Takoma Underground
Comes Up for Air

By Bob Guldin
Editor

Takoma Underground, the antique and junk store on Westminster Ave. in Old Town, has been through some hard times. That’s still in business, selling its wild combination of vintage clothing, eyeglasses, books, shaving kits, art and tchotchkes, is a tribute to the energy of the two women who run the store and the chemistry between them.

Since Takoma Underground was founded in 1996 by Nadine Rubenstein, the following disasters have befallen this emporium of funk:

1. Rubenstein’s original partner (who shall go nameless) was a virtual kleptomaniac.

She stole from the store and stole from customers. On her way out, she emptied the store’s bank account, leaving a $20,000 loss behind her.

2. Three years later, Rubenstein had a terrible adverse reaction to the antibiotic Cipro, and developed an autoimmune disease plus complications. It’s put her in the hospital several times and generally impairs her vitality.

3. On Feb. 2, 2004, a water main broke and flooded the Undergound, which was located literally underground, in the vault of an old bank at 7000 Old Town Ave. (where Carroll does its 90-degree turn in Old Town). As store manager Lisa Schneider describes it, “About a ton of water came into the store, burst through the ceiling and down the stairs. We had a foot of water, dolls and shoes were floating in the water, our Persian carpets turned the water red.”

When the water was pumped out, Rubenstein and Schneider at first tried to clean up the store. But then mildew and mold formed (there’s not much ventilation in an old bank vault), and the two women realized they’d have to move out.

While the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (aka the water company) acknowledged its responsibility to help out with recreation and youth activities, and emphasized the value of a gym in building character, creating community and keeping kids out of trouble.

Not everyone loves the notion of borrowing for the Community Center, though. The local group Sustainable Takoma is currently circulating a petition asking the City to borrow only the minimum needed to complete the current building and put borrowing for the gym up for a public referendum.

To look at the city manager’s presentation on bond options, go to www.cityoftakomapark.org, and you’ll find “Community Center” under “Current issues.”

Lost in Takoma?

By Rob Inerfeld
Community Development Coordinator

Have you ever had a difficult time finding your way around Takoma Park or giving directions to a visitor to Takoma Park? Not quite sure when you are in Takoma Park? To help motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists to better navigate their way around Takoma Park, the City is developing a system of gateway and directional signage. The signagesystem will let people know when they have entered Takoma Park and guide them to various destinations around the City including commercial areas, public parking facilities, educational institutions, and other municipal facilities. Other objectives of the project include enhancing the image of the City and attracting additional customers to the City’s business districts.

The consulting firm of Gallagher & Associates has been working with City staff and community members over the last few months to design this signage system. Community feedback on the design and location of the signs is critical to the success of the project. Thus far, residents, business owners and other stakeholders have provided input at a community forum in October and through participation in a committee that is advising the City on this project.

At this point, the people who have participated have expressed a clear preference for one of the four sign concepts that have been presented. We would like to get your feedback on this concept. The sign concept below shows four kinds of signs:

• Primary Gateway: these would be installed at major gateways into Takoma Park such as the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue and East-West Highway.

Continued on page 2

Inside this Issue

Let It Snow, Let It Snow
How Public Works deals with snow removal

A Hint of Halloween
Are our kids cute, or what?

Raccoons Test Positive for Rabies
How to deal with potentially dangerous critters

Takoma Park Votes for President
Can you guess who carried the City?

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City Council Calendar

MONDAY, DEC. 6 - SPECIAL SESSION, PRESENTATION & WORKSESSION
Special Session:—Resolution commemorating the 25th Anniversary of Historic Takoma
Presentation:—Update on the Community Center Construction Project
Worksession
TUESDAY, DEC. 7 - COLTA Hearing, 7 p.m. (Municipal Building Council Chambers)
THURSDAY, DEC. 9 - Safe Roadsways Committee, 6:30 p.m.
MONDAY, DEC. 13 - PRESENTATION, REGULAR MEETING & WORKSESSION
Presentation:—Update on the Community Center Construction Project
Regular Meeting
Worksession
TUESDAY, DEC. 14 - Tree Commission, 6:30 p.m. (Municipal Building Council Chambers)
TUESDAY, DEC. 14 - Facade Advisory Board, 7 p.m. (6 Grant Avenue)
(Proposed) TUESDAY, DEC. 14 thru MONDAY, JAN. 3 - City Council’s 2004 Holiday Recess
THURSDAY, DEC. 21 - Arts and Humanities Commission, 7:30 p.m.
THURSDAY, DEC. 22 - Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee, 7 p.m.
TUESDAY, JAN. 4 - PRESENTATION & WORKSESSION
Presentation:—Update on the Community Center Construction Project
Worksession
MONDAY, JAN. 10 - PRESENTATION & REGULAR MEETING
Presentation:—Update on the Community Center Construction Project
Regular Meeting
TUESDAY, JAN. 11 - Tree Commission, 6:30 p.m. (Municipal Building Council Chambers)
TUESDAY, JAN. 11 - Facade Advisory Board, 7:30 p.m. (6 Grant Avenue)
THURSDAY, JAN. 13 - Safe Roadsways Committee, 6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY, JAN. 18 - PRESENTATION & WORKSESSION
Presentation:—Update on the Community Center Construction Project
Worksession
THURSDAY, JAN. 20 - Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee, 7 p.m. (Municipal Building Conference Room)
THURSDAY, JAN. 20 - (tentative) COLTA Hearing, 7 p.m.
MONDAY, JAN. 24 - PRESENTATION, REGULAR MEETING & WORKSESSION
Presentation:—Update on the Community Center Construction Project
Regular Meeting
Worksession

City Offices will be Closed Thursday, Nov. 25 and Friday, Nov. 26 in Observance of Thanksgiving

City offices will be closed at 12 noon on Thursday, December 23 and all day Friday, December 24 in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

Think Globally, Shop Locally; Support Takoma Park Businesses

City Council Briefs

To receive a copy of the legislation or to learn more about a particular resolution, contact Cathy Waters, the City Clerk, at 301-891-7206 or cathyw@takomagov.org.

