Takoma Park Street Festival
Sunday, Oct. 3
10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Old Town
Takoma Park

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

Takoma Park NEWSLETTER

No Trash Holidays

Trash collection on schedule this month

Published by the City of Takoma Park | www.takomaparkmd.gov | OCTOBER 2010

Who Patches the Potholes?

Repair Delays Lead to Road Swap Idea

By Suzanne Ludlow
Deputy City Manager

Why are there so many potholes on Route 410 and Flower Avenue and who is going to fix them? These are questions many residents have asked, and though the answers have been unsatisfying so far, there is progress on a plan to get the roads repaired.

The uneven pavement and cracked roadway surfaces are impossible to miss, and many residents have called Public Works to complain. But those roads have long been the responsibility of State Highway Administration.

It turns out State Highway (SHA) stopped maintaining the roads when state funds got thin—and didn't bother telling Takoma Park

After being pressured by City officials for the past two years to repair the section of Route 410 that runs through Takoma Park, State Highway has proposed a road swap with the City of Takoma Park. The proposal suggests that SHA repave sections of Route 410 in Takoma Park and the section of Flower Avenue between Carroll Avenue and Piney Branch Road this spring and summer, provided the City takes over future maintenance of Flower Avenue and gives the land that is under sections of Ethan Allen Avenue and Philadelphia Avenue to SHA.

The City Council is considering the proposal and staff is in the process of gathering additional information related to several options. A decision on the proposal is needed this fall if repair work is to begin in the spring.

Who is responsible for what?

Route 410 through Takoma Park is part of the State Highway system and has been since the late 1960s or early 1970s. The road is called "East-West Highway" east of New Hampshire Avenue, "Ethan Allen Avenue" between New Hampshire and Carroll Avenue, "Carroll Avenue" between Ethan Allen and Philadelphia Avenue, and "Philadelphia Avenue" between Carroll and Fenton Street. West of Georgia

POTHOLES
continues on page 12

State, county and local officials gathered at the September 8 ribbon cutting to celebrate the completion of Gilbert Highlands. The residence, renovated by Montgomery Housing Partnership, is designed to be both affordable and environmentally sustainable.

Photo by Marjorie Ciccone

Gilbert Highlands Renovation Adds Affordable Rentals

By Linda Walker
Affordable Housing Manager

Another renovated rental property has been added to Takoma Park's housing stock, thanks to Montgomery Housing Partnership, Inc., a private nonprofit housing developer, and a host of its partners. The 21-unit property at 8508-10 Flower Avenue (Gilbert Highlands) was acquired by MHP in 2007. In a state of disrepair at the time of purchase, this dilapidated building has been transformed by MHP into a green, energy efficient, affordable residence.

The $5.34 million renovation includes completely renovated kitchens and bathrooms, energy star appliances, individually metered HVAC systems, increased interior lighting with energy star lighting fixtures, new wood flooring, green label certified carpets, garbage disposals and a reflective roof. Additional green features include low-flow toilets and plumbing fixtures, environmentally friendly paints and landscaping with native plants. The complex also includes a community center that houses a bilingual preschool and computer lab.

Financing for Gilbert Highlands came from the Montgomery County Housing Initiative Fund ($2,699,000), the Tax Credit Monetization Fund ($1,175,255), Citi Community Bank ($800,000), Neighborworks America ($370,000), the State of Maryland Rental Housing Production Program (RHPP) ($250,000) and Multifamily Energy Efficiency and Housing Affordability (MEEHA) ($52,500). The City of Takoma Park provided MHP with a tax abatement for a period of 10 years.

The Gilbert Highlands project is the first housing development in Maryland to open after utilizing funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Construction began in November 2009, and the ribbon cutting, complete with federal, state and local officials, was September 8.

MHP is no stranger to Takoma Park, having invested $40 million here over the last ten years. Other projects include the Takoma Park Preservation (TPP) project, the preservation and renovation of three apartment communities at risk of being converted into condos. That project was completed in late 2008. Other renovated properties, all within close proximity to Gilbert Highlands, include The Crossroads at Flower on Flower Avenue, Sligo View apartments on Houston Avenue, and Merrimac Gardens on University Boulevard. On Maple Avenue, the eight-story Maple Towers is currently undergoing a $5.25 million renovation, and is expected to be completed in spring 2011. It will house 36 families.

Council to Request Beer-Wine Allowance in Takoma Park

By Virginia Myers

After more than a century-long ban on carry-out beer and wine sales, Takoma Park may be on its way to counting a restaurant or bar that has beer and wine to go among its shops and other commercial establishments. On September 27 the City Council voted five to one in favor of requesting that state law no longer prohibit carry-out beer and wine sales in Takoma Park. The idea will now go to Montgomery County state delegates; if they approve the measure, they will introduce it to the Maryland General Assembly, where it could be voted into law.

The Council's resolution supports allowing a Class B Off-Sale license for local establishments. A Class B Off-Sale license would allow beer and wine to be sold and drunk on premises, or taken away, unopened, at establishments that maintain a full kitchen, seating for at least 30 people, and separate bathroom facilities for men and women. The Council also proposed that the City share Class B Off-Sale license approval

BEER AND WINE SALES
continues on page 10

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

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INSIDE:

TP's Own Grateful Dead..... pg 3

Leaf Collection..... pg 12

CITY COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE CALENDAR*

Monday, October 4 – City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

Monday, October 11 – City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

Monday, October 11 – Recreation Committee meeting, 7 p.m. (CC Room TBA)

Tuesday, October 12 – Tree Commission meeting, 6:30 p.m. (CC Lilac Room)

Thursday, October 14 - Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting, 8:30 a.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Monday, October 18 - City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

Tuesday, October 19 - WAH Land Use Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

Wednesday, October 20 - Takoma Park Board of Elections meeting, 7 p.m. (CC Council Conference Room)

Monday, October 25 – City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Auditorium)

Tuesday, October 26 - Arts and Humanities Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m. (CC Hydrangea Room)

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

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 Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing, and who wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services, or accommodations is invited to contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267, at least 48 hours in advance, at the telephone number listed in the notice or through the Maryland Relay Service (1-800-735-2258 TTY/Voice).

Visit with the Mayor

Bruce Williams

Mayor Bruce Williams welcomes community input and invites you to meet with him during his regular hours on Tuesdays: by appointment from 2-5 p.m., with walk-ins from 5-7 p.m. To schedule a meeting, contact Peggye Washington at 301-891-7230 or by email at peggyew@takomagov.org.

Attention Takoma Park Neighborhood Associations

Please contact the City Clerk's office to provide an updated list of officers and current contact information for the association. Send information to Assistant City Clerk Irma Andia at IrmaA@takomagov.org or call 301-891-7214.

City Council Action*

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

September 7 – Special Session

Resolution 2010-51 was adopted, authorizing application for and receipt of financing for approved Community Legacy Program projects

Resolution 2010-52 was adopted, appointing James Roberts to the Takoma Park Board of elections

September 13 – Regular Meeting

Resolution 2010-53 was adopted, petitioning the Maryland Administration and General Assembly to reinstate State shared revenues to municipalities and to provide more diverse revenue raising authority

First Reading Ordinance 2010-40 was accepted, authorizing FY 2011 Budget Amendment No. 1

The consent agenda was adopted. It consisted of:

Single Reading Ordinance 2010-41 awarding a contract for tree maintenance pruning and tree removal to Excel Tree Service

Single Reading Ordinance 2010-42 awarding a contract for tree maintenance pruning and tree removal to Mead Tree and Turf

Single Reading Ordinance 2010-43 awarding a contract for tree maintenance pruning and tree removal to Arbor Care Tree Service

Resolution 2010-54 supporting Montgomery Housing Partnership's renovations to the Edinburgh House (7513 Maple Avenue)

Resolution 2010-55 authorizing the City Manager to Sign a Memorandum of Agreement with the Takoma Park Community Band

Volunteer Needed to Represent Takoma Park on the Montgomery County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Committee

The Committee advises the County Executive on plans for the annual Montgomery County program held in observance of the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. Takoma Park has a position for one member and one alternate member on the Committee. Contact Jessie Carpenter (301-891-7267 or JessieC@takomagov.org) for information.

Takoma Park Small Community Grant Program Application Deadline Extended to October 11, 2010

The deadline to apply for funding under the City's Small Community Grant Program is Monday, October 11. The program competitively awards small grants (up to $2,500) for projects that help to further the goals established in the Strategic Plan. A copy of the Strategic Plan, full description of the Small Community Grant Program, and application form is available at www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk. Interested applicants may contact Jessie Carpenter for additional information (JessieC@takomagov.org or 301-891-7267).

Takoma Park Community Forum To Be Held On Proposed Fitness and Wellness Center

Washington Adventist University and Washington Adventist Hospital/Adventist HealthCare invite you to participate in a community forum which will share information and get feedback from Takoma Park residents about a proposed Fitness and Wellness Center on the University campus.

When: Oct. 27 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Where: Cafeteria, Wilkinson Hall, Washington Adventist University, 7600 Flower Avenue

Contact: Angela Abraham, Washington Adventist University, 301-891-4125
Open to all Takoma Park residents.

2010 Gubernatorial Election Information

General Election Day
November 2, 2010 - 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

This is not a City election.

Voters who have questions about their polling place, early voting, and absentee voting should contact the Montgomery County Board of Elections at 240-777-8500 during business hours (or the 24-hour voter information line at 240-777-8683).

