Takoma Park Maryland Library Is on the Move: 
An Interview with Jessica Jones, Library Director

By Sean Gossard

The Takoma Park Maryland Library is temporarily moving before it gets a brand-new home.

On Aug. 24, the Takoma Park Maryland Library closed its location at 101 Philadelphia Ave. as it is in the process of constructing a completely new building that is expected to take 18 months to complete. The library and computer center will remain closed during the month of September with plans to move to a temporary space in October at an interim location.

“There’s been a lot of conversation about the scope of the project, and it’s important for people to know that while it’s a new library and that’s huge and the cornerstone of this whole project, it’s also a new computer center and recreation rooms with more accessible facilities,” said Library Director Jessica Jones.

Part of the major renovations to the library—originally built in the 1950s—will be an increase in the square footage, a dedicated room for teenagers, a program room, Americans with Disabilities Act compliant facilities, an updated computer center, and much, much more.

“In a post-shut down era, everyone’s concerned there’s adequate space,” said Jones, “so we have more space, and there’s going to be a new HVAC system coming. It will not only be more user friendly but will be safer and easier to accomplish your goals. And there will be major updates to the computer center and other areas for those looking in Fall 2022, the City is offering free planting consultation with a Casey Trees urban forester and the tree installation itself, both free of charge. The Casey Trees urban forester will work with you during the consultation to determine the best locations and tree species for your property. The program offers a diverse palette of native canopy trees, which changes from season to season and will be determined at the time of your consultation.

Consultations can be scheduled year-round, and plantings occur during the spring and fall. Trees will be a minimum of 1.5-inch trunk diameter or 6-feet tall and will be installed with a bed of shredded wood mulch and a deer guard to protect the trunk. After planting, your responsibility is to water the trees as they get established and care for them to ensure they lead a healthy and prosperous life.

City to Offer Free Canopy Tree Plantings

By Marty Frye, Urban Forest Manager, City of Takoma Park

The Urban Forestry Division of the City of Takoma Park is announcing an exciting new program called Tree Takoma. Starting in Fall 2022, the City is offering free canopy tree plantings to any interested private property owner within the Takoma Park city limits. We are very excited to be partnering with the DC-area’s flagship tree planting nonprofit Casey Trees for this program.

Tree Takoma will offer both a tree planting consultation with a Casey Trees urban forester and the tree installation itself, both free of charge. The Casey Trees urban forester will work with you during the consultation to determine the best locations and tree species for your property. The program offers a diverse palette of native canopy trees, which changes from season to season and will be determined at the time of your consultation.

Consultations can be scheduled year-round, and plantings occur during the spring and fall. Trees will be a minimum of 1.5-inch trunk diameter or 6-feet tall and will be installed with a bed of shredded wood mulch and a deer guard to protect the trunk. After planting, your responsibility is to water the trees as they get established and care for them to ensure they lead a healthy and prosperous life.

Casey Trees will typically be in touch within six weeks to schedule a consultation. After the City provides your information to Casey Trees, they will be your contact for all information pertaining to scheduling, the consultation, finalizing your tree planting plan, scheduling your tree planting, and addressing any questions you might have pertaining to the tree planting.

Native canopy trees provide numerous benefits to you and the City, including stormwater management, cooling the air, reducing heating, and cooling costs, beautifying the landscape, and more. Since the City only manages approximately 15 percent of the land area in Takoma Park, it is important that we partner with private property owners to plant trees and help in replacing the canopy that is lost each year. We hope you will join us in this important work of maintaining the urban forest canopy of Takoma Park.

To sign up for the program, follow the link below to the City’s website to submit an online request or visit the Public Works building at 31 Oswego Avenue for a paper form.

https://tinyurl.com/35zd7cv4

Scan the QR Code for updates or go to takomaparkmd.gov/newlibrary

Questions?
Email: newlibrary@takomaparkmd.gov
**Official City Government Meetings**

The City Council meetings are conducted in a hybrid format, with the City Council and most staff typically present in the Auditorium. Participation on Zoom will continue to be an option for members of the community who do not wish to or cannot attend meetings in person. Zoom video conferencing will also be used to minimize travel time for some contractors and consultants, as well as for the City Attorney on most occasions.

For members of the public who wish to comment on Zoom, we request registration on Zoom before 5 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Any resident who cannot attend in person or use Zoom for public comments should contact the City Clerk’s Office for assistance. Call Irma Nalvarte at 301-891-7214 or email irman@takomaparkmd.gov.

The public can continue to view meetings as always: on City TV (RCN – 13, HD 1060; Comcast/xfinity – 13, HD 997; Verizon Fios – 28), on the City Council Video Page of the City Website; on CityTVYouTube, or on City TV Facebook. There is no need to register on Zoom to simply view a meeting.

**Notice of Takoma Park Nominating Caucus**

Tuesday, September 13, 2022 – 7:30 p.m.