Monday, October 25 - Regular Meeting
—Resolution #2004-52 was unanimously adopted, recognizing the contributions of Paul MacLardy (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Eich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Mizeur).
—Resolution #2004-53 was unanimously adopted, authorizing Community Development Block Grant PY31 program recommendations (VOTING FOR: Porter, Barry, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Eich, Mizeur).

Monday, November 1 - Special Session
—2nd Reading Ordinance #2004-30 was unanimously adopted, awarding a contract for construction management and inspection services for the capital improvement petition process (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Eich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Mizeur).
—Resolution #2004-55 was unanimously adopted, effecting appointments to the Commission on Landlord Tenant Affairs (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Eich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Mizeur).

Vacancies on Council-Appointed Committees

Ethics Commission. The 7-member commission is charged with overseeing the implementation of and adherence to the City’s Ethics Ordinance. (Two vacancies.)

Facade Advisory Board. The 7-member board provides design and historic advisory assistance for building and business owners located in the commercial areas of Takoma Park and provides recommendations to the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission regarding permit applications. (One vacancy.)

Noise Control Board. The 7-member board is charged with assisting and advising the City on noise control issues, including administration and enforcement of the Noise Control Ordinance, and adjudicating noise disturbance complaints. (One vacancy.)

Interested applicants are encouraged to send a letter of interest and resume or statement of qualifications to City Clerk Cathy Waters at 7500 Maple Ave. or via e-mail to cathyw@takomagov.org. Further information is available by contacting the City Clerk at 301-891-7206.

Holiday Trash Collection Schedule

There are several holidays that the City observes in December and January. Please follow the following directions to ensure you receive collection of trash and recyclables.

The City will be closed on Friday, Dec. 24. The Friday trash and recycling routes will be collected on Thursday, Dec. 23.

The City will be closed on Friday, Dec. 31. The Friday trash and recycling routes will be collected on Thursday, Dec. 30.

For Martin Luther King’s Birthday, Monday, Jan. 17: There will be no Monday yard waste collection. Monday recycling routes will be collected on Tuesday, Jan. 18.

—1st Reading Ordinance #2004-30 was unanimously adopted, awarding a contract for construction management and inspection services for the capital improvement petition process (VOTING FOR: Porter, Barry, Eich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Mizeur).

Nuclear Free Committee. The 7-member committee is responsible for overseeing the implementation of and adherence to the Nuclear-Free Zone Act. (Two vacancies.)

Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee. The 12-member committee is charged with providing input and advice to the Council and the City’s public safety agencies about how the City can better meet the ongoing needs and concerns of residents in the area of police services and public safety. (Three vacancies.)

Safe Roadsways Committee. The new committee advises the City on transportation-related issues including, but not limited to, pedestrian and bicycle safety, traffic, and transit services. (Three vacancies.)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Senior Police Dispatcher – Provides prompt and accurate dispatching of police units; receives and disseminates emergency and non-emergency calls for service from citizens; enters and maintains records in computer systems and supervises police dispatch team. Requires H.S. diploma or GED; 1-2 years related experience; 2 years of supervisory experience & MILES/NICIC Certification. Must be able to work rotating shifts, including days, nights, and weekends. Application evaluation will involve written test and other screening tools. Salary Range: $41,689-$63,367 depending on qualifications; includes excellent benefits. Preferred closing date: Sept. 13, 2005. Position open until filled. Send résumé to City of Takoma Park, Human Resources, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912, or fax to 301-270-8794, EOE.

Think Globally, Shop Locally; Support Takoma Park Businesses
Carroll Ave. Streetscape Construction To Begin in Late Winter

By Ilona Blanchard
Associate Planner

Wondering what is happening with the Carroll Ave. Streetscape Project? After all the planning and design meetings last spring, Council briefings and consultations with neighborhoods and community organizations, where has the project gone?

For those who haven’t yet heard about the project, the City was awarded several grants which will be used to improve the streetscape between Takoma Junction and Old Town on Carroll Ave., and on Laurel Ave. Once the project is complete, the area should be safer to walk and bike in, more attractive, have more trees, present more opportunities for socializing in public space, and be more enjoyable to shop in.

The Laurel Ave. portion of the project now has all the construction design work completed, the necessary approvals, and a prospective contractor who will build the project. The new streetscape construction has been scheduled to begin in October of 2004; as this would have interrupted the holiday shopping season, the start date was postponed to late winter/early spring. For the duration of the construction, the Farmers’ Market will be relocated, most likely to the vicinity of Willow Ave.

Laurel Ave. will have a new look: a larger commercial sidewalk and median, with decorative paving. The median will be at street level surrounded with low, complementary bollards and have protected crossing areas at both ends. Tree boxes will be larger with new trees and landscaping. The clock and statue of Roosevelt will remain in their existing prominent locations.

The Carroll Ave. residential area sidewalks and landscaping will be built on a schedule similar to that of Laurel Ave. The design has been developed with community input, has been approved by the City Council and the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission, and the City has had a contract to build the residential portion since last June.

However, to achieve the traffic calming and pedestrian safety objectives of the project, the State Highway Administration (SHA) needed to grant exceptions to their standards for highway design before they would consider issuing approvals. These included items such as additional crosswalks at intersections, stripping narrower vehicle lanes, allowing a wider bicycle area, and adding curb extensions at intersections to narrow crossing distances and slow down cars making turns. As SHA and the City came to an agreement that will meet the project’s goals late in the summer, the construction document is now nearly finished. Construction is scheduled to be initiated on the residential portion of the project in the late winter/early spring.

Construction of the commercial section of the project on Carroll Ave. has not been scheduled. In the interim, the City is working to secure additional funds to address shortfall in available resources for this section of the project.

