MEMORIAL DAY MAY 30

City Offices Closed

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. . ."
Margaret Mead (1901-1978)

Takoma Park NEWSLETTER

TRASH HOLIDAY
Memorial Day
May 30

No Yard Waste Collection

Published by the City of Takoma Park | www.takomaparkmd.gov | MAY 2011

Souper Soup, Baked Goods, and a Treasure Trohv Move to Takoma

By Virginia Myers

New shops popping up this spring in Takoma Park and Takoma, D.C. will be offering residents a chance to pick up a carry-out soup (or eat in), order gluten-free baked goods, or shop for funky and functional furniture and homewares right in town.

Trohv treasures

The largest of these ventures is Trohv, a new home and housewares shop, at 232 Carroll St. NW (trohvshop.com). Owners Ben Homola and Carmen Brock have taken a successful venture, Red Tree, in the hip Hampden neighborhood of Baltimore, and extended it, with some alterations, to Takoma, D.C. They've renamed the Baltimore site to match, so now there are two stores named "Trohv," a twist on "treasure trove" but with more panache.

Both places offer an eclectic selection of furniture, housewares and art tailored to the neighborhood. Homola calls it a "lifestyle" store, and describes typical merchandise: "hardwood furniture from Indonesia, India and Eastern Europe in custom upholstery and leather, various thoughtfully designed home accessories, art, cards, jewelry, kitchen/bar goods, bath and body products, candles, various baby products, bedding, some limited clothes/bags, fun/quirky accoutrement, and a lot of general gifts that represent things we think are well-designed, useful and/or generally desirable."

Takoma Park got a taste of the new Trohv during last month's Art Hop, with a small display of local artist Bobbi Kittner's work at the front of the expansive, warehouse-sized building, and merchandise displays beginning to fill in behind. Homola calls the Takoma collection a mix of vintage and industrial, with some modern thrown in for good measure. There are plenty of re-purposed items, and even the hardware of the shop itself is intriguing: light shades, for example, are fashioned from old gym locker doors.

Expect to eventually see the work of local artists integrated into the shop, along with big items (couches, cabinets, tables) and small (soaps, cookbooks, pillows, candles, mugs). The Baltimore store's style has landed mentions in numerous national magazines and garnered awards from the local press as well.

Trohv opened in late April.

Photo by Patsy Lieberman

Takoma Park recently qualified as the first National Wildlife Federation-designated Community Wildlife Habitat City in Maryland. The designation recognizes the City for having more than 150 yards and nearly a dozen public sites registered as providing food and shelter for wildlife. Here, a bleeding heart at Becca Lily Park. For more photos of these nature spots, see page 6.

Soupergirl makes the scene

Down the street toward Metro, Soupergirl is taking over the spot next to Mayorga, with homemade soups to go and, later, to stay (314 Carroll St. NW, thesoupergirl.com). An extension of a two-and-a-half-year-old soup delivery service based in D.C., this small family business is run by Sara Polon, who started making soups in a D.C. basement and selling them for pickup and delivery.

Now Polon, joined by her mother, Mari-

NEW STORES
continues on page 11

INSIDE:

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AUDIO BOOKS ..... pg. 10

City Manager Proposes Status Quo Budget

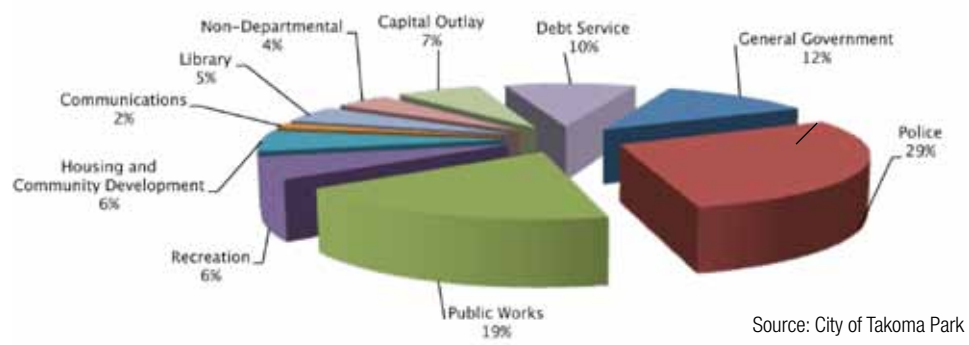
By Virginia Myers

After last year's severe cuts and layoffs and continuing signs of a general recession, it was no surprise that Takoma Park residents were bracing themselves for another dismal budget season. The mayor developed a "budget game" that anticipated a possible $1 million reduction in the City budget (just in case) and gave residents the opportunity to theoretically select which city services they would eliminate if they had to choose one over another.

But, as it turns out, this year's budget process has been surprisingly smooth.

As City Manager Barbara Matthews describes it, "It's a status quo budget." In February, City Council directed her to avoid reducing services or staff, but also not to add staff. The resulting budget proposal, presented in April and expected to be approved by City Council with some changes in May, reflects no changes in personnel and little change in revenues or expenditures. At press time, it looked likely that City Council would add one position or expenditures for a consultant to fill a request for a sustainability coordinator.

Over the course of two months, the City Council held extra sessions and listened to residents at budget hearings, as well as during public comment periods during regular meetings and informally out in the community to consider the budget proposal. Council is expected to finalize the budget May 23. The following description of the City's budget is representative of Matthews' proposal, with some adjustments where noted. Further adjustments are possible between publication time and finalization.



Source: City of Takoma Park

FY 2012 BUDGET General Fund Expenditures by Department

General Government	$2,490,336	Library	$1,025,774
Police	$5,939,150	Non-Departmental	$905,790
Public Works	$3,900,442	Capital Outlay	$1,383,291
Recreation	$1,344,716	Debt Service	$2,144,583
Housing and Community Development	$1,278,650		
Communications	$323,425		
		TOTAL	**$20,736,157**

Budget basics

As proposed, the FY2012 budget includes $22.9 million in total revenues, and $24.5 million in expenditures (down from last year's $24.8 million). The difference between revenues and expenditures has to do with reserve funds and special revenues that come from outside sources, and are limited to specific expenditures.

Challenges this budget season include continued low interest rates on the City's investment portfolio, and the general state

BUDGET
continues on page 7

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

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CITY COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE CALENDAR*

Monday, May 2 - City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

Monday, May 9 – City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

Monday, May 9 - Recreation Committee meeting, 7 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Tuesday, May 10 - Facade Advisory Board meeting, 7 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Tuesday, May 10 - Tree Commission meeting, 6:30 p.m. (CC Lilac Room)

Wednesday, May 11 - Takoma Junction Task Force meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Lilac Room)

Thursday, May 12 - Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting, 8:30 a.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Monday, May 16 – Ward 6 Night Reception, 7 – 7:30 p.m. (in the Community Center Atrium Lobby)

Monday, May 16 – City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

Tuesday, May 17 - Washington Adventist Hospital Land Use Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Wednesday, May 18 - Takoma Park Board of Elections meeting, 7 p.m. (Heffner Park Community Center, 42 Oswego Ave.)

Thursday, May 19 - Nuclear Free Takoma Park Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Monday, May 23 – City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

Tuesday, May 24 - Arts and Humanities Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Thursday, May 26 - Takoma Junction Task Force meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Monday, May 30 – City offices closed for the Memorial Day holiday

Tuesday, May 31 (tentative) – City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

*For the most up to date information, check takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/agenda. Most meetings are held in the Takoma Park Community Center – Sam Abbott Citizens' Center, 7500 Maple Ave. (CC). Individuals interested in receiving a weekly Council agenda and calendar update by e-mail should contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267 or clerk@takomagov.org.

Notice on ADA Compliance
The City of Takoma Park is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in public meetings. Anyone planning to attend a City of Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing, and who wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services, or accommodations is invited to contact the Deputy City Manager at 301-891-7229 or suzannel@takomagov.org at least 48 hours in advance.

VISIT WITH THE MAYOR

Bruce Williams

Mayor Bruce Williams welcomes community input and invites you to meet with him during his regular hours on Tuesday: by appointment from 2 - 5 p.m., with walkins from 5 - 7 p.m.

To schedule a meeting, contact Peggye Washington at 301-891-7230 or peggyew@takomagov.org.

City Council Action*

*Only negative votes and abstentions/recusals are noted. For additional information, contact the City Clerk at Clerk@takomagov.org .

March 21 – Special Session

First Reading Ordinance 2011-6 was adopted, approving a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) agreement for 7901 Lockney Avenue (Voting no: Schultz)

First Reading Ordinance 2011-7 was adopted, approving a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) agreement for 8316 Flower Ave.

First Reading Ordinance 2011-8 was adopted, approving a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) agreement for 8 Philadelphia Ave. (Voting no: Schultz)

First Reading Ordinance 2011-9 was adopted, approving a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) agreement for 1007 East University Blvd. (Voting no: Schultz)

First Reading Ordinance 2011-10 was adopted, amending the Takoma Park Code to provide for adoption of administrative regulations for use of public space and buildings

March 28, 2011 – Regular Meeting

Second Reading Resolution 2010-70 was adopted, approving the annexation of the Flower Ave. right-of-way

Resolution 2011-12 was adopted, providing direction to the City Manager regarding the budget for the Flower Ave. Green Street Project (Voting no: Clay, Schultz, Snipper)

Resolution 2011-13 was adopted, authorizing the City Manager to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Montgomery County regarding the County's contribution of $200,000 to the Flower Ave. Project

First Reading Ordinance 2011-11 was adopted, authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for processing credit card and other electronic payments (Voting no: Seamens, Wright)

Second Reading Ordinance 2011-4 was adopted, authorizing a contract with Enterprise Information Solutions for the development of a pavement condition index and related services

Second Reading Ordinance 2011-5 was adopted, amending the Takoma Park Code to repeal the section on "Burning of Refuse" and to adopt the Montgomery County Code provisions regulating burning by open fire

Second Reading Ordinance 2011-6 was adopted, approving a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) agreement for 7901 Lockney Ave. (Voting no: Schultz)

Second Reading Ordinance 2011-7 was adopted, approving a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) agreement for 8316 Flower Ave.