The Nominating Caucus will convene at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 13, to accept nominations of candidates for mayor and councilmember. The meeting will take place in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Avenue and on Zoom. The meeting is open to all registered voters. Others are welcome to view the meeting. Only qualified voters of the city may run for office, place names in nomination or second a nomination.

At the meeting, nominations of candidates for mayor may be made on motion of any voter of the City, and if another voter seconds that nomination, the nominee will be considered a candidate.

Nomination of each candidate for councilmember may be made on motion of any voter of their ward, and if that nomination is seconded by a voter of their ward, the person so nominated will be considered a candidate.

A person may only accept nomination of one office. The name of each nominee that meets the qualifications of the office shall be placed on the ballot for the November 8, 2022 City Election.

Contact Jessie Carpenter, 301-891-7267 or clerk@takomaparkmd.gov with any questions regarding the Nominating Caucus or running for office in Takoma Park, or if you need any special assistance to access or participate in the Caucus.

**On the DOCKET**

**RECEIVE WEEKLY AGENDA AND MEETING NOTICE EMAILS**

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

**CITY COUNCIL RECESS**

The City Council is on recess through September 13. Regular meetings will resume on Wednesday, September 14.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Wednesday, September 14, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 21, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 28, 7:30 p.m.

**CITY BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

City Boards and Committees will be meeting on Zoom during the fall of 2022. After that, they will have the option of continuing to meet on Zoom or may resume in-person meetings.

**ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, September 27, 7 p.m.

**BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

Thursday, September 8, 7:30 p.m.

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE**

Thursday, September 22, 7 p.m.

**ETHICS COMMISSION**

Thursday, September 22, Time 6:30 p.m.

**GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, September 6, 6:30 p.m.

**NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, September 13, 7:30 p.m.

**POLICE CHIEF’S ADVISORY BOARD**

Monday, September 19, 7 p.m.

**POLICE EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT PLAN COMMITTEE**

The committee will meet in September. Please check the the calendar for date and time.

**RECREATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Thursday, September 15, 7 p.m.

**SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND COMMITTEE**

Monday, September 12, 7 p.m.

**TREE COMMISSION**

Wednesday, September 14, 7 p.m.

**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 as early as possible.

**Notice to Members of the Public**

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 as early as possible.

**Open Meeting Act**

All official meetings of the City Council, City Boards and Committees will be open to the public, with the exception of executive sessions as allowed by the Maryland Open Meetings Act.

**Reimbursement for Members of City Council, City Boards, and Committees**

City Council, Boards, and Committees members are reimbursed for actual expenses in connection with official duties, in accordance with the City’s Uniformed Records System, city council policy, and state and federal law.
The Election will be conducted by mail! For those who prefer to vote in person, there will be voting at the Takoma Park Community Center (7500 Maple Avenue) on Election Day.

Information About Candidates. Candidates will be nominated at the Nominating Caucus on Tuesday, September 13. The October issue of the Takoma Park Newsletter will include names, photos, and 500-word statements from all candidates. Watch for information about candidate forums and events to educate yourself about your choices.

Voter Registration for the City of Takoma Park Election (and for the Gubernatorial Election). Most voter registration is handled by the Montgomery County Board of Elections. The most important action you can take to prepare for these two elections is to confirm that you are registered at your current address in Takoma Park. If nothing has changed, and you have voted before at your address, you should be fine. If you have any doubt, or if you have moved in the past few years, confirm or update your registration right away. Information on how to check your registration is available on the City website or by contacting the City Clerk’s Office.

If you are not registered, register now. Don’t wait! If you are 16 years old and a U.S. citizen, you may register with the Montgomery County Board of Elections, even though you will not yet be able to vote in the gubernatorial election. You will be able to vote in the City election.

Residents who are not U.S. citizens, or who do not wish to register with the State of Maryland, may register with the City of Takoma Park to vote only in City elections for mayor and city council.

For the City of Takoma Park election for mayor and city council, registered voters will receive a ballot in the mail. There is no need to request a ballot. However, if you will be out of town in October, request that an absentee ballot be sent to you at your out-of-town address.

For the gubernatorial election, voters must request a mail-in ballot seven days before Election Day. Visit www.takomaparkmd.gov for additional information.

Adventist Healthcare Closes Takoma Park Urgent Care Center

Adventist Healthcare has permanently closed its urgent care facility at 7900 Carroll Avenue in Takoma Park as of Aug. 19.

The nonprofit health services organization based in Gaithersburg, Maryland, announced that a new primary care office will open nearby in September at 7610 Carroll Avenue, Suite 410, in Takoma Park.

Adventist Healthcare said that Takoma Park residents in need of urgent care should visit the Patuxent Urgent Care Center at 14421 Baltimore Avenue in Laurel, or for emergency care should visit the White Oak Medical Center at 11800 Healing Way in Silver Spring.