The Montgomery County Board of Elections website (www.777vote.org) has complete election information, including a link to the application to request an absentee ballot and a polling place lookup. The City of Takoma Park cannot accept absentee ballot applications for the 2010 election.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON COUNCIL APPOINTED BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS

There are positions for Takoma Park residents available on many City boards, commissions, and committees. Please consider volunteering to serve. Additional information can be found at www.takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/committees or contact the City Clerk for more information (301-891-7267 or Clerk@takomagov.org).

Arts and Humanities Commission (vacancies)

Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (vacancy)

Takoma Park Board of Elections (vacancy)

Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee (vacancies)

Personnel Appeal Board (vacancy)

Recreation Committee (vacancies)

Washington Adventist Hospital Land Use Committee (vacancies)

Ethics Commission (vacancies)

Emergency Preparedness Committee (vacancies)

Playing with Idols:

Local Musician Joins the Big Time

By Rick Henry

Takoma Park resident John Kadlecik, left, lived a dream come true when musicians from the Grateful Dead took note of his tribute band. Now Kadlecik tours with Furthur, a band that includes Grateful Dead bassist Phil Lesh and guitarist/vocalist Bob Weir. He plays the Street Festival Sunday, Oct. 3.

Photos courtesy of Further

Of all the artists who will take the stage at the Takoma Park Street Festival on Saturday, October 3, it's safe to say that none are living the made-for-Hollywood story of John Kadlecik. Consider the following plot elements:

- After falling in love with the music of a certain band (the Grateful Dead), a talented musician hooks up with other like-minded musicians/admirers and forms a "tribute" group (the Dark Star Orchestra) dedicated to playing not just the repertoire of the original band, but faithful recreations of entire concerts;
- Band garners much attention, gains a national following, sells out clubs and theaters, and gets the opportunity to play alongside many musical legends, including members of the original group;
- Founding members of the original group (bassist Phil Lesh and guitarist/vocalist Bob Weir) decide to form a new band, called Further, and contact the tribute musician to audition;
- Tribute musician wows original musicians at audition and finds himself playing lead guitar and singing in front of tens of thousands in amphitheaters and arenas on the new band's inaugural tour.

And if those overarching plot points aren't remarkable enough, the specific details are even more unbelievable.

"In June of 2009, they contacted me by email—which ended up in my spam folder," Kadlecik said. "I just happened to be checking extra carefully and then when I saw it, I wasn't sure it was real. I thought I was being pranked."

Once he confirmed the authenticity of the invitation, it was off to California to audition, a process that didn't last long. "At some point that weekend, we were told that we were no longer auditioning, we were rehearsing," he said.

Kadlecik said that at those rehearsals, Weir and Lesh set the tone for the band. "Bob and Phil are still creative and alive musically and the rehearsal environment was a combination of a mad scientist's lab and kids in a sandbox," he said. "They are of the character that if you are going to go for it, go all in."

Months later, Furthur debuted, and some 80 concerts later, the group is still going strong, a situation that looks as if might continue for a while. "They just updated the website, so that's a good sign," he said about the future of the band.

Given the dream-come-true quality of playing in a band with your musical idols, it would be easy to imagine that Kadlecik has reached musical fulfillment and that it would be difficult to play with anyone else. That is not the case, however, as evidenced by his scheduled performance at the Street Festival. "I like playing music in every situation—with Furthur, with friends, with or without an audience," he says. "The John K Band is an opportunity to cultivate some local ties and play with friends from the area."

Chief among those is Kadlecik's wife, Katy Gaughan. Gaughan is a hand percussionist and drum circle facilitator and a member of the jazz trio Djesben. She plays percussion with the John K Band and has teamed up with her husband in several other musical alliances. Despite his newfound prominence, Kadlecik is content with playing a supporting role, as well.

"He is the tech/roadie/sound guy for Djesben," she said. "He is a wonderful influence and is very generous with what he knows."

As befits this story, how the couple, who moved to Takoma Park in 2008, met is also straight out of a Hollywood movie. "I went to see the Dark Star Orchestra at the State Theatre," she said. "I didn't have a ticket, but I managed to get in and after the show John was out meeting fans and I introduced myself and the rest is history."

Gaughan is thrilled and awed by all that has transpired since that fateful day.

"I am really happy for John because I know much he loves music and how dedicated he is to it, and it is good to see that his talent is being recognized at that level," she said. "For me personally, it is totally surreal. I mean, I'm a big music fan, my brother is a huge Dead Head and now Bob and Phil are part of our family. It's really strange and amazing."

It was Gaughan who was the driving force behind getting the John K Band to play at the Street Festival. "I hounded David Eisner (of House of Musical Traditions and one of the festival's organizers)," she said, laughing. "I am hoping that having John's band play will bring some new people to Takoma Park. They may come to see John because they love the Dead's music, but they'll get to see what Takoma Park is all about."

Those in attendance should expect a flowing, improvisational set of originals and cover material and, given Kadlecik's affiliation with Further and the Dead, an abundance of tapers documenting every note. They'll be playing at 2 p.m. at the Gazebo stage during the festival, October 3.

Want to hear/see more? In addition to the John K Band show at the Takoma Street Festival, Kadlecik is scheduled to play two solo acoustic shows in the area (Friday, October 8 at the New Deal Café in Greenbelt and Saturday, October 16 at the 8 x 10 Club in Baltimore) before heading back out on the road with Furthur on November 8.

Furthur will appear at 1st Mariner Arena in Baltimore on Wednesday, November 17.

To get more information on Kadlecik and listen to audio clips visit http://www.johnk-music.net .

For information and tour dates for Furthur, visit http://www.furthur.net.

THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

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

Name, address and telephone number must accompany all submitted material. Pursuant to City Council Resolution No. 1992–36 of June 8, 1992 that sets forth the editorial guidelines of the Newsletter, the Editor reserves the right to edit all submitted copy for length, clarity, style, spelling and grammar.

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

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The Newsletter is printed on recycled–content paper.

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

Security Deposits Earn Interest

A tenant contacted the mailbox regarding whether her failure to provide her landlord with a written, one-month notice of her intent to vacate will result in a reduction of her security deposit refund. She also wants to know what the current security deposit interest rate is, and whether security deposits earn simple or compound interest.

A tenant's failure to provide his/her landlord with a written notice of his/her intent to vacate may result in a reduction of the security deposit refund. In accordance with Section 6.16.150 of the Takoma Park Landlord-Tenant Law, a tenant should provide the landlord with a written notice of his/her intent to vacate, which must be received by the landlord prior to the rent due date of the final month of occupancy. Failure to provide this written notice may result in a landlord charging the tenant for actual damages which could be deducted from the security deposit refund. Tenants should also note that failing to return the rental unit's key or not vacating on the date indicated on the written notice may result in actual damages being deducted from the security deposit refund.

It is the tenant's responsibility to have documentation of the landlord's receipt of the vacate notice, therefore mailing the notice so that written confirmation of its receipt date will be provided to the tenant is strongly recommended. The vacate notice should also be sent to the landlord by regular mail allowing for three days' mail transit time from mailing to delivery. The Mailbox advises against sending vacate notices by e-mail or relying on verbal communications with a landlord since the receipt date of an e-mail or the content of a verbal communication cannot be documented by the tenant.

The current interest rate for security deposits is 3 percent simple interest per year for all leases executed on or after October 1, 2004. Leases executed prior to October 1, 2004 earn 4 percent simple interest per year unless a lease addendum was sent to the tenant notifying them of the October 1, 2004 change in the annual interest rate.

Security deposits earn simple interest, which accrues in six month intervals equal to one half the annual rate. For example, a lease signed in January 2005 earned 1.5 percent simple interest at the end of June 2005 and 1.5 percent simple interest at the end of December 2005.

For questions regarding the city's landlord-tenant law, please call 301-891-7215 or contact me online at MosesW@takomagov.org.

Local Non-Profit Examines the State of Housing in Takoma Park

By Erin Ehrlich

A community is a place where you feel welcome. A community is a place where people work together to solve problems. A community is a place where children can run around without worry.

These are just a few responses to the question, "What is your definition of a community?" at a housing community meeting held by Community Health and Empowerment through Education and Research (CHEER), a local nonprofit organization.

CHEER's first-ever housing community meeting was held on Thursday, September 16, at the Takoma Park Community Center to inform Takoma Park residents about housing trends in the area and to discuss their concerns. A short presentation about CHEER and housing trends in Takoma Park was given, and 11 short video interviews of various residents and their opinions about Takoma Park and Long Branch were shown to the group. About 40 people attended the event, including Council members Terry Seamens (Ward 4), Dan Robinson (Ward 3) and Mayor Bruce Williams.

The event covered various housing issues in Takoma Park, some of which concerned residents. For example, the cost of single-family homes in Takoma Park has increased 114 percent between 2000 and 2008. And in 2007, about 38 percent of renters were considered "housing burdened," which means that more than 30 percent of the renter's income is spent on housing expenses.

While the presentation concerned some, many residents took advantage of the opportunity to voice their positive opinions about Takoma Park. Most attendees confirmed that Takoma Park is a great place to live, however, everyone agreed that further discussion is necessary to find ways to increase affordable housing, and to improve social connectedness and community respect.