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Second Reading Ordinance 2011-9 was adopted, approving a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) Agreement for 1007 East University Blvd. (Voting no: Schultz)

The consent agenda was adopted. It consisted of:

Resolution 2011-14 regarding the Preliminary Plan for 6450 New Hampshire Ave.

Resolution 2015 recognizing Arbor Day 2011 in Takoma Park

Resolution 2011-16 reappointing Julie Boddy to the Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee

April 4, 2011 – Special Session

Resolution 2011-17 was adopted, granting a fee waiver for use of the auditorium for a public screening of the film "Bag It"

April 11, 2011 – Regular Meeting

First Reading Ordinance 2011-12 was adopted, regulating panhandling and prohibiting aggressive panhandling (Voting no: Robinson, Seamens)

Second Reading Ordinance 2011-11 was adopted, authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for processing credit card and other electronic payments

First Reading Ordinance 2011-13 was adopted, awarding a contract for lighting and City TV technology improvements

Single Reading Ordinance 2011-14 was adopted, authorizing an upgrade to the Granicus web streaming application

CITY CLERK *News Briefs*

Ward 6 Night – Monday, May 16

Residents of Ward 6 are invited to join the City Council on Monday, May 16, for a reception from 7-7:30 p.m. in the Community Center lobby. A special Ward 6 public comment session will be held at the beginning of the City Council meeting, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The schedule for future Ward Nights is:
Ward 2 - June 20 (Monday)

Residents who have questions may contact their City Councilmember or Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk at 301-891-7267, jessiec@takomagov.org.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
200/300 Blocks Hilltop Road Traffic Calming
May 9, 7:30 p.m.

The Takoma Park City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 9, to hear comments on residents' petition for traffic calming on the 200/300 blocks of Hilltop Road. The public hearing will be held at 7:30 p.m. (or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard) in the Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Avenue.

Residents are urged to attend the meeting to express their views. Written comments addressed to City Clerk, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912 or clerk@takomagov.org will also be made part of the record. For further information, contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267 or jessiec@takomagov.org.

FY 2012 Living Wage Rate Established

Ordinance 2007-55, amending the City Code to require the payment of a living wage by certain City contractors, became effective January 1, 2008.

Each year on April 1, the City Manager establishes the living wage rate, which shall be equal to the Montgomery county living wage rate established and published by Montgomery County pursuant to Section 11B-33A of the Montgomery County Code and any applicable regulations, as amended from time to time.

The current living wage rate is $13 per hour. Effective July 1, 2011, the rate will be $13.20 per hour.

A full copy of the Living Wage Ordinance may be found at takomaparkmd.gov.

Tasa de Costo de Vida fue Establecido para el Año Fiscal 2012

Ordenanza 2007-55 cambió el Código de la Ciudad para requerir el costo de vida actual para cierta contratistas de la Ciudad. La Ordenanza 2007-55 fue efectiva el 1 de enero de 2008.

El 1 de abril de cada año, el Administrador de la Ciudad establece la tasa de costo de vida, el cuál será equivalente a la tasa de costo de vida establecida por el Condado de Montgomery siguiendo la sección 11B-33A de el Código del Condado de Montgomery y cualquier regulación aplicable.

Actualmente, la tasa de costo de vida es $13.00 por hora. Efectivo el 1 de julio de 2011 la tasa sera $13.20 por hora.

Para obtener una copia de la ordenanza de costo de vida visite la página web takomaparkmd.gov.

Accessible Homes for Seniors

By Linda Walker
Affordable Housing Manager

Maryland's Department of Housing and Community Development in partnership with the Department of Aging offers a loan program that helps fund the costs for accessibility related improvements in homes where seniors live. The program is a low interest deferred loan for a term of 30 years. Funds may be used to pay for the actual costs of making a home accessible or functional for senior residents.

This can include:

- Widening doorways
- Purchase/installation of exterior ramps
- Purchase/installation of accessible showers, grab bars and lever handles.
- Additions to accommodate first floor bathrooms and laundry rooms are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Criteria for eligibility for the program are:

- Must reside in Maryland and at least one occupant must be 55 years or older
- Own and occupy the home to be renovated as principal residence. Seniors living with relatives will be considered on a case-by-case basis
- Home must be structurally sound and free of health and safety hazards
- No outstanding federal or state tax liens, open bankruptcy or foreclosure
- Must meet household income requirements (cannot exceed 80 percent of the Washington D.C. area median income of one person – $51,240; two persons – $58,560; three persons – $65,880, etc.

You can get further information and an application at http://dhcd.maryland.gov/website/programs/ahsp/Default.aspx.

Be Smart Energy Loans Now Available for Single Family Homes and Multifamily Rentals

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development has announced two programs that will help owners finance energy improvements to their single family homes or multifamily rental properties. Takoma Park is one of 15 communities chosen to be a part of this new programming.

1) Single family homeowners may use the loans to upgrade appliances, heating, cooling and ventilation systems, windows, doors, water heaters, etc. Free home energy audits will be available for a limited time as an incentive for homeowners to realize their potential energy savings.

2) Multifamily rental housing owners can access funds for the installation of equipment and materials for energy efficiency measures in pre-existing rental properties (e.g. lighting retrofits, hot water heater replacements, HVAC systems, insulation, windows, appliances).

Details of the programs can be found at the following websites:

Single Family Homes – http://dhcd.maryland.gov/website/programs/besmart/home.aspx

Multifamily Rentals – http://dhcd.maryland.gov/website/programs/besmart/multifamily.aspx

Rent Stabilization Allowance Set at 3 Percent

Takoma Park's laws Rent Stabilization law maintains the affordability of rental units in the community by limiting the number and amount of rent increases that may be charged for specific rental units. Generally rent may be increased only once in a given 12-month period and rent increases are limited to the annual increase in the Consumer Price Index. The rent stabilization allowance is calculated on an annual basis, and applies to all multi-family rental facilities with two or more rental units, and to all rented condominium units.

The 2011-2012 Rent Stabilization Allowance is 3 percent, and will be in effect July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. Landlords required to comply with Takoma Park's Rent Stabilization law cannot increase the rent on occupied units any higher than this allowance.

Multi-family rental properties and individually-owned condominium rental units are subject to Takoma Park's Rent Stabilization law, however the following units may be exempt from many of the requirements of rent stabilization. The exemption is not automatic and is subject to the approval of the City.

- Rental units leased to tenants under the Housing Choice Voucher Program;
- Any rental facility that is subject to a regulatory agreement with a governmental agency that controls the rent levels of one or more rental units so that they are available only to low and moderate income tenants;
- Newly constructed rental units for a period of five years after construction;
- All rental units in a building with two dwelling units, where the owner occupies one or more of the units as his/her principal residence.

If you have any questions about the rent for your unit or Takoma Park's Rent Stabilization law, please contact Jean Kerr, 301-891-7216.

By Jean Kerr
Housing Specialist

Rental Unit Service Fees Limited by Law

A tenant contacted the mailbox and asked, "What type of fees can a landlord charge in addition to the rent, if my unit is under rent stabilization?"

In accordance with Section 6.16.110 of the Takoma Park Landlord-Tenant Law, a landlord can not charge a fee for items and services that were previously included in the rent. For instance, if parking has always been included in the rent with no fee and your landlord now informs you that there will be a monthly parking fee, this is considered a violation of the landlord-tenant and rent stabilization law. If, however, the landlord creates a new amenity, such as storage or onsite parking where none previously existed and the amenity is optional, then a fee may be charged.

A landlord can choose to allow pets as an amenity but can also charge a pet fee of up to $25 monthly for a dog or cat, or $10 monthly for any other pet as long as the fee is disclosed at the beginning of the lease term. If the pet was obtained following the execution of the initial lease or lease renewal, a fee may be assessed to the tenant.

If you have any questions regarding a fee you are being charged, please contact Jean Kerr, 301-891-7216 or JeanK@takomagov.org.

COLTA's CORNER

By Jean Kerr
Housing Specialist

The Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (COLTA) issued an Opinion and Order on two illegal rent complaints for a rental property in Takoma Park. The complaints were consolidated into one COLTA hearing.

Scian, et al. V. Hillwood Manor Apartments Joint Venture LLP, et al.

COLTA Case Nos. 2010-20T and 21T

On March 29, 2011, COLTA issued a decision on two tenants' complaints that the landlord charged monthly rents that were higher than the rent amount allowed for their units by the City's rent stabilization law. COLTA found that using the rents reported by the landlord in its annual rent reports at the commencement of the tenants' tenancies to determine the base legal rent for each apartment and then applying the annual rent stabilization allowance for each subsequent year to be the appropriate method of calculating the legal rents for the tenants in this consolidated case. COLTA found that the rents charged by the landlord exceeded the rents it certified as accurate in its annual rent reports submitted to the City. COLTA ordered that the landlord refund the tenants a total of $11,719.85 ($4,196.46 for the first unit and $7,523.39 for the second unit), which represented the rent overcharges. COLTA further ordered that the rent refunds awarded to the tenants will accrue interest if the landlord failed to pay within 14 days of the date of the order.

First Time Home Buyer Class

Saturday, May 14, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m

at the Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Avenue

Expert speakers from a lending institution, title company, real estate office and an inspection company

Learn the entire process for buying a house or condo
Provided by a HUD-approved housing organization
Certificate of Completion awarded to attendees.

Pre-Registration Is Required – Class is Free
Contact Linda Walker at 301-891-7222
Sponsored by the City of Takoma Park
Continental breakfast and lunch will be served.

TAKOMA *Arts*

Azalea City Recording Celebrates 15 Years with Eight Musical Acts in May

Azalea City Recording celebrates 15 years in Takoma Park with a show that will include eight of its recording artists at 7 p.m. on Sunday, May 1 at the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. The event, which also celebrates the release of a new CD, is free.