More information on this project, including concept plans, is available at www.cityoftakomapark.org. Questions regarding the project may be directed to Ilona Blanchard at ilonab@takomagov.org or 301-891-7205.

Leaf Collection Ends Dec. 10

Loose leaf collection is provided by the City from Nov. 1 through Dec. 10. The leaves are collected by special vacuum equipped trucks. Residents can rake out their leaves at their convenience. Most City streets will not have assigned collection days. Neighbors in the City will be divided into zones. Each zone has two collection trucks and crews assigned to collect leaves as they are piled at the curbside. The goal of the program is to collect leaf piles within two weeks of their appearance at the curb. As always this collection is highly affected by the weather. Rain and freezing conditions can delay collection.

Collection began Nov. 1 and will end Dec. 10. During the first half of the collection schedule the collection crews concentrated on picking up large piles of leaves. In the remaining period, the crews will thoroughly collect all remaining loose leaves and clean the streets and rights of way.

The Public Works Department welcomes your comments and suggestions about the service we are providing. Please contact David Miller by phone: 301-891-7614 or email: DavidM@Takomagov.org. You can also contact him to request collection once you have your leaves raked out. (You do not need to request collection, though. Crews will be working throughout the zones Monday through Friday collecting raked out leaves as rapidly as they can.)

Blood Pressure Testing

Washington Adventist Hospital will offer free blood pressure tests Thursday, Dec. 2 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 800-542-5096.

Letter to the Editor

Seniors and Property Taxes

Ten years ago I applied to Montgomery County for a tax rebate on the property tax for my home. In response, I received a rebate of approximately $700. Our income consisted of Social Security for my wife and myself, plus a small pension. Our income remains the same, with the addition of small cost of living increases once each year in Social Security. The pension remains the same.

This year, I again applied to the county and was granted a $400 rebate on my $2600 property tax bill. Apparently, the reason is that the tax rebate table has not been updated in ten years. So if I am unlucky enough to live a few more years, the tax rebate will disappear altogether.

I am now 81 years of age and feel strongly that seniors are being exploited everywhere you turn. I suggest to Takoma Park, where I have lived for 40 years, that we cancel next year’s Fourth of July parade and have a senior citizens’ wheelchair protest parade instead. I might remind the young people of today that they will be the senior citizens of tomorrow, so this concerns them, too.

Larry M. Murtagh
Erskine Street

The Write Stuff?

The City Newsletter is looking for a few good writers. If you’re interested in Takoma Park, its issues and people, this is an opportunity for you to dig into those fascinating recesses and get published as well. We can even pay writers a small amount. While we welcome people with news-writing experience, we’re also willing to talk to new journalists who are willing to do the work.

Contact the Newsletter editor at tpnewseditor@takomagov.org or at Takoma Park Newsletter, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912.

Deadline for Submissions:

January 10

Next Issue:

January 21

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In a continuing effort to provide information for Takoma Park residents to assist with emergency preparation, the following are tips from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Takoma Park residents have seen the effects of Hurricane Isabel and ice storms in the last few years, and tornados have been nearby. FEMA recommends that families take the time to plan for prolonged electrical outages in case of the events. Guidelines have been developed by FEMA, the American Red Cross and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**Have Enough Water**

Having an ample supply of clean water is a top priority in an emergency. A normally active person needs to drink at least two quarts of water each day. Hot environments can double that amount. Children, nursing mothers and ill people will need even more. You will also need water for food preparation and hygiene. Store a total of at least one gallon per person, per day. You should store at least a two-week supply of water for each member of your family.

If supplies run low, never ration water. Drink the amount you need today, and try to find more tomorrow. You can minimize the amount of water your body needs by reducing activity and staying cool.

**Twos Weeks of Food**

It is generally recommended that you prepare two week’s supply of food for your family.

The easiest way to do this is to increase the amount of basic foods you normally keep on your shelf. All dry foods should be replaced at least once a year. When you eat foods from your emergency supplies, use the newer packages first and store the older ones at the front.

Food supplies run low, never ration water. Drink the amount you need today, and try to find more tomorrow. You can minimize the amount of water your body needs by reducing activity and staying cool.

Try to eat foods that require no refrigeration, preparation or cooking. Try to eat foods that will not spoil, foods that you can prepare in a few minutes with the supplies you have on hand, foods that do not require refrigeration, preparation or cooking.

**Nutrition Tips**

During and right after a disaster, it will be vital that you maintain your strength. You will want to eat at least one well-balanced meal each day and drink plenty of water. Don’t stock salty foods, since they will make you thirsty. Try to eat salt-free, whole-grain cereals and canned foods with high liquid content.

You don’t need to go out and buy unfamiliar foods to prepare an emergency food supply. You can use the canned foods, dry mixes and other staples on your cupboard shelves. As you stock food, take time to account your needs and tastes. Try to eat foods that you will enjoy and that are also high in calories and nutrition. Foods that require no refrigeration, preparation or cooking are good choices.

Individuals with special diets and allergies should consult a dietitian for help finding foods that fit their needs.

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**Alternative Gift Fair Dec. 4 Combines Fun and Consciousness**

The Takoma Park Alternative Gift Fair, now in its sixth year, has a different approach to the holiday gift-buying and giving circus. Yes, the fair will help you find great gifts for the people on your list. And it will do it by providing gift possibilities that support social and environmental causes close to the hearts of many Takoma Park residents.

These gifts will support the education of at-risk populations, provide hunger relief, protect our environment and empower people in communities right next door and the world over.

The Alternative Gift Fair will be on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 12-2 p.m. at the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church, at the corner of Maple and Tulip. Cash or checks will be accepted.

At the fair, representatives from more than 15 local, national and international charities meet with shoppers and explain the impact that these alternative gifts will have for their organization.

