April 2012

TAKOMA PARK

A newsletter published by the City of Takoma Park, Maryland

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Young Activist Club teams up with area merchants

The Young Activist Club, a group of third through eighth graders, has raised $10,000 to banish polystyrene lunch trays at Piney Branch Elementary School and switch to reusable trays and a dishwasher. Here, they distribute window stickers to area merchants who support their anti-styrofoam campaign. Above, Mark Choe, of Mark's Kitchen, is filmed by City TV; right, Ace Hardware's Eric Hardy with the club. See www.youngactivistclub.org for more information.

Photos by Nadine Bloch

WHAT'S NEW?

Tasa de Costo de Vida
En español
Página 2

Follow your budget
April 9, City Council meeting
April 16, public hearing
takomaparkmd.gov

Solar panels installed, one of several green initiatives

Takoma Park's commitment to sustainable energy is now clearly visible on the roofs of the Takoma Park Community Center and the Public Works building, where a total of 400 solar panels are ready to collect energy from the sun.

Solar panel installation is complete at both locations, and the panels are already functioning at Public Works. Public Works Director Daryl Braithwaite, who has been instrumental in setting up the systems, says the panels are expected to produce 20 to 25 percent of the electricity used in the two buildings. "That's a fair bit of power coming from the sun," she says. As panel production decreases each year, production will go from about 127,292 kilowatt hours in the first year, to about 111,388 by year 20. At that point, the City will review the agreement with Solar Solution, the company providing the panels.

In a unique arrangement, Solar Solution, will own and maintain the panels at no cost to the City. In exchange, Takoma Park agrees to purchase the electricity generated by the panels for 20 years. Purchase price is 11 cents per kilowatt for the first year, less than the City currently pays for power, and will increase annually by 3 percent.

Braithwaite says she learned about this unusual arrangement during the renovation of the Public Works buildings on Oswego Avenue. Exploring all options to keep the building green, the design company described this system, which avoids "up

SOLAR PANELS ☐ Page 7

Councilmember Snipper to resign

Reuben Snipper

Reuben Snipper, the City Councilmember representing Ward 5, has announced he will resign from his position in May. Snipper is retiring and moving to Rome, where his wife, Cheryl Morden, recently accepted a job at the headquarters of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, a United Nations agency.

Snipper told his colleagues on the Council that he would stay with them until after the budget process—"I think it's unfair not to be around [for that]," he said—then in early June he will travel to Rome for a brief period before he returns to pack and move. His family anticipates returning to Takoma Park after about three years.

Snipper was elected to the City Council in 2007, during a special election held when former Councilmember Marc Elrich left to join the County Council. He has been a particular proponent of rent control and affordable housing, and involved with some of the renovation projects sponsored by Montgomery County Housing Partnership. He was instrumental in approving the Flower Avenue green space project which will install a sidewalk and rain gardens along the road between Piney Branch Road and Carroll Avenue.

He's also weighed in on issues such as the possible move being considered by Washington Adventist Hospital, and the Purple Line plans for public transportation. His colleagues consider him a steadying force on the Council, where he is deliberate and measured in his contributions to myriad City issues.

"Being on the Council has been a great honor for me, and a privilege," Snipper told

SNIPPER RESIGNS ☐ Page 9

Police chief Ricucci to retire

By Virginia Myers

Police Chief Ronald Ricucci has announced he will retire on July 30, after serving the Takoma Park community for five years. His time in the City has been remarkable for the distinct decrease in "part one crimes," which include murder, rape, robbery, burglary and theft.

"Chief Ricucci has done an exemplary job during his years with the City," said City Manager Barb Matthews. She cited his accomplishments in strengthening the department's relationships with neighboring police agencies, enhancing traffic enforcement through the addition of a traffic officer position and the implementation of the City's speed camera program, the hiring of a crime analyst to better target the department's efforts, and the creation of the Tactical Enforcement Unit that could be deployed to address specific community issues as they arose. "He has left a

RICUCCI RETIRES ☐ Page 7

Takoma Park Police Chief Ronald Ricucci

Inside:

LITTLE INDIA *Page 3*

FILM & MUSIC *Page 6*

ARBOR DAY *Page 7*

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

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DOCKET

TAKOMA TOPICS:

"The City is now on Pinterest (thanks for the help, everyone!). We're TakomaParkMD. Make sure you follow us, and we'll do the same."

City Council & Committee Calendar

CITY COUNCIL

Mondays, April 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 19, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium
For agendas, see www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/agendas

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 12, 8:30 a.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE

Monday, April 2, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Monday, April 9, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

COUNCIL COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

(tentative) Tuesday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.
Room TBA

TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, April 10, 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Lilac Room

FAÇADE ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, April 10, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

WASHINGTON ADVENTIST HOSPITAL LAND USE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 17, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION

Tuesday, April 24, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Lilac Room

*All meetings are open to the public unless noted otherwise. For the most up to date information, check www.takomaparkmd.gov/committees/calendar. Most meetings are held in the Takoma Park Community Center – Sam Abbott Citizens' Center, 7500 Maple Ave. (TPCC). 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.

CityCouncilAction

All actions take place in scheduled legislative meetings of the City Council. Only negative votes and abstentions/recusals are noted. Adopted legislation is available for review online at www.takomaparkmd.gov. For additional information, contact the City Clerk at clerk@takomagov.org.

RESOLUTION 2012-8

Adopted (February 27, 2012)

Recommending an appropriate petition area for the Sligo Park Hills traffic access restriction proposal

The resolution recommended that the Montgomery County hearing examiner consider including households beyond the Sligo Park Hills Citizens Association as the appropriate petition area (including the Ritchie Citizens Association area, portions of Ward 5, and Maple Avenue between Kennebec Avenue and Ritchie Avenue).

Voting no: Williams

RESOLUTION 2012-9

Adopted (February 27, 2012)

Amending Resolution 2010-34 (regarding Sligo Park Hills/Ritchie Community traffic access restrictions

The resolution corrected an error in Resolution 2010-34 which had called for removal of a number of traffic restriction signs after completion of the Ritchie Avenue traffic calming measures. The sign at Mississippi Avenue and Piney Branch Road limiting thru traffic to Sligo Creek Parkway from 4-7 p.m. Monday through Friday would remain after the traffic calming is complete.

RESOLUTION 2012-10

Adopted (February 27, 2012)

Supporting Senate Bill 807/House Bill 1155 Income Tax on Payments for Partial Takings

The resolution supported state legislation that would allow owners of property subject to a partial taking by the State of Maryland for transportation projects to have the payment for the partial taking not be considered as income for the purpose of calculating Maryland income tax.

RESOLUTION 2012-11

Adopted (February 27, 2012)

Providing for an appointment to the Arts and Humanities Commission

By adoption of the resolution, the City Council appointed M. Charlene Porter of Ward 3 to the Arts and Humanities Commission for a term to expire on June 30, 2014.

RESOLUTION 2012-12

Adopted (February 27, 2012)

Providing for an appointment to the Board of Elections

By adoption of the resolution, the City Council appointed Jeffrey Noel-Nosbaum of Ward 3 to the Takoma Park Board of Elections for a term to expire on June 30, 2014.

RESOLUTION 2012-13

Adopted (March 5, 2012)

Awarding FY 2012 Small Community Grants

The resolution awarded the following grants through the City's Small Community Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2012: Community Garden of Takoma Overlook ($1,000); EduCare Support Services ($1,100); Making a New United People (M.A.N.U.P.) ($2,500); Montgomery Oaks Management Maple Avenue Community Gardens ($500); Old Takoma Business Association reCYCLE the Art of Tree Public Exhibit ($500); Piney Branch Elementary School PTA P.E. Swim Classes ($1,400); Seniors and Those Who Care for Them ($300); Takoma Park Girl Scout Troop 5831 Step Up Takoma – Supporting Volunteerism ($1,500); Takoma Women's Business Network Workshops for Women Entrepreneurs ($1000); Takoma Plays Community Events and Booklet Distribution ($1,000).

ORDINANCE 2012-5

Adopted (First Reading February 13, 2012; Second Reading February 27, 2012)

Authorizing FY 2012 Budget Amendment No. 2

The Council authorized the second amendment to the FY 2012 Budget.

ORDINANCE 2012-6

Adopted (First Reading February 13, 2012; Second Reading February 27, 2012)

Authorizing FY 2012 Stormwater Budget Amendment No. 1

The Council authorized the first amendment to the FY 2012 stormwater budget.

ORDINANCE 2012-7

Adopted (Feb. 27, 2012)

Authorizing a contract for stormwater system cleaning and video inspection to Peer Consultants P.C.

The ordinance authorized a contract for stormwater system cleaning and video inspection to Peer Consultants P.C., one of two contracts authorized for this purpose on Feb. 27, 2012.

ORDINANCE 2012-8

Adopted (Feb. 27, 2012)

Authorizing a contract for stormwater system cleaning and video inspection to B. Frank Joy, LLC

The ordinance authorized a contract for stormwater system cleaning and video inspection to B. Frank Joy, LLC, one of two contracts authorized for this purpose on Feb. 27, 2012.

ORDINANCE 2012-9

Adopted (First Reading March 5, 2012; Second Reading March 12, 2012)

Modifying FY 2012 Budget Amendment No. 2

The ordinance modified Budget Amendment No. 2 to correct an omission.

WARD NIGHTS

The City Council will hold the first Ward Night Monday, April 2 for residents of Ward 3. Residents are invited to join Council for a reception at 7 p.m. in the Community Center lobby, and the first part of the City Council meeting, at 7:30 p.m., will be dedicated to hearing from them.

