

On the DOCKET

Official City Government Meetings

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

The public may comment at regular meetings of the City Council in person or via Zoom. To comment over Zoom, registration by 5 p.m. on the meeting date is required.

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Monday, May 1 - City Council Budget Work Session, 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Auditorium
- Wednesday, May 3 - City Council Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Auditorium
- Wednesday, May 10 - City Council Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Auditorium
- Wednesday, May 17 - City Council Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Auditorium
- Wednesday, May 24 - City Council Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Auditorium
- Wednesday, May 31 (tentative) - City Council Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Auditorium
- Wednesday, June 7 - City Council Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Auditorium

CITY BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Check the calendar on the City website for the most up-to-date information, including links to access meetings and agendas. Visit takomaparkmd.gov and click on "Events and Meetings." Most City boards and committees continue to meet on Zoom. Some are holding hybrid meetings (simultaneously in-person and on Zoom)

ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 23, 7 p.m.
(remote/virtual meeting)

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Wednesday, May 11, 7:30 p.m. (hybrid: in-person and remote/virtual meeting)

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 18, 7 p.m.
(remote/virtual meeting)

GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 2, 6:30 p.m.
(remote/virtual meeting)

NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 9, 7:30 p.m.
(remote/virtual meeting)

POLICE CHIEF'S ADVISORY BOARD

Date and time TBA (remote/virtual meeting)

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 18, 7 p.m.
(remote/virtual meeting)

SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND CERTIFIED COMMITTEE

Monday, May 1, 7 p.m.
(remote/virtual meeting)

TREE COMMISSION

Wednesday, May 10, 7 p.m.
(remote/virtual meeting)

YOUTH COUNCIL

Thursday, May 11, 4 p.m. (hybrid: in-person and remote/virtual meeting)
Thursday, May 25, 4 p.m. (hybrid: in-person and remote/virtual meeting)

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 City Clerk Jessie Carpenter at clerk@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7267 as early as possible.

Two Vacancies on the Police Employees' Retirement Plan Committee (Police Pension Board)

The Takoma Park Police Employees Retirement Plan Committee has two openings for Takoma Park residents. The Committee consists of seven members: the city manager; the finance director; the police chief; a representative of UFCW Local 400; a representative of Police Supervisory Employees; and two Takoma Park residents. Committee members have fiduciary responsibility for the pension plan.

The Committee meets two to four times per year, during business hours, to review plan investments, meet with the plan actuary to receive the annual actuarial valuation, and review recommended amendments to the plan. Other duties of the Board are described in Chapter 4.24 of the Takoma Park Code. Contact City Clerk Jessie Carpenter at 301-891-7267 or clerk@takomaparkmd.gov for additional information or to apply.

CouncilAction

Only negative votes, absences, and abstentions are noted here. All resolutions and ordinances are published after adoption.

MARCH 8, 2023

- Ordinance 2023-3** Approving the installation of Traffic Calming on the 6500 Block of Second Ave. (Councilmembers Fulcher and Small abstained).
- Resolution 2023-12** Approving a Series of Temporary Street Closures for Special Events or Traffic Counts. The resolution authorized the following:
 - March 29 - Temporary Traffic Count Closure (Laurel Ave. between Carroll and Eastern Aves.)
 - April 29 - Temporary Traffic Count Closure (Laurel Ave. between Carroll and Eastern Aves.)
 - April 16 - Market at the Bank (Laurel Ave. between Carroll and Eastern Aves.)
 - April 30 - Takoma Park Motorcycle Show (Laurel Ave. between Carroll and Eastern Aves.)
 - May 6 (rain date May 13) - Takoma Children's Business Fair (Laurel Ave. between Carroll and Eastern Aves.)

- May 6 - Takoma/Langley CDA Spring Fest (Anne Street between University Blvd. and Hammond Aves.)
- May 13 - Takoma Flea (Grant Ave. from Hancock to Ethan Allen Ave.)
- May 20 - Market at the Bank (Laurel Ave. between Carroll and Eastern Aves.)
- May 21 - Crossroads Food Fair (Laurel Ave. between Carroll and Eastern Aves.)
- June 11 - Takoma Pride Event (Laurel Ave. between Carroll and Eastern Aves.)
- September 17 - Takoma Park Farmers Market Pie Contest (Laurel Ave. between Carroll and Eastern Aves.)
- October 10 - Takoma Park Street Festival (Carroll Ave. between Eastern and Grant Aves.)

March 15, 2023

- Ordinance 2023-4** Approving FY 2023 Budget Amendment No. 5. The budget amendment recognized revenue from a number of grant awards, increased funding for the Tree Takoma Program, recognized additional revenue from increased interest rates on the City's deposit accounts, and approved several department transfers.

Recruitment for City Boards and Committees: Consider Serving! Apply by June 10

The City Council welcomes residents with all different types of experience and knowledge and seeks diverse members to represent our community. Your experience living in Takoma Park and interacting with our community on a daily basis and/or working in your chosen profession can give you what you need to be a part of a board or committee.

Applications are being accepted now to fill vacancies and terms ending on a number of boards and committees.

Below you will find information on the role, responsibility, commitment, and compensation of a board, committee, and commission member.

Covid-19 Vaccination Mandate.

Please note that there is a vaccination mandate for all City staff and volunteers. All committee meetings include a remote/virtual option. If you cannot comply with the vaccination requirement, you will still be able to participate, but only remotely.

Role and Responsibility. Members of City boards and committees are appointed by and report to the City Council and focus on a particular

priority area. These groups can

- leverage residents' technical expertise and lived experiences to inform City policies and programs;
- establish good working relationships with other members;
- provide tangible recommendations or help fulfill City regulatory functions;
- ensure that the Council has regular and timely information to use when needed;
- create an opportunity to engage residents on issues that are important to them, as well as assist in community education and outreach; and
- pledge to uphold and comply with code of conduct so that the public can continue to have full confidence in the integrity of local government.

Commitment. You can expect to attend 1-2 meetings per month of around 1.5 to 2 hours. Meetings are held on weeknights at the Community Center (via Zoom).

RECRUITMENT ☐ Page 12

Building COMMUNITY

Montgomery College Wants to Hear from You

Montgomery College is conducting community meetings over the next few months to share information and to solicit comments from the community as it updates its facilities master plan. The collegewide kickoff, focusing on all campuses, will be held on May 2 at 6 p.m., and a meeting focusing on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring campus will be held on May 4 at 6 p.m. Both are available over Zoom

Community colleges across Maryland are required by law to update their facilities master plans every ten years. The master

plan is a high-level document that reviews the conditions of existing facilities and future facility needs based on future enrollment, academic programs, services, and operations. Montgomery College will update the plan over the coming months for the next 10 years. Information about how to join these meetings and other updates can be found on the Montgomery College Takoma Park/Silver Spring project update blog: <https://mcblogs.montgomerycollege.edu/building-projects/category/updates/>

Notice Rent Stabilization Allowance: Annual Rent Increase Set at 3.7%

Effective: July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

The City of Takoma Park law (*City Code Chapter 6.20 Rent Stabilization*) maintains the affordability of rental units by limiting the number and amount of rent increases charged for a specific rental unit. Generally, the rent may be increased only once in any given 12-month period.

Beginning July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, the Rent Stabilization Allowance is 3.7%. Landlords are required to comply with Takoma Park's Rent Stabilization law and cannot increase the rent on occupied units any higher than this allowance.

Multi-family rental units and rental condominium units are subject to Rent Stabilization. Rent increases are limited to the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index published by the Department of Bureau of Labor Statistics for the period of March 2022 through March 2023.

Pursuant to the City Code, a two-month written notice must be provided to the tenant(s) before a landlord can legally increase the rent. (*City Code Chapter 6.20.050(C) Notice of Annual Rent Increases*).

Please note that the following units may be exempt from Rent Stabilization upon application to the City. The exemption is not automatic and must be approved by the City.

- Rental units leased to tenants under the Housing Choice Voucher Program;
- Any rental facility where the rents are regulated under contract by a governmental agency that controls the rent levels of not less than one-half of the rental units in the rental facility and restricts the occupancy of those rental units to low- and- moderate income tenants; and
- Newly constructed rental units for a period of five years after construction.

If you have any questions regarding your rent or need more information about the requirements of the City's Rent Stabilization law, please contact Jean Kerr, Housing Specialist at 301-891-7216 or 240-672-1023 or email jeank@takomaparkmd.gov.



Ready Your Rides: Bike to School on May 3!

