

November 2020

TAKOMA PARK

A newsletter published by the City of Takoma Park, Maryland

Volume 59, No. 11 ■ takomaparkmd.gov

WHAT'S NEW?

Oakwood Education Foundation

Details, page 13

New Books at the Library

Details, page 10

Winter Coat Drive

Details, page 4

Holidays for City Staff

Veteran's Day, Nov. 11
Thanksgiving, Nov. 26 – 29

Trash holidays

Veteran's Day
Wednesday, Nov. 11
Trash, food waste and recycling collected on Thursday

Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, Nov. 26
Trash, food waste and recycling collected on Wednesday, Nov. 25

Day after Thanksgiving
Friday, Nov. 27
Trash, food waste and recycling collected on Saturday, Nov. 28



Look for this Icon throughout this issue

See page 14

At right: George Aninwene and his wife Doris Agbasi of McDoris Fashion & Fabric have begun making masks and selling more colorful fabrics, so Takoma Park residents can make their own.

Below: Doris Agbasi, who owns McDoris Fashion & Fabric with her husband George Aninwene, poses in a mask and dress made with fabric from her store.



Takoma Park businesses stay afloat with micro-grants

By Sean Gossard

As Maryland began slowly reopening its businesses as part of its overall pandemic strategy, many small business owners in Takoma Park had to adapt to a new strategy in a time of quarantine. Some local business owners, like George Aninwene and his wife Doris Agbasi of McDoris Fashion & Fabric, have struggled but continue to persevere in the face of incredible hardship.

"We really, really were affected badly," Aninwene said, "but we, as business owners have to remain ever the optimists, so we started making masks with our prints and selling colorful fabric so that



MICRO-GRANTS □ Page 3

Give thanks this year with gifts of donation to local charities

Beginning this Thanksgiving, November 26, the Alternative Gift Fair will be open online. This year you can give holiday gifts that help others less fortunate in your community at the touch of a button!

Alternative gifts fill a direct and tangible need, such as one week of school, with a daily lunch, for a child in rural Northern Ghana or a journal for recording thoughts, feelings, and dreams for a girl.

Family members and friends are touched to know that the gift they have just received will have a very real and meaningful impact on people and communities in need, especially in these extremely challenging times. We will be selling alternative gifts online for three full weeks, until December 17.

LOCAL CHARITIES □ Page 3

Time to Renovate? An Update on the Takoma Park Library Project

If this brisk fall weather has you longing to curl up with a good book, you may be wondering, what's next on the new Takoma Park Library project? Are we getting close to a Council vote? City staff and RRMM Architects are working through the multitude of design decisions needed to arrive at a final construction estimate for the new library.

We have entered the Design Development Phase of the project – see the diagram on page 11 – now that we completed the schematic design on the library exterior. RRMM Architects presented three schematic options for the library exterior to City Council on July 8. The second option, the flat roof and simple sunshades design emerged as the clear winner after public discussion. It is projected to be the least costly of the three options.



Rendering of flat roof and simple sunshade design

RRMM Architects then put final touches on the Option 2 exterior and site plan using City Council feedback and public survey comments. Key changes the City Council requested included a pedestrian route from Philadelphia Avenue to the front entrance, the addition of brick sections in the glass façade, and signage on the side of the building facing Philadelphia Avenue. The flyover shows the full view of the proposed library's architectural integration with the Community Center beginning at Maple Avenue and Grant Avenue.

In addition to exterior design development, the RRMM construction team is working with City staff on interior design elements. They completed a Building Code analysis and met with Public Works staff to go over details of the mechanical systems in August. Their geotechnical engineers drilled borings to determine techni-

TP LIBRARY □ Page 11

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

Information and Resources: Covid19
takomaparkmd.gov

Questions, Comments and Suggestions
askus@takomaparkmd.gov

#TogetherTKPK

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Tree Workshops
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ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

PRE-SORT STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TAKOMA PARK, MD
PERMIT NO. 4422

DOCKET

City Council & Committee Calendar

COMMENTING AT CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Individuals interested in commenting at City Council meetings must sign up by 5 p.m. on the day of the meeting. The link to sign up will be published on the calendar and on the City Council agenda page.

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Thursday, November 12, 7:30 p.m.
Special Meeting to receive the Certified Results of the Election
- Monday, November 16, 12 noon
Final Meeting of the Outgoing City Council
- Wednesday, November 18, 7:30 p.m.
First Meeting of the Incoming City Council
- Wednesday, November 25
The City Council will not meet.
- Wednesday, December 2, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting

CITY BOARD, COMMISSION, AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Meetings will be held remotely for the duration of the public health crisis.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION

Tuesday, November 17, 7 p.m.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

TBA

FACADE ADVISORY BOARD

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

NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE

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

PARKING MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE

Thursday, November 5, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, November 19, 6:30 p.m.

POLICE CHIEF'S ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, November 16, 7 p.m.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 19, 7 p.m.

TREE COMMISSION MEETING

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

YOUTH COUNCIL

Sunday, November 8, 3:30 p.m.
Sunday, November 22, 3:30 p.m.
Individuals interested in receiving a weekly Council agenda and calendar update by e-mail can sign up by sending an email to clerk@takomaparkmd.gov.

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 wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services, or accommodations at a City of Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing is invited to contact Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, at jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7267 at least 48 hours in advance.

INAUGURATION OF THE INCOMING CITY COUNCIL

The incoming City Council will take the oath or affirmation of office on Monday, November 16 at 1:30 p.m. To maintain safety of the Council and the public, the event will occur outdoors and will be televised.

City Council Action



Notice of Draft Interim Administrative Regulations for Implementation of the Tree Ordinance

Draft Interim Administrative Regulations have been prepared to implement the City's Tree Ordinance that was revised via City Council Ordinance 2020-22. Please review the two draft regulations, "Fees for Tree Impact Assessments, Tree Removals and Tree Protection Plans, and Fees in Lieu of Planting" and "Noxious Growths and Undesirable Trees" at takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory/tree-ordinance-review-tree-canopy-goal and provide any comments by Friday, December 4, 2020 to suzannel@takomaparkmd.gov.



VIRTUAL CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Due to the public health crisis, the City Council has been meeting remotely by video conference. This will continue as long as necessary. The meetings are available to watch live (or view afterwards) in all the usual ways:

- on the City Council Video Page of the City Website (<https://takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/meetings-and-documents/city-council-video/>)
- on City TV
(RCN - Channel 13, HD Channel 1060 Comcast/xfinity - Channel 13
Verizon Fios - Channel 28)
- on Facebook
([@TakomaParkMD/](https://www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/))
- on YouTube
(<https://www.youtube.com/user/TakomaParkTV>)

The public can comment live during the public comment portions of the meetings by registering and logging into the video conference. The link will be provided by weekly email from the City Clerk and on the City website. For those not able to do so, written comments may be sent by email to clerk@takomaparkmd.gov to be circulated to the Council.

MICRO-GRANTS

■ From page 1

people can make their own masks.”

Aninwene said he and his wife, who run the boutique fashion store at 7635 New Hampshire Ave., had to close down for an extended period due to the directive from Gov. Larry Hogan to close non-essential businesses in late March, but they’ve been reopened for the past few months. “We’re open now and we’re trying to restock, especially the colorful fabrics that people are using to make masks,” Aninwene said, “so we’ll hang in there and keep trying to do our best. And hope our savings don’t dry up before it’s over.”

To help businesses stay afloat, Takoma Park and the Old Takoma Business Association began offering micro-grants at the beginning of the pandemic. Overall, they distributed around \$39,000 in grants and are expected to have more in grant money coming out soon, according to Laura Barclay, executive director of the Old Takoma Business Association. “It’s given out in small amounts, but it helps a lot to just have that small lifeline,” she said. “We’re combing the streets for any available money like state and county grants or low-interest loans. They’re running their businesses, and I’m trying to get them funds to stay afloat.”

To date, Barclay indicated her group has helped give out 40 Takoma Micro-Grants, and the organization looking to give more out in the next year. “[We] are working to raise additional money now and will implement programs over the next year for the businesses to offer programs and grants to help with Personal Protective Equipment, Business Re-Engineering and an Emergency Fund,” she said.

For James Hackley at Bespoke Not Broke



Shoppers striking a pose in front of the store last month

on 7042 Carroll Ave., COVID-19 and quarantine meant stalling plans on expanding his business. “I was actually looking for location No. 2 in Adams Morgan the week before all this went down,” he said, “but COVID put the kibosh on everything.”

The increase in foot traffic that came with the nicer weather has been some help to business, according to Hackley, and events like the Sidewalk Sale in September were a part of that. “We reopened around June 20, and it’s been a very slow crawl to be honest,” he said. “As expected, folks really didn’t know what to do, but more people come out with the cooler weather.”

The micro-grants his business received from the city and county helped a lot. “We were applying to everything that was out there,” he said. In addition, the Takoma Park community has been especially great in providing support as business slows down. “It’s interesting. Folks are less like-

ly to haggle about prices now,” Hackley said. “They want to show us, and give us, as much support as they can. This is an amazing, amazing community.”

Other businesses, like B & P Jewelry and Gifts, didn’t have to close for as long, but have been enacting safety measures to keep both customers and employees safe. “We’ve adjusted and are doing pretty well now, luckily,” said owner Ramon Garcia. “We’ve installed plexiglass at the counters and limit the number of customers who come in to only four.” Garcia closed B & P Jewelry, which received a micro-grant from Takoma Park, for nine days during the height of the pandemic to set up safety measures, but since the store also acts as a pawn broker, it is considered an essential business and was allowed to stay open.

The \$2,000 micro-grant Aninwene received from Takoma Park helped his business stay afloat while closed. “We



Bracelets on display at B & P Jewelry

got a \$2,000 grant from the community,” he said. “The bills kept coming in a huge mountain, but it was better than nothing. We’re all facing the same challenges as each other, just on different scales.”

Of course, what Aninwene and Agbasi really need are customers to return, so they’re looking at more ways to keep the business going. “My wife has been helping people who are new to creating with fabric, and she helps them reach what they’re aspiring to do,” he said. “We also bought lots of fabrics so that people could make colorful masks and get past the pandemic.”