Bruce Baker, Executive Director, and Christopher King, Chair of the Board of Directors, considered the event to be a success.

"The one commonality we see is that everyone loves Takoma Park," said Christopher King. "I challenge you to find an area where homeowners and renters alike love their area."

CHEER will host another housing discussion event on November 10.

There will also be a showing of the documentary "Unnatural Causes" on October 14 at 7 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center. This nationally acclaimed documentary examines how social and economic conditions affect people's health. The showing will be followed by a discussion about conditions in Takoma Park and what the community can do to improve people's health and well-being.

CHEER's mission is to provide people with the knowledge and ability to create healthy, thriving communities by using community indicators (data that measures local conditions) to serve as benchmarks of progress toward community-defined goals. More information on CHEER is available at www.communitycheer.org.

COLTA Requires Landlord Return Tenant Deposit

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

Lavallee/Pinnell v. Mendez
Complaint # 10-8T
Hearing Date-7/13/10

On August 13, COLTA issued its decision regarding the tenants' complaint that the landlord had failed to return the security deposit. The tenants sought the return of their deposit plus interest and punitive damages. The COLTA decision held that the landlord did not comply with section 8-203 (g) of the Real Property Article of the Maryland Code, which required the landlord to send to the tenants last known address, within 45 days of the termination of the tenancy, a written list of damages claimed along with a statement of actual costs incurred or to return the security deposit with interest, to the tenants. The commission held that the landlord's failure to comply with this requirement resulted in the forfeiture of the landlord's right to withhold any portion of the tenants security deposit.

The commission awarded the tenants punitive damages for the amount wrongfully withheld by the landlord noting that section 8-203(g)(1) of the Real Property Article of the Maryland specifically requires landlords mail the security deposit refund to a tenants' last known address. The commission also noted the landlord's practice of ignoring or refusing certified mail constituted a willful neglect of duties.

The landlord was ordered to pay the tenants $1,137.50 within 14 days of the decision as a refund of the tenants' security deposit plus accrued interest and punitive damages. The landlord has filed an appeal in Circuit Court.

First Time Home Buyer Class

Saturday, October 23

8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
at the

Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Avenue

- Expert speakers from a lending institution, title company, real estate office and an inspection company
- Learn the entire process for buying a house or condo
- Provided by a HUD-approved housing organization
- Certificate of Completion awarded to attendees

Class is Free but Pre-Registration Is Required
Contact Linda Walker at 301-891-7222
Sponsored by the City of Takoma Park
Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be served

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We Are Takoma, on Stage

Eureka Dance Festival

Sunday, October 17
3 p.m. Master dance class facilitated by Naima Prevots
4 – 6 p.m. Works-in-progress showing
Takoma Park Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park MD
Free.

A sneak peak at the new works being created by Eureka Dance Festival choreographers and an opportunity to sit in on a master dance class facilitated by Naima Prevots, professor emerita in the College of Arts and Sciences at American University. Join us for a unique opportunity to experience new and innovative works by emerging and established choreographers from the region.

Dancers from The Eureka Dance Festival mix humor and art as part of their work; the festival comes to the Takoma Park Community Center We Are Takoma Series, Oct. 17.

Photo courtesy of Eureka Dance Festival

About the Eureka Dance Festival

Founded by Kate Jordan and Orit Sherman out of a desire to take their choreography from conception to stage and a passion to support emerging artists, the Eureka Dance Festival provides a platform for upcoming artists to present their work. For its inaugural year, the 2009 Eureka Dance Festival cultivated six new works by area choreographers, premiering the choreography to sold out audiences.

A group of choreographers are chosen annually to create new works for the festival, taking their ideas from conception to full stage production. Participating artists are involved in work-in-progress showings, a preview performance and a weekend of performances.

For more information on The Eureka Dance Festival and participating artists see www.dancefestival-eureka.org.

Concert Series Moves to Town

The Institute of Musical Traditions is moving more music "next to the house" this fall, with multiple concerts scheduled for Takoma Park venues.

Many local musicians and music fans know IMT for its sister shop, the House of Musical Traditions, and for its Monday night folk concerts at the Presbyterian church in Rockville. Recently, IMT has branched out with its Next to the House series, taking advantage of two new venues in Takoma Park: the newly renovated Takoma Park Community Center auditorium and the new Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center, at the Takoma Park campus of Montgomery College.

Below is a brief description of the music scheduled for October. For more information or for tickets, call 301-754-3611 or to go imtfolk.org.

Lissa Schneckenburger will start the month's concerts at 8 p.m., Saturday, October 9 at the Takoma Park Community Center auditorium. Her traditional, New England-style fiddling and singing includes old ballads, new dance tunes and virtuosic playing. ($15)

Mike and Ruthy (of The Mammals) will rock that same house (Takoma Park Community Center) with their infectious folk-rock mix of fiddle, drums and guitar. They'll be marking the release of their new CD, "Million to One," one they're calling "their folk rock masterpiece" at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 13. Folk songwriter Liz McFadden will join them. ($15/ $20 door)

Mike and Ruthy, formerly of The Mammals, bring a folk rock groove to the Takoma Park Community Center as part of the local IMT music series.

Photo courtesy of Mike and Ruthie

Ensemble Galilei with Ann Mayo Muir hits the Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center at 7 p.m. Oct. 17 with Ann Mayo Muir and special guests Hot Soup. The Grammy-nominated Celtic/early music crossover group recently released the CD, "Notes from Across the Sea," with energetic instrumentals and virtuoso technique. ($20/ $25 door)

Robert Shafer and Robin Kessinger bring it back to the Community Center auditorium at 8 p.m. Oct. 23. Their flatpicking guitar and bluegrass has garnered wins for both of them at the National Flatpicking Championship, and their concert is expected to be a blaze of hot duets and solos. ($15)

The Takoma Park Community Center is at 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park. The Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center is at 7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring.

Takoma Park Arts & Humanities News

celebrating the creative spirit of our community

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Poets Susan Roche, June Collins, Andrea Wyatt and Cynthia Atkins are featured in this month's reading at the Takoma Park Auditorium, 7500 Maple Avenue. Please join us on Thursday, October 21 at 7:30 p.m. to hear their work.

Writing a Village: Poetry Workshop

Takoma Park Poet Laureate Anne Becker is offering a series of community poetry workshops on the third Monday of every month from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room at the Takoma Park Community Center. The workshops are free but registration is required. This month's workshop is scheduled for Monday, October 18.

Mei Mei Chang Exhibit

The work of Takoma Park artist Mei Mei Chang can be viewed through October 15 in Gallery 3 and the Richard Dempsey Memorial Gallery. This solo presentation features the artist's paintings, drawings and a special floor installation. "As an artist, I've always been drawn into the depth and the mysterious side of the psyche," Chang says of her art. "This is the source of my art and I can only express it in a language that transcends words. My work consists of multilayered and patterned surfaces that I use as topographical maps of the mind."

Takoma Park Artists Guild Annual Show

Spanning a variety of media and approaches, the Takoma Artists' Guild presents its annual show featuring the work of its members. TAG artists explore photography, watercolor, oil and acrylic painting, and collage with works on view in the Atrium Gallery through October 15. The Atrium and Richard Dempsey Memorial Galleries, located on the main level of the Takoma Park Community Center, are open Monday through Thursday, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Fridays until 10 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Gallery 3, located on the third floor, is open Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Holiday Art Sale – Vendor Applications Available

Interested in participating in the fifth annual Holiday Art Sale on Saturday, December 11? Items offered for sale must be created and produced by the individual artist or crafter. Past sales have included paintings, photography, pottery, jewelry, textiles, furniture and glass. Application forms available online at www.takomaparkmd.org. Deadline November 16. For more information, contact Rob Rudick at robrudick@yahoo.com or at 301-270-2323.

Help Us Help You

If you have an arts or cultural event you would like us to promote, please let us know. Help us build a community that supports arts and culture right here in Takoma Park!

For information on these and other activities sponsored by the Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission, please contact Sara Anne Daines at 301-891-7224, by email at SaraD@takomagov.org or check online at www.takomaparkmd.gov

October

Recreation

Elianna Agnamba and Morgan Trivers attempt to learn new skills at the hair-braiding workshop held at the TP Community Center on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Photo by Faye Wright

Climate Explorers

Ages 14 -18

This series of workshops brings the science of the current status of earth and its atmosphere to teens. With the aid of "inquiry coaches," teens will create research squads that generate questions and perform Arctic Quest exercises as "mini expeditions. Arctic Quest: Enter the Cryosphere, is an official International Polar Year (IPY) education and public outreach activity for youth. It is offered through NASA's Science Mission Directorate/Earth Science Division. Space is limited, advance registration required. Instructor Maia Carroll.

Rose Room, TP Community Center
Thurs., 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4, 18, Dec. 4 (Celebration)
Free

Teen Leadership Council (TLC)

Ages 13-18

The TP Recreation Department Teen Leadership Council is comprised of a group of diverse teenagers representing the youth voice of Recreation Department programs and activities. Participants assist in developing programs and services that benefit the City's youth, strengthening relations between youth and their community through innovative leadership opportunities in recreation and service learning. The experience will provide opportunities to gain knowledge and skills that will prepare participants for college or future endeavors. Interested participants are required to complete an application and provide two letters of recommendation. Applications are available at the TP Community or Recreation Centers. Open registration will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Oct. 9. Application deadline is Oct. 22. We will kick off the program with a "Get Acquainted" session on Saturday, Nov. 13 (free with application).
For detailed information see www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation or contact Faye Wright, Recreation Department Teen Manager, 301-891-7283.