Grab your helmets and join the City of Takoma Park Planning Division staff to celebrate Bike to School Day on Wednesday, May 3. The Safe Routes to School program will work with local elementary and middle schools to hand out free bike safety gear, information, and prizes

for students and families. Each school's programming will be designed to suit its school community, so keep an eye out for announcements and updates from school administrators.

Spin Your Wheels: Bike to Work on May 19!

Registration is now open for the Bike to Work Day on May 19. Whether you are commuting to work, or looking for a morning activity between your bed and your home office, join the City of Takoma Park

at two pit stops on the Sligo Creek Trail or in Old Takoma. Register in advance for a free T-shirt, bike safety swag, and more.

To register, visit biketoworkmetrodc.org/



The City Is Hiring a Coordinator to Promote Safe Routes to Schools

May is National Bike Month, which means it's also the time of year that the City's Planning Division works with our local school communities to provide resources and programming in support of safe biking to and from schools.

This year, the Division is also actively hiring a part-time Special Projects Coordinator to support the Planning Division's pedestrian and bike safety programming, including the City's Safe Routes to School program. This Coordinator develops

events, programs, and instructional activities to enhance walking and biking in Takoma Park. The coordinator will work closely with the administrators and PTAs of five local elementary and middle schools and with community partners to develop a variety of school-based programs and identify infrastructure and policies to support safer walking and biking. To learn more about this part-time role, please visit the City of Takoma Park *Careers* web page.

Editor's note

English:

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

French:

Recherchez cette icône à côté des articles du bulletin que vous pouvez lire en ligne dans d'autres langues à l'aide de la fonction de traduction disponible sur le site Web de la ville de Takoma Park. Après avoir cliqué sur le lien de l'article, regardez dans le coin supérieur droit de la page Web à côté de la barre de navigation, puis sélectionnez la langue souhaitée à l'aide du menu déroulant.

Spanish:

Busque este icono junto a los artículos del boletín que puede leer en línea en otros idiomas usando la función de traducción en el sitio web de la Ciudad de Takoma Park. Después de hacer clic en el enlace del artículo, busque en la esquina superior derecha de la página web junto a la barra de navegación y seleccione el idioma que desee con el cuadro desplegable.

Amharic:

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Takoma Park’s New EV Street Sweeper Needs a Name

We want you to name it. SweeperStakes launched on Thursday, April 27 at our EV Sweeper Open House. The contest will run until Friday, May 19. Public Works will unveil the winning name at the 4th of July Parade, and the winner will ride in the EV Sweeper along the parade route.

To enter, submit written name, illustration or photo to <https://bit.ly/3mZwn6x> or use Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram and tag @takomaParkMD. You can also email Communications Director Donna Wright at donnaw@takomaparkmd.gov.

By submitting photos or images, you grant permission for your photo or image

to be used by the City of Takoma Park on social media, websites, and any marketing campaigns without written consent. Judges for the competition will be Troy Fingal and Daryl Braithwaite from Public Works and Jessica Jones from the Library.

Switching from the diesel-powered sweeper that was purchased in 2010 to the all-electric version will reduce the use of fuel by around 700 gallons per year, or the equivalent greenhouse gas emissions by 3% (the City’s fleet generates 210 metric tons of CO2 per year and the diesel sweeper generated about 6.7 metric tons of CO2).

Takoma Thunderbolts Baseball Returns on June 4

By Kevin Adler

On June 4, the Takoma Park-Silver Spring Thunderbolts baseball team will open its 2023 summer season, celebrating a new scoreboard at its home field and welcoming 30 new players.

With tickets at \$6 for adults and \$2 for children, play in the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League is family entertainment at its best, says team founder and Takoma Park resident Dick O’Connor. “Blair High School, our home field, is a great place to watch a game. Every seat is fantastic. You’re close to the action,” he says.

In summer leagues, batters must use wood bats, rather than the aluminum or graphite bats allowed in amateur ball. “It’s like a new ballgame,” O’Connor says. “Hitters have to adjust, and pitchers can be more aggressive. The top pitchers can throw in the low-90s.”

While players on the field seek to impress pro scouts, the Thunderbolts provide entertainment off the field as well. Team organizers hold kid-oriented races between innings, conduct raffles and baseball trivia quizzes, and grill burgers only about 30 feet behind home plate.

This year’s team is looking to reverse a losing season in 2022, says third-year Coach Brock Hunter. He’s loading up on pitchers after having his staff wear down in the heat last summer. “We’re going to have two or three more arms,” he says. “We want pitchers with talent, but it’s just as much about wanting to compete.”

Evan Rishell—now a junior at Millersville University—is one



Photo credit: Neal Lavon.

The Silver Spring-Takoma Park Thunderbolts season begins June 4. Home games are at Blair High School.

of the pitchers Hunter is counting on, “He was our best starter last season. He got outs because he competed every time,” Hunter says.

Chandler Moeller, now a junior at Lander University, also returns on the mound for another season. “He made great progress with us last season and ended up throwing in two of our last three games,” Hunter says.

On the hitting side, Hunter says the team will emphasize putting the ball in play and reducing strikeouts. This is key for players who can’t rely on the power boost of metal bats. “Let’s get the ball in play, and we will get on base,” Hunter says.

Infielder Beck Urofsky, an All-Met player at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School who is playing at Cornell University, is expected to be a key hitter and presence up the middle. Another infielder who’s expected to contribute significantly is Coleman Calabrese,

now finishing his sophomore year at James Madison.

Players on the Thunderbolts come from around the nation, and more than a dozen will be living with host families in the area. They embrace Takoma Park and Silver Spring during their stay, says O’Connor, helping out at Thunderbolts summer baseball camps, marching in Takoma Park’s Independence Day Parade, and more. The baseball camps will run for five weeks beginning on June 20, aimed at kids 7-14 who have some prior baseball experience. Registration is still open at tbolts.org.

Tickets for Thunderbolts games can be purchased in advance at www.tbolts.org or at the gate. The website also has bios of each player and links to podcasts, interviews, and live play-by-play of each game. Find out how you can host a Tbolts player by visiting tbolts.org/host-for-us

EVENTO GRATUITO

DÍA DE LA BICICLETA PARA IR AL TRABAJO

VIERNES 19 DE MAYO DE 2023

Regístrese previamente antes del 12 de mayo para una CAMISETA GRATIS & SORTEO DE UNA BICICLETA

REGÍSTRATE HOY EN BikeToWorkMetroDC.org

Bebidas gratis y obsequios en los lugares participantes, hasta agotar existencias.

COMMUTER CONNECTIONS. A SMARTER WAY TO WORK

GO Alex

ICF

VERRA Standards for a Sustainable Future

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PEDEGO ELECTRIC BIKES ALEXANDRIA & BETHESDA

ALL ABOUT BURGER

Bicycle SPACE

CityDentalDC saving over 20 years

FAIR LAKES

MDOT MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Giant

BIKES@VIENNA

Regístrese gratis en BIKETOWORKMETRODC.ORG 800.745.7433

#BTWTD2023

Visite biketoworkmetrodc.org para más información acerca de las puntos de parada y los horarios. *Camisetas disponibles en las puntos de parada a los primeros 15,000 participantes que se registren. Puntos de parada en D.C., Maryland and Virginia.

El Día de la Bicicleta para Ir al Trabajo está financiado por DDOT, MDOT, VDOT y USDOT.

FREE EVENT

BIKE TO WORK DAY

FRI, MAY 19, 2023

Pre-Register by May 12 for FREE T-SHIRT* & BIKE RAFFLE

REGISTER TODAY AT BikeToWorkMetroDC.org

Free refreshments & giveaways at participating locations, while supplies last.

COMMUTER CONNECTIONS. A SMARTER WAY TO WORK

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MDOT MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Giant

BIKES@VIENNA

Register for free at BIKETOWORKMETRODC.ORG 800.745.7433

#BTWTD2023

Visite biketoworkmetrodc.org for pit stop locations and times. *T-Shirts available at pit stops to first 15,000 registrants. Pit stops in D.C., Maryland, and Virginia!

Bike to Work Day is funded by DDOT, MDOT, VDOT, and USDOT.

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May 2023

The ARTS

Transformations Exhibition Explores Power of Paper

The origin of paper winds across the centuries from papyrus in ancient Egypt to pulp-based paper from the Han dynasty in China to photographic paper in the 19th century.

Artists have transformed this common material into new worlds of invention and creativity, including three local artists whose work is now on display in the *Transformations* exhibition at the Takoma Park Community Center at 7500 Maple Ave.