All ward nights are as follows:

Monday, April 2 – Ward 3
Monday, May 7 – Ward 5
Monday, June 4 – Ward 4
Monday, June 18 – Ward 6
Monday, July 9 – Ward 1
Monday, July 23 – Ward 2

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS FY 2013 PROPOSED BUDGET

The City Council will hold a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, April 16, 2012 to hear comments on the City Manager's proposed FY 2013 budget. The public hearing will be held in the auditorium of the Takoma Park Community Center – Sam Abbott Citizens' Center at 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Maryland. 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 Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912, email: clerk@takomagov.org. The City Manager's proposed budget will be available for review in the Takoma Park Maryland Library and online at www.takomaparkmd.gov after the City Manager presents her proposed budget on April 9.

A second public hearing on the budget will be held on Monday, April 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Takoma Park Community Center – Sam Abbott Citizens' Center at 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Maryland.

Photo by Sam Kittner

LITTLE INDIA

Local businesses attract large South Asian community

By Rick Henry

It's 2:30 in the afternoon and the large dining room at Tiffin-The Indian Kitchen in the Unilang shopping center on University Boulevard in the Takoma Park/Langley Park Crossroads is packed. Large, extended families fill the tables and diners crowd around the well-stocked buffet filled with Indian favorites such as tandoori chicken and naan bread.

Two stores down, at the ISP Sari Palace, shoppers browse the well-stocked shelves holding everything from decorative brass and marble desktop sculptures to an array of fine fabrics and the colorful, ornate saris –outer garments worn chiefly by women with one end wrapped about the waist to form a skirt and the other draped over the shoulder or covering the head— and salvars (loose, pajama- like trousers) that hang from racks and line the walls.

A few steps away, at the Halal Food Store, shoppers such as Apurver Mathur pick up their weekly supplies of Halal meat—meat that is slaughtered by a certified Halal butcher in accordance with Islamic law.

Welcome to Saturday at the heart of the New Ave, where members of suburban Maryland's large Indian community make their weekly trips to shop, eat and socialize. While the area is a part of the commercial area that has been branded The New Ave by the City, its history and role as a central market and gathering place for the area's Indian community goes back more than 40 years. In fact, the ISP Sari Palace was the first sari store in the United States, opening in 1971.

Ward 6 councilmember and longtime resident Fred Schultz, whose district includes the Crossroads area, said that he was surprised to find out how many Indians and South Asians live in the area.

"Even though I have lived in the same house for 26 years, I did not realize how many Indians and South Asians there were until I ran for Council in 2009 and knocked on every door in the ward," he said.

Not as many as there used to be, say business owners and employees.

Lakshman Nandwani, who has been a manager at the ISP Sari Palace since the beginning, says that the Indian community has become more dispersed since the store opened.

"The Indian community used to be more concentrated around this area, but it has really spread out over the last several years," said Nandwani, noting that many Indians now live up county in Gaithersburg and Gemantown, or in Prince George's County's Greenbelt and Bowie.

Still, they remain loyal customers. Indians (as well as people from other South Asian countries such as Pakistan and Bangladesh, and from various African communities in the area) make weekend journeys to the Crossroads—and for good reason.

"This area is the only place we know of where we can find everything we need," said Mathur. He had driven from his home in Bowie to purchase Halal goat meat. His next stop? Patel Brothers, the Indian grocery store just down the road on University Boulevard.

Still, Nandwani says there is concern from the business owners that as the community becomes more spread out and more of the population takes up residence in different areas, they may stop coming in the same numbers as they once did.

"Right now, we are still the main shopping area, but there are other ones cropping up in other places," he said.

Across New Hampshire Avenue, at Priti Fashion and Jewelry in the Hampshire-Langley Shopping Center, another longtime Crossroads businessman, manager Priti Sheth, shares Nandwani's concerns, noting that not only has a lot of the Indian population relocated, but that several stores, including his, have been forced to relocate, or

LITTLE INDIA ☐ Page 7

Photo by Sam Kittner

SOUTH-ASIAN INFLUENCE

There are close to 20 Indian and South Asian-owned businesses in the Crossroads area, from beauty salons to motels and tax preparation services. Here are a few that will give you a bit of Indian flavor right in Takoma Park:

HALAL MEAT MARKET, 1335-A University Blvd E, 301-431-3361. Groceries from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. Also known as Jasmine Bazaar, the store specializes in halal meat, raised with no antibiotics, humanely killed by hand and always fresh.

ISP INDIA SARI PALACE, 1337 University Blvd E, 301-434-1350, www.indiasaripalacedc.com. The first sari store in the U.S., India Sari Palace (ISP) came to the D.C. area in 1979. It features traditional and wedding jewelry, silk saris, kurti, salwar kameez and dupatta, sherwanies and woolen materials.

PRITI FASHION & JEWELRY, 1157 University Blvd. E., 301-431-7430. Clothing, fine jewelry, and fabric, specializing in gold jewelry, gems and repair services. Open in a new location, the business has served the community for over ten years as Aanchal Sari and Nina Jewelers.

TABEER, 1401 University Blvd E, 301-434-2121, www.mytabeer.com. A wide selection of Indian and Pakistani foods, including kabobs and handmade breads.

TIFFIN RESTAURANT, 1341 University Blvd E, 301-434-9200. A long-time landmark, this white-cloth dining room serves traditional dishes from Bombay.

WOODLANDS RESTAURANT, 8046 New Hampshire Ave., 301-434-4202, www.woodlandsrestaurants.com. A local favorite stop for the widely varied Indian buffet as well as made-to-order lunches and dinner.

See www.thenewave.com

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The City Council of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland proposes to increase real property taxes.

- For the tax year beginning July 1, 2012, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 1.5 percent from $1,953,913,245 to $1,983,107,973.
- If the City of Takoma Park maintains the current tax rate of $0.58 per $100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 1.5 percent resulting in $169,329 of new real property tax revenues.
- In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to $0.5715, the constant yield tax rate.
- The City is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The City proposes to adopt a real property tax of $0.58 per $100 of assessment. This tax rate is 1.5 percent higher than the constant yield rate and will generate $169,329 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, April 30, 2012, in the Auditorium of the Takoma Park Community Center – Sam Abbott Citizens' Center, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Maryland.

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, at 301-891-7267 for further information.

FY 2013 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 $13.20 per hour. Effective July 1, 2012, the rate will be $13.65 per hour.

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

Tasa de Costo de Vida fue Establecido para el Año Fiscal 2013

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 $13.20 por hora. Efectivo el 1 de julio de 2012 la tasa será $13.65 por hora.

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

CHANGES TO COME IN WARD 5: SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN JULY

Ward 5 City Councilmember Reuben Snipper has announced that he will resign from the City Council. Pursuant to Section 308 of the City Charter, if a vacancy on the City Council occurs more than 240 days before the next regularly scheduled City election, a special election shall be held to fill the vacancy.

The City Council will be adopting a resolution setting a date in July for the special election. The City Charter requires that the special election be held between 45 and 60 days from the date of the vacancy. The date will be announced in the May issue of the Takoma Park Newsletter.

In a special election, a candidate who wishes to have his or her name placed on the ballot must submit a petition at least 20 days prior to the election, on a form provided by the City Clerk and signed by at least ten eligible voters in the ward. There is no nominating caucus for a special election.

Additional information will be posted at www.takomaparkmd.gov and published in the May, June and July issues of this newsletter.

If you have questions, please contact Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk, 301-891-7267 or jessiec@takomagov.org.

HOUSING

HOUSING MAILBOX

City offers help for new tenant associations

By Moses A. Wilds, Jr.
Landlord-Tenant Coordinator

I am a renter in Takoma Park, and I think having a tenant association in my building would make it a better place to live. Can the City help me and my fellow tenants form a tenant association? What are the requirements?

Yes, the City can help! In Takoma Park, tenants have the right to form tenant organizations and engage in activities for the purpose of mutual aid and protection. You just need one third of your neighbors on board with you: City law requires that a minimum of one third of the occupied units in a rental facility must agree to form the tenant association.

The tenant association must also register with the City's Department of Housing and Community Development and provide the names, addresses and phone numbers of association members and officers. All registered City tenant associations are required to update their membership rosters and reregister every three years.

Although a landlord's approval of the formation of the tenant association is not necessary, the City informs the landlord of the association's intent to organize, and gives him or her a copy of the application along with a list of members. Keep in mind, the purpose of forming an association is often to work cooperatively with a landlord to improve services in a rental facility.

To help you during this process, Takoma Park works with two experienced community organizing entities, one bilingual/Spanish. They can give you a hand as you and the other tenants begin to organize, elect officers, and plan and implement activities. In fact, they've proven to be a big help with other tenant groups that have been able to improve building services and maintain productive communication with their building managers.

Tenants or landlords with questions about the City's Landlord-Tenant Law can contact me at 301-891-7215 or at mosesw@takomagov.org.

Get help with your property tax

Property tax credit applications now available

It's that time of year again: Property tax credit applications are now available for the 2012 tax year. Although the deadline for filing is September 1, 2012, filing by May 1 may mean that the credit is applied directly to your July 1, 2012 tax bill.

The tax credit program is designed to help low or fixed income home owners or renters, by limiting the amount they must pay in property taxes. To receive the tax credit, an application and supporting documentation must be sent to the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation every year.