Overall, Aninwene and his wife stay positive and know that things will eventually return to normal.

“If you hang in long enough, there will be a changing of the tide,” Aninwene said. “We’re all in this together, and we have to survive together. If you keep people encouraged, things will be better.”

LOCAL CHARITIES

■ From page 1

Did you know most people are not satisfied with their holiday gift exchanges? Each year, millions face holiday shopping with fear, stress, and anxiety. A recent poll found that 84 percent of Americans would prefer a less materialistic holiday. The good news is with gifts of donation from the Alternative Gift Fair you can express your love through gift-giving and make shopping meaningful, enjoyable, and even inspirational.

An alternative gift is where holiday “shopping” means donating to nonprofits in the names of your loved ones. You support nonprofit organizations you care

about, choosing exactly the goods or services to be provided. You learn about amazing locally based organizations serving local, regional, and international needs. Ideally there’s a cause for everyone on your shopping list. You receive donation descriptions to email to friends and family for the holidays, birthdays, weddings, bar and bat mitzvahs and other events.

This year you can connect with representatives from 16 different locally run, small direct-service charities. On December 5, we will host a Zoom call with the staff and volunteers of participating organizations, who will share details about their missions and how your generous purchases will contribute to making their goals of bettering the world a reality.

This year’s gifts are priced from \$10 to

A Gift of

One month of fresh, local veggies
for a low-income family

Has been given in your honor to

**CROSSROADS COMMUNITY
FOOD NETWORK**

Crossroads Community Food Network is building a healthier, more inclusive food system in the primarily immigrant, low-income Takoma/Langley Crossroads community. At the heart of this network of food growers, makers, and consumers is Crossroads Farmers Market, where an innovative “double dollar” program makes it easier to bring home more healthy food, and at the same time, helps support local farmers and vendors — the majority of whom are also immigrants. Crossroads also encompasses community-based healthy eating education, microenterprise training for aspiring food entrepreneurs, and an affordable community kitchen geared toward helping them succeed.

www.crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org

An example of one of the gifts available for purchase during the Alternative Gift Fair

\$100 and include such items as a parental kidnapping consultation from a victim fleeing violence, sponsoring a small business loan application, or providing one month of fresh, local veggies for a low-income family. All gifts are tax-deductible and include a gift description like the one seen here. Your charities get 100 percent of the donations you give for gifts and those funds are specifically earmarked for those gifts.

Please be sure to join us in celebrating how much we all are so thankful for by sharing these heartwarming gifts that both give back and pay it forward! You can purchase your alternative gifts between November 26 and December 17, 2020 at www.aggw.org. For information or to volunteer, contact Mimi Ikle-Khalsa, fair director at 301-613-6830 or aggw_inc@yahoo.com.



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

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—



BUILDING COMMUNITY



The Takoma Park Equity Walk makes its debut.



This is it! We Belong Here: The Takoma Park Equity Walk is officially open!

Click, scan, swipe, jump, play and talk about all things Equity.

You can plan your visit on the City web site: takomaparkmd.gov/government/housing-and-community-development/planning-and-community-development/we-belong-here-the-takoma-park-equity-walk, where you can find lots of information and resources to guide you.

Pass it on! This fun, engaging, educational activity can be enjoyed at a physical distance. Go ahead and explore!

Look for the QR code:



Free COVID-19 Testing in Takoma Park Every Wednesday

- Wednesdays, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., no appointment needed
- Sligo Adventist Church, 7700 Carroll Avenue (near Flower Ave.)
- Walk up or drive through
- No identification, insurance, or doctor's note required.
- Residents with symptoms should call the Testing Helpline at 240-777-1755 for assistance with testing.

Help for residents facing utility disconnection

The Maryland Public Service Commission, in an emergency action, has prohibited residential utility service terminations through November 15, 2020. The Commission acted to protect as many customers as possible from having electric, gas or water service shut off and to provide a period that allows residential customers time to apply for assistance programs or make payment arrangements.

Here is some additional information about this emergency action:

- Residential customers in arrears have 45 days from receipt of a termination notice to work out a payment plan with their utility company or to apply for energy assistance programs;

- Utility companies must offer a minimum payment plan of 12 months (or 24 months for those customers receiving energy assistance from the state's Office of Home Energy Programs); and
- Utilities cannot require a deposit as a condition of beginning a payment plan for any residential customer, including both current and new customers.

The Commission encourages utility customers facing service termination to seek out programs that will assist with bill payment. Customers behind on their bills and who are facing a shut-off notice should first contact their utility to ask about extended payments plans, budget billing, or other options to avoid service disconnection.

Rental license renewals change due to COVID-19 protocols

At the start of the pandemic, Montgomery County suspended interior inspections of residential rental properties to protect the health of tenants, property owners/managers, and inspectors. Although inspections of vacant units for new rental licenses have resumed, under strict health and safety protocols, recurring code-compliance inspections are still suspended indefinitely.

The City requires that every rental unit must have successfully passed a code-compliance inspection within the term of the current license in order to renew a rental license for the next term. Because of the extraordinary circumstances of the pandemic, the City of Takoma Park will not require a completed inspection for those licenses expiring at the end of this calendar year. Property owners must, however,

schedule an inspection as soon as they are contacted by the County once inspections resume.

All other requirements: a current lead certificate on file, current landlord certification, filing the online renewal application, and payment of the licensing fee, will be necessary to renew. Notifications for renewal of licenses coming due will be sent out at the end of this month. This year, these notifications will only be sent via email, unless the property owner has specifically requested hardcopy notices.

If you have not yet sent in your current lead certificate, or want to verify that your landlord certification is valid, or have other questions, please contact Patti Mallin, licensing specialist, at pattim@takomaparkmd.gov or 240-315-6721.

WINTER COAT DRIVE

Do you have coats, gloves or scarves that you don't need anymore? Please consider donating them! The Takoma Park Police Department, in partnership with the Takoma Park Adventist Church, is collecting clean, gently used warm coats in any size from infant to adult. The coats will be donated to people in need. This coat drive can make a difference in the lives of others by simply donating coats and jackets that are no longer needed. We will also accept clean, gently used gloves/mittens and scarves.

Drive Duration

Start date: Monday, November 2

End date: Friday, December 18, at 4:00 pm

A large box will be in the lobby of Takoma Park Police Department, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland. Takoma Park Police Department will ensure that they are given to the church during and after the drive. Give warmth to those in need this winter! Thank you for your generosity. If you have questions, please contact Catherine Plevy at 301-891-7142 or cathyp@takomaparkmd.gov.



Community will be front and center at this year's Docs In Progress' *Community Stories Film Festival*. Scheduled for November 20–22, *Community Stories* will be presented as a virtual festival.

For the past 10 years, our film students and local filmmakers have captured the diverse, vibrant, and historic nature of the City of Takoma Park and of Montgomery County, Maryland. Many of the films are products of our Intro to Documentary class and our film workshops for teens and 55+ adults. Critical support for the workshops and the festival is provided by a grant from the City of Takoma Park with support from the Power2Give match and Montgomery County, making the summer teen filmmaking workshops possible.

The festival is free and open to the public. Local residents will have a chance to learn about their communities and meet both the filmmakers and people featured in the films.

Doc student films feature *Takoma Radio*, *Crossroads Farmers Market*, *Artist Freya Grand*, and this summer's teen's films with the theme of *My Life under COVID*. This workshop was Docs first foray into teaching a filmmaking class entirely via remote. Bravo to the students from ages 13–18!

Special features of this year's festival also will include celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Maryland Public Television with a screening and panel discussion of *The Dig: A Maryland Mystery Lady* and in honor of Veterans Day, a screening and panel of *The Invalid Corps* by local filmmaker and Docs In Progress Board member Day Al-Mohamed.

"The pandemic has been and continues to be a challenge to all nonprofits and a difficult time to all of our neighbors from Takoma Park to the DMV and beyond," states Barbara Valentino, Docs Interim Executive Director. "This year with our Community Stories Film Festival, we hope to put a spotlight on our colleagues, share the incredible stories from our brave student filmmakers, and bring some joy to the residents and the community."

Please follow Doc In Progress on Facebook page @docsinprogress and/or its website, www.docsinprogress.org, for updated information. Free tickets will be made available through Eventbrite. And if you would like to support the festival or Docs In Progress, please go to DocsInProgress.org/donate. All donations are appreciated.

Critical support for the workshops and the festival is provided by a Community "Quality of Life" grant from the City of Takoma Park with support from the Power2Give match and Montgomery County, making the summer teen filmmaking workshops possible.



Arts events at the Takoma Park Community Center have been postponed so the *Takoma Park Arts* cultural series has moved online with new film screenings, concerts, and poetry readings. You can find more details and sign up for our weekly e-newsletter at takomaparkmd.gov/arts.

The COVID Chronicles: Capturing our history as it happens

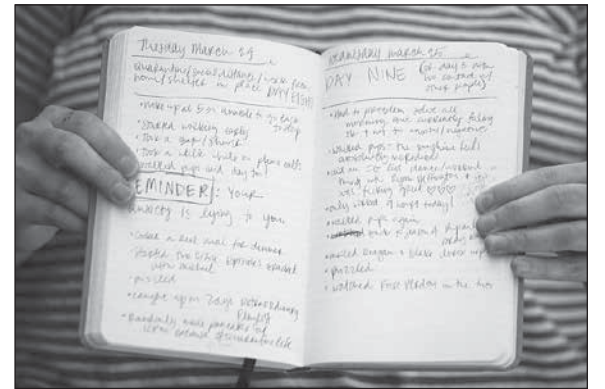


Historic Takoma, Inc.

We are living in extraordinary times. Daily our lives are changing in ways we couldn't have imagined. For the Takoma Park community, this will have short and lasting impacts on our family life, our social structures, our businesses and institutions, and so much more. Historic Takoma would like to capture the experiences of families, residents, businesses, and institutions as we go through our daily lives.

We ask you to keep a simple journal in whatever format suits you: a notebook, a digital document, a scrapbook, etc. Capture your daily life and how it has changed: school, work, shopping, recreation, etc. How is your family changing and adapting its routines? How are you feeling?

