

Weekly Status and Information Report: Week of August 23 - 26, 2010

Back to School on Monday! Montgomery County Public School students return to school on Monday, August 30. Please drive carefully and be patient as students and parents find their way to area schools. *(Deputy City Manager)*

City of Takoma Park Prepares for the Fall. New sidewalks and traffic patterns around the Community Center will improve safety for students and City office visitors. A small amount of construction work remains, especially near Grant Avenue. The Grant Avenue entrance to the Community Center will be closed for a few days next week for construction. Students will be welcomed to the before and after school programs, the game room, the computer center and the library starting Monday. The Community Center and offices will be closed Labor Day weekend; the library will be open on Saturday and the Police Department is always open. On Tuesday, September 7, the City Council reconvenes after its August recess. Happy fall! *(Deputy City Manager)*

Public Works Renovation Underway: The replacement of the driveway from Ritchie Avenue is the first phase of the renovation project. That work is scheduled to begin next week and will take about three weeks to complete. During that time, the Ritchie Avenue driveway will be closed and all Public Works vehicles and deliveries will use the Oswego Avenue entrance. Please be advised that public access to the Public Works facility is restricted during construction. Public Works Administrative Staff, the Arborist's and City Engineer's offices are now located at the Community Center at 7500 Maple Avenue on the third floor. The staff phone numbers and e-mail addresses remain the same. The drop-off for CFL bulbs, electronics and computer items will be curtailed until the facility reopens. Residents may still pick up mulch and drop off used motor oil and anti-freeze as those areas are outside the construction zone. *(Public Works)*

New Sidewalk Construction and ADA Improvements (Lee Avenue): Construction is scheduled to start next week on Lee Avenue. Work will include the installation of missing portions of sidewalk on Lee Avenue near Maple Avenue and repairs to other sections of existing sidewalk that do not meet the Federal accessibility requirements. *(Public Works)*

Closing Reception: "Play of Color" - an exploration of high-impact color by five area artists explores the use of color and gives the public a first in-depth glimpse of the artists, right at the cutting edge of their maturing exploration - is on display in the Atrium Gallery through September 11. Please join us for the closing reception - complete with a live painting demonstration by Jennifer Brewer, Soline Krug, and Charla Wilkerson - on Friday, August 27, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. *(Housing and Community Development)*

Cultural Events Coordinator - Deadline August 30: The Arts and Humanities Commission is seeking a Cultural Events Coordinator to assist in its efforts to provide a variety of free cultural events to the community (music, dance, film, spoken word, etc.). The selected individual would serve as the key point of contact for programming, solicit and review proposals, and assist in marketing and coordinating selected events. This is not a paid position; an honorarium will be awarded. The deadline for application is 5 p.m. on Monday, August 30. For more information see www.takomaparkmd.gov. *(Housing and Community Development)*

Annual Rent Reporting Classes for Landlords: This is the first year that landlords will be submitting their annual rent stabilization reports on-line. All landlords subject to rent stabilization received notification of this new process in mid August. If you are a landlord or property manager and need assistance with the completion of the report, you can still register to attend one of the two classes that DHCD is having at the Takoma Park Community Center located at 7500 Maple Avenue. The classes are scheduled for Wednesday, September 1, from 9 - 11 a.m., and Tuesday, September 14, from 7 - 9 p.m. Pre-registration is required by calling Jean Kerr at 301-891-7216. *(Housing and Community Development)*

Accepting Applications for CDBG Grant Funds: The City of Takoma Park is accepting

applications for its PY37 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Approximately \$25,000 in public service funds and \$100,000 in capital project funds are available beginning July 1, 2011. The deadline for applications is 4 p.m. on Monday, September 13. Program guidelines and an application form are available online at www.takomaparkmd.gov or by calling 301-891-7119. *(Housing and Community Development)*

Game Room Ready: The Takoma Park Community Center's game room will be ready for the after school rush on Monday. As a reminder, the game room has plenty of games to play and is a cool place for youth to hang out. The game room is available for youth ages 6-18 at a cost of \$5 per year. The hours are Monday - Friday, 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. and 6 - 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, 12 noon - 5:30 p.m.; Sunday - closed. Contact the Recreation Department for more information at 301-891-7290. *(Recreation)*

Morning and Afternoon Addition is Back: The Takoma Park Recreation Department's Morning and Afternoon Addition is getting ready for another exciting year. Afternoon Addition has reached capacity with 55 students registered. A fun-filled year is planned with crafts, activities, clubs, outdoor adventures, game room time and much more. We are currently accepting registrants for the wait list. For more information please contact Carey Antoszewski at 301-891-7233. *(Recreation)*