The featured artists include Beth Caruso, Landry Dunand, and Randall Williams.

The exhibition, which will be on display until June 7, was curated by the City of Takoma Park's Arts and Humanities Coordinator Brendan Smith.

"I was drawn to these artists because they have very unique styles, but their work is interconnected through innovative uses of paper," Smith says. "Paper has been crucial through the ages for the expression of ideas in art, literature, and science."

Beth Caruso's work often depicts aspects of the self and the body in relation to nature. In her *Inner Life* series, she photographs subjects and scenes and then uses digital tools to transform them into mirrored, kaleidoscopic imagery.

"This series stems from a vivid interplay of intellect and emotion, combined with the workings of my conscious and subconscious," she says. "In this light, the work can be viewed as a dialogue between the inner life of the artist and her surroundings, reflecting a desire to reorder the elements of the external world."

Landry Dunand is a photographer who is exploring the image as an experience in which the artist and subject connect through the photographic process. A native of France, he has traveled extensively and previously lived in Afghanistan, where he used a vintage Afghan box to photograph local people. He then printed those images in various sizes and used collage and paint to create new visions.

"I wanted to evoke the gritty streets where the photos were taken," Dunand says. "Ultimately, my hope is that my images will invite viewers to engage with the world in a new way."

Finding inspiration in nature, literature, and the arts, Randall Williams cuts paper to create highly detailed colorful artwork. He is president of the Guild of American Papercutters, an organization dedicated to preserving and advancing papercutting as an art form.

"I use hand-cut paper combined with acrylic paints and inks to create layered, expressive images that explore form and color," he says. "I attempt to create pieces with movement and depth. Papercutting is a meditative art form—as it does not pay to move recklessly when wielding a sharp blade—that brings me a sense of calm."



Above: *Phantomscatalog* by Landry Dunand

Left top: *Skyfloat* by Beth Caruso

Left bottom: *Barred Owl* by Randall Williams



Takoma Park Arts Poetry Reading

Thursday, May 18 at 7:30 pm
Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Avenue

Please join us for our next free Takoma Park Arts poetry reading, at which four local poets will share their enlightening poetry on various subjects. The featured poets will be Jaxsyn Conway, Ryan Holman, Carol Jennings, and Melanie Weldon-Soiset.

The Takoma Park Arts series includes free poetry readings, art exhibitions, film screenings, concerts, theater, and dance performances at the Takoma Park Community Center. Go to takomaparkmd.gov/arts for more info and to sign up for our e-newsletter.



Takoma Park News

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www.takomaparkmd.gov

The Takoma Park Newsletter is published 12 times a year as the official publication of the City of Takoma Park, takomaparkmd.gov.

TOTS

DANCE

Combo Tot Dance
Enjoy a fun and energizing class for your little ones. This is the introductory foundational class consisting of rhythmic movements, into basic tumbling and various styles of dance. Jam packed with games and toys your tots won't even realize they are learning to dance. Instructor: Dance Solutions
Ages: 3-5
Sundays, 12:15-1 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center (Dance Studio)
7500 Maple Ave.
Spring: Through May 21
Summer: July 2-August 20
Resident: \$125 / Non-resident: \$145

YOUTH

CAMP



Dance Camp
Children will learn basic dance skills, rhythm, musicality, and improvisation. The camp will focus on choreography, ballet, modern dance and hip-hop. Instructors will focus on building self-esteem and personal creativity, helping participants gain confidence in the craft of dance. In addition to dance, campers will have an opportunity to participate in team building, games, arts and crafts, and outdoor activities. At the end of each session, campers will be given the opportunity to highlight and showcase what they have learned with a performance. Instructor: Charonne Butler
Ages 6-12
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Ave.
2 Week Sessions
Session 1: July 17-July 28
Session 2: July 31-August 11
Resident: \$295 / Non-resident: \$325
Before Care: 7-9 a.m.
After Care: 4-6 p.m.
Resident: \$90 / Non-resident: \$110 per session

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Tutoring Services
Looking for some extra academic support? Tutoring for grades K-12 is available at both the Community Center (7500 Maple Ave.) and the Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Ave.). Tutors are able to help with a variety of subjects, including English, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Choose the day and location that is most convenient for you.
Grades K-12
4-5pm
Through June 8
Free

Takoma Park Recreation Center
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Mondays & Wednesdays

Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Ave.
Hydrangea Room
Tuesdays & Thursdays

SPORTS

Golf
This course is designed for the novice golfer. This class will focus on the fundamentals of the sport including the equipment, some rules, etiquette, and the history of the sport. Instructor: Fred Harllee
Ages 6 and up
Saturdays, 11-11:45 a.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center (outdoor classroom)
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
5 Week Session
Spring: through May 20
Summer: July 8-August 12
Resident: \$60 / Non-Resident: \$70



T-Ball League
This league allows kids to have fun while learning the fundamentals of baseball. Emphasis will be on fun, learning to hit, running bases, and catching. No experience is necessary as all skill levels are welcome. Participants must bring their own baseball glove. All teams will be formed by the Recreation Department. Games will be hosted at Belle Ziegler Field and are played on Saturday mornings at 9 a.m. Volunteer coaches are needed.
Ages 5-8
Saturdays, starting at 9 a.m.
June 3-July 22

SPECIAL EVENTS

Family Outdoor Movie Night: June 3
Our outdoor movie will begin at dusk on Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary School). Bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a movie under the stars with your family! The Recreation Department will provide one small bag of popcorn per person and water. Due to limited parking, walking to the event is encouraged. The movie will be a yet-to-be decided family-friendly hit.
Vote for your movie pick at the City of Takoma Park website.
All ages
Saturday, June 3, movie starts at dusk
Ed Wilhelm Field, 2 Darwin Ave.
Free



Belle Ziegler Field
7350 Takoma Ave.
Resident: \$70 / Non-resident: \$80

Y.E.S. League 2023
This program provides a positive venue for youth to express themselves through basketball. Teams will be guaranteed five games and each participant will receive a Y.E.S. League T-shirt.
Grades: 5-8
Mondays, 6-9 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center (Gymnasium)
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
June 26-August 7
Resident: \$35 / Non-resident: \$45

TEENS

ART
Drawing & Watercolor
Have fun learning to draw with black, white, and colored drawing materials. Paint with watercolors, use pen and ink, and explore mixed media approaches to representational imagery. Subjects will include still life, self-portrait, landscape (weather permitting), and floral studies. Beginning students are

welcome. The skills focus of the class is appropriate for students interested in developing a portfolio for entry into the Visual Art Center at Albert Einstein High School. Materials fee of \$20, paid directly to the instructor, must be made on the first day of class. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman
Ages 11-15
Tuesday or Thursday
May-June, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center (Art Studio)
7500 Maple Ave.
Resident: \$180 / Non-resident: \$200
Materials Fee: \$20

CAMPS

Counselor in Training (CIT)
Teens ages 14 and 15 are invited to sign up to be a Counselor in Training (CIT) this summer! The CIT program includes a set of training sessions and provides teens with the ability to earn up to 40 student service learning (SSL) hours by volunteering with Takoma Park Summer Camps. Teens will have an opportunity to develop leadership skills while becoming First Aid/CPR-certified. During the summer camp sessions, the CIT will support all planned program activities on site as well as any regularly scheduled off site activities such as swimming and field trips.
Ages 14-16
Key dates:
• CIT Orientation: Wednesday, May 10 5-6:30 p.m.
• Pre-Service: Tuesday-Thursday, June 20-22 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
• First Aid/CPR Training: Friday, June 23 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Resident: \$40 / Non-resident: \$50



Just Teens Summer Camp
This July, join Takoma Park Recreation for Just Teens Camp where we enjoy four weeks of fun activities and new adventures! During our time, we will celebrate other cultures around the globe; deep dive under the sea; take a trip down memory lane looking at eras from the past; and face our fears through fun challenges!

Paperwork will need to be completed before the first day of camp. Bring a bag lunch, snack, and labeled water bottle. For more information on Just Teens Camp, please contact Haven Rhodd at HavenR@takomaparkmd.gov.
Grades 6-12
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
July 3-July 28 (No camp on July 4)
Takoma Park Community Center (Teen Lounge)
7500 Maple Ave.
Resident: \$150 / Non-Resident: \$170

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ EXTENDED CARE

School year 2023-2024

★ Registration is now open!

★ The Recreation Department is pleased to again offer both before care and after care at both of our facilities. Morning Addition and Afternoon Addition are held at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave., and Before the Bell and After the Bell are held at the Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Ave.