The acts represent the diversity of recording artists at Azalea City, a musicians' cooperative based in Takoma Park that includes a number of musicians who live in the City. The show will include folk and country, roots-rock and Afro-beat, from artists Patty Reese, Jon Carrol, Elikeh, Karen Collins and the Backroads Band, the U-Liners, Ruthie and the Wranglers, Carey Creed and Jesse Palidofsky.

Founded in 1996 by GRAMMY® award-winning mastering engineer and producer Charlie Pilzer, Azalea City Recordings includes an eclectic array of roots-based musicians and songwriters who dip into the well of traditional music for their inspiration. Whether performing solo or in full band configurations, these musicians draw inspiration from one another and from their loyal audiences. Azalea City, known as a homegrown outfit, has gone from small-town folk label to winning multiple WAMMIE awards for best D.C. area record label; producing four full-length sampler CDs; and garnering national radio airplay and press.

For more information on the upcoming event, see facebook.com/event.php?eid=160087410717798.

Three bands and Azalea City musicians coming to Community Center

Four musical events are scheduled this month at the Community Center, from spiritual music to traditional tunes, singer-songwriters and a CD release including eight different bands. All concerts will be held in the Takoma Park Community Center auditorium.

Azalea City Recordings' 15th Anniversary Concert and CD Release

Sunday, May 1, 7 p.m.
Admission: FREE
Part of the We are Takoma series, facebook.com/event.php?eid=160087410717798.

The "We Are Takoma" celebrates the 15th anniversary of Takoma's own Azalea City Recording with a free CD release concert featuring eight diverse acts ranging from folk to country, roots rock and Afro-beat. Performing are Patty Reese, Jon Carrol, Elikeh, Karen Collins and the Backroads Band, The U-Liners, Ruthie and the Wranglers, Carey Creed and Jesse Palidofsky. Presented by Azalea City Recording, azaleacityrecordings.com. (See related story, above).

Madison Violet

Wednesday, May 4, 7:30 p.m.
Admission: $15 advance, $20 door, student with ID: $10
Presented by the Institute of Musical Traditions, imtfolk.org.

Hailing from Canada, Brenley MacEachern and Lisa MacIsaac have come into a sound of their own, which has been described as both city-folk and Americana. Traveling a road lush with harmonies, banjo, fiddle, mandolin and upright bass, the songs are infused with heartache and loss yet they have an uplifting twang in their sound. Madison Violet is relentless, performing for audiences all over the world.

Tom Prasada Rao

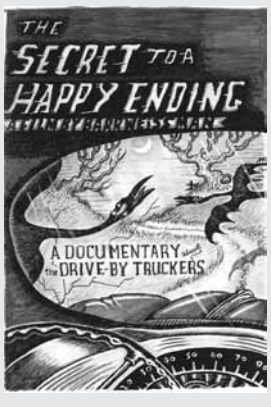
Wednesday, May 18, 7:30 p.m.
Admission: $15 advance, $20 door, Student with ID: $10
Presented by the Institute of Musical Traditions, imtfolk.org.

Tom Prasada Rao is an award-winning singer-songwriter of broad vision and, after numerous collaborations with Cary Cooper (formerly Dreamsicle) and others, he is releasing his first solo album in 10 years. His music is melodic, ambitious and reverent. "Tom Prasada-Rao is a rare and brilliant performer. His fine voice and thrilling guitar work hold you spellbound while he heals your heart" (David Wilcox, Singer-Songwriter).

The Secret to a Happy Ending

May 6, 7 and 9:30 p.m.
Part of the We are Takoma series
Advance reservations: imtfolk.org
Free Event

"The Secret to a Happy Ending" documents the Drive-By Truckers and their congregation of fans as they explore tales of human weakness and redemption. Filmmaker and Takoma Park resident Barr Weissman followed the band during three critical years of touring and recording — years in which the band struggles to overcome the trauma of divorce and survives a near breakup. Weissman's film combines band interviews, behind-the-scenes footage on the road and in the studio, along with legendary live performances. Reflective of the band's roots in Alabama and Georgia, the film explores the changing American South — its tangled past and strange beauty.



Takoma Park Arts & Humanities News

celebrating the creative spirit of our community

The following free events are sponsored by the Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission.

Points of View

This event presents two artists, two media and two artistic visions with printmaker Norman Strike and photographer Rob Rudick. Opening reception will be held in the Atrium Gallery on Friday, May 13 from 6:30 – 8 p.m. The exhibit can be viewed in the Atrium Gallery at the Takoma Park Community Center until May 28.

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Poetry lovers will gather on Thursday, May 19, for an hour of original work by poets Michele Wolf, Michael Gavin and Takoma Park Poet Laureate Anne Becker. Moderated by Martin FitzPatrick, the reading begins at 7:30 p.m. and will be held in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium.

Nominations Due

The Arts and Humanities Commission has issued calls for a new Poet Laureate and an Exhibits Coordinator. Applications are available online at takomagov.org and will be accepted until May 9. Appointments would become effective on July 1.

For information on these and other activities sponsored by the Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission, please contact Sara Anne Daines at 301-891-7224, at Sarad@takomagov.org or facebook.com/takomaparkmd

Film shows Navajo struggle with uranium mines

The Nuclear Free Takoma Park Committee's spring film series, Nuclear Safety: Problems and Possibilities Then and Now, presents "The Return of Navajo Boy" on Tuesday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Admission is free.

"Navajo Boy" focuses on a family struggling with the effects of uranium mining on tribal land, confronting several issues in the industrial production of nuclear power including environmental racism and the denial of retribution for continued abuses. The film was included in the 2000 Sundance Film Festival and aired that same year on the PBS documentary series, Independent Lens. It won Programmer's Choice Award of the Planet in Focus Festival. Currently it is being used as an educational tool by the Indian Health Service. For more information, see http://navajoboy.com.

Speaker Linda Gunter, of Beyond Nuclear and Nuclear Free Takoma Park Committee, will be a part of the film event.

City Earns Finance Award

The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to the City of Takoma Park by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for Fiscal Year 2010. This is the fifth consecutive year that the City has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals with offices in Chicago, Illinois and Washington, D.C.

An Award of Financial Reporting Achievement was awarded to Director of Finance Yovonda Brooks, CPA and City Manager Barb Matthews as the individuals primarily responsible for preparing the award-winning CAFR.

POLICE *Briefs*

Cyclists Must Obey Traffic Laws

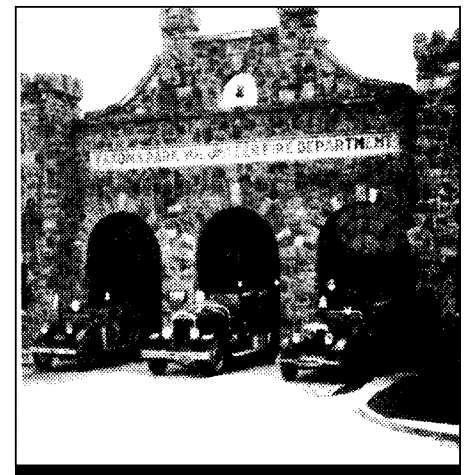
As the weather warms, more residents will be riding bicycles around town. Bicyclists are considered vehicle operators; they are required to obey the same rules of the road as other vehicle operators, obeying traffic signs, signals and lane markings. It is so important to follow safety rules while riding a bicycle, especially when riding near motor vehicles. Please use the following safety tips while riding your bike:

- Always wear a helmet
- Obey all traffic controls (including stopping at stop signs)
- Ride near the right-hand edge of the road
- Never carry another person on your bicycle
- Always use hand signals when turning or stopping
- Watch for cars at cross streets, driveways and parking areas
- Be careful when checking traffic and don't swerve when looking over your shoulder
- Give pedestrians the right-of-way
- Keep your bicycle in good condition

Click It Or Ticket Campaign Launches

The statewide Chiefs' Challenge, which emphasizes safety restraint enforcement in vehicles, begins May 1 and will run throughout the month. In Takoma Park, that means police officers will focus on enforcement of the state's seat belt laws as part of the nationwide "Click It or Ticket" campaign. Officers will stand at various places throughout the City during the campaign and issue tickets to any person not wearing a seatbelt or who does not have their child properly restrained.

The driver, front seat passenger and all other occupants under the age of 16 must wear a seat belt or be restrained by a child safety seat. The penalty for violating this law is $25. A child under the age of 8, less than 4'9" tall, and weighing less than 65 pounds should be secured in an approved child safety seat if the vehicle is registered in Maryland. The penalty for this violation is $60.



Firehouse REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

As of March 31, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the station have responded to 200 fire-related incidents. The department addressed or assisted with 728 rescue or ambulance-related incidents, for a total of 928 this year. Totals for 2010 were 194 and 808 respectively, for a total of 1,002, representing a decrease of 74 incidents.

The Dangers of House Fires

Most home fires occur in the kitchen while cooking and are the leading cause of injuries from fire. However, they are often extinguished with only minor damage since a person is generally present.

The two most common causes of fires at night are carelessly discarded cigarettes and food left cooking on the stove. These fires can be particularly dangerous because they may smolder for a long period of time before being discovered by sleeping residents.

Most victims of fire succumb to the smoke and toxic gases, and not to burns. Fire produces poisonous gases that can spread rapidly and far from the fire itself to claim victims who are asleep and not even aware of the fire. Even if residents awaken, the effects of exposure to these gases can cloud their thinking and slow their reactions so that they cannot make their escape. This is why it is so crucial for you and your family to have sufficient warning so that you can all escape before your ability to think and move is impaired.

More than half of fatal fires in homes occur when people are asleep, this represents only a third of a 24-hour day. Therefore, any fire protection system must be able to protect people who are asleep in their bedrooms when fire starts.

Furthermore, nearly half the people killed in home fires each year are either preschool children or adults 65 or older. In the event of a fire, be prepared—have working smoke alarms on all levels of your home, and have an escape plan.

TPVFD Again Welcomes Two More New Members

At the department's April meeting, Awontt Ndyongo and Sean Peacock were voted into membership. If interested in joining the department, please contact Mike Livingston at the fire station, 240-773-8954. The only requirement from you is time and commitment.

