



WHAT'S NEW?

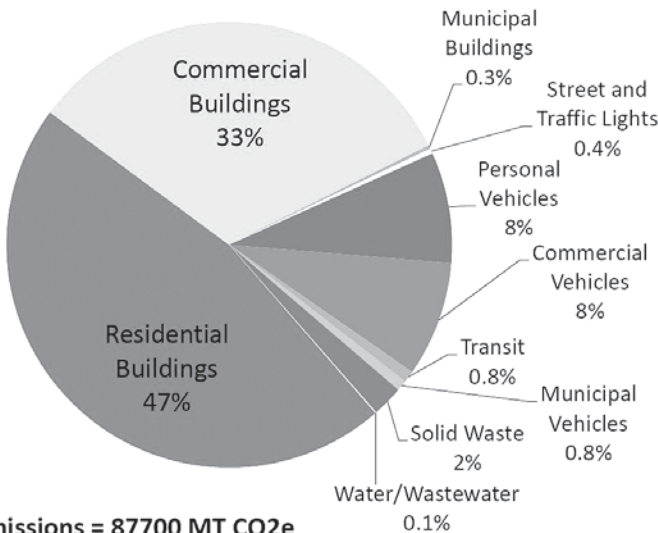
Smart Snow Removal
page 4

Gandhi Brigade Youth Media
page 9

City offices & facilities closed
Sunday, Feb. 17 - Monday, Feb. 18
President's Day holiday

Trash/recycling collection
Yard trimming collection canceled
Monday, Feb. 18

Emissions by Sector



2015 Total Emissions = 87700 MT CO2e

The State of Sustainability in Takoma Park

By Gina Mathias, sustainability manager, City of Takoma Park

Recent reports from the International Panel and Climate Change (IPCC) and the National Climate Assessment have made clear that the world has run out of time on climate change. The reports also indicate that greenhouse gas emissions are the greatest catalyst of climate change. In light of the reports, we must ask ourselves and the City: Are we doing enough to address our greenhouse gas (ghg) emissions? What ghg reduction strategies should we pursue in 2019?

As many cities do, Takoma Park completes ghg inventories on a three-year cycle.

The City completed an update in 2012 and 2015, and the 2018 update will be completed in late 2019 when data becomes available. Despite tremendous efforts and participation in voluntary City-sponsored programs, emissions rose about 2 percent in Takoma Park from 2012 to 2015. There are many factors that affect emissions, including population (per capita emissions) and weather. Taking into account a 15 percent increase in Cooling Degree Days and an 8 percent increase in Heating Degree Days (that means 2015 had harsher weather than 2012), the residential emissions actually went down 10 percent. But

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Takoma Park People of Color Collaborative, Working with purpose

By Sean Gossard

As the members of the newly formed Takoma Park People of Color Collaborative put it, they really hit the ground running.

What started in September 2018 as a Takoma Park Listserv discussion about systemic police abuse toward black and brown people has already grown into so much more, a way to give those very same people stronger representation and support in the community.

"We were feeling very marginalized and disregarded, so we met and talked about our love of Takoma Park," said Rita Montoya, one of the group's founders. "We kind of realized that even though it's a very liberal



Members of the collaborative, from left, Sandy Ogunfolu, Odile Saint-Flour, Rita Montoya, Kopal Jha and Kendra Salois pose with Ezra and Uma at the winter coat drive.

and well-educated area, representation of black and brown people is minimal, and

COLLABORATIVE □ Page 4

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.

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:

በ « ታኮማ ፓርክ » ድህረገጽ ውስጥ የትርጉም ባህሪን በመጠቀም ሌሎች ቋንቋዎችን በመስመር ላይ ለማንበብ ከሚታተሙ የዜና ማተሚያ ጽሑፎች ቀጥሎ ያለውን ደህን አጻ ይፈልጉ. ለጽሑፉ አገናኙ ላይ ጠቅ ካደረጉ በኋላ, ከአስሳ አሞሌው ቀጥሎ ባለው የድር ገጽ የላይኛው የቀኝ ጠርዝ ላይ ይመልከቱ እና ተቆልቋይ ሳጥኑን በመጠቀም የሚፈልጉትን ቋንቋ ይምረጡ.

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.

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Inside



Camp Time!
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CSK Celebration
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Boy Scout Bat House Project
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DOCKET

City Council & Committee Calendar

OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

CITY COUNCIL

Wednesday, Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Monday, Feb. 4, 7 p.m.
TPCC Council Conference Room

COMMEMORATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 7 p.m.
TPCC Azalea Room

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, Feb. 4, 7:15 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, Feb. 28, 7 p.m.
TPCC Lilac Room

FACADE ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium

NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Lilac Room

POLICE CHIEF'S ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, Feb. 20, 7 p.m.
TPCC Atrium Room

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, February 12, 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

YOUTH COUNCIL

The Youth Council is revising its meeting schedule. For February, check the calendar on the City website.

*All meetings are open to the public unless noted otherwise. Schedule changes can occur after the *Takoma Park Newsletter* deadline. For the most up to date information, visit www.takomaparkmd.gov and click on "Events and Meetings." Most meetings are held in the Takoma Park Community Center – Sam Abbott Citizens' Center, 7500 Maple Avenue (TPCC). Individuals interested in receiving a weekly Council agenda and calendar update by e-mail can sign up at takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/agendas.

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 1) wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services, or accommodations at a City of Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing; or 2) cannot attend a public meeting but would like to record an audio comment to be played during the public comment period of the meeting, is invited to contact Jason Damweber, Deputy City Manager, at jasond@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7202 at least 48 hours in advance.

City Council Action

All ordinances and resolutions are posted on the City's website.

On Jan. 9, 2019 the City Council adopted **Ordinance 2018-50**. The Ordinance amends Chapter 11.12 Streets - Permits and Improvements to regulate the installation of telecommunications antennas and support structures in City rights-of-way. While the Ordinance is effective immediately, administrative regulations will be drafted

to implement the Ordinance by setting forth details such as fees and procedures. Watch for a notice on the website and in this newsletter to review and comment on the regulations during the public comment period.

Also on Jan. 9, the City Council adopted **Ordinance 2019-1** approving a contract

with Independent Officials Association to provide officiating services for Recreation Department sports leagues. The Council made two appointments. **Resolution 2019-1** appointed Frederick L. Schultz (Ward 6) to the Commemoration Commission and **Resolution 2019-2** appointed Nancy L. Cohen (Ward 1) to the Tree Commission.

VACANCIES ON CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

The City Council is seeking applicants for a number of boards, commissions and committees. Takoma Park residency is required unless noted below. If you are interested in appointment, please submit the online application: <http://bit.ly/committee-application>. Feel free to drop by to observe a meeting. Meetings are listed on the City Calendar on the website. Additional information is available at <https://takomaparkmd.gov/government/boards-commissions-and-committees>.

The **Arts and Humanities Commission** advises the City Council on ways in which the City might best serve the public with regard to matters involving the arts; encourages and aids the appreciation and awareness of, and participation in, the arts among all Takoma Park residents; encourages cooperation and coordination among individuals, organizations and institutions concerned with the arts in Takoma Park; and facilitates employment opportunities for artists and the development of self-sustaining arts programs. The Commission meets every other month on the fourth Thursday. Up to one-third of the members may be non-residents. **(3 vacancies)**

The **Commemoration Commission** documents, maintains, and preserves past, present, and future memorials, commemoratives, and recognitions in the City; recommends to the City Council procedures and programs to honor and commemorate individuals, organizations and businesses that have made significant contributions to the social, cultural, historical, political, economic, or civic life of the City as a whole or to a neighborhood/local area as well as programs for individuals to honor others; implement such programs within its scope and budget; and decide on recognitions after opportunity for public review and comment. The Commission usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. **(5 vacancies)**

The **Committee on the Environment** advises the City Council on all environmental issues, including, but not limited to, stormwater management, greenhouse gas reduction, tree protection, open space conservation, biodiversity, watershed functioning and restoration, energy use, transportation, energy conservation, and recycling. The Committee meets the first Monday of the month at 7:15 p.m. **(1 vacancy)**

The **Grants Review Committee** reviews applications for the City's Community Grant program and makes recommendations to the City Council. **(2 vacancies)**

The **Emergency Preparedness Committee** assists in reviewing the City's Emergency Operations Plan and other supporting emergency documents and recommending changes; explores the formation of volunteer teams that can assist City in carrying out emergency activities when called upon; coordinates with the City, County, and other agencies to educate residents on their individual responsibilities in preparing for emergencies; provides information on what residents can expect from the City and County during an emergency; collects and provides research and data and comments on emergency-related events for the Council; identifies and promotes volunteer opportunities in emergencies; and advises the City on strategies to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of City preparedness activities. The Committee meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. **(1 vacancy)**

The **Ethics Commission** provides written advisory opinions; investigates, hears, and decides in ethics inquiries and complaints; conducts a public education program; recommends legislative changes and improvements to the Ethics Ordinance; and promulgates regulations to accompany the Ethics Ordinance. **(1 vacancy)**

The **Facade Advisory Board** helps to ensure that facade designs and their maintenance are harmonious and

consistent with the intended quality and character of the commercial areas of Takoma Park and provides guidance and assistance to commercial building and business owners seeking permits for facade alterations, signs, and new construction work. The Board meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. **(1 vacancy for a business owner in Old Town or Takoma Junction)**

The **Noise Control Board** assists and advises the City on noise control issues, including administration and enforcement of the Noise Control Ordinance. The Board adjudicates noise disturbance complaints. Board members serve staggered three-year terms. **(1 vacancy)**

The **Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee** oversees implementation and adherence to the Takoma Park Nuclear Free Zone Act and provides public information and issues related to the Ordinance. The Committee meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. **(1 vacancy)**

The **Recreation Committee** advises the City Council on how best to serve the diverse recreation needs of Takoma Park residents, including but not limited to reviewing and recommending policies and programs that concern recreational opportunities within the City, with a special emphasis on youth and seniors and broad and diverse participation. The Committee meets the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. **(4 vacancies)**

The **Youth Council** provides an opportunity for youth to learn and appreciate local government, helps the City Council address problems by working directly with the representatives of youth, serves the youth of Takoma Park by providing information to and planning and implementing activities for youth, and providing leadership opportunities for youth in Takoma Park. Members must be Takoma Park residents in 7th to 12th grade. **(1 vacancy for a resident of Ward 4)**

Important City Phone Numbers

City Information	301-891-7100	Housing & Community Development....	301-891-7119
City Clerk.....	301-891-7267	Library	301-891-7259
City Manager	301-891-7229	Police	301-270-1100 / Emergency 911
City TV	301-891-7118	Public Works.....	301-891-7633
Finance	301-891-7212	Recreation/Facilities Rental	301-891-7290

SUSTAINABILITY

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is the 10 percent reduction enough? If not, what else can the City do to get bigger reductions in emissions?