At some point in the future, we will set up a system to collect these notes and recollections to place in our archives to pass on to future generations. At this point we simply ask you to start the process. If you take pictures, please make a note of when they were



Journaling is one way to document and cope with these extraordinary times.

taken, where, who's in the picture, and so on. That's important for future reference.

Thanks for joining us in the historic endeavor. If you have questions, please email us at info@historictakoma.org.



An artistic combination: The haiku coloring book

Brought to you by the Montgomery County Department of Environment Protection (DEP), this Recreation Approved Resource combines the visual and poetic arts. DEP held a Haiku contest earlier this year to celebrate organic lawns. Each of the poets who entered and ultimately had their poems included in a free downloadable coloring book had to include the word grass or lawn in their work.



Haiku is a poetry form originating in Japan that has three lines. The first line has 5 syllables, the second has 7 syllables, and the last has 5. Traditionally, haikus focus on nature, and they do not have to rhyme. You can download the free coloring at montgomerycountymd.gov/lawns or takomaparkmd.gov/government/recreation/virtual-community-center/r-a-r. If you don't have a printer, email askdep@montgomerycountymd.gov to request a printed copy.

How to Use the Takoma Park Project Directory

What is going on in Takoma Park? The Project Directory can fill you in! The Project Directory lists all major projects currently being worked on or planned citywide and includes need to know information for each one.

takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory

To access the Project Directory from the City of Takoma Park website, on the home page under initiatives, select “Project Directory” as shown at right.

GOVERNMENT	SERVICES	INITIATIVES	NEWS
Boards, Commissions & Committees	Bids & Contracts	Project Directory (All City Projects)	City Election Information
City Clerk	Business & Multifamily	Arts and Humanities	City Council & Mayor Blog
City Council	Recycling	Census 2020 – Everyone Counts in Montgomery County	City Manager & Staff Blog
City Manager	Careers/Jobs	Community Conversations	News & News Alerts
City TV	Community Partners and Resources		Forever Young
Communications	Curbside Collection		

You’ll be taken to the “Project Directory” page, which lists all major projects being worked on or planned citywide. Projects are grouped by the following classifications based on their purpose:

- Crime & Safety
- Customer Service / Community Engagement
- Economic Development
- Internal Projects
- Policy Priorities
- Public Infrastructure
- Regional
- Sustainability

Projects are then organized by title, classisfication, target completion date, and ward.

Project Directory				Search: <input type="text" value="Library"/>
Project Title & Link	Project Classification	Target Completion Date	Ward	
Library Renovation Project	Public Infrastructure - Buildings	2017 - TBD	Citywide	
Table: City of Takoma Park project directory listing all of the major projects currently being worked on or planned.				
Completed Projects				Search: <input type="text"/>
Project Title & Link	Project Classification	Completion Date	Ward	
Washington Adventist Hospital	Regional Project	2019	Citywide	
Dorothy's Woods	Public Infrastructure - Property	2018	3	
Police Chief Search	Recruitment	2017-12	Citywide	

Then click on the name of the project that interests you. In this example, a resident wanted more information about the Library Renovation Project.

LIBRARY RENOVATION/RECONSTRUCTION

About the Library Renovation/Reconstruction Project

Based on the results of a 2014 needs assessment and long-time community interest and support, the City plans to reconstruct its Library. The current facility has served the community well for decades, but it no longer adequately meets our collections and programming needs and is in need of accessibility improvements.

When discussions about renovations began, the assumption was that we would work within the existing building and modernize and improve the space. However, in the course of our due diligence after engaging an architect to assist with conceptual design, it was determined that the City needed a flood plain delineation study to ascertain whether the current flood wall (which was planned to be incorporated into the expanded Library building) was adequate.

A preliminary report was concluded in August of 2018, and submitted to the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services for review. Based on the conclusions of the flood plain study, it was determined that a higher elevation for the Library was needed. In 2019, the architect submitted design options for a library building that would meet the elevation criteria but would preserve the same footprint.

Current Status:

On February 26, 2020, architect Greg Lukens of R2/M4 Lukens Architects made a presentation to the City Council on the current status of plans for a replacement Library. Regarding the flood plain study: An initial flood plain study was accepted by the County. The second flood plain report has just been completed, and shows that the expanded Library footprint causes minimal impact on the heights of the flood plain. While it still needs to be submitted to the County, the findings mean that substantial regrading is not required for the new Library. The current plans for the project were submitted to an independent cost estimator. The report, received on February 25, estimated construction costs at \$8.3 million, including a large contingency. The previous estimate was about \$7.6 million. The difference reflects more increases in construction material costs of about 5%, labor costs of 10-12%, and a different estimate for site work costs. The architect also shared drawings of a preferred interior and several possible exterior options for the new building. The current library is 9,400 square feet – the proposed design increases the square footage to 19,025 square feet.

Additional information was presented by the architect and discussed at the Council Work Session of March 11, 2020. In sum, floodplain findings were consistent with earlier projections that raising the floor of the building would be sufficient to meet flood plain requirements without substantial redesign of the site. And, the estimated total hard and soft costs of the project are very close to the amount of funds available for the project – \$9.8 million.

On April 15, 2020, the City Council considered and voted unanimously to authorize the City Manager or her designee to enter into a contract with R2/M4 Lukens Architects for the next phase of the project: continued concept design and potential detailed design and engineering for Library renovation, at a cost of \$499,835. Funding for this contract and the Library project overall is available through the State Infrastructure Loan Program, Maryland Capital Grants, and City Cable Grant funds.

Updated Plan 0220-01-208

Project Lead & Contact Info

Jessica Clarke
Deputy City Manager
Phone: 301-891-7202
Email: jessica@takomaparkmd.gov

Ellen Arnold-Robbins
Library Director
Phone: 301-891-7258
Email: Ellen@takomaparkmd.gov



Library Renovation/Reconstruction Details

Project Info & Timeline

- Target completion date: To be determined
- Takoma Park's role in project: Lead
- Departments involved: Administration, Library, Public Works

Budget & Funding Source

The FY18 approved Budget contained funding for completion of the concept design, detailed design development, construction of a renovated and expanded Library, and relocation of collections and services during construction, at a total cost of approximately \$7,000,000. In March of 2017, the City was awarded \$250,000 in Bond Bill Funding. In June of 2017, following two public hearings on the Budget, the City Council voted unanimously to approve funding for the Library Renovation, and the subsequent borrowing of \$7,000,000 through the Maryland State Infrastructure Loan Program. In 2018, the city was awarded an additional \$250,000 in Bond Bill Funding. Funding for the Library project overall is available through the State Infrastructure Loan Program, Maryland Capital Grants, and City Cable Grant funds.

A schedule of loan payments is here included.

Funding Source: CIP – General Fund

Links & Notes

2020 Updates

R2/M4 Lukens Architects is working on a final design and construction estimate to present to the City Council in September 2020. The final design of the library exterior will be a blend of the architectural elements displayed in the exterior options below. 577 people voted in a July public survey on the three options. The results of the public survey were presented to the Council during the July 8 Council hearing.



2019 Updates

On July 31, 2019 the City Council authorized a contract with architect Greg Lukens, R2/M4 Lukens Architects, to begin detailed design necessary to determine cost estimates for construction. This phase is expected to last until late winter of 2020.

The most current information about where things stand, including a presentation by architect Greg Lukens and Jason Fritz of Adtek Engineers, is available at the following links:

- Overview of Library Projects and Discussion of Architect's Contract
- PowerPoint Presentation

The most recent concept design options are available here.

Earlier designs under consideration are available here.

Preliminary Library Flood Plain Conditions Report

- In general each project page contains the following information: project status, lead contact information, timelines, budget/funding source, and links and notes. If residents have questions or need additional information about a specific project, they should contact the project lead person listed.
- Below is a partial list of the projects included in the directory.
- ADA Sidewalk Compliance Program

Cultural Plan

Donate to Assist Small Businesses

Flower and Sligo Creek Traffic Calming

Inter-jurisdictional Cooperation Agreements

Library Renovation Project

Montgomery County Bicycle Master Plan

Multifamily and Business Recycling Initiative

New Hampshire Avenue Initiative

Purple Line

Racial Equity

Sidewalk Design and Construction

Small Business Mini-Grant Program

State Highway Administration Projects

Stormwater Management Projects

Street Resurfacing

Streetlight Replacement Project

Takoma Junction Redevelopment

Takoma Park Middle School Addition

Tree Ordinance Review

Tree Pruning Information

Update of Financial Policies

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



City of Takoma Park Planning and Community Development



Public Space Management Plan

City Staff is developing a **Public Space Management Plan** to provide a vision, goals, and guidance on how public space will be used and maintained in Takoma Park.

Public space includes:

- ✓ Parks, playgrounds, and playing fields
- ✓ Plazas and places to gather, like the Gazebo
- ✓ Natural spaces and wooded areas, like Sligo Creek and Long Branch stream valley parks
- ✓ Streets that may be used for alternative activities like outdoor cafe seating or bike lanes



The City would like your help!

- ✓ Please complete our survey about Public Space. It only takes a few minutes and your voice is important.
- ✓ Outdoors spaces for spending time with family and friends are more important than ever.

Goto:
<https://bit.ly/32t0NRv>

Your Opinion Matters!

TakomaParkMD.gov/government/housing-and-community-development

RECREATION

All virtual class links can be found on the Virtual Community Center page: takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/vcc.

VIRTUAL CLASSES

TOTS

FITNESS

Creative Movement & Literacy with Carla

These 30-40-minute classes will include creative movement, dance, music, songs and books. Classes will be fun and enhance body awareness, physical fitness, creativity, ability to follow directions, sequencing, number recognition and reading readiness. Children that are six will be asked to be leaders for the classes and demonstrate for the younger children. Instructor: Carla Perlo

4-6 years
Thursdays, 5-5:30 p.m.
Free

YOUTH

ENVIRONMENTAL

Horticulture/Garden Art with Carla

The course will cover the life cycle of a plant, cultivation, germination, pollination, propagation, photosynthesis and phototropism. Each participant will be given a pot of soil, seeds and a Garden Art Fun Book that should be picked up at the Takoma Park Middle School Green House. Students will grow from seed and explore the above topics through discussion, videos, hands on experiences and creating art in their Garden Art Books. Instructor: Carla Perlo

6-12 years
Saturdays, 12:30-1:10 p.m.
Free

TEENS

ESPORTS

Madden NFL 21 Tournament (PS4)

This tournament places the best 16 PS4 players against each other for a single game elimination tournament. Players will invite each other to a match and play online every Tuesday. Requirements: Playstation Network subscription, PS4 cConsole, Madden 21 game, email address, and internet connection. For more information, contact javontem@takomaparkmd.gov.