A Farewell to Long Time Volunteer Edna Fiske

On March 26, 2011 Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary President Edna Fiske passed away at the age 96. She served the auxiliary for more than 64 years, and for the past 20, she served as its president. She might have been a small person, but she had a big heart, was a hard worker and a genuine leader of the auxiliary. Regardless what type of fire department event was planned, she would always be there ready to assist, especially with meals. At the fire department banquets, she was the first one you saw at the reception desk to greet you. She loved people. She will always be remembered by her smile and the way she cared about people, especially her fire department family. She will truly be missed.

SILVER SPRING - TAKOMA THUNDERBOLTS
BIG LEAGUE DREAMS SMALL TOWN CHARM

THUNDERBOLTS 2011 SEASON HOME SCHEDULE

Home games are at Montgomery Blair Baseball Stadium
51 East University Blvd., Silver Spring

Admission:
Adults, $5;
Children under 18, $2
Youth baseball and softball players in uniform and children under the age of 5 get in FREE

Mon.-Sat. 7 p.m.
Sun. 6 p.m.
Sun. double headers 5 p.m.

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT
Saturday	6/4	Bethesda Big Train
Sunday	6/5	Vienna River Dogs
Thursday	6/9	Youse's Orioles
Friday	6/10	Rockville Express
Monday	6/13	Bethesda Big Train
Thursday	6/16	Alexandria Aces
Saturday	6/18	Baltimore Redbirds
Friday	6/24	Herndon Braves
Sunday (DH)	6/26	So. Maryland Nationals
Wednesday	6/29	Herndon Braves
Saturday	7/2	Alexandria Aces
Sunday	7/3	Baltimore Redbirds
Thursday	7/7	Vienna River Dogs
Friday	7/8	Rockville Express
Tuesday	7/12	Herndon Braves
Thursday	7/14	Youse's Orioles
Saturday	7/16	Rockville Express
Wednesday	7/20	Bethesda Big Train
Friday	7/22	Youse's Orioles
Saturday	7/23	Vienna River Dogs

The Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts play in the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League, a wooden bat league composed of nine teams in the D.C. and Baltimore areas.

The team also runs baseball camps in June and July for boys and girls 7 to 15. Instruction is from Thunderbolts head coach Jason Walck, assisted by T-Bolts coaches and players.

Camps are June 20-24: June 27-July 1; July 5-8; July 11-15; and July 18-22, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at St. Bernadette School, 80 University Blvd. East in Silver Spring, across the street from Blair High School. Cost is $195 per week. Go to the T-Bolts website, tbolts.org, or call 301-270-0794 for more information.

TAKOMA PARK 5K CHALLENGE

Sunday, May 1, 2011
8:00 a.m.
Takoma Park Community Center

NEW FOR 2011: USATF 5K COURSE AND CHIP TIMING!

www.TKPK5K.com

East Silver Spring ES · Piney Branch ES
Rolling Terrace ES · Takoma Park ES

SafeRoutes

Living the wild life in Takoma Park

Celebrate Wildlife Habitat

A ceremony recognizing Takoma Park as a National Wildlife Federation Wildlife Habitat Community

Sunday, May 22, 2 p.m.

Spring Park, at the corner of Elm and Poplar avenues

Presentation, refreshments, tree planting

Photos by Patsy Lieberman

Clockwise from top, Becca Lily Park, spice viburnum in Takoma Woods, the National Wildlife designation sign, City wildlife, Takoma Middle School magnolia, fiddlehead ferns, and mushrooms in Spring Park.

Last month, Takoma Park was the first community in Maryland to be designated a National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat. A pioneer in saving natural habitat, the City is the 50th in the nation to qualify and was praised by NWF for its long-standing commitment to the environment: it's been a "Tree City" since 1984, maintains a strong tree ordinance, and hosts yard tours, community habitat restoration, education events and booth displays about the environment. It also includes more than150 yards, five school grounds, a church and four parks that are NWF Certified Wildlife Habitat sites. That's partly thanks to the efforts of residents led by the Friends of Sligo Creek and the Takoma Horticulture Club, who have been working since 2006 to enhance wildlife habitat in the City.

Wildlife habitats qualify for certification when they show that plantings provide shelter, food and water for birds, squirrels and other wildlife. Necessary elements might include food sources, such as native plants, seeds, fruits, nuts and nectar; waters sources like bird baths or ponds; places for cover—thickets, rockpiles or birdhouses—or sustainable gardening that might include mulching, composting, or a rain garden. For a full list of requirements, see www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife. To see existing public properties, you can visit Takoma Woods, Spring Park, Blagden Run (a stream that parallels Maple Avenue), and Becca Lily Park, Takoma and Piney Branch elementary schools, Takoma Middle School and Takoma Day school. The Takoma Park Presbyterian Church is also certified. Or you can look for the "Certified Wildlife Habitat" signs in your neighbors' yards.

THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

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Production: Electronic Ink
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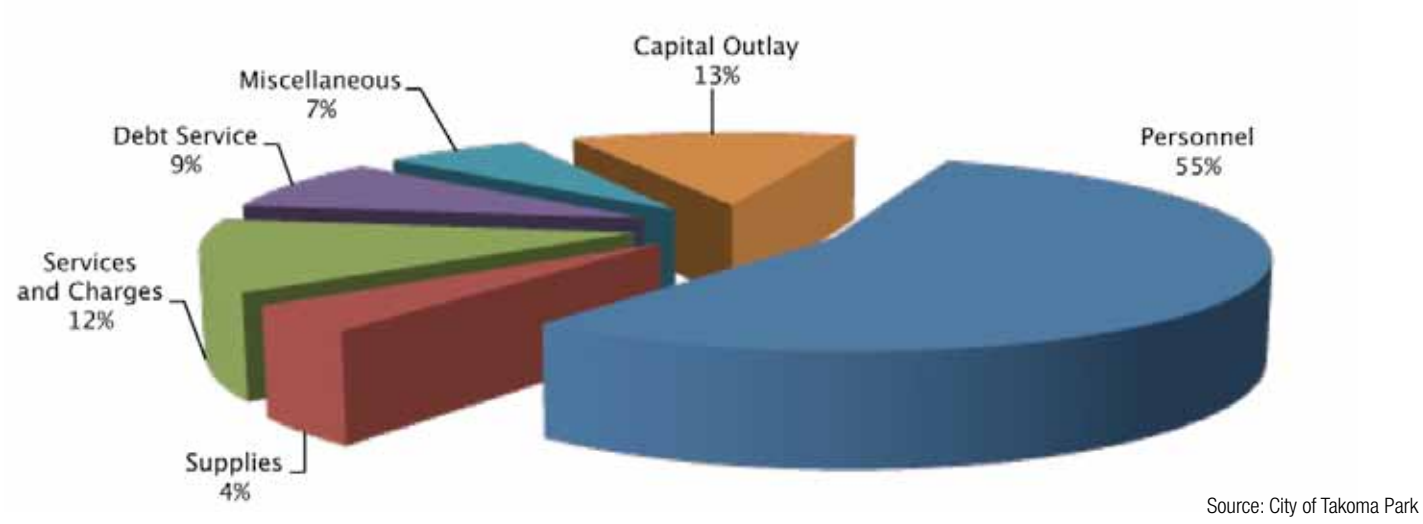
The Newsletter does not accept commercial, classified, or political advertisements.Unsolicited materials by Takoma Park residents, including reports by community groups and articles that may contain opinion, or letters to the editor will be considered for publication if sent to tpnewseditor@takomagov.org or Newsletter, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912.

Name, address and telephone number must accompany all submitted material. Pursuant to City Council Resolution No. 1992–36 of June 8, 1992 that sets forth the editorial guidelines of the Newsletter, the Editor reserves the right to edit all submitted copy 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 City of Takoma Park is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin, sex, age, marital status or physical or mental disabilities that are unrelated in nature and extent to job performance.

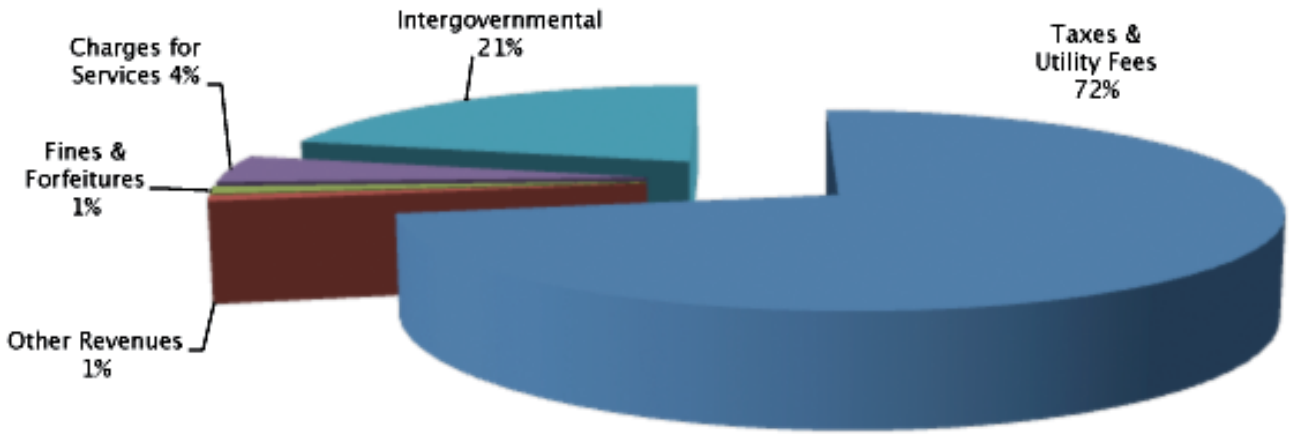
The Newsletter is printed on recycled–content paper.



