Takoma Radio celebrating five years on air

By Sean Gossard

For five years now, Takoma Radio has been filling the airwaves of Takoma Park and beyond with an eclectic mix of music and community talk, and they have their sights set on the future after a pretty wild beginning.

“We went on the air in the summer of 2016, and of course, we couldn’t have predicted what an unbelievable five years we’d be up against,” said station manager Olivia Ellis Randolph. “That was months before the 2016 election, which was unpredictable, and the social reckoning that began.

Because the COVID-19 pandemic is coming under control in our region, the City of Takoma Park has started reopening facilities to the public.

Here are the highlights:

• On June 14, in-person City services by appointment only began.
• On June 14, the Public Works Lobby opened to the public.
• On July 6, the Takoma Park Maryland Library will reopen for in-person services.
• On August 23, all City facilities will fully reopen to the public.

Mask requirements:

Mask requirements will continue through August 22, 2021.

• In City facilities, masks will be required for visitors and staff in lobby areas and in areas with children’s programs or services.
• Masks are optional for City staff outdoors and in non-public areas of City facilities.
• City staff will be prepared to wear masks when entering homes and other constrained private spaces on City business and when requested to do so by a person with whom they are interacting.

See the City’s COVID-19 page for more detailed information, which will be refined over the coming weeks: takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory/information-and-resources-covid-19. Any of these plans may change based on revised guidance from the CDC, State of Maryland, or Montgomery County, and we will let you know if they do.

Thank you to so many Takoma Park residents for taking safety precautions over many months and then getting vaccinated when you were able to do so — your actions have made a real difference in our community!

Composting for a livable climate

By Bob Guldin

There have always been good reasons to compost your organic waste. For starters, it’s rewarding to turn your garbage into rich, black fertilizer you can hold in your hands and use in your garden.

And in recent years, science has learned that there’s another major reason to compost: It helps to stem the prospect of climate change — one of the biggest threats humanity faces in keeping our planet livable.

What’s the connection between composting and climate change? It’s methane, a greenhouse gas that is 80 times as powerful as carbon dioxide.

Information and Resources: Covid19

takomaparkmd.gov

Questions, Comments and Suggestions

askus@takomaparkmd.gov

#TogetherTKPK

Takoma Park Reopening Schedule

Because the COVID-19 pandemic is coming under control in our region, the City of Takoma Park has started reopening facilities to the public.

Here are the highlights:

• On June 14, in-person City services by appointment only began.
• On June 14, the Public Works Lobby opened to the public.
• On July 6, the Takoma Park Maryland Library will reopen for in-person services.
• On August 23, all City facilities will fully reopen to the public.

Mask requirements:

Mask requirements will continue through August 22, 2021.

• In City facilities, masks will be required for visitors and staff in lobby areas and in areas with children’s programs or services.
• Masks are optional for City staff outdoors and in non-public areas of City facilities.
• City staff will be prepared to wear masks when entering homes and other constrained private spaces on City business and when requested to do so by a person with whom they are interacting.

See the City’s COVID-19 page for more detailed information, which will be refined over the coming weeks: takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory/information-and-resources-covid-19. Any of these plans may change based on revised guidance from the CDC, State of Maryland, or Montgomery County, and we will let you know if they do.

Thank you to so many Takoma Park residents for taking safety precautions over many months and then getting vaccinated when you were able to do so — your actions have made a real difference in our community!
Only negative votes or abstentions are reported here. Resolutions and ordinances are published online after adoption.

At the City Council meeting on June 2, 2021, the Council approved Ordinance 2021-23 authorizing the Police Department purchase of four mobile radios and three portable radios at the quoted price of $33,955.51 from Motorola Solutions.

On June 9, 2021, the City Council adopted Resolution 2021-12 expressing appreciation to the Takoma Park Senior Leadership Team. Resolution 2021-13 rescinded Resolutions 2020-12 and 2020-18, which suspended and restarted some quasi-judicial hearings. The resolution also directs City boards, commissions, and committees to seek opportunities to continue allowing remote participation via a hybrid in-person and virtual approach where permitted by law.

Also, on June 9, 2021, the City Council adopted Ordinance 2021-25 awarding FY22 Community Grants as follows: Carpe Diem Arts.: Healthy Families: Healthy Communities ($9,000); Community Bridges Inc.: Community Bridges Girls Program ($8,250); CREATE Arts Center: smARTkids program at Takoma Park Elementary School ($8,000); Cyberninjaz Global Inc.: Cyberninjaz STEAM Summer Program ($9,000); Dance Exchange: Dance On Cohort ($2,250); ESYDA: Entrepreneurial and Leadership Program ($8,000); Ethiopian Community Center Inc.: Bilingual Career and Service Navigator ($9,000); GB Youth Media: The Promoters Program/Close the Digital Gap ($8,500); and, Identity: COVID-19 Health and Safety Ambassador Program ($9,000); MC Media: Youth Media Academy ($9,000); Per Scholas: Per Scholas NCR IT Job Training ($9,000); Upwardly Global: Building a Vibrant Takoma Park Through Immigrant Workforce Integration ($9,000). (Councilmember Kostik abstained.) Ordinance 2021-26 authorized a two-year extension of the contract with CohnReznik LLP for the annual audit and preparation of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report at a total cost for the two-year period of $19,500. (Councilmember Kover abstained.) Ordinance 2021-27 rescinded the City Manager's emergency authority (which had been granted by Ordinance 2020-4).

REMOTE/VIRTUAL MEETINGS CONTINUE
We expect that most meetings will continue to take place in a remote/virtual format until September. For the most current information, visit www.takomaparkmd.gov and click on “Events and Meetings.” Information on any meetings taking place will be published therein along with information on how the public can observe.

COMMENTING AT CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
Individuals interested in commenting live during 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. The time limit per comment is three minutes. Requests for additional time, or requests to share slides or video at a City Council meeting, must be directed to the Mayor at least 24 hours in advance. Email KateS@takomaparkmd.gov.

Written comments sent by email to clerk@takomaparkmd.gov or by U.S. mail will be shared with the full Council.

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS IN JULY (ALL ARE REMOTE/VIRTUAL MEETINGS)
(The City Council will be on recess during August.)

- Monday, July 19, 7 p.m. – City Council Regular Meeting
- Thursday, July 15, 7:30 p.m. – City Council Special Meeting (Presentation of Final Report of the Reimagining Public Safety Task Force)
- Wednesday, July 14, 6 p.m. – City Council Special Meeting (Presentation – Montgomery Housing Partnership Hillwood Manor Project)
- Wednesday, July 14, 7:30 p.m. – City Council Regular Meeting
- Wednesday, July 21, 7:30 p.m. – City Council Regular Meeting
- Wednesday, July 28, 7:30 p.m. – City Council Regular Meeting

ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION
Tuesday, July 27, 7 p.m.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS
Thursday, July 8, 7 p.m.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE
Thursday, July 22, 7 p.m.

FAÇADE ADVISORY BOARD
Tuesday, July 13, 6:30 p.m

NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE
Tuesday, July 13, 7:30 p.m.

PARKING MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
Thursday, July 15, 7:30 p.m.

POLICE CHIEF’S ADVISORY BOARD
Monday, July 19, 7 p.m.

RECREATION COMMITTEE
Thursday, July 15, 7 p.m.

REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY TASK FORCE
Tuesday, July 6, 5:30 p.m.

TREE COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, July 13, 7 p.m.

Individuals interested in receiving a City Council Fall 2021 Calendar of Meetings may sign-up to receive it by emailing cityclerk@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 jessie@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7267 at least 48 hours in advance.

VIRTUAL CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
Due to the public health crisis, the City Council has been meeting remotely by video conference. The meetings are available to watch live (or view afterwards) in all the usual ways:

- on City TV (RCN – Channel 13, HD Channel 1080 Comcast/xfinity - Channel 13 Verizon Fios - Channel 28)
- on Facebook (@TakomaParkTV)
- 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. Anyone wishing to share a slide or video must make the request at least 24 hours before the meeting by contacting Mayor Kate Stewart.

The meeting link will be provided by weekly email from the City Clerk and on the City website. For those not able to comment at the meeting, written comments may be sent by email to clerk@takomaparkmd.gov to be circulated to the City Council.