There are also a host of other urgent care centers around Takoma Park not affiliated with Adventist Healthcare that residents can visit. Those include:

• Patient First Primary and Urgent Care - Silver Spring at 8206 Georgia Ave. in Silver Spring.
• CVS MinuteClinic at 7539 New Hampshire Ave. in Hyattsville.
• AllCare Family Medicine & Urgent Care at 3455 Colesville Rd. Suite 101-A in Silver Spring.
• Family’s Health Care at 8011 New Hampshire Ave. in Adelphi.
• SOM 1-Stop Primary Urgent Care at 6401 New Hampshire Ave. #100 in Adelphi.

Adventist Healthcare’s new primary care facility opening in September will provide “comprehensive primary care and family medicine services for adults and children in the Montgomery County and Prince George’s County areas across the Washington, D.C. region,” according to its website.

That care includes same-day sick visits; women’s and men’s health and wellness exams; health physicals, health maintenance and preventive care; geriatric (senior) wellness exams; vaccinations and immunizations, including flu shots; and management for chronic conditions like asthma and allergies, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, and heart disease.

For more information on Adventist Healthcare, visit adventisthealthcare.com.

Back to School Activities - We Belong Together: Equity Walk

Now that morning and afternoon walks to and from school have restarted, visit one of the two interactive activity trails to spark play and discussion surrounding equity with family, friends, classmates, and those in your community.

Look for the colorfully painted sidewalks along the Community Center and/or Anne Street! Scan the QR code located at each station to access maps and conversation prompts, use the questions and quotes to guide your discussions, and check out the additional resources to support your learning. After you’re done, fill out our short survey (https://bit.ly/3df0ypz) to receive a fabulous free t-shirt!

Families enjoy visiting the Equity Walk.
Takoma Park Business Investment Grant

If you have a business that you want to expand, grow or locate in Takoma Park and you are looking for funds to help achieve that, you're in luck! The Takoma Park Business Investment Grant (BIG) is available to qualified businesses for capital expenditures related to a business start-up, expansion, or relocation within the City of Takoma Park.

Individual property applicants are eligible for up to a maximum of $10,000 in grant funds. Applicants covering multiple commercial units may be eligible for additional funding.

Funds can be used for things including exterior property improvements, like signage, lighting, ADA accessibility, repainting, awnings and window/door covers, interior fit-out, like display racks and seating areas, capital equipment, and hard costs associated with the activation of a previously vacant commercial property.

In order to be eligible for the grant, applicants must be located in the city of Takoma Park, be in good standing with the City of Maryland and in compliance with all city, county, and state regulations; have a valid Use & Occupancy Certificate; have an ace-reivable lease agreement or ownership deed to the property; and submit actionable quotes for all eligible project components.

Funds cannot be used for routine maintenance and applicants must demonstrate they can support the expansion of business operations. Additionally, applicants may not apply for any work or expenses that began prior to the approval of their grant application. Awards will be made on a case-by-case basis as long as funds are available. Upon submission of a completed application, city staff will review the application and make discretionary awards based on business growth, project impact, business diversity (minority or local ownership statuses, project location), and prior city funding and support.

Interested applicants can submit applications and supporting materials by visiting takomapark.seamlessdocs.com/TPKPBIG. If you have any questions, email the Economic Development Team directly at econdev@takomaparkmd.gov or call 301-891-7119.

LIBRARY

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What about the materials that I already have checked out?
A. Fret not, if you have books or other media already checked out of the library. The library will automatically renew anything you have checked out until the temporary location opens, and fines will not be accruing during that time.

Q. Should I return my books or other media to the library?
A. No, those with books or other media checked out should not try to return them until the temporary location opens. The book drop will also be unavailable during the closure. “Since we won’t have computers up and running, we won’t have a way to check things in,” Jones said. “We ask everyone to keep everything on them until the new location opens. If you have special circumstances, like moving out of the area, email us and we will work with you.”

Q. Will I still be able to access online resources?
A. Online resources, like e-books and audiobooks, language learning, materials for children and research tools, will remain available at www.takomapark.md/library/online.html.

Q. What will be at the temporary location facility?
A. The hours at the temporary facility will be the same as at the old building: Monday - Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday - Sunday, noon to 6 p.m. The library’s phone number will also remain the same (301-891-7239).

Q. What will happen to the mural on the side of the library?
A. The iconic mural on the side of the library is set to be carefully dismantled and preserved and then integrated into the new building.

Q. When will the new library be finished?
A. The entire construction process for the new library is expected to take 18 months and is slanted to be finished in April 2024.
Coral Reefs Spotted at Local Bus Shelters

Takoma Park has moved closer to the Caribbean since colorful coral reefs have magically appeared inside two local bus shelters.

Vinyl wraps featuring a lively aquatic design have been installed on glass panels at the bus shelters to enliven community spaces and encourage public transportation. The City of Takoma Park’s Arts and Humanities Division organized the project using public art funds.