In addition to socially and environmentally friendly gifts, the Alternative Gift Fair is a good time for the whole family. At the Gift Fair you will find refreshments, live music by local artists and children’s activities.

If you have questions about the gift fair, or would like to volunteer, contact Gina Duffin at gina_duffin@yahoo.com.

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**COLTA's Decision**

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

The Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (COLTA) recently approved several capital improvement petitions for a rental property in Takoma Park. The following are the approved petitions:

3802 Flower Ave. (2004-5L)
On Sept. 30, a capital improvement petition was approved for amounts ranging from $10.87 to $48.78 on six units at the property. The improvements included plastering and painting, new stove, replacing light switch and entrance locks.

8318 Rozanoke Ave. (2004-4L)
On Sept. 29, a capital improvement petition was approved for amounts ranging from $7.2 to $135.6 on four units at the property. The improvements included plastering and painting, installing new door auto closing device, replacing entrance locks, showerheads, closet fixture and installing two air conditioners and replacing box.

110 Hudson Ave. (2004-6L)
On Sept. 29, a capital improvement petition was approved for amounts ranging from $9.51 to $21.67 on six units at the property. The improvements included plastering and painting, tree trimming, replacing dead bolt locks, smoke detectors, installing two air conditioners with new receptacles and rewrapping box.

712 Hudson Ave. (2004-7L)
On Sept. 29, a capital improvement petition was approved for amounts ranging from $42.2 to $261.4 on six units at the property. The improvements included new refrigerator, tree trimming, replacing plumbing coupling, lubrating motor and pump in boiler room, installing faucet supplied pipes, new toilets, new grounded receptacles, sanding and finishing floors.

8324 Roanoke Ave. (2004-5L)
On Sept. 29, a capital improvement petition was approved for amounts ranging from $6.53 to $34.39 on six units at the property. The improvements included plastering and painting, new stove, replacing light switch and entrance locks.

8324 Roanoke Ave. (2004-11L)
On Sept. 29, a capital improvement petition was approved for amounts ranging from $7.2 to $135.6 on four units at the property. The improvements included plastering and painting, installing new door auto closing device, replacing entrance locks, showerheads, closet fixture and installing two air conditioners and replacing box.

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**How Long Does a Landlord Have?**

Q: How long do I have to respond to a tenant’s request to correct a problem in her apartment? She has told me she will file a defective tenancy complaint with COLTA.

A: Defective Tenancy is defined in Chapter 6 of the Takoma Park Code as any condition that constitutes a violation of the terms of the lease, the Landlord-Tenant Relations Law, or the Property Maintenance Code. Section 416 (Defective Tenancy) of the Takoma Park Code indicates that a tenant may not file a defective tenancy complaint unless the landlord has failed to correct or failed to make a good faith effort to correct a problem within one week of receiving notice of the problem. In a recent decision involving an alleged defective tenancy, the Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (COLTA) ruled that where a landlord received notice of the problem on the 25th of the month and completed his repairs by the 29th of the month, the landlord had corrected the problem within 4 days of being made aware of it.

Please submit your Housing Mailbox questions to Moses A. Wilds, Jr., Landlord-Tenant Coordinator via e-mail to MosesW@takomagov.org.
In preparing for each winter’s snowstorms, the Public Works Department is providing this information to inform residents of the City’s snow removal process. For the purposes of snow and ice control, the City is divided into five zones. Each zone is assigned a snow fighting vehicle. Each zone contains three types of roadways which receive different snow removal responsibilities.

First Response: These roads carry the most traffic and connect neighborhoods. Roadways with steep inclines are also included.

Second Response: Neighborhood streets connected to the First response streets. Roadways with slight inclines are also included.

Third Response: Small streets with few homes or courts and alleys.

City crews are first dispatched to the First Response streets. Once these roads are passable they proceed to the Second Response areas. After these receive treatment, the Third Response streets are addressed. The listing of streets by response category follows below this article.

The goal of the City’s snow response process is to have a snow fighting vehicle make at least one pass down each street within an 8-hour period during the storm. Snow fighting equipment remains in service until the clock until the roads are cleared. Often, when severe weather is on the way, the City begins anti-icing procedures on the First Response streets with salting and sanding. Once snowfall has accumulated to an inch or more, the snow plows are put into use. If the storm produces only sleet and ice, the City treats all roadways with sand and salt.

During snowstorm, the City provides snow plowing, sanding and salting on City roadways except for the following roadways which come under the responsibilities of State Highway Administration (301-948-2479), Park and Planning (301-650-2600) or Montgomery County (301-217-2159):

**Roadway**
- Carroll Ave.
- State Highway
- Flower 8600-7700
- State Highway
- Philadelphia Ave.
- State Highway
- Piney Branch Rd.
- Sligo Creek/Flkwy.
- Park and Planning

However, as City vehicles often travel these same roads, the City supplements other agencies' snow removal activities.

All residents are encouraged to remove vehicles from the roadway, if possible, during a snow storm. The fewer cars on the street, the easier it is for plows to clear the roadways. On those streets that are marked Snow Emergency Routes - like Maple Avenue - all parked cars must be removed from the street.