First, we should look at what Takoma Park has already done to reduce emissions. Since Takoma Park adopted its Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) in 2014, it has:

- won third place in the national Georgetown University Energy Prize Competition for its municipal efforts and its voluntary residential energy efficiency programs;
- completed free energy efficiency projects for low to moderate income homeowners;
- won a Metropolitan Council of Governments award for climate and energy;
- been named Sustainability Champion in 2017 by the Sustainable Maryland Certified program;
- approved the conversion of nearly all streetlights in Takoma Park to LED;
- offered grants and programs for multifamily buildings to increase energy efficiency;
- hosted solar co-ops to increase solar installations in the City;
- hosted an annual sustainability challenge for residents that has included an energy efficiency challenge, transportation challenge, and a challenge to switch to 100 percent renewable electricity;
- installed 13 electric vehicle charging stations powered by 100 percent wind;
- increased the availability of bike share and bike lanes;
- worked with local businesses in an en-

ergy efficiency campaign;

- increased public outreach and education through major events and workshops; and
- implemented nearly all of the 17 key strategies to reduce greenhouse gas (ghg) emissions from the 2014 plan.

Through Montgomery County and state programs, residents and business have access to additional rebates and financial incentive programs to improve energy efficiency and install renewable energy systems. Businesses in Takoma Park can become Certified Green Businesses, and they have access to both Commercial PACE (property assessed clean energy) and a Green Bank for financing sustainable projects. The City also offers curbside food waste collection, has banned plastic bags, polystyrene food service containers and cosmetic lawn care pesticides, and has an ordinance to protect the urban tree canopy. Sometimes it seems there isn't much the City *isn't* doing.

One of the biggest hurdles in reaching regional goals for ghg reductions is that renewable electricity sources are not the default options for residents and businesses – they are opt-in programs. If the Maryland Public Service Commission allowed municipalities like Takoma Park to create an opt-out Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program with 100 percent renewable electricity, then Takoma Park could go from having approximately 20 percent of residents and businesses buying renewable electricity to having nearly 100 percent do so.

Aside from greening the power grid itself, we need to focus on where the most emissions in Takoma Park come from. Buildings in the City account for

80 percent of emissions. About 47 percent of emissions come from single family homes, with 33 percent from commercial and multifamily buildings, and less than 1 percent from municipal buildings. (See chart)

Even the most wildly successful voluntary programs hit a plateau of participation and effectiveness. Takoma Park implemented one of the country's most successful voluntary residential programs with 20 percent of single family homes participating at some level. However the actual ghg emission data suggests that the realized reductions in emissions from the program are only a fraction of what was estimated and what is needed to make a real difference.

State-mandated utility sponsored programs, such as Home Performance with Energy Star home energy audit program and the free Quick Home Energy Check-up program, are great resources, but after 10 years, only about 25 percent of single family homes in Takoma Park have gotten either service, and only 5 percent have made significant energy efficiency improvements to their homes (insulation, air sealing, etc.), despite additional City-based incentives and outreach. In addition, 63 businesses participated in an energy efficiency assessment project. However, like homeowners, most business owners in Takoma Park have not made any significant energy efficiency improvements.

So what are other cities and counties doing? Montgomery County requires large commercial properties to benchmark their energy use. Soon Washington, D.C., will require large commercial properties to meet a minimum energy efficiency

standard. Boulder, Colorado, requires all rental units to meet a minimum energy efficiency standard. Portland, Oregon, and Berkeley, California, require single family homes to get a Home Energy Score when a home is listed for sale or sold.

The big “players” in sustainability are moving towards mandatory programs and policies to achieve the aggressive carbon reductions we need according to the recent reports. Why not Takoma Park? If the City implemented minimum energy efficiency standards for all buildings, it could significantly reduce emissions since buildings make up 80 percent of emissions in the City. Energy efficiency is one of the best methods for reducing emissions. With very careful research, planning and consideration, a minimum energy efficiency standard for all can include assistance for low-income homeowners and business owners, improve resilience to extreme weather events and spur further innovation for small cities fighting climate change.

This year the City's Sustainable Energy Action Plan is due to be updated. This process will include public meetings and community conversations to enable a variety of voices, opinions, and ideas to inform the new plan. The new generation of climate and energy plans calls for aggressive action. Will the City be ready for this next level of action? What ideas do you have to bring to the community conversations?

To stay up to date on Sustainability programs in Takoma Park visit takomaparkmd.gov/sustainability.

Takoma Park Tree Canopy Assessment Seminar Presented by Noah Ahles, University of Vermont

Saturday, March 23

Morning Session, 10 a.m.–12 p.m., TPCC Auditorium

Afternoon Session, 1–3 p.m., TPCC Azalea Room

The University of Vermont is currently preparing a tree canopy assessment for the City of Takoma Park using Montgomery County 2018 light detection and ranging (LiDAR) data. In the morning, Noah Ahles, a geospatial specialist at the university, will give a presentation on the assessment followed by Q&A session. The afternoon session will be a planning session to discuss establishing a Citywide tree canopy goal and implementation plan. The morning session is intended for the general public. The afternoon session will be a more focused discussion with members of the City Council, Tree Commission and Committee on The Environment.



Noah Ahles

Using the Takoma Park Project Directory

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

GOVERNMENT	SERVICES	INITIATIVES	NEWS
Boards, Commissions & Committees City Clerk City Council City Manager City TV Communications Finance	Bids & Contracts Business & Multifamily Recycling Careers/Jobs Community Partners and Resources Curbside Collection	Project Directory (All City Projects) Arts & Humanities Community Conversations Library Renovation Municipal Tax Deduction	City Council & Mayor Blog City Manager & Staff Blog News & News Alerts Forever Young Newsletter Sign Up For e-Newsletters

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

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

Initiatives > Project Directory

PROJECT DIRECTORY

About the Project Directory

This page lists all major projects currently being worked on or planned citywide. purpose:

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

POLICE FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

About the Police Facility Improvements

City Council authorized funding to evaluate and redesign the police space in the Community Center. The current goal is to expand and renovate the interior space. Likely this will reduce the lobby area on the first floor of the police station.

Current Project Status

Preliminary architectural plans completed. Project is currently waiting for full funding.

Project Lead & Contact Info

Paul Bowers
Police Captain
Phone: 301-891-7104
Email: Richard@takomaparkmd.gov

Police Facility Improvements Details

Project Info & Timeline

- Target completion date: 2016 – July
- Takoma Park's role in project: Lead
- Department's involvement: Lead

Budget & Funding Sources

Links & Notes

3. Then click on the name of the project that interests you. In this example, a resident wanted more information about Police Facility Improvements.



THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

Editor: Apryl Motley
Assistant: Sean Gossard
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Letters to the editor, reports by community groups, calendar items and other submissions will be considered for publication; send to tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov

takomaparkmd.gov or Newsletter, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912.

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

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

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

The Newsletter is printed on recycled—content paper.



BUILDING COMMUNITY

Be smart about snow removal

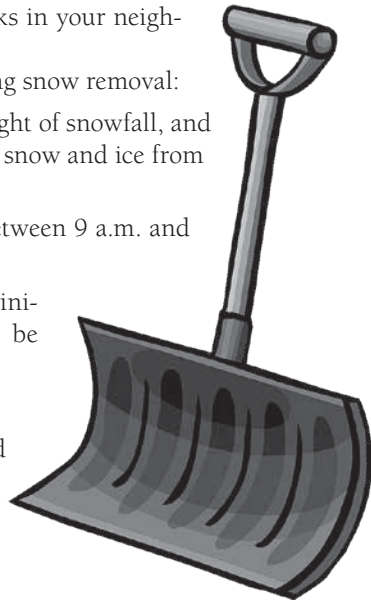
While you enjoy whatever winter wonderland may occur this year, do your part to keep the sidewalks in your neighborhood safe.

The City has specific regulations regarding snow removal:

- Residents have until noon following a night of snowfall, and 9 p.m. after a day of snowfall, to remove snow and ice from sidewalks.
- Businesses must keep sidewalks clear between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- The full width of the sidewalk, or a minimum of a three-foot-wide path, must be clear.
- You may not shovel snow into the street.
- Rock salt is prohibited on sidewalks and within 10 feet of trees.

After your sidewalk is done, reach out and ask neighbors if they need assistance with keeping their sidewalks clear.

Do you need help with your own shoveling? Look for the nearest teenager, or if you are a Takoma Park resident, with a disability that prevents you from shoveling or are age 55 or older, contact Paula Lisowski at 301-270-7280 or paulal@takomaparkmd.gov to add your name to the Snow Angels program's waiting list.



Open period for Community Grants Program closes this month

The City of Takoma Park is accepting letters of interest for its Community Grants Program through Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019.

The Community Grant Program provides up to \$10,000 in financial support for projects and events that improve Takoma Park residents' quality of life by providing greater access and opportunities for participation in the arts and sciences. Funding is available to nonprofit organizations and business associations for projects taking place between July 1, 2019, and June 30, 2020.

To apply, interested parties should visit www.takomaparkmd.gov for a link to the online application and eligibility requirements. For more information, contact the City of Takoma Park's Housing and Community Development Department at 301-891-7119 or grants@takomaparkmd.gov.

Interested applicants may also attend an information session about the grant program on either Tuesday, Feb. 5 at 2 p.m. or Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 7 p.m. Both sessions will be held at the TP Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue.

COLLABORATIVE

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we still feel marginalized."

In October, the group held its first meeting with around a dozen or so people at what has become a de facto headquarters of theirs, Clippers and Combs barber-shop on Flower Avenue.