11-16 years
Tuesdays, 5-6 p.m.
November 3-17
Free

Madden NFL 21 Tournament (Xbox)

This tournament places the best 16 Xbox One players against each other for a single game elimination tournament. Players will invite each other to a match and play online every Thursday. Requirements: Xbox Live subscription, Xbox One console, Madden 21 game, Email Address, and Internet Connection. For more information, contact javontem@takomaparkmd.gov.

Ages 11-16
Thursdays, 5-6 p.m.
December 3-December 10
Free

ADULT

FITNESS



Five Animal Play Qi Gong

This form of Qi Gong is one of the most ancient continuously practiced healing exercising systems in the world. Enjoy peaceful movements modeled on the crane, bear, monkey, deer and tiger. Participants will develop more strength, grace, flexibility, balance and healing in a relaxed virtual group setting. You will feel the effects in your body, mind and spirit as you find harmony with nature and yourself. Open to all; no experience needed. Your health is in your hands. Instructor: Patrick Smith & Joann Malone

16 and up
Tuesdays, 7-7:30 p.m.
Free

Fitness for Life

This class is for anyone looking to reach their health, fitness and life goals. Whether you are an athlete, novice exerciser, or looking to enhance your current workout routine, your coach will ensure you are performing the exercises in a safe and effective manner. This class is designed for you to work at your own pace.

18 and up
Thursdays, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
Starting January 28
Free

New Class
for Winter

Let's Move Caribbean Dance

Dance your worries away with this fun, energetic, and easy to follow dance workout. Afro-Caribbean fitness dance class is for all ages and will get the body moving to build cardio endurance and coordination. Instructor: KJ Total Fitness

All Ages
Fridays, 6-7 p.m.
Free

Meditation, Mudras & Tea

Meditation, Mudras and Tea is part class, part experience. Dive into the world of guided meditation along with hand mudras, gestures that promote healing, psychological balance and spiritual awakening. The Sanskrit word "Mudra" can be translated as "gesture," "seal," "attitude" or "signature," and mudras have been used in almost all wisdom traditions throughout the world and notably in yoga. Option to pair your meditation practice with a cup of tea (specific teas will be suggested as an option) with teachings on that particular flower/herb as both a physical and mental healing aid as well as how to use this calming time with tea to encourage your meditative/stress-decreasing experience. Instructor: Beth Mwano

16 and up
Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m.
Free



ReVamp Fit Home Workout

Fitness class will entail movements to work on your total body endurance, strength, and flexibility. Move with us to get your day started on a strong note!

Instructor: Abel Asafere
16 and up
Wednesdays, 10-11 a.m.
Free

Rise and Move

This class will strengthen your muscles (including your heart), increase mobility in your joints, provide you with energy and improve your coordination. Your coach will educate, guide and assist you throughout the entire class to ensure you are performing movements safely and effectively. Equipment needed: Floor space, high-back chair, mat and weights (optional).

18 and up
Mondays, 10-11 a.m.
Starting January 25
Free

New Class
for Winter



Spirit Group Fitness

Class will be geared toward supporting all members of the community, as each class spotlights trainers leading versions of the exercises for those standing, seated, progressed, and exercising alongside a supporter (which is a great option for those with limited mobility or with a developmental disability). Truly, a person of any fitness and ability level can get a meaningful exercise experience from these classes. Instructor: Spirit Club

16 and up
New videos uploaded to website each Wednesday
Free

Total Body Blast

This class provides a mix of calisthenics, balance, strength training and cardiovascular exercise in one dynamic session. Participants will work at their own pace to complete the workout that focuses on all major muscle groups. Instructor: KJ Total Fitness

16 and up
Saturdays, 9-10 a.m.
Free

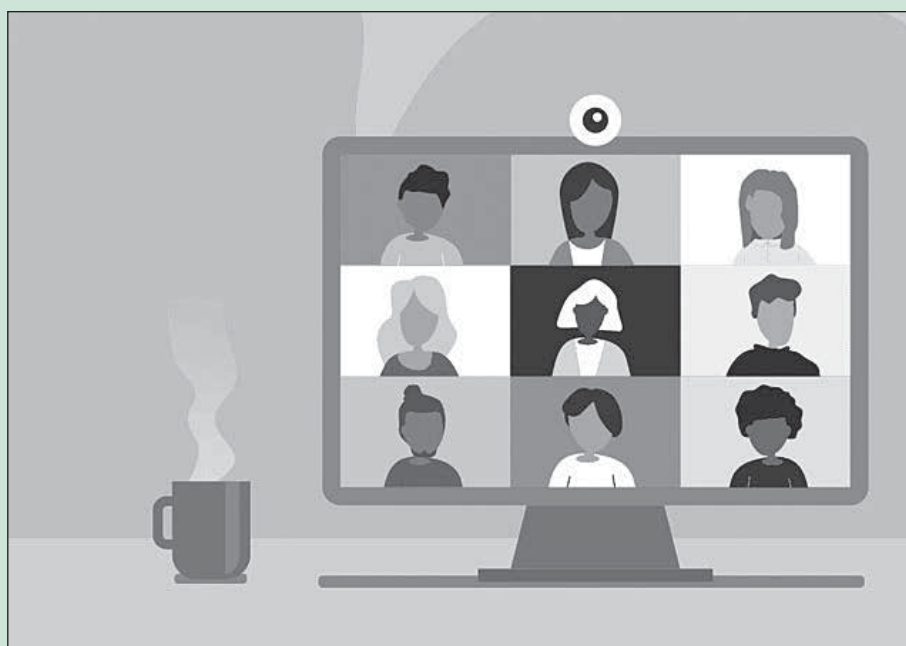
RECREATION □ Page 9



Let's communicate! TPTalk55

Let's Communicate! TPTalk55 is a new live chat room for Takoma Park 55 plus residents on Monday afternoons at 1 p.m. that began in October on Zoom. The Zoom meeting includes a call-in option available for seniors without internet access. This virtual meeting is a chance for seniors to communicate and catch up with friends, classmates and neighbors they've missed seeing while participating in past activities at the Takoma Park Community and Recreation Centers.

Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager, will be part of the friendly chat and listen to issues that are important to the seniors in Takoma Park. As part of the Recreation Department's effort to address social isolation during the pandemic, this chat room is another option in a series of programs in development to help seniors to stay connected and informed.



An article in the July 2020 edition of Frontiers in Public Health, entitled Combating Social Isolation Among Older Adults in a Time of Physical Distancing: The COVID-19 Social Connectivity Paradox, explains the interconnectedness between social isolation, loneliness, and depression as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the risks posed to older adults based on social distancing. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need for community-based organizations to maintain services and programs for engaging and supporting older adults during this difficult time of physical distancing and shelter-in-place and stay-at-home orders.

To participate in the chat room, email paulal@takomaparkmd.gov or call Paula at 240-687-4132 to request the meeting information. We would love for you to join the conversation.

RECREATION

All virtual class links can be found on the Virtual Community Center page: takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/vcc.

RECREATION

■ From page 8



Yoga (Beginner)

This Zoom class will get you on your feet, stretching and reaching; energize you when you feel dull and bring calm on stressful days. Appropriate for seniors. No prior experience needed. Equipment: Yoga mat, 2 blocks, 2 blankets, 1 belt. Instructor: Tehseen Chettri
16 and up
Wednesdays, 5:30–6:30 p.m.
Free

MULTIMEDIA

Digital Marketing

We are all experts of something, and someone is looking to benefit from your expertise. Learn the key digital marketing skills that can help you monetize your expertise. In this course you will learn how to navigate the digital world to sell a product or your services. This virtual class will cover ideation to activation and market research, the platforms best for your business, effective social media ads and how to set them up, how to build website layouts that convert into sales, and live interviews with digital consultants, hairstylists, clothing designers and organizational leaders on how they use the digital world to grow their businesses. Instructor: Vinny Mwano
16 and up
Thursdays, 5–6 p.m.
Free

55+

Phone a Neighbor

We are looking for Takoma Park Seniors who would like an occasional phone call during this time of uncertainty. All participants must have a landline phone or cell phone. To sign up, email javontem@takomaparkmd.gov or call Ms. Paula at 240-687-4132.