**FIRST RESPONSE ROADS:**
- 13th Avenue
- 14th Avenue
- 4th Avenue
- Allegheny Avenue
- Anne Street
- Aspen Avenue (off Sligo Creek)
- Aspen Court
- Baltimore Avenue
- Boston Avenue
- Boyd Avenue
- Cedar Avenue
- Central Avenue
- Cherry Avenue
- Chestnut Avenue
- City Building Lot
- Columbia Avenue
- Conway Avenue
- Domer Avenue
- Dundalk Road
- Elm Avenue
- Eskine Street
- Elhan Allen Avenue
- Flower Avenue (8600-7700) west boundary lane only
- Flower Avenue (7700-7200)
- Garland Avenue
- Geneva Avenue
- Glemisde Drive
- Grant Avenue
- Gude Avenue
- Heather Avenue
- Holly Avenue
- Holton Lane
- Houston Avenue
- Jackson Avenue - E.A. to S.C. Pkwy.
- Kennebec Avenue
- Larch Avenue
- Lee Avenue
- Lincoln Avenue
- Maple Avenue
- Maplewood Avenue
- Old Carroll Avenue
- Orchard Avenue
- Park Avenue
- Pine Avenue
- Pinney Branch Alley
- Poplar Avenue
- Prince Georges Avenue
- Ritchie Avenue
- Sherman Avenue
- Sligo Mill Road
- Takoma Avenue
- Valley View Avenue
- Westmoreland Avenue
- Wildwood Drive
- Willow Avenue

**SECOND RESPONSE ROADS:**
- 2nd Avenue
- 5th Avenue
- 7th Place
- Aspen Avenue (7000)
- Auburn Avenue
- Belford Drive
- Birch Avenue
- Belford Place
- Boundary Avenue
- Buffalo Avenue
- Carroll Service Road
- Cherry Drive
- Chicago Avenue
- Circle Av. 31
- Cockerelle Avenue
- Colby Avenue
- Cole Avenue
- Darwin Avenue

**DAVIS AVENUE**
- Devonshire Road
- Dogwood Avenue
- Eastridge Avenue
- Elson Place
- Elson Court
- Elson Street
- Eric Avenue
- Garland Avenue
- Carroll to City Line
- GlazeWood Avenue
- Greenwood Avenue
- Hammond Avenue
- Hancock Avenue
- Hayward Avenue
- Hickory Avenue
- Hilltop Road
- Hillwood Manor
- Hilton Avenue
- Hodges Lane
- HopeWell Avenue
- Houston Court
- Jackson Avenue (700 - 900)
- Jackson Avenue (1100 - 1200)
- Jefferson Avenue
- Kansas Avenue
- Kennenwick Avenue
- Kentland Avenue
- Kingswood Avenue
- Kirklyn Avenue
- Lancaster Road
- Larch Avenue (N. H. to 410)
- Little Eastern Avenue
- Lockney Avenue
- Manor Circle
- Merrimac Drive
- Merriweather Drive
- Minter Place
- Mississippi Avenue
- Montgomery Avenue

**NEW YORK AVENUE**
- New Hampshire Service Road
- Orwego Avenue
- Roanoke Avenue
- Sheridan Avenue
- Spring Avenue
- Spruce Avenue
- Sycamore Lane
- Trescott Avenue
- Tulip Avenue
- University Service Road
- Wabash Avenue
- Walnut Avenue
- Woodland Avenue

**THIRD RESPONSE ROADS:**
- 9th Avenue
- Alfred Drive
- Barclay Avenue
- Beech Avenue
- Boyd Court
- Cherry Avenue (off Flower)
- City/Coop parking lot
- Cleveland Avenue
- Crescent Place
- Edinburgh Lane
- Elwyn Court
- Freemont Avenue
- Glaisonwood Court
- Glengary Place
- Haverford Road
- Hayward off Sligo Creek Pkwy
- Heath Alle
- Highland Avenue
- Holt Place
- Library Lot
- Lindale Circle
- Margaret Drive
- Palmer Lane
- Ray Drive

Be Prepared

**Family Resource Center Open Houses**

The Takoma Park Family Resource Center has a new home on the base- ment level of the TESS Service Center, 8513 Piney Branch Road in Silver Spring.

Staffed by volunteers, the center offers:
- information on local parenting and children’s resources in several languages;
- a lending library of parenting books;
- small play-space for toddlers and preshoolers to use while parents access the center’s resources;
- meeting space for local parenting support groups and parent education;
- large, well organized public bulletin boards to serve as a hub for the creation of new playgroups, mutual support groups, babysitting cooperatives, toy and clothing exchanges and other parent-initiated activities.

The Center will have two upcoming open houses—Saturday, Dec. 4, 10 a.m.-noon and Tuesday, Dec. 7, 7-9 p.m. Come, tea, snacks and an introduction to center resources will be provided. For more information, call 1-877-400-9326 or e-mail tptfc@onebox.org

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Please remember, that removal of snow in driveways and sidewalks is the responsibility of the resident or property owner/manager and is required, for safety reasons, by City law. Snow shovelers are requested to place snow removed from driveways or sidewalks into their yard, when possible and not out in the City street. Piles of snow shoveled out into the street can cause problems for passing vehicles.

The City can provide special services to residents who have health issues which require them to be able to use their street to access health care. Residents need to contact David Miller at 301-891-7614 to make those arrangements.

If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at 301-891-7633 during office hours (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.).
Kindermusik Village, Our Time and Imagine That are taught by local Takoma Park resident and mom, Becky Linafelt. For more information please feel free to call 240-353-9637 or e-mail at beckyload@aol.com.

Kindermusik Village

**Ages newborn-1 ½**

This class is for tummy tapers, crawlers, and walkers accompanied by a parent or caregiver. You will be introduced to multiple levels of activities appropriate for the different stages of development in this age range. A required $27.95 materials fee to be paid to instructor on the first day of class. Materials include a baby’s literature book, baby’s home journal, home CD, art banners, and storage/carry bag. Eight weeks. Limited to twelve children, minimum of four.

When: Tuesdays, 9:45-10:30 a.m.
Jan. 11 - March 1
Wednesdays, 1:15-2 p.m.
Jan. 12 - March 2
Fridays, 9:45-10:30 a.m.
Jan. 14 - March 4
Fee: T.P. City Resident $80
Non-Resident $85

**Kindermusik Our Time**

**Ages 1 ¼ -3**

This class is for the older toddler, ages 1 ¼ to 3. With engaging musical activities, including instrument exploration, creative movement, listening, and story time, Kindermusik Our Time focuses on the child’s healthy emotional development and recognizes his/her need for both independence and support. A required $40.75 materials fee to be paid to instructor on the first day of class. Materials include 2 home CDs (all the songs and chants from class plus more music), 2 literature books, home activity book, instrument, and study storage/carry box or bag. Fifteen weeks. Limited to twelve children, minimum of four.