★ We emphasize fun, leisure, and recreation programs before and after the school day, while providing a safe environment for children grades K - 5. Participants will engage in daily indoor/outdoor group activities and holiday-based events.

★ Children will have time for free play, homework assignments, breakfast (not provided) or preparation for their upcoming day in before care. Each afternoon kids will receive a snack, have time to complete homework, and enjoy arts and crafts, sports, board games, free play, and more.

★ These programs operate when Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) are in session.

★ COSTS AND HOURS

★ Before Care: \$1,700 / Non-resident: \$2,000

★ Hours: 7-9 a.m.

★ After Care: \$2,500 / Non-resident: \$3,000

★ Hours: 3:30-6:30 p.m.

★ Bundle Discount: Resident: \$3,570 / Non-resident: \$4,250

★ Participants who register for both before care and after care at the same facility in one transaction will receive a discount.

★ Payment Plan: A 20% deposit is due at the time of registration. The remaining balance will be divided into monthly payments, Sept-May.

MORE DETAILS

Before The Bell & After The Bell

Takoma Park Recreation Center

7315 New Hampshire Ave.

Transportation will not be provided through the Takoma Park Recreation Department. Please contact MCPS Transportation at 301-840-8130 to change your bus route to Hampshire Towers. We will wait with participating children at the bus stop.

Morning Addition & Afternoon Addition

Takoma Park Community Center

7500 Maple Ave.

Staff will escort participants to/from Takoma Park Elementary School and Piney Branch Elementary School.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

For a full list of our classes and to register visit:
bit.ly/TPRDActiveNet (case sensitive).

RECREATION

■ From page 6

STEM Forward!

Come out to our one-week STEM-themed camp where middle school aged youth will enjoy hands-on STEM activities and interactive scientific projects. Themes include structural engineering, light and heat energy, and coding and robotics. Youth will need to bring a bagged lunch and water bottle (note: there are no food-heating capabilities on-site). Paperwork is required prior to the first day of camp. Facilitated by Get Into STEM, Inc. Grades: 6-8
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
June 26-June 30
Takoma Park Community Center (Teen Lounge)
7500 Maple Ave.
Resident: \$150 / Non-resident: \$170

DANCE

Kolor Me Dance: Hip Hop Class

Hip-hop incorporates aspects of modern dance, tap, and swing—integrating music and complex movements to form artistry. Come and discover the fundamentals of hip-hop dance by learning fun routines! Teens will also have the opportunity to explore other types of dance, such as stepping as well as learn current TikTok dance routines! Taught by Kokoe Abas. Grades 6-12
Fridays, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Through June 9
Takoma Park Community Center (Dance Studio)
7500 Maple Ave.
Free

EDUCATION/DEVELOPMENT

Teen Money Management

This class is all about learning fundamental financial skills to be prosperous in life! By learning the concepts listed below and putting them into practice, participants will be much better prepared when they begin building their own credit history and managing their own money. Concepts include long-term savings, credit, opening a bank account, debt, and budgeting. The class will be held virtually. Grades 6-12
Mondays, 6-7 p.m.
Through June 5
Free



SPECIAL EVENT

School's Out Cookout and Field Day

School's out!! To celebrate, the teen program will be hosting a community field day full of friends, food, and fun at Ed Wilhelm Field. Kick back and listen to beats by a live DJ or participate in classic field day games like relay races and obstacle courses. Invite your friends and come out to have a good time celebrating the end of the school year. You made it! Don't miss out on all the fun! Teens are encouraged to bring blankets or towels for sitting on the field. Additionally, there will be water games and activities so please prepare accordingly! Grades 6-12
Friday, June 16, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Ed Wilhelm Field
2 Darwin Ave.
Free

SPORTS

Old School vs. New School Basketball Game

Prepare for an epic battle of Old School vs New School! On Friday, May 12 at 4 p.m., the Teen Program will be hosting a basketball tournament with concurrent 3-on-3 adult and teen basketball games to determine the ultimate Old School vs New School match-up! Who will take the crown?! People of all ages are invited to come out to watch the games

and have fun with a DJ, food, 3-point contest, and raffle prizes!
Friday, May 12, 4-8 p.m.
Takoma-Piney Branch Neighborhood Park (Steve Francis Court)
2 Darwin Ave.
Free



Y.E.S. League 2023: High School

This program provides a positive venue for youth to express themselves through the game of basketball. Teams will be guaranteed five games and each participant will receive a Y.E.S. League T-shirt. Grades 9-12
Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m.
July 5-August 9
Takoma Park Recreation Center (Gymnasium)
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Resident: \$35 / Non-resident: \$45

ADULTS

ART

Drawing

The practice of drawing can be both relaxing and enriching. Participants in this class will draw with black and white and color media, such as charcoal, oil and chalk, pastels, pen and ink, and colored pencils. Students will be supported by weekly lessons with demos involving proportion and perspective, ongoing feedback, and critique. Creative cropping, expressive mark-making, exploration into limited value or color key, and other techniques will be discussed. Personal creativity will be encouraged. Beginning to advanced students are welcome. Paper and drawing materials will be available for the \$20 materials fee due on the first day of class. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman
Ages: 18 and up
Thursdays, 6:30-9 p.m.
May 4 -June 8
Takoma Park Community Center (Art Studio)
7500 Maple Ave.
Resident: \$230 / Non-resident: \$260
Materials Fee: \$20

FITNESS

Boot Camp

A total body program that includes a circuit of drills such as jumping jacks, running, push-ups, squats, crunches, and weight training. A challenging workout within a quick hour. Ages: 16 and up
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
June 6-June 29
Takoma Park Recreation Center
7315 New Hampshire Ave.(Gymnasium)
Resident: \$65 / Non-Resident: \$75
Drop-in: \$10

SPORTS

Adult Summer Basketball League

Join our Adult Basketball League this summer! Put together your winning team and go against other area teams in order to win the league championship. Teams will be provided uniforms.
Free Agent Policy: Individual participants will be placed on a waiting list and contacted if space becomes available on a team. If offered a space on a team, you will be responsible to pay your registration and any other

associated fees to that team. Spaces are not guaranteed.
Ages: 18 and up
Thursdays, 6-8 p.m.
July 6-August 10
Takoma-Piney Branch Neighborhood Park (Steve Francis Court)
2 Darwin Ave.
Team Fee: \$300

Pickleball

Join the Takoma Park Pickleball Club! Grab a friend or make a new one on the court. The club meets weekly at the Takoma Park Recreation Center for pick-up games of Pickleball. All skill levels are welcome. Ages 18 and up
Mondays, 6:45-8:45 p.m.
Through May 22
Takoma Park Recreation Center (Gymnasium)
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Free with Recreation Center Membership

55+

DROP-IN

Bingo

Try your luck and win a prize! This is drop-in. Host: Paula Lisowski
Ages: 55 and up
Tuesdays, 12-2 p.m.
May 23, June 27
Takoma Park Community Center (Lilac Room, location subject to change)
7500 Maple Ave.
Free

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Smartphone Photos/Videos

Improve your photo and video skills using your smartphone. Learn how to properly frame and capture photos and videos using your camera. Online or in-person registration is required with the Recreation Department. This class is virtual. The class link will be sent to registered participants. Instructor: Isaac Asare
Ages: 55 and up
Tuesday, May 16, 4-5:30 p.m.
\$6



FITNESS

Enhance Your Fitness

A great 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. This class is virtual. Instructor: Adriene Buist
Ages: 55 and up
Tuesdays, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
Spring: through June 13
Summer: July 11-August 15
\$6

Qigong

This class focuses on meditation through movement (standing and/or seated) that can benefit participants by lowering stress and anxiety, increasing focus and improving balance and flexibility. It combines breathing, gentle movement and meditation to improve good mental, physical and spiritual health. Instructor: Anne Harrison
Ages: 55 and up
Thursdays, 10-11 a.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center (Back Activity Room)
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Spring: through June 15
Summer: July 13-August 17
\$6



SPORTS

Pickleball Open Play

Join other new players for pickleball practice and play in the Gymnasium. This activity is geared toward beginners. Ages: 55 & up
Thursdays, 12-2 p.m.
Through June 15
Takoma Park Recreation Center (Gymnasium)
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Free with membership

STEM Star

The Takoma Park Recreation Department was fortunate to have a STEM Spring Break Camp this year. We wanted to highlight STEM camp instructor, Tosin Adetoro. Tosin taught the teens various STEM subjects, such as circuitry, robotics, and coding. Over Spring Break she kept the teen participants engaged and excited to learn about STEM.