FITNESS

Classic Foundational Fitness & Training

Classic is a group exercise program appropriate for all age and skill levels, but especially for those who are new to fitness training. Classic is designed to improve health and skill-related fitness components with focus on muscular strength and endurance; flexibility, agility, balance, coordination, speed variance and power. The program is designed to enhance muscular definition and strength; decrease fall risks; improve cardiovascular capacity; increase physical fitness level; improve movement efficiency and range of motion; and enhance general sense of well-being. The exercises and movements can be modified to challenge all levels of fitness. Classic utilizes a high-back chair; light hand weights (1, 2, or 3 pounds depending on fitness level) and/or a resistance tube. Each participant should have their own equipment, including weights, a chair, towel and water bottle. Instructor: Michael Williams
55 and up
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10–11 a.m.
Free



Enhance Your Fitness

The class focuses on core strengthening utilizing various body strength training exercises. Instructor: Adriene Buist
55 and up
Tuesdays, 8:45–9:45 a.m.
Free

Line Dance

Line Dancing is great physical and mental exercise as well as an enjoyable social activity that leads to meeting new people and making new friends in a virtual environment. Strengthening of bones and muscles, weight loss, increased stamina and flexibility, and stress reduction are just some of the benefits of dancing. Learn how exercise can be fun with music. No experience necessary. Instructor: Barbara Brown.
55 and up
Wednesdays, 1–2 p.m.
Free



Gentle Yoga

This class helps build strength and endurance, increase flexibility and range-of-motion, improve posture and balance, and create a general sense of well-being. Special attention is paid to bone health and preventing/reversing bone loss related to osteoporosis. Work at your own pace in this carefully sequenced class that uses a series of seated, chair, standing, and floor poses and incorporates breathing and relaxation techniques. Students need to provide their own yoga sticky mat, a straight-backed chair, access to a wall, a yoga belt (or equivalent, e.g. a necktie), a tennis ball, preferably a yoga block and blanket. Instructor: Carol Merney
55 and up
Wednesdays, 2:15–3:15 p.m.
Free

**NOW
VIRTUAL!**



"Zumba" Gold

Active older adults who are looking for a modified Zumba class that recreates the original moves you love at a lower intensity. The design of the class introduces easy-to-follow Zumba choreography that focuses on balance, range of motion and coordination. Instructor: Yesika Flores
55 and up
Fridays, 10–11 a.m.
Free

MULTIMEDIA

TPTalk55

As part of the Recreation Department's effort to address social isolation during the pandemic, the following program was developed as another way to help seniors to stay connected and informed. There is a new live chat room for Takoma Park 55 plus residents on Monday afternoons at 1 p.m. The Zoom meeting includes a call-in option available for seniors without internet access. This virtual hour is a chance for seniors to communicate and catch up with friends, classmates and neighbors they've missed seeing while participating in past activities at the Takoma Park Community and Recreation Centers. Paula Lisowski, seniors program manager, will be part of the friendly chat and listen to issues that are important to the seniors in Takoma Park. To participate in the chat room, email paula@takomaparkmd.gov or call Paula at 240-687-4132 to request the meeting information. We would love for you to join the conversation.
55 and up
Mondays, 1–2 p.m.
Free

So Many Memories

Editor's Note: This is the fourth of a series of articles reflecting on death and grief that will run under the thematic heading, "So Many Memories." With many people in the Takoma Park Community experiencing loss, we decided to provide a forum for thought leaders in the community to offer their reflections on grieving and loss. If you have questions or would like to contribute, please email me at tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov.

—Apyrl Motley

Missing Inter-generational Strategies Games Night at Victory Tower

By Pat Rumbaugh, The Play Lady

For over ten years, Tuesday night at 7 p.m. was my standing games night I attended at Victory Tower in Takoma Park. Games Night, shortened from Inter-generational Strategies Game Night, was a special part of my week. I got to gather with friends of all ages, especially super seniors that made leaving the house at night totally worthwhile.

Imagine going to an apartment building that is comprised mostly of seniors?



Pat (pictured third from the left) and friends pose for a photo at games night.

Several of them would come down with their walkers or make it on their own to join neighbors and especially teens to play board games and cards. The popular game, Rummy Cube, was played by several groups. There were the Spanish ladies who were quiet, and you only heard them

if you walked near them.

Games Night was founded by the late Mary Feldman, a former resident of Victory Tower. Mary was a retired librarian. I do talk on the phone with several games night friends, but as you know, that's not the same.



Whether you were into cards or chess, there was a game for everyone.



LIBRARY



Hot off the Shelves: New Books!

We've got some terrific new books for adults, as well as for kids and teens. All can be checked out via our "Books-to-Go" curbside service.

First up, here are some of our new books – fiction and non-fiction – for adults:

Caste: The Origin of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson

28 Summers by Elin Hilderbrand

Private Cathedral by James Lee Burke

Chasing the Light by Oliver Stone

Last Trial by Scott Turow
The Room Where It Happened by John Bolton

This is What America Looks Like by Ilhan Omar

The Golden Cage by Camilla Lakberg

Life is in the Transitions by Bruce Feiler
Anxious People by Fredrik Backman

Transcendent Kingdom by Yaa Gyasi

Vesper Flights by Helen MacDonald

Lying Life of Adults by Elena Ferrante

Snow by John Banville

Paladin by David Ignatious

Rage by Bob Woodward

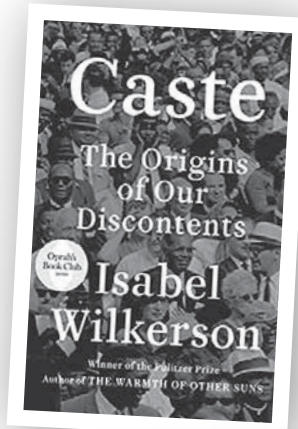
Florence Adler Swims Forever by Rachel Beanland

We've also got a diverse selection of new books for children and teens. To get a sense of what we have, please check out the "Children's Corner" blog maintained by Karen MacPherson, children's & teen services coordinator. The blog is regularly updated with photos of new book covers, plus publishers' information about the books. To check out the blog, go to <http://childrenscornerkm.blogspot.com> and keep scrolling down.

Native American Heritage Month

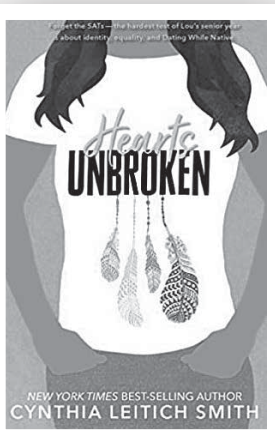
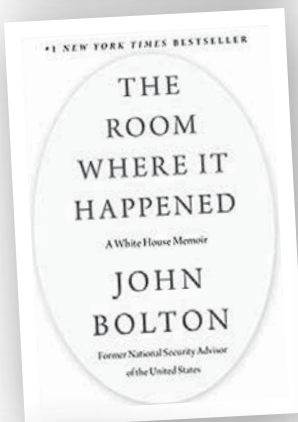
November is Native American Heritage Month. In general, we try to purchase the winners and honorees of the American Indian Youth Literature Award, which is given under the auspices of the American Library Association. The awards are given biennially to the best books by an American Indian author or illustrator in three different categories: Best Picture Book, Best Middle Grade Book (ages 8–12), and Best Young Adult book.

The 2020 winners are:



Best Picture Book: *Bowwow Powwow* written by Brenda Childs and illustrated by Jonathan Thunder

Best Middle Grade Book: *Indian No More* by Charlene Willing McManis with Traci Sorell

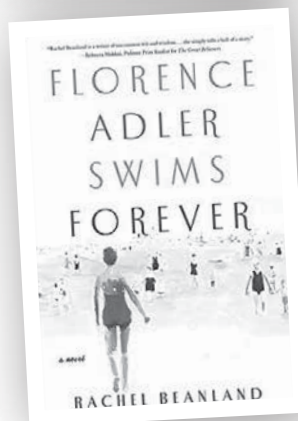
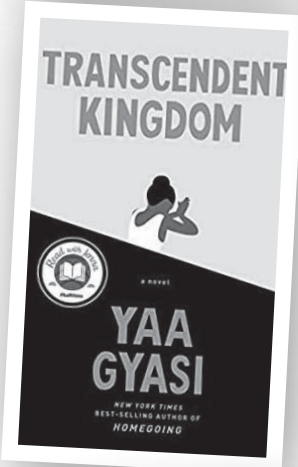


Best Young Adult Book: *Hearts Unbroken* by Cynthia Leitich Smith

For more information about the awards, visit <https://ailanet.org/activities/american-indian-youth-literature-award>.

We also have most of the 2020 Honor books, including picture books like *Fry Bread* written by Kevin Noble Maillard and illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal, and *Birdsong*, written and illustrated by Julie Flett; kids novels such as *I Can Make This Promise* by Christine Day; and teen books, *Apple in the Middle*, a novel by Dawn Quigley and *An Indigenous People's History of the United States for Young People* adapted by Debbie Reese and Jean Mendoza from the adult book by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz (our copy of this book is currently on order).

Lets start with adult books, including both old and new titles. All of these can be checked out via our "Books-to-Go" program. Let's start with adult books, most of which are new:



CALENDAR

The library building is closed, but we are continuing to offer several great library programs – both weekly and monthly – via Zoom. To participate, go to <https://zoom.us>. Click on "Join a Meeting" and put in the Meeting ID (and Meeting PW, if any) listed with each program. Registration is not required for these programs, but, if you are registered, we will send reminders as well as notices of any changes or cancellations. To register, go to www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryprograms. Please refresh your browser first as our line-up has recently changed and make sure you register for the "Zoom" version of these programs.

To keep up with all our programs, go to www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents.

Zoom Circle Time: Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Meeting ID is 995-4901-8825 and Meeting Password is 178851.

Zoom Comics Jam: One Wednesday a month at 4 p.m. Meeting ID is 734-913-6285. No Meeting Password needed. Next program is Wed., November 18. Each month, we'll send out an email with the date for the next program. Please be sure to register for the Zoom version of the program.

Zoom Spanish Circle Time: Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Meeting ID is 966-2757-5745 and the Meeting Password is: 437375.

Zoom Scribbler's Cabal: Fridays at 4 p.m. Meeting ID is 734-913-6285 (same as Comics Jam), no Meeting Password needed.

LIBRARY BRIEFS

Takoma Park Maryland Library

Books-to-Go Pick-up Schedule

Mondays: 12-2 p.m. and 6-8 p.m.

Wednesdays: 12-2 p.m. and 6-8 p.m.

Saturdays: 12-3 p.m.

Call 301-580-0085 when you ARRIVE



• **"Books-to-Go."** Since we started our "Books-to-Go" service at the beginning of July, we have checked out more than 6,000 books! Have you tried our curbside service yet? All you need to know is here: <http://www.takomapark.info/library/curbside.html> And if you're having an issue with your Takoma Park Maryland Library card, go here for help: tinyurl.com/tkpklibrarycard.

• **Equity Walk book suggestions.** As part of the city's new Equity Walk project, you'll find QR codes that can be opened with a QR reader on any smartphone device and allow you to access book suggestions for each step. The suggestions, chosen by Children's Librarian Kati Nolfi, and Karen MacPherson, children's & teen services coordinator, connect to theme of each Equity Walk step and are divided by age: Grades K-2, 3-5, and 6-8. There also are suggested books for parents. Check out the full list here: takomaparkmd.gov/government/housing-and-community-development/planning-and-community-development/equity-walk-books.