HOME OWNERS' TAX CREDIT - The maximum property assessment eligible for the credit is $300,000, which means that even though your home may be assessed for an amount over this amount, it's only the first $300,000 of its assessed value that will be counted for this credit. Here are the basic requirements for the program:

- Must own or have legal interest in the property
- Must be your principal residence
- Your net worth, not including the value of your home or qualified retirement savings/accounts must be less than $200,000 as of Dec. 31, 2011
- Your gross household income cannot exceed $60,000

RENTERS' TAX CREDIT – As a renter, you may be eligible if you meet certain guidelines because it has been deemed that a certain portion of your rent is used to pay property taxes. Credits are calculated according to total household income (gross income before deductions).

Rental unit must be principal residence for a minimum of six months and you must be lease holder.

Eligibility guidelines are different for persons who are 100 percent disabled or over 60 years old than they are for those under 60 years old. If under 60 years old, you have to have had at least one dependent under the age of 18 living with you during 2010 and you cannot be receiving federal or state housing subsidies. Income limits for the renters' tax credit program are more restrictive (e.g. under 60 years-household of two cannot exceed $15,030 gross annual household income)

To obtain an application for the home owners' or renters' tax credit program or for further information, you can call the State of Maryland at 1-800-944-7403, access it on their website, http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/taxcredits.html or call Linda Walker at 301-891-7222.

AT YOUR SERVICE

POLICE BRIEFS

Gear up to wheel around town

It's all about wheels at the Takoma Park Police Department's Gear Up Takoma event, April 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The rear parking lot at the Takoma Park Community Center will be filled with activities to help residents prepare for a safe season of bike riding, skateboarding, scootering and even driving.

Adults and children can bring their bikes, scooters and skateboards to the safety obstacle courses, drop by the bike maintenance workshop, or get help fitting a bicycle helmet; a raffle will give away several helmets. A workshop on installing car seats will also be held, and light refreshments will be available.

New this year will be a donation site for unused or unwanted bicycles and bicycle parts. They'll be sent to low-income communities throughout the world (see www.bikesfortheworld.org).

Partnerships for the event include: Takoma Park Safe Routes to School, The Green Commuter, Takoma Bicycle, Montgomery County Safe Kids program and Bikes for the World.

Protect your vehicle

The Takoma Park Police Department, in partnership with the MD/DC Anti-Car Theft Committee, will host a VIN etching event on Saturday, April 14, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the police station parking lot (7500 Maple Ave.).

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) etching is a security technique in which your vehicle's identification number is permanently etched into its glass panes. This proven vehicle-theft deterrent is effective because etched vehicles make it harder for "chop shops" to make a profit from their parts; criminals tend to choose vehicles without the etching.

In addition to VIN etching, participants at the upcoming event can enroll in the "Watch Your Car" program. Participants describe to police their normal hours of operation for the vehicle, and if police officers observe the vehicle being driven outside of those hours (say, between 1 and 6 a.m.), they may stop the vehicle and verify the vehicle owner or an authorized driver is operating it. Participating vehicles are identified by a sticker on the car; stickers will be available at the April 14 event.

Both the etching and Watch Your Car services are free. For more information, contact Carla Magnaye at 301-891-7121 or carlam@takomagov.org, or go to www.mdautotheft.org .

Nationwide Prescription Take Back Day

April 28, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Drop off expired and unwanted drugs

Prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, and pet medication

Collection boxes available at the Gear Up Takoma event

Takoma Park Community Center rear parking lot

Don't pollute our landfills and water sources

Don't throw unwanted drugs out with the trash

THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

Fire, by the numbers

As of Feb. 29, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the station have responded to 98 fire-related incidents in 2012. The department addressed or assisted with 472 rescue or ambulance-related incidents, for a total of 570 this year. Totals for 2011 were 137 and 510, representing a decrease of 77 incidents.

From the State Fire Marshal Office

As of March 18, of this year, there have been 14 fire deaths in the State of Maryland. In 2011 same period, there were 17 deaths. Unattended cooking is still the number one cause of home fires, and smoking materials is number one cause for fire deaths. Your first line of defense: a working smoke alarm on each level of your home and a family fire escape plan. They are a must.

Spring is Around the Corner

Let this be the time to rid your home of potential fire hazards. Check your basement, attic, closets and other storage areas. Remove old newspapers, paints, flammable liquids, thinners, solvents, oily cloths, wood scraps, collections of magazines, boxes, old clothes, wrapping, forgotten games and other dubious treasurers. Check around the yard, too: old tires, piles of old wood, brush and dead grass and other rubbish should be discarded. Remember - the way you keep your home and yard can aid in the prevention of fire.

Committee offers new twist on preparing for emergencies in Takoma Park

The Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness Committee is tasked with keeping the community informed in the event of a disaster. Along with plans that would be put into effect during an actual disaster, members disseminate information designed to help families prepare in advance. Following is their latest invention, a game that makes learning about best practices during disaster a little lighter for families.

Please send your comments to TP Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC) at tpepc@takomagov.org with any questions or comments. We would like to know how many residents have/practice a plan for outreach planning.

Disaster Plan Dress Rehearsal

By Kathleen Quinn
Member, TP Emergency Preparedness Committee

ACTIVITY: PRACTICING THE PLAN

Review your disaster plan with family members by playing a game. Use the questions on the flash cards to quiz each other about the plan. Feel free to add other questions based on your family's needs.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Cut out the cards and attach them to index cards with tape or glue. Write the answer to the question on the back of the index card. Add your own questions on separate index cards.
2. Gather the family, distribute the cards evenly and take turns quizzing each other with the cards.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN HAZARDS WE HAVE PLANNED FOR?	WHERE CAN I FIND A COPY OF OUR FAMILY DISASTER PLAN?	WHERE CAN I FIND OUR FAMILY DISASTER SUPPLY KIT?
If I am at school when an emergency happens, how will I reach my parents?	If members of our family are separated during an emergency or disaster, who will they contact?	If I am at home and hear a tornado or other warning siren or alert on the radio or TV, what should I do?
Where can I find our pet disaster supply kit?	If we have an emergency or disaster, what should I immediately do about our pet?	Where can I find a copy of our communications plan?
How often should our family disaster supply kit be checked and updated, and who is responsible for doing it? When was the last time it was checked?	Which family member is responsible for checking our smoke detectors, and how often will they do it? When was the last time they were checked?	Which family member is responsible for checking our fire extinguishers, and how often will they do it? When was the last time they were checked?
If our family is told to evacuate the neighborhood and we are not together, where is our meeting place?	Who is our out-of-state family contact in case of an emergency or disaster?	Where are the main switches for water, gas*, and electricity in our house, and how do you turn them on and off?
What should we do if we have a house fire in the middle of the night?	If we have to evacuate our home, what things should we take with us?	What precautions should we take when returning to our home if it has been damaged in a disaster?

- In an emergency, your gas can be turned off at the main gas service shutoff valve normally located near your gas meter. Know where your main gas service shutoff valve is located.
- Keep an adjustable pipe or crescent-type wrench available to turn off the gas in case of an emergency
- Know how to shut off the gas at the gas service shutoff valve
- Leave it off until service can be restored safely by your gas company or another qualified professional

ARTS & *Humanities*

Call to artists includes recycling, exhibits

Recycling-in-residence

The Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission is seeking applications for its new Recycling Artist in Residence Program. Area artists working with recycled materials are encouraged to apply for this two-month summer residency, beginning July 1. This is a unique opportunity for one artist to have full time access and studio space, as the very first Artist in Residence solely utilizing reclaimed and repurposed materials in his or her artwork.

Exhibitions director

The Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission is seeking an individual to coordinate the Takoma Park Community Center exhibits program. The exhibits director serves as the key point of contact for coordinating the exhibits program, soliciting and reviewing proposals, and assisting exhibitors in logistical activities.

For more information on either program, see www.takomaparkmd.gov, call 301-891-7224 or email sarad@takomagov.org. The deadline for applying for both opportunities is Monday, April 30.

"Feather Fancy" takes wing at Community Center Exhibit

The Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission announces the opening of "Feather Fancy," an art exhibition in Gallery 3 at the Takoma Park Community Center.

Imagine a painting of delicate spring flowers in which the artist creates all the flowers not with paint but with birds' feathers. Artist Galina Kolosovskaya brings her unique "feather art" to Gallery 3 at the Takoma Park Community Center, on display from April 13 to May 31.

Trained in her native Russia as a painter, Kolosovskaya is celebrated for her innovative technique creating elegant nature images using bird feathers to depict her subjects. These contemplative pieces, which seem to shimmer as they catch the light, depict moonlit scenes, butterflies and birds, flowers and abstracts, as well as the starry cosmos. Kolosovskaya will be available to discuss her art at the artist's reception, Saturday, April 14, from 4 to 6 p.m. in Gallery 3.

Hours of operation for Gallery 3 are Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

For more information contact: Galina Kolosovskaya, galvkol@yahoo.com; Alison Carr, exhibitsdirector@takomagov.org; or Sara Anne Daines, sarad@takomagov.org 301-891-7224.

The intimate world of nature is vividly shown in photographs from Coriolana Simon and Douglas Wolters, exhibited at the Takoma Park Community Center April 13 -- May 21.

An up-close look at petal and leaf

Silver Spring duo Coriolana Simon and Douglas Wolters of Shared Vision Photography will display their up-close-and-personal vision of nature in Petal and Leaf, an exhibit at the Richard Dempsey Memorial Gallery on the main floor of the Takoma Park Community Center from April 13 through May 21.