“We wanted to create a fun scene that would brighten people’s day while they’re walking by or waiting for the bus,” Arts and Humanities Coordinator Brendan Smith said. “They are the first bus shelters where you can sit next to tropical fish and sea turtles without holding your breath.”

Arts and Humanities Intern Paula Barrios designed the wraps, which were installed on two shelters at the ALDI shopping center at 1300 Holton Lane and at the intersection of Maple Avenue and Hilltop Road.

Grab a face mask and snorkel and dive right in! Take some photos of yourself exploring the coral reefs and share them on the City of Takoma Park’s Twitter page at twitter.com/takomaparkmd and Instagram at instagram.com/takomaparkmd.

Vinyl wraps promoting the Takoma Park Arts series also have been installed on three additional bus shelters. The wraps feature artwork and former performers in the Takoma Park Arts series, which hosts free arts events at the Takoma Park Community Center. Two shelters are located at the intersection of Flower Avenue and Houston Avenue, and the third shelter is next to Piney Branch Elementary School at 7510 Maple Avenue.

Takoma Park Arts Series Returns with New Events

After a summer hiatus, the Takoma Park Arts series will be returning with new events in September. The series features free poetry readings, film screenings, art exhibitions, concerts, theater, and other special events at the Takoma Park Community Center at 7500 Maple Avenue.

More than 100 poets from the D.C. area submitted applications to take part in future poetry readings. A committee led by Takoma Park Poet Laureate Kathleen O’Toole selected poets who will participate in future readings on general subjects or specific themes, including Struggle and Solidarity, Healing Power of Poetry, and Poetry Without Borders.

The Unsung Heroes art exhibition will be on display in the atrium at the Community Center until Sept. 27. Local artist Renee Lachman is honoring City of Takoma Park employees whose important work often goes unnoticed in a new series of paintings and charcoal drawings. Sanitation workers, gardeners, crossing guards, and library staff are featured in her artwork.

Please visit takomaparkmd.gov/arts to learn more about the Takoma Park Arts series and sign up for our e-newsletter to receive news of our upcoming events.
**RECREATION**

**TOTS**

**EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT**

**Breakfast for Dinner**

Turn your favorite breakfast dishes into the main event as dinner options (with a few desserts thrown in just for fun). How about a cheddar-chive strata with fresh salsa? Carrot-potato pancakes with apple syrup? Maybe you would prefer a more traditional French Toast dressed up with bananas and blueberries? Any way you slice it, Tiny Chefs will love tucking into these comforting breakfast classics. There is a non-refundable $8 materials fee (per child) due to the instructor on the first day of class. Heffner Park Community Center

21 Oswego Avenue

4-7 years

Wednesdays, 5:30–6:30 p.m.

September 7–October 12

Resident: $36 / Non-resident: $45

Materials Fee: $4

**MARTIAL ARTS**

**Kung Fu for Kids**

Bung Fu is the Jamaican style of Kung Fu. Come learn meditation, self-defense, improved flexibility, and self-awareness. This ancient form of self-defense provides physical and mental exercise which could help the students defend themselves by strengthening hand and eye coordination as well as assist with the maintaining of balance. Students will gain physical fitness, mental, and spiritual strength. There is a $10 non-refundable uniform fee payable to the instructor. Instructor: Master Robert Thompson

Takoma Park Community Center

7500 Maple Avenue Dance Studio

4–17 years

Saturdays, 1:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m.

September 10–November 5

Resident: $110 / Non-resident: $190

Uniform Fee: $70

**EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT**

**English as a Second Language**

ESOL ESL: A beginners’ virtual course featuring conversation and vocabulary in English using daily routines and information. Suggested text for class: English Through Pictures, Book 1 by Richards and Gibson.

Virtual

16 & up

6 Week Session

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6–6:30 p.m.

September 20–October 27

Resident: $70 / Non-resident: $80

**FITNESS**

**Kar De Zuri DanXercise Class**

(Afrobeat/Afro-Ndombolo Dance Class)

A contemporary Afro Dance company specializing in African dancing. Zuri Sana’s DanXercise’s mission is to bring youthful and memories through the art of dance. This class combines hip hop, salsa, dancehall, contemporary, and African dance movement. All our choreography is created to develop a memorable workout experience. Our moves are feasible and suitable for all ages. Participants will be able to shed calories and learn fun choreography all in one class.

Instructor: Khady N’Diaye

Takoma Park Community Center

7500 Maple Avenue Dance Studio

16 & up

Thursdays, 7–8 p.m.

September 8–October 27

Resident: $25 / Non-resident: $35

**Boot Camp**

This total body program includes a circuit of drills, such as jumping jacks, running, push-ups, squats, crunches, and weight training. Drop-ins are welcome. Students are required to bring their own mats. Instructor: Jeremy Sherron

Takoma Park Recreation Center

7315 New Hampshire Avenue

16 & up

7 Week Session

Thursdays & Fridays, 7:30–9:30 a.m.