Rookie "Sports"

Ages 3 – 5

Children are introduced to the fundamentals of sports such as soccer, T-ball/softball, basketball, floor hockey, kickball, dodgeball and other sports and group games. The goal of this program is to provide the opportunity for each child to develop motor skills and nurture his/her growth socially and emotionally through teamwork and good sportsmanship. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Six weeks. Maximum 15, minimum eight. Instructor Jeremy Rhones.

Sat. 10:45 – 11:45 a.m.
Oct. 30 – Dec. 11
TP Recreation Center
$35
No class on Nov. 27.

Wee Love Math

Ages 2 – 4

This age-appropriate introduction to math concepts will explore counting, addition and subtraction, odd and even numbers, opposites, matching, doubling numbers, comparing sizes, amounts, weights and more. All of this is learned through play, stories, project activities and teaching tools such as Cuisenaire rods. A parent or caregiver should accompany child. Fee includes materials. Six weeks. Instructor Amaya Lambert. Maximum 12, minimum six.

Lilac Room, TP Community Center
Tues. 9:30 - 10 a.m.
Or
Tues. 11:30 a.m. - noon
Nov. 9 - Dec. 14
TP residents $65/session
Non-residents $75/session

Fun Day Program

Ages 5 – 12

The Fun Day Program offers exciting field trips on scheduled whole day school closings and activities and performances on scheduled half day closings. Participants will meet at the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. On half days only, students attending TP Elementary will be picked up at their school and children attending Piney Branch Elementary will be picked up in the hallway by the pool by a Recreation

RECREATION continues on page 7

Register for Youth Basketball League

The Takoma Park Winter Basketball League welcomes all kids grades K*- 8 to register for the upcoming season. Registration will run from September 1 through December 10, 2010.

**Must be 5 yrs old by January 8, 2011.*

Registration Fees

Takoma Park Residents Fee: $60
Non-Resident Registration Fee: $70

Scholarship Opportunity

Scholarship Registration Fee: $10

Scholarship opportunities are available to all Takoma Park Residents in need of assistance. This benefit is available to Takoma Park residents who can provide proof of enrollment in the Free or Reduced Meals program or similar financial assistance program.

For more information about the Takoma Park Recreation Department's Winter Basketball League or if you are interested in coaching please call (301) 891-7225, or visit www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation.

2011
Takoma Park Recreation Department
WINTER BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Halloween Fun

Annual Costume Contest

The FREAKS come out in the afternoon. Get all decked out and strut your stuff. Categories include most original, funniest and scariest. Ages 2 and under; 3 - 4; 5 - 7; 8 - 10; 11 - 12; Teen and adult and Overall group category. Join in the Fun!

Intersection of Carroll and Laurel Avenues, Old Town Takoma Park
Sat., Oct. 30
5 p.m.

Halloween Parade

All are welcome to participate in this walking parade. Follow the TP Fire Department Fire Truck as it escorts you down the parade route, beginning at Carroll and Laurel Avenues, following Carroll Avenue to Fire House, left onto Philadelphia Avenue and ending at Piney Branch Elementary School.

Immediately following the Costume Contest
Sat., Oct. 30
Approximately 5:45 p.m.

Halloween Award Ceremony

Join us for refreshments, sponsored by the Takoma Park Lions Club, at Piney Branch Elementary School, Multipurpose Room, following the Halloween Parade. A musical performance by "St. Roch Cemetery Stompers," sponsored by the Recreation Department, is suitable for all ages. We'd like to thank the TP Lions Club, who have graciously served the TP community for several decades with its kindness and support.

Immediately following the parade
Piney Branch Elementary School, 7510 Maple Avenue
Sat., Oct. 30
Approximately 6:15 p.m.

Clowns and milk cartons parade through the streets at last year's Halloween festivities.
Photo by Debra Haiduven

RECREATION

continued from page 6

staff member. On full days pack a lunch. On half days, bring a snack! Trips, activities and performers are subject to change. Space is limited, sign up early.

Fri., Oct. 1
Mad Science: Chemistry of ice cream, make ice cream!

1 - 5:30 p.m.
TP residents $25
Non-residents $35
Full but accepting wait list.

Fri., Oct. 15
Clark Elioak Farm: Pumpkin patch, hay rides, pony rides, petting farm

8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
TP residents $35
Non-residents $45
Hurry, spaces filling fast!

Taekwondo

Ages 4 and older
The Korean martial art of Taekwondo promotes fitness and strength in a fun and social environment. Taekwondo (foot-hand-way) is known for beautiful and powerful kicks. Students learn self defense and practice drills, forms and sparring. The Tenets of Taekwondo – courtesy, integrity, perseverance, self control and indomitable spirit – are emphasized. Adults are welcome to register with their child. There is a one-time fee paid to the instructor at the first class (nonrefundable) for uniform ($40 children, $50 for adult). Instructor Lois Schoenbrun.

Dance Studio, TP Community Center
Thurs. 6 – 7 p.m. Ten weeks
September 30 – Dec. 16
TP residents $90/person
Non-residents $110/person
or
Sat. 1 – 2 p.m. Eleven weeks.
Oct. 3 – Dec. 18
TP residents $95/person
Non-residents $115/person
or
Thurs. and Sat.
TP residents $175/person
Non-residents $205/person
No class Nov. 11.

Body Sculpting/Pilates with June

Ages 16 and over
A combination of precision body toning, stretching and core strengthening to assist you in reaching your goal in obtaining flat abs, tone arms, loss of inches and a leaner body! This class incorporates light hand weights for strengthening and toning the arms, hips and thighs. Integrate the entire body rather than exercise each body part separately. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Four week sessions. Maximum 25, minimum five. Instructor June Kimbrugh-Thornton. Students are required to bring their own mat and hand weights.

Wed. 6 – 7 p.m.
Oct. 13 – Nov. 3, 2010
TP Recreation Center, New Hampshire Ave.
$50
No class Nov. 24.

Bollywood Dance Fun

Ages 16 and up
Get a workout and learn about the "Bollywood" culture of India's Hindi-language film industry. Although Bollywood choreography originally drew from Indian classical and folk dance, other genres like jazz, hip hop and even belly dancing have entered the mix. Class will include a warm-up session, step combinations and upbeat choreography to popular Bollywood films. Instructor Laurel Victoria Gray.

Dance Studio, TP Community Center
Fri. 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Nov. 5- Dec. 14
TP residents $60
Non-residents $70
No class on Nov. 26

Zumba

Ages 16 and older
Zumba fuses hypnotic Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves to create a one-of-a-kind fitness program. Achieve long-term benefits while experiencing an absolute blast in one exciting hour of calorie-burning, body-energizing movement. The routines feature interval training sessions where fast and slow rhythms and resistance training are combined to tone and sculpt your body while burning fat. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Instructor Edurama.

TP Recreation Center, New Hampshire Ave.
Oct. 13 – Nov. 6
Wednesdays, 6 – 7 p.m.
Saturdays, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
No class Nov. 24 and 27.
$40

Silver Foxes

For Active Adults Over 55

Flu Shot Clinic

Lilac Room, TP Community Center
Fri., Oct. 22
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
No cost for senior citizens. Must show your Medicare Part B.
$25 for non-seniors.
For more information, please contact Paula Lisowski at 301-891-7280.

Empowering Seniors Against Fraud, Abuse and Neglect

According to Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office, abuse of the elderly and vulnerable adults is a widespread problem in Montgomery County. George Simms, from the office of State's Attorney for Montgomery County, will present an informative lecture on protecting seniors against fraud and abuse. Learn how to protect yourself and loved ones.

Tues., Oct. 5
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. light lunch/Senior Room
12:30 - 1:30 p.m. lecture/Auditorium
Free and open to seniors, age 55 and older, and the general public.

Ikebana Workshop: Sangetsu School of Flower Arranging

Experience the joy of Ikebana flower arranging in this introductory two-hour workshop. Sangetsu, meaning mountain moon, one of the hundreds of schools of Ikebana in Japan, was inspired by the visionary master artist, Mokichi Okada, who promoted a spiritual approach to life through beauty. Instructor Lenor Armstrong will help students learn how to create original arrangements through this art form, using plant and floral materials. Students will have their own finished arrangement to take home. Registration is required, please call 301-891-7280 to register. Registration deadline is 10/8/10. Open to adults age 55 and older.

Art Room, TP Community Center
Wed., Oct. 13
1 - 3 p.m.
$5 per person.

Takoma Park Library CALENDAR

Registration required for some events, as indicated in listing. For a few events, it is encouraged, but not required, as noted. You can register online by going to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or by calling 301-891-7259. Events take place in the Library unless otherwise noted.

Community Circle Time

Every Tuesday
Two times: 10 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

Spanish Circle Time

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

Community "Read-Out"

Saturday, Oct. 2, 10-noon
Come celebrate Banned Books Week by reading children's books that have been challenged.
Registration encouraged; contact Children's Librarian Karen MacPherson for more information: 301-891-7259.

Bedtime Stories

Monday, Oct. 4, 7 p.m.
Come in p.js, bring your teddy or other stuffed favorites as we read some stories and sing some songs in this half-hour program.
Perfect for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups.