When: Tuesdays, 1:2 p.m.
Jan. 11 - April 19
Thursdays, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Jan. 13 - April 21
Fee: T.P. City Resident $180
Non-Resident $185

**Kindermusik Imagine That**

**Ages 3 - 5**

This class is for older toddlers to preschoolers. Paring music with expressive language, storytelling, peer interaction, movement, and pretend play, your child will further expand their cognitive and literacy skills as well as creativity and individuality. Learning continues at home through the At Home Materials, which include illustrated literature books, a pretend play set, 2 CDs, instrument, and backpack. A required At Home Materials fee of $55.95 will be paid to the instructor on the first day of class. Children attend the first 45 minutes of class on their own. Parents join in for the last 15 minutes of class. Fifteen weeks. Limited to twelve children, minimum of four.

When: Tuesdays, 11:15-11:45 a.m.
Jan. 11 - April 19
Wednesdays, 4:15-5 p.m.
Jan. 12 - April 20
Fridays, 11:15-11:45 a.m.
Jan. 14 - April 22
Fee: T.P. City Resident $140
Non-Resident $145
No program March 25.

Create your Own Musical Workshops

**Grades 6-8**

A Series of 4 week long workshops that explore the different aspects of creating your own musical. Minimal 8, maximum 20 students. Teacher: Franscois Jandasek, illustrator, dance instructor, composer, musician.

When: 4:00 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 7500 Maple Ave.
Fee: T.P. City Resident $40
Non-Resident $50
(for each 4 week workshop)

Level I: January 5, 12, 19, 26

Students will look at scripts from other musicals / plays and explore the basic aspects of what makes a script. Minimum needed to get those silly legs and hands moving. They will perform their script in class. Fifteen weeks. Limited to twelve children.

When: Tuesdays, 1-2 p.m.
Jan. 11 - April 19
Thursdays, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Jan. 13 - April 21
Fee: T.P. City Resident $180
Non-Resident $185

Level II: February 2, 9, 16, 23

This workshop will build on the "Writing your own script - Level I" class. Students will work together in small groups to write a script for a one act play using the storylines and character descriptions from the previous workshop. During the last class, they will share their plays with their peers.

African Dance for Tots

**Ages 3-5**

Dance that is exclusively developed for the pre-school aged child. Learn foil techniques from former Olympian Ms. Getty Mohebban, the undisputed Fencing Master of Takoma Park.

**Beginner I** is for students who have had no training. Beginner II is for students who have taken Beginner I and want to advance to the next level. Equipment provided includes: Foil, mask and jacket. A $25 materials fee is due to the instructor at the first session. Ten weeks.

When: Tuesdays, Jan. 18 - March 22
Time: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Location: Takoma Park Elementary Gym, 7511 Holly Ave.
Fee: T.P. City Resident $75
Non-Resident $85

En Garde Fencing

**Ages 9 and up**

This class is for students who have had no training. Equipment provided includes: Foil, mask and jacket. A $25 materials fee is due to the instructor at the first session. Ten weeks.

When: Tuesdays, Jan. 18 - March 22
Time: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Location: Takoma Park Elementary Gym, 7511 Holly Ave.
Fee: T.P. City Resident $75
Non-Resident $85

Outdoor Soccer Program

**Grades 1-4**

The Takoma Park Recreation Department Indoor Soccer Program is back! It’s bigger! It’s better! Learn how to play this beautiful game and have fun at the same time. Imagine that! Nine weeks. Participants will be grouped into teams in two separate divisions: grades 1-2 and grades 3-4.

When: Sundays, Dec. 5 - February 27
Location: Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Clinic Dates: Dec. 5, 12
Time: 1 - 2:30 p.m. grades 1 & 2
3 - 4:30 p.m. grades 3 & 4
Practice Dates: Dec. 19, Jan. 9, 23
Game Dates: Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 27
Time: 1 - 6 p.m.
Fee: T.P. City Resident $45
Non-Resident $50

Halloween 2004 Festivities

**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration**

Join the City of Takoma Park as we celebrate the life and times of the late Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. in words, song and dance.

**Friday, Jan. 14 - 7 p.m.**
Takoma Park Middle School,
7611 Piney Branch Road - Free
**Be a Friend and Visit Your Library!**

The Friends of the Library book sale in mid-October netted approximately $1,000, a little more visibility on the Library lawn and a brief unexpected shower. The Friends and Library staff extend heartfelt thanks to all who participated in the sale, including Suzanne Morgan, Dee Raff, Sara Criscitelli, Karen Petersen, Jan Schwartz, Bob and Mary-Ann Annis, Walter, Rachel and Sterling Mulbry, Richard Gross, Jillian Hershberger, Lucy Scott, Delores Mulligan, Mary Feldman, Rebekah Zanditon, Karen Fishman, Hank Presnyki, Hugo Palo- mino, Dave Burbank, Neshemah and Timothy Malloy and Sam McCollin. Special thanks also to Willie Hopkins and Bobby Phillips of the City’s Public Works staff for their considerable help prior to the sale. The books for sale, along with memberships, are the principal source of funds raised by the Friends, all of which are used for Library programs, computers and other resources and services. Throughout this busy construction period, they are helping us to maintain the Library as a rich and welcoming environment for readers of all ages. All our friends can serve us best by continuing to visit the Library. We always have new books and magazines to share, and will soon have a new selection of books on CD. Our homework help, public programs and celebrations will continue unabated through the winter and into the spring. **Winter Solstice Celebration**

Thursday, Dec. 16, will mark the 14th year that Takoma Parkians will help ensure the return of the sun to our neck of the woods with candles and drumming, a melange of the contemplative and of high-spirited merrymaking. Bill Jenkins, our favorite ethnomusicologist, will be bringing his array of rhythm instruments from all over the world. The Foggy Bottom Morris Men will again delight and amuse us with their customary high jinks and stick dances. Cultures all around the world recognize and celebrate the power and importance of the sun for life on Earth. In the Northern Hemisphere, when the sun threatens to disappear in December, it has long been traditional to hold festivals of light. So here in our mini-global village Takoma Park, with so many varied cultures and religions, the Winter Solstice offers an opportunity to gather as one community to celebrate the return of the light. Let us gather at 7:15 on Thursday evening, the 16th, ready to take up our drums and rattles, and warm ourselves at the fires of neighborly good spirit. All ages are invited to participate.