The photographs capture easily identifiable, everyday subjects in nature – a rose, a dried leaf, the bark of a tree – and transform them into abstracted landscapes or ambiguous objects. For Simon and Wolters, nature reveals as much beauty in a blossom at its prime as in the dryness and twisted forms of a flower's final days.

Underlying this exhibition is the photographers' intention to provoke curiosity and wonder, to cause the viewer to ask, "What exactly am I looking at?"

The artists will hold a reception on Saturday, April 14 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the atrium of the Takoma Park Community Center. The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information contact: Coriolana Simon and Douglas Wolters, jaifizz@aol.com; Alison Carr, ExhibitsDirector@takomagov.org; or Sara Anne Daines SaraD@takomagov.org 301-891-7224.

W E A R E T A K O M A

We are Takoma film tells stories of Galicia

Wednesday, April 18 at 7 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
"We are Takoma – Film" continues this month with a screening of Three Stories of Galicia, by Olha Onyshko and Sarah Farhat.

Would you risk your life to save your enemy? *Three Stories of Galicia* tells the story of three courageous individuals, trapped between Hitler and Stalin, who had the courage to risk everything and do what was right: A Jewish man whose family chose to save the life of its worst enemy; a Ukrainian woman who endured the theft of her children to save her country; and a Polish priest who risked everything to end the sectarian hatred that tore at his parish. They all came from a land where World War II never ended and where children grow up with the burden of fighting the battles of their grandparents.

The film has been shown around the world and is presented in Takoma Park in partnership with Docs in Progress, in observance of the Days of Remembrance, the annual commemoration of the Holocaust. The filmmakers will answer questions about the content and process after the film. For more information, see www.threestoriesofgalicia.com.

Galicians were trapped between Hitler and Stalin.

Eastern Europe sings

Sunday, April 22, 4 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium
Suggested donation: $15 / $10 students, seniors

The beautiful harmonies and rhythms of Bulgaria, Greece, Russia and the former Yugoslavia will fill the Takoma Park Community Center this month during a performance that combines local ad-hoc chorus, Carpe Diem, with the Orfeia Ensemble and special guest musicians and dancers.

Carpe Diem is a community choir that forms around individual performances, gathering periodically for rehearsals and shows (see carpediemarts.org). Orfeia is an all-women Slavic chorus with a repertoire that includes ancient and modern adaptations of Bulgarian folk songs; Slavonic, Georgian and Sephardic chants; and playful love songs from throughout the Balkans. Drawing its name and inspiration from the ancient Thracian myth of Orpheus, the legendary symbol of musical journeys, Orfeia was founded in late 2006 by internationally acclaimed Bulgarian singer, director, and composer Tatiana Sarbinska.

Celebrating verse for National Poetry Month

Takoma Park has become a center for poetry, with monthly readings, frequent workshops, and an annual "planting" of poetry on signs throughout the City. So it makes sense that residents would celebrate April, national poetry month, with particular enthusiasm.

Spring for Poetry

This is the month when the posters of poems are planted. The city's unique poetry walk is now in its sixth year, with new posters that you'll encounter on Carroll Avenue from Takoma Junction to Old Town, in the City's parks, and at the library and community center.

Underwritten by the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library, the colorful posters are the work of Professor Andrea Adams' design students at Montgomery College. On your walk, you'll find poems by Rumi, the exuberant 13th century Persian poet; William Wordsworth ("Daffodils"); Rainer Maria Rilke; the Italian poet Giacomo Leopardi; and many modern Hispanic and American poets such as William Carlos Williams, W.S. Merwin, and Billy Collins. Check them out! The poems and their locations will be on the Friends website – www.ftpml.org. Let us know what you like — and don't! And what poems you would suggest for next year.

Several local events also mark the month:

Favorite Poem Evening

The 13th Annual Favorite Poem Evening comes to the Takoma Park Library on Tuesday, April 10 at 7:30 p.m. Choose a published poem you have read and admired, and send your name and the title of your selection to Ellen Robbins at ellenr@takomagov.org for inclusion in a printed program by April 6. Poems in languages other than English are fine, as long as they are accompanied by an English translation. Readers and poetry lovers of all ages are invited to join us for what has become a beloved tradition.

An outdoor reading, Third Thursday and poetry at play

To celebrate the City's new Spring for Poetry in Takoma Park posters, the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library will hold a celebratory reading of this year's poems at the Takoma Park Farmers' Market on Sunday, April 15, 11 a.m. Would you like to read one or two of the poems? Send an email to Library Director Ellen Robbins: ellenr@takomagov.org.

The **Third Thursday Poetry** reading, on April 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, features the original work of local poets Caroline Wilkins, Joyce Latham, Michele Wolf, and Marjorie Sadin. The event is free.

Residents can take the celebration further with some of the 30 suggestions from the Academy of American Poets:

Celebrate "**Poem in your Pocket**" Day April 26 - Select a poem you love or one that makes you think (or laugh out loud), fold it up and slip it in your pocket. Every now and then, pull it out and share it with a co-worker, a friend.

Take a Poem out to Lunch - Slip a poem into your kid's lunch, between the sandwich and the cookie; it will give them something great to read while they are eating and shows that you care.

Put a "**Poem on the Pavement**" - Go ahead, don't worry about getting chalk on your knees, write a poem in chalk on your sidewalk.

For more ideas, see poets.org/npm.

Arbor Day celebration includes tree giveaway

The City of Takoma Park's annual Arbor Day celebration will take place Saturday, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Takoma Park Library grounds. Planned events include the ever-popular seedling giveaway, with the City arborist and members of the Tree Commission on hand to provide advice on selecting the ideal seedling to plant in your yard. Species include tall canopy trees (chestnut oak, red oak, swamp white oak, and sycamore); canopy trees with edible fruit and nuts (persimmon, hazelnut, and pecan); an evergreen (pitch pine); and a flowering tree that is a perennial favorite (redbud). Come select a free seedling to beautify your home, provide food for you and/or the local wildlife, and help ensure a green Takoma Park for generations to come

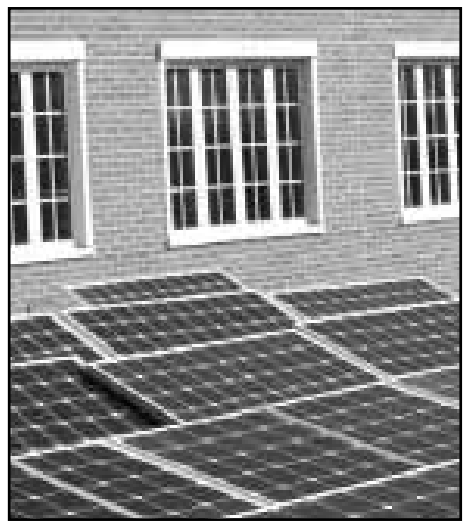
SOLAR PANELS

■ From page 1

front" costs. When she researched the possibility, Braithwaite discovered that Montgomery County Public Schools have become leaders in solar installation on public buildings, using a similar arrangement.

The solar panels fit right into the City's goal to become more and more environmentally sustainable. Per City policy, says Braithwaite, "We pay for green power even if it costs more. We were [already] buying wind power." The plan also fits into her own aesthetic; Braithwaite is a long-time environmental sustainability advocate, and first came to the City in 1988 as its first recycling coordinator. "That was the start of the program for the City," she says. At that point, there was newspaper recycling, and not much else; those residents who wanted to recycle often brought other recyclables, like glass and metal, to outside vendors in College Park and D.C.

Now the City picks up recycling weekly, and includes mixed paper, glass, metal and plastic in the mix. It maintains seven hybrid vehicles for City business, and continues to support a tree ordinance with strict replanting requirements when trees are cut down; there is also a $100 discount available for residents buying and planting new trees. Energy efficiency in City buildings has improved through various architectural elements; and Public Works diesel vehicles use biodiesel in an 80/20 mix of biodiesel and conventional fuel. The new Public Works renovation includes geothermal heating and cooling, rainwater harvesting, and the first approved greywater utilization system in the entire Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission area.



Solar panels on the Community Center
Photo by Virginia Myers

This greywater system takes water from sinks and shower drains, filters it clean and uses it for flushing toilets.

In the future, Braithwaite has plans for a composting program, in which the City would collect household food waste and compost it at a central facility. "We just are waiting for a permitted and authorized composting facility to get operational," she says. "Then we'll start a pilot for about 1,000 households." Braithwaite expects a facility to be available through the University of the District of Columbia, and the City is already in line to participate there once it is up and running.

Meanwhile, there are a number of stormwater bio-retention projects underway, to filter out pollutants in stormwater before it runs off into Sligo Creek and the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Among them are one on Wabash Avenue and another upcoming at Prince George's and Circle avenues. Sidewalk projects, which will encourage more pedestrian traffic as opposed to vehicular traffic, are also underway.

Environmental projects are sure to continue apace as the City prepares to hire a sustainability coordinator on a contract basis; that person will prioritize numerous environmental goals and projects for the City.

RICUCCI RETIRES

■ From page 1

legacy that will live on in the Takoma Park Police Department for years to come."

The chief, who inherited eight vacancies on the force, credits part of that success to a full staff; he maintained 42 officers and 23 civilians and notes he kept them well-equipped and trained. He strengthened community-oriented policing with an advisory board and emphasis on resident reporting of crimes in the community. Matthews notes that Ricucci met each of the goals she set for him when she hired him in 2007.

City Council has consistently praised his work, and staff has developed a close relationship with him. He says he will miss his colleagues as well: "I work with a great bunch of people, and I've enjoyed meeting the residents of Takoma Park," he says.