Tosin has a bachelor's in physics from Frostburg State University and a master's in technology education from Virginia Tech. She also received her Educational Leadership and Administration Certificate from George Washington University.

"I believe that teaching STEM and STEAM in schools encourages creativity and problem-solving in students, while also teaching them how fun the world around them can be," says Tosin. "The Spring Break camp with the City of Takoma Park challenged the campers to use the engineering design process and the 4Cs (collaboration, communication,



Tosin Adetoro

creativity, and critical thinking) to solve design challenges. I am looking forward to building upon these activities in the upcoming summer STEM camp in June."

Another fun week of STEM camp is lined up for teens, June 26-June 30. Register now for a fun and educational week.



LIBRARY



Library and Computer Center Hours

Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Friday-Sunday, 12 p.m.-6 p.m.

Holiday closings: The Library and Computer Center will be closed on May 28 and 29 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

Our address is 7505 New Hampshire Ave. There is plenty of parking as well as public transportation.

To protect our most vulnerable patrons and staff, the Library strongly encourages everyone to continue to wear a mask while in the library, even though masks are optional in City facilities now.

Internet Hotspots to borrow! The Library has acquired a supply of Verizon JetPacks (hotspots) for patrons to borrow. The hotspots will permit up to 10 devices to connect to the internet. These items will be available only to adult patrons and require a signed user agreement.

Books-to-Go is continuing, and **Books-to-You** (delivery for Takoma Park residents only) is starting back up. Email librarytakomapark@gmail.com to order. Please note: if you are picking up a Books-to-Go order, please call the library's main number, 301-891-7259.

Return of the MOOC! What's a MOOC? It's a Massive Open Online Course, a continuing education and enrichment program for adults, and we haven't had one since 2018. This summer we're going to start them up again, and we want YOUR ideas for topics. Email Anne LeVeque at annel@takomaparkmd.gov with your favorite topic. We will announce our topic decision in May. The Library will hold MOOC sessions on Sundays at noon beginning in June.

Regular Programs

Neighborhood Circle Time Join Ms. Kati and/or Ms. Verónica every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. for Circle Time indoors in our new temporary library. We sing songs, have fun with fingerplays and rhymes, and do many dancing and movement exercises. We read a book in the middle of the program. **Jumpstart With the Arts** is returning to Circle Time on the first Tuesday of each month—the next time they will be with us is May 2. If your child has a birthday coming up, please email Ms. Kati at kathrynn@takomaparkmd.gov with the age and day, and we will celebrate!

Canta Juego: Spanish Circle time every Thursday at 10:30 am via Zoom! Join the fun at our weekly Zoom Spanish Circle Time, led by Señora Geiza. In this 30-minute program, kids and adults can

sing songs and do rhymes and movement exercises in Spanish. To participate, go to <https://zoom.us/> Click on "Join a Meeting." Then put in this Meeting ID: 959-5178-5847 and Meeting Password: 793725. Sponsored by Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library.

Tableros: Board Games / Juegos de mesa Several board games for all ages will be available for play at the Library. Play your favorite games and discover new ones! In person, at our interim location, Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m.

Lego Club Create with Legos! Sunday, May 7, 1-3 p.m.

Kids' Art Make a craft for Mother's Day! Sunday, May 14, 1-3 p.m.

Yard Dramas returns to the Crossroads Farmers Market for the 2023 summer season. This is an interactive outdoor storytelling and community building program. Wednesdays at 11 a.m., beginning May 3, in-person at the Crossroads Farmers Market, Anne St. at University Blvd.

Sketch Club Join Dave on Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. for Sketch Club, now **in-person only** at 7505 New Hampshire Ave. A mostly unstructured, self-guided 'class'. Kids who like to draw can hang out and work on whatever they feel like drawing. In person at the new Takoma Park Maryland Library location.

UPCOMING

Library @ Crossroads Catch us the third Wednesday of June, July, and August for pop-up Library activities! In-person at the Crossroads Farmers Market, Anne St. at University Blvd.

SummerQuest begins June 12. Get ready for the latest adventure!

EVENTS

Preserve your family's heritage Tuesday, May 2, 7:30 p.m.

To commemorate the American Library Association's National Preservation Week this year, the Library is partnering with Historic Takoma, Inc. for a program on what you can do to preserve your family's history. Please join us to learn about how to evaluate, handle, and store your family's record of memory. This event will be held at the Historic Takoma, Inc. building at 7328 Carroll Ave.

Free Yoga class for kids Elisa Ferrante, a bilingual, certified yoga instructor pursuing certification for Kids Yoga is offering free yoga classes in the Library for kids, ages 8-12. The final session is May 7.

Listen to this!

By Anne LeVeque

The Rabbit Hole Detectives with the Rev. Richard Coles, Dr. Cat Jarman, and Charles Spencer.

This brand new podcast from the UK, launched in February—there are only seven episodes so far—is perfect for people who love going down those rabbit holes of Google and Wikipedia. They give one another a topic or theme, then head down the rabbit hole and find out new or unusual facts about their topic. These are the poshest accents you'll ever hear. Yes, that's EARL Spencer, 9th of that title, younger brother of the late Diana, Princess of Wales, with his best Eton and Oxford vowels on display. The other hosts are well-known in the UK, on BBC radio shows and television. Found wherever you get your podcasts.

PODCAST



REVIEW



¡El Cuento ha comenzado!

por Verónica Rivera-Negrón

El Cuento, nuestro nuevo programa en español, arrancó el sábado, 29 de abril de 2023 y ocurrirá cada dos sábados a las 2:00 PM en nuestra localización temporera.

El programa será basado en cuentos en español disponibles en la biblioteca. De esta manera, promoveremos nuestras nuevas colecciones en este

idioma.

Hemos adquirido libros publicados en Argentina, México, Puerto Rico, entre otros países hispanohablantes. Algunos de nuestros nuevos materiales en español, incluso, solo están disponibles en nuestra biblioteca, comparado a otras de la zona metropolitana de Washington D.C.

EL CUENTO □ Page 9



Takoma Park
Maryland
Library

EL CUENTO:

Lotería and Storytime in Spanish

Every other Saturday | 2:00 PM

7505 New Hampshire Ave
(Former Salvation Army Family Store)



tinyurl.com/TkPkLibPrograms

Hot Topic: Censorship and Libraries

by Jessica Jones

Content warning: Discussion of potentially sensitive topics with reference to those in the LGBTQIA2S+ spectrum.

With the public dialogue in a frenzy about book banning in libraries right now, I wanted to talk about how libraries experience and interact with censorship.

You may have seen recently that the Missouri State House voted in April to advance a FY24 budget that defunds their public libraries. You may have also seen the photos coming out of Florida of empty school bookshelves in the wake of their governor signing HB 1467. A library director in Llano County, Texas, was fired last year for refusing to remove challenged books.

Closer to home, the Proud Boys protested a Drag Queen Story Hour event at Loyalty Bookstores in Silver Spring this past February.

I am, unfortunately, no stranger to this topic; I fielded many book challenges in Texas. This is a personal topic for me, so if the tone reads as more emotionally charged than usual, that's because it is. There is a time and a place for emotional distance, but this article isn't it. I want people who have the ability to advocate for libraries to understand what is at stake for everyone involved.

I can think of at least six different titles that were chal-



lenged when I was working in Texas; all of them were under the LGBTQIA2S+ umbrella, many were challenged multiple times, and all of them were intended for young audiences. There was *And Tango Makes Three* about the male penguin couple who adopt an egg and raise the chick together; it was returned defaced on multiple occasions. *Heather Has Two Mommies* inspired a boycott of our library by a local church-affiliated group, which resulted in some of the most hateful email I have ever received.

The toughest challenge I fielded, however, was for a book called *My Two Dads*, which was part of a series that was all shelved together about different family situations that children may experience, like having a parent in the military or having divorced parents or living with grandparents. *My Two Dads* triggered a patron's

nerve in a major way.

Some quick background: I spent a year working in crisis intervention with AmeriCorps while I was deciding if I wanted to go to graduate school to become a social worker. Ultimately, I chose information science, but the year with AmeriCorps taught me a lot about de-escalating people in crisis and empathizing with them. These have been the two most useful skills I have honed when fielding difficult situations anywhere, and they are crucial to working towards positive outcomes with book challenges.

