

Weekly Status & Information Report: August 2 - 6, 2010

1. Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of August 9:

- Recreation Committee meeting, Monday, August 9, 7 p.m. (Lilac Room)
- Tree Commission meeting, Tuesday, August 10, 6:30 p.m. (Atrium Room)
- Emergency Preparedness Committee (Communications Subcommittee) meeting, Wednesday, August 11, 7 p.m. (Hydrangea Room)
- Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting, Thursday, August 12, 8:30 a.m. (Hydrangea Room)

All meetings are in the Community Center and open to the public unless noted otherwise. Contact JessieC@takomagov.org to check for cancellations or for additional information. *(City Clerk)*

2. Sidewalk Work Continues Around Community Center: The construction of an accessible sidewalk around the Library and Community Center will continue for the next several weeks. Parking at the building will be limited during the construction. The project will extend to Grant Avenue where the existing sidewalk along Piney Branch Elementary will be replaced and new sidewalk on the Community Center side of Grant Avenue will be installed. In addition to the sidewalk work, there will also be improvements made to stormwater management for the back parking area. Two stormwater inlets in the parking lot will be expanded to create a vegetated infiltration basin to improve water quality by removing sediment and pollutants in the run-off. *(Public Works)*

3. Public Works Construction Update: In preparation for the renovation of the Public Works Facility, the administrative and professional staff will be relocating to the Community Center. This will occur during the week of August 16. Department phone numbers and email addresses will not change. Once the administrative staff is relocated, drop-off and payment for permit applications, payment for heavy trash pick-up and payment for mulch delivery should be made at the Community Center. *(Public Works)*

4. Lawn Mower Exchange: Clean Air Partners and the Maryland Department of the Environment will be conducting a gasoline-powered lawn mower exchange event on Saturday, August 14th at Camden Yards in Baltimore. The goal is to retire 1,000 gas-powered mowers. Two models of Neutron electric lawn mowers will be offered at substantial savings -- 65% off the manufacturer's suggested retail price. As an example, an electric mower normally selling for \$499 will be priced at \$175. *(City Council)*

5. "We are Takoma" Series: "We Are Takoma" is designed to provide the community with diverse and inclusive cultural programming featuring the creative talents of a wide range of artists, musicians, film makers, authors and others. To ensure the success of this effort, we are soliciting applications from individuals that may be interested in assisting in coordinating the series. We are also putting out a call for proposals for programs that might be a good fit for the series. For more detailed information on the Cultural Events Coordinator and the application process:

<http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/auditorium/CEC%20Notice%20with%20Description%202010.pdf>

To learn how to submit a proposal for the "We Are Takoma" series:

<http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/auditorium/Program%20Proposal%20Form%202010.pdf>. *(Housing and Community Development)*

6. Call for Submissions for Third Thursday Poetry Series: Takoma Park's Third Thursday Poetry Series begins its fifth season this fall. As in the past, the series will feature some of the finest poets in our region. To be considered as a featured poet during the 2010-2011 series, please submit 3-5 of your poems to the Arts and Humanities Commission at ahc@takomagov.org. The deadline for submissions is Monday, August 16. *(Housing and Community Development)*

7. Exhibits Opportunity: The Arts and Humanities Commission is currently seeking proposals from visual artists and craftsmen interested in exhibiting their work. If selected, the work would be exhibited in one of three galleries - the Atrium Gallery, the Richard Dempsey Memorial Gallery, or Gallery Three - for a period of two months. Exhibits may feature the work of a group of artists or craftsmen or the work of an individual. To learn more about the exhibit space and the proposal process:

<http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/committees/arhum/exhibition.html>.

(Housing and Community Development)

8. Online Annual Rent Reporting by Landlords: Local landlords subject to Takoma Park's Rent Stabilization law are required to submit to the Department of Housing and Community Development an annual report which shows the status of their rents for the previous recording period (this year: July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010). Starting this September, landlords will be required to submit this rent report on-line via the city's website. Letters will be sent to all landlords in the coming week to inform them of this new reporting requirement. The new and improved feature will allow for easy transmission and evaluation of this information. Training will be offered to landlords and assistance provided to those who would like additional help with the completion of their report. For further information, please call Jean Kerr at 301-891-7216. *(Housing and Community Development)*

9. Financial Management Classes - Register Now for September and October: Four Financial Management classes will be offered free of charge in September and October as follows: September 15-Getting to Know the Financial YOU; September 29-Changing the Way You Think About \$\$\$; October 13-Becoming Financially Literate; and October 27-Thinking like an Investor. The classes are given by a certified credit counselor and financial consultant and will be held in the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue from 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. To register for a class, please call Linda Walker at 301-891-7222.