• **New "Take & Make" craft bags.**

Our "Take & Make" craft bag giveaway program will resume on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 12–3. For four Saturdays – Nov. 7, 14 & 21, and Dec. 5 – we'll put out 20 bags containing materials for a simple craft appropriate for ages 3 up. The craft will be the same one for those four weeks, and it's first come, first served! The bags will be on a purple cart near our "Books-to-Go" pick-up area, just off the Library parking lot. You don't have to be picking up books to grab one of the "Take & Make" craft bags.



Credit: John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
Jacqueline Woodson

• **"Genius" kids & teen author.** Jacqueline Woodson, an award-winning author for kids and teens, recently was awarded a MacArthur Foundation "genius" grant. The Library has many kids and teen books by Woodson, including her National Book Award-winning *Brown Girl Dreaming*, a memoir of her childhood written as a series of verse poems. Woodson also has written several adult novels, including the recently published, and critically acclaimed, *Red at the Bone*. You can read more about Woodson here www.slj.com/?detailStory=jacqueline.

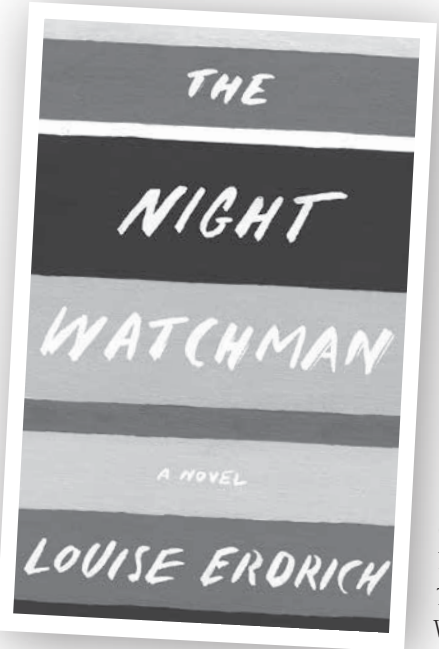
NEW BOOKS
From page 10

FICTION

The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich (2020)
There, There by Tommy Orange (2018)
To the Bright Edge of the World by Eowyn Ivey (2016)
First Eagle by Tony Hillerman (1998)
Quiet Until the Thaw by Alexandra Fuller 2017
Zeke and Ned: A Novel by Larry McMurtry and Diana Ossana (1997)
Song of the Turtle: American Indian Literature, 1974–1994 by Paula Gunn Allen (1996)
Native Stories: Five Selections by Gerald Robert Vizenor (2009)

NON-FICTION

Woman Who Fell from the Sky: Poems by Joy Harjo
Killers of the Flower Moon: the Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by David Grann (2017)
Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present, by David Treur (2019)
Our History is the Future: Standing Rock Versus the Dakota Access Pipeline, and the Long Tradition of Indigenous Resistance by Nick Estes (2019)



Shapes of Native Nonfiction: Collected Essays by Contemporary Writers, edited by Elissa Washuta and Theresa Warburton (2019)
Surviving Genocide: Native Nations and the United States from the American Revolution to __ Bleeding Kansas by Jeffrey Ostler (2019)
Voices of the Rainbow: Contemporary Poetry by Native Americans edited by Kenneth Rosen (1993)
The Thunder Before the Storm: the autobiography of Clyde Bellecourt by Clyde Bellecourt (2016)
Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher: The Epic Life and Immortal Photographs of Edward Curtis by Timothy Egan (2012)
The Red Record – The Wallam Olum: The Oldest Native North American History by David McCutchen (1993)

For children and teens, we have some wonderful new books by Native American authors and illustrators, including The Water Protectors, a picture book by Carole Lindstrom and illustrated by Mi-caela Goade, and The Brave, a novel by James Bird, for ages 8–12.

PRE-TEEN/TEEN BOOK REVIEW

Editor's Note: These review is from a student who writes for SSL hours.

Stuart Gibbs's Spy School is about a kid named Ben Ripley. One day he comes home and there is a CIA agent sitting in his living room. He recruits Ben to a secret school for spies (everyone else thinks it is a science academy), and Ben thinks it's the greatest day of his life. However when he gets to spy school, he realizes that everything is not as it seems. Everyone seems to be lying to him about everything from the reason he was recruited in January to what his skills as a spy are. Ben must get to the bottom of this case before he gets killed, or worse expelled...
Spy School is an amazing book full of mystery, practical jokes, savvy spies, sucky spies, and more. I suggest that you read it and the rest of the series.

—Adam



If your student likes to read and is interested in writing reviews for Student Service Learning hours, contact Children's Librarian Kati Nolfi at kath-rynn@takomaparkmd.gov.

LIBRARY BRIEFS

From page 10

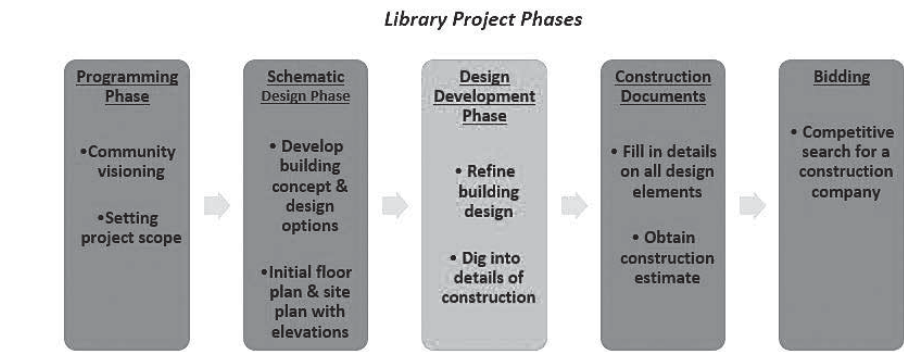
woodson-named-2020-MacArthur-fellow and here www.macfound.org/fellows/1074.
Distance learning tips. Superstar kids and teen author Jason Reynolds, the current National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, offers some compassionate tips for students, and teachers, on how to survive this year of distance

learning. The first and foremost thing, according to Reynolds, is to remember: "This isn't awesome for anyone, so be easy on yourself." You can read more in the October edition of Reynolds' monthly newsletter: blogs.loc.gov/loc/2020/10/jason-reynolds-drop-the-mic-october-newsletter/?loclr=ealocb. Don't forget that you can check out Reynolds' books from the Library, including his Newbery Honor-winning teen novel, Long Way Down.

TP LIBRARY

From page 1

cal specifications for the building foundation. Library and Information Technology staff have been providing feedback on items such as the size of the server room, the Computer and Mac lab layouts, and access to emergency exits.
The Design Development Phase of the project is a pivotal juncture for making decisions on the green aspects of the design, particularly the energy usage model. City Council directed RRMM to explore green design elements to make the project as sustainable as possible, given the site limitations and existing budget. RRMM is currently filling out the LEED scorecard, which is a checklist of the design elements required for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building certification. The more points checked off on the scorecard, the higher the green building rating (LEED Platinum being the highest). Several LEED points are still being researched by RRMM as



to feasibility, costs, and trade-offs. Some LEED points are easily achievable; others would add cost to the project and require direction from City Council.
After earlier discussions with staff, including the City's Sustainability Manager Gina Mathias, RRMM Architects and Deputy City Manager Jessica Clarke opened discussions with the Committee on the Environment (COE) on September 24 to receive additional ideas and input from members of the community. The COE viewed the unfinished LEED scorecard and most recent iteration of the

building design. Over the last few weeks, City staff have reviewed LEED elements line by line with RRMM. City staff took the COE's comments from September 24 into account as we looked to reach the highest LEED certification possible. Once RRMM has completed the LEED scoring and energy usage model, we will circulate for further public comments.
The RRMM principal working on our library design is a LEED Accredited Professional and well versed in IGCC compliance. Sustainability has been one of the hallmarks of RRMM designs; RRMM has

overseen 21 projects that were certified LEED Gold or higher. We are confident that with their guidance and community input, we can arrive at a new library design that fits within our budget while achieving the high sustainability objectives our Council and community expect.
Once the Design Development Phase is completed, we will be able to get a baseline construction cost estimate, plus cost-saving options as requested by City Council. We expect to be ready to present the final design, construction cost, and LEED Scorecard, along with public comments, to the incoming City Council by early December.
If you have any questions, contact Deputy City Manager Jessica Clarke at jessicac@takomaparkmd.gov.
Editor's Note: A slightly different version of this article was published on the City's website on October 7: takomaparkmd.gov/news-alert/update-on-the-library-renovation-project.



Tree Workshops continue this month

The City has partnered with Maryland Sustainable Ecologies to offer workshops on tree issues. The workshops will take place remotely on Zoom and will be 30-minute sessions. Each workshop can have up to 25 participants. Attendees can register for one or both sessions. To register, please send an email to urbanforestmanager@takomaparkmd.gov. Provide your name, address and which session you want to attend.

Session Topics

November 14: Common pests,

diseases and invasive species

November 21: Legal considerations and how to hire a contractor

The sessions will be taught Board-Certified Master Arborist, Richard Jones and Meg Smolinski,

ISA certified arborist, from Maryland Sustainable Ecologies, which has developed the course content from nearly 25 years of cumulative experience in arboriculture, safety, tree care and best practices in the tree world.

Leaf collection changes for this Fall

This year's collection will divide the City into three zones with one leaf collection vehicle per zone. The collection period will be extended from November 16 to December 31. This arrangement is expected to reach every street in a three- to four-week period. The length of time that a leaf pile will remain on the curb is likely to increase by an additional week or two. More information is available at <https://bit.ly/2TnuTR8>.



New Urban Forest Manager

We are delighted to announce that Marty Frye is the City's new Urban Forest Manager. Marty grew up in Takoma DC, so he is very familiar with our community. He most recently was employed by Pitchford Associates, which provides contracted tree work to the City of Takoma Park when needed. Before that, Marty was with Casey Trees in Washington, D.C. Marty has a B.A. in environmental science from the University of Vermont.