"It was a small group, but we were very talkative from the beginning," Montoya said. The group discussed the community and its demographics and history and brainstormed all the ways they thought they could help.

"We're putting together resources and a hub for people to get together," said Aubrey Henry, the owner of Clippers and Combs. Henry also coaches and gives jobs to kids in the community. "There's a lot of little things around here to do and a lot of little holes that need to be filled."

The group also noticed that many children or mothers with children didn't have coats as the weather was beginning to turn colder, so they decided their first initiative would be a winter coat drive. "The first thing was to speak to local businesses to be drop off points for the drive," said group member Sandy Ogunfolu. "We were very well received ... and momentum picked up very quickly."

In just a few short weeks, the collaborative was able to gather over 500 pieces of warm winter gear like coats, hats and gloves. They also got help from the City of Takoma Park, which offered space to hold a coat distribution event in November. "It was a very cold, chilly and rainy night, which wasn't as well attended as we would have liked," Ogunfolu said, "but we are more into getting things done and we set a very good tone with the first drive."

They also noticed something else at the distribution event. "We didn't get a lot of people at the coat distribution, but many came to collect coats for friends and family who needed them," member Kendra

Salois said. "The reach was much further than just the day and the event."

And the collecting didn't end there. Salois said after the first coat drive someone from the community reached out to the group asking for help in gathering supplies for dozens of families displaced in an apartment fire in Northwest D.C. "Since we already had everything in place with the coat drive, we kept up the collecting," Salois said.

And in just about a week the group had collected 40 bags of clothes, toys, feminine hygiene products and other supplies for the families in need. "Both these events really highlight the generosity of our neighbors," Salois said. "And it really shows the affluence of the area with the high-quality of products being dropped off."

Any leftover warm-weather gear that wasn't taken was given to the Takoma Park Police's annual winter coat drive.

In January, the group planned to get their main initiatives settled and spoke with representatives from Takoma Park's Housing and Community Development Department to get in contact with their target audience in the area. "We want to work with a purpose and make sure what we do yields the highest help for people," Ogunfolu said. "We don't mess around."

Anyone interested in joining or volunteering with the collaborative can contact them on Facebook, Instagram at [ppoccollaborative](https://www.instagram.com/ppoccollaborative) or by emailing poccollaborative@gmail.com.

"We're really interested in anyone who wants to make positive impacts on people of color in the Takoma Park area," Ogunfolu said. "All are welcome, we are very inclusive, and our doors are open."

In the meantime, the group is looking forward to the New Year and new ways to help those underserved and underrepresented in the community. As Montoya said, "2019 is going to be an exciting year for the collaborative."

TAKOMA PARK'S 9TH ANNUAL MID-WINTER PLAY DAY

Sunday, February 10, 2019, 1-4pm

Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Avenue
Takoma Park, MD 20912

FEATURING THE BAND GROOVEQUEST

...and a performance by local youth vocalist Anna Grace Wilson

FREE EVENT FOR EVERYONE!

Interested in volunteering for this event? Contact:
Pat, The Play Lady at 301-928-9962
theplaylady@gmail.com or at
www.letsplayamerica.org

LET'S PLAY AMERICA
letsplayamerica.org/

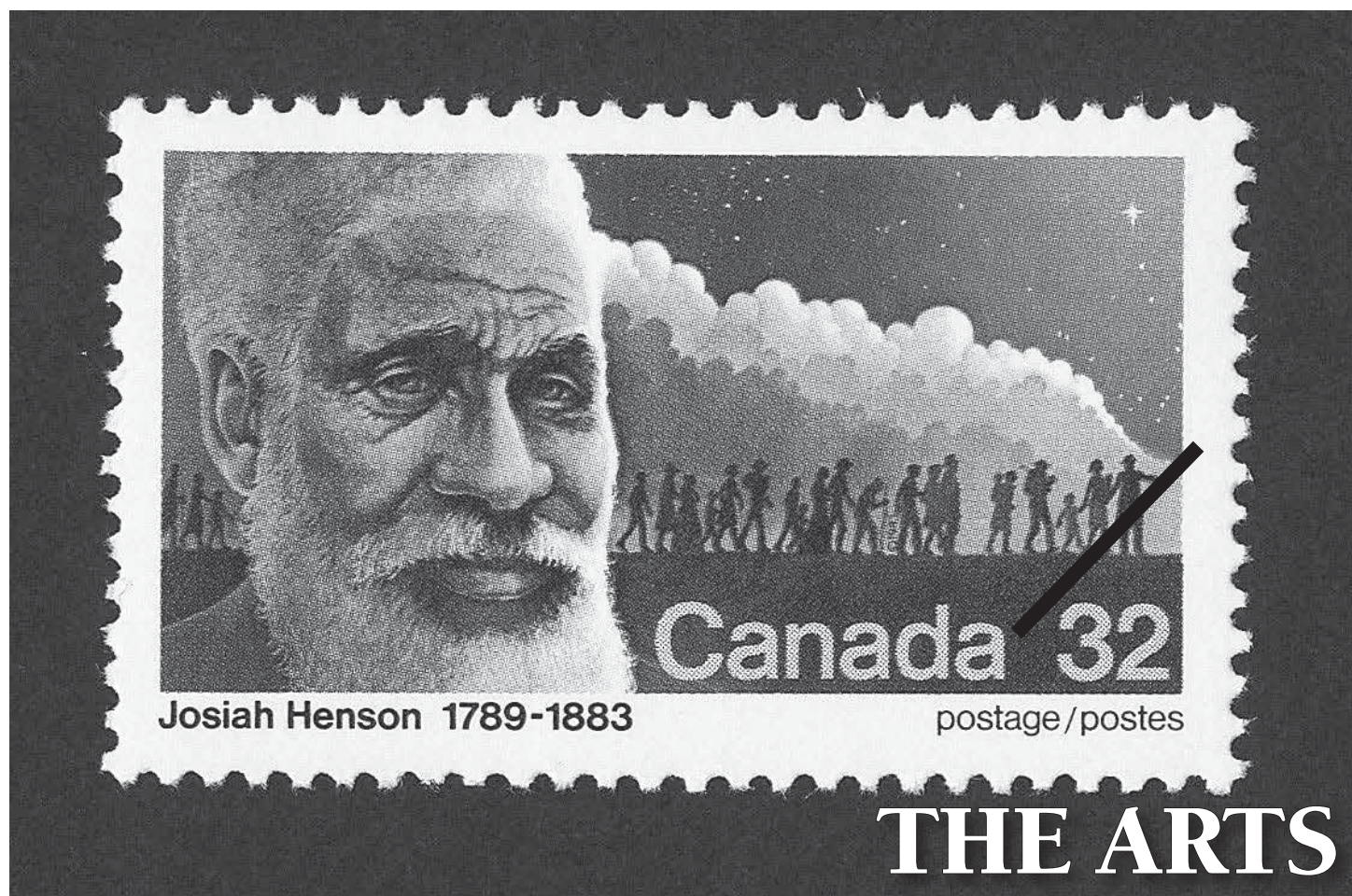
The Remarkable Man Who Inspired Uncle Tom's Cabin

Josiah Henson: The Man Beyond the Myth Lecture
Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center
Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue
Free event

After escaping from a cruel slave owner, Rev. Josiah Henson inspired thousands of people through his memoir, and his remarkable life served as the inspiration for the title character in Harriet Beecher Stowe's influential 1852 novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which generated outrage about the horrors of slavery before the Civil War. However, Henson's important role as an abolitionist remains largely unknown. Montgomery County senior historian Jamie Kuhns will discuss Henson's life, which is chronicled in her new biography, *Sharp Flashes of Lightning Come from Black Clouds*.

Henson, who was born around 1789, grew up on a plantation near Port Tobacco, Md., where his father was whipped and had his ear cut off just for hitting a white man, who tried to rape his wife. He was sold to another slave owner, and Henson never saw his father again. Despite not knowing how to read, Henson memorized Bible verses and became a minister. He worked for 35 years on a plantation in North Bethesda, which is now the Josiah Henson Park and the future site of the Josiah Henson Museum. He escaped to freedom in 1830 by walking more than 600 miles to Canada with his wife and children.

Henson established a community for escaped slaves in Canada, and he returned to the United States over the next three decades to help more than 100 enslaved people escape through the Underground Railroad. He also established a gristmill, horse breeding facility, and sawmill in Canada to



THE ARTS

provide employment and self-sufficiency for his community.

His memoir, *The Life of Josiah Henson, Formerly a Slave, Now an Inhabitant of Canada, as Narrated by Himself*, was published three years before *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, and his life bore many similarities to the Uncle Tom character. Henson met with Stowe at her home in Andover, Mass., and he told her his life story before she wrote *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The novel had a huge influence, selling more than 300,000 copies in its first year and becoming the best-

selling novel of the 19th century. In the 1860 presidential campaign, the Republican Party distributed 100,000 copies of the novel to increase support for Abraham Lincoln's candidacy.

Henson later became an international celebrity. In 1876, he gave speeches across the United Kingdom, and Queen Victoria invited him to Windsor Castle. President Rutherford Hayes also invited him to the White House before his death in 1883 when he was 93 years old.

The Uncle Tom character later became

an epithet after it was twisted in "Uncle Tom" minstrel shows where white performers wearing black face wrongly portrayed Uncle Tom as an obsequious servant, who betrayed his own race to please his master.

When he learned of his connection to Uncle Tom, Henson was proud of the title. "If my humble words in any way inspired that gifted lady to write," he said, "then I have not lived in vain for I believe that her book was the beginning of the glorious end (of slavery)."

3rd Thursday
POETry.