College Bound

Tuesday, Oct. 5, 7 p.m.
Dr. Lori Potts-Dupre will explore educational options at public universities.
Registration required.

Friends Reading Group

Thursday, Oct. 7, 7:30 p.m.
Our book is "The Brothers Karamazov"
by Fyodor Dostoevsky
Community Center (see article).

French Circle Time

Saturday, Oct. 9
10:30 a.m. with Madame Marie
Thanks to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this program.

Caldecott Club

Monday, Oct. 11 – 7 p.m.
Come read and discuss this year's Caldecott Medal possibilities.
(See article)
Registration required.

College Bound

Tuesday, Oct. 12, 7 p.m.
Dr. Herm Davis will discuss college financial aid.
Registration required.

Resume Coaching Lab

Wednesday, Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m.
This program is aimed at those seeking employment in the federal government.
Featuring Gabe Heilig.
Community Center, 7:30 p.m.
Registration limited.

Junior Banned Books Club

Monday, Oct. 18, 6:30 p.m.
For kids in third, fourth and fifth grade
We'll be reading "The Phantom Tollbooth" by Norton

LIBRARY CALENDAR
continues on page 9

New Crop of Sturdy Board Books Entertains Youngest "Readers"

By Karen MacPherson

Board books are a perfect reading format for babies and toddlers.

Printed on sturdy cardboard, their thick pages that are easily turned by tiny fingers. In addition, the books are fairly indestructible, even by babies who teethe on them. Best of all, board books can be piled up to make a tower or other structures, giving them a secondary use as a toy.

Here's a look at some great new board books for the youngest readers:

If you want a board book that's sure to be a hit with your little one, look for ones written and illustrated by **Leslie Patricelli**. In her latest board books, "Potty" and "Tubby," Patricelli demonstrates once again her ability to combine a few words with simple but comic illustrations to create a book that babies and toddlers will want to read again and again (and again!).

In fact, one of the best things about Patricelli's books is that adults don't mind reading them repeatedly; with her wry sense of humor, Patricelli has the "Sesame Street" knack for entertaining both kids and adults. In "Potty," for example, Patricelli portrays both the baby's exuberance and the parents' relief at a successful trip to the toilet, while in "Tubby," Patricelli concludes the bathtub scene by writing: "Mommy dries me. Daddy dries the bathroom." Don't forget to check out previously-published Patricelli board books, including "Quiet Loud," "Yummy Yucky," "Binky" and Blankie." (Ages birth through 2).

Author **Jabari Asim** teams up with artist LeUyen Pham to create a delightful pair of bedtime board books, "Boy of Mine" and "Girl of Mine." In each book, Asim sings the child's praises by using a catchy rhyme, whose liveliness is matched by Pham's cheerful illustrations. (Ages birth through 2).

It's been 60 years since author/illustrator Dorothy Kunhardt's classic "touch and feel" book, "Pat the Bunny" was published. But the genre remains very popular with the youngest readers, who will enjoy a new "touch and feel" book, "Good Night, Little Bunny." Written by the prolific **Jane Yolen**, the book offers readers a bouncy bedtime rhyme. But it's the "touch and feel" elements integrated into Sam Williams' illustrations that will really attract the interest of babies and toddlers, who will be able to feel a Velcro toothbrush, touch a shiny silver moon, and rub the sheep on the cover of Little Bunny's bedtime story. (Ages 1-3).

Author/illustrator **Helen Oxenbury**'s wonderful books have celebrated the small moments of childhood for many years. Now one of Oxenbury's classics, a "Little Hen" riff titled "It's My Birthday" has been re-published as a board book. Young readers will love Oxenbury's hypnotic, cumulative text, and will undoubtedly have it memorized after just a few readings. They'll also enjoy Oxenbury's gentle, lighthearted illustrations, done in a palette of cozy pastels. (Ages 1-3).

Little ones can learn about colors in "Raindrops: A Shower of Colors." Each page has differently-colored, raindrop-shaped cut-out that helps show how colors are created. For example, when author **Chieu Anh Urban** writes of a "blue butterfly" and a "red rooster," the blue cut-out of the butterfly page and the red cut-out of the rooster page then mix to create the next animal, a "purple parrot." It's an ingenious concept, made even more fun with the brightly-colored illustrations of Viviana Garofoli. (Ages 1-3).

Albert Whitman has taken four previously-published books and given them an updated look to better appeal to today's young readers. Two of the books are illustrated by Lynn Munsinger, a master of comic children's book illustrations. In "Underwear," Munsinger's artwork underlines the zany humor inherent in author Mary Elise Monsell's story about a buffalo who doesn't like underwear. Munsinger's illustrations of a wild-haired green monster also adds some extra hilarity to author Virginia Mueller's book, "Monster Goes to School."

In "You Go Away," author **Dorothy Corey and illustrator Lisa Fox** offer reassurance for children dealing with separation anxiety, while in "You Push, I Ride," author Abby Levine uses a rhyming text to take young readers through a typical day. The watercolor illustrations by Margot Apple add to the fun. (Ages 1-3).

And don't forget new board book editions of some **classic children's books**. There's the marvelous "Ten Black Dots" by author/illustrator Donald Crews, and the hilarious "Sheep" books written by Nancy Shaw and illustrated by Margot Apple: "Sheep In a Jeep;" "Sheep Trick Or Treat;" "Sheep Out to Eat;" "Sheep In a Shop;" and "Sheep On a Ship." (Ages 1-3).

Get the Word Out

The City of Takoma Park is now on Twitter and Facebook, where residents can stay up to date on events, news and other community info. Craig Terrill, the new social media manager for the City, is encouraging residents and area businesses to use the new outlets as an opportunity to spread the word about local events. If you have an arts or cultural event to promote, send an email and Terrill will take it from there. He'll be covering exhibits, speaker series, poetry readings, book readings, performances, you name it—helping local people build an on-line community that supports arts and culture right here in Takoma Park. Email craigt@takomagov.org or go to http://twitter.com/TakomaParkMD or http://facebook.com/TakomaParkMD.

LIBRARY *Briefs*

Caldecott Club Launches

Some of the most beautiful art can be found in children's picture books. Each January, a specially-selected committee of librarians, sponsored by the American Library Association, chooses the best-illustrated book of the previous year as the winner of the Caldecott Medal. The winner of the 2010 Caldecott Medal, for example, is artist Jerry Pinkney's spectacular picture book, "The Lion and the Mouse."

In the months before the Caldecott winner is announced, there is much discussion – online and otherwise -- among librarians and other children's book lovers about some of the possible winners. Some libraries even hold "mock" Caldecott Medal elections and choose a winner.

This year, we thought we'd try a variation on that process by creating the first-ever Caldecott Club at the Takoma Park Maryland Library. We'll meet once a month, on Monday evenings in October, November and December, to discuss some of the possibilities for the 2011 Caldecott Medal. Each month, we'll first read together Caldecott possibilities on the big screen by using our ELMO document camera and projector, and then discuss those books. At our December meeting, we'll vote on our favorite.

The actual 2011 Caldecott Medal winner will be announced by the American Library Association at its midwinter conference on Monday, Jan. 10 in San Diego. Children's Librarian Karen MacPherson will be there when the announcement is made, and will report back on her experience at our final Caldecott Club meeting on Monday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. We'll also get a chance then to compare how our choices stack up with the ALA's actual selections.

The Caldecott Club is open to children ages 5 up, their parents and any adults who are fans of children's picture books. Registration is required.

Registering for Library Programs is Important

For many events we ask people to sign up in advance, for any or all of the following reasons.

We may be able to accommodate only a limited number of attendees. For example, the special programs for two-year-olds only work well if we have no more than 15 children.

We may need to buy supplies or food, and so need to know, in advance, about how many are coming.

We may need to cancel an event, or change the date or time. That is why we ask for both an e-mail address and a phone number at registration. We have occasionally, at times of snow or electrical outage, phoned and e-mailed all the participants on a registration list.

For all these reasons, please register at least a few days early if you can. (Though we understand that there are times when you just don't know until the last minute.) If the program is one with a limited number of slots, and you later need to cancel, call. The first person on the waiting list will automatically be moved up.

It's easy to register online. Just go to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html, find the program you want to register for, and then fill out the required fields. Of course, you can always call us with questions.

Summer Quest Sets Records

Our 2010 Summer Quest program set new records, both in the number of participants, and in the number of books read. This summer, more than 250 kids signed up for the program, which is created each year by Library Assistant Dave Burbank.

Overall, Summer Quest participants read 1,551 books this summer. Among those who read the most books were: Camden Roberts, who read 63 books, and Abe Joyner-Meyers and Kevin Awoufack, who each read 43 books.

At our End of Summer Quest party, meanwhile, many kids showed off the things they learned to make or do as part of this year's Summer Quest Challenge No. 9: "Read a book that tells you how to make or do something, then make or do it." Some kids learned to cook, others learned to knit or draw or sew.

Thanks to the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library for sponsoring our Summer Quest program.

Scary Stories Celebrate Halloween

Master storyteller Candace Wolf returns with a new crop of scary stories on Monday, October 25 at 7 p.m. The program, which is geared to kids ages 5 up, is a great way to get an early start on celebrating Halloween.

Registration is required for this program.