Important City Department Phone Numbers

City Information ................................................................. 301-891-7100
City Clerk ................................................................. 301-891-7267
City Manager ................................................................. 301-891-7229
Communications ................................................................. 301-891-7236
Finance ................................................................. 301-891-7212
Housing & Community Development ................................................................. 301-891-7119
Library .............................................................................. 301-891-7259
Neighborhood Services ................................................................. 301-891-7113
Police .............................................................................. 301-270-1100 / Emergency 911
Public Works ................................................................. 301-891-7633
Recreation/Facilities Rental ................................................................. 301-891-7290

The resolution also directs City boards, commissions, and committees to seek opportunities to continue allowing remote participation via a hybrid in-person and virtual approach where permitted by law.

Also, on June 9, 2021, the City Council adopted Resolution 2021-25 awarding FY22 Community Grants as follows: Carpe Diem Arts.: Healthy Families: Healthy Communities ($9,000); Community Bridges Inc.: Community Bridges Girls Program ($8,250); CREATE Arts Center: smARTkids program at Takoma Park Elementary School ($8,000); Cyberninjaz Global Inc.: Cyberninjaz STEAM Summer Program ($9,000); Dance Exchange: Dance On Cohort ($2,250); ESYDA: Entrepreneurial and Leadership Program ($8,000); Ethiopian Community Center Inc.: Bilingual Career and Service Navigator ($9,000); GB Youth Media: The Promoters Program/Close the Digital Gap ($8,500); and, Identity: COVID-19 Health and Safety Ambassador Program ($9,000); MC Media: Youth Media Academy ($9,000); Per Scholas: Per Scholas NCR IT Job Training ($9,000); Upwardly Global: Building a Vibrant Takoma Park Through Immigrant Workforce Integration ($9,000). (Councilmember Kostik abstained.) Ordinance 2021-26 authorized a two-year extension of the contract with CohnReznik LLP for the annual audit and preparation of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report at a total cost for the two-year period of $19,500. (Councilmember Kover abstained.) Ordinance 2021-27 rescinded the City Manager’s emergency authority (which had been granted by Ordinance 2020-4).
it brought. And, of course, the pandemic."

The journey to get on air began in 2013, when Takoma Radio founder and current radio host Mariska Partridge along with Historic Takoma Inc. applied for a broadcast license from the Federal Communications Commission, according to Takoma Radio’s website. “None of this would exist without the vision of Mariska,” said Steve Hoffman — aka DJ Steve — a program director at Takoma Radio. “She had the experience, from a high level at NPR and at a funky community radio station up in Alaska, so it was all her vision, and it was her that kept it together.”

They received the permit in 2013 and on July 16, 2016, they went live for the first time as WOWD-LP on 94.3FM. They also began streaming online at takomaradio.org. “That very quickly we went from a hyper-local source of entertainment and more ephemeral, catch-it-when-you-do music and content to something more,” Ellis Randolph said. “We quickly realized what a source of information and entertainment we were, not just locally, but around the country since we stream online.” While it remains a hyper-local station, they try and keep their focus broad to reach all sorts of listeners.

Takoma Radio’s signal does not reach far — just a little over a five-mile radius from their downtown Takoma Park broadcasting tower — but has a potential listening audience of more than 250,000 people. Powerful as carbon dioxide in trapping the sun’s rays, thereby heating the planet. When organic waste like food scraps is buried in a landfill, it decomposes without air and generates lots of methane. But when waste is composted, with exposure to the air, the compost — and soil enriched with compost — becomes a “carbon sink.” That is, it actually draws carbon out of the atmosphere. Scientists also say cutting methane emissions would quickly make a big difference in slowing global warming — even more than cutting CO2.

That’s why the City of Takoma Park encourages composting and waste diversion in every way it can. Brenda Platt, a city resident and the director of the Composting for Community project at the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, said, “Takoma Park has had one of the best programs for decades — since the 80s.”

People in Takoma Park have two ways to compost — and to reduce methane emissions through composting. First, if you have even a small yard, you can create a compost pile or bin, which can accept plant food scraps, leaves, lawn trimmings and other organic matter. If you mix or layer the different types of waste, you’ll find that it breaks down into useful compost more quickly. And if you choose to use a bin to keep your compost contained, the City Public Works Department supplies County-provided “Geobins” at no cost at its compound on Oxonoke Ave. You can also purchase compost bins from private vendors or build your own.

The second way to compost in our town is through curbside pickup. Each household that chooses to participate gets a five-gallon scailable bucket, which they can fill, and which gets picked up the same day as their trash. Unlike most food composting, curbside pickup can accept meat and dairy items.

Being a non-commercial station — receiving little to no advertising or government grant money — means there’s no one telling them what to play and what not to play. “We’re non-commercial, so we only answer to our listeners and our volunteer programmers,” said Ellis Randolph. “At the end of the day, we’re all facing enough, so we try to stay positive and be a source of inspiration. It’s a reminder of the joy that music can bring.”

One recent set from Partridge during her Check In Time With Marika set on a Tuesday morning was ecada themed, with songs like Janis Ian’s “At Seventeen” and Linda Ronstadt’s “La Cigarr (The Cig...cada).” The only real input Ellis Randolph asks of the volunteer programmers is to stay as positive as they can. “Programmers bring their own world views to their shows, but we ask that people keep it positive,” she said. “At the beginning of quarantine, when people didn’t know what was going on, we wanted to stay positive and be a reminder that community can be stable and reliable.”

And they try to get in as many voices as possible, from the LGBTQ+ and minority communities to voices from different generations. “We have a number of high school students who work as program hosts. We want it positive,” she said. “At the beginning of quarantine, when people didn’t know what was going on, we wanted to stay positive and be a reminder that community can be stable and reliable.”

A bonus to the curbside program is that participating households can pick up five buckets of ready-to-use compost free every year, though that offer was suspended last year because of the pandemic.

According to the City’s Solid Waste Division (part of Public Works), the City collected 278 tons of food waste in Fiscal Year 2020, up from 249 tons the previous year. That compares with 3,230 tons of trash, 1,200 tons of recycling, and 434 tons of yard waste that was then processed by the county.

If you would like to sign up for curbside pickup of food waste, go to takomaparkmd.gov/government/public-works/curbside-collection-services/food-waste-collection. For a wide-ranging tutorial on composting, you may want to check out the Institute for Local Self-Reliance: https://ilsr.org/composting.

In the meanwhile, the Maryland Department of the Environment just released a finding that the state’s more than 40 landfills account for about 37 percent of the state’s methane emissions, far higher than previously estimated.

The Takoma Park Newsletter is published 12 times a year as the official publication of the City of Takoma Park, takomaparkmd.gov. Letters to the editor, reports by community groups, calendar items and other submissions will be considered for publication; send to tpmnewseditor@takomapark.gov or Newsletter, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Ave, Takoma Park, Md. 20912.

Name, address and telephone number must accompany all submitted material. Editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, style, spelling and grammar.

Published material containing opinions does not necessarily reflect the views of the Newsletter or the City of Takoma Park.

The Newsletter does not accept commercial, classified or political advertisements.

The Newsletter is printed on recycled content paper.
**Baseball Is Back!**

By Neal Lavon

After the Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts’ 2020 season was cancelled due to COVID, hopes rose that baseball would return this summer. Working with the County and the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League (CRCBL), those hopes were realized. As a result, the 2021 Ripken League season opened Monday, June 7, in Washington.

For the past two decades, the Thunderbolts have brought top-level collegiate wooden bat baseball to the region. Not only that, but the team has also provided baseball at extremely affordable prices and has promoted youth baseball in Silver Spring and Takoma Park.

Part of a locally owned and operated tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization, the Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts will play 36 games this season. This month, they are scheduled to play 10 contests at their home field of Blair Stadium at Montgomery Blair High School on University Drive East at Four Corners. The players come from college teams throughout the country, and they use wooden bats—unlike collegiate leagues where the bats are aluminum.

The team was established in 2000 when Takoma Park resident Richard O’Connor purchased the rights to a collegiate summer baseball team, the Southern Maryland Barracudas, in the old Clark Griffith Collegiate Baseball League. In 2002, after playing in three independent leagues, the Thunderbolts became a charter member of the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League and have remained in the league ever since.

The Thunderbolts are one of six teams in the CRCBL; there are two more in Maryland, two in Virginia, and one in D.C. Thunderbolts Major Leaguers include former Toronto Blue Jays and St. Louis Cardinals pitcher Brett Cecil, Baltimore Orioles pitcher Zach Clark, four-time All-Star pitcher Jonathan Papelbon, and Cleveland Indians General Manager Mike Chernoff. Numerous other Thunderbolts serve as players and coaches in the minor and independent leagues.

