



Sundays at the Library

By Karen MacPherson

For the first time in its history, the Takoma Park Maryland Library is open on Sundays from 12-5.



Sunday afternoons at the Library have been busy for new librarian Kati Nolfi with residents of all ages making use of resources and services.



New Librarian and Programs

With the new Sunday hours has come a new librarian, Kathryn Nolfi, better known as Kati. Kati, 32, is a Pittsburgh native and an experienced children and teen librarian. In her new role as our Sunday librarian, Kati is offering two regular programs: a **Yoga Storytime** for ages 3-5 and their grown-ups, and a **Fashion Design Workshop** for ages 8 and up. Both programs are held once a month; registration is required only for the Yoga Storytime.

Kati also is overseeing the launch of the Library's new **Sunday Games** program, which will be offered at least once each month. To participate, patrons merely need to sign out one of the board games we'll have on hand at the Library, and take it into the Children's Room to play.

Language Learning Games

In addition, Nadia Pazolis-Gabriel of the Friends Board of Directors, has created several simple language learning games in English, French and Spanish.

Nadia, a Paris native who speaks fluent English and Spanish, had created similar games in French as the librarian at the Alliance Francaise in Washington, and volunteered to expand them to English and Spanish as well.

Continued on page 2

Meeting Many Needs

Since Sunday hours started in May, the Library has been busy as people gather for weekly discussions of what they're learning in distance education classes, get hands-on help with online reference tools, and take advantage of the new programs Yoga Storytime and Fashion Design Workshop.

The Sunday hours have drawn kudos from numerous patrons, many of whom are delighted to have another day to return and check out library books, study, or enjoy reading time — alone or with family members — in the Library. Many Sunday patrons also come to take advantage of the Library's computers or Wi-Fi.



A color version of this Newsletter can be viewed and printed at www.ftpml.org/newsletters/fall2013.pdf

Plan for the Library's Future

By Ellen Robbins

The Takoma Park Maryland Library is the only municipal community public library in Maryland.

One of a Kind

Throughout its nearly 80 year history, the Library has surmounted many challenges. It has evolved from a neighborhood library sustained through donations and staffed by volunteers to one that embraces emerging technology and educates a diverse community through an abundance of programs, with experienced and professional staff. It strains against the confines of a small and aging building but has developed and managed a computer center, organized public discussions around open online university courses, and engaged the community with book discussions, resume building workshops and other public programs in the adjacent Community Center.

Nonetheless it remains an anomaly — a small independent library in an urban setting surrounded by large county systems — and supported mainly by City taxes. It maintains close ties with neighborhood families and students of the five schools that are within walking distance. Because it has continuously evolved, and used its flex-

ibility to adapt, and to identify and respond quickly to community needs, it has retained a supportive constituency.

What Then Is The Next Step?

If you are interested in the Takoma Park Library, and would like to help in planning its future, you are invited to participate in one of a series of focused community conversations this coming Fall. The time commitment is minimal, and your participation is of great value to the Library. With the guidance of a trained facilitator, we will be seeking answers to these questions:

- What role does the Takoma Park Library play in the lives of it's residents?
- What does the community see as the strengths of the Library today?
- What is the Takoma Park community's vision for library service, and what changes are needed to insure that the Library continues to support that vision?

For further information, please contact Library Director Ellen Robbins at ellenr@takomaparkmd.gov

Sundays at the Library

Continued from page 1

“The Library is a busy place on Sundays, with something to offer for all ages!”

The language games also will be available to sign out during the Sunday Games.

The Friends have helped fund some of these Sunday activities. They purchased the board games available for patrons to sign out, and the Friends paid for the printing and laminating of the language learning games created by Nadia.

MOOCs Discussion Groups

Librarian Rebecca Brown and Patti Mallin, our Sunday Computer teacher, have spear-headed Sunday afternoon discussions for adults and teens taking free online distance learning classes, called **Massive Open Online Courses** — MOOCs, for short.

Those taking MOOCs do so on their own, so the Sunday discussions, called “**Closing the Distance**,” are designed to offer patrons a place to gather for regular discussions with others taking the same course.

The first set of discussions, built around a MOOC devoted to “The Ancient Greek Hero,” proved so popular last spring that the Library is offering Sunday discussions this fall of two MOOCs.

The “Ideas of the 20th Century” discussion group meets each Sunday at 12:30pm, while those taking the “Fantasy & Science Fiction” meet at 2 p.m. Both discussions take place in the Computer Center, where participants can use the computers, projector and big screen to access and discuss particular elements of the MOOCs.

In addition to these discussions, participants have been invited to brief, hands-on workshops this fall devoted to the Library's many new online reference tools, many of which were funded by the Friends. The workshops have included a look at history resources, language learning tools, and online offerings for children.