He won't, however, "miss the Blackberry 24-7, and all the phone calls," and he looks forward to spending time with his wife at their home in Land O' Lakes, Fla.

Asked whether the changes he made in the department will last after he leaves, Ricucci said he trusts the staff to carry on. "It's the people that work for me that have made what has taken place."

Ricucci began his career in the Montgomery County Police Department, where he worked for 26 years. He was also chief in Louisville, Ky. and Front Royal, Va. for 10 years before coming to Takoma Park.

Matthews plans to conduct a national search for the next chief of police, using the services of an executive search firm. She has established an email address, newchief@takomagov.org, for community members to share their thoughts on the traits and qualities the new chief of police should possess, and to provide feedback on the performance of the Takoma Park Police Department.

LITTLE INDIA

■ From page 3

worse, close.

"Where the new Rite Aid is (across University Boulevard in the Langley Park Center), there used to be four stores," he said.

The same is true for the ISP Sari Palace. It had to relocate to make room for the new Walgreens, a move that also displaced longtime Indian vegetarian restaurant Udupi Palace.

Rents in the area have risen recently, a result of an improving economy, improvements to the infrastructure of the Crossroads area and extensive marketing and focus on The New Ave by the City.

Both store managers lament the higher rents, but Councilmember Schultz says he sees the rising rents as a positive for the area as a whole.

"It doesn't surprise me that rents are rising there, because they are rising everywhere around—Silver Spring, Route 1, Hyattsville," he said. "Plus the City has done a lot to make the streets in that area more attractive and safe. We've improved parking and traffic flow so that shoppers and customers have a better experience and the businesses there can prosper."

Doing so in the changing environment will require businesses to cater to a wide range of customers, not just members of the Indian and South Asian community, something Sheth, Nandwani and Shahid Khan, the owner of the Halal Food Store, all embrace.

"My customers are from all over the world," Khan says, noting that Halal meat is becoming increasingly popular.

"I have been here 22 years," said Sheth. "I know that you cannot limit your business to the Indian community alone, because there are not enough customers."

LIBRARY

The Friends of the Takoma Park, Maryland Library give generously of their time and resources. Many of the programs listed on these pages are made possible through their efforts, including Spanish Circle Time, Comics Jam, reading groups, crafts event and more.

For more information about supporting the Friends, see http://www.ftpml.org.

CALENDAR

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

BEDTIME STORIES

Monday, April 2, 7 p.m.

Come in p.j.s, bring your teddy bear or other stuffed favorites as we read some stories and sing some songs and rhymes in this half-hour program

Perfect for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups

STORYTIME CLASSICS

Monday, April 3, 7:30-8:45 p.m.

A special spring break storytime focused on classic children's picture books

All welcome

FRIENDS READING GROUP

Wednesday, April 4, 7:30 p.m.

Discussion of "The Leopard" by Guiseppi Tomasi di Lampedusa

Azalea Room. All invited

RESUME BUILDING WORKSHOP

Wednesday, April 4, 7:30 p.m.

Resume expert Gabe Heilig presents a first session on resume building for government jobs. Registration required

CRAFTERNOON

Thursday, April 5, 2 – 5 p.m.

Kids, come spend a spring break afternoon doing crafts

Registration encouraged

COMICS JAM

Tuesday, April 10, 4 p.m.

Read comics on the big screen with our graphic novel guru, David Burbank

No registration

FAVORITE POEM EVENING

Tuesday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.

13th annual Favorite Poem Evening. All invited to listen, or to read a favorite poem

Contact Ellen at the Library for information ellenr@takomagov.org, or 301-891-7258

FRIENDS READING GROUP

Wednesday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.

Continued discussion of Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables"

Azalea Room; all invited

RESUME BUILDING WORKSHOP

Wednesday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.

Gabe Heilig presents the second session of resume building for government jobs

CALENDAR ☐ Page 9

Takoma Park librarian and judge sheds light on Sibert Medal contest for children's non-fiction

By Karen MacPherson

Locked doors. Secret discussions. Shredded notes.

The cloak and dagger life of a spy? No, this is the life of a librarian elected to one of the children's book award committees sponsored by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association.

As the children's book reviewer for Scripps Howard News Service, I had written about the ALSC committees that annually choose the winner of the Newbery Medal (given to the best-written children's book) and the winner of the Caldecott Medal (given to the best-illustrated children's book).

I knew that committee deliberations were secret and that committee members could never utter a public word about the discussions that eventually produced a winner (although they could, of course, give their own personal opinions about what they'd read).

This past year, I got to experience the process from the inside. From January 2011 through this past January, I served as one of nine members of the Robert F. Sibert Medal committee. Like the members of the Caldecott and Newbery committees, all of us were volunteers elected by the ALSC membership (our chairman was appointed, however).

Our committee's charge was to select the "most distinguished" informational, or non-fiction, book for kids published in 2011, following very specific guidelines set out in the Sibert Medal manual. First awarded in 2001, the Sibert Medal is designed to shine a light on the best kids' non-fiction.

Over the course of a year, our committee members read – and re-read – massive numbers of non-fiction books published for kids ages infant through age 14. This was no small assignment, especially since each of us also has a paying job as a librarian or children's book expert.

All of the reading, however, was nothing compared to the intensity of our discussions when we gathered in person to discuss the books. Our discussions took place in a locked hotel room during the American Library Association's midwinter conference in Dallas during Jan. 20-23.

As I joked with friends, it was like "boot camp for bibliophiles" as we spent hours in discussion, taking only short breaks for meals or runs to the bathroom or for coffee. All of that time together was an intense bonding experience, and we all agreed that we were now each other's new best friends.

The hours were long: our first day of discussion, on Friday, Jan. 20, began promptly at 8 a.m. and ended at 10 p.m., while our second day began at 8 a.m. and ended near midnight. We then had a three-hour session on Sunday, Jan. 22, to finalize the press release about our winners.

Early recommendations

Even before our final discussions, however, we had done lots of work. Each month, from May 2011 on, we had emailed lists of books that we had read and recommended to our chairman, Andrew Medlar, whose day job is serving as a Youth Materials Specialist at the Chicago Public Library.

In October, we began our official nominating process. Each of us had a total of seven nominations: we each nominated

SIBERT MEDAL ☐ Page 9

LIBRARY BRIEFS

Dia for children

Come celebrate the important connection between kids and books on Saturday, April 28 from 10:30 to noon at the Takoma Park Maryland Library's fifth annual "Dia" – El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day). "Dia" is a national celebration promoted by the American Library Association, and is designed to emphasize the importance of advocating literacy for children of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds. At our "Dia" program, we'll have a Circle Time featuring rhymes and songs in English and other languages, followed by a craft-making session. If you have a song or rhyme in a language other than English that you'd like to share at our program, please email Children's Librarian Karen MacPherson at karenm@takomagov.org. All are welcome; registration is encouraged so we can make sure to have enough craft materials for all. To register, go to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or call us at 301-891-7259. Thanks to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this program.

Spring break specials

We're offering a couple of special programs during the first week of April, which is spring break for many students. On Monday, April 2, we'll have a Storytime from 7:30 – 8:45 p.m. (immediately following our monthly Bedtime Stories at 7 p.m.). At Storytime, we'll use our special document camera to read classic children's picture books together on the big screen. Among our books: "Make Way for Ducklings," "Officer Buckle and Gloria," and "Madeline's Rescue." All picture book lovers, regardless of age, are welcome to attend. Then, on Thursday, April 5, from 2 – 5 p.m., we'll offer a "Crafternoon" program, at which kids can make a variety of crafts to take home. Registration is encouraged for this program.

Scribbler's cabal

If you love to draw, come join our first-ever "Scribbler's Cabal" on Saturday, April 21, from 2 – 4 p.m. Dave Burbank, library assistant and artist extraordinaire, will lead our program. The idea is for passionate scribblers to inspire each other, so bring your drawings, sketchbooks and other materials. We'll also have paper and pencils here. Best for ages 8 and up. Registration is encouraged.

CALENDAR

■ From page 8

Registration required

FRENCH CIRCLE TIME

Saturday, April 14, 10:30 a.m. Come and sing songs and rhymes in French with Madame Marie

JUNIOR BANNED BOOKS CLUB

Monday, April 16, 7 p.m.

We will discuss "Sideways Stories From Wayside School" by Louis Sachar

The Junior Banned Books Club is for kids in grades 3 through 5. Registration encouraged

SCRIBBLERS CABAL

Saturday, April 21, 2-4 p.m.

Come join Dave Burbank, library assistant and artist extraordinaire for an afternoon of drawing

Registration encouraged

DIA!

Saturday, April 28, 10:30 – noon

Come join our 5th annual celebration of kids, books and multiculturalism with a special Circle Time and craft program

All welcome; registration encouraged to ensure we have enough craft supplies

SIBERT MEDAL

■ From page 8

three books in October, two in November and two in December. We could nominate books that already had been nominated, or nominate totally different books. (Per our committee rules, the exact number of books on our final nominations list will forever remain a secret; I've even shredded my notes.)

It was that list of books that we discussed in the locked hotel room in Dallas. The discussions were intense and exhilarating, and there was a wonderful pay-off as we heard the excitement in the voice of our winner, author/artist Melissa Sweet, when we called and told her on Sunday evening that she had won the 2012 Sibert Medal for her book "Balloons Over Broadway."

Then, on Monday morning, Jan. 23, our committee sat together at the Youth Media Awards press conference, where we got to hear our choices announced to the world. But the fun's not quite over: at the ALA's annual conference, set for June in Anaheim, Calif., our committee will gather once again to celebrate with our winning authors.