Preparing your home for Fall and rodent season

The arrival of fall means cold weather is upon us, and with the cold weather coming, you might see mice and roaches moving into your property. These little creatures begin looking for warmer places, and apartment buildings and homes are a perfect target for these animals. To prevent rodents from coming into your building or your home, it is important to follow a few simple steps:

1. If you are a tenant, immediately report the problem to your landlord.
2. If you are a landlord, make sure you address the problem immediately.
3. Find out what kind of pest infestation is in the building or house. By knowing what pests are inside the property, you will have a better idea on how to treat the problem.
4. Hire an exterminator to come on a regular basis to treat the property.

5. Have proper waste bins for your tenants to put trash. Keeping the outside of the rental property clean is essential.
6. Keep common areas clean at all times.
7. Check for any holes around the house or the building. Seal up holes inside and outside of the property.
8. Clean the inside of your house. Rodents like places that are cluttered and dirty. They like to chew on boxes, paper and plastics.
9. Shared laundry rooms in apartment buildings should be kept clean at all times. The warm air coming out of dryers tends to attract rodents during this season.

These are a few suggestions to keep in mind. The sooner the problem is controlled, the easier it will be to treat the problem.

Crossroads Market season ends this month

With just a few weeks left of market this year, you'll want to start to stock up on hearty, cold storage crops. You'll find root vegetables, like potatoes, beets, turnips, and sweet potatoes, as well as a variety of winter squashes. Peel, cube, and freeze these veggies to store for your winter stews. While you're at market, pick up a burrito or pupusa to-go. You can also pick up a bag of seasonal pumpkin spice granola or pumpkin bread from Wild Yonder Granola or Michelle's Sweet Morsels. Tee Cee's Boutique will also have customizable masks and handmade graphic tees. On your way out, grab a bag of freshly roasted coffee or kettle corn to share with your family.



Calling all Fresh Checks:

So far this year, Crossroads has distributed nearly \$79,000 in Fresh Checks through federal benefits matching and outreach activities at the market and through community partners. Fresh Checks double the amount of money that seniors, individuals, and families can spend on fresh fruits and vegetables. While most of them have been spent at the market, we know that some are still out there, so please keep in mind that Fresh Checks expire at the end of the season. Check your pockets, wallets, shopping bags, and purses, and make sure to spend them on fresh fruits and veggies by November 25.

If you're planning a trip to the market before the season ends, please remember these best practices to keep everyone safe:

- If you are looking for shorter lines, come to market after 1 p.m. when it's less busy.
- Enter Market from University Boulevard only
- Limit shoppers to one per family.
- Wear a face covering while at market and doing your shopping.
- Keep a six-foot distance between yourself and others.
- Wash your hands frequently at the stations provided.
- Do not come to market if you are feeling sick!

Go online for gardening

Sligo-Friendly Virtual Garden Tour

Kathy Michels takes us on a virtual tour of her front yard in the fall of 2020. The garden features Sligo-Friendly techniques that attract pollinators and soaks up stormwater. If have not already done so, please subscribe to the Friends of Sligo Creek YouTube channel. <https://youtu.be/yX06F41PhgU>



Getting Your Garden Ready for Winter Webinar

Saturday, November 7, 10–11:30 a.m. Brookside Gardens hosts this online talk for beginner and intermediate gardeners who are often overwhelmed by the long pre-winter to-do list of garden tasks. Fee is \$10 (\$8 for FOBG) Register at: https://apm.activecommunities.com/montgomerycounty/Activity_Search/getting-your-garden-ready-for-winter/82655

Garden Tutor

The Garden Tutor course is an award-winning, crash course in gardening basics with the absolute beginner in mind. From "101 to a green thumb," Garden Tutor can teach anyone how to design, install, and maintain the garden of their dreams. The course is free and takes 2–3 hours to complete. gardentutor.com/learn-how-to-garden



Branching out to bridge the gap

By Rick Henry

During her first 1.5 years as a student at Montgomery Blair High School, Eesha Kurella understood educational inequality existed at the school. “Disparities at my school were evident between those who come from more privileged areas and those who did not and the difference in the resources among those two groups,” the 15-year-old junior said. But it was not until the Coronavirus struck, and learning was moved online that she fully understood the magnitude of the issue, both in her community and throughout the country.

Kurella elected to spend much of her quarantine time working with nonprofit organizations focused on educational inequality and conducted hours of research on the issue. “Shocked” to discover the detrimental effects the lack of resources had on lower income students, she decided to take matters into her own hands. The result was the establishment of the Oakwood Education Foundation, a nonprofit organization focused on fighting educational inequality and bridging the educational achievement gap.

Kurella settled on the name Oakwood because it is the wood that makes up the Celtic “Tree of Life,” which represents hope, strength, growth, and wisdom, all of which are core values of the foundation. The goal is to provide those students the opportunity to expand their knowledge and reach their full potential by providing free tutoring to those who cannot afford such services.

Tutoring is a simple action that can have a huge impact on educational inequality. “Although tutoring might seem trivial, it is a huge resource that many privileged students have access to,” Kurella said, “We hope that with our tutoring we can improve attitudes towards education and improve performance.”

As the foundation’s literature highlights, inequalities are present everywhere in America, but educational inequality has some of the longest-lasting repercussions, contributing to increased dropout and college incompleteness as well as cyclical poverty. Put simply, “Educational inequality, caused by various issues in our education systems — from lack of transportation to under-qualified teachers — prevents countless students from reaching



Edwige Ghembesalu

their full potential.”

With the help of Outreach Director (and fellow Blair Junior), 16-year-old Edwige Ghembesalu, the foundation has built up a strong roster, enlisting numerous student and adult tutors, outreach assistants, and media contributors. The organization has set up a website (www.edequalityforall.org) where tutors can apply and students can request tutoring in a variety of subjects, including math (early math through statistics and probability); science and engineering (physics, chemistry, etc.); computer science; English; and history (U.S. and World); and levels from basic to Advanced Placement (AP).

Besides having a strong and thorough understanding of the subjects they plan to teach, potential tutors should be “charismatic individuals who are willing to learn and grow along with their students,” Ghembesalu said. Tutoring is currently being delivered through Skype.

Not content to rest on their already impressive accomplishments, the foundation’s principals are also seeking sponsors and partners to help expand the organization’s offerings and outreach. Chief among their new initiatives is a “Pre-K at Home” program designed to provide a cost-



Eesha Kurella

effective method for parents to easily prepare their children for Kindergarten within the comfort of their own homes. Kurella envisions the program as an alternative to high-quality, expensive day-care programs, which have the same purpose.

As part of the “Pre-K at Home” program the foundation is striving to create a plan that provides parents with accessible resources, adjustable to the children’s needs and that is accessible both online and off-line.

And given how far they have already come since Kurella hit upon the idea earlier in the year, one would expect “Pre-K at Home,” will not be the last initiative the foundation undertakes.

After all, as Ghembesalu said, “Both Eesha and I want to make sure anyone willing to help or in need of educational support is aware of this opportunity.”

If you want to help the Oakwood Foundation by donating or volunteering, or if you are a student seeking tutoring, visit the website www.edequalityforall.org. They can also be reached at info@edequalityforall.org or phone 240-600-1726.

City partners with Cyberninjaz to offer free online STEAM courses

The City is excited to partner, for the first time in FY21, with Cyberninjaz. Founded in 2014 by educators and professionals with a passion for workforce development, Cyberninjaz’s programming helps kids and young adults develop into more educated, disciplined, empowered, and well-rounded individuals with the skills needed to work in the modern digital era.

Through the “Quality of Life” Grant program, Cyberninjaz is offering free and all-virtual, after-school STEAM courses Monday through Saturday. Classes for each course last one hour and are held twice a week, and students may sign-up for more than one course concurrently. Courses include Explore Physics, Intro. to Programming, Web/UX Design, 3D / Game Design, and Cyber Security. To learn more and register, visit <https://cybercrunch2020.webflow.io>.

Each course is limited to 25 students. Registration for the November session will end on Saturday, November 7 (or when the class fills up). If you cannot

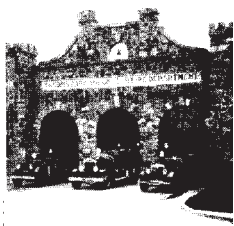


make it by then, the December session will start Tuesday, December 1.

The City of Takoma Park’s Community

“Quality of Life” Grant program provides financial support for projects that provide greater access and participation in

the arts and sciences for predominantly low-and moderate-income Takoma Park residents.



THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland Fire Marshal Office reported as October 30, 2020, 37 people have died in fires compared to 50 in 2019.

Safety message

Check your home for potential trip, slip and fall hazards. They are the leading causes of injuries, especially to the seniors.



Hot vehicle deaths

As of October 30, 2020, 24 have died. The number one thing we all can do... when we leave the vehicle, everyone goes with us.

Special Note: Thanksgiving Day is around the corner, and we must be careful when cooking. Never leave cooking unattended. It's still the Number One Cause of home fires. There are more fires Thanksgiving Day than any other day during the year.



PLEASE DONATE

**TAKOMA BUSINESS
MICRO-GRANT FUND
FOR COVID RELIEF**

To donate, go to takomaparkmd.gov/news/help-support-takoma-park-businesses.



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 ícono junto a los artículos del boletín que puede leer en línea en otros idiomas usando

la función de traducción en el sitio web de la Ciudad de Takoma Park. Después de hacer clic en el enlace del artículo, busque en la esquina superior derecha de la página web junto a la barra de navegación y seleccione el idioma que desee con el cuadro desplegable.

Amharic:

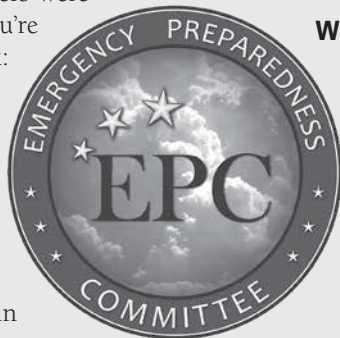
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Online Scams on the Rise

By Claudine Schweber, co-chair, Emergency Preparedness Committee

known retail site in the hope that shoppers won't notice; or fake customer support phone numbers.