Source: City of Takoma Park

FY 2012 BUDGET Combined Expenditures by Type

Personnel	$13,525,745	Miscellaneous	$1,623,346
Supplies	$1,105,131	Capital Outlay	$3,181,791
Services and Charges	$3,026,891		
Debt Service	$2,144,583	**TOTAL**	**$24,607,487**



Source: City of Takoma Park

FY 2012 BUDGET General Fund Revenues by Type - adjusted with anticipated revenue increases.

Taxes & Utility Fees	$14,059,123	Charges for Services	$900,580
Other Revenues	$195,650	Intergovernmental	$4,137,610
Fines & Forfeitures	$228,800	**TOTAL**	**$19,521,763**

Proposed Budget at a Glance

- Total revenues, $22,915,252
- Total expenditures, $24,540,487
- Total General Fund revenues $19,417,988
- Assessable real property base (net) projected to increase by approximately $59 million or 3.2 percent from FY11
- Real property tax rate remains at .58 per $100 of assessed value. Real property tax revenue increases by $395,178 compared to FY11 budgeted revenues.
- Tax duplication payments from Montgomery County decrease $127,503 from FY11 to FY12
- Increase in County police rebate, budget to budget gain of $204,590
- Increase in existing fees such as parking violations, dumpster and utility fees, development applications, housing workshops and non-resident Library cards
- Flat staffing levels
- $568,193 in street improvements from the General Fund, including $150,000 for Flower Avenue Green Street
- $750,000 for Equipment Replacement Reserve
- $250,000 for new Facility Maintenance Reserve
- Early redemption of Community Center bond issue to save $347,000 in interest and fees
- $15,000 for emergency assistance
- $7,500 for small community grant program

BUDGET

continued from page 1

of the economy, which affects income tax revenues that come through the state. Specifically, the FY2012 budget reflects a 5 percent reduction in tax duplication payments from Montgomery County, or approximately $127,503, on top of last year's 15 percent reduction in that payment. There were also projected reductions in the County library aid payment and the operation grant for the New Hampshire Avenue Recreation Center.

Despite these dips, revenues from Montgomery County will increase $57,957 due in part to a miscalculation in the police services allocation from the County. Another bright spot is an unexpected increase in Highway User Revenues from the state. These were expected to be $21,999 but came in at $131,994, an increase of $109,995. This was still a decrease in what Takoma Park was accustomed to receiving in the past: in FY08 and FY09, the funds were approximately $500,000 annually.

Revenues

On the revenue side, the budget proposal sets the property tax rate at the same rate as last year, at .58 cents per $100 of assessed value. This is the City's primary source of income. Although the proposed rate is steady, individuals may experience an actual tax increase due to increased property value. And, because of the Homeowner Property Tax Credit, increased property values from the past may still be reflected in current property tax bills: the tax credit program limits property tax increases to a fixed percent of a person's income annually, spreading the increases out over several years.

At this property tax rate, the City will see a $395,178 increase in real property tax revenues this year, compared to FY11.

Some City fees are also increasing: dumpster permits will go up $5, driveway apron fees and utility permits go up by $15, and parking fines increase by $5; non-city residents would have to pay $37 for a City library card, and $60 if they are not Montogmery County residents, and Library copy costs would increase by .35 for color and .05 for black and white.

Expenditures

Among the increased expenditures in the proposed City budget are an 8.5 percent increase in health insurance for employees, and a 47 percent increase in the City's contribution rate to civilian employees' state retirement and pension system. Debt service in the proposed budget is up as well, by nearly $1 million. This is due to a possible redemption of the 2002 Community Center bond; early redemption would, in the long run, save the City $347,000 in interest costs and trustee fees.

Another significant portion of the budget is the proposed contribution to the equipment reserve fund, at $750,000, and a new facilities reserve fund, begun with an installment of $250,000. These funds are designed to ensure the continued maintenance and service of City vehicles, equipment, and buildings.

Throughout the budget process, there have been many discussions of expenditures that support environmental initiatives, and a lot of support from residents for more of them. Although the budget proposal does not include the sustainability coordinator position so many residents have supported, City Council was, at press time, leaning toward adding either that position or funding to pay a consultant to do similar work.

The city manager's proposal does outline several other environmental initiatives, including a hybrid vehicle to replace a gasoline-fueled vehicle in the police department, three bio-retention or stormwater management systems of plants and soil that promote drainage, the Flower Avenue Green Street project that encourages pedestrian and public transportation as well as stormwater filtration, the replacement of a chiller with a more energy-efficient model and the continuation of the bulk buy tree purchase program to maintain the City's tree canopy.

Other significant expenditures include $2.3 million in public safety expenditures from speed camera revenues; these include installation of new sidewalks and improvement of existing walks to meet ADA regulations, police equipment, program staffing a traffic officer and a portion of the cost of a police officer assigned to the county gang task force. There are also proposals of $568,193 for street improvements, including $150,000 for design services for the Flower Avenue Green Street project; a $160,000 local supplement to the Homeowner Property Tax Credit Program; $30,000 for Main Street Takoma; $15,000 for the Crossroads Farmer's Market; $12,500 for the Independence Day Committee and $7,000 for the Takoma Park Folk Festival. There is $7,500 for the Small Community Grant Program, and $498,511 for construction, repair and maintenance of storm drains, inlets, channels and ditches as well as bio-retention project.

Residents may still comment on the budget as the Council goes through reconciliation process. For a complete look at the proposed budget, go to takomaparkmd.gov/finance/fy12/proposed/index.html. City Council deliberations are available online as well, at takomaparkmd.gov/council.

May Recreation

Lucia, Aziz, Jalen and Meile take a break on the basketball court.
Photo by Eric Rasch

Tremendous Trips

Ages 6 – 12 (in Grade 1 starting September 2011)
June 20 – 24, 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Each day offers a different experience. Minimum enrollment must be met.
Monday,bowling, College Park and Wheaton Regional Park
Tuesday, Clark Elioak Farm Petting Zoo, Pond Habitat, Garden Tour
Wednesday, Water Park Adventure Volcano Island
Thursday, B&O Railroad Museum and train ride
Friday, Gaithersburg Water Park

TP Resident $40/trip
Non-Resident $50/trip

Camp Takoma

Ages 6 – 12 (in Grade 1 starting September 2011)
Explore a new adventure each week with games, crafts, activities, trips and presenters related to the theme for the week. The fee for camp includes swimming, a camp T-shirt and trips. No camp on July 4.

TP Community Center
Mon. – Fri. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
June 27 – July 1, Rock Star Week
July 5 – 8**, Space Week
July 11 – 15, Pirate Week
July 18 – 22, Wild Wild West Week
July 25 – 29, Mystery and Magic Week
August 1 – 5, Circus Week
August 8 – 12, Wet and Wild Water Week

Weeks 1, 3-7
T.P. City Residents $130
Non-Residents $150

**Week 2
T.P. City Residents $110
Non-Residents $130

CAMP TAKOMA ONLY Receive week two free when you register for all seven weeks

Visual Art Camp

Ages 11 – 14
Sharpen your drawing skills with a different theme each week by exploring new materials and exercising your imagination with inspiring art projects. Two hours of drawing in the morning using a variety of tools, followed by two hours of painting and/or collage and assemblage in the afternoon. Media such as watercolor painting, sumi-e, mixed media painting, texture and found-object assemblage will be explored. Trips to the pool, art-related movies, access to the game room during the day and outdoor art adventures are all included. All materials included. Maximum 12, minimum eight. Instructor Katie Dell Kaufman.

Art Room, TP Community Center
Mon. – Fri. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Session 1 June 20 – June 24
Session 2 June 27 – July 1
Session 3 July 11 – July 15

TP Resident $280/session
Non-Resident $310/session

Golf Camp

Ages 9 - 12
This specialty camp teaches golf technique and enhances skills, focusing on fundamentals, strategy, practice techniques and course etiquette/management. The goal is to ensure that each camper is safe, builds skills and knowledge of golf and comes away with a memorable and fun experience. When they are not learning about golf, their day will be filled with games, outdoor play and game room fun. A swimming trip and special guest round out this camp. Maximum 13, minimum five.

TP Community Center
Mon. – Fri. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Session 1, June 27 – July 1
Session 2, July 11 – 15

TP Resident $160/session
Non-Resident $190/session

Budding Builders, Level 1

Ages 18 months – 3 years
This class explores the world's structures—farms, castles, houses and timeless wonders such as the pyramids. Examine architectural concepts such as columns, cantilevers, forms, and foundations. Instructor, Amanda Faye Dowd, helps your child use intuition to understand form, space, order, rhythm, sequence and balance. Use critical thinking and imagination to carry out creative, team-building projects—and have a lot of fun. Join your child as we work through skills like shape and form creation, focused play through fun and games, proportions, imagination and creation, cooperation and social interaction, hand eye coordination, expression of ideas, recognition of details, use of large and small muscle groups, planning and carrying out ideas and group socialization. $22 materials fee due to the instructor on the first day of class. Maximum 20, minimum six. Six classes.

Heffner Community Center
Mondays, 9 – 10:30 a.m.
May 2, 9, 16, 23, June 6, 13

TP Resident $100
Non-Resident $120

Artistic Explorers, Level 2 Class

Ages 3 - 6
An extension of Budding Builders, this class includes exploration of museums like the Louvre, and structures from houses to apartment towers. Participants will learn to build on ideas as individuals and as a group, thinking about solutions to real building questions, using what they learn to create what they imagine. Every class is different, but each encourages innovation, intuition, critical thinking and imagination to carry out creative, team-building projects. $24 materials fee due to the instructor on the first day of class. Instructor Amanda Faye Dowd. Maximum 20, minimum six. Six classes.

Heffner Community Center
Tues. 9 – 10:30 a.m.
May 3, 10, 17, 24, June 7, 14

TP Resident $115
Non-Resident $135

Basic Puppy Obedience

Puppies six months and younger
Socialize your puppy and begin training basic obedience commands. You will learn how to teach your dog sit, down, come, stay and stand. Learn loose leash walking and husbandry. Problems behaviors such as nipping, barking and jumping will be addressed. Must have proof of rabies vaccine. Six weeks. Minimum five, maximum 12.