Children's Programs

By Karen MacPherson

There's always a lot going on at the Library, thanks to our Friends!

Thanks to funding by the Friends, the Library's offering our regular — and popular — trio of autumn programs featuring storyteller Candace Wolf, Eaglebear, drummer Bill Jenkins, and the Foggy Bottom Morris Men. In addition, the Friends fund our unique Summer Quest reading program, which set new records this summer.

Summer Quest Sets Record!

Let's look first at the 2013 Summer Quest, which featured a story and artwork created — as always — by library assistant and artist extraordinaire Dave Burbank. This year's theme was "Robots," and our Summer Quest readers ranged in age from one through adult. Dozens of Summer Quest participants joined us for a special "robot-making workshop" in August as well as our End of Summer Quest gala in September.

Once again, Summer Quest participants set a reading record, reading 2,132 books, up from 2,095 in 2012. Some readers particularly enjoyed seeing how many books they could read (challenge No. 9 of the 10 challenges). Our top finisher was Yohanes Kifle, who read 129 books, just two shy of the record set last year by Kiera Norris. Our youngest Summer Quest finisher was two-year-old Esme Cloud, who read 16 books (with the help of her parents). The fastest finisher was Keira Oostburg, age 5, who read 21 books in less than a month.

Popular Fall Programs Return

The Friends' support is crucial with our traditional trio of Fall programs, which we have offered for many years and continue to attract crowds of kids and adults.

On Thursday, Oct. 24 at 7:30 pm, master storyteller Candace Wolf will present our pre-Halloween "Scary Stories" program, which is best for ages 5 up. Wolf will tell three stories, which combine humor and scariness. Registration is encouraged; go to www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents.

On Monday, Nov. 25 at 7 p.m., Eaglebear, a.k.a Tomas Shash, returns with his harvest-time program which is great for all ages. Eaglebear and his family and friends will share dances, stories and songs from their Xicano and Apache cultures.

On Thursday, Dec. 19, at 6:30 p.m., local drummer and music educator Bill Jenkins will kick off our traditional Winter Solstice program as he leads everyone in a drumming circle. Then, at 7:15, the Foggy Bottom Morris Men will swoop in with their sticks, stories and dances and launch us into winter.



A member of Eaglebear's Harvest Program demonstrates the Hunting Dance at a previous Takoma Park Maryland Library performance.

Thanks Friends!

The Friends support activities for all ages. Your membership donations and our book sales make these programs possible. Please check the red expiration date on your address label to find out if it is time to renew your membership donation. Invite your friends to join by sharing this newsletter or online in color at www.ftpmi.org/Newsletters/Fall2013.pdf.

See updates on the Friends and "Like" us on Facebook.

Jim Kuhn



"...our library staff are providing services that are a model nationwide."

Board Member Moving On

In October, the Friends bid an affectionate farewell to Jim Kuhn. A member of the Friends Board since 1997, Jim leaves to accept a newly endowed position as Director of Rare Books, Special Collections and Preservation at the University of Rochester. During his tenure at the Folger Library, Jim helped secure a number of grants, most recently a \$500,000 Institute of Museum and Library Services grant for transcription of early modern manuscripts.

Promoted Our Library

An active Takoma Park Library advocate and Friends Board member, Jim nominated children's and teen librarian Karen MacPherson and student Alanna Natanson for the American Library Association Intellectual Freedom Round Table's prestigious John Phillip Immroth Award, which they won in 2009 for the TP Library's Banned Book Club.

Jim served as the Friends' liaison to the Takoma Park Film Festival. He testified in support of the Library's budget for a number of years, and served as the Friends' Board Treasurer during most of his tenure.

He also represented the Friends at the Takoma Park Folk Festival and the Friends' used book sales.

In his 2011 testimony before the City Council, in referring to the Immroth Award and the Library's subsequent grant from the nonprofit Freedom to Read Foundation during banned books week, Jim noted "...there are now more public library buildings in the U.S. than there are McDonalds. Yet in such a crowded field our library staff are providing services that are a model nationwide. That our small library has distinguished itself in this way provides a clear indication of how important it is to have professional librarians and trained staff providing these city services...."

Jim has been an eloquent and unflagging advocate in support of libraries everywhere, and the Takoma Park Maryland Library in particular. Recently elected to the Council of the American Library Association, Jim's recognition is well-deserved. We are grateful for his support of our Library, for his past service to the Friends, and wish him well in his move.

Proust Is the Challenge for Fall of 2013

By Merrill Leffler

Professor Lozinsky will introduce *Rembrance of Things Past* on October 16.