A single adult ticket to a Thunderbolts game costs only $6, youth admission is $2, and unformed youth softball and baseball players, and children under the age of five, get in free. There is no charge for parking at Montgomery Blair High School. The concession prices (pizza, hamburgers, and hot dogs grilled on site, and drinks) are minuscule compared to what you would pay at a major league park.

All weeknight home games start at 7 p.m. Sunday night home games start at 6 p.m. Besides top-notch collegiate baseball, there are raffles and trivia contests with prizes supplied by local vendors. Tickets are now available online or at the gate.

Visit the Thunderbolts website, www.tbolts.org, for information on the current COVID requirements, the schedule, rosters, ticket plans, promotions, and links to internet radio broadcasts of the team’s home and away games as well as regular podcasts about baseball in the Silver Spring-Takoma region. The team’s slogan puts it best: The Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts, Big League Dreams, Small Town Charm. See you at the game!

Neal Lavon is a play-by-play broadcaster and organizes media efforts for the Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts. The Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts play their home games at Blair Stadium, 51 University Boulevard East, in Silver Spring.

---

**Shirts for Surveys**

Be the envy of your friends and neighbors when you wear your limited edition, long-sleeved We Belong Here: Takoma Park Equity Walk t-shirt. Here’s how:

1. Grab a friend or family member.
2. Find the We Belong Here experience at the Community Center or on Anne Street.
3. Scan the QR code to pull up the story map.
4. Follow the prompts for physical activity and discussion.
5. Fill out the survey.
6. Look for your shirt in the mail!

Last October, the City launched, and then relaunched in April, We Belong Here with the QR code on the back. “You love your new t-shirt, said Lucy Neher, “and you will feel empowered by your experience. I promise.”

For more information, visit takomaparkmd.gov/public-notice/complete-we-belong-here-survey-for-a-free-t-shirt.

---

**Solar Side Up**

The two solar lights at the front entrance of the Takoma Park Community Center have been fully rebuilt and retrofitted with new charge controllers, larger battery back-ups, memorial brick lighting, and USB charge ports to charge your devices. According to Acting Facilities Maintenance Supervisor Ronald McCallum, all this was accomplished for significantly less than the cost of one replacement light fixture and took less than eight hours to complete. The chargers are (bring your own cord BYOC), so try them out.

Solar USB charger at the front entrance of the community center

---

**Try Them Out.**

(bring your own cord BYOC), so to complete. The chargers are and took less than eight hours of one replacement light fixture significantly less than the cost all this was accomplished for Supervisor Ronald McCallum, to Acting Facilities Maintenance lighting, and USB charge ports to new charge controllers, larger Community Center have been entrance of the Takoma Park Solar Side Up residents have engaged with place to talk about difficult issues. Many equity. This project was conceived as a safe an interactive experience focused on eq - ity and discussion. Last October, the City launched, and then relaunched in April, We Belong Here, an interactive experience focused on eq - uity. This project was conceived as a safe place to talk about difficult issues. Many Takoma Park residents have engaged with the activity to explore their feelings about belonging, equity, race, gender, disability, and more. Taking the time to talk and listen to others can be the first step toward understanding, empathy and action. We want to hear from you.

You can act now, by heading over to experience We Belong Here and by fill - ing out the survey about your experience. Once you submit the survey, we will send you a new, blue, long-sleeved comfy t-shirt with Amanda Gorman’s call to action imprinted on the front: “For there is always light, if only we’re brave enough to see it, if only we’re brave enough to be it.”

And you can direct people to We Be - long Here with the QR code on the back. “You will love your new t-shirt, said Lucy Neher, “and you will feel empowered by your experience. I promise.” For more information, visit takomaparkmd.gov/public-notice/complete-we-belong-here-survey-for-a-free-t-shirt.
Arts events in the Takoma Park Arts cultural series have moved online with new film screenings, concerts, poetry readings, and more. You can find more details and sign up for our weekly e-newsletter at takomaparkmd.gov/arts.
**NEW and COMING this Fall…….**

**FITNESS**

**Foundational Fitness & Training II (FFT II)**

FFT II is a fitness program for participants that have or are currently involved in a fitness regimen. The program builds on the concepts of Classic FFT which utilizes various movements from numerous disciplines while utilizing minimal resistance and multiple repetitions. Advanced class adds more resistance and incorporates floor or mat exercises using hand weights, bands/tubes, abdominal roller and exercise balls. All equipment will need to be provided by the participants. FFT II will enhance tone/strength all major muscle groups, increase stamina and flexibility. Instructor: Michael Williams

Virtual 18 & up Saturdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m. Starts July 10 Free

**Total Body Blast**

Are you ready to have a blast, and get your body in shape and toned? Grab your mat and weights and join KJ Total Fitness for an all-around workout tailored for beginners to intermediate exercisers. Please work at your own pace and make modifications, as necessary. Each 55-minute workout will consist of a warm-up, upper & lower body toning, core strengthening, and stretching. “Recommended equipment: sneakers, floor mat, handheld weights, training gloves, towel, water.” Instructor: Kimberly James

Virtual 16 & up Saturdays, 8–9 a.m. Starts July 10 Free

**Zumba with Griselda (Outdoor, In-Person)**

Zumba class will be 45 minutes to an hour long (depending on the need). Participants will engage in a total body workout, combining cardio, muscle conditioning, balance, and flexibility through Latin music. Zumba class will include a mix of low-intensity and high-intensity movements, but participants can modify as necessary. The judgment-free Zumba class is designed to bring communities together and form a support group to reach each participant’s fitness goal. Masks will be required. There will be no restrooms available on site. Instructor: Griselda Martinez-Valles

Spring Park 6999 Poplar Avenue 16 & up Saturdays, 9–10 a.m. Starts July 10 Free

**ART**

**Painting Exploration**

In this beginning level painting class, participants will explore different techniques and materials used in painting. While Zoom lessons will provide some instruction and time for sharing and critique, participants will be encouraged to continue with assignments when class is not in session. We will try projects painting from life, such as still life and from photographs, as well as more imaginative and experimental possibilities. For those who register, the instructor will send a suggested supply list to participants before the class starts. Instructor: Caroline MacKinnon

Virtual 16 & up Wednesdays, 12–1 p.m. Starts July 14 Free

**ADULT**

**KJ Total Fitness for an all-around workout tailored for beginners to intermediate exercisers. Please work at your own pace and make modifications, as necessary. Each 55-minute workout will consist of a warm-up, upper & lower body toning, core strengthening, and stretching. “Recommended equipment: sneakers, floor mat, handheld weights, training gloves, towel, water.” Instructor: Kimberly James Virtual 16 & up Saturdays, 8–9 a.m. Starts July 10 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 Awaire

Virtual 16 & up Wednesdays, 10–11 a.m. Starts July 7 Free

**Spirit & Group Fitness**

Class will be geared toward supporting all members of the community, as each class spotlights trainees 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 Virtual 16 & up New videos uploaded to site each Wednesday.

**EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT**

**Writing Life Stories**

Are you at home thinking about life? This is a terrific time to write about your life. Whether you have been writing for years or are a beginner, this class is for you. We help each other with constructive feedback and complete optional homework. We will read the book, Writing the Memoir by Judith Barrington. Bring a notebook and pen to each session. Instructor: Barbara Rosenblatt

Virtual 16 & up Wednesdays 7–8 p.m. Starts July 7 Free

**MULTIMEDIA**

**Voice Overs… Now is your time.**

In what could be the most enlightening two hours you have ever spent, this class will show you how you can begin using your speaking voice for commercials, films, videos, and more. Most people go about it the wrong way. In this introductory class, you will learn about a unique, outside the box way to break into this creative, fulfilling, and potentially lucrative industry. Voice-overs can be managed on your own terms, on your own turf, in your own time, and with minimal overhead! Whether you choose to pursue voice-overs part-time or full-time, this could be the game changer you have been looking for. Instructor: Nicole Porsch

Virtual One Day Workshop 18 & up Monday, 6:30–9:30 p.m. July 12 Free

**TEEN**

**Virtual Zumba for Teens**

Free

Instructor: Kimberly Williams

Virtual 18 & up Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10–11 a.m. Starts July 7 Free

**Commit 2 B Fit**

Free

Instructor: Caroline MacKinnon

Virtual 16 & up Wednesdays, 12–1 p.m. Starts July 14 Free

**Total Body Blast**

Are you ready to have a blast, and get your body in shape and toned? Grab your mat and weights and join KJ Total Fitness for an all-around workout tailored for beginners to intermediate exercisers. Please work at your own pace and make modifications, as necessary. Each 55-minute workout will consist of a warm-up, upper & lower body toning, core strengthening, and stretching. “Recommended equipment: sneakers, floor mat, handheld weights, training gloves, towel, water.” Instructor: Kimberly James Virtual 16 & up Saturdays, 8–9 a.m. Starts July 10 Free

**Zumba for Teens**

Free

Instructor: Caroline MacKinnon

Virtual 16 & up Wednesdays, 12–1 p.m. Starts July 14 Free

**YOUTH**

**Summer Extra (In Person)**

This children’s program is being offered at the Community Center (7500 Maple Ave.) and the Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Avenue) for children participating in TPES and PIES Summer School. This program will provide a safe environment for children grades K–5. The children will engage in daily indoor/ outdoor group activities. Each day kids will have a time period to complete homework, create arts and crafts, play sports, board games, and more!