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

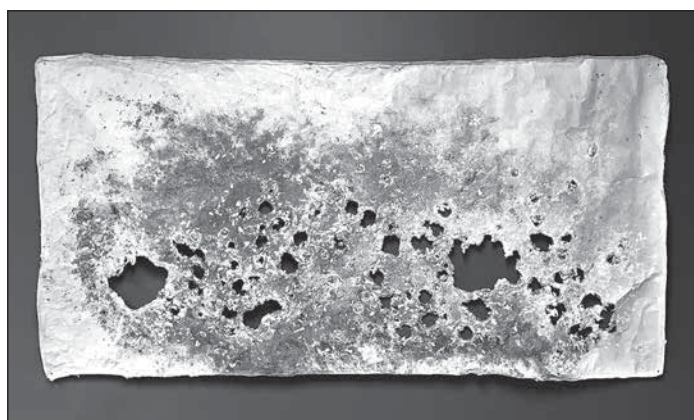
Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue
Free event

Local poets W. Luther Jett, Carolyn Joyner, Luc Phinney, and Bernardine Watson will read their original work with introductions by Takoma Park Poet Laureate Kathleen O'Toole. The audience can meet the poets at a reception following the reading.

The Beauty of Decay Art Exhibition

On view until March 5
Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Avenue
Free event

In our consumer society that disposes of everything that isn't new, decay is a scary word, conjuring images of obsolescence, advancing age, and death. But decay can be beautiful as shiny metal rusts and abandoned buildings crumble, leaving relics transformed by time and ne-

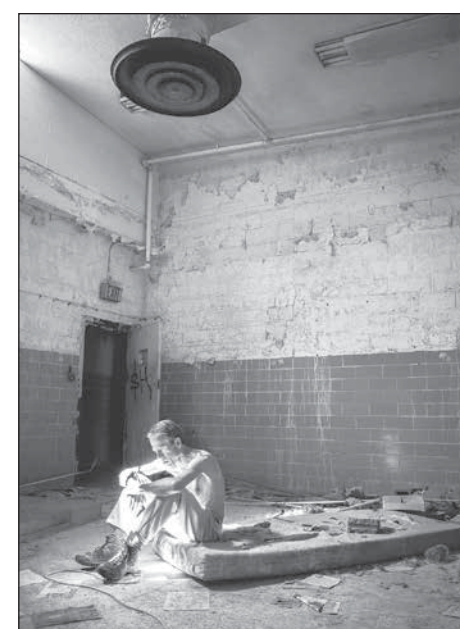


Untitled (#77) by Kristina King

glect. Three local artists will explore these themes in *The Beauty of Decay*, a new group exhibition on view at the Takoma Park Community Center until March 5.

Kristina King created handmade paper and a large site-specific installation that investigates decay, fragility, turbulence, and the ephemeral. Her ragged handmade paper pieces are riddled with holes and frayed edges, resembling a topographical map of mountain ranges or pock-marked craters on the moon.

David Mosher photographed himself in a deteriorating former mental institution, evoking scenes of melancholy and regret. By sharing very personal and psychological scenes, he seeks to engage viewers to explore their own emotional responses. He is inspired by artists including Man Ray, Robert Mapplethorpe, and Francesca Woodman who used self-portraiture to portray different personal identities.



Yellow Room by David Mosher

Drawing from personal loss, Chrissy Wilkin's paintings depict her psychological journey through grief toward acceptance. She uses different mediums, including marker, charcoal, and bleach, and her work illustrates how life comes full circle as we continue to live in spirit even after death.

RECREATION

Spring/Summer Class
Registration for Residents
Begins March 15!

TOTS

DROP-IN

Community Playtime

Enjoy open playtime, read stories, work on craft projects, enjoy the playground and socialize. Organizers will provide toys, craft supplies, story time and snacks. Visit www.takomaplaytime.org for more information. This is a drop-in program; no registration is required.

Heffner Park Community Center
42 Oswego Avenue
Newborn–5 years
Ongoing
English: Mondays
Spanish: Fridays
10 a.m.–12 p.m.
Free

YOUTH

CAMP



Summer is just around the corner! Make sure to pick up a copy of our Summer Camp Guide at the Community Center or Recreation Center. Spaces fill fast, so don't miss out on all the fun we have planned!

Registration & Early Bird Discounts:

Feb. 4–10 for City residents,
15% off this week
Feb 11–17 for everyone,
10% off this week

Discount will be applied automatically both in person and online.



Dribble, Pass & Shoot Basketball Spring Break Camp

Emphasizing individual improvement is one of the guiding philosophies of camp. Campers will be provided with excellent coaching, which allows each participant to develop a sense of pride and individual accomplishment. The level of instruction will be adjusted to fit the individual needs of each participant. Pack a non-perishable lunch each day. Paperwork will need to be completed prior to the first day of camp. Instructor: Joe Dobbins

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
5–12 years
3 Day Session
Wednesday-Friday, April 17-April 19
9 a.m.–4 p.m.
\$120

Spring Break Camp - Creative Concepts

Show off your creative side during this art-themed spring break camp. Participants will create various art projects, such as murals, sand art, drawing, painting and much more. Trips, activities and performers are subject to change.

Takoma Park Community Center
Azalea Room
7500 Maple Avenue
5–12 years
3 Day Session
Wednesday-Friday, April 17-April 19
9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Resident: \$75 / Non-resident: \$85

On Stage: Spring Break Workshop - Dear Evan Hansen

We will work on songs from the Broadway musical, *Dear Evan Hansen*. We'll have loads of fun learning music and choreography. On Stage: Spring Break Workshop will end with a showcase performance so parents can see what we've been working on. Please note that the emphasis is on process, not product,

though we haven't disappointed audiences yet! \$10 materials fee includes tracks/CDs, lyrics and prop supplies. Instructor: Gretchen Weigel

Takoma Park Community Center
Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue
9–14 years
3 Day Session
Wednesday-Friday, April 17-19
9:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Resident: \$135 / Non-resident: \$155

DRAMA & THEATER

On Stage Scene Study

In On Stage: Scene Study students focus on building believable characters and connections using scenes from plays and films as performance material. Class is comprised of acting exercises/warmups and application of acting theory to scenes in the Auditorium theatre space at the Takoma Park Community Center. Students will partner up and work on one scene for the 8 week session. We will be applying acting theory from Konstantin Stanislavski, Uta Hagan and Sanford Meisner, and we have lots of great material from award winning plays and popular films for teen students. Instructor: Gretchen Weigel

Takoma Park Community Center
Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue
11–16 years
Mondays, 4–5:30 p.m.
Through March 18
Resident: \$168 / Non-resident: \$188

MARTIAL ARTS

Kung Fu

Bungo Fu is the Jamaican style of Kung Fu. Come learn meditation, self-defense, improved flexibility and self-awareness! This ancient form of self-defense provides physical and mental exercise which could help the students defend themselves by strengthening hand and eye coordination. The student will gain physical fitness, mental and spiritual strength. There is a one-time, non-refundable fee of \$50 paid to the instructor at the first class for a uniform. Instructor: Master Robert Thompson

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
4–16 years
Saturdays, through March 30
Beginners: 10:15–11:15 a.m.
Advanced: 11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
Resident: \$155 / Non-resident: \$185



Taekwondo

Taekwondo is not only a combat sport, but it is also a way of life for enthusiasts around the globe. It is made up of three Chinese/Korean words: Tae meaning to kick or jump; Kwon meaning first or hand; and Do which means "the way." Taekwondo benefits include enhancing self-esteem by heightening your physical and mental powers. It builds confidence by encouraging you to succeed and to take control of your life. Develop discipline by thoroughly training your body and mind in the tenets and techniques of Taekwondo. Taekwondo emphasizes kicking techniques and is a fun way to achieve fitness and focus. There is a one-time, non-refundable \$40 uniform fee paid to the instructor at the first class. Instructor: Felix Lindeire

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
6 years and older
Mondays, 6–7 p.m.
Through April 8
(No Class 2/18)
Resident: \$165 / Non-resident: \$195

TEENS

CAMPS

Spring Break Filmmaking Camp: Focus on Takoma Park

A spring break camp intended for budding journalists. Youth (ages 12-17) will learn the basics of video production while also discovering more about Takoma Park. In three full days, campers will gain skills in how to shoot video on professional cameras, will learn how to conduct interviews with local residents, and how to film "b-roll" footage of Takoma Park in supervised production shoots. The collected footage will be edited together as a single piece by the instructor after the camp and will be shared with participants and the broader Takoma Park community via YouTube. Scholarships are available for TP resident FARMS-eligible students.

RECREATION □ Page 7

Serves Up!

For many years, the Takoma Park Recreation Department has proudly offered our community a multitude of events, programs, classes and activities. More specifically, the sports department has provided our community with fun and organized leagues, such as futsal, t-ball, adult softball, youth and adult basketball. We are always looking for ways to improve our leagues and add to our department. This year, we are delighted to announce that coming spring 2019, we will offer an adult volleyball league for our community and our surrounding areas!

We hope that our Takoma Park Coed Volleyball League invokes a fun and exciting recreational program for competitive adults of all skill levels. The games will be played in a six-versus-six, rally-scoring format. This means a point is scored on every single rally. It doesn't matter which team serves the ball; points can be scored by either the serving or the receiving team. The season



will be eight weeks long, and games are tentatively set for Monday and Wednesday evenings (subject to change). Registration opens March 15 for residents and March 22 for non-residents, so be sure to get your teams in early. Free agents or individuals can register as well.

Aside from the pure fun of volleyball, the league has many benefits. It's an enjoyable way to burn calories, get the heart rate up, and a perfect way to spend time with friends or make new ones. So break out your sneakers and get back on the court to have fun in a team-oriented, recreational environment.

Gather your friends, family and coworkers and create a team by registering in person or online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/sports. For additional information, send inquiries to tpsports@takomaparkmd.gov. We are excited for new beginnings within our sports community and hope you are too!

RECREATION

■ From page 6

Takoma Park Community Center
Multi Media Lab & Hydrangea Room
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6–12
3 Day Session
Wednesday-Friday, April 17-19
9 a.m. –4 p.m.
Resident: \$100 / Non-resident: \$130

Spring Break PREPS Camp

Spring Break PREPS (Planning and Researching for Educational and Professional Success) camp is about assisting teens in planning for their future. During this week, teens will be able to participate in discussions with business professionals and take a few college tours to get a sense of life after high school. Occasional break away trips, such as bowling, laser tag, or roller skating, will be included. Come with questions and an open mind.