Sibert winners

2012 SIBERT MEDAL WINNER

In "Balloons Over Broadway" (ages 4-8), author/illustrator Melissa Sweet combines a kid-friendly text with colorful, detailed illustrations to create a truly distinguished picture book biography.

"Balloons Over Broadway" tells the story of Tony Sarg, who created the gigantic character balloons that have become the trademark of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. Sweet's text is filled with evocative vocabulary, as she writes that the balloons "sailed past Central Park" and "sallied down Broadway." With her illustrations, done in gouache (thick watercolors), collage and mixed media, Sweet spotlights Sarg's passion for play; he once said: "I have never done a stroke of work in my life."

"Balloons Over Broadway" is definitely fun to read, but it's also a model non-fiction book for young readers. Sweet includes a bibliography, sources for her quotes, an author's note with more information about Sarg, and a brief explanation about her artwork.

2012 SIBERT HONOR BOOKS

In "**Black & White**" (ages 12 up), author Larry Dane Brimner masterfully describes how the enmity between two influential men – the Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, a black activist, and Birmingham, Ala. Public Safety Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor, a white supremacist – exploded into a confrontation that changed the course of civil rights history.

The book's strong design – black and white, with sidebars printed in red – also underlines the high-stakes clash between two powerful and stubborn men.

Scientist Caitlin O'Connell and co-author Donna Jackson transport readers to Africa's Namibian desert where she studies the secrets of elephant communication in "**The Elephant Scientist**" (ages 10-14).

Dozens of color photographs, taken by O'Connell and her husband Timothy Rodwell, add color and perspective to the text, showing readers both the glory and the nitty gritty of scientific field work.

In "**Drawing From Memory**" (ages 9 up), Allen Say engagingly details his early training as an artist, including the family obstacles he faced and his apprenticeship to Japan's leading cartoonist.

Say, who won the 1994 Caldecott Medal (the top award for children's book illustration) for "Grandfather's Journey," combines an elegantly-written text with various types of illustrations: watercolor art, black and white sketches, photographs (some appropriately faded with age) and comics.

Even readers who think they know all about the Salem witch trials of the late 1600s will be riveted by "**Witches! The Absolutely True Tale of Disaster in Salem**" (ages 12 up).

Written and illustrated by Rosalyn Schanzer, the prayer-book-sized "Witches!" reads like a novel, as Schanzer shows how the hysteria over unseen spirits literally took over a town. Schanzer's artwork, done in black and white with patches of red, perfectly captures a dark period in American history.

SNIPPER RESIGNS

■ From page 1

the Council at a meeting in March. "I've really enjoyed serving the residents of Ward 5."

Later, he told the *Newsletter*, "I know it's a cliché, but Takoma Park is a wonderful place. It's full of thoughtful, committed, activist people who are trying hard to better their community." Snipper is especially impressed with the level of expertise available to Councilmembers, among residents in groups like the environmental committee and the Takoma Junction committee. "We simply couldn't pay for stuff like that," he said. "You couldn't get the local expertise along with the thoughtful quality. It's just priceless."

He's enjoyed his work on other levels as well, and recalled one particular incident that still makes him laugh. After Police Chief Ronald Ricucci had addressed the Council regarding a new enforcement effort to keep bicyclists from running stop signs, Snipper, an avid cyclist, was himself stopped after rolling through a stop sign on Maple Avenue. He was "mortified," he says, when the police cruiser's lights and siren went off and he was pulled over. Then, the police chief himself rolled down the window of the cruiser and, upon recognizing Snipper, exclaimed, laughing, "Reuben, weren't you listening?" Snipper made an example of himself at the next Council meeting, much to everyone's amusement.

Even as he savors the time he's had on Council, Snipper is looking forward to a sojourn in Rome, where he says he hopes to take intensive Italian lessons, and is "excited about cooking lessons, learning about art, and traveling."

The City will hold a special election to fill the upcoming vacancy in Ward 5, 45 to 60 days after Snipper's resignation is official; the election, then, will likely be in July. He says several people have indicated an interest in following him onto the Council, and he feels confident someone will step forward to fill the slot.

TO REGISTER FOR LIBRARY EVENTS

go to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or call 301-891-7259.

LIBRARY CARD FEES:

TAKOMA PARK RESIDENTS AND STUDENTS Free

MONTGOMERY COUNTY RESIDENTS $37 per year

NON-MONTGOMERY COUNTY RESIDENTS $60 per year

TAKOMA PARK COMMUNITY CENTER (TP COMMUNITY CENTER)

7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park

Open 8:30 a.m. – 9 :30 p.m.
Monday – Thursday

8:30 a.m. – 10 p.m. Friday

10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Saturday

TAKOMA PARK RECREATION CENTER (TP RECREATION CENTER)

7315 New Hampshire Ave., Takoma Park

Open Monday – Friday 2:30 – 9 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

CHESS

Ages 6-17

Chess is fun, and playing the game teaches responsibility, improves discipline and sharpens thinking skills. It also builds confidence and helps young people make new friends. This course will provide you with the first steps in chess: familiarizing yourself with the board; identifying the chessmen, including the moves of each piece; and learning chess terminology. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department.

Tuesdays, 6 – 7 p.m.

TP Recreation Center

Free

PILATES

16 and older

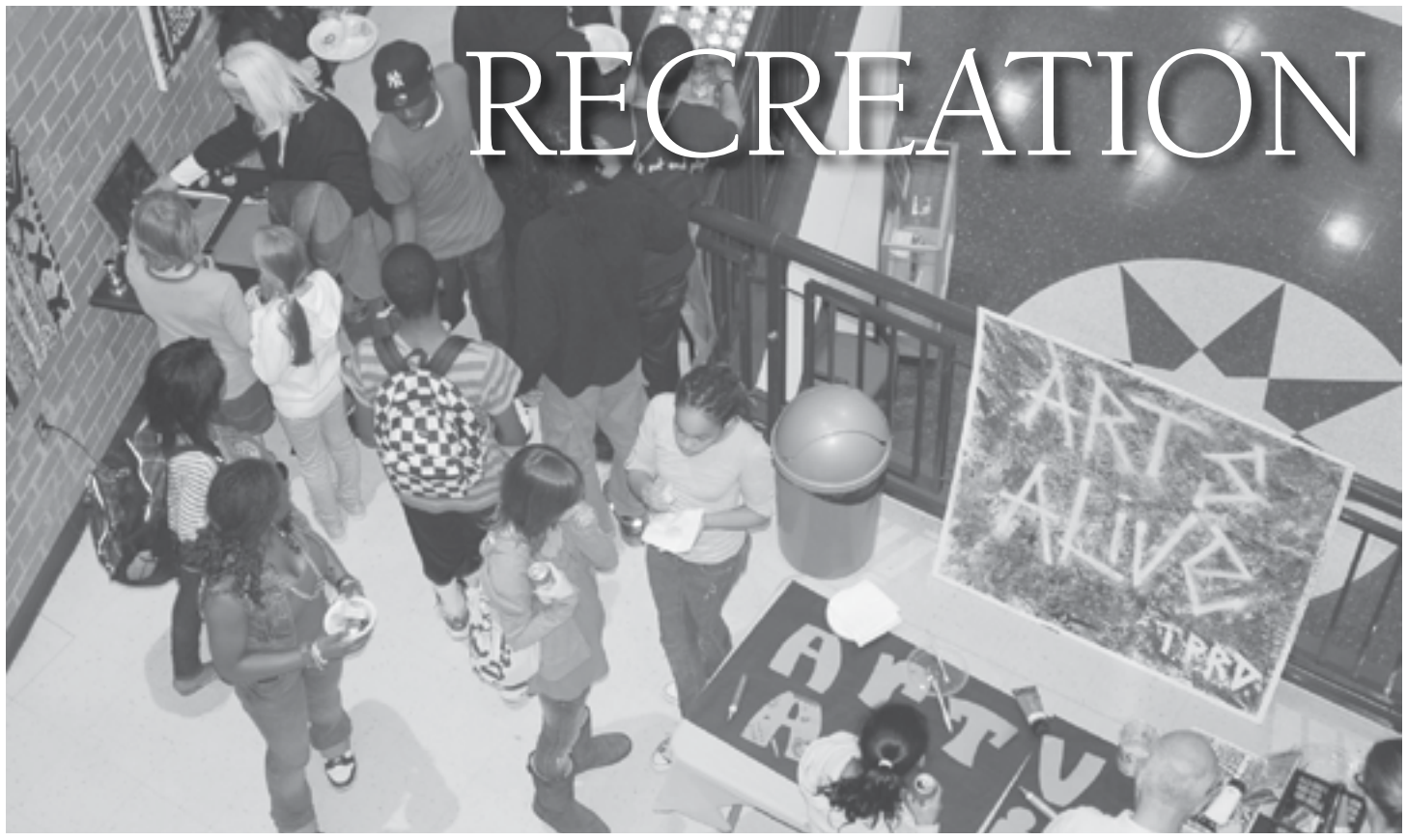
An invigorating workout that teaches a series of controlled movements utilizing the body's "core"—abdomen, back and hips. Pilates improves core control, coordination, standing alignment and balance with mat exercises, and is designed to create long, lean muscles while enhancing strength, flexibility, balance and posture. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Students are required to bring their own mat and hand weights.