Heffner Community Center
Tuesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.,
May 31 – July 5
Saturdays, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.,
May 14 – June 25

TP Resident $85
Non-Resident $105
No class on May 28.

Basic Dog Obedience

Dogs six months and older
Teach your dog basic obedience and expand on commands they already know. Cover problem behaviors such as nipping, barking, jumping, lunging and digging. Learn loose leash walking, heel, distance stop, directional commands and tricks. Must have proof of rabies vaccine. This class in not appropriate for aggressive dogs. Six weeks. Minimum five, maximum 12.

Tuesays, 8 – 9 p.m., May 31 – July 5
Saturdays, 3 – 4 p.m., May 14 – June 25

TP Resident $85
Non-Resident $105
No class on May 28.

Taekwondo

PLEASE NOTE NEW DAYS AND TIMES
Ages 5 and older
The Korean martial art of Taekwondo promotes fitness and strength in a fun and social environment. Taekwondo (foot-hand-way) is known for beautiful and powerful kicks. Students learn self defense and practice drills, forms and sparring. The Tenets of Taekwondo—courtesy, integrity, perseverance, self- control and indomitable spirit—are emphasized. Adults are welcome to register with their child. One-time fee paid to the instructor at the first class (nonrefundable) for uniform ($40 children, $50 for adult). Nine weeks. Instructor Lois Schoenbrun.

Dance Studio, TP Community Center
Thursdays, 6 – 7 p.m.,
June 23 – Aug. 25
No class June 30, July 7, 21, Aug. 8.
No class July 21.

TP Resident $65
Non-Resident $75

or Saturdays, 1 – 2 p.m.,
June 25 – Aug. 20
No class July 2, 23, 30.

TP Resident $65
Non-Resident $75

or Thursdays and Saturdays,
June 23 – Aug. 20

TP Resident $110
Non-Resident $130

T-Ball Program

Grades K- 1 (must be 5years old by June 11)
The goal of this coed program is to emphasize learning and to expand new skills, participation and fun. The T-Ball program is a safe introduction to the game of baseball. The ball is hit off a stand (tee) instead of being pitched. The main purpose is to teach girls and boys the basics of baseball in a positive environment. Your child only needs a baseball glove and

RECREATION continues on page 9

RECREATION
continued from page 8

sneakers to participate, the Recreation Department will provide t-shirts and all other equipment. If you are interested in volunteering as a coach please contact Lew McAllister at LewM@takomagov.org. Mandatory Coaches meeting June 1.

Belle Ziegler Park, Lee Jordan and Hodges fields
Saturday mornings, June 11 – Aug. 6

TP Resident $55*
Non-Resident $65
No games July 2.

*A special $15 rate is available to TP resident who can provide proof of enrollment in the Free or Reduced Meals program or similar financial assistance program.

Afternoon Addition enjoyed the first warm day of the year outside.
Photo by Eric Rasch

Girls Lacrosse Clinic

Grades 3 - 6
We offer this session once per year, and accept only 20 girls per session, to insure the personal, high-quality attention that creates an ideal learning environment for beginning or established players. The clinic will cover basic rules and skills of the game. Lacrosse sticks will be provided. Instruction will be given by Tessa Mork. No experience is required. Maximum 20, minimum six. All participants who register before April 15 will be eligible for free admission to a Montgomery Blair High School lacrosse game.

Hodges Field
(Behind TP Elementary)
Wednesdays, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.,
May 18 – June 15

TP Resident $25
Non-Resident $35

Adult Softball League-COED

Ages 16 and older
Whether you're a home-run hitter or a dugout socialite, the TP Coed Softball League gives adults a chance to have fun, exercise and most of all interact with friends. There's nothing hard about this game except the competition! So grab a bat, and get ready for some major fun. All games will be played on Sundays at Lee Jordan Field. Individual registration is accepted for players not already on a team as well as team registrations for groups. All games are umpired by MSUA-certified umpires. Rosters must consist of at least 50 percent Takoma Park residents to qualify for the resident entry fee. Roster limit 25. For more information contact Lew McAllister, 301-891-7284 or LewM@takomagov.org

Lee Jordan Field and Nolte #2
200 Denver Road, Silver Spring
Sundays, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
May 1 – June 19

Individual Fee
TP Resident $45
Non-Resident $55

Drawing and Watercolor

Ages 11 – 14
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 portrait, landscape (weather permitting) and floral studies. Beginning students welcome. The 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. $25 materials fee paid directly to the instructor on the first day of class. Six weeks. Instructor Katie Dell Kaufman. Maximum 12, minimum seven.

Art Room, TP Community Center
Tuesdays, 3:15 – 5:15 p.m.
May 3 – June 7
TP Resident $135
Non-Resident $155

Collage

18 and older
Enjoy new ways of combining materials and media. Using a variety of collage and paper altering processes, students combine found and altered papers and lightweight three-dimensional materials. Class covers principles of color, such as limiting the color palette, and the principles of design, such as structure, balance, repetition, value and gradation. Suitable for beginners, as well as more experienced students. Basic materials provided (some personal or found collage elements may be desired to enhance the collage). $30 materials fee paid directly to the instructor on the first day of class.

Art Room, TP Community Center
Tuesdays, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
May 3 – June 7

TP Resident $205
Non-Resident $235

Silver Foxes *For Active Adults Over 55*

Tennis Instruction Class

Ages 55 and older.
According to Dr. Gordon Blackburn, of the Miller Family Heart and Vascular Institute, playing tennis on a regular basis is a good way to get aerobic exercise, burn calories, lower blood pressure, reduce the risk of heart disease and improve agility and balance. In addition, tennis can offer players an opportunity to socialize. So, if you are ready to come to the courts, get some fresh air, and take your stress out on that little yellow ball, join Pat Rumbaugh, a Takoma Park resident and award-winning tennis coach. Beginners and more experienced students are welcome. Six weeks. Maximum 12.

Meet at the tennis courts, Takoma Park Middle School

Fridays, May 6 – June 10
4 – 5p.m.
No cost. Registration and registration form is required to participate in this class. Call 301-891-7280 to pre-register. Registration forms due 5/4/11 or earlier.

JUST ADDED

Active Aging Expo 2011, Gaithersburg, Maryland

Ages 55 and older
City of Gaithersburg has invited us for a free, fun-packed day at the Bohrer Park Activity Center. Enjoy interactive demonstrations, speakers, authors, performers, health screenings, pampering (free facials, massages), senior services information, seminars, dancing. Free light breakfast (bagel, coffee, juice). Bring your lunch.

8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m., May 2
Meet at Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave. Bus pick up at Franklin, Mapleview and Victory Tower apartments only. Registration is required. Please call 301-891-7280 to pre-register. Registration forms are due on 4/29/11 or earlier.

Patuxent River Refuge National Wildlife Center/Tram Tour, Laurel, Maryland

Ages 55 and older
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service facility, located on 12,841 acres, is the largest science and environmental education center in the Department of the Interior. The Visitor Center includes interactive exhibits about global issues, wildlife habitats and endangered species recovery efforts, and is surrounded by forests, lakes and trails. When we arrive at the National Wildlife Visitor Center we will board the Tram (all-electric, open –air vehicle, wheelchair accessible) for a 30-minute guided tour through forest, meadows and wetlands. After the tour, you are free to explore the Wildlife Nature Visitor Center. Bring spending money for lunch at a local restaurant.

9 a.m. – 3 p.m., May 12
Meet at Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave. Bus pick up at Franklin, Mapleview and Victory Tower apartments only. $4 admission per person. Bring cash on 5/12/11. Registration is required, call 301-891-7280 to pre-register, then fill out registration forms by 5/9/11 or earlier.

Hillwood Estate/Gardens, Washington, D.C.

Ages 55 and older
Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens, the grand estate of Post cereal heiress, Marjorie Merriweather Post, sits on 25 beautiful acres in a residential neighborhood in northwest Washington. Come explore the art-filled mansion, 13 acres of formal gardens, a working greenhouse and the Museum Shop.
Note: new lunch information. Option 1: You may pre-order from the Hillwood Café (express dining—sandwich and soup or salad, dessert and beverage, $19.95 includes tax and gratuity. Checks, made out to RA at Hillwood Museum 20721, must be received by Paula Lisowski, mailed, or in person by 5/16/11. This is the only way to guarantee lunch selection. Option 2: Purchase lunch at the café, no pre-order, take your chance, no guarantee of menu selection availability. Option 3: You may bring your lunch.

Tues. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
May 24
Meet at Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave.
Bus pick up at Franklin, Mapleview and Victory Tower apartments only. Registration is required. Call 301-891-7280 to pre-register, forms due by 5/19/11 or earlier. $10 admission fee, per person, cash only. Bring with you on 5/24/11.

Takoma Park Library CALENDAR

Community Circle Time
Every Tuesday
Two times: 10 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

Spanish Circle Time
Every Thursday
10:30 a.m. with Señora Geiza
Thanks to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this program.

Bedtime Stories
Monday, May 2, 7 p.m.
Come in p.js, bring your teddy or other stuffed favorites as we read some stories and sing some songs in this half-hour program. Perfect for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups.

How My Grandmother Found a Story
Thursday, May 5, 7 p.m.
Featuring Berkeley, Calif. storyteller Patricia Bulitt our program will culminate with a unique Mother's Day craft. Best for ages 4 up; registration encouraged. Azalea Room, TP Community Center.

Favorite Poem Evening
Thursday, May 5, 7:30 p.m.
Come read your favorite published poem, or just enjoy listening. Call Ellen at the Library for information or e-mail ellenr@takomagov.org Refreshments provided by the Friends of the Library.

Friends Reading Group
Discussion of "Bleak House" concludes.
Wednesday, May 11
7:30 p.m. – Community Center
All welcome!

French Circle Time
Saturday, May 14
10:30 a.m. with Madame Marie
Thanks to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this program.

Comics Jam
Wednesday, May 18, 4 p.m.
Come read comics with us on the big screen! Thanks to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this program.