September 15–October 22

Resident: $255 / Non-resident: $285

Materials Fee: $20

**EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT**

**Girls Empowerment Yoga Class**

High school girls are invited to take part in an eight-week yoga mentoring program that aims to increase self-confidence and self-love, reduce stress, and develop concentration and mindfulness. All sessions will begin with a themed activity followed by a gentle flow to promote flexibility, strength, and balance. Come and join other young ladies and discover the flow within you! Instructor: Alessandra Flores

Takoma Park Community Center Dance Studio

7500 Maple Avenue Grades: 9–12

8 Week Session

Thursdays, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

September 26–November 17

Free

**SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**Girls Empowerment Yoga Class**

High school girls are invited to take part in an eight-week yoga mentoring program that aims to increase self-confidence and self-love, reduce stress, and develop concentration and mindfulness. All sessions will begin with a themed activity followed by a gentle flow to promote flexibility, strength, and balance. Come and join other young ladies and discover the flow within you! Instructor: Alessandra Flores

Takoma Park Community Center Dance Studio

7500 Maple Avenue Grades: 9–12

8 Week Session

Thursdays, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

September 26–November 17

Free

**EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT**

**Entrepreneurship for Teens**

Ever thought about starting your own business? Even teens can do it! Entrepreneurship for Teens is an interactive virtual class that centers around a growth mindset, entrepreneurial skills, and business startup. Registration is required for this class. Once signed up, you will receive a link for access to the virtual class. Instructor: Tyronda Boone

Virtual

Grades: 6–12

8 Week Session

Mondays, 6–7 p.m.

September 19–November 7

Free

**ESports Club**

Take your gaming to the next level! In joining our Esports Club, students will have the opportunity to enhance gaming skills and learn all about the world of competitive gaming while having fun with their peers. Space is limited, so register today!

Takoma Park Community Center

Hyrandeage Room

7500 Maple Avenue Grades: 6–12

8 Week Session

Wednesdays, 3:30–5 p.m.

September 21–November 9

Free
Zumba

Zumba is a fitness program that combines Latin and international music with dance moves. Zumba routines incorporate interval training, alternating fast and slow rhythms, to help improve cardiovascular fitness. No equipment needed for this class. Instructor: Alice Cook
Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Avenue
Dance Studio
16 & Up
September 27–October 11
Mondays, 7–8:30 p.m.

For active older adults who are looking for a low-impact aerobic movement benefit. The program is designed to engage the class in following Zumba choreography that focuses on balance, range of motion, and coordination. Schedule: Register for one class. Instructor: Yenika Flores
Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
16 & up
Tuesdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
September 6–October 18
Mondays, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
September 7–October 19

Zumba Gold

For 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. Choose the class that suits your schedule. Instructor: Yenika Flores
Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
16 & up
Tuesdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
September 6–October 18
Mondays, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
September 7–October 19

Instructor: Isaac Asare
Takoma Park Recreation Center Back Room
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
16 & up
Mondays & Wednesdays, 7–8:30 p.m.
September 12–December 21
Free with Recreation Membership

Join Crochet Group!

Join the group to learn new stitches and work on your projects in a relaxed, social atmosphere. Group led by Sue Bracey. Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Avenue
Lilac Room
55 & up
6 Weeks
Mondays, 11 a.m.–12 p.m.
September 8, October 17, November 21, December 12

Residents: $50 / Non-Residents: $60

Enhance Your Fitness

Active total body workout using low-impact aerobic movement and gentle resistance training, this class focuses on increasing strength, balance, and flexibility through stretching, breathing, core training and proper posture alignment using standing and seated exercises including warm-up and cool down routines. Instructor: Adrienne Busk
Virtual
55 & up
Tuesdays, 8:45–9:45 a.m.
September 6–October 18

Foundation Fitness 55+

The program is designed to enhance strength, decrease fall risks; increase physical fitness level; improve cardiovascular 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. Have a towel and water bottle nearby. Instructor: Michael Williams
Virtual
55 & up
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10–11 a.m.
September 6–October 20

A: I am the director and manager of Everest Wellness. With a degree in health care management from New York University, I have years of experience in corporate wellness and fitness. I grew up in Brooklyn, New York, graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School, and spent the next 12 years working as a lab technician while taking classes and studying. I started my own company, Everest Wellness, to bring wellness engagement to frontline workers. The goal is to attain a work/life balance, become physically fit, and promote good mental health. In 2017, I moved my family to Silver Spring, Maryland, and continued with my company as well as consulting on wellness for Volkswagen and Verizon.

Q: How do the classes work?

A: Working out and healthy living, as we know, is essential for a healthy lifestyle. As for me, healthy living makes me happy and keeps my mood high, which has been so beneficial through the last few years.

Q: What do you hope people will take away from your class?