Takoma Park Community Center
Teen Lounge
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6–12
3 Day Session
Wednesday-Friday, April 17-19
9 a.m. –4 p.m.
Resident: \$75 / Non-resident: \$100

DANCE

World Dance Academy

Learn about celebrations from different countries that are fun for teens in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Europe and areas of the United States. Students will create costumes for celebrations and choreography for stage presentation. Group Projects will include visual presentations showcasing the cultures and communities teens will discover. Participants will learn about creative artists from different countries and how they use their art in celebrations. Weekly projects and collaborations will aid in discovering the history of each celebration. No experience is necessary. The workshops begin with educational tools (maps, video, or written presentations); the second part of the program showcases the movements and history of the movements with warmup and teaching movements from the specific dance culture; the third part of the program enables the group to engage in choreography assignments and short group projects. The workshops end with cool down and vocabulary review.

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6–12
Tuesdays & Thursdays
4–5:30 p.m.
April 2-June 13
(No Class 4/18, 5/9)
Resident: \$50 / Non-resident: \$75

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Careers for the 21st Century

Let us help you prepare for Careers in the 21st Century as you discover your interests, abilities, values and aspirations and relate them to occupational choices. During this 8-week, hour-long course, we will engage in discussion and activities and role play to gain self-knowledge, explore career and educational options and begin basic career planning.

Takoma Park Community Center
Multi Media Lab
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6–8
Tuesdays, 4–5 p.m.
April 2-May 21
Residents: \$20 / Non-residents: \$30



Counselor in Training (CIT)

Sign up now for a three day training to become a Certified CIT while becoming First Aid/CPR certified. Work with children ages 5–12 during our youth summer camps and earn your SSL hours while having fun!

Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Avenue
Ages 14–17
Tuesday, April 30
Thursday, May 2
4–6 p.m.
Saturday, May 4
10 a.m. –5 p.m.
Resident: \$25 / Non-resident: \$35



Healthy Cooking for Teens

The Healthy Eating Program is a fun and interactive hour learning course about basic cooking and kitchen skills as well as healthy recipes (easy to replicate at home). Teens will be able to learn some nutritional components and how to create their own recipes. Teens will also take a trip to the Crossroad’s Famer’s market and learn about growing and purchasing the right foods. Participants will meet at Takoma Park Community Center at 3:30 p.m. to be transported to site. Instructor: Crossroads Farmers Market

Takoma Park Community Center
Meet at: Teen Lounge
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6–12
Mondays, 3:45–4:45 p.m.
April 1-May 20
\$10

Skills to Pay the Bills

This 8-week, hour long, engaging course will prepare you with soft or applied skills such as teamwork, decision-making, and communication that will help you become effective employees and managers. Each lesson is designed to get you thinking about, practicing, and discussing skills important for career and personal success.

Takoma Park Community Center
Multi Media Lab
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 9–12
Wednesdays, 4–5 p.m.
April 3-May 29
(No Class 4/17)
Residents: \$20 / Non-residents: \$30

Youth Summer Employment Program Interest Meeting

Is your teen in need of a summer job? The City of Takoma Park is pleased to announce the return of the City’s Youth Summer Employment program. Parents and teens come to the Interest Meeting and learn about this 8-week program, which will begin June 24 and end Aug. 17. The purpose of the Youth Summer Employment Program is to provide young people with a summer-long adventure that is more than just a job, but a true learning experience. There are a limited number of meaningful employment opportunities available this year. To register for the Interest Workshop or to get more information, call

Leicia Monfort at 301-891-7283. Participant must be a Takoma Park Resident and age 16 by June 1, 2019.

Takoma Park Community Center
Azalea Room
7500 Maple Avenue
Ages 16–21
Friday, March 29
6–8 p.m.
Free

ADULTS

DANCE

Mindful Movement

What happens when you combine meditation, dance and yoga together? Mindful Movement! This class is for dancers and non-dancers alike. Using creative movement and principles from different dance styles, we will explore and observe, through sensing and moving, our mind-and-body connection to bring awareness and creative freedom to the wonderful world of your body. Expect free dancing, some technical elements of dance, (e.g. African, jazz, contemporary, modern) breathing techniques, meditative stretching, and lots of insight and fun. Whether you want to view your body with more compassion and understanding, learn to properly stretch and tone, or gain dancing insight and creativity, this class is for you. Instructor: Beth Mwano

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
16 years and older
Saturdays, 12:45–2 p.m.
Through March 2
Resident: \$85 / Non-resident: \$95
Drop-In: \$15 (check or credit card only)

FITNESS



Ladies Boot Camp

A challenging workout within a quick hour, this total body program includes a circuit of drills, such as jumping jacks, running, push-ups, squats, crunches and weight training. Students are required to bring their own mats. Instructor: KJ Total Fitness

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
16 years and older
Tuesdays and Thursdays
6:30–7:30 p.m.
Through February 28
\$85
Drop-in: \$10

Qi Gong – Minding Our Business

Minding Our Business is a strategy for managing work-related stress. Using various mindfulness and Qi Gong practices will increase performance, creativity and health. Mindful practices are offered as “Take Five’s,” brief and vital breaks that can be incorporated throughout the day by anyone, anywhere at any time. Minding Our Business requires no special equipment and no dedicated space. Simple, effective and energizing practices lessen the impact of stress and enhance well-being. Patrick Smith is a Certified Qi Gong Instructor, worked in a highly stressful profession and has been practicing and sharing Mindfulness Meditation Practices for the past 30 years. These sessions are spread over 10 weeks to allow for deep learning and experience. Supporting material will be sent electronically to awaken and guide the students. All that is required is an open mind

and a willingness to experiment.
Instructor: Patrick Smith
Takoma Park Community Center
Azalea Room
7500 Maple Avenue
16 years and older
Tuesdays, 7–8 p.m.
Through March 19
(No class on: 2/5, 2/19, 2/26, 3/12)
Resident: \$95 / Non-resident: \$105
Drop-In: \$15 (check or credit card only)

Total Body Tabata

A form of high intensity interval training (HIIT), this class consists of eight rounds of ultra-high-intensity exercises in specific 20 seconds on, 10 seconds off intervals. This class encompasses upper body, lower body, balance, core and flexibility. Just a short workout will leave you sweaty, full of energy and ready to take on your packed schedule. Instructor: KJ Fitness

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
16 years and older
Sundays, 1–2 p.m.
Through March 3
Resident: \$85 / Non-resident: \$95
Drop-In: \$15 (check or credit card only)

Yoga (Iyengar): Beginners

This class will introduce to you yoga as taught using the Iyengar Method. In this method the emphasis is on alignment and precision. The basic postures are introduced, and awareness is created in the whole body. As awareness of every part of the body is felt, so also energy is generated and the breath is engaged. The goal is to bring into alignment not just the different parts of the body but alignment of the body with the mind and the mind with the soul. Mats and props will be provided to make all poses accessible to all. Students are requested to wear comfortable clothing, and please do not eat in the two hours prior to the class. Instructor: Tehseen Chettri

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
18 years and older
Wednesdays, 6–7:15 p.m.
Through March 27
Resident: \$170 / Non-resident: \$200
Drop-In: \$15 (check or credit card only)

Yoga (Iyengar): Intermediate

Practice and persistence brings transformation. After achieving a firm foundation in the beginner’s class, a student wishes to go forward in her/his exploration of the discipline of yoga. This intermediate level offers a deeper penetration of the consciousness from the periphery towards the core. The more advanced postures are introduced and inversions are included. The practice of pranayama (breathing) is included in the session. Mats and props are provided. Instructor: Tehseen Chettri

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
18 years and older
Wednesdays, 7:30–9 p.m.
Through March 27
Resident: \$170 / Non-resident: \$200
Drop-In: \$15 (check or credit card only)

Zumba

Come out and enjoy an hour of Zumba. Zumba is a total workout, combining all elements of fitness with cardio, muscle conditioning, balance and flexibility. Zumba takes the work out of workout, by mixing low and high intensity moves. The class will incorporate Latin music that will easily move you through your workout. Instructor: Laura Stewart

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue

LIBRARY



CSK: 50 Years Strong

CSK Awards turn 50

This year, there's a big anniversary in the world of children's literature: the 50th anniversary of the Coretta Scott King (CSK) Book Awards. While many people know of the Newbery Medal and Caldecott Medal, the Coretta Scott King Book Awards, also given annually by the American Library Association, are less known.

But the CSK Awards have made an important impact over the years in spotlighting and encouraging the publishing of excellent children's books by African-American authors and illustrators. CSK-winning books have both allowed African American children to see themselves in books and provided windows into African-American life for young readers of other cultures. The awards also have expanded the marketplace for African American artists and writers, although there is still a long way to go to truly diversify the white-majority world of children's book publishing.

ner Toni Morrison, Maya Angelou, Walter Dean Myers, Virginia Hamilton (the first African-American author to win a Newbery Medal), Jerry Pinkney (the first African-American illustrator to win the Caldecott Medal), Christopher Paul Curtis, Jacqueline Woodson (the current National Ambassador for Young People's Literature), and a host of other African-American authors and illustrators.

The award was the brainchild of two African-American librarians, Mabel McKissack and Glyndon Greer, and John Carroll, a white publisher. McKissack and Greer met by chance at an American Library Association conference in 1969 as they were both vying for a poster of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on display at the Carroll Publishing Co. booth. As the two talked, they realized they were concerned about a lack of recognition of African-American authors and illustrators. Carroll then chimed in: "Then



Previous Coretta Scott King Book Award Author Winners

Yet 50 years is an anniversary worth celebrating! And that's what we're doing at the Library. We'll have a year-long display of CSK winners, and we are developing a take-home brochure of the titles. In addition, we're planning some special events to spotlight CSK winning books, so stay tuned.

There are several CSK awards: the Author Award, the Illustrator Award, the John Steptoe New Talent Award, and the Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement (given alternately to an author or illustrator, and a teacher or librarian). During the past 50 years, CSK winners have included Nobel Prize win-

ner Toni Morrison, Maya Angelou, Walter Dean Myers, Virginia Hamilton (the first African-American author to win a Newbery Medal), Jerry Pinkney (the first African-American illustrator to win the Caldecott Medal), Christopher Paul Curtis, Jacqueline Woodson (the current National Ambassador for Young People's Literature), and a host of other African-American authors and illustrators.

In 1982, the CSK Awards became an official award of the American Library Association. The winners are announced each year in the same "Youth Media Awards" program as the Caldecott and Newbery winners.