Friends Reading Group
Wednesday, May 18, 7:30 p.m.
Community Center
Discussion of "As I Lay Dying" by William Faulkner. All welcome !

Friends of the Library Book Sale
Saturday, May 21, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
On the Library lawn.
(See article)

French Circle Time
Saturday, May 21
10:30 a.m. with Madame Marie
Thanks to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this program.

Junior Banned Books Club
Monday, May 23, 6:30 p.m.
For kids in third, fourth and fifth grade. We'll be discussing "A Wrinkle in Time" by Madeleine L'Engle.
A limited number of copies of the book are available for check-out at the main Library desk. Thanks to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this program.

Banned Books Club
Monday, May 23, 7:30 p.m.
Award-winning book club for middle- and high-school students
Our book is "The Hunger Games" by Suzanne Collins.
Thanks to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this program.

THE AUDIO ALTERNATIVE:

Listening to Books Grows in Popularity

By Karen MacPherson

Heard any good books lately?

Listening to books—in the car, on an MP3 player, on a computer or e-reader, or even on a mobile phone—has become increasingly popular in recent years with both adults and kids. To keep up with that interest, our Library has put together a growing collection of audiobooks for all ages, featuring both fiction and non-fiction, as well as best-sellers and classics.

The most recent consumer survey by the Audio Publishers Association, for example, found that more than one-third of all adults surveyed have listened to an audio book, and 20 percent have listened in the past year. Audiobook listeners are better educated than non-listeners, with 21 percent of them having completed post-graduate work—twice as many as non-listeners.

While the median age of audiobook listeners is 48, more young people are becoming attracted to the idea of listening to books, according to the APA statistics. For example, 23 percent of audiobook listeners are 18-24 years old, drawn to the ability to download their favorite reads. In addition, 45 percent of adult audiobook listeners who have children under age 18 report that their children listen to audiobooks as well, the survey found.

Despite the increasing popularity of audiobooks, however, there still is a stigma attached to "just" listening to a book, instead of reading a print version of it. Even adults who enjoy audiobooks find that they sometimes are denigrated for listening to a book, instead of reading it.

Many parents worry, meanwhile, that their children won't develop their reading skills if they listen to books. Listening to books is increasingly accepted in education, yet some teachers still feel that, while audiobooks are fine for students with reading challenges or whose first language isn't English, listening to a book is "cheating" for other students.

Reading experts, however, say that audiobooks are a great tool to allow people of all ages to read more books. In particular, the audio format can attract more young readers because it makes reading a "cool" activity. And, as reading expert Frank Serafini of the University of Nevada put it in a paper, Audiobooks and Literacy, "The road to becoming a reader begins with hearing stories read aloud."

Other benefits of audiobooks, according to reading experts, include:

- Exposing readers to new vocabulary and an appreciation for literary language. This is particularly important for children or adult English language learners, who can listen to audiobooks that are still too complex for them to read in print;
- Providing an understanding of the correct pronunciation of words;
- Demonstrating fluent reading skills while helping readers improve their listening skills;
- Allowing readers to multi-task as they can listen to a book while doing other tasks (great for getting kids to do chores!).

To get the most out of listening to books,

AUDIO BOOKS
continues on page 11

Award Winning Audiobooks

By Karen MacPherson
with Ellen Robbins

There are several hundred audiobooks for kids and teens published each year, and it can be hard to know which ones are worth the listening time. So, three years ago, the American Library Association created the Odyssey Award as a way to spotlight the best audiobooks for kids and teens each year.

In choosing the Odyssey winners, a committee of librarians listens to dozens of audiobooks and considers such things as the voice and diction quality of the reader (or readers), whether the performance is "dynamic" and reflects the text, and the quality of the sound, including any background music and sound effects.

This year's Odyssey winner, as well as the four Odyssey Honor (or runners-up) winners, are great examples of how wonderful audiobooks can be for kids and teens. Here's a closer look:

2011 Odyssey Award winner:

Narrator Bahni Turpin provides the perfect wisecracking voice for 12-year-old Gratuity "Tip" Tucci in "The True Meaning of Smekday" (ages 7-12), a book written by Adam Rex. But Turpin's true genius comes through in her audio portrayal of J.Lo, a renegade "Boov," or alien creature. She uses various vocal tricks to capture the whirring, clicking sounds made by J.Lo – as well as his eccentric grammar and accent — and seamlessly works them into the narrative.

2011 Odyssey Honor books:

Actress Katherine Kellgren has won an Odyssey Honor for each of the years that the award has been in existence. Now, with her performance in "Alchemy and Meggy Swann" (ages 10-14), Kellgren nets a fourth Odyssey Honor. In its citation, the Odyssey committee said: "Through her ability to sing in character, honk like a goose and capture the voices of a variety of Londoners, Kellgren transports audiences to Meggy's Elizabethan world."

In "The Knife of Never Letting Go" (ages 15 up), a novel written by Patrick Ness, a teen named Todd is on the brink of a birthday that will make him a man in the futuristic world in which he lives. But Todd discovers a disturbing secret and must run for his life. The Odyssey committee said that, "[Narrator Nick] Podehl's gripping narration of this disquieting work of dystopian fiction is masterful."

Two narrators – Emily Janice Card and Emma Bering – bring to vivid life author Jennifer Donnelly's centuries-spanning novel, "Revolution" (ages 14 up). As the Odyssey committee said: "Card and Bering portray both an edgy Brooklyn teen mourning the death of her younger brother and an eighteeth-century Parisian girl, caregiver to the doomed dauphin. The narrators' dramatic, forceful performances

AUDIO BOOK AWARDS
continues on page 11

City TV Debuts Talk Show Highlighting Life in the City

City TV's new program, "We Are Takoma – The Show," will highlight life in the City in a talk-show format, with host Stephen Abrams. In May the Recreation Department's Senior Group, "the Silver Foxes," and the Social Security Administration will be featured. Production of "The Show" in Spanish, "Somos Takoma" will also begin.

In May, City TV will continue covering the Third Thursday Poetry Series. To see the show live, come Thursday, May 19 at 7:30 p.m. to the Auditorium and enjoy the poetry of Michele Wolf, Michael Gavin and Takoma Park poet laureate Anne Becker.

The May edition of Snapshots Magazine will feature a special on the spring events in Old Town. Earth Day, Art Hop, Farmer's Market and the Spring Poetry Series will be featured in the 98th edition of the magazine show. For some of the Snapshots segments, City TV collaborated with several teenagers. Middle school and high school students are invited to contact City TV to get involved: staff will teach interested students TV production from lens to screen.

If you are a non-profit or a community organization you can advertise your activities on our bulletin board, and also on the City's facebook page and twitter feed. Contact craigt@takomagov.org or call 301-891-7236.

Also, if you would like City TV to cover an event or add specific programming to its line-up, call 301-891-7118 or send an e-mail to cabletv@takomagov.org.

AUDIO BOOKS

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however, it's important to choose wisely; the right voice (or voices) makes all the difference in an audiobook. Some classic audiobooks for kids (also enjoyed by adults) include the "Harry Potter" audiobooks by Jim Dale (which are among the best-selling audiobooks of all time, for children or adults), the "Ramona" books, read by actress Stockard Channing, and the full-cast recordings of Philip Pullman's "His Dark Materials" trilogy.

Some great readers for adult audiobooks include Simon Vance, who reads the Blackstone Audio version of Charles Dicken's "Bleak House" and well as "The Girl With the Dragon Tatoo" series; Jonathan Cecil, the quintessential voice of Bertie Wooster in P.G. Wodehouse's "Jeeves" stories; Anthony Heald, voice of "The Odyssey" and other classics; and Davinia Porter, the charming voice of Isabel Dalhousie, star of the "Sunday Philosophy" series by Alexander McCall Smith.

Whether you're already an audiobook fan, or want to try it out, come to the Library and check out the collection. Staff is happy to help you find the best audiobook for your needs and interests.

For information about the many ways of listening to audiobooks, see the audiobook posting on the Library's Books blog, at takomapark.info/library.

AUDIO BOOK AWARDS

continued from page 10

meld two emotional and wrenching plot lines."

Two hugely popular writers for teens, John Green and David Levithan, teamed up to tell the stories of two teens with the same name. Now, in the audio version of "will grayson, will grayson" (ages 14 up), veteran readers MacLeod Andrews and Nick Podehl combine their narrative talents.

Audio Awards

In addition to the Odyssey Awards, the annual Audie Awards, held by the Audio Publisher's Association (APA), recognize the best in voice narration within categories of adult as well as children's books.

The 2010 'Audie' audiobook of the year was "Nelson Mandela's Favorite African Folktales," read by Gillian Anderson, Benjamin Bratt, LeVar Burton, Don Cheadle, Matt Damon, et al. "What a special collection of preserved and retold folklore, creation stories, and fables from Uganda, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and all over the African continent" (Audiofile).

"The Word of Promise Audio Bible: New King James Version" won the Audie for best audio drama. Read by Michael York, Richard Dreyfus, Gary Sinise, Marisa Tomei, et al, "The elements of voice, sound, and music are densely woven together in this complete New King James Version of the Bible…This production style is highly effective in retelling these stories – thanks to the many talented actors who populate the cast…" (Audiofile)

Dashiell Hammett's "Maltese Falcon" won for best audio adaptation. Read by Michael Madsen, Sandra Oh, Edward Herrmann and a full cast. It is, "…a taut, well-paced audio production, drawn directly from the novel, first serialized in Mask Magazine in 1929" (Audiofile).

Best biography/memoir was "Anne Frank Remembered" by Miep Gies and Alison Leslie Gold, read by Barbara Rosenblat. "Barbara Rosenblatt…effortlessly conveys Miep Gies's pervading sense of sadness tinged with frustration, anger and resentment at the horrors inflicted by the Nazi regime" (Audiofile).