Library Receives Grant for Banned Books Week

In September, the Library was named a recipient of one of seven grants awarded nationwide to libraries and other institutions across the country in support of "Read-Out!" events during Banned Books Week (September 25-October 2). The $1,000 award was given by the American Library Association's Freedom to Read Foundation as its first Judith F. Krug Memorial Fund award. Other award recipients included the Santa Monica (California) Public Library, the ACLU of Pennsylvania, and Canisius College in Buffalo, N.Y.

The Takoma Park Library Read-Out focuses on children's books – picture books and novels for kids through age 12 – that have been challenged in other parts of the country. The grant enables the Library to give all participants free copies of some of these challenged children's books, as well as a pizza lunch afterwards.

At the program, participants of all ages (including a group of ESL learners from Montgomery Blair High School) read passages from some of the challenged children's novels on the list, and also read entire challenged picture books together using the ELMO document camera (given by the Friends), projector and big screen. Karen MacPherson (who wrote the grant proposal) and Dave Burbank coordinate the event, with help from Ellen Robbins, volunteers from the Friends, and the City's Communications Department.

This is the Takoma Park Library's second grant from the ALA Freedom to Read Foundation.

Thrills Scheduled for Mystery Fans

On Tuesday November 9, first-time mystery writers Thomas Kaufman and Allison Leotta will appear at the Community Center auditorium at 7:30 p.m. for an evening of reading, discussion and book-signing, sponsored by the Library.

Thomas Kaufman won the PWA Best First Private Eye Novel Competition for his book "Drinking the Tea," a "taut, compelling tale of violence and corruption," (Pubishers Weekly). This impressive debut novel introduces Private Investigator Willis Gidney in a tale set in Washington, D.C. Booklist Magazine gave it a starred review: "Kaufman, an award winning cinematographer, has created a wonderful new series hero, a smart, tough and cocky knight errant, scarred by his past but resilient and resourceful." "Kaufman's debut…benefits from brisk development and a flattering, textured portrait of the nation's capital. Wisecracking narrator Gidney is also an appealing spinner of yarns." (Kirkus Reviews)

Allison Leotta's debut thriller, "Law of Attraction" will be released on October 12 by Simon and Schuster. It tells the story of "a strong, smart female prosecutor who fights to protect women from domestic violence. But it's more than a courtroom drama – it's part love story, part murder mystery." (Publisher's note) Alan Dershowitz wrote, "This is a great read for anyone who loves legal thrillers, cares about domestic violence or wonders how lawyers can live with themselves." Allison Leotta is a federal prosecutor in Washington D.C. , and a graduate of Harvard Law School.

Both authors reside in Takoma Park. All are invited to attend this free program. No registration is required.

Friends Sponsor Fall Book Sale

The semi-annual Friends of the Library Book Sale will be held on Saturday, October 23, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Library lawn.

The Friends book sales are known throughout the region as having a great selection of books for all ages in good condition at bargain prices. All proceeds are used to fund Library programs such as Spanish Circle Time and College Bound Speakers program, lanyards for kids' Library cards, and books for the Friends Reading groups and Banned Book Clubs.

If you would like to volunteer to help at the sale, contact Ellen Robbins at the Library. High school students may earn Community Service credits for working on the day of the sale, a big help especially during early and late shifts.

This is your opportunity to be an active friend of the Library, and find wonderful books as you enjoy the fall weather and visit with your neighbors.

LIBRARY CALENDAR

continued from page 8

Juster.
A limited number of copies of the book are available for check-out at the main Library desk.
Thanks to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this program.

Banned Books Club

Monday, Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m.
Award-winning book club for middle- and high-school students
Our book is "A Separate Peace" by John Knowles.
A limited number of copies of the book are available for check-out at the main Library desk.
Thanks to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this program

Friends of the Library Board Meeting

Tuesday, Oct. 18, 7:45 p.m.

Friends Reading Group

Thursday, Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m.
Azalea Room
Discussion of "The Brothers Karamazov" continues.

Friends of the Library Book Sale

Saturday, Oct. 23, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Library Lawn
(See article)

French Circle Time

Saturday, Oct. 23
10:30 a.m. with Madame Marie
Thanks to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this program

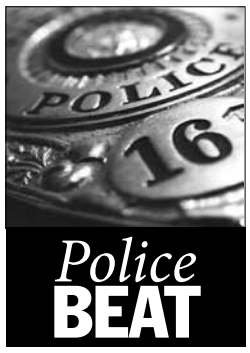
Scary Stories

Monday, Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m.
Come hear some scary stories with master storyteller Candace Wolf.
Note: This program is most appropriate for ages 5 up.
Registration required.

Comics Jam

Wednesday, Oct. 27, 4 p.m.
Come read comics with us on the big screen.
Thanks to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this program.

Patrols Increase After Rash of Burglaries



After a rash of summer burglaries and an increase in robberies, police are literally working overtime to stop these crimes: City Manager Barbara Matthews recently authorized extra funds to keep officers on the streets around the clock. "We are spending a lot of time back in the residential areas, stopping any suspicious person we see," Takoma Park Police Chief Ronald Ricucci told City Council Sept. 20. Both plain clothes and uniformed officers have been part of the increased police presence, and the Chief added that residents have contributed significantly to their efforts by calling in any suspicious activity they see.

Police have arrested five juveniles and put out a warrant for an identified adult, closing six burglary cases as of press time (Sept. 27). Since the beginning of August, 26 burglaries have occurred throughout the city, many clustered in the Old Town area and others along residential streets near New Hampshire Avenue. The five juveniles were arrested in connection with burglaries that occurred on Cedar, Tulip, Philadelphia and Willow Avenues in early September; the warrant for the adult is connected to a break-in on Hickory Avenue that occurred on Aug. 31. Other burglaries in the area considered to be along the New Hampshire Avenue corridor occurred on Columbia, Prince George's, Boyd, and 13th Avenues.

Police say some of the juveniles who were arrested told them Takoma Park is known as a prime location for burglars: residents tend to have valuable property, and they do not lock their homes tight. The Old Town burglaries were typically made by cutting window screens and going through open windows or doors. Those along the New Hampshire Avenue corridor were more typically forced entry situations, with doors being kicked in and windows broken.

Robberies also increased this summer. Three suspects have been arrested in connection with several incidents and investigations are ongoing (see story, below).

The police continue to urge residents to call in any suspicious behavior, to 301-270-1100. Additionally, residents who have information about a crime can send an anonymous tip to police: Text to 847411, type TPPDTIP at the beginning of your message, type the message including as much detail as possible to ensure that your tip is thoroughly investigated, and send.

Have a tip? Call us.

You can now use your cell phone to send a tip to the Takoma Park Police Department and remain 100 percent anonymous.
Text to 847411
Type TPPDTIP at the beginning of your message.
Type your message including as much detail as possible to ensure that your tip is thoroughly investigated.
Send your tip, knowing that you are helping to reduce crime in your community while remaining 100 percent anonymous.
Your tip is important and CAN make a difference!

Seminar Helps Residents Avoid Becoming Crime Victims

The Takoma Park Police Department is offering a new seminar designed to equip residents with the information they need to keep from being victimized by crime. The seminar, taught by an outside agency and popular among police departments across the country, is being offered free of charge from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26, (for those 18 to 59 years of age) and from 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27 (for those 60 years and older) in the auditorium of the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park.

The two-and three-hour sessions will include information on the psychology of the criminal mind, personal and technological security, home and telephone security, self-defense tools and training options, automobile and travel security and more. Participants will learn about minimizing risk, creating personalized safety plans, and personal safety strategies, how to create home defense plans and safe rooms, and how to use parental control options to block adult material and chat rooms.

Refuse to Be a Victim was prompted by a series of assaults in September. Robberies were up from one in August, to four in September.

A group of three people were robbed by two suspects (and one driver, in a minivan) in the 6800 block of Westmoreland Avenue on Sept. 17. Three people were assaulted by armed subjects Sept. 19 on Willow Avenue near Tulip Avenue; one victim was hospitalized with injuries but is now recovering.

On the same day, Sept. 19, an individual was assaulted and robbed in the 7500 block of Maple Avenue; three subjects from that incident were identified and arrested Sept. 22.

Takoma Park police have arrested three suspects in connection with the crimes, which police believe are linked.

In addition to these robberies, a rash of burglaries hit the City in late summer (see related article, above). Police have made several arrests in connection with these crimes, and continue to work to identify additional perpetrators.

Given the recent crime activities, Chief Ronald Ricucci, who announced the upcoming Don't Be a Victim seminar at the Sept. 20 City Council meeting, told the Council, "We think it's important that we give our community extra tips on how to protect themselves."

Law enforcement and security experts agree that the best way to reduce one's chances of victimization is through the development of a personal safety strategy before it is needed. Criminals prefer easy targets. The more difficult a target you present, the less likely you are to become a victim.

Refuse to be a Victim

6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Oct. 26, (18 to 59 years of age)

1 to 3 p.m. Oct. 27 (60 and older)

Auditorium, Takoma Park Community Center

7500 Maple Avenue

Call 301-891-7142 or e-mail cathyp@takomagov.org to sign up

BEER AND WINE SALES

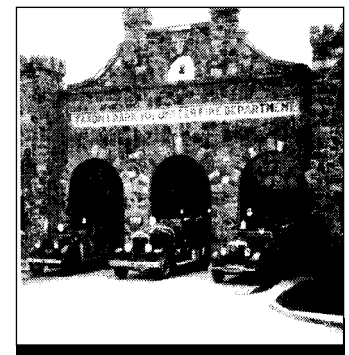
continued from page 1

responsibility with the Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners.