The fall season of the Friends' Great Big Book Group gets underway Wednesday October 16 in the Community Center with Marcel Proust's *Remembrance of Things Past — A la recherché du temps perdu*. Our opening night speaker is Dr. Elena Lozinsky, professor of French and Russian Literature at the University of Maryland, who will introduce the novel, its major themes, its relation to Proust's life, and the significant influences the work has had on modern literature. Dr. Lozinsky is engaged in the herculean work of translating this longest of modern novels into Russian. For years, she has immersed herself in Proust's literary world, which has had a significant influence on her translations. The first two of seven volumes in Russian are now in print.

Proust, born in 1871, published volume 1 of his obsessive memories, *Du cote de chez Swann*, or *Swann's Way*, in 1913. At his

death in 1922, he had seen through publication the first four of seven volumes. Proust's brother Robert oversaw printing of the final three by 1927, the last being *Le temps retrouve*, *The Past Recaptures*, or *Time Regained*. Because of the novel's length, the Book Group will meet four times, every two weeks, and focus only on the first volume.

Everyone is welcome to join in the Friends book discussions. See the website for more information, www.ftpml.org, or call 301-8791-7259.



101 Philadelphia Ave.
Takoma Park, MD 20912

www.cityoftakomapark.org/library.
Visit the Friends at www.ftpml.org

Learning and Research Aids for All Ages

By Karen MacPherson

Now that schools are back in session, residents will want to keep in mind some of the online resources offered by the Library to help make learning easier for all ages.

We have online books and databases of all types: newspapers and magazines; encyclopedias and dictionaries; career guidance and test preparation; health information and history facts, etc.

All of these resources can be easily accessed — 24 hours a day, seven days a week — via our website, www.takomapark.info/library, or through the reference link on the left of most of our web pages or via the “online resources” button on our mobile site.

Here’s a brief summary of our online resources, a number of which are new. (Note: some of the resources require a library card):

- ▶ **Periodicals:** Read hundreds of magazines, journals and newspapers via EbscoHost and eLibrary and enjoy *National Geographic* magazines from 1888 - present.
- ▶ **Dictionaries and General Encyclopedias:** Check out such resources as the *Oxford Dictionary and Thesaurus*; the incomparable *Oxford English Dictionary*; *Encyclopedia Britannica* including Britannica editions in French, Spanish, Korean, Japanese, and Chinese; and the *World Book*.
- ▶ **Subject Encyclopedias:** We offer several hundred e-reference volumes on all kinds of subjects for kids and adults. Each article or chapter can be downloaded as either text or mp3. Don’t forget that we also offer print versions of many of these volumes as well. ▶ Reference database.
- ▶ **College and Career:** Find information on college planning and financial aid, internships, apprenticeships, resume preparation, cover letters and interviews. In addition, our Testing and Education Resource Center materials provide help for studying for more than 60 exams required for college admission, graduate schools, the military and a variety of jobs.
- ▶ **Health:** There’s a wealth of solid information about medical and preventive care in our Health Reference Center.
- ▶ **History:** This section offers databases focused on American history, African-American history, and American Indian history. There is also the *World News Digest*, from 1940 - present, which provides a day by day, year by year look at history through news stories.
- ▶ **Language Learning:** Our resources include Little Pim for children through age 6, and Mango for older kids and adults.
- ▶ **For Children:** We offer a host of resources specifically geared to children, including *World Book Online* for kids in elementary school, *World Book Discover* for middle school ages, *Britannica Smart Math*, encyclopedias in French and Spanish, *National Geographic Kids* (both books and magazines), the Gale reference collection which includes the *Dk Eyewitness* books for kids, and the *Early Learning Center at World Book* for very young children.

In addition to these online resources, don’t forget our extensive collection of reference sources in print, including many beautiful, new, just-plain-fun-to-read, multi-volume sets. They fill an entire room. *Come in and browse!*

Become a Friend...



Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library
www.ftpml.org

To become a Friend for one year please fill out this form and send it with your member contribution to:

FTPML

101 Philadelphia Avenue
Takoma Park, MD 20912

Name/s _____ Date _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ E-mail address _____

Please circle (above) where you prefer to be contacted,
and indicate any restrictions on the day or time. _____

Join e-mail list? Yes No

The e-mail list is for announcements only, and you can unsubscribe at any time.

You will receive no more than 1-2 messages per month.

Please mark the donation you wish to give.

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| <input type="radio"/> Student/Senior | \$ 5.00 | <input type="radio"/> Patron | \$500.00 |
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Make your payment out to **Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library, Inc.**

FTPML is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your gift is greatly appreciated and fully deductible as a charitable contribution.

If you're interested in donating time and/or expertise, please let us know:

- Book Sales (semi-annual or mini-sales at Farmers' Market)
- Publicity Committee (newsletter, flyers, printing, mailings, list serve liaison, etc.)
- Table Staffing (staffing a table at the Farmers' Market or other event)
- Board of Directors or Committee Chair

May we include your name if we exchange our list of members with other Takoma Park community not-for-profit organizations? Yes No