"Rain: What a Paperboy Learned About Business" by Jeffrey J Fox won the Audie for best business/educational audiobook. Read by the author. "Fox's soft vocal urgency, along with his ability to write and deliver dialogue, creates enormous curiousity about where the story is going …" (Audiofile)

Other 2010 Audie winners included "Bellwether" by Connie Willis for science fiction/fantasy, Charles Dickens' "Great Expectations" for classics, Walter Mosley's "Devil in a Blue Dress" for mystery and suspense and Kathryn Stockett's "The Help" for fiction.

NEW STORES

continued from page 1

lyn Polon, offers two kinds of soup each week, all homemade and vegan, as well as salads and desserts. Soups are ordered by phone or on line, and can be picked up at ten different locations or delivered. There are even "soupscriptions" that provide soup for a month. The Takoma shop will offer the same selections. Many of the ingredients are locally sourced from area farmers markets. Soups include hearty choices like West African Safari Stew and smooth selections like Chaotic Lentil Apricot Puree.

Polon says the Takoma shop will start with deliveries only, then after a few weeks will open up for retail business. Besides soups, the menu will include salads, sides and desserts. There will be seating in the shop, and wi fi for those who want to hop on the internet while slurping up the wares. Polon hopes to open in May.

To sample the goods pre-opening, go to thesoupergirl.com for info on how to order.

Goodies, and good for you

Another homegrown business, but on a smaller scale, is Leli Bellys (202-403-9534, lelibellys.com under construction), a brand new, gluten-free baking business. Founded this March by Jamie Iwugo, who grew up in Takoma Park and now lives in Takoma, D.C., Leli Bellys is a one-batch-at-a-time enterprise. It began when Iwugo was casting about for recipes that would accommodate her four children, some of whom have allergies to wheat, gluten, oats, soy, corn and dairy.

Now Iwugo uses the Capital City Cheesecakes kitchen at 7071 Carroll Ave. to bake goodies like chocolate chip cookies, raspberry thumbprint cookies, oatmeal raisin cookies, lemon bars and birthday cakes. You'll find her products for sale at Capital City, or you can order and pick up at a number of drop sites around town. So far, orders from the list serve Iwugo has set up have been steady, and Iwugo hopes to eventually offer her products at the Takoma Park Silver Spring Co-op.

LIBRARY *Briefs*

Friends Book Sale Returns

The Friends of the Library spring book sale returns May 21 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. on the Library lawn. The sale always boasts a superior collection of the best fiction and non-fiction for adults and children, at remarkable prices. This year the Friends had extra storage, thanks to Historic Takoma, so you can expect to find an even larger selection than usual.

Volunteers are still needed to work at the sale, and students may earn service learning hours for helping out. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Ellen Robbins at the Library, 301-891-7258, or at ellenr@takomagov.org

The semi-annual book sales are among the biggest fund-raisers organized by the Friends, and all proceeds go to the Takoma Park Library in the form of gifts.

Stories and talking sticks on Mother's Day

For a special pre-Mother's Day treat for kids and adults, the Library is presenting a program entitled "How My Grandmother Found a Story" on Thursday, May 5 at 7 p.m. in the Azalea Room.

Featuring award-winning Berkeley, Calif. Storyteller Patricia Bulitt, the program focuses on a retelling of her grandmother's story from a plate that hung on her kitchen wall. The program begins with Patricia leading the audience in a "talking sticks" exercise designed to open everyone's imaginations and get them ready to listen to her compelling story.

The program will conclude with a craft in which everyone will be able to make their own "story plates," using paper plates and markers. These plates will make a unique Mother's Day gift for children to make for the special woman in their lives, but adults also are encouraged to create their own story plates.

Registration is encouraged for this program, which is best for ages 4 and up. To register, go to: takomapark.info/library/registration.html or call us at 301-891-7259.

EMERGENCY?

If you see a crime in progress and need to contact the Takoma Park Police,
Call 301-270-1100.

If you need to report an emergency that involves the need for fire or rescue services, you must
CALL 9-1-1

TAKOMA PARK CALENDAR - MAY 2011

DO YOU HAVE AN ITEM FOR THE CITY CALENDAR?

Let us know if you have a non-profit event that would be of interest to most City of Takoma Park residents, and we'll consider it for inclusion in the calendar. Deadline for the June issue is May 16. To submit calendar items, email tpnewseditor@takomagov.org.

CITY OFFICE CLOSURES

Monday, May 30
City Offices Closed for the Memorial Day Holiday

PUBLIC MEETINGS

City Council Meeting
May 2, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
See takomaparkmd.gov for agenda

City Council Meeting
May 9, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
See takomaparkmd.gov for agenda

Public Hearing, Hilltop Road Traffic Calming
May 9, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
Persons wishing to comment may attend the public hearing and sign up to speak, or comment in writing to City Clerk Jessie Carpenter, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912, or clerk@takomagov.org.

Ward 6 Night reception
May 16, 7 - 7:30 p.m.
Community Center Atrium Lobby

City Council Meeting
May 16, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
See takomaparkmd.gov for agenda

City Council Meeting
May 23, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
See takomaparkmd.gov for agenda

City Council Meeting
May 31, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
See takomaparkmd.gov for agenda

ARTS AND LITERATURE

Azalea City Concert
May 1, 7 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
The 15th anniversary of Azalea City Recording CD release celebration, featuring eight diverse acts ranging from folk to country and from roots-rock to Afro-beat.
Free
facebook.com/event.php?eid=160087410717798

Madison Violet Concert
May 4, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
With banjo, fiddle, mandolin and upright bass, Madison Violet performs songs infused with heartache and loss with an uplifting twang.
$15 advance, $20 door, $10 student
Institute of Musical Traditions
imtfolk.org

Favorite Poem Evening
May 5, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Library
Come read your favorite published poem, or just enjoy listening. For information, contact ellenr@takomagov.org Refreshments provided by the Friends of the Library.
Free

The Secret to a Happy Ending
May 6, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.
Takoma Park resident Barr Weissman's documentary about the Drive-By Truckers and their congregation of fans as they explore tales of human weakness and redemption
Advance reservations: imtfolk.org
Free

The Return of Navajo Boy
Nuclear Free Film Night
May 10, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
Film focuses on the effect of uranium mining and the production of nuclear power on tribal lands, with speaker Linda Gunter.
facebook.com/event.php?eid=192407220797017
Free

"Points of View" Opening Reception
May 13, 6:30 – 8 p.m.
The Galleries at Takoma Park Community Center
Linocuts by Norman Strike and photographs by Rob Rudick
Free
facebook.com/TakomaParkMD?sk=events

Tom Prasada Rao Concert

May 18, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
Melodic, ambitious, and reverent voice and guitar
$15 advance, $20 door, $10 student
Institute of Musical Traditions
imtfolk.org

Third Thursday Poetry Reading Series
May 19, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
Hosted by Martin Fitzpatrick and featuring poets Michele Wolf, Michael Gavin and Takoma Park Poet Laureate Anne Becker
Free
facebook.com/TakomaParkMD?sk=events

Friends of the Library Book Sale
May 21, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
On the Library lawn
Free

Book Signing: "Images of America: Takoma Park"
May 21, 5 – 7 p.m.
Now and Then, 6927 Laurel Ave.
"Images of America: Takoma Park," with co-authors Diana Kohn, Caroline Alderson and Susan Schreiber
Free

KIDS ACTIVITIES

Camp Takoma
June 27 – Aug. 12
TP Community Center
Action-packed, traditional summer day camp with a different theme every week, for ages 6 – 12.
301-891-7100

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Morris Dancers
May 1, 6 – 7 a.m.
Traditional steps dance up the dawn for May Day. Additional dance from 9 – 10 a.m. at Gazebo or Community Center
Free.

Takoma Park House and Garden Tour
May 1, 1 – 5 p.m.
Tour starts at the Thomas-Siegler Carriage House, on Tulip Ave. between Maple and Cedar avenues
$15 in advance from designated Takoma merchants, $20 on the day of the tour
Historictakoma.org

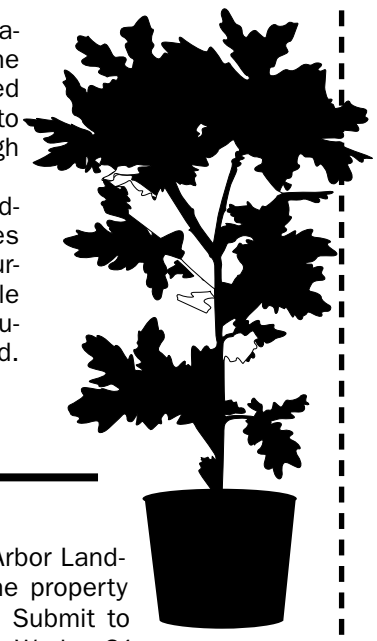
5K Challenge
May 1, 8 a.m.

Takoma Park Community Center
Benefit road race and fun run for Safe Routes to School
Tkpk5k.com

Adult Softball League Season
May 1 – June 19
Sponsored by the Recreation Department
301-891-7100

MAKE A DIFFERENCE
PLANT A TREE

Discount Trees Available to Beautify Yards, Replace the Canopy



The season is right to plant trees, and in Takoma Park that means you could be saving the aging tree canopy in the City. If you're interested in replacing old growth in your yard, or adding to greenery outside your door, you can save through the City's bulk buy tree sale.

Acting as a purchasing agent with Arbor Landscapers, the City is making a number of species available at wholesale prices. Residents can purchase black gum, red oak, willow oak, red maple and sycamore — all native shade trees that usually retail for about $350 – for $195, installed. Sale dates run through May 13.

Order Form

Please include check, including tax, written to Arbor Landscapers Inc. and be sure to draw a map of the property and locations for installation (see order form). Submit to Todd Bolton, Takoma Park Department of Public Works, 31 Oswego Avenue, Silver Spring, MD, 20910 by close of business May 13. Someone will be in touch regarding installation dates.

Name_____

Address_____

Phone_____

Please include a map of property/tree installation locations.

Species	Price	Quantity	Total
Red Maple (2")	195		
Red Oak (2")	195		
Willow Oak (2")	195		
Black Gum (2")	195		
Sycamore (2")	195		
6 % Sales Tax			

Total amount enclosed _____