The patron who objected to *My Two Dads* very quickly went from asking me how to take this book off the shelves, to yelling and crying in the middle of the reading room, when I said that we would retain the book in the interests of the LGBTQIA2S+ families who need to be represented in the library's collection, just like her own family is. When someone reacts that disproportionately, it is almost always something more deeply rooted than the issue at hand. I talked to her long enough to find out that she had recently disowned her 16-year-old gay son and kicked him out of their family home.

Knowing that the odds are stacked against gay homeless teens, I found it extremely difficult to access empathy. I had to disengage from my emotional

state to get through the rest of the interaction. The book remained in the collection, and I found another book for her to take home to the children she hadn't disowned. On the surface, this was a positive outcome for the library—the patron calmed down, and we kept the book in our collection—but it spoke volumes about the state of our community. I went back to my office and cried.

When we talk about book banning and censorship, the objectors tend to suck all the air out of the room, but in reality, they are the ones least affected by their actions. Remember the youth who see their burgeoning identities under attack, the families who lose representation in publicly funded collections, and the teachers and library staff who go to bat for our marginalized communities every day—sometimes under the threat of firing or legal action.

Youth, their families, and the library and school workers who provide services to them need advocates in their communities. I do believe that for every person who demands removal of a title that makes them personally uncomfortable, there are far more people who can see the value in that contested title. We need disengaged bystanders to channel the bravery of library workers who promote diverse books

and programs, the teachers who refuse to compromise their inclusive values, and the kids speaking out at school board meetings.

I want these experiences to be something you think about *before* we get to Pride Month in June, because Pride should be a celebration! Pride is joyful, but we do a disservice to our LGBTQIA2S+ neighbors when we don't acknowledge the oppression many people in this spectrum experience when the outspoken opponents to their identity (ugh, merely typing that phrase is painful) politicize and target them to create “us versus them” situations, manipulate their environment to minimize their own discomfort, and appeal to our worst instincts.

I could not function in this world if I didn't believe that there is more love in it than there is hate, but sometimes, in uncontested silence, it can feel like indifference outnumbers them both. I am not so naïve as to think that this library is immune from actions taken by emboldened bullies to retain “safe spaces” for themselves while condemning the term as it is used sincerely by marginalized peoples who do *not* feel safe in public spaces. I hope that, if the time comes to defend our own values of diversity and inclusion, that our allies will be louder than our challengers.

EL CUENTO

■ From page 8

Además de escuchar un cuento, habrá una actividad extra para continuar explorando. Por ejemplo, estamos creando juegos de Lotería basados en algunos libros de nuestra colección como lo es el de “Augustina tiene una corona” de Edris Mayol-Llanos.

¿Sabías que *El Cuento* será facilitado por voluntarios? Es una dicha contar un grupo que tiene mucha pasión por promover la lectura en español. Los voluntarios participaron de dos talleres con profesionales de programas públicos en inglés y en español.

En el primero, Jennifer Ridgway—natal de Maryland, artista de teatro y fundadora de Yard Dramas—les enseñó cómo atraer la atención de las familias para que participen y cómo trabajar en parejas para facilitar un programa. ¡La discusión fue muy fructífera y nos entusiasamos mucho con todas las ideas que tenemos para *El Cuento*!

En el segundo, aprendieron cómo hacer rituales de apertura y de cierre, junto a Melissa Strova-Valencia, quien es colombiana, educadora y fundadora de TELAS Colectivo Teatral. A través de los rituales, lograrán crear espacios mágicos y seguros en los que explorar los cuentos.

El Cuento se presentará en la biblioteca por ahora, pero nuestra meta es que sea un programa itinerante. Es decir, que también se presente en parques públicos, eventos y otros espacios.

¡Así que seguimos buscando voluntarios para facilitar el programa! Si te interesa, por favor,

revisa la convocatoria en tinyurl.com/ElCuentoTkPk.

Los voluntarios facilitadores de *El Cuento* serán nuestros embajadores para que la comunidad descubra nuestras colecciones y servicios en español. ¡Así que gracias por ser parte de esta iniciativa y felices lecturas!



TELL STORIES THIS SUMMER AT THE MARKET!





READ ABOUT THE EXPERIENCE.



CROSSROADS FARMERS MARKET

Anne St. @ University Blvd E, Takoma Park

May-September | Wednesdays 11AM-12PM

Supported in part by the



Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library News

Book Sale

The semi-annual FTPML book sale will be held on May 13, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. at the Library's temporary location, 7505 New Hampshire Ave. Come out and support the Library's programs and other offerings. The Friends give much-needed support to the Library, including funding special programs.

Friends Book Group

William Maxwell's novella, *So Long, See You Tomorrow*, will be discussed by the Friends Book Group on Thursday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Hydrangea Room.

So Long, See You Tomorrow was originally published in two parts in *The New Yorker* where Maxwell was fiction editor for nearly 40 years. In the novel, a nameless narrator relates the story of childhood friendship from the distance of 50 years. He recollects the murder in a barn in a small Midwestern town that ruins his friendship with the murderer's son.

Early in the novel the narrator gives two reasons for why he came to write of his

memories in what he calls a “memoir.” While these two reasons drive the story, before the narrator can fully explore the meaning of the murder, he relates the story of his family and his own tragedy. Many critics have commented that this part of the novel is “auto-fiction” where Maxwell is telling the story of his own early years.

Kirkus Review wrote of *So Long, See You Tomorrow* It is “a wellnigh faultless, lacerating, and heartbreaking short novel.”

As fiction editor at *The New Yorker*, Maxwell worked with many notable writers, including Sylvia Warner, Vladimir Nabokov, John Updike, J. D. Salinger, John Cheever, John O'Hara, Eudora Welty, Shirley Hazzard, and Isaac Bashevis Singer.

Copies of *So Long, See You Tomorrow* can be borrowed from the library. If you are interested in joining the discussion and you do not receive Friends Book Group announcements, write to ftpmlbookgroup@gmail.com for details.

For information on joining the Friends, go to ftpml.org

At Your SERVICE



THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department
www.tpvfd.org

Member Spotlight: Meet Claudia Burlinson

- Takoma Park native
- Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department (TPVFD) member Since 2021
- Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technician (NREMT)
- TPVFD Recruitment and Retention committee member
- Works full-time as a technician at Washington Hospital Center and is considering going to school to become a physician assistant



Why did you want to join TPVFD?

I was home in Takoma Park during one of my college breaks, hanging out with my family one night—when my grandmother fell down, hard, hitting her head. Naturally, we called 911 and TPVFD showed up at my house. I remember in that moment being scared and frustrated because I had no clue what to do and was mad that despite being a health science major, I couldn't help my grandmother. The TPVFD EMTs evaluated my grandmother and helped treat her head wound. I was so grateful and very much looked up to those EMTs that showed up. That became my big "A Ha" moment. I decided I would no longer be helpless in emergency situations. As soon as I graduated college, I reached out to TPVFD to become a member/EMT.

Safety Minute: Portable Generators

Portable generators are useful, but if not used safely, they can cause injuries and death.

- Use portable generators outdoors in well-ventilated areas away from all doors, windows, and vents.
- Make sure you have carbon monoxide alarms in your home.
- Do not use a generator in a wet area. This can cause shock or electrocution.
- Connect appliances to the generator with heavy-duty extension cords.
- Do not fuel your generator when it is running. Spilling gas on a hot engine can cause a fire.

Source: U.S. Fire Administration

TPVFD News

Interested in volunteering?

The fire/rescue and emergency medical services offer exciting challenges and a valuable, rewarding way to serve the community. In return for your commitment of one evening per week, we offer training that will always be in great demand—and the opportunity to help your neighbors when they need it most.

The Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service is a *combination* service in which approximately 1,000 career firefighters and 1,000 volunteers serve side by side. Career and volunteer personnel take the same training courses and are held to the same standards while on duty.

Your first step is to schedule an orientation meeting with our membership committee. If interested in learning more, please email tina.willey@montgomerycountymd.gov

Manage the Unexpected

By Claudine Schweber, Chair, Takoma Park
Emergency Preparedness Committee

Safety is Magnetic

Would you know who to contact if there's a water main break on your street and flooding? If the power keeps flickering; who should be alerted? If you smell gas, do you know what to do? Where do you find the information—and, what would it cost? **Answer:** see the information on the magnet below, which tells you which agency is in charge and how to contact it. Post it on your refrigerator or other magnetic surface and **read it before a crisis!**

Magnets are available for free at the Takoma Park Police Department.