*For Recreation Center Location: Transportation will not be provided through TPES. Please contact MCPS Transportation 301-840-8700 to change your bus route to New Hampshire Towers, and we will meet them at the bus stop.

Kindergarten-5th grade

July 6–July 30

7–9 a.m. 2–4 p.m.

Residents: $400 / Non-Residents: $500

**CAMP**

**Just Teens Camp (In-Person)**

Just Teens combines a perfect balance of experimental learning, community service, fun activities, and career development. We will take some local walking trips as well as incorporate some STEM activities/opportunities. We will be following the CDC Guidelines for COVID-19 safety procedures. These procedures include, but are not limited to, wearing a mask, social distancing, and using of hand sanitizer. AM care is available for an additional fee if needed.

Takoma Park Community Center 7500 Maple Avenue Grades 6–12

4 One Week Sessions

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

July 6–July 9: Resident: $135 / Non-resident: $155

Week of July 6–July 9: Resident: $115 / Non-resident $125

**CIT & SYEP Programs**

Due to ongoing health and safety concerns related to COVID-19, Takoma Park Recreation Department has suspended our CIT and SYEP (Summer Youth Employment Program) this summer.

**EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT**

**Writing Life Stories**

Are you at home thinking about life? This is a terrific time to write about your life. Whether you have been writing for years or are a beginner, this class is for you. We help each other with constructive feedback and complete optional homework. We will read the book, Writing the Memoir by Judith Barrington. Bring a notebook and pen to each session. Instructor: Barbara Rosenblatt

Virtual 16 & up Wednesdays 7–8 p.m. Starts July 7 Free

**Phone a Neighbor**

Are you a senior who would like an occasional phone calls while staying home? To be connected with a friendly volunteer, please call Paula Lisowski at 240-687-4132 or email paula@takomaparkmd.gov.

**FITNESS**

**Classic Foundational Fitness and Training**

The program is designed to enhance strength; decrease fall risks; increase physical fitness level; improve cardiorespiratory capacity and range of motion; and enhance general sense of well-being. Class utilizes a high back chair, light hand weights and/or a resistance tube. Equipment is not provided. Have a towel and water bottle nearby. Instructor: Michael Williams

Virtual 16 & up Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10–11 a.m. July 6–August 26 Free

**Tot Sports**

Free

Virtual 16 & up Saturdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m. Starts July 7 Free

**Basketball Skills**

Free

Virtual 16 & up Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10–11 a.m. Starts July 7 Free

**Grades 5–8**

found on the receipt. Instructor: Jamal Butler

**Grades 5–8**

Free

Thursdays, 4–5 p.m.

Grades 5–8

ADULT

**ART**

Painting Exploration

In this beginning level painting class, participants will explore different techniques and materials used in painting. While Zoom lessons will provide some instruction and time for sharing and critique, participants will be encouraged to continue with assignments when class is not in session. We will try projects painting from life, such as still life and from photographs, as well as more imaginative and experimental possibilities. For those who register, the instructor will send a suggested supply list to participants before the class starts.

Instructor: Caroline MacKinnon

Virtual 16 & up

Wednesdays, 12–1 p.m.

Starts July 14

Free

**FITNESS**

**Classic Foundational Fitness and Training**

The program is designed to enhance strength; decrease fall risks; increase physical fitness level; improve cardiorespiratory capacity and range of motion; and enhance general sense of well-being. Class utilizes a high back chair, light hand weights and/or a resistance tube. Equipment is not provided. Have a towel and water bottle nearby. Instructor: Michael Williams

Virtual 16 & up

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10–11 a.m.

July 6–August 26 Free
**Virtual class links can be found on the Virtual Community Center page: takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/vcc.**

## Summer Fun!
Beaches and swimming pools are not the only fun activities this summer. As people begin to venture out into the community after the lifting of more COVID restrictions, many will start to enjoy a variety of free and low-cost adventures without travelling far. Check out a few of these planned summer activities around town in Montgomery County and Takoma Park. Get out and have fun!

### Montgomery Parks
For specific program names, dates, and locations, go to www.montgomeryparks.org.

**Brookside Gardens**
1800 Glennallan Ave, Wheaton, MD 301-906-1400
An award-winning 50-acre public display garden. The grounds at Brookside Gardens are open daily from sunrise to sunset, and the Visitor Center is open from 10 am to 2 pm. Visit a temporary new installation, “Facets of Hope,” to honor the more than 1,400 lives lost to COVID-19 in Montgomery County. The public can view the Facets of Hope outdoor exhibit now through September. The beauty of the exhibit will evolve through the seasons, as spring wisteria blossoms, and then transforms as summer roses bloom.

**Montgomery Explorers**
Mondays, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. through July 12, 2021
Walk, stroll or hike with Montgomery Explorers – an organized walking club sponsored by Montgomery Parks! This program, designed for residents 50 and better of all fitness levels and abilities, encourages participants to maintain a healthy way of life, explore unique areas of our beautiful county while engaging in a walking challenge!

### FARMERS MARKETS
**Takoma Park Farmers Market**
Sundays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., temporary location: parking lot behind the Shops on Laurel Avenue, entrance: Next to Suntrust Bank, 6831 Laurel Ave, ext. Via Eastern Avenue, www.takomaparkmarket.com
**Crossroads Farmers Market**
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Located on Anne Street at Veterans Plaza, 6931 Laurel Ave, exit: Via Eastern Commons Drive Germantown, MD 20874, www.blackrockcenter.org; Shop local vendors selling handmade art, fine crafts, textiles, baked goods, and locally sourced produce, wine, spirits, and craft beer. With activities for kids and parents alike!

### SPECIAL EVENTS
**Silver Spring Arts & Crafts Summer Fair**
Sunday, July 11, 2 – 9 p.m. Veterans Plaza 1 Veterans Place, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Weekly summer at Veterans Plaza with lots of arts & crafts, good music, dance, performances, and many, many more fun activities for both adults and kids alike. Over 60 artisans and crafters, independent consultants, and small businesses. Rain or shine Event. Family-friendly. Event is being held in accordance with the CDC guidelines. 240-641-6750

**International Food & Craft Festival**
Saturday, August 1, 2 – 8 p.m. Veterans Plaza 1 Veterans Place, Silver Spring, MD 20910
A celebration of the Nations! From great food to crafts and music, this festival is a guarantee of fun for the entire family! Over 60 artisans and crafters, independent consultants and small businesses are coming together for the day, while our DJ will play a selection of international music for everyone’s enjoyment. Event is being held in accordance with the CDC guidelines. 240-641-6750

**COMEDY SHOWS**
**Laugh Riot at BlackRock Center**
Saturday, July 10, 8 – 9:30 p.m., 7900 N. Little Falls Rd., corner of St. Elmo Ave & Norfork, Bethesda, MD 20814. For more information, visit standupcomedytogs.com/see-a-show/postano-saturdays. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/blackrockcenter.com.