A: I hope people will come away with not just physical improvement but also a mental and spiritual lift after they have completed one of my classes. If nothing else, I wish they receive a sense of belonging and meet their need for social interaction.

Translation on website www.takomaparkmd.gov

The Takoma Park Recreation Center would like to spotlight one of our newest instructors, Jeremy Sherron. Jeremy teaches bootcamp classes at the Takoma Park Recreation Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30–7:30 p.m. Jeremy showcased his skills and led a free demonstration at our annual Fitness Expo this past April. During the expo, you could easily see Jeremy’s passion for fitness. This Summer 2022 season was his first time teaching with Takoma Park Recreation Center, and he is looking forward to having more successful classes in the future. Please read a little more about Jeremy or stop by the Recreation Center on Tuesday and Thursday evenings to meet him in person.

Q: Tell us about your background. Where did you get your interest in fitness?

A: I have years of experience in corporate wellness and fitness. I grew up in Brooklyn, New York, graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School, and spent the next 12 years working as a lab technician while taking classes and studying. When taking classes and studying, I wish they receive a sense of belonging and meet their need for social interaction.

Q: How do you know when you’ve had a successful class?

A: I know my class is successful when I see people sweating at the end of every class. A good indicator that participants are enjoying the class is when I see them keep coming back and registering for more sessions.

Q: What other hobbies or interests do you have besides fitness?

A: Outside of fitness, I have a passion for music; I am an accomplished pianist.

Q: What should students bring with them to your bootcamp class?

A: Students should bring hand weights, an exercise mat, water bottle, and a positive attitude.

Jeremy will be teaching Bootcamp classes throughout the year. Log into ActiveNet to register or stop by the Recreation Center and our staff would be happy to assist you with registration. We look forward to seeing you soon!
Moving Day Has Arrived! A New Chapter in the Library’s Story

By Anne LeVeque

Finally! Construction is about to begin on the new library building. After years of planning and debate, it’s really happening. Everyone at the library and computer center is looking forward to more space for books, staff, and patrons as well as a new building that is ADA compliant and up to code. While we wait for our new building to be built, we must have somewhere to call home, somewhere for our patrons to visit and find books and other materials.

The library and computer center are closed for the entire month of September as we prepare to move into new, temporary space. Check our website for the new location’s address. We anticipate opening there at the beginning of October. Here’s what you need to know while we are closed:

- **We will automatically renew any materials you have checked out until the temporary location opens.**
- **Please do not try to return books!** Hold onto your materials until the temporary location opens. If you have special circumstances, such as moving away, please email us, and we will make arrangements for your books’ return.
- **All our online resources (www.takomapark.info/libraryonline.html) will be available during the closure. If you need help with them, email us.**
- **Books-to-Go (curbside) and Books-to-You (delivery for Takoma Park residents only) will be suspended during the move.**
- **For printing needs, Montgomery County Libraries have wireless printing available for a small fee. Closer to the Community Center, there are some local businesses that provide this service. Takoma Business Center at 7304 Carroll Ave., the UPS Store at 8955 Willow Ave NW, and Community Printing at 6970 Maple St. NW are a few.**
- **Programs! Canta Juego will continue online. Jump Start with the Arts will be held outdoors in the field on Maple Ave. and New Carroll Place, Yard Dramas, Wednesdays at 11 a.m., will be at Crossroads Farmers Market. All other programs will be suspended during the move.**

Thank you for making this project a reality, and we are doing our best to continue providing you with excellent books, programs, and resources – both in our temporary space, and eventually in our new one.

DIRECTOR’S COLUMN

In Appreciation of Books Wherever You May Find Them

By Jessica Jones

When I was growing up, my dad worked in publishing sales, and my younger sister and I spent a lot of our childhood in bookstores. They were the first place I learned how wonderful it was to be surrounded by books. As children, my sister and I had a make-believe game with our own bookstore (Beeping, Books) and coffee shop (Beeping Hot Coffee), named after my sister Danielle’s love for the sound of a barcode scanner. We were not old enough at the time to appreciate the use of “Beeping” as a placeholder for sweats.

Many years and bookstores and libraries later, books are still something that my thoughts turn to, almost constantly. I may not work in a bookstore, as Danielle and I never made Beeping, Books a reality, but we have definitely retained our love for books, and they are an omnipresent fixture in our lives. Whenever my husband and I have moved – from Texas to Michigan to New Mexico back to Texas and finally to Takoma Park – our apartments always felt like home when we unpacked the books. If home is where the books are, a Library is, by extension, a homey place. It’s certainly something for which the library and computer staff and I strive.

This library, the home for our books – and by extension our stories and programs and staff – is temporarily relocating while we prepare for the building’s new chapter.