Wednesdays 6 – 7 p.m., April 11 - May 16

TP Recreation Center

$60

RECREATION



Arts Alive show displays young artists' work

Over the course of eight weeks, Recreation staff member Miguel Dean and community artist Alice Sims offered an after-school program called "Arts Alive." Throughout the program, local youth were able to tap into their creative side; then, on March 16, they exhibited their work at the Community Center's art gallery. The program was supported through a partnership with the Takoma Foundation.

Photo by Eric Rasch

DOUBLE DUTCH

Ages 6-14

Learn the art of Double Dutch through a fun and aerobic endurance workout that includes single rope jumping, double Dutch turning and jumping, stretching, toning, jogging and calisthenics. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department.

Tuesdays, 7 – 8:30 p.m., ongoing

TP Recreation Center

Free with membership card

OUTDOOR PICK UP SOCCER (6 VS. 6)

Grades 1 – 3 and 4 – 5

A recreational, competitive and instructional program designed by the Recreation Department. The style of play is different from the traditional outdoor season, as the games use a smaller six-against-six format allowing for a faster paced game. There are no designated breaks for substitutions, players enter and leave the field frequently and the ball is almost always in motion.

Thursdays, April 26 – May 31

Grades 1 – 3; 4:45 – 5:45 p.m.

Grades 4 – 5; 3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

Hodges Field (behind Takoma Park Elementary)

TP residents $25

Non-residents $35

ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE (COED)

16 and older

A recreational program for competitive adults of all skill levels. Games will be played on Sundays. Team registrations must contain 50 percent TP residents to qualify for resident team entry fee. Roster limit 25. Registrations starts in February on a first-come, first-served basis. All games are double headers

Sundays 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., April 15 – June 24,

*No Games May 13, May 27, and June 10, 2012

Lee Jordan Field, Nolte Park and Hillandale Park

Team Fee:

TP residents $545

Non-residents $645

Fee includes ASA sanctioning fees.

Individual Fee:

TP residents $55

Non-residents $65

RECREATION ☐ Page 11

SILVER FOXES

Free Tax Service

55 and older

The Takoma Park Recreation Department is partnering with AARP and the Montgomery County RSVP to bring the tax aide program to Takoma Park seniors. This service is offered to low-income adults and helps seniors fill out their personal tax returns only. Participants must choose a time from those listed below, then make an appointment through the AARP, at 240-777-2577.

Thursday, April 12, 11 a.m., 12 noon, and 1 p.m.

TP Community Center Senior Room

Free

Senior Tennis

55 and older

For those who want to learn to play for the first time, or for those who already know the game, this class will cover basic skills for beginners and provide guidance for more experienced players practicing their strokes and play in fun games of doubles. Students should come dressed to play; tennis shoes, shorts or pants with pockets, hats and their own racket. Registration required, form due by April 10. 301-891-7280.

Thursdays, April 12 – May 17, 4 – 5 p.m.

TP Middle School Tennis Courts, 7611 Piney Branch Road

Free

Writing Your Life

55 and older

Writing Your Life is a six-week workshop in which you will begin to write your life story. You will be able to write on an assigned topic, then read aloud and discuss it. This class will focus on positive topics, with some flexibility of format to meet the group's needs and wishes. Please bring a notebook and pen to class. Registration is required. For more information, please call 301-891-7280.

Tuesdays, April 3 – May 8, 1 - 2 p.m.

TP Community Center Senior Room

Free

Knitting for Beginners

55 and older

Learn basic knitting skills by completing a simple project. Includes an overview of yarns, needles and pattern sources , plus complimentary yarns, needles and a pattern. Registration is required. 301-891-7280.

Mondays, April, 2-30, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

TP Community Center Senior Room

Free

Computer Classes

55 and older

Learn to use the internet, a word processing program and email. You need a Takoma Park Library card* to access the computers, and take this course. Registration is required.

Wednesdays, April 25 – May 30, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

TP Community Center Computer Center.

$10

*Library card fees: Free/Takoma Park residents; $37/ Montgomery County residents; $60 non-county residents.

Trip to Wegman's Market, Lanham, Md.

55 and older

Browse the more than 70,000 products from fresh produce to imported, international and organic foods. Bring spending money for shopping and lunch at the store. Meet at Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave. Bus pick up at Franklin Apartments, Mapleview Apartments, and Victory Tower only. Registration is required, beginning April 2. 301-891-7280 to pre-register, then fill out form by April 13.

Wednesday, April 18, 9 a.m – 3 p.m.

Free

National Geographic Museum, Washington, DC

55 and older

Enjoy a variety of exhibitions that reflect the richness and diversity of our world. In addition, see a free film at noon in the museum's Grosvenor Auditorium: Lost Cities of the Amazon (48 minutes). Bring spending money for entrance fee, the gift shop and lunch at a local restaurant. Meet at Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave. Bus pick up at Franklin Apartments, Mapleview Apartments, and Victory Tower only. Registration is required, beginning April 2. 301-891-7280 to pre-register, and then fill out the form by April 20.

Tuesday, April 24, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

$6

TO REGISTER ONLINE FOR RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS Go to http://takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/index.html
For more information by phone, call 301-891-7290

RECREATION

■ From page 10

SPRING BREAK CAMP: IT'S ALL NATURAL

Ages 5 – 11

Come explore with us as we experience nature. Go on a nature scavenger hunt finding nature's little secrets. Find out why the sun is so important and why water is essential to all living creatures. Activities include but are not limited to hiking, swimming at Rollingcrest Pool, crafts, a trip to the Botanical Gardens and more. Children must bring lunch.

Monday – Friday, April 2 – 6, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

TP Community Center Azalea Room

TP residents $140

Non-residents $160

Before care, 7 – 9 a.m.

TP residents $35

Non-residents $45

After care, 4 – 6 p.m.

TP residents $35

Non-residents $45

ANNUAL EGG HUNT

Ages 2 – 8

Get your baskets ready and join the Takoma Park Recreation Department for an "egg"citing time. There are four age categories: ages 2 and under, 3 – 4 yrs., 5 – 6 yrs., and 7 – 8 yrs. The hunt begins at 11 a.m. SHARP! Don't miss out.

Saturday, April 7 (Rain date April 9)

Lee Jordan Field (behind Takoma Park Middle School)

Free

DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS

Ages 9 - 18

They creep through the twilight, quiet as shadows muttering in a language long forgotten, a language only spoken by ghosts. Use your imagination and storytelling ability in this classic fantasy role-playing game. Roll dice to cast spells and battle monsters. Creativity and cooperation help the group "survive." Thursdays 4 – 6 p.m., April 12 – May 3

TP Community Center auditorium

TP residents $40

Non-residents $50

KUNG FU

Ages 4 – 16

This ancient form of self-defense provides physical and mental exercise which could help the students defend themselves by strengthening hand-eye coordination. The student will gain physical fitness, mental and spiritual strength. One-time, non-refundable $50 fee for uniforms.

Saturdays, April 14 – June 23

Beginners 10:15 - 11:15 a.m., Advanced 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

No class May 26

TP Community Center dance studio

TP residents $150

Non-residents $170

YOGA FOR BEGINNERS

16 and older

Discover how to work with your body in a safe, gentle, non-competitive way to promote increased flexibility, strength, balance and awareness. Introduces and develops a foundation of standing poses and basic actions in forward bends, backbends and twists. Each pose can be modified to accommodate all physical conditions. Come with comfortable clothing and an empty stomach.

Tuesdays 6 – 7:15 p.m., April 17 – June 9

TP Community Center dance studio

TP residents $115

Non-residents $135

YOGA AND MEDITATION, INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

16 and older

Iyengar yoga teaches stability and openness through alignment so that the flow of energy and the focus of the mind are found in each pose. This Iyengar yoga class will include inversions and more advanced poses. It is appropriate for those who have a good foundation in standing poses and an understanding of basic alignment.

Tuesdays 7:30 – 9 p.m., April 17 – June 9

TP Community Center dance studio

TP residents $115

Non-residents $135

YOGA NIDRA-MEDITATION AND RELAXATION

18 and older

Yoga Nidra is a meditative yoga practice that helps reduce stress, increases general physical and mental well-being, and brings greater ease and joy into everyday life. Students are guided through the meditation while lying on a yoga mat and blankets or seated in a comfortable resting position. This systematic practice uses positive affirmations, visualization and awareness of the body and breath. No prior yoga or meditation experience is required. Each student should bring their own yoga mat, a few blankets, and a pillow.

Mondays 7:30 – 8:30 p.m., April 9 – May 14

No class April 23

TP Community Center dance studio

TP residents $50

Non-residents $60

HOW TO GET CONNECTED WITH LINKEDIN

25 and older

We will discuss what LinkedIn is, how to create a profile, how you can use it to build relationships, tips and techniques for best practices, and LinkedIn tools and applications. This is a hands-on workshop, so bring your laptop and arrive five minutes early to set up. Optional: Please bring your photo and resume on a USB flash drive or saved on your hard drive.

Wednesday, April 11, 12 noon – 2 p.m.

TP Community Center Azalea Room

TP residents $25

Non-residents $35

HARNESSING THE POWER OF EMAIL MARKETING

25 and older

Millions of small businesses and organizations use email marketing to keep in touch with customers and members. We'll discuss what email marketing is, how you can use it to build relationships, tips, techniques and best practices, tools for building a mailing list and keeping subscribers loyal and engaged. This is a hands-on workshop, so bring your laptop and arrive five minutes early to set up. Optional: Please bring a photo or logo on a USB flash drive or saved on your hard drive. Basic internet skills required.

Wednesday, April 25, 12 noon – 2 p.m.