If you hoped scammers were self-quarantining, you're wrong. Check this out: I put the Takoma Park zip code 20912, dates July 6–October 6, 50-mile radius into the AARP Fraud Watch Scam Tracking Map and voila! Fifty scams reported in this period (by AARP users and Law enforcement alerts). Try it yourself at www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/tracking-map. Of course, this does not include unreported situations. Here are three types of scams of which you need to be aware



What to do:

- 1) Shop directly only with stores/retailers you have used in the past—their real names and use their websites, not links from an email message.
- 2) Use customer service numbers the retailers provide and do not rely on online information.
- 3) If you are worried, contact your credit card company via the number on the card, not information online. Be careful! This information has been used for identity theft. You can also contact the above organizations and/or report the problem to the AARP Helpline (www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/helpline.html).

Scam #1 – The SOS Scam

This request appeared in my email a few days ago, supposedly from a woman (who I didn't know) in one of my groups:

"I need to get a Nike Gift Card for my Nephew. It's his birthday, but I can't do this now because I'm currently traveling. Can you get it from any store around you? I'll pay you back as soon as I am back. Kindly let me know if you can handle this."
Signed, B.....R.....

What to do? I contacted the group to alert them and pointed out I didn't know this person. They had also gotten the request and were dealing with the problem. Then I marked it spam. I got a similar message two weeks ago (supposedly) from a good friend, using his email, also asking for a gift card for his niece, saying he had the flu, so couldn't purchase it. Watch out for these "help" requests.

What to do next:

- 1) Do not respond.
- 2) Contact the person/organization by phone if you know and trust them.
- 3) If not, notify the Takoma Park Police Department at 301-270-1100 or online at takomaparkmd.gov/government/police, the Federal Trade Commission (www.ftc.gov/coronavirus-scams-consumer-advice), or file with AARP.

Scam #2 – Doubtful Deals

The pandemic has led to increased online purchasing, which may have inspired scammers to offer more "opportunities": fake websites or apps with too-good-to-be-true deals; web addresses that closely mirror a well-

Scam #3 – Fake COVID-19 Cures

Promises of diet supplements that could cure covid-19, treatments to limit the pain or duration, claims by one company that products (such as their Emergency D-Virus treatment plan) are "uniquely qualified to treat and modify the course of the virus epidemic" were posted in California. False! The Federal Trade Commission investigated and found these ads were deceptive and must cease. This company is one of many. The FTC has sent at least 300 warning letters to companies claiming products, such as herbal tonics, a unique "covid pack," and more that can cure or prevent COVID-19! (See www.ftc.gov/coronavirus/enforcement/warning-letters).

What to do:

Do not purchase anything without speaking to your doctor or medical professional; report claims to ftc.gov/complaint.
Be wary, be prepared, and be safe!

It's easy to contact us at tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7126. Join us at "Talk of Takoma" WOWD/LP 94.3 on the first Sunday of the month for "Dear Bea(trice) Prepared."

WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR A NEW TAKOMA PARK RECREATION CENTER?

The City of Takoma Park is redeveloping the Takoma Park Recreation Center, and YOU are invited to share your vision. Bring your **IDEAS** and **CREATIVITY** as we explore the possibilities together.



Engagement Activities This Fall

- Neighborhood Pop-Ups
- Virtual Engagement Opportunities
- Art Contest

What will a new recreation center offer?

- Health & Wellness activities for all
- Beautiful, new, well-designed space in Ward 6
- Space to support other community activities and meetings
- Opportunity to spark future economic development along New Hampshire Ave.
- Opportunity to co-locate other City needs and services

Why does the City want to hear from you?

- Understand how the City can better partner with the community
- Gather diverse ideas about play, health, and wellness
- Create a space that is informed by the residents who will use it most

SIGN UP TO STAY CONNECTED:
engage.takomaparkmd.gov **OR** scan



Questions? Contact LaToya Thomas at 202-368-4689 or Molly Jamison Juarez 267-983-7006 (en español)



Engage Takoma Park is a pilot program from the City of Takoma Park.

engage
Takoma Park

November 2020 Calendar

For the foreseeable future, we'll use this space to feature city resources and provide important updates on city services. However, let us know if you have a virtual, nonprofit event that would be of interest to City of Takoma Park residents, and we'll consider it for inclusion in the calendar. Deadline for the December issue is Nov. 13, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning Nov. 27. To submit virtual calendar items, email tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov.

Event Cancellations

Due to COVID-19 concerns, please be advised that all events and meetings held in City facilities have been cancelled or postponed until further notice. Updates will be provided when events have been rescheduled.

The Police Department is open 24/7 for emergency services.

For information on Takoma Park Arts online events, visit takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/arts-and-humanities.

PUBLIC DAYS OF NOTE

Election Day

Tuesday, Nov. 3

The next city election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, to elect a mayor and all six councilmembers.

Please Note: Due to COVID-19, the City Election will be conducted mostly by mail to protect voters and election workers. Newly elected councilmembers and the mayor take office on the second Monday following their election.

Veterans Day - City Staff Holiday

Wednesday, Nov. 11

All City offices and facilities will be closed Monday, Nov. 11, for the Veterans Day. The Takoma Park Police Department is always open for emergencies.

Thanksgiving - City Staff Holiday

Thursday and Friday, Nov. 26-27

All City offices and facilities will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 28 and 29, for the Thanksgiving holiday. The Takoma Park Police Department is always open for emergencies.

SHARE IDEAS

Attend virtual City Council meetings!

Thursday, November 12, 7:30 p.m.

Special Meeting to receive the Certified Results of the Election

Monday, November 16, 12 noon

Final Meeting of the Outgoing City Council

Wednesday, November 18, 7:30 p.m.

First Meeting of the Incoming City Council

Wednesday, November 25

The City Council will not meet.

Wednesday, December 2

City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

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

Due to the public health crisis, the City Council has been meeting remotely by video conference. This will continue as long as necessary. The meetings are available to watch live (or view afterwards) in all the usual ways:

- on the City Council Video Page of the City Website (<https://takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/meetings-and-documents/city-council-video/>)
- on City TV (RCN - Channel 13, HD Channel 1060 Comcast/xfinity - Channel 13 Verizon Fios - Channel 28) , and Comcast/Xfinity HD Channel 997
- on Facebook (@TakomaParkMD/)

- on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/user/TakomaParkTV>)

The public can comment live during the public comment portions of the meetings by registering and logging into the video conference. The link will be provided by weekly email from the City Clerk and on the City website. For those not able to do so, written comments may be sent by email to clerk@takomaparkmd.gov to be circulated to the Council.

Individuals interested in receiving a weekly Council agenda and calendar update by e-mail can sign up by sending an email to clerk@takomaparkmd.gov.

STAY ACTIVE

All virtual class links can be found on the Virtual Community Center page: www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation.

Five Animal Play Qi Gong

Participants will develop more strength, grace, flexibility, balance and healing in a relaxed virtual group setting.

Instructors: Patrick Smith & Joann Malone

Tuesdays, 7–7:30 p.m.

ReVamp Fit Home Workout

Fitness class will entail movements to work on your total body endurance, strength, and flexibility. Instructor: Abel Asafere

Wednesdays, 10–11 a.m.

“Zoomba” Gold

For active older adults, this class introduces easy-to-follow Zumba choreography that focuses on balance, range of motion and coordination. Instructor: Yesika Flores

Fridays, 10–11 a.m.

Let’s Move Caribbean Dance

Dance your worries away with this fun, energetic, and easy to follow dance workout. Afro-Caribbean fitness dance class. Instructor: KJ Total Fitness

Fridays, 6–7 p.m.

Total Body Blast

This class provides a mix of calisthenics, balance, strength training and cardiovascular exercise in one dynamic session. Instructor: KJ Total Fitness

Saturdays, 9–10 a.m.

Recess

Here’s an opportunity for youth to virtually participate in exercise and communicate with their peers while remaining inside. Instructor: Charonne Butler

Saturdays, 10–10:30 a.m.

SUPPORT THE ARTS

Community Stories Film Festival

November 20–22

This year’s **Docs In Progress’ Community Stories** will be presented as a virtual festival. Please follow Doc In Progress on Facebook page @ docsinprogress and/or its website, www.docsinprogress.org, for updated information. Free tickets will be made available through Eventbrite. And if you would like to support the festival or Docs In Progress, please go to DocsInProgress.org/donate. All donations are appreciated.

Family Moves

Saturdays 11:00 – 11:45 a.m. (Online)
For all ages
\$60 per household for the full fall series (12 weeks)
\$10 drop-in class per household
A class for everyone! Join us online each week to move with a mix of

families, professionals, and community members of all ages, backgrounds, and levels. Classes are led by DX artists. www.danceexchange.org/classes

Washington Revels & Carpe Diem Arts Daily Antidotes of Song

Online/Virtual Daily, noon (ongoing)
Each day at noon, Washington Revels and Carpe Diem Arts will share some “notes of hope” as a song leader from their roster of local, national and international guest artists offers a song online. Watch their website for specially-themed weeks and for instructions on how to participate. You can also watch most days on Facebook Live. Visit their website for instructions on how to join online. Free, but donations to the “Antidote Fund” are encouraged and support the artists. Info: info@revelsdc.org; revelsdc.org/2020/daily-song

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Takoma Park Cooperative Nursery School Community Virtual Education Albert Arévalo

Saturday, Nov. 14, 10 a.m. – noon

The session will feature a virtual field trip led by Albert Arévalo, which will inspire your young naturalists to go outside to start their own journey toward outdoor advocacy.

Dr. Risi Idioki

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Dr. Risi will guide us toward supporting self-care and centering practices for both ourselves and our children. This is especially important during stressful times and we all need more tools in our toolbox.

To RSVP and get login information, contact romanoff@tpcns.org.

Alternative Gift Fair

November 26 – December 17

Beginning this Thanksgiving, November 26, the Alternative Gift Fair will be open online. This year you can give holiday gifts that help others less fortunate in your community at the touch of a button. You can connect with representatives from 16 different locally run, small direct-service charities. Gifts are priced from \$10 to \$100. You can purchase your alternative gifts between November 26 and December 17, 2020 at www.aggw.org. For information or to volunteer, contact Mimi Ikke-Khalsa, fair director, at 301-613-6830 or aggw_inc@yahoo.com.