Special Safety Services for Takoma Park Residents

The Takoma Park Police Department offers free services and programs to enhance personal safety and safeguard property of the members of our community. Find out more on the City website under Police Services and Program. Call 301-270-1100 for further information. The six descriptions below are just a sample of the 21 services relating to the Personal Safety and Property protection mandate of the Police Department.

Personal Safety

The CARE program provides daily contact for residents who need to be checked daily or who live alone and have special needs. How does this work? The registered individual will call the Police Department's main number (301-270-1100) daily at some point between noon and 5 p.m. If the Police do not receive the call they will follow up in person and take more steps as needed.

Residential Home Security Survey

Be one step ahead of the burglar; get your home checked by the Police Department. A police officer will inspect your home to help identify areas that could be improved for home security. This is also an opportunity to discuss routines and safety issues to identify daily actions that could decrease opportunities for crime. You can watch a 12-minute video about the program on the Police Services and Program page on the City website.

Vacant House Check Program

Away for 4-30 days, and the house will be vacant? Ask the Police Department to keep an eye on it while you are away. This program for single family units offers daily police checks of the premises (on the condition that there are no house guests or house sitters).

Property Protection

Etch and Catch is not a Hasbro toy. It's a practical way to prevent theft of a catalytic converter emission control device located under the car. Crooks cut away the device and try to resell it. The value is in the metals of the device, especially platinum, palladium, and rhodium. Gasoline-powered motor vehicles manufactured after 1979 are all equipped with catalytic converters.

Takoma Park offers a free etching program to deter theft of these valuable devices. When the etching is completed, the owner of the vehicle is provided with a bright yellow sticker that reads "This vehicle's catalytic converter has been etched by the Takoma Park Police Department."

To set up an etch, contact RS Automotive, 7224 Carroll Ave. (301-270-4418) for an appointment. Find more information on the City website.

Engrave Your Valuables

Is it possible to limit the burglars' attraction to your electronic equipment or other items that can be easily sold or pawned—such as jewelry? Yes, keep a list of these items and photos (but away from the home). Then sign up with the opportunity to mark the valuables with an engraving pen to mark items with a personal i.d. (NOT your social security number!). Burglars are likely to avoid marked items; they are too easy to trace. The engraving tool can be borrowed for a maximum of two weeks and is available for free from Administrative Services at the Takoma Park Community Center.

False Alarm Reduction Section

Burglar alarms must work as intended, including going to the correct department. Make sure your alarm is registered with FARS (240) 773-6300;



Passport Services

Passport Services are available by appointment only Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-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.
- All forms must be written clearly with no mark outs, scratch outs, etc.
- Do not sign your forms before you meet with the Passport Agent.



- The City of Takoma Park has no control over passport processing times. For additional information, visit takomaparkmd.gov/services/passports. Questions? Email sofiav@takomaparkmd.gov.

City Awarded \$60,000 to Study Laurel Avenue Streetery Traffic Impacts

Since early in the COVID-19 pandemic, the Laurel Avenue Streetery has offered a popular, public gathering space in the heart of Old Takoma, where previously there was none. The temporary closure was so popular that in 2022, the City Council voted to extend its existence indefinitely. On Thursday, April 20, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

(MWCOG) awarded the City of Takoma Park a \$60,000 Transportation-Land Use Connection program technical assistance grant to conduct a traffic study on the streets surrounding Laurel Avenue. The study will look at traffic impact scenarios for a full, permanent or semi-permanent closure of both sides of Laurel Avenue. It will look at the potential impacts on ve-

hicle traffic flow, emergency vehicle access, cut-through traffic, and any roadway or signal redesigns that would be necessary to accommodate the reconfiguration. The idea to close both sides of Laurel Avenue to create a large, dedicated pedestrian plaza builds on conceptual design work being conducted by the Old Takoma Business Association (OTBA).

The traffic study would begin once contractors are selected through a competitive bidding process managed by MWCOG. The City anticipates a fall project kick-off, and the project will wrap up before the end of June 2024. This will be the City's eleventh Transportation-Land Use Connection grant from MWCOG.

Takoma Park Police Updates



Mental Health Awareness Month

“Trying to tell the difference between expected behaviors and signs of a mental illness isn't always easy. There's no easy test that can let someone know if there is mental illness or if actions and thoughts might be typical behaviors of a person or the result of a physical illness.”
— National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
People whose mental health is compromised are at a greater risk of experiencing worsening mental illness as a result of the pandemic and its aftermath, regardless of the type of mental illness. For warning signs, where to seek help, and other resources, visit: nami.org/About-Mental-illness.



Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, and Takoma Park Police and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration remind motorists that safe driving and riding practices—and cooperation from all road users—will help reduce the number of fatalities and injuries on our nation's highways.
National Missing Children's Day
May 25 marks National Missing Children's Day, shining a spotlight on child safety. The day also honors the dedicated professionals around the country who work



tirelessly to protect children. Read more on the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention website: ojjdp.ojp.gov/nmcd.



Click it or Ticket

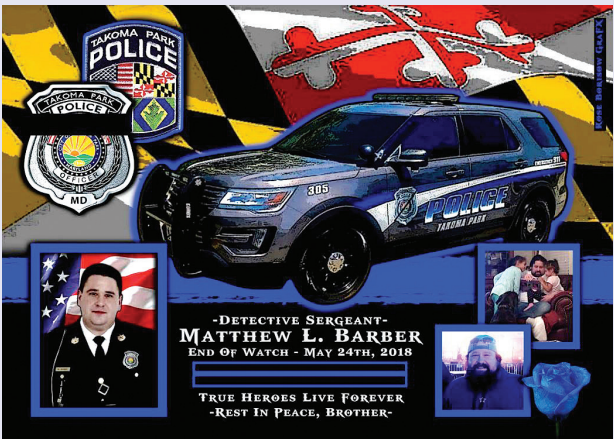
The statewide Chiefs' Challenge—which emphasizes safety restraint enforcement—run through the entire month of May. The City of Takoma Park Police Department will focus on enforcing the state's seat belt laws as part of the nationwide Click It or Ticket campaign. Officers will be stationed throughout the City to issue tickets to any person not wearing a seat belt or who does not have their child properly restrained. They will also be educating the public on seat belt use and safety.
Takoma Park Police Chief Antonio DeVaul is hoping for fewer tickets this year because that means people are taking their safety, and that of their children, seriously. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Ad-

ministration, Click It or Ticket has been one of the most successful seat belt enforcement campaigns.
Seatbelts save lives! Please buckle up - it's the law!



All Fireworks Are Illegal in Montgomery County

Ahead of the Memorial Day Weekend, we want to remind everyone that in Montgomery County, ALL fireworks, including sparklers, are illegal. Private use and possession of fireworks, including sparklers, carries a \$500 fine. Selling fireworks in Maryland carries a \$1,000 fine.
Memorial Day Observation
The Takoma Park Police Department offices will be closed on Monday, May 29 in observance of Memorial Day. Please remember that the police department is open 24/7 for emergency services.



In Memoriam: Sgt. Matthew Barber

Sgt. Matthew Barber passed five years ago in May. He is missed each and every day. End of watch: May 24, 2018.

FARMERS MARKET

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Manager for Crossroads Community Food Network. “It's smile-inducing to see everyone again after a long winter.”
This year, the market will feature a few new vendors, including Swamp Rose Cooperative, a worker-owned native plant nursery and landscaping company based in Montgomery County. Crossroads also partners with Takoma Park Presbyterian Church's community kitchen to bring in ButterQueen Bakery, a Black-owned bakery specializing in southern homestyle pound cakes and treats with vegan and gluten-free options; and Cookie Yay, a father-daughter business that provides natural, gourmet, gluten free, vegan, non-GMO, and allergen-friendly cookie options.
Like the Takoma Park Farmers Market, Crossroads accepts federal nutrition benefits. “We were the first in the U.S. to match SNAP at farmers markets and have been doing it for 17 seasons,” says Servin. “We

match up to \$60 in SNAP funds, and WIC is \$1-to-\$1 without a limit. I think that the WIC sales make up about a third of total market sales, so it's pretty significant.”
Servin says Crossroads is about much more than just the produce. The goal is to make it a social event for those looking for fresh produce, including hosting concerts and special events like health screenings, cooking demonstrations, and seed giveaways.
“We do a lot of activities that bring in the community and get people coming back week after week,” says Servin.
On May 10, Crossroads is holding special events for Mother's Day, including plant giveaways, raffles and special discounts for moms.
For more on Takoma Park Farmers Market, visit takomaparkmarket.com. For information on Crossroads Farmers Market, visit crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org/farmers-market.