After years of discussions, designs, meetings, and planning, it’s finally happening: Takoma Park is getting a new library. And more than that, we’re also reorienting the computer center and part of the Community Center. It’s a big project, and it’s going to take a while. The new library and adjoining facilities will reopen at Maple and Philadelphia Avenues in Spring 2024. But we won’t have to wait that long to check out another book.

We are moving the library and computer center operations to a temporary location for the duration of construction, and the books are coming with us. It won’t be “home,” but it will be the closest thing we can manage until we have a brand-new building to welcome you back to.

The City’s wonderful communications office is helping us get out the word about the relocation, where programs will be, what is available and when, and what’s happening in the construction process. There is so much to convey to you all, but what I want you to make sure I get to say personally, is thank you for sticking with us through this process. Thank you in advance for your patience and your support and engagement.

Thank you for making this project a reality, and we are doing our best to continue providing you with excellent books, programs, and resources – both in our temporary space, and eventually in our new one.
Programs to be on hiatus until further notice. Please share your feedback to help shape the future of our programs by filling out our survey! (https://forms.gle/Ftj2wegmhpOC)

Here’s what you need to know once we’re open at the new location:

• Check our website for program information, including locations and start dates.
• The hours will be the same as at the old building: Monday - Thursday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Friday - Sunday, 12–6 p.m. The Library and computer center now have extended hours.
• The phone number (301-891-7299) will remain the same.
• Books-to-Go (curbside) and Books-to-You (mail delivery) for Takoma Park residents only will resume when the library re-opens.
• You can always reach us by email, and if you have questions about the move or the new building, email us at newlibrary@takomaparkmd.gov.

Moving Day

From page 8

Programs will be suspended until the library opens in its temporary location. See www.takomaparkmd.gov for developments.

The Child & YA Team will take some time to adjust to their new workspace and reorganize programming in the future. Regular programs, like Neighborhood Circle Time and Scribbler’s Cabal, will be on hiatus until further notice. Please share your feedback to help shape the future of our programs by filling out our survey! (https://forms.gle/wFtFJ2we4jmhpOC)

Here’s what you need to know once we’re open at the new location:

• Check our website for program information, including locations and start dates.
• The hours will be the same as at the old building: Monday - Thursday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Friday - Sunday, 12–6 p.m. The Library and computer center now have extended hours.
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National Geographic for students. Once you log in, you can check further elementary or secondary level when you search.

Enciclopedia Estudiantil

Hallazgos is an encyclopedia and dictionary in Spanish, produced by World Book. It is a one-stop database covering all the Spanish-speaking world. There are direct links, so may not all work on all devices. There are many more online resources that we provide. High school students can use the resources in the adult section; there are many dictionaries and encyclopedias, including resources in Spanish and French. From the library home page (www.takomaparkmd.info) just click on 'Online' to find the full list of all our resources.
THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

Maryland fire deaths
The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported as of August 2022, ___ people have died in fires compared to ___ in 2021.

Hot vehicle deaths
As of August 2022, ___ children have died in hot vehicles across the country. Please, when you leave your vehicle make sure you check the back seat, and everyone goes with you. Also lock your vehicle.

Safety message
Keep smoke alarms in good condition:
• Replace the batteries twice a year.
• Clean dust from smoke alarms with a vacuum attachment.
• Replace units that are more than 10 years old.
Push the test button monthly to ensure proper operation.
Be prepared:
• Have an outside meeting place where your family will meet in case of a fire.
• Practice home fire drills.

PASSPORT SERVICES

Passport Services are available by appointment only Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center on the second floor. Appointments are required and can be scheduled by calling 301-891-7100. Passport service hours are subject to change without notice. Whenever possible, office closures will be announced on Facebook, Twitter, and the City’s website. Please note the following:
• The City of Takoma Park does not process the DS-82 Renewal Application, which is a mail-in only Application.

Once Again – September Is National Preparedness Month: Are You Ready?

By Claudia Schneider, Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness Committee

It’s been a difficult year, again with storms, floods, COVID and its variations, now monkey pox, some burglaries, power outages, and medical equipment failure. Being prepared can prevent panic or inaction and its consequences.

First, let’s see how well prepared you are, use this check-list.
If you must remain indoors, do you have:
• Three-day supplies of water and non-perishable food (no cooking or refrigeration); hand-operated can opener.
• In case of power outages: battery-operated lights (flashlight, lantern); portable radio (batteries).
• Health support: prescription medicine for a week; doctors’ contact list with contact information and specialty; contact information for nearest hospital; copies of health insurance info.

Despite our preference for technology, make a paper copy of this information.
• Fully charged portable cell phone charger YES____ NO____ (which ones?)

If you must leave for several days, do you have:
• A go-bag with supplies (see above): clothing/underwear; sturdy shoes.
• Medications and doctors’ contact information.
• Book, games, puzzles to keep busy.

• Pets: Prepare for evacuation
• Emergency Medical Equipment: For persons using electricity to power life support equipment, Pepco’s Emergency Medical Equipment notification program provides notice of scheduled outages and notification of storm warnings. In case of power outages and to check estimated restoration times, call Pepco at 1-877-737-2662.