Jazzercise Continues to Roll: Jazzercise had another successful week at Takoma Park Recreation Center. Jazzercise is offered on Mondays and Wednesdays from 7 - 8 p.m. and Saturday from 8 - 9 a.m. This is a class that combines the art of jazz with the science of exercise physiology. Each 60-70 minute class includes easy to follow fun aerobic dance routines, weights for muscle strength, and stretching exercises, all to the beat of great music. *(Recreation)*

Seniors visit the Co-op: Seniors from Franklin Apartments went to the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Co-op with Paula Lisowski (Seniors Program), for the first time on August 13, to learn about and purchase healthy food alternatives. Thank you to the Co-op staff for their help navigating the store and selecting produce. *(Recreation)*

Seniors on the Go: Seniors enjoyed two fun trips this month. On August 17, they went to the Montgomery County Fair. On August 24, seniors visited the Aquarium and National Building Museum. *(Recreation)*

Seniors Visit the DMV: Many thanks to Sgt. Tina Smith and Iva Waldron (Victory Tower Senior) who worked with Paula Lisowski to facilitate a trip for Victory Tower Seniors to the Department of Motor Vehicles, where the seniors updated their Maryland I.D. cards. *(Recreation)*

Back to School Celebration Week: Teens enjoyed a week of fun as they participated in a variety of activities ending their summer vacation on a high note. On Tuesday, August 24, the teen lounge was live with music, teen magazines and plenty of pizza. Wednesday's Back To School Bingo was successful as the teens competed to be the first to win gift cards, school supplies, backpacks, snacks and more. Thursday night roller skating at the Laurel Roller Skating Rink was a big hit. The week will come to an end with a Cook-Out at the Heffner Community Center featuring karaoke, trivia games, a raffle drawing, a dance contest and more. In addition to the teens having a great time, the Week of Celebration was also a good opportunity to encourage teens to participate in the upcoming fall activities. *(Recreation)*

Police Department Staff in Meetings:

- On August 25, the Police Department held an in-house CompStat session.
- On August 26, Chief Ricucci visited the Montgomery County Police Training Academy and met with Montgomery County Officials and Cpl. Paula Gaskin to discuss the progress of our three recruits.

- On August 27, Chief Ricucci welcomed back the School Crossing Guards and spoke to them about the school year. *(Police)*

Police Training:

On August 17, Cpl. Gaskin and Ms. Danyelle Gallop attended the "Enhanced Instructor Training Program" at the Maryland Public Safety and Education Training Center in Sykesville, Maryland. *(Police)*

Traffic Enforcement:

Officers conducted at least 68 traffic stops, which resulted in citations and six vehicle impounds.

During August 19-26, 2010, the following details were completed:

August 19, 2010

- 7400 block of Carroll Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued eight warnings.
- 900 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations for speed and two warnings.
- 1000 block of University Blvd. (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations for speed and one warning.
- 1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a two-hour detail and issued 10 State citations for speed and three other State citations.
- Kentland Avenue and East West Highway (no left turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two State citations.

August 20, 2010

- Maple Avenue & Tulip Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.

August 21, 2010

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

August 23, 2010

- Kentland Avenue & East West Highway (no left turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State citations.

1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 3-hour detail and issued 10 State citations for speed and five other State citations.

Maple Avenue & Sherman Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30 minute detail and issued two warnings.

August 24, 2010

Ethan Allen Avenue at Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a 90-minute detail and issued 11 State citations.

940 East West Highway (no left turn) - conducted a 90-minute detail and issued seven State citations.

East West Highway & New Hampshire Avenue (improper turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations.

1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 2-hour detail and issued four State citations for speed and five other State citations.

Kentland Avenue & East West Highway (no left turn) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two State citations.

Maple Avenue & Sherman Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two warnings.

7400 block of Carroll Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued four warnings.

Flower Avenue & Division Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five warnings.

August 25, 2010

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

August 26, 2010

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

New Hampshire Avenue & Holton Lane (U-turn violations) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.

New Hampshire Avenue & Holton Lane (U-turn violations) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings. (*Police*)

Traffic Officer Statistics (Cpl. Michelle Holmes):

Week ending August 20, 2010

- Hours worked: 37
 - Calls for service: 4
 - State citations issued: 68
 - Safety Equipment Repair Orders (SEROs) issued: 2
 - Warnings: 5
 - City tickets: 7
 - Reports: 10
 - Field Investigative Reports (FIRs): 0
 - Warrant arrests: 0
 - Court: 6 hours
 - On view arrests: 1
- (*Police*)