---

**Yoga for Healthy Aging**
This class helps build strength, endurance, flexibility, and range-of-motion and improve posture and balance, and aids in preventing/reversing bone loss related to osteoporosis using seated, standing, and floor poses and 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: Tara Buzzard

**Free**
July 6-August 24
Wednesdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
July 7-August 25
Free

---

**Strengthening of bones and muscles, weight loss, increased stamina and flexibility, and stress reduction and aids in preventing/reversing bone loss related to osteoporosis using seated, standing, and floor poses and 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: Tara Buzzard**

---

**Enhance Your Fitness**
Virtual
55 & up
Tuesdays, 8:45–9:45 a.m.
July 6-August 24
Free

---

**“Zoomba” Gold**
Active older adults who are looking for a modified Zumba class that recreates the original moves you love at a lower intensity will love this class. The design of the class introduces easy-to-follow Zumba choreography that focuses on balance, range of motion and coordination. Instructor: Jenesa Flores

**Virtual**
55 & up
Fridays, 10–11 a.m.
July 9-August 27
Free

---

**Markers & Meditations**
Explore Montgomery County
Imagine a walk down memory lane! Come out to see the classic cars, bikes, and trucks in from the community while enjoying ice cream and oldies music! Friday nights, 5 – 8 p.m. through September 3, 2021. 240-489-1463.

www.thefamilyroomlaytonsville.com

---

**Mindful Birding**
Fridays, 3 – 6 p.m.
Through August 27, 2021
For ages 10 and up
Did you know that birding can have a positive impact on your mental health? Take a little time for self-care and join this weekly birding hike where you and fellow birders will look to the skies and see the beauty of the birds found in Rock Creek Regional Park. A park naturalist will also provide a mindfulness activity each week, that you can enjoy along the trail.

**FAMILY FUN**
The Family Room, 6820 Olney Laytonsville Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20882
You will not want to pass by this unique store in Maryland! And not only is this place a store, it’s also home to ice cream, coffee, and local goods, open daily, a charming spot that’s always a refreshing place to shop and eat. Cars & Cones 8 Kids! A walk down memory lane! Come out to see the classic cars, bikes, and trucks in from the community while enjoying ice cream and oldies music! Friday nights, 5 – 8 p.m. through September 3, 2021. 240-489-1463.

www.thefamilyroomlaytonsville.com

---

**International Food & Craft Festival**
Saturday, August 1, 2 – 8 p.m.
Veterans Plaza 1 Veterans Place, Silver Spring, MD 20910
A celebration of the Nations! From great food to crafts and music, this festival is a guarantee of fun for the entire family! Over 60 artisans and crafters, independent consultants and small businesses are coming together for the day while our DJ will play a selection of international music for everyone’s enjoyment. Event is being held in accordance with the CDC guidelines. 240-641-6750

---

**The Art of the Bird: Mindful Birding**
For ages 10 and up
Did you know that birding can have a positive impact on your mental health? Take a little time for self-care and join this weekly birding hike where you and fellow birders will look to the skies and see the beauty of the birds found in Rock Creek Regional Park. A park naturalist will also provide a mindfulness activity each week, that you can enjoy along the trail.

**FAMILY FUN**
The Family Room, 6820 Olney Laytonsville Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20882
You will not want to pass by this unique store in Maryland! And not only is this place a store, it’s also home to ice cream, coffee, and local goods, open daily, a charming spot that’s always a refreshing place to shop and eat. Cars & Cones 8 Kids! A walk down memory lane! Come out to see the classic cars, bikes, and trucks in from the community while enjoying ice cream and oldies music! Friday nights, 5 – 8 p.m. through September 3, 2021. 240-489-1463.

www.thefamilyroomlaytonsville.com
We are continuing to offer several great library programs—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 password, 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 to ensure you get the most up-to-date information. Also, please make sure you register for the “Zoom” version of these programs.

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

Library Building Re-Opening!

The library building re-opens for in-person service as of July 6. This means that you are once again allowed to browse the stacks and book displays to choose your reading material! It also means that our knowledgeable librarians are available to help you answer life’s persistent questions, or at the very least point you to resources that will help you answer them yourself. A few things have changed, though:

• Our in-person hours are as follows:
  • Monday through Thursday, 2 to 8 p.m.
  • Friday and Saturday, 2 to 6 p.m.
  • Closed on Sunday.
• Masks are required at all times while indoors. If you do not have one, we will provide you with a disposable one.
• There is absolutely no eating or drinking in the library.
• We ask patrons to please limit their visit to an hour or less. We do not have study carrels or seating at tables available.
• Our book return bin remains open 24 hours a day.
• We continue to offer both Books-to-Go (pick up) and Books-to-You (delivery).

Audiobooks for Summer Travel

Are you an audiobook fan, someone who likes to “read with your ears”? Summer travel is a great time to catch up with audiobooks at the library. In the library, we have got several ways to listen: CD-Books (physical audiobooks with CDs), downloadable audiobooks, and streaming audiobooks. Here’s how to access each one via our website, www.takomapark.info/library.

To look at our collection of CD-Books:
1. Go to the catalog
2. Use the dropdown menu (on the left-hand side) and choose “call number.”
3. In CD-Book (case sensitive), and it will bring up all entries.
4. Look for a little box on the right-hand side that says “Relevance.” Under “Relevance,” you can choose to search by title, author, popularity, publication date, etc. If you want to see the newest CD-Books we’ve added to the library’s collection, choose “acquisition date: newest to oldest.”

To access downloadable audiobooks:
1. Our downloadable audiobooks are available via a digital resource called Hoopla.
2. To get to Hoopla, go to our main website and click the button labeled “ebooks.” Scroll down a bit and click on Hoopla.
3. If you don’t yet have a Hoopla account, go here http://www.takomapark.info/library/hoopla.html.
4. Once your Hoopla account is set up, you can check out the audiobook collection a couple of different ways. You can click on “Browse” and choose audiobooks. Scroll down, and you’ll see suggested audiobooks arranged by popularity, subject, etc.

Books on Aging (Part II): From a Woman’s Perspective

By Jill Raymond

As I noted in last month’s newsletter, our library has several new and new-ish books that speak to issues of aging. A number address the specific concerns of older women, making up for decades of neglect. A couple of these books creatively highlight older women making change—in history, last year, and today.

That is what New York Times columnist Gail Collins does in No Stopping Us Now: The Adventures of Older Women in American History, examining century by century, then decade by decade, how older women changed history and themselves. In Our Prime: How Older Women Are Reinventing the Road Ahead by Susan Douglas focuses on the recent history of feminism in the U.S. It tells stories of women who built a movement in their young adulthood, celebrated astonishing successes, and grieved tragic failures over the decades, who now, as elders, are pushing change farther.

Both books are thoroughly researched, but also deploy a comfortable, conversational style to relay the realities faced especially by older women. Both are unreservedly political in their critiques: “Here is the basic takeaway: neoconservatism, the avid belief in the free market, is not only sexist, it’s also ageist, and racist, and has women of a certain age—especially those not basking in the sun in Malibu—directly in its crosshairs” (In Our Prime, Susan Douglas).

In Older Women Are Reinventing the Road Ahead, the authors insist people can age well. As I noted in last month’s newsletter, our library has a number of these books creatively highlighting older women, making up for decades of neglect. A couple of these books creatively highlight older women making change—in history, last year, and today.

Audiobooks for Summer Travel

Audiobooks for Summer Travel

Are you an audiobook fan, someone who likes to “read with your ears”? Summer travel is a great time to catch up with audiobooks at the library. In the library, we have got several ways to listen: CD-Books (physical audiobooks with CDs), downloadable audiobooks, and streaming audiobooks. Here’s how to access each one via our website, www.takomapark.info/library.

To look at our collection of CD-Books:
1. Go to the catalog
2. Use the dropdown menu (on the left-hand side) and choose “call number.”
3. In CD-Book (case sensitive), and it will bring up all entries.
4. Look for a little box on the right-hand side that says “Relevance.” Under “Relevance,” you can choose to search by title, author, popularity, publication date, etc. If you want to see the newest CD-Books we’ve added to the library’s collection, choose “acquisition date: newest to oldest.”

To access downloadable audiobooks:
1. Our downloadable audiobooks are available via a digital resource called Hoopla.
2. To get to Hoopla, go to our main website and click the button labeled “ebooks.” Scroll down a bit and click on Hoopla.
3. If you don’t yet have a Hoopla account, go here http://www.takomapark.info/library/hoopla.html.
4. Once your Hoopla account is set up, you can check out the audiobook collection a couple of different ways. You can click on “Browse” and choose audiobooks. Scroll down, and you’ll see suggested audiobooks arranged by popularity, subject, etc.