The Council vote followed two public hearings. Few residents attended the hearings, and the opinions of the 19 who testified in July were fairly evenly split. Among the nine who testified Sept. 13, six opposed beer and wine sales in the City, two indicated interest but were officially neutral, and one supported the measure. "The vast majority of the people in Takoma Park are indifferent" to the matter, said Councilmember Fred Schultz (Ward 6).

Councilmembers cited the possibility of attracting more business to Takoma Park and supporting existing restaurants as reasons to allow off-site beer and wine sales. "I think that we need to do things that encourage good businesses coming to town," said Mayor Bruce Williams. "I think we have a responsibility to certain of our restaurants in the city to give them as much opportunity to do well as possible," said Schultz. One of the co-owners of Roscoe's Neapolitan Pizzeria testified that his restaurant favors off-site sales.

Two City Councilmembers opposed off-site beer and wine sales, which some residents fear would bring loitering, trash and crime to local streets. Councilmember Reuben Snipper (Ward 5),6 absent from the September 27 vote, said he didn't think the change would benefit City revenues, and Councilmember Terry Seamens (Ward 4) said, "I am absolutely against this, I think it will change the character of Takoma Park in a direction we don't need to go."



By Jim Jarboe

As of August 31, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the Takoma Park station have responded to 566 fire-related incidents. The department addressed or assisted with 2,202 rescue or ambulance-related incidents, for a total of 2,768 this year.

Totals for 2009 were 504 and 1,869 respectively, for a total of 2,373, representing an increase of 395 incidents.

Escaping Home Fires

Here is what you need to know and do to get everyone outside safely:

• Smoke Alarms

Since fire grows so quickly and so often happens while people sleep, your family must have the early warning that smoke alarms give you. Some alarms are readily available, cost only pennies a day and are easy to install and maintain. Protect the sleeping areas and escape routes of your home with a smoke alarm. If you have a multi level home, put a smoke alarm on each level.

• The Escape Plan

Have a plan of action for escaping from fire ready before the smoke alarm sounds. Plan and practice your escape from a home fire. Know two ways out of every room, especially the bedrooms.

• Calling The Fire Department

The most important part of home escape is getting outside to safety. So emphasize that everyone should get outside first and then call the fire department from a neighbor's home. Dial 9-1-1. Once you are outside, stay out! Identify a safe meeting place well away from the building. Have everyone go to that meeting place so you will know that the entire family has escaped to safety. Make sure that everyone in your family knows the telephone number for the fire department. The fire department will need to know the full name of the person calling, the address of the home on fire and where the call is being placed from.

Remember...Cooking is the number one cause of home fires. Smoking materials are the number one cause of home fires involving injury or death. So be prepared! Have working smoke alarms on all levels of the home, and check them monthly.

Linden Avenue: from Runoff Disaster to Eco-Friendly Spillway

By Ali Khalilian, P.E.
City Engineer

Three years ago, the end of Linden Avenue was an environmental disaster. A City-wide survey of stormwater structures revealed a severely failed inlet, broken pipes and a collapsed sidewalk, all within a large retaining wall separating the end of the street from the banks of Sligo Creek. The barrier between street runoff and Creek water was a wreck.

Further investigation determined that the severe erosion was caused by runoff washing down the street at high velocity, flowing over the curb and washing soils away along the grassy strip outside. An abandoned shipping container that was left in the street along the curb for what appeared to be many years was causing a dam of sorts, which forced the water from the street and over the curb to get around the container. As the soils eroded, the sidewalk sunk, and the stormwater inlet and pipes collapsed from their weight without the support of the soils.

Linden Avenue intersects New Hampshire Avenue to the east and is the entranceway to the Hillwood Manor Apartments complex. The dead end street is separated from a meandering segment of Sligo Creek by an L-shaped retaining wall 150 feet long and 15 feet high. The drainage area for that single inlet at the end of the street includes some 49,600 square feet of impervious surface (hard surfaces like asphalt and roofs) and, in a moderate (two-year frequency) rain storm, generates about 1,200 gallons per hour of runoff. The old inlet dispersed that run-off through a series of pipes, through the retaining wall, and onto the steep slopes of Sligo Creek.

The new Linden Avenue storm drain is a tremendous improvement over the crumbling bricks and cement of the system it replaced.

Photo by Ali Khalilian

It was time to address this disaster—City engineers decided Linden Avenue presented not just a problem, but an opportunity to both correct a severe erosion problem and rebuild failed infrastructure as well as provide a more attractive view of Sligo Creek. In addition, the City could improve the water quality by reducing pollution like sediment, hydrocarbons and trash from being discharged into Sligo Creek.

Takoma Park relocated and replaced the failed retaining wall with a segmental block concrete wall (Key Stone® interlocking Units), and added the Modular Wetland® stormwater run-off treatment system to remove debris, sediment and hydrocarbon pollution introduced through rain water runoff.

The City and a consulting engineering firm spent several months and $40,000 developing the new system. The $190,000 construction cost was funded with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds (stimulus money) distributed through the Maryland Department of the Environment.

The Linden Avenue project has greatly improved the appearance of the area and enhanced the visibility and access to a densely wooded section of Sligo Creek Park. The structure will improve the quality of the stormwater discharged into Sligo Creek from the street and adjacent apartment building complex. The City plans to provide bi-annual testing of the water discharged through this system to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of the structure and to determine if it is meeting the expectations in reducing pollution.

Takoma Foundation Beer Tasting This Month

The Takoma Foundation is sponsoring the Second Annual Nuclear-Free Beer Tasting from 4 to 7 p.m. Oct. 16 at the historic Cady-Lee Mansion, at 7064 Eastern Avenue in Takoma, D.C. The event features craft beers donated by several local brewers, food donated by Takoma Park restaurants, and live music by Karen Collins and the Backroads Band. Tickets are $35 and available in Old Town Takoma Park stores or through the web site, takomafoundation.org.

Earnings from the fundraiser will support grants of up to $2,500 for projects supporting youth, adult education, cultural enrichment, the environment and other activities that strengthen the community. Grant proposals will be accepted through Oct. 29 this year.

For more information about grants, contact Franca Brilliant, 301-891-2581, or fbrilliant@aol.com or see takomafoundation.org.

Circle Woods Goes Native

Volunteers Invited to Plant Trees

After City efforts to reclaim Circle Woods from invasive plants, the area may emerge as an exemplary native forest.

After several applications of herbicides needed to knock out populations of multiflora rose, five-leaf akebia, porcelain berry, English ivy, bamboo, garlic mustard and many other invasives, Takoma Park has purchased 600 plants for installation in the woods, which are bordered by Spring and Circle Avenues, and Poplar and Cockerille Avenues in the Ward 3 section of the City. Of these plants, 400 are woody shrubs and trees in quart and one-gallon pots.

Public Works staff members are hoping to plant these "woodies" with volunteers from the community, on Saturday, Oct. 9 starting around 10 a.m. and going "as long as people last," says City Arborist Todd Bolton.

To volunteer, bring gloves and shovels and wear hard-soled shoes or boots. There will be a second planting in the following weeks to install approximately 200 herbaceous plants. The plantings will be done at separate times so the herbaceous plants are not trampled.

Come Plant Circle Woods

October 9
10 a.m.
Bring gloves, shovels and hard-soled shoes or boots

Obituary

DARYHL LEON LYONS

Takoma Park mourned the passing Darhyl Leon Lyons last month, marking a life deeply committed to the community.

Lyons was born August 5, 1961, in Washington, D.C. , the oldest of six siblings. He discovered a lifelong love of music in grade school—a self-driven, entrepreneurial person even then, he bought his first drum kit by collecting stacks of newspapers for recycling.

Always one to dance to his own beat, Lyons attended Duke Ellington High School of the Arts in Washington, D.C., studying dance and music. Unhappy with the dangerous city environment and anxious to broaden his horizons he joined the military at age 18 without telling his family until the day he left. He traveled Europe and began his career training as a medic, but was too tenderhearted to stand the sight of blood. He ended up in military motor pools where he applied the skills he'd learned repairing cars at his uncles' gas station.

Lyons had a longtime love for Takoma Park. As a kid he would take a bus or train up from the Adams Morgan where he grew up, just to walk around the leafy streets and watch or talk with the artsy, funky folks who helped give Takoma its reputation. It gave him an outlet for his incessant energy, creativity and personal brand of extroversion.

Three years ago Lyons wanted to give back to his community, and created a highly popular series of community music events. Starting with one drum, his drum circles eventually traveled from business to business, encouraging passersby to stop, listen, participate, join the community. He called his enterprise "A Different Drum," and welcomed anyone and everyone who was interested to grab a drum and join the circle.

Lyons was diagnosed with advanced lung cancer 15 months ago, but never seemed to allow that illness to dampen his creativity. He continued to churn out ideas for his various interests including music, art and clothing, and often shared these with his son or close friends. Throughout much of his treatment, Lyons continued to work at the Takoma Park Silver Spring Co-op as he had for many years, as a buyer for the Health and Beauty department. With support from his work family and home family he fought a long, arduous battle against a disease which ultimately claimed his life—but was unable to touch his soul even at the end.