CALENDAR

Circle Time

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

Spanish Circle Time

Thursdays, 10:15–10:45 a.m. OR 11–11:30 a.m.
Led by Senora Geiza

LEGO Club

Sunday, Feb. 3, 1:30–3 p.m.
Building fun for ages 3–10.

Kids Novelist Lynne Kelly

Tuesday, Feb. 5, 7:30 p.m.
Kelly will discuss her new novel, *Song for a Whale*.

Petites Chansons/French Circle Time

Saturday, Feb. 9, 10:30 a.m.
Madame Marie leads songs and rhymes in French.

Books to Action: A Social Justice Book Club for Kids & Families

Saturday, Feb. 9, 2 p.m.
Our theme is books about people who have made the world a better place.

Caldecott Club

Monday, Feb. 11, 7 p.m.
Join us as we read and celebrate the actual winner of the 2019 Caldecott Medal, plus any 2019 Caldecott Honor books. Cake and lemonade will be served.

Comics Jam

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 4 p.m.
Join Dave Burbank for our fun comics book club

Fairy Tale Party

Saturday, Feb. 16, 2–4 p.m.
Come in your fairy tale finery and enjoy some tales, crafts and snacks.

Alternative Games

Saturday, Feb. 23, 2–4 p.m.
Join Dave Burbank for a rousing session of *Dungeons & Dragons*. Ages 8 up.

Kids Art

Sunday, Feb. 24, 2–3 p.m.

Coming Up....

- **Graphic Novelist Gareth Hinds, Monday, March 18, 7:30 p.m.**
Hinds will present his newest book, an adaptation of *The Iliad*.

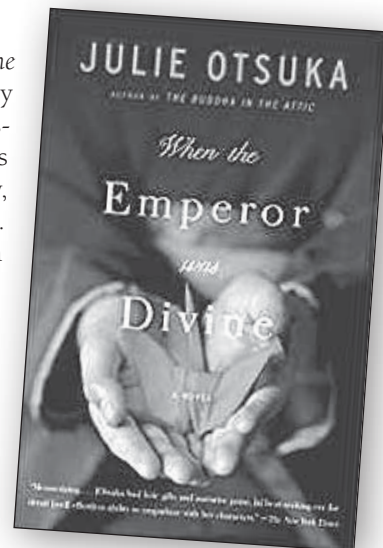
Next Friends Book Club discussion

By Tim Rahn

The novel, *When the Emperor was Devine*, by Julie Otsuka, will be discussed by the Friends Book Group on Tuesday, March 19, at 7:30 p.m. in the Azalea Room of the TP Community Center.

When the Emperor was Devine tells the story of a nameless Japanese American family declared enemy aliens after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941. The mother, daughter and son are sent to an internment camp in Utah, while the father is given the additional label "dangerous" and imprisoned in a separate camp.

The novel follows the family from the



day the mother learns their fate until they return after the war to a much-changed Berkley, California. Otsuka compresses the story into four taut chapters, using detail and historical accuracy to render a heartbreaking story about one of the more shameful events in American history.

Michael Upchurch, writing in the *New York Times* said of the novel "what impresses you most is how much Otsuka is able to convey – in a line, in a paragraph – about her characters' surroundings, about their states of mind and about the mood of our country at a time of crisis that did not, on this particular front, bring out the best in its character."

Happy Valentine's Day to our readers!



Beginning in February, "new" adult books, which have not been reserved by other patrons, will be automatically renewed, just like other books, magazines and audiobooks in the library's collections.

They will still have the "New" stickers and be shelved next to the Philadelphia Avenue entrance to identify them.

New and popular books in demand should be placed on reserve by patrons who want them – to make them available in three weeks, rather than the six weeks that come with automatic renewal. Reminder notices will reflect this new, expanded policy beginning in February.

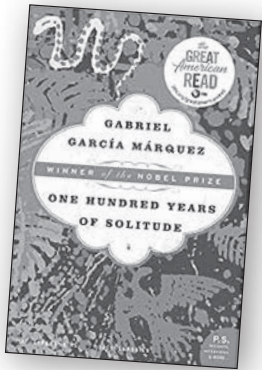
Calling all fairy tale fans!

Join us on Saturday, Feb. 16, from 2–4 p.m. for a Fairy Tale Party. Wear your fairy tale finery! Ms. Kati will kick off the fun by reading some great fairy tales. Then we'll have crafts and snacks. Kids of all ages are invited; crafts will be most appropriate for ages 3 and up. Registration encouraged, so we can be sure to have enough snacks and craft materials.

Reading Club choices in the months ahead

The Friends Big Book club – entering its 10th year – will begin discussions of *100 Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. The group’s discussions of literary landmarks, facilitated by Phil Schewe, and formerly by Merrill Leffler, originated with an idea of Wally Malakoff, who recommended reading a new translation of *War and Peace* followed by several discussions. The idea caught on and has been a popular series ever since. A lecture will be held on March 27 (Historic Takoma), with discussions on April 3 (Hydrangea Room), April 17 (Library) and May 1 (Azalea Room).

The Fortnightly Book Club was also facilitated by Merrill Leffler for many years and is now moderated by Tim Rahn. Tim has chosen several books for the months ahead: *When the Emperor was Divine*, by Julie Otsuka (March 19), *Lincoln in the Bardo* by George Saunders (May 22), and *IQ* by Joe Ide (July 10). All books will be available at the Library soon.



Summer program in 2017: During the filming of their short documentary about immigration, students visited the Capitol Building to interview U.S. Representative Adriano Espaillat (D-NY).

Video with vision

By Rick Henry

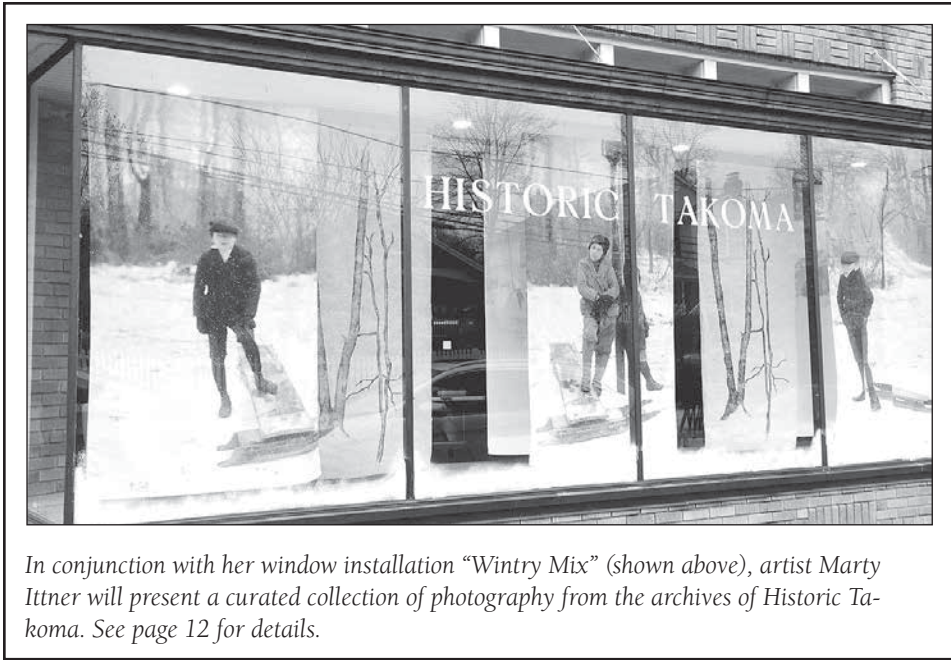
Watch out world. The youth of Takoma Park now have one more powerful outlet to assist them in their ongoing quest to positively affect social change.

Thanks to a \$5,000 community grant from the City, Gandhi Brigade Youth Media (GBYM), a pioneering afterschool program that empowers young people in the region to use multimedia as tools to promote community building, multicultural

understanding and the common good, will implement a free after-school program for middle and high school students in Takoma Park.

Students in the Promoters Program will learn the fundamentals of video production and use those skills to produce original short films about social justice topics and community-related issues. The pro-

VIDEO WITH VISION □ Page 11



In conjunction with her window installation “Wintry Mix” (shown above), artist Marty Ittner will present a curated collection of photography from the archives of Historic Takoma. See page 12 for details.

RECREATION
■ From page 7

16 years and older
Saturdays, 11:45 a.m. –12:45 p.m.
Session 1: through February 16
Session 2: February 23-March 30
\$50
Drop in: \$10

MARTIAL ARTS
Kung Fu

Bungo Fu is the Jamaican style of Kung Fu. Come learn meditation, self-defense, improved flexibility and self-awareness. This ancient form of self-defense provides physical and mental exercise, which could help students defend themselves by strengthening hand-and-eye coordination as well as assist with the maintaining of balance as they get older. The student will gain physical fitness, mental and spiritual strength. Instructor: Master Robert Thompson

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
17 years and older
Monday, 7:30–8:30 p.m.
Through March 25
(No class 2/18)
Resident: \$165 / Non-resident: \$195

55+

ART
Glazing Ceramic Bisque

Coming soon, a new workshop for early spring. A variety of items will be available for you to choose from and decorate. All materials

provided. Space will be limited, so sign up soon. Instructors: Alice Sims and Sue Bracey
Takoma Park Community Center
Azalea Room
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Tuesday, March 12
11 a.m.–1 p.m.
Free



DROP-IN
Bingo

Come and try your luck and win a prize! No registration required.
Takoma Park Community Center
Senior Room
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Tuesday, February 26
12–2 p.m.
Free

Blood Pressure Screening
Adventist Healthcare will be doing a monthly blood pressure screening. Drop-in; no registration is required.
Takoma Park Community Center

Senior Room
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Tuesday, February 26
11:30 a.m. –12:30 p.m.
Free

Game Room Open Play

The game room is available for adults age 55 and older to play pool, table tennis, basketball arcade and other active games. The game room is a great place to join friends for lively conversation, and just to “hang out” before, in-between and after classes during the day.