Books on Aging (Part II): From a Woman’s Perspective

By Jill Raymond

As I noted in last month’s newsletter, our library has several new and new-ish books that speak to issues of aging. A number address the specific concerns of older women, making up for decades of neglect. A couple of these books creatively highlight older women making change—in history, last year, and today.

That is what New York Times columnist Gail Collins does in No Stopping Us Now: The Adventures of Older Women in American History, examining century by century, then decade by decade, how older women changed history and themselves. In Our Prime: How Older Women Are Reinventing the Road Ahead by Susan Douglas focuses on the recent history of feminism in the U.S. It tells stories of women who built a movement in their young adulthood, celebrated astonishing successes, and grieved tragic failures over the decades, who now, as elders, are pushing change farther.

Both books are thoroughly researched, but also deploy a comfortable, conversational style to relay the realities faced especially by older women. Both are unreservedly political in their critiques: “Here is the basic takeaway: neoconservatism, the avid belief in the free market, is not only sexist, it’s also ageist, and racist, and has women of a certain age—especially those not basking in the sun in Malibu—directly in its crosshairs” (In Our Prime, Susan Douglas).

In Older Women Are Reinventing the Road Ahead, the authors insist people can age well. As I noted in last month’s newsletter, our library has a number of these books creatively highlighting older women, making up for decades of neglect. A couple of these books creatively highlight older women making change—in history, last year, and today.

Audiobooks for Summer Travel

Audiobooks for Summer Travel

Are you an audiobook fan, someone who likes to “read with your ears”? Summer travel is a great time to catch up with audiobooks at the library. In the library, we have got several ways to listen: CD-Books (physical audiobooks with CDs), downloadable audiobooks, and streaming audiobooks. Here’s how to access each one via our website, www.takomapark.info/library.

To look at our collection of CD-Books:
1. Go to the catalog
2. Use the dropdown menu (on the left-hand side) and choose “call number.”
3. In CD-Book (case sensitive), and it will bring up all entries.
4. Look for a little box on the right-hand side that says “Relevance.” Under “Relevance,” you can choose to search by title, author, popularity, publication date, etc. If you want to see the newest CD-Books we’ve added to the library’s collection, choose “acquisition date: newest to oldest.”

To access downloadable audiobooks:
1. Our downloadable audiobooks are available via a digital resource called Hoopla.
2. To get to Hoopla, go to our main website and click the button labeled “ebooks.” Scroll down a bit and click on Hoopla.
3. If you don’t yet have a Hoopla account, go here http://www.takomapark.info/library/hoopla.html.
4. Once your Hoopla account is set up, you can check out the audiobook collection a couple of different ways. You can click on “Browse” and choose audiobooks. Scroll down, and you’ll see suggested audiobooks arranged by popularity, subject, etc.

Books on Aging (Part II): From a Woman’s Perspective

By Jill Raymond

As I noted in last month’s newsletter, our library has several new and new-ish books that speak to issues of aging. A number address the specific concerns of older women, making up for decades of neglect. A couple of these books creatively highlight older women making change—in history, last year, and today.

That is what New York Times columnist Gail Collins does in No Stopping Us Now: The Adventures of Older Women in American History, examining century by century, then decade by decade, how older women changed history and themselves. In Our Prime: How Older Women Are Reinventing the Road Ahead by Susan Douglas focuses on the recent history of feminism in the U.S. It tells stories of women who built a movement in their young adulthood, celebrated astonishing successes, and grieved tragic failures over the decades, who now, as elders, are pushing change farther.

Both books are thoroughly researched, but also deploy a comfortable, conversational style to relay the realities faced especially by older women. Both are unreservedly political in their critiques: “Here is the basic takeaway: neoconservatism, the avid belief in the free market, is not only sexist, it’s also ageist, and racist, and has women of a certain age—especially those not basking in the sun in Malibu—directly in its crosshairs” (In Our Prime, Susan Douglas).

In Older Women Are Reinventing the Road Ahead, the authors insist people can age well. As I noted in last month’s newsletter, our library has a number of these books creatively highlighting older women, making up for decades of neglect. A couple of these books creatively highlight older women making change—in history, last year, and today.
Longtime Interfaith Leader and Takoma Park Resident Retires

By Taylor Dibbert

For more than twenty years, Takoma Park resident Julia Jarvis has led the Interfaith Families Project of Greater Washington, DC (IFFP). She retired on June 30 as spiritual director. A recent press release notes that “Jarvis is best acknowledged for her collaborative and creative interfaith leadership style.”

IFFP serves over 100 families in Washington, DC, Virginia, and Maryland. Fifteen to twenty families from other parts of the country participate virtually. The organization’s roots lie in Takoma Park. It was founded in 1995 by four mothers, three of whom still live in Takoma Park. Though Jarvis was not part of the founding, according to her, those four women were all in interfaith marriages and were all wondering how they were going to raise the first babies that each of them was about to have. “They knew they didn’t want to just do it one way because that would leave out the other [religious] tradition,” Jarvis explained.

The organization’s Sunday School was first held at Takoma Park Presbyterian Church. “We believe that we can not only come together and learn about each other’s traditions, but we can celebrate each other’s tradition, even though there might be some theological issues that are a little bit at odds with one another … we have discovered that Christians and Jews have a lot more in common than they thought they did,” Jarvis said.

Jarvis became IFFP’s first staff person in 1998. She was hired to be the Sunday school director. The organization essentially started as a Sunday School. “They didn’t have any kind of worship in the very beginning,” Jarvis recalled. She explained that IFFP’s first worship service was in a little hallway at Sligo Middle School. IFFP has gatherings that last for forty-five minutes, which includes songs, prayers and reflection on the Torah and the New Testament. “It’s a great combination of both traditions,” Jarvis noted. Jarvis used traditions from Christianity and Judaism that believers of each faith could agree with. “We also used an interfaith blessing and an interfaith benediction,” she said.

After directing Sunday School, Jarvis then became the spiritual director of IFFP. “My job over the past twenty years has been to help lead the gatherings,” Jarvis explained. She wrote sermons and helped organize adult groups, among other responsibilities.

Heidi Anderson, a Takoma Park resident who served as IFFP board chair during Jarvis’s final year, said that “Julia is one of the most caring people in the world. Her priceless contributions to our IFFP community over the last two decades have helped many Jewish-Christian families celebrate similarities and recognize differences. Just like the cidades, IFFP is now emerging from Julia’s nurturing love to fly into the future.”

Susan Katz Miller, author of “Being Both,” a book that chronicles IFFP as part of a national grassroots movement has high praise for Jarvis as well. Miller, who has resided in Takoma Park since 1997, observed that Jarvis’s work “has great national significance.”

Longtime Interfaith Leader and Takoma Park Resident Retires

By Taylor Dibbert

For more than twenty years, Takoma Park resident Julia Jarvis has led the Interfaith Families Project of Greater Washington, DC (IFFP). She retired on June 30 as spiritual director. A recent press release notes that “Jarvis is best acknowledged for her collaborative and creative interfaith leadership style.”

IFFP serves over 100 families in Washington, DC, Virginia, and Maryland. Fifteen to twenty families from other parts of the country participate virtually. The organization’s roots lie in Takoma Park. It was founded in 1995 by four mothers, three of whom still live in Takoma Park. Though Jarvis was not part of the founding, according to her, those four women were all in interfaith marriages and were all wondering how they were going to raise the first babies that each of them was about to have. “They knew they didn’t want to just do it one way because that would leave out the other [religious] tradition,” Jarvis explained.

The organization’s Sunday School was first held at Takoma Park Presbyterian Church. “We believe that we can not only come together and learn about each other’s traditions, but we can celebrate each other’s tradition, even though there might be some theological issues that are a little bit at odds with one another … we have discovered that Christians and Jews have a lot more in common than they thought they did,” Jarvis said.

Jarvis became IFFP’s first staff person in 1998. She was hired to be the Sunday school director. The organization essentially started as a Sunday School. “They didn’t have any kind of worship in the very beginning,” Jarvis recalled. She explained that IFFP’s first worship service was in a little hallway at Sligo Middle School. IFFP has gatherings that last for forty-five minutes, which includes songs, prayers and reflection on the Torah and the New Testament. “It’s a great combination of both traditions,” Jarvis noted. Jarvis used traditions from Christianity and Judaism that believers of each faith could agree with. “We also used an interfaith blessing and an interfaith benediction,” she said.