TP Community Center Azalea Room

TP residents $25

Non-residents $35

RIDE OF YOUR LIFE BIKE WORKSHOP

All ages

Spring and summer bike commuting and maintenance workshop

Takoma Bicycle is partnering with the Recreation Department to hold several spring/summer biking workshops for commuters. Classes will cover basic safety concerns, bicycle maintenance, how to fix a flat, and things to take on rides. It's open to cyclists of varying skill levels. The workshop will conclude with a question-and-answer session.

Tuesday, April 17, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

TP Community Center Azalea Room

Free, but registration is required

WOMEN AND CREATIVITY/ GETTING IN TOUCH

18 and older

This series of classes will focus on reclaiming the creative artist in each of us. Women particularly, in our society, are trained and encouraged to put aside the self in favor of nurturing others. These classes are designed to bring out and support the artistic part of ourselves that, if given the right circumstances, will blossom. Includes journaling, process-oriented painting, mixed media collage and assemblage with saved and found papers and images, and the development of work you've begun but never completed. Includes time to share work and thoughts about your process in a supportive non-critical atmosphere. $30 material fee due at first class.

Fridays 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., April 20 – May 18

TP Community Center Art Room

TP residents $175

Non-residents $195

TAI CHI CHAUN

Ages 18 and older

Tai Chi Chuan, a "moving meditation," offers many health and relaxation benefits for people of all ages. Regular practice can improve posture, balance, coordination, strength, flexibility, cardiovascular fitness and concentration. Classes focus on basic principles, especially the core goal of relaxation, through the Yang short form style. The first class focuses on fundamentals; the second finishes the 37-posture form; the last is for students who have learned the basic form and want to continue refining their skills.

Thursdays, April 12 – June 28

Intro 6:15 – 7:15 p.m., Beginners 7:15 – 8:15 p.m., Continuing 8:15 – 9:15 p.m.

TP Community Center Dance Studio

TP residents $70

Non-residents $80

SEED EXCHANGE

All ages

Meet fellow Takoma Park gardeners and trade purchased or hand-collected seeds. Save money and help preserve area biodiversity with a wide variety of new and heirloom seeds. Bring extra seeds, cuttings, etc., to trade and share.

Saturday, April 21, 1 – 3 p.m.

TP Community Center Lilac Room

Free

GROW YOUR OWN GREEN CURTAIN

All ages

Interested in lowering your summer cooling bills by 20 to 30 percent? Conserving electricity? Reducing your carbon footprint? Attracting bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, or beneficial insects? All while absorbing CO_2 and helping counter the urban heat island effect? Learn how to grow your own green curtain. No gardening experience necessary. Free, organic, non-G.M.O. and heirloom seeds provided.

Tuesday, April 24, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

TP Community Center Lilac Room

TP residents free

Non-Residents $10

Grim determination meets the joy of the egg hunt at last year's event. This year, bring the children to hunt eggs at Lee Jordan Field, Saturday, April 7 at 11 a.m. sharp. For more information, see listing, this page.

Photo: Debra Haiduven

APRIL '12

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 City of Takoma Park residents, and we'll consider it for inclusion in the calendar. Deadline for the May 2012 issue is April 16; it will print April 26.

To submit calendar items, email tpnewseditor@takomagov.org.

"TP Community Center" is the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park. All addresses are in Takoma Park unless otherwise noted.

PUBLIC MEETINGS / OF NOTE

City Council Meeting
Mondays, April 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 19, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center auditorium
For agendas, see www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/agendas

Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry
First Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 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

City Council Ward 3 Night
Monday, April 2, 7 p.m. before City Council meeting
TP Community Center lobby
Informal gathering of Ward 3 residents and City Councilmembers

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Car Safety Event
Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Takoma Park Police Station, TP Community Center
Vehicle Identification Number etching and sign-up for the Watch Your Car program to protect automobiles from theft
See page 5 for more information

Friends of Sligo Creek's
Annual Spring Sweep the Creek
Sligo Creek Park
Saturday, April 21, 9 – 11 a.m.
Sunday, April 21, 1 – 3 p.m.
Rain or shine
www.fosc.org

Arbor Day Celebration
Saturday, April 21, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Takoma Park Library
Seedling giveaway, planting advice, and a celebration of trees

Seed Exchange
Saturday, April 21, 1 – 3 p.m.
TP Community Center Lilac Room
Trade purchased or hand-collected seeds with local gardeners
Bring seeds and cuttings to trade
Free

Gear Up Takoma
April 28, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
TP Community Center rear parking lot
Bicycle obstacle course, bike repair workshops, safety information and giveaways
Free

Prescription Take Back Day
April 28, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
TP Community Center rear parking lot
No-questions-asked opportunity to dispose of prescription drugs
Keep landfills clean, dispose of the drugs with the Takoma Park Police Department

8th Annual Azalea Awards
Saturday, April 28, 6:30 p.m.
TP Community Center auditorium
Awards ceremony recognizing the contributions of local residents
Free
www.takomafoundation.org

ARTS AND LITERATURE

Open Mic Sundays
With Rob Hinkel
Sundays, 6 – 9 p.m.; sign-ups, 5:30 p.m.
Capital City Cheesecake, 7071 Carroll Ave.
Free
www.mainstreettakoma.org/event/446

H@ndymen Exhibit
Through May 10
TP Community Center Atrium Gallery
Paintings by Harry Stone with work, art, and cultural themes
Free
www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events

Women Artrepreneurs Networking Reception
Wednesday, April 11, 5 – 8 p.m.
Women artists and business women network; includes complimentary coffee, wine and chocolate
ArtSpring, 7014-B Westmoreland Ave.
301-495-3425

IMT - The Outside Track Concert
Wednesday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
A synthesis of Canadian, Scottish and Irish music and song
$20 advance / $24 door
http://imtfolk.org

Scott Ainslie with Eleanor Ellis
Friday, April 13, 7:30 p.m.
Carroll Café, 276 Carroll Street NW
African and American roots of the blues in story and song
$15 door
http://carrollcafe.org

Three Stories of Galicia film and discussion
Wednesday, April 18, 7 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
Three courageous individuals commemorated for Holocaust Days of Remembrance
Free
www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events

Third Thursday Poetry Reading
Thursday, April 19, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Azalea Room
Poetry of Caroline Wilkins, Joyce Latham, Michele Wolf and Marjorie Sadin
Free
www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events

Washington Musica Viva, "Ullmann's Last Testament"
Friday, April 20, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
Sonata #7 (1944) by Viktor Ullmann and Johannes Brahms' Quartet #3 in C minor
$15 door / children under 12 free with adult
http://dcmusicaviva.org

IMT – Lily Neill
Saturday, April 21, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
Ecletic harp music
$18 advance/$22 door.
http://imtfolk.org

We are Takoma – ORFEIA with Carpe Diem
Sunday, April 22, 4 p.m.
TP Community Center auditorium
Song and dance from Bulgaria, Greece, Russia, former Yugoslavia
Suggested donation: $10 to $15
www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events

IMT – Karen Collins and the Backroads Band
Wednesday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center auditorium
Vintage country plus original roots songs
$16 advance, $19 door
http://imtfolk.org/

FAMILIES AND KIDS

Spring Break Camp: It's All Natural
Monday – Friday, April 2 – 6, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
TP Community Center
Ages 5 – 11
See page 11 for more information

Annual Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 7, 11 a.m. sharp
(Rain date April 9)
Recreation Department-sponsored fun for ages 2 – 8
Lee Jordan Field (behind Takoma Park Middle School)
See page 11 for more information
Free

Takoma Attachment Parenting
Saturday, April 14, 4:30 – 6:30 pm, potluck 6:30 – 7:30 pm
Heffner Community Center, 42 Oswego Ave.
This month's topic: Playful Parenting and Laughter Yoga
Free, children always welcome
www.takoma-ap.org

SENIORS

Free Tax Service
Thursday, April 12, 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m.
TP Community Center Senior Room
Help filing your taxes, for people age 55 and older only.
Must make an appointment, 240-777-2577
Free

Trip to Wegman's
Wednesday, April 18, 9 a.m – 3 p.m.
Visit the grocery renowned for its international and imported food.
Ages 55 and older

Seniors topics: age at home
April 19, 9:30 a.m.
TP Community Center Azalea Room
A meeting for seniors and those who care for them, to discuss aging at home, home care and day care
301-891-7290

National Geographic Museum
Tuesday, April 24, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Museum visit plus free film, Lost Cities of the Amazon.
Ages 55 and older

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 residents can help replenish the aging tree canopy in the City. As last year, there is an added incentive of the City paying $100 towards the cost of the first tree purchased (unless it is a replacement tree required as part of a Tree Removal permit). Residents can add a tree to their yards for just $95 plus 6 percent sales tax, a total of $100.70. Add a second tree and the bill is still only $307.40, planted and guaranteed for one year.

Established discounts still apply as well, through the City's annual bulk buy tree sale. As a purchasing agent with Arbor Landscapers, the City is making five species available at wholesale prices. Red oak, white oak, sycamore, black gum and Princeton elm—all native shade trees that usually retail for about $350—are available to residents at $195, installed.

Sale dates run through May 11.

ORDER FORM

Please include check, including tax, written to the City of Takoma Park 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 Ave., Silver Spring, Md., 20910 by close of business May 11.

Someone will be in touch regarding installation dates.

Name _____

Address_____

Phone _____

Please include a map of property/tree installation locations.

___ Red Oak (2") $195 ___ White Oak(2") $195 ___ Sycamore (2") $195
___ Black Gum (2") $195 ___ Princeton elm (2") $195

+ 6% sales tax

Total _____