Takoma Park Community Center
Game Room
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Ongoing
Monday-Wednesday & Friday: 9 a.m. –1 p.m.
Thursdays: 9 a.m. –12 p.m.
Saturdays: 10 a.m. –12 p.m.
Free

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT
Computer Extras

In this three week course experiment with social media, master the calendar and other computer/smart device apps. Bring your questions. You need a Takoma Park Library card to access the computers, and take this course. Instructor: Anne LeVeque

Takoma Park Community Center
Computer Lab
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Wednesdays, March 6-20
10 a.m. –12 p.m.
\$10

SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH



Heart & Core

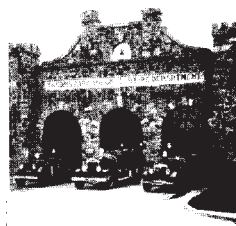
Move to the high energy beat to pump up the heart rate followed by 20 minutes of Pilates core floor workout to strengthen the area from shoulders through hips. Instructor: Nancy Nickell

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Saturdays, 9:15–10:15 a.m.
Through March 23
Free

Tennis Fun and Fitness

This class blends exercise with learning or reviewing tennis skills utilizing special equipment for indoor play. All equipment provided, but you can bring your own racket. Instructor: Coach SJ

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
55 and older
Thursdays, 12–1 p.m.
Through March 21
Free



THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

2018 Grand Totals

The Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and Montgomery County Fire and Rescue personnel assigned to the station responded to 573 fire-related incidents and 3,067 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 3,660. Takoma Park volunteer put in a total of 12,613.5 hours of standby hours in the station.

Maryland fire deaths

As of Jan. 29, the Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported that a total of 9 people have died in fires in 2019 compared to 5 in 2018.

Hot vehicle death facts

Since record keeping was started in 1998, there were 12 deaths in Mary-

land. This past year, 2018 tied the highest record at 51. The lowest was 25 in 2015. The grand total across the country for 2018 was 794.

More tips for snow shoveling season

It's the season for bad weather and snow to shovel. This task alone sends more than 11,000 adults to the hospital every year. The most common issues are back strain and sprains, followed by broken bones, head injury and heart attacks. Shoveling snow is slippery business, and you need to take certain steps to make sure that you are not adding to these statistics. Here are a few helpful hints to keep you healthy this shoveling season:

- Keep your back straight, and don't bend over to pick up the snow.
- Bend your knees to lift.
- In terms of your shovel, use a smaller one. The less snow you move at once, the safer you'll be.
- Push the snow; don't lift it.
- Dress warmly and take regular breaks inside.
- Drink plenty of water.

The weight of snow per shovel is 5 lbs. for dry snow and 20+ lbs. for wet snow

Dear Bea(trice) Prepared: Winter Safety Q & A

By Claudine Schweber, co-chair,
Emergency Preparedness Committee



For the past two years, I have shared answers to questions sent to Bea(trice) Prepared with WOWD Takoma Park Radio (94.3 FM) listeners on "Talk of Takoma" with Eric Bond at 1 p.m. on the first Sunday of the month. Here are three questions that focus on winter safety.

Dear Bea(trice) Prepared:

I have to drive at night to and from work. I haven't ever done this on a regular basis. The other night, I almost hit an oncoming car. Is it true that I can do something to limit the danger of nighttime accidents? I want to survive beyond February.

Signed, Lights Out

Dear Lights Out:

You are right to be concerned about night driving in winter. First, it's time to clean up your act. Make sure that you clean your front and back windshields. Dirty ones can impact the light beams causing glare from incoming cars; second, make sure your headlights are clean. When they are dirty, this cannot only affect your visibility but also create glare for oncoming cars. Also, make sure your headlights are properly aligned, so they face straight ahead; too high or too low beams can limit your visibility or blind oncoming drivers. You can find additional tips for safe night driving from Geico vehicle insurance at <https://tinyurl.com/y8392hz8>.

Dear Beatrice:

I'm worried about snow because I cannot shovel my sidewalks or the street, which I know is required in Takoma Park. I'm 58 and live alone. My right side is in a cast due to an accident last year. My neighbor said there are "angels" in Takoma Park who do this. Am I losing my hearing and my sanity, too?

Signed, Snow Help

Dear Snow Help:

Your hearing is fine, and so is your sanity. Takoma Park's "Snow Angels" can dig you out. These angels are Takoma Middle School Students in the Difference Makers Club. You fit the qualifications: Takoma Park resident, 55 or older or have a disability, and have no one at home who can help with shoveling. However, 2018-19 program is full, but you can get on the waiting list. Contact Paula Lisowski at 301-891-7280 or paulal@takomaparkmd.gov. For more information, visit takomaparkmd.gov/government/recreation/snow-angels.

Dear Beatrice:

I now live in a high-rise building. Since it's winter, I'm staying indoors more and chatting with my neighbors. Last week I was talking in the hallway with the woman next door, and suddenly we smelled smoke. It was in her kitchen; she had left the stove on. I asked why she didn't stay with the food. She said she's left the stove before for just a few minutes, and nothing happened. Since I'm new to the building I should wait awhile before I tell her what to do. Am I worrying too much?

Signed, Burning with Curiosity

Dear Burning:

You are correct. Unattended cooking is the number one cause of home fires. Stay with the cooking until the heat is completely turned off. And here's another suggestion. If you need to test doors that are hot, use the back-of-the-hand trick. Instead of touching the door with your palm, very gently use the back of the hand. You might offer the trick to your neighbor as a goodwill gesture.

Until next month, enjoy a safe winter wonderland.

Don't hesitate to send questions or concerns to tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov or call 301-891-7126. Listen to WOWD 94.3 Talk of Takoma at 1 p.m. on the first Sunday of the month.

STAY CONNECTED!

The City of Takoma Park strives to keep residents engaged and informed in a variety of ways including social media, the City website, and public safety notifications via email and text, to name a few. Here are some tips for staying on top of the goings on around the City.

- Visit takomaparkmd.gov, where you can access information on upcoming Council meetings and agendas, City news, and the status of City projects
- Like the City of Takoma Park on Facebook or follow us on Twitter at @TakomaParkMD
- Sign up for Public Safety notifications on Takoma Park Alert: takomaparkmd.gov/services/takoma-park-alert
- Stay up to date with city news and blogs from City Staff, the Mayor and Council at takomaparkmd.gov/news
- Make a service request or report an issue using "My TkPk," an online and application based reporting tool: takomaparkmd.gov/services/my-tkpk



Safety tips for avoiding robberies



Chief DeVaul

In response to the surge in robberies during the past few months along the borders of Takoma Park in Montgomery County and the District of Columbia, with at least two occurring in Takoma Park, the Takoma Park Chief of Police Antonio B. DeVaul offered this message to Takoma Park residents:

"I want to assure the residents that we have increased patrols and have been working very closely with the Montgomery County Police Department and the Metropolitan Police Department in all cases. We will remain involved in the coordinated efforts between agencies to ensure the subjects responsible for the robberies, and/or other criminal offenses, are quickly apprehended. The majority of these cases appear to be connected" (TPPD Community Advisory, January 15, 2019).

The advisory also offered these safety tips to residents:

- Please be aware of your surroundings. If you see something out of the ordinary or suspicious, call us immediately at 301-270-1100.
- Always be alert and aware of your surroundings. As you walk, look around you. Scan the area.
- Do not allow yourself to be distracted by using a cell phone or head phones.
- Walk purposefully and look confident. Keep your head up.
- If you see an individual, a group or a parked vehicle that looks suspicious or causes you concern, keep your distance. Take another route or ask for help.
- Do not walk close to shrubbery, doorways or cars where someone can easily hide.
- Hide your valuables. Don't flash jewelry or other expensive belongings. Keep any bag or purse close to your body, preferably in front.
- Try to limit your use of ATM machines to daytime, avoiding those that are out of the way and as always, be aware of your surroundings.
- If you think you are being followed, quickly change directions, and if possible, go to a location where there are

other people that can help you.

- If an unknown vehicle approaches you, immediately change directions.
- If you do find yourself being robbed, avoid being injured by giving the robber what they want. Don't attempt to resist or attack the subject.
- If possible, try to note details that will help in catching the suspect, such

as race, hair, facial features, height, weight, build, clothing and vehicle and tag information.

- Call "9-1-1" and stay in a safe place nearby until police arrive.

For more information, contact Catherine Plevy, Public Information Officer, Takoma Park Police Department, cathyp@takomaparkmd.gov.



Passport Services

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

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

Local Boy Scout to provide bat houses in Takoma Park for Eagle Project

The Friends of Sligo Creek and Boy Scout Troop 33 are partnering with local Eagle Scout candidate Jonathan Andersen on his Eagle Scout Project. Jonathan, a senior at Blair High School, is building and distributing bat houses in the Takoma Park portion of Sligo Creek.

Encouraging more bats to live nearby can help Takoma Park. Bats are a key part of natural pest control, especially mosquitos. Within the D.C. Metro region, one bat can consume up to 1,000 mosquitos in an hour, significantly decreasing the amount within our area. In urban areas, bats and other creatures are losing their natural habitat. There is enough space in and around Sligo and Long Branch Creeks, within Takoma Park, that is ideal for promoting safe places for bats to live.

Construction of the houses started last month. They will be distributed to interested homeowners in March. Priority will be given to homes that meet the following criteria:

- a spot for mounting the bat house at least 10-15 feet off



The bat house pictured above is similar to the ones being built as part of Jonathan Andersen's Eagle Scout Project.

the ground

- Southeast or Southwest facing walls
- no trees within 20 feet
- sit within .25 mile of Sligo Creek

Homeowners can have bat houses installed or be provided with the necessary equipment to mount them. If you are interested in this project or have questions, contact Jonathan Andersen at 301-270-1089 or jmandersent@gmail.com. Interested homeowners can also complete an online application at <http://bit.ly/33batthouse>.



VIDEO WITH VISION

■ From page 9

gram will meet once a week for 12 weeks in the Takoma Park Community Center starting Feb. 12. Each after-school session will run two hours (3:30–5:30 p.m.). There will be a spring session, running from February to June and a fall session, running from September to December.

"We want to make the program available to more students, and this is a great opportunity to serve another community," said Anna Danielson, GBYM Executive Director.