After directing Sunday School, Jarvis then became the spiritual director of IFFP. “My job over the past twenty years has been to help lead the gatherings,” Jarvis explained. She wrote sermons and helped organize adult groups, among other responsibilities.

Heidi Anderson, a Takoma Park resident who served as IFFP board chair during Jarvis’s final year, said that “Julia is one of the most caring people in the world. Her priceless contributions to our IFFP community over the last two decades have helped many Jewish-Christian families celebrate similarities and recognize differences. Just like the cidades, IFFP is now emerging from Julia’s nurturing love to fly into the future.”

Susan Katz Miller, author of “Being Both,” a book that chronicles IFFP as part of a national grassroots movement has high praise for Jarvis as well. Miller, who has resided in Takoma Park since 1997, observed that Jarvis’s work “has great national significance.”

Miller emphasized the unique and unprecedented nature of Jarvis’s role. “[She was] willing to serve the needs of interfaith families creating their own community from scratch. Because she is collaborative, creative, open-hearted, and had an epic friendship with our long-time rabbi, Julia was the perfect spiritual leader for this community,” Miller said.

According to Jarvis, the best parts about her job are the people and the community. These interfaith families never really fit in a synagogue or a church. “They created their own community so that they could fit,” she noted.

Originally from Mississippi, Jarvis was exposed to religion from the womb. “We went to church all the time,” she remarked. Jarvis, a Takoma Park resident since 1989, met the man who would eventually become her husband on a blind date. He lived in Takoma Park, and that’s how she ended up living in the city.

Seeing IFFP grow and thrive has been a dream come true for Jarvis. “I feel really inspired,” she said. “They knew they didn’t want to just do it one way because that would leave out the other [religious] tradition,” Jarvis explained.

5. If you’re looking for the newest audio -books in the Hoopla collection, click “Advanced Search” under the main search bar. Go to “Format” and choose “Audiobooks” and then go to “Date Added” and choose your time period (last 7 days to last 12 months). Click “submit” and the latest audiobooks added to Hoopla will show up.

Note: On Hoopla, audiobooks generally appear from your device. The code for SummerQuest 2021 is: 9d152. For more details, see our website at http://www.takomapark.info/library/curbside.html.

• Books-to-You – email or call as above and indicate that you would like delivery (Takoma Park residents only).

• Call 301-580-0085 to request the SQ gameboard and story. The SummerQuest gameboard and story also will be available online at the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library website (https://tflpl.org). Readers can keep track of the books they read through ReadeZone, either on a computer or via a free app.

Books-to-Go

For details, see our website at http://www.takomapark.info/library/curbside.html.

• Check our catalog to make sure we have an item and that it is available.

• If an item is checked out, you may place a hold on it by logging into your account.

• You will be notified when it is returned.

• Email your request to librarytakomapark@gmail.com.

• In the subject line include the name of the borrower (even if it’s you and even if the catalog item is checked out), the title, and then make them available to other patrons, so please pick your request up promptly.

SummerQuest 2021 has launched!

Created each year by Library Associate Dave Burbank, SummerQuest is a "read-to-advance" game designed to keep kids (and adults!) reading through the summer. This year, we again have printed materials: a gameboard and a copy of the story for each reader. Just ask for these when you order through our Books to Go curbside service, or just come to our Books to Go pick-up area outside the Library in the parking lot, and call 301-580-0085 to request the SQ gameboard and story. The SummerQuest gameboard and story also will be available online at the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library website (https://tflpl.org). Readers can keep track of the books they read through ReadeZone, either on a computer or via a free app.


AudioBookCloud

To access streaming audiobooks:

1. Use our AudioBookCloud digital resource.

2. From the main website page, click the "check out" button.

3. Scroll down a bit and you will see "AudioBookCloud."

4. Click on it, and you will see a plethora of ways to search through the collection.
The Maryland Fire Marshal Office reported as of June 10, 2021, 23 people have died in fires compared to 20 in 2020.

**Hot vehicle deaths**

As of July 1, 2021, 6 children have died in hot vehicles across the country. Grand total to 889 since 1998.

---

**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, vea 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.

---

Passport Services

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

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

---

**Are You Ready for the “Summer Breeze (that) Makes Me Feel Fine”?**

By Claudine Schweber, co-chair, Emergency Preparedness Committee, Takoma Park

Last month we focused on travel and getting “on the road again” (Willie Nelson). Now, moving forward, apply the precautions you have heard about in the past. Remember? Check off these items before you lock the doors and head on your way to summer travel.

### Summer Travel Checklist

**Before you leave:** Have you?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>NA</th>
<th>Not Sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contacted the Takoma Park Police Dept. to do a vacant house check (4-30 days away)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit takomaparkmd.gov/government/police/services-and-programs or call 301-270-1100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Let someone you trust know where to reach you in case of flooding, street damage, burglary, or other difficulties</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set the home environment to have a continually ‘closed in’ look, such as light timers set for different times, in several rooms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negotiated with someone to take the mail, newspapers, or packages or stopped delivery</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contacted your security service to let them know if someone will be coming to feed pets, bring in mail, etc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you have pets, have you not only arranged for their care, but also made sure the caretaker knows how to reach the vet and you</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Traveling:** Have you?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>NA</th>
<th>Not Sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Given your information details to family, friend who can be contacted for emergency help</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Made a list of important numbers to share with medical, police, trauma, and rescue units in the new location(s)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packed extra medications and any special items in case you are stuck in a vacation area</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Made a list of any allergies you should need emergency care</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checked if your medical insurance will be accepted in your new location</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written/ saved the contact information for doctors, pharmacy, back home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set a place to meet if you separated from others</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you are traveling with small children, have you packed extra water, baby food, extra snacks, and change of clothes?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you are driving, have you enough supplies and emergency items if the car breaks down?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packed working flashlights and extra batteries, portable cell phone charger, emergency kit, and updated car assistance (such as AAA)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Staying in Takoma Park this Summer?**

As you know, summertime also includes rain and severe storms. This often leads to power outages. Are you ready? Check to make sure you have the following in place:

- Flashlight nearby and working batteries that fit
- Remember: DO NOT use lighted candles or turn on the gas stove.
- Cell phone charged 100% + cell phone charger ready nearby
- Water for 3-5 days and non-perishable foods
- Contact List (Tell everyone on your list and confirm their willingness to have you list them.)
- Emergency contact list with identifier (e.g., cousin, neighbor) in visible place
- Same for out of area contacts
- Help for elderly, disabled, or non-English speakers

Look at your responses. Review each “No” or “Not Sure” and make the needed change. Then relax and listen to “Summer Breeze Makes Me Feel Fine…” Contact the Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness Committee at tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7126
schoolers on the air,” she said. “We really want to have as many different voices on the air as possible, and it’s great to have teenagers and their perspective.”

“We wanted voices on the microphone either young or old and some new voices on the radio,” Hoffman said. “We have, as I describe it, a crazy quilt, a beautiful quilt, of programming. One with all the patches and with no repetition in the pattern. That’s what makes our station so cool.”

According to Ellis Randolph, the community responded in kind with overwhelming support for the radio station. “Overwhelmingly and very consistent feedback we received was to keep doing what we’re doing,” she said. “People depend on Takoma Radio as a check in to remind them of the goodness of community. Overall, we don’t receive criticism because it’s hard to criticize when someone is speaking from the heart.”

For their big five-year anniversary, they are stepping out of their comfort zone and doing a live-broadcast event at the Takoma Streetery on Saturday, July 17. “Now there’s such a yearning to have in-person connection that we think it would be a special time to put our programmers in front of the people,” she said. “We’re excited to try new things since there’s not a lot new you can try in radio, so we thought, ‘Why not?’”

There will also be a WOWD Night at Blair Stadium on Friday, July 16, at the Thunderbolts Game to celebrate Takoma Radio.

When it comes to keeping the lights on and the broadcasts coming, Ellis Randolph says the community has been the major force of support to keep them going. “We really truly want to be in an intimate relationship with listeners,” she said. “Over 95% of our revenue comes from listeners, and a small portion comes from local businesses.”

As for the future, they are always looking ahead to new and greater things. “Things in the world are so raw and new right now,” Ellis Randolph said. “It’s just a time to be excited about new directions but also preserving what’s meaningful, and we think that’s a strong community.”