Contact us at tepcs@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7126. Listen to Beatrice! Prepared the first Sunday of each month at 1 p.m. on WOWD/Talk of Takoma. Email questions to talk@takomaparkmd.com.

Translation on website www.takomaparkmd.gov


document
Appointments/Reappointments to the Committee on Landlord-Tenant Affairs: Appointment – Antoaneta Toleva (Ward 4), Suzanne Gordon (Ward 6), and Ivie Baker (Ward 5); Reappointment – Mark Brochman (Ward 5).


Resolution 2022-25 Providing for Reappointments to the Grants Review Committee: Nadine Bloch (Ward 3), Kevin Stepan (Ward 6), Nicole Ferraiolo (Ward 1), and Susan Rosenblum (Ward 3).

Resolution 2022-26 Providing for Appointments/Reappointments to the Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee: Appointment – Victor Thurovyn; Reappointment – Julie B site (Ward 3). 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. It uses bamboo, standing, and floor poses and breathing and relaxation techniques. A yoga mat is recommended. 

For more information about these classes, please contact the Takoma Park Community Center at 301-891-7275 or visit their website at https://www.takomapark.org.
CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
Wednesday, September 14, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, September 21, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, September 28, 7:30 p.m.

25 Years Later: Reflections on Takoma’s Unification into One County
Sunday, September 18, 2 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
Program features residents and officials who were behind the successful campaign leading to a unified Takoma in 1997. Co-sponsored by Historic Takoma and the City of Takoma Park. Free, reception to follow.

Takoma Park Farmers Market Pie Contest
Sunday, September 18
Pie slice tickets for sale starting at 12:30 p.m.
Laurel Avenue in Takoma Park
The popular contest returns after a two-year hiatus. Bakers are invited to enter their best pies made using seasonal ingredients available now at the market - both sweet and savory. Celebrity judges taste the pies and winners are named in the following categories: Best Apple Pie, Best Peach Pie, Best Other Pie, Best Kid’s Pie, Most Unusual Pie, Yummy Mess Award, and Professional Baker. Following judging, the market slices up the pies and sells them to the public to raise money for the market’s Federal Benefit Match Program. Each year about 50 pies are entered and have included classic pies to creative uses of market ingredients. The event is a fun day for pie bakers and pie eaters alike. Schedule: pie delivery (11 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.), judging (11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.), and winners announced & pie slices available (1 p.m.). For contest rules, visit takomaparkmarket.com/pie-contest-rules.

CITY CAREERS

The City of Takoma Park recruiting includes all career staff, part time or temporary staff, interns, and more. The list of open positions changes frequently, so please check takomaparkmd.gov/careers regularly for up-to-date information. The most recent available positions are:

• Executive Assistant to City Manager to provide highly responsible, confidential, varied and typically complex administrative support to the City Manager and work with the Deputy City Manager in the overall administration of City operations to advance the City Council’s Priorities.
• Construction Manager to oversee construction projects to include sidewalks, traffic calming installations, street repairs, and stormwater management facilities.
• Deputy Police Chief to oversee the day to day operations of a modern, full-service agency dedicated to policing the City with a highly engaged and community-involved approach.
• Captain (Operations Commander) to oversee the operations (patrol, traffic, and community policing) section of the Police Department.
• Recreation Manager to provide specialized duties related to the City’s recreation functions including tasks associated with the operations of the department’s programs at the Community Center.

Applications, and details about these and other open positions can be found at takomaparkmd.gov/careers.

ANNUAL PLAY DAY
Saturday, September 24, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Takoma Park Middle School, 7611 Finney Branch Road
It’s time for you to let your hair down, put on your comfy shoes, and get ready to play! Let’s Play America and the Takoma Park Recreation Department have teamed up to present this wonderful event! Rain or Shine. This event will have tons of fun activities for the entire family to enjoy, including the infamous Touch-A-Truck. To see a full listing of activities and performances, visit www.letsplayamerica.org. The event is free and open to all ages. See you there!

Volunteer at Crossroads Farmers Market!
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. (Through November 23)
Anne St. at University Blvd. E.
They need help with setting up, breaking down, and various tasks throughout the day. To learn more and sign up to volunteer, visit www.crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org/event/volunteer-at-the-market-7.

Historic Takoma Reading Room Sundays (first and third)
7328 Carroll Avenue
Visitors will have access to reference books on Takoma and Maryland history, the collection of Takoma Voices and City newsletters, historical journals, and more.

Historic Takoma is also hosting the Maryland Reference Collection of the Takoma Park Maryland Library during the library’s renovation. Historic Takoma volunteers will be available to answer questions about the collections and Historic Takoma. Reading Room hours will be 1 – 4 p.m. on the first and third Sundays of each month. historictakoma.org

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