Crossroads will be holding a special Mother's Day event on May 10.

Community ACTIVITIES

Takoma Park Farmers Market

Every Sunday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
6931 Laurel Ave.

Come out every Sunday behind the shops on Laurel Ave. for a mix of 25 vendors with seasonal produce, pasture raised meat and eggs, artisan cheese, grains, bread, baked goods, and more. Find breakfast and lunch at the market including empanadas, egg sandwiches, burgers, pastries, and more.

Historic Takoma Reading Room

Sundays (first and third)
7328 Carroll Ave.

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

Docs in Progress

Doc in Progress is offering programs ranging from beginner filmmaking and storytelling workshops to workshops for emerging filmmakers looking to polish their skills in camera-work, editing, and more. For more information, visit docsinprogress.org/filmmakers.

Takoma Foundation

The Takoma Foundation’s newest initiative is called Community Dollars. The Foundation is partnering with a group of young people, through an intensive process that requires them to work with adult mentors and develop projects that meet needs and priorities. For more, visit takomafoundation.org/stories/about-community-dollars.html.

Takoma Spark Open Mic

Tuesdays, 7-9:30 p.m.
School of Musical Traditions
(7112 Willow Ave.)
Hosted by Rob Hinkal of ilyAIMY and sponsored by Institute of Musical Traditions. Signup starts at 6 p.m. Performance slots are two songs or 10 minutes. All musical genres or poetry . All abilities/ages welcome. No amps or drum kits. The evening is also live-streamed on the Rob’s Open Mics Facebook and YouTube channels. No refreshments on site, but you are welcome to bring in your own food and non-alcoholic beverages (please support our local restaurants!). For updates, follow Rob’s Open Mics on Facebook, or visit ilyaimy.com/robsoopenmics.

Takoma Jazz

Saturdays, 7-10 p.m.
Takoma Station Tavern, 6914 4th St. NW
Weekly jazz at Takoma Station Tavern hosted by Jazz Kitchen Productions. For the schedule, check the website: jkproductions.org.

Crossroads Farmers Market

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m., through Nov. 22
Anne St. at University Blvd. East
Crossroads Farmers Market offers the season’s freshest fruits and vegetables,

as well as free-range eggs, honey, locally roasted coffee, healthy snacks, and fresh-cut flowers, all from no more than 50 miles away. The market is cultivating a more inclusive local food system in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads. All federal nutrition benefits (SNAP, WIC, Senior/WIC FMNP) are accepted and matched dollar for dollar with Crossroads’ Fresh Checks — this season, up to \$50 each week.

Takoma Foundation Beerfest

Saturday, May 6, 3-7 p.m.
VFW POST 350 “Hells Bottom”
6420 Orchard Ave.

Takoma Park’s Favorite Night Out is back at a new outdoor location—the Takoma VFW! Enjoy a beer and a brat (or two) in the company of your friends and neighbors and discover what frothy libations our participating local vendors have to offer. And, we’ve got live music too! Support local grantmaking by attending this fun spring event. Get regular tickets at \$45 per person when ordered in advance or \$60 per person on site the day of the event. Special “Designated Driver” tickets will also be available at \$25 each (includes food and non-alcoholic beverages).

Takoma Park Children’s Business Fair

Saturday, May 6, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
The Streeterly on Laurel Ave.

Kids develop a brand, create a product or service, build a marketing strategy, and then open for customers at our one-day marketplace. There will be 50 booths at the third annual event at Laurel Avenue (between Eastern Ave. and Carroll Ave.). Rain date May 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. This event is sponsored by Takoma Park local business owners and the support of our community and volunteers.

Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission

Wednesday, May 10, at 7 p.m.
Second Floor Auditorium of the Wheaton Headquarters Building
The Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission will hold a public hearing and work session to evaluate the historic and architectural significance of three properties: Heffner Park Community Center (42 Oswego Ave.) Sligo Seventh-Day Adventist Church (7700 Carroll Ave.) Krestview (7625 Carroll Ave.). The agenda, designation form, staff reports and additional materials will be posted here: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/historic/historic-preservation-commission/hpc-meetings-2023/>. To testify during the public hearing, sign up is required by 9 a.m. the previous day at: montgomeryplanning.org/planning/historic/historic-preservation-commission/historic-preservation-commission-sign-up-to-testify/. Written comments may be sent to: mcp-historic@mncppc-mc.org by 10 a.m. the day before the hearing.

Takoma Flea

Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Grant Ave., Takoma Park
Takoma Flea is an outdoor market offering a unique mix of vintage, collectibles, antiques, salvage, and repurposed goods. Find clothing, jewelry, housewares, furniture, records, and more.



Friends of the Library’s Spring Book Sale

Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
7505 New Hampshire Ave.

The library is accepting donations of gently used books at the library’s temporary location (7505 New Hampshire Ave.) during their business hours (Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, noon-6 p.m.). They are especially interested in recent fiction and children’s books. If possible, please bring your books in boxes.

Bike to Work Day

Friday, May 19
Join other cyclists at nearly 100 pit stops in D.C., Maryland, and Virginia for this free event for a healthy way to start your day. The first 15,000 who register and attend at a pit stop by bike will receive a free T-shirt. Free giveaways, food, and beverages, while supplies last.

Market on the Street

Saturday, May 20, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Laurel Ave. in the heart of downtown Takoma Park
A follow-up to the successful Markets at The Bank with a limited market series on Laurel Ave. in the heart of downtown Takoma Park, featuring your favorite local vendors, artists, and makers.

2nd Annual Crossroads Community Food Fair

Sunday, May 21, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
TPSS Community Kitchen pop-up along Laurel Ave.
Come taste the world at the second annual Crossroads Community Food Fair. It will be a day of delicious hyper-local

food and community fun as the talented food-preneurs of the TPSS Community Kitchen pop-up along Laurel Ave. Enjoy an incredible variety of sweet and savory foods and drinks from 15+ food businesses based in Takoma Park, including pizza, empanadas, tacos, pupusas, noodles, sandwiches, waffles, baked goods, cold-pressed juices, infused teas, locally roasted coffee, artisanal chocolate, cotton candy, and healthy snacks. Come meet the makers.

Takoma Trukgarten

Saturday, June 3, Noon-5 p.m.
TPSS Co-op Parking Lot
201 Ethan Allen Ave.

This one-day beer festival features local breweries pouring craft beers, and cider. Plus local food and music. Tasting packages with commemorative glasses available. Non-drinkers and under 21 enter free. Music by Takoma Radio.

Queering Sound

Saturday, June 3, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Takoma Park Gazebo, 7035 Carroll Ave.
QUEERING SOUND is an annual festival for LGBTQIA+ artisans and allies. In its 23rd year, the event features local, national, and international artists at venues in the DMV and online with musical performances, visual art exhibits, performance art, video, and spoken word.

People’s Book Opening in Takoma Park

7014-A Westmoreland Ave.
People’s Book, a general-purpose bookstore, is opening in the heart of Takoma Park in early summer 2023 at 7014-A Westmoreland Ave. The store will have a diverse selection of over 10,000 books, with a special focus on children’s literature, local interests, new releases, and independent magazines. The inventory will also include book-themed gifts. Locally roasted drip coffee, kombucha, and other beverages and treats will be available. People’s Book plans to host children’s storytime, book readings, and other book-related events. The store is also located across the street from Takoma Urban Park. Interested readers are encouraged to sign up now for the Republic of Readers program, which provides discounts and perks based on membership level, and is free to join at the basic level. More information on People’s Book and the Republic of Readers program can be found at peoplesbooktakoma.com, and on Instagram @PeoplesBookTakoma.

RECRUITMENT

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Regular attendance is essential to the effective operation of a board, committee, and commission.
Compensation. Board, committee, and commission members will receive \$40 for each meeting attended. Youth member in school may receive Student Service Learning (SSL) hours instead of the stipend.
Accommodations. Individuals with disabilities are welcome to apply. If you need an accommodation, please contact Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, at 301-891-7267 or clerk@takomaparkmd.gov.

City Boards and Committees

- Arts & Humanities Committee
- Emergency Preparedness Committee
- Grants Review Committee
- Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee
- Sustainable Maryland Committee (Green Team)
- Recreation and Community Engagement Committee
- Board of Elections
- Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (COLTA)
- Ethics Commission
- Tree Commission

For information and to apply: https://bit.ly/tkpk_bcc2023.