If you’re interested in listening to Takoma Radio, you can catch it around Takoma Park at 94.3 FM or anywhere you like at takomaradio.org.
July 2021 Calendar

We have been using this space to feature city resources and provide important updates on City services. We will provide updates as more in-person events become feasible. In the meantime, let us know if you have a virtual, or in-person, nonprofit event that would be of interest to City of Takoma Park residents, and we will consider it for inclusion in the calendar.

Deadline for the August issue is July 16, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning July 30. To submit calendar items, email tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, please be advised that most events and meetings held in City facilities remain 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.

SHARE IDEAS

Attend virtual City Council meetings!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, July 7, 7:30 p.m.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Council Regular Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, July 13, 6:30 p.m.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Council Special Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, July 14, 6 p.m.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Council Special Meeting Presentation – Montgomery Housing Partnership Hillwood Manor Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, July 14, 7:30 p.m.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Council Regular Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, July 21, 7:30 p.m.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Council Regular Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, July 28, 7:30 p.m.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Council Regular Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Join the Takoma Park Youth Council

The City Council is now seeking applicants for the 2021-2022 Takoma Park Youth Council. The application deadline is Friday, July 11. The Takoma Park Youth Council was established by the City Council:

1. To provide an opportunity for the youth of Takoma Park to acquire a greater knowledge of and appreciation for local government through active participation in the system.
2. To help the City Council to address problems and accomplish the goals of this community by working directly with the representatives of youth.
3. To serve the youth of Takoma Park.

The application is available online: https://takomapark.seamlessdocs.com/t/youth_council_app_2021_2022.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Tuesday, August 3, 2021 • 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Piney Branch Elementary School  7510 Maple Avenue

An annual event hosted by the police department to bring the community together as a whole to increase awareness in safety and crime prevention; to support locally-based businesses, groups and organizations; and to strengthen relationships among the community members and between the community and local police department.

COME OUT AND KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS AND HAVE SOME FUN!

We’ll Have:

- Police Vehicles on Display
- MD National Park Police Horses
- McGruff the Crime Dog
- Child ID Kits & Fingerprinting
- Music/Dancing/Karaoke
- Dunk/Tank Basketball
- Face Painting/Moon Bounce
- Games & Prizes
- Food & Ice Cream
  ...AND MUCH MORE!!!

STAY ACTIVE

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

**Fitness for Life**

- Adult Fitness – Reach your fitness goals.
  - Thursdays, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Zumba Gold/Zumba Gold
  - 55+ Fitness – Move your body to the Zumba beat.
  - Fridays, 10–11 a.m.

**Total Body Blast**

- Grab your mat and weights and join KJ Total Fitness for an all-around workout tailored for beginners to intermediate exercisers.
  - Saturdays, 9–10 a.m.

**Yoga for Healthy Aging**

- Using a series of seated, standing, and floor poses, this class helps build strength and endurance, increase flexibility and range-of-motion, improve posture and balance while aiding in the prevention bone loss related to osteoporosis.
  - Wednesdays, 2:15–3:15 p.m.

**Parkinson’s and Movement Disorder Support Group**

- Do you have Parkinson’s or another movement disorder? Or are you a caregiver? If so, you might be interested in our informal support group which meets monthly to share resources and experiences.
- Our meetings are virtual via Zoom, but soon we hope to return to in-person meetings at the Takoma Park Community Center. It is free, and you do not have to be a resident of Takoma Park. For further information, contact Tom Bigford at tebigford@gmail.com or 301-580-4056.

**Fourth of July Plans**

- The Takoma Park Independence Day Committee has a whole array of innovative plans for celebrating Independence Day Takoma Park style. Participate in the Parade of Houses, a Roscoe Scavenger Hunt, and much more. Learn more at www.takomapark4th.org.

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

**Parkinson’s and Movement Disorder Support Group**

- Do you have Parkinson’s or another movement disorder? Or are you a caregiver? If so, you might be interested in our informal support group which meets monthly to share resources and experiences.
- Our meetings are virtual via Zoom, but soon we hope to return to in-person meetings at the Takoma Park Community Center. It is free, and you do not have to be a resident of Takoma Park. For further information, contact Tom Bigford at tebigford@gmail.com or 301-580-4056.

**Fourth of July Plans**

- The Takoma Park Independence Day Committee has a whole array of innovative plans for celebrating Independence Day Takoma Park style. Participate in the Parade of Houses, a Roscoe Scavenger Hunt, and much more. Learn more at www.takomapark4th.org.

**STAY ACTIVE**

- All virtual class links can be found on the Virtual Community Center page: www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation.
- Fitness for Life
  - Adult Fitness – Reach your fitness goals.
    - Thursdays, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
  - Zumba Gold/Zumba Gold
    - 55+ Fitness – Move your body to the Zumba beat.
    - Fridays, 10–11 a.m.
- Total Body Blast
  - Grab your mat and weights and join KJ Total Fitness for an all-around workout tailored for beginners to intermediate exercisers.
  - Saturdays, 9–10 a.m.
- Yoga for Healthy Aging
  - Using a series of seated, standing, and floor poses, this class helps build strength and endurance, increase flexibility and range-of-motion, improve posture and balance while aiding in the prevention bone loss related to osteoporosis.
  - Wednesdays, 2:15–3:15 p.m.

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

**Fourth of July Plans**

- The Takoma Park Independence Day Committee has a whole array of innovative plans for celebrating Independence Day Takoma Park style. Participate in the Parade of Houses, a Roscoe Scavenger Hunt, and much more. Learn more at www.takomapark4th.org.

**STAY ACTIVE**

- All virtual class links can be found on the Virtual Community Center page: www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation.
- Fitness for Life
  - Adult Fitness – Reach your fitness goals.
    - Thursdays, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
  - Zumba Gold/Zumba Gold
    - 55+ Fitness – Move your body to the Zumba beat.
    - Fridays, 10–11 a.m.
- Total Body Blast
  - Grab your mat and weights and join KJ Total Fitness for an all-around workout tailored for beginners to intermediate exercisers.
  - Saturdays, 9–10 a.m.
- Yoga for Healthy Aging
  - Using a series of seated, standing, and floor poses, this class helps build strength and endurance, increase flexibility and range-of-motion, improve posture and balance while aiding in the prevention bone loss related to osteoporosis.
  - Wednesdays, 2:15–3:15 p.m.

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

**Fourth of July Plans**

- The Takoma Park Independence Day Committee has a whole array of innovative plans for celebrating Independence Day Takoma Park style. Participate in the Parade of Houses, a Roscoe Scavenger Hunt, and much more. Learn more at www.takomapark4th.org.

**STAY ACTIVE**

- All virtual class links can be found on the Virtual Community Center page: www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation.
- Fitness for Life
  - Adult Fitness – Reach your fitness goals.
    - Thursdays, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
  - Zumba Gold/Zumba Gold
    - 55+ Fitness – Move your body to the Zumba beat.
    - Fridays, 10–11 a.m.
- Total Body Blast
  - Grab your mat and weights and join KJ Total Fitness for an all-around workout tailored for beginners to intermediate exercisers.
  - Saturdays, 9–10 a.m.
- Yoga for Healthy Aging
  - Using a series of seated, standing, and floor poses, this class helps build strength and endurance, increase flexibility and range-of-motion, improve posture and balance while aiding in the prevention bone loss related to osteoporosis.
  - Wednesdays, 2:15–3:15 p.m.

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

**Fourth of July Plans**

- The Takoma Park Independence Day Committee has a whole array of innovative plans for celebrating Independence Day Takoma Park style. Participate in the Parade of Houses, a Roscoe Scavenger Hunt, and much more. Learn more at www.takomapark4th.org.

**STAY ACTIVE**

- All virtual class links can be found on the Virtual Community Center page: www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation.
- Fitness for Life
  - Adult Fitness – Reach your fitness goals.
    - Thursdays, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.
  - Zumba Gold/Zumba Gold
    - 55+ Fitness – Move your body to the Zumba beat.
    - Fridays, 10–11 a.m.
- Total Body Blast
  - Grab your mat and weights and join KJ Total Fitness for an all-around workout tailored for beginners to intermediate exercisers.
  - Saturdays, 9–10 a.m.
- Yoga for Healthy Aging
  - Using a series of seated, standing, and floor poses, this class helps build strength and endurance, increase flexibility and range-of-motion, improve posture and balance while aiding in the prevention bone loss related to osteoporosis.
  - Wednesdays, 2:15–3:15 p.m.