(Housing and Community Development)

10. **Chinese Checkers Senior Winner:** Melvenia, of Franklin Apartments, was the winner of the first Silver Foxes Chinese Checkers Tournament held on Wednesday, August 4, 2010. Strategy and patience was the key to success! *(Recreation)*
11. **Fun for Kids and "Kids at Heart":** Grandparents and their grandchildren traveled by recreation bus to the College Park Aviation Museum on Tuesday, July 27, 2010. Everyone enjoyed the many "hands-on" exhibits, planes and local aviation history. *(Recreation)*
12. **Night Out for Seniors:** The Silver Foxes Advisory Group joined Paula Lisowski (Seniors Program) to meet Takoma Park residents, distribute Recreation Department information and the Senior Newsletter, and explain the benefits of participating in the many activities available to them. The August 3rd Night Out event was a wonderful opportunity to get out and meet your neighbors and enjoy your community. *(Recreation)*
13. **Y.E.S. League Playoffs - Monday (August 9, 2010):** What an exciting league it's been so far, and that was just the regular season. Beginning on Monday, each team will have the opportunity to win it all - starting off with the playoffs! The Championship Games will be held Tuesday, August 10, beginning at 6 pm at the Piney Branch Elementary School Gym. *(Recreation)*
14. **Small Town Recreation:** On July 26, 2020, the Recreation Director participated in a round table forum in Annapolis to discuss the small town recreation department operations. The forum was designed to help the Town of La Plata with planning and vision as they embark on developing a full time recreation department for their community. *(Recreation)*
15. **City at Peace DC:** On Thursday, August 5, Faye Wright, teen manager, took a group of young women to a Free Street Theatre performance held at the Sherwood Recreation Center in D.C. One of our own, Natalya Campos, was performing in this tour that took place at a variety of Recreation Centers throughout DC during the week of August 2 - 6. The production tackled teen issues including but not limited to teen pregnancy, drugs, peer pressure and STD's. HIV testing was made available to anyone who volunteered to do so at the end of the show. *(Recreation)*
16. **The Artist Rain:** Cartoon and Manga camp's eleven students produced a boatload of amazing work this week under the instruction of artist Rain Young. Three dimensional dogs, manga characters, cartoon set-up and face painting are just a few of the inspiring works they created this week. *(Recreation)*
17. **Camp Takoma:** Camp Takoma's thirty three campers used their super powers this week in Super Hero week to learn what small changes they can do to save the environment. Each camper got to create a super hero cape, a super hero banner and took home place mats from recycled materials that they decorated. *(Recreation)*
18. **Traveling Play Group:** Carey Antoszewski visited the Traveling Play Group sponsored by Takoma Park Play Committee at Forest Park on August 5. She brought masks for the children to decorate and use in pretend play. John Webster attended the Play Day at Becca Lily park and promoted the Recreation Center on New Hampshire Ave. *(Recreation)*
19. **Officers in Meetings:**
- On August 2, Chief Ricucci met with executives of the Southland Corporation and the owners of the 7-11 on Merrimac Drive to discuss on-going problems at the 7-11 store.
 - On August 4, Chief Ricucci participated in a conference call with the Prince George's County Chief and the Municipal Departments of Prince George's County as a part of our outreach. *(Police)*
20. **National Night Out:** On August 3, the Department sponsored National Night Out 2010 at 7777 Maple Avenue. Over 30 members of the City government participated. A crowd of over 350 residents participated in the event, which was called our most successful one to date. *(Police)*
21. **Traffic Enforcement:** Officers conducted at least 88 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, three vehicle impounds and two arrests from traffic.

During July 22 - August 4, 2010, the following details were completed:

July 22, 2010

- Houston Avenue & Roanoke Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one warning.

July 27, 2010

- Lincoln Avenue & Maple Avenue (various violations) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two Safety Equipment Repair Orders (SEROs) and one warning.

July 29, 2010

- 1000 block of East-West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 2-hour detail and issued six State citations for speed, three other State citations and one warning.

- Kentland Avenue & East West Highway (no left turn) - conducted a 2-hour detail and issued 11 State citations.

July 30, 2010

- 900 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citations for speed and one other State citation.

July 31, 2010

- 7000 block of New Hampshire Avenue (suspended tags) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued nine State citations.

August 2, 2010

- Erskine Street & 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State citations and two warnings.
- 1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 3-hour detail and issued 12 State citations for speed, four other State citations and two warnings.
- Kentland Avenue at East West Highway (no left turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State citations.

August 3, 2010

- 1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 3-hour detail and issued 13 State citations for speed and four other State citations.
- Kentland Avenue & East West Highway (no left turn) - conducted a 2-hour detail and issued 14 State citations.

August 4, 2010

- 1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 3-hour detail and issued 13 State citations for speed, two other State citations and two warnings.
- Kentland Avenue & East West Highway (no left turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued one State citation. (*Police*)

22. Traffic Officer Stats (Cpl. Michelle Holmes):

Week ending 7/24/10

Hours worked: 30

Calls for service: 4

State Citations issued: 85

Safety Equipment Repair Orders (SEROs) issued: 10

Warnings: 4

City tickets: 2

Reports: 10

Court: 1 hour

Training: 4 hours

(*Police*)