In his life, Lyons wore many different hats: artist, soldier, advisor, husband, father, brother, son and friend but in the end what he was, was indescribable, indispensable, indestructable and irreplaceable to those who knew him and loved him. Lyons is survived by his mother, father, sisters and brothers, his children Samuel McCollin-Lyons and Marquita and many, many dear friends.

By Loni McCollin and Dave Burbank.

Street Fest, Poetry, Halloween on City TV

On Sunday, October 3, City TV will dance along Carroll Avenue as the 29th Annual Takoma Park Street Festival celebrates with 18 musical groups, crafts, community information booths, food and activities for children. Then on Oct. 21, cameras will roll at the Third Thursday Poetry Series, with poetry performances from Susan Roche, June Collins, Andrea Wyatt and Cynthia Atkins.

Halloween brings the annual parade and costume contest: On Saturday, Oct. 30, families will gather in their best Halloween outfits to parade with the Recreation Department. The festivities begin at 3 p.m. with the canine costume contest, and continue with contests for every age group (of people!) at 5 p.m., the parade around 5:45, wrapping up with a party at Piney Branch Elementary School. City TV will capture it all.

City TV will also cover all the We Are Takoma performances in the Community Center auditorium, showcasing the cultural diversity and creative spirit of the City.

If you are a non-profit or a community organization, you can advertise your activities in our bulletin board. Also, if you would like City TV to cover an event or add specific programming to its line-up, call 301-891-7118 or send an e-mail to cabletv@takomagov.org.

Do you have an idea for a production? Are you missing some type of programming you'd like City TV to add? Call us or send us an e-mail with your suggestions.

POTHOLES

continued from page 1

Avenue, it is called "East-West Highway" again. Route 410 is a heavily used highway through Prince George's and Montgomery Counties.

Flower Avenue between Carroll Avenue and Piney Branch Road is Route 787, also a part of the State Highway system. Route 787 used to extend into Silver Spring to Franklin Avenue, but the segment north of Piney Branch Road was delisted as a State Highway some years ago when Montgomery County took over maintenance of the road in a swap involving Great Seneca Highway. Route 787 does not function as a highway, but is a well-used neighborhood road with many bus riders and pedestrians.

In Takoma Park, many other roads are also state highways: New Hampshire Avenue, Carroll Avenue, Piney Branch Road and University Boulevard.

SHA is responsible for the maintenance on all of them. State Highway staff fill potholes, repair pavement, install signs, cut the grass in the medians and plow the roads when it snows. SHA also requires permits for driveways, utility work or other activities within the road right-of-way (the area between the property lines on either side of the road). Maintenance of sidewalks in the right-of-way is usually left to local governments.

SHA maintained Route 410 for decades until about two years ago. Although SHA maps show sections of Ethan Allen and Philadelphia Avenues as owned or maintained by Takoma Park, little additional documentation has been discovered about City ownership or responsibility for these sections. And the State continued to fill potholes, plow snow and repave the roadway. Takoma Park does not do regular maintenance work on state highways and has never budgeted funds for this work.

When Maryland faced severe budget constraints two years ago, SHA stopped maintaining Ethan Allen Avenue and told residents who called with pothole complaints to call the City of Takoma Park—that it is the City's road. City staff immediately called SHA to protest and several meetings were held.

By the end of the meetings, all agreed the roadway was in great need of repair and that there was no money to do the work in current budgets. The earliest SHA would be able to do the repair work was 2013. SHA was not prepared to completely turn Route 410 over to Takoma Park, however. They wanted it to stay a State Highway.

SHA staff floated the idea that the State would agree to maintain Route 410 if Takoma Park took on responsibility for Flower Avenue between Carroll and Piney Branch. City staff pointed out that this was an unfair burden on Takoma Park: no paving of Ethan Allen Avenue until 2013 and any improvements to Flower Avenue would have to be paid for by the City. The discussions ended in a stand-off.

Staff turnover at SHA meant the issue remained unresolved. Finally, after a great deal of pressure from City officials, State Delegate Heather Mizeur and others, Secretary of Transportation Beverley Swaim-Staley investigated the situation and submitted the current proposal to Takoma Park Mayor Bruce Williams.

State Ownership of Route 410?

Historically, there has been great sensitivity over the possibility that the State could widen Route 410 through Takoma Park. In the late 1960s, there were epic fights and protests over proposed freeways that would have cut through neighborhoods in Maryland into the heart of Washington, D.C. The battle over the proposed North Central Freeway, which would have destroyed many blocks of Takoma Park along a path close to that of the current Route 410, is an important part of Takoma Park history. It may have been thought that City ownership of land under Route 410 would be a preventive measure against widening the road in the future.

To address those concerns, before it agrees to a land transfer, the City Council will consider conditions that would require State Highway maintain the roadway as a neighborhood-friendly street, adding crosswalks, etc. Staff is looking into how such language might be written into the agreement.

Flower Avenue

Turning over Flower Avenue to the City after repaving has some complicated features of its own. The Takoma Park city boundary runs along the curb line of the east side of the street from the doors of Wilkinson Hall on the Washington Adventist University campus to Piney Branch Road. Since SHA doesn't do much sidewalk work, the area between the curb and the Silver Spring properties is the responsibility of Montgomery County. Installation of a badly-needed sidewalk has been on the Montgomery County Capital Improvement Program for years, but has been repeatedly delayed. Currently, sidewalk installation there is planned for 2016.

City officials suggested that SHA just give the City the money the State would have spent on paving Flower Avenue. The City would then try to supplement those funds with grants and County allocations to pay for paving, sidewalk and low-impact stormwater improvements.

City officials want to coordinate sidewalk and streetscape improvements along Flower Avenue with repaving, so that newly repaved roadway doesn't have to be cut up and re-installed to accommodate the improvements.

The Flower Avenue ownership and responsibility transfer has also raised the possibility of annexing into Takoma Park the remaining right-of-way or even adjacent Silver Spring properties. Right of way annexation can be done fairly easily, but annexation of private property requires consent by a percentage of the residents and property owners.

Who Pays?

Funds for the repaving of Route 410 and Route 787 are likely to come from stimulus monies received by the State. Turning over the money for Flower Avenue to the City is not likely to happen because of the special conditions that come with stimulus funds. Thus, City, SHA and County staff are discussing other ways to coordinate the repaving with the desired sidewalk improvements without impacting the City of Takoma Park budget.

The City Council will be discussing these plans over the next month or so. As research continues other options or problems could come to light. But there does seem to be interest from the Secretary of Transportation in resolving the confusion and, ultimately, improving the shape of the roadways in Takoma Park—a great step forward from where we were just two months ago.

Leaf Collection Abbreviated This Year

The period of time during which Public Works vacuums up leaves curbside has been shortened this year from seven weeks to five. This change was a budget reduction measure implemented by the City Council when the budget was finalized last summer. Each week of leaf collection cost the City approximately $6,240 in temporary labor; by eliminating two weeks, the budget is reduced by just over $12,000.

The bagged yard waste collection that the City offers on Monday each week (except for those with a holiday on Monday) will continue unchanged throughout the year.

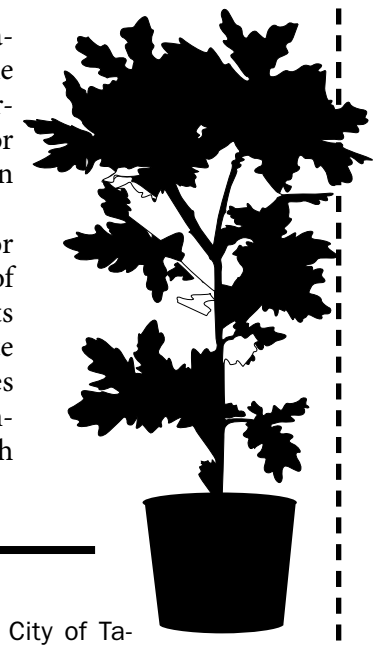
Residents can rake their leaves to the curbside during the five-week leaf vacuuming program or they can bag them (in paper bags or stiff sided containers) for collection on Mondays.

The dates for the five-week collection program will be announced in the November newsletter and on the City's website and City TV. There will not be specific scheduled dates for collection on most City streets, except for the five state highway routes in the City: Carroll Avenue, Flower Avenue (from Carroll Ave to Piney Branch Rd), Ethan Allen Avenue and Philadelphia Avenue.

The City will mail notices to residents on the State Highway routes of the scheduled collection date. The City will mail a flyer to every City household that will include the general rules to follow for vacuum leaf collection. Those will be mailed out in late October.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE
PLANT A TREE

Discount Trees Available to Beautify Yards, Replace the Canopy



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

Acting as a purchasing agent with Arbor Landscapers, the City is making a number of species available at wholesale prices. Residents can purchase sugar maple, black gum, white oak and willow oak — all native shade trees that usually retail for about $350 – for $195, installed. Sale dates run through October 8, with installation at the beginning of November.

Order Form

Please include check, including tax, written to 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 Avenue, Silver Spring, MD, 20910 by close of business October 8. Someone will be in touch regarding installation dates.

Name_____

Address_____

Phone_____

Please include a map of property/tree installation locations.

Species	Price	Quantity	Total
Red Maple (2")	195		
Red Oak (2")	195		
Black Gum (2")	195		
Swamp White Oak (2")	195		
Tulip Poplar (2")	195		
6 % Sales Tax			

Total amount enclosed _____