed for Drama, SAT Prep, STEAM, Job Training, Dance, Art, etc. For more information, please contact Ms. Leicia at LeiciaM@takomapark-md.gov.
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 shaped and embossed 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 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, claying 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 shows 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, and written by, 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.

All of these winners, as well as several dozen more, are included in the “Notables” booklet 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 on the shelves every book that is included in the “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. Roy 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.

Bedtime Stories & a Craft

Tuesday, March 10, 7 p.m.
Join Ms. Kafi 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 Blackstone

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, 7239 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

Location: Hydrangea Room, Takoma Park Community Center

Can You Dig it?

National sports columnist, Kevin Blackstone, 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 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 ftnmominatingcommittee@gmail.com. Nominations also will be taken from the floor at the annual meeting.

Kevin Blackstone

By Francis Nugent

Kevin Blackstone at Friends 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 Krzlewski, posted from Vienna to 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 powerful 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 handily 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!

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

Five Questions for Takoma Park City Manager Suzanne Ludlow

Afer 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 disregarded 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. (favorable place), Attending Monster Bash (favorable 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."

Most Memorable Time: A couple of years ago, I invited the Neuroendocrine Tumor Research Foundation to sponsor a race to raise money for research. The treadmills were ready helping the Neuroendocrine Tumor Research Foundation raise money for research. It was a wonderful day.

What I Do in My "Spare Time": I've been designing and doing needlepoint artwork. I also like crossword puzzles and reading mysteries.

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.

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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.

Stay Connected!

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

- Social Media: Follow takomapark on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Instagram, and Pinterest.
- Newsletters: Sign up for the Takoma Park Alert or Takoma Park Insider.
- Website: takomaparkmd.gov/services/other-services/passport-services.

#OneCommunity - TakomaParkMD.gov

Emergency Preparedness Check-Up: What Would You Do?

By Claudine Schweber, Co-Chair, Emergency Preparedness Committee

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) 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 shacking. 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 (search fraud watch).

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.nea.gov/pets)

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 to 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.stophethebleed.org). The Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness Committee and the Police Dept. held several training sessions last year. For details, contact 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 or 301-891-7126.

Join us for “Dear Beatrice 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)
- Police notices (takomaparkmd.gov/government/police)

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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-kept 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.

“If 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.

Summer Quest is 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 was organized to raise money for Summer Quest, its success will provide additional resources for the library. “We spent $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 Junction, and Azalea Award-winning art gallery, donated artwork. The VFW generously donated the venue.

“We also had two middle school volunteers, Ada Greenfield and Stella Lesnick, who created the fundraising thermometers, in an attempt to increase revenue and broaden its fundraising efforts and strategies. As a result, more spectators were encouraged to support the Friends by giving money to the Friends to support their efforts,” said Nugent.

“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.

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 MWCOCG 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 feasibility 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 council member or the City Clerk at jessie@takomaparkmd.gov.


By Rick Henry

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 paula@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.

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 a.m. and the hunt will begin at 10:30AM. 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. Now 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

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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 Rosas 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 villageoftakomapark.com/calendar, or contact Gina Gaspin at gina.chef@verizon.net or 301-891-2549.

Arbor Day Event
Saturday, April 4, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Takoma Park Activity Main Entrance
The City's Arbor Day event and seedling give away will take place on Saturday, April 4 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, 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 jan@takomaparkmd.gov.

ARTS AND LITERATURE
People's Open Mic
Sundays, 9 p.m.
Republic restaurant, 6839 Laurel Ave.
www.republiquetakoma.com

Takoma Park Community Band
Mondays, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Heffter Park Community Center, 42 Uwego Ave.
Join the Takoma Park Community Band for weekly rehearsals at the Heffter 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. NW
Learn hand drumming.

Blues Mondays
Mondays, 7:30 – 10:30 p.m.
Republic restaurant, 6839 Laurel Ave.
www.republiquetakoma.com

Open Mic Night
Tuesday, 9 – 11 p.m.
Busboy and Poets, 225 Carroll St. NW

Jazz Jam
Tuesdays, 7 – 10 p.m.
Takoma Station, 6914 1st 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 Vaughn and friends

Puppet Lab
First Saturdays, 10 a.m. – noon
Rhizome DC, 6830 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.
In Process, an African-American woman's coming-of-age story from the D.C. area, brings their wonderful sound to Carroll Cafe. Tickets are $18 in advance, $20 at the door. carrollcafe.org

Next to Normal Auditions
Monday, March 16, 7 – 10 p.m.
Living and Growing, 8771 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 Seckler Church. Interested actors can sign up on a time slot and view a casting breakdown at www.encoretheatreco.org.

Takoma Park Old-Time Jam
Wednesday, March 18, 7:30 – 10 p.m.
Takoma Bevo Co., 817 Laurel Ave. (TPCC Auditorium)
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 listen.

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 toward 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 size of the tree and pay attention to underground/overhead utilities, building foundations and walkways/
tradewinds. 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:
TP Community Center Auditorium
240-450-2092 or educare_ss@yahoo.com

Phone __________________ Email___________________________

Please include a map of property/tree installation location.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tree Species</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black Gum (2”)</td>
<td>$210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Birch (7” - 8”)</td>
<td>$210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Magnolia (2”)</td>
<td>$210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swamp White Oak (2”)</td>
<td>$210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sycamore (2”)</td>
<td>$210</td>
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<tr>
<td>White Oak (2”)</td>
<td>$210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willow Oak (2”)</td>
<td>$210</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total:

MARCH 20
Do you have an event 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.

TP Community Center is the Takoma Park Community Center, 7000 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.

Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry
First Saturdays, noon – 3 p.m.
Grace United Methodist Church, 7001 New Hampshire Ave.

Weekly and monthly food pantries for needy families.

240-450-2092 or educate_sss@yahoo.com www.educaressupportservices.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.

TP Community Center

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/neuromotoric challenges. For more information, contact Jared Ciner at jan@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

TP Community Center

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.
6036 New Hampshire Ave., Takoma Park
Certified Grace 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 includes Autism, Down’s syndrome, and severe chronic psychiatric challenges usually meets the first Thursdays of every month. For more information, contact Mary Mucha at muchalx@gmail.com.