**Be a Friend and Visit Your Library!**

**Library Programs in December & January**

**Scented Twig Bundles**
A Greenery Workshop with Karen Nelson Kent

Karen Nelson Kent, the Library’s resident floral artist/designer, will again offer a hands-on class for the holiday season. The workshop will be held on Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. in the Library’s children’s room. Nelsen Kent will be focusing on a variety of the garland, the scented twig bundle which can be used decoratively throughout the house as an intimate design element. Fresh greens will be supplied, though participants are encouraged to bring ribbons and dried materials to tuck into the bundles.

Karen Nelson Kent has become a sought-after teacher at Brookside Gardens. She is the owner of “Floral Diversity” and this summer successfully passed the intensely competitive accreditation evaluation process of 2004 to gain recognition by the highly prestigious American Institute of Floral Designers.

Class size is limited, and last-year’s workshop on “Season’s Greening with a Twist” was at capacity, so call the Library, 301-891-7259, to reserve your spot.

**Stories and Mini-workshop**
Monday, Jan. 24, 7-8:45 p.m.

“When laughter comes from within, the body will smile.” This is the quotation that graces the cover of Arianna Ross’s storyteller’s brochure, detailing the workshops and programs that she has developed from her rich and varied experiences in traveling around the world. Arianna Ross has trained in the theater, dance, voice, and photography in the United States. Her international experience includes story-gathering in countries as diverse as Egypt, Ireland, Indonesia and Spain. She has spent three years studying acrobatics, music, martial arts, and performing with Banski Kaul’s troupe Rang Vidushak all over India. She was featured this past year on National Public Radio. She is deeply concerned for nurturing the bonds that connect us all in her storytelling.

Her programs allow for active participation from the audience and are suitable for the whole family. Please join us. Call 301-891-7259 to pre-register. And thanks, as always, to the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library for supporting these family programs.
Sexual Assault

New Hampshire Ave., 7300 block: On Oct. 25, at 10:30 p.m., a sexual assault occurred. An adult female entered a residential elevator along with several others. After all but the victim and one other exited the elevator, the subject grabbed the victim from behind, maneuvering himself against her. After noticing that the suspect’s pants were down, the victim broke away, screamed and fled the elevator. The victim was not physically hurt during the incident.

Armed Robbery

Belford Place and New Hampshire Ave.: On Oct. 23 at 12:15 a.m., an armed robbery occurred. An adult male was approached by a subject after parking his car in an apartment complex parking lot. When the victim opened his car window, the subject pointed a handgun at him and demanded money. After the victim handed over his cash, the subject fled in a small black vehicle (no further description given). The victim was not injured.

New Hampshire Ave., 6400 block: On Oct. 30 at 6 p.m. and Oct. 31 at 5:45 a.m., four thefts from autos occurred. Windows in each of the vehicles were either broken or forced open in order to gain entry. Property was taken.

Theft

Sligo Creek Parkway, 900 block: On Oct. 24, between 2 p.m. and 10:19 p.m., a burglary occurred. A window of the residence was forced open in order to gain entry. Property was taken.

New Hampshire Ave., 8300 block: On Oct. 20, between 3:41 a.m. and 6:50 p.m., an attempted residential burglary occurred. A door to the home was damaged in the attempt.

Burglary

University Blvd., 1100 block: On Nov. 8 at 11:30 p.m., an armed robbery occurred. An adult male was approached by three subjects while walking. Two of the subjects displayed knives and demanded the victim’s wallet. After the victim turned over his property, the subjects ran off. The victim was not injured.

Auto and Related Theft

New Hampshire Ave., 7400 block: Between Oct. 14 at 9:40 p.m. and Oct. 15 at midnight, a 1994 Honda Accord was stolen.

New Hampshire Ave., 7400 block: Between Oct. 15 at 10 p.m. and Oct. 16 at 4 a.m., a 1995 Mazda 626 was stolen.

New Hampshire Ave., 7300 block: On Oct. 29, between 9 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., a 1995 Chrysler Cirrus was stolen.

New Hampshire Ave., 8400 block: Between Oct. 30 at 6 p.m. and Oct. 31 at 5:45 a.m., four thefts from autos occurred. Windows in each of the vehicles were either broken or forced open in order to gain entry. Property was taken.

New Hampshire Ave., 8000 block: On Oct. 15 at 11:36 a.m., an adult male was arrested after a routine traffic stop and charged with possession of CDS and CDS paraphernalia.

New Hampshire Ave., 8500 block: On Oct. 15 at 11:45 a.m., an adult male was arrested and charged with possession of CDS paraphernalia.

New Hampshire Ave., 7300 block: On Oct. 23 at 11:50 p.m., criminal citations were issued to two adults for possession of CDS paraphernalia. One of the subjects was also arrested on an open Montgomery County warrant for failure to appear in court on a trespassing charge.

New Hampshire Ave., 7400 block: Oct. 26 at 10:51 p.m., two adults were arrested and charged with theft over $500.

New Hampshire Ave., 7400 block: On Oct. 27 at 12:56 a.m., and adult female was arrested on an open warrant from Montgomery County for failure to appear in court on a charge of possession of CDS paraphernalia.