According to program manager Emma Whitty, GBYM is conducting outreach for participants through the Takoma Park middle and high schools and through social services agencies that work with underserved students. Students must be in middle or high school to participate in the program. Each session can accommodate up to 15 students.

"No prior experience in media is necessary," she said. The cohort will be taught by Malik Carter, a professional videographer and producer who has previously taught courses at the Community Center.

"Many young people who participate in GBYM programs discover a passion for journalism, filmmaking, activism, or storytelling," said Whitty. "We invite the public to visit the GBYM YouTube page to watch all of the works that our participants have produced with us in the past ten years. (youtube.com/gandhibrigade)"

Much of the program's value comes from its structure. First, students are taught how to create effective media messages. Then they are encouraged to investigate

the world around them. Finally, they apply these new skills and abilities toward practical film/media projects that foster dialogue and understanding, working together to produce two short pieces of media (typically a short documentary or public service announcement) about a social justice or community-related topic that they choose

Students present their finished films at community events and discuss their work with peers and community member. There is also a showcase or screening at the end of each session.

Whitty noted that some student projects have been accepted into film festivals around the country. She pointed out that that many alumni have done their senior capstone projects about their GBYM film projects and have obtained after-school jobs working with younger students in media production programs.

"Students gain confidence in talking about issues that affect them and they feel pride about creating something meaningful. They are empowered to use their voices and feel heard," she said.

The program also welcomes repeat participants. "We have a lot of people return," Whitty said. "The students are always coming up with new project ideas and there is always something new for students to learn."

If you are a middle or high school student interested in the program, or if you know someone who is, please contact Emma Whitty at emma@gandhibrigade.org. Please plan to enroll no later than February 12.

FEBRUARY '19

Do you have an item for the city calendar?

Do you have an item for the city calendar? Let us know if you have a nonprofit event that would be of interest to City of Takoma Park residents, and we'll consider it for inclusion in the calendar. Deadline for the March issue is Feb. 8, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning Feb. 22. To submit calendar items, email tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov. "TP Community Center" is the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park. All addresses are in Takoma Park or Takoma, D.C., unless otherwise noted.

PUBLIC MEETINGS OF NOTE

City Council

City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium
Detailed agendas are always available for review online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas.

Presidents Day - City Offices Closed

Monday, Feb. 18
All City offices and facilities will be closed Monday, Feb. 18, for the Presidents Day holiday. Yard waste collection is canceled. The Takoma Park Police Department is open 24/7 for emergency services.

Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry

First Saturdays, noon – 3 p.m.
Grace United Methodist Church, 7001 New Hampshire Ave.
Bi-weekly and monthly food supplements for needy families
240-450-2092 or educare_ss@yahoo.com
www.educaresupportservices.org

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Circle Time

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.
A beloved local tradition, the 30-minute program of songs, fingerplays, rhymes, movement exercises and stories teach early literacy concepts in a fun way. The program is geared for infants through preschoolers and their grown-ups.
Takoma Park Maryland Library

Spanish Circle Time

Thursdays, 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Join Senora Geiza for a 30-minute program highlighting basic Spanish vocabulary through songs and rhymes.
Takoma Park Maryland Library

The Spirit Club

Wednesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center
Therapeutic recreation class for Takoma Park residents 17 and older
This class is designed for adults with developmental/neurologic challenges. For more information, contact Jared Ciner at jciner@spiritclub.com or 303-883-4364.

Kid's Night Out

First and third Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Fun and games for kids

Teen Night

Second and fourth Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Games and activities just for teens

Takoma Park Farmers Market

Sundays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Year-round
Laurel and Carroll avenues in Old Town
Every Sunday in the historic business district of the city, local, seasonal produce, breads, pasture-raised meats, artisan cheese, eggs, baked goods and more from farms located within 125 miles of Takoma Park are offered.

Top Notch Toastmasters

Second and fourth Tuesdays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
TP Community Center
Improve your communication and leadership skills. Top Notch Toastmasters meetings provide opportunities for positive, supportive development of personal and interpersonal skills that make you a better communicator, a better leader. Come to our meetings to sharpen your abilities, meet new friends, and make a difference in your life.

Community Self Defense

Wednesdays, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
6836 New Hampshire Ave., Takoma Park
Certified Gracie Jiu Jitsu Black Belt instruction
Free and open to all

Parents of Special Needs Adults (POSNA)

First Thursdays
TP Community Center
This support and advocacy group of parents and other loved ones of adults with special needs including autism, Down's syndrome, and severe chronic psychiatric challenges usually meets the first Thursdays of every month. For more information, contact Mary Muchui at muchui@aol.com.

Takoma Park Middle School Used Book Sale

Friday, Feb. 8, 6 – 9 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 9, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Takoma Park Middle School, 7611 Piney Branch Road
To benefit the PTA, more than 4000 books available on all subjects and for all ages. Most books priced at \$1–2. Additional offerings include: silent auction (both days), student/staff basketball game Friday night and children's activities Saturday morning.
Website: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/takomaparkms

Takoma Park's 9th Annual Mid-Winter Play Day

Sunday, Feb. 10, 1 – 4 p.m.
7500 Maple Avenue Takoma Park
Let's Play America and the Takoma Park Recreation Department have teamed up to present to you the ninth annual Mid-Winter Play Day. Come join Let's Play America and the Takoma Park Recreation Department for a fun afternoon of indoor play. Free fun for all. To see a full listing of activities and performances, visit www.letsplayamerica.org. Volunteers contact Pat, 301-928-9962, theplaylady@gmail.com.

Fairy Tale Party

Saturday, Feb. 16, 2 – 4 p.m.
Takoma Park Library
Calling all fairy-tale enthusiasts. You're invited to join the Library for a Fairy Tale Party. Enjoy tales, crafts and snacks. Wear your favorite fairy tale-inspired get-up. Kids of all ages are invited; crafts will be most appropriate for ages 3 and up. Registration encouraged so we can be sure to have enough snacks and craft materials.

Alternative Games

Saturday, Feb. 23, 2 – 4 p.m.
Takoma Park Library
Join game-master Dave Burbank for this monthly session of Alternative Games, including Dungeons & Dragons. The event is aimed at kids ages 8 up; registration required. An email will be sent with the latest program date to all who are registered.

Artist Talk at Historic Takoma

Saturday, Feb. 24, 2 p.m.
Historic Takoma, 7328 Carroll Ave.
In tandem with her window installation "Wintry Mix," artist Marty Ittner will present a curated collection of photography from the archives of Historic Takoma. Go back in time to learn more about Takoma's prolific Morris Bien, who in the early 1900s photographed the four boys featured in the window installation. Ittner will also talk about the influence of vintage imagery in her own work. Original glass negatives, ephemera of the era and printed examples of early photography will be on display.

ARTS AND LITERATURE

People's Open Mic

Sundays, 9 p.m.
Republic restaurant, 6939 Laurel Ave.
www.republictakoma.com

Takoma Park Community Band

Mondays, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Heffner Park Community Center, 42 Oswego Ave.
Join the Takoma Park Community Band for weekly rehearsals at the Heffner Park Community Center. No audition required, just plenty of enthusiasm.

Drum for Joy! with Jaqui MacMillan

Mondays, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
Electric Maid, 268 Carroll St.
Learn hand drumming

Blues Mondays

Mondays, 7:30 – 10:30 p.m.
Republic restaurant, 6939 Laurel Ave.
www.republictakoma.com

Open Mic Night

Tuesdays, 9 – 11 p.m.
Busboys and Poets, 235 Carroll St. NW

Jazz Jam

Tuesdays, 7 – 10 p.m.
Takoma Station, 6914 14th St. NW
Open mic for jazz musicians

Wednesday Night Drum Jams

Wednesdays, 7 – 9:30 p.m.
The Electric Maid, 268 Carroll St. NW
Hosted by Katy Gaughan and friends

Humanities Lecture

Thursday, Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center
Experts share their insights on history, pop culture, and more timely topics.

Film Screening

Thursday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center
Docs in Progress and other filmmakers present

a wide variety of documentaries on compelling subjects. Past documentaries have explored discrimination against the Deaf community, artists who helped overthrow a dictator in Sierra Leone, and the life story of civil rights pioneer Fannie Lou Hamer.

Writing a Village

Monday, Feb. 18, 7 – 9 p.m.
TP Community Center Hydrangea Room
Led by former Takoma Park Poet Laureate Anne Becker, this free workshop provides a friendly atmosphere for writers to share their poetry and creative writing.

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, Feb. 21, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
The popular "Third Thursday" poetry series features the work of a wide range of poets from across the region. Held in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, the free readings are followed by a light reception and an opportunity to meet the featured poets.

Photo Salon

Monday, Feb. 25, 7 – 9 p.m.
TP Community Center Hydrangea Room
Professional and amateur photographers can show and critique their work in this free monthly workshop led by photographer Rob Rudick.

DECAYED Art Exhibition

Through March 10
TP Community Center
Three talented artists display their work in DECAYED, an exhibition exploring the beauty and melancholy of decay. The exhibition will be on view until March 10. Kristina King painstakingly creates handmade paper using beaten cotton or flax fibers that are suspended in water and pulled through a mold. Chrissy Wilkin explores the inevitability of death through paintings of skeletons that display a macabre sense of humor. David Mosher explores abandoned buildings where he photographs himself in scenes that possess a surreal beauty and sense of loss amidst layers of peeling paint and crumbling plaster.

UPCOMING EVENTS

My Monster & Me: Stories and a Craft

Saturday, March 9, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
Takoma Park Library
Kids are invited to come read some fun picture books about (friendly) monsters and then create their own "monster stuffie" toy. This program is presented in partnership with Small Things Matter, a local nonprofit created by Roxanne Yamashita and her teen daughter Lana. At the program, Lana and friends will read several monster-themed picture books and then lead participants in making a monster stuffie to take home. All materials will be provided courtesy of the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library.

Staff in Service



In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the City Staff was proud to volunteer at Shepherd's Table. Since 1983, their mission has been to provide meals, social services, medical support, clothing and other assistance to those needing support in the community.



Prepared to Plunge! (Left to right): Deputy City Manager Jason Damweber, City Manager Suzanne Ludlow, and Chief Tony DeVaul supported TPPD's Polar Bear Plunge to benefit Special Olympics of Maryland.