

Introduced by: Councilmember Seamens

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
RESOLUTION 2009-1
Recognizing the Accomplishments of Belle Ziegler
and Offering Condolences to her Family and Friends**

WHEREAS, Belle Ziegler came to Takoma Park in 1956 as a single mother, with two small children; and

WHEREAS, she embraced the community from the beginning, becoming active with the PTA and civic affairs; and

WHEREAS, from 1960 to 1963, Ms. Ziegler served as counselor and coordinator of the City's summer playground programs and activities; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ziegler joined the City staff full time in 1963 as Secretary to City Clerk-Administrator Haynes Pridgen, and was promoted to Deputy City Clerk in 1966; and

WHEREAS, as Secretary and then Deputy City Clerk, Ms. Ziegler began creating programs for children of all ages, and upon formation of the Recreation Department in 1967, she became its first Director; and

WHEREAS, she continued to expand the program offerings of the Recreation Department every year by learning what programs residents wanted and then empowering those same residents to implement their ideas with guidance and assistance from the Recreation Department; and

WHEREAS, she helped spawn many events, such as the House and Garden Tour, that came to identify the character of Takoma Park as an active, engaged community; and

WHEREAS, she served on the first Sister City Committee in 1963, started a senior citizens group, the Municipal Band, the Community Singers, and devoted many years as a member of the Independence Day Committee to continue that great 4th of July tradition; and

WHEREAS, she continued her tireless contribution to the community through her work on the Independence Day Committee after retiring from City employment in 1990; and

WHEREAS, by recognizing the potential in the people she knew and by encouraging creativity, participation and involvement in each person's neighborhood and their community, she inspired many to go beyond where they might ordinarily have gone; and

WHEREAS, her favorite volunteers were her children, Doug and Dolores, and more recently her granddaughter, Angelina, who contributed greatly to the Takoma Park community over the years; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park community was deeply saddened to learn of her death on December 14, 2008.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND THAT on behalf of the City Council, staff and residents, we express our sadness at the loss of this community icon, and we do hereby offer our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Belle Ziegler.

Adopted this 5th day of January, 2009.

Bruce R. Williams
Mayor