



City of Takoma Park, Maryland Mayoral Proclamation

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE TAKOMA HORTICULTURAL CLUB

- WHEREAS,** 2016 marks the 100th anniversary of the 1916 founding of the Takoma Horticultural Club, one of the oldest, continuously operating garden clubs in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** its first Constitution declared “The aims of the Takoma Park Horticultural Improvement Club are to promote the culture of flowers and vegetables, to beautify Takoma Park through the improvement of its home grounds, parks and streets...”; and
- WHEREAS,** the Club has a proud history of service to Takoma and nearby communities, it has been an important part of the Takoma Park, Maryland and Takoma D.C. communities since it was founded, its members have made significant contributions to horticulture in Maryland and the nation, and many members supported the City’s Azalea Committee’s planting effort to bring about “Azalea City”; and
- WHEREAS,** a new City park supported in part by the Club is underway to commemorate this centennial on city property at the northwest corner of Piney Branch Road and Philadelphia Avenue, with an expected ribbon-cutting ceremony during October 2016; and
- WHEREAS,** the Club’s historical archives preserved at Historic Takoma have been researched, information about its contributions to Takoma has been retrieved and is being published, and recordings of club members’ recollections are being done in conjunction with Takoma Radio; and
- WHEREAS,** commemorative activities are planned to celebrate its contributions to the community and its longevity, including a window display at Historic Takoma, additional gifts to the Takoma Park and Takoma D.C. libraries, a gala marking the centennial, and monthly articles for publication in the Club newsletter and on its website; and
- WHEREAS,** the Takoma Horticultural Club intends to continue its mission to share knowledge of gardening with the Takoma community for another 100 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KATE STEWART, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, on behalf of the City Council, staff and residents, do hereby join the Takoma Horticulture Club, and their leaders, members, families, and recipients of their volunteer services and educational programs in celebrating the Club’s centennial.

Dated this 18th day of May, 2016.

**Kate Stewart
Mayor**