New Hampshire Ave., 7500 block: Oct. 28 at 2:29 a.m., citations for driving under the influence of alcohol and driving while under the influence of alcohol were issued.

New Hampshire Ave., 7500 block: Oct. 29 at 10:40 a.m., an adult male was arrested on an outstanding Montgomery County warrant for violation of probation on charges of misdemeanor theft and possession of CDS paraphernalia.

New Hampshire Ave., 6400 block: Oct. 31 at 1:54 a.m., citations for driving while intoxicated and driving while impaired were issued to an adult male.

ARRESTS

Sexual Assault

New Hampshire Ave., 7300 block: On Oct. 25, at 10:30 p.m., a sexual assault occurred. An adult female entered a residential elevator along with several others. After all but the victim and one other exited the elevator, the subject grabbed the victim from behind, maneuvering himself against her. After noticing that the suspect’s pants were down, the victim broke away, screamed and fled the elevator. The victim was not physically hurt during the incident.

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Belford Place and New Hampshire Ave.: On Oct. 23 at 12:15 a.m., an armed robbery occurred. An adult male was approached by a subject after parking his car in an apartment complex parking lot. When the victim opened his car window, the subject pointed a handgun at him and demanded money. After the victim handed over his cash, the subject fled in a small black vehicle (no further description given). The victim was not injured.

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Six Raccoons Test Positive for Rabies

As of Nov. 1, six raccoons had tested positive for rabies during a seven-week period. The first four positive animals were taken from the residential neighborhood near Old Town (on Cedar, Birch, Holly and Eastern avenues). The last weekend of October, one raccoon was taken at Lincoln and Jackson and another on Walnut Ave. One additional animal, which had behaved aggressively on Willow Ave, was destroyed by police but was not tested.

Four raccoons were shot by police. Three were trapped. All were recovered by Montgomery Animal Services, who supplied them for testing. In comparison, in the first eight months of 2004, two raccoons tested positive. For animals under decks, use harassment techniques (talk or rock station of a radio) until it leaves. Because feeding feral cats can encourage raccoons to congregate for meals, residents are urged to discontinue this practice.

Autumn is a time when young raccoons move away from their mothers and when animals are actively feeding to prepare for winter. This affects increased raccoon sighting. It also means residents need to make their own yards less hospitable at the current time. Many steps to discourage raccoons will also make a home less attractive to another common species in the city, rats.

- Close up openings on the exterior, to prohibit entry. Pay attention to areas under decks and porches.
- For raccoon exclusion, chimney covers are vital, since these resemble hollow trees, a raccoon’s natural den.
- Do not set garbage out before trash day.
- Cover garbage cans tightly. Use the screw-top style or stretch a bungee cord across the lid. Public Works will pick up trash in such cans, but suggests residents permanently attach one end of the cord to the can.
- Public Works has a few 64-gallon garbage cans on wheels for sale at $40.30.
- Do not feed stray cats.
- Do not leave food outside for domestic pets.

For safety, domestic pets and children should be monitored while outdoors. Most of the raccoons taken this fall have shown passive or dormant symptoms of rabies (disoriented, confused, “drunken” behaviors). Two were aggressive, including one that attacked a dog tethered outside. A young child, bitten by a raccoon in her yard, has received treatment and is reported to be doing well.

Experts have reported that the behavior of urban raccoons differs from natural, wild behavior. It is not uncommon for suburban animals to be seen in the daytime, but all raccoons should be treated as wild animals and not approached. If an animal appears confused or aggressive, the police can be called. The Montgomery County Animal Services can be called for any sick or injured animal.

What You Should Know About Rabies

- Dogs, cats and ferrets must be vaccinated against rabies at four months and one year of age. Booster vaccine is needed every one to three years.
- All mammals can get rabies but it is extremely rare in rabbits and rodents (including squirrels, mice, and rats).
- The virus is found in saliva, usually passed through bites. Non-bite exposure includes animal saliva coming into contact with open wounds, the eyes, mouth, or nose, and possibly through scratches.
- The virus exists very briefly outside a body and is killed by heat, sunlight and drying.
- Common vectors or carriers, are raccoons, skunks, foxes and bats; also cats and groundhogs.
- No documented human death has occurred from the raccoon strain of rabies, according to the Humane Society of the United States.
- The behavior of urban raccoons is not the same as wild raccoons, therefore seeing a raccoon in the daytime is not an absolute indicator of rabies.
- Rabies symptoms will be either the classic aggressive behavior or a passive form, in which the animal appears disoriented, listless, or “drunken.”
- People should not try to evaluate whether an animal is rabid; if it is acting strangely, stay away from it.
- Many animals with rabies will die before they show the symptoms.

The State Department of Natural Resources has indicated outbreaks may spontaneously resolve themselves by groups of affected animals dying off. Outbreaks may occur naturally but can come about where cover and food sources are concentrated, allowing larger groups of animals to live and eat together.

New Officers Join Police

In the past nine months of 2004, five officers have joined the Takoma Park Police Department. Staffing stands at 36 of the authorized strength of 41 officers.

In March, Ernest Atwell, 35, and Stanley Barsh, 26, joined the Department, coming from the Baltimore Housing Police and Montgomery County Sheriff’s, respectively. In six years with Baltimore Housing, Atwell worked in both patrol and special units for warrant service and drug investigations. Barsh served four years as a county police dispatcher and two years as a deputy sheriff.

Two officers from out-of-state took the oath of office in August, after completing a required compliance academy. Desiree Palmer, 25, formerly worked in sheriffs’ departments in West Virginia. Sean McGarvey, 30, served for two years with the Richmond Police Department. A former U.S. Marine, he is bilingual in Spanish and English.

Derrek Fields, 29, joined the TPPD in September. A native of the Washington, D.C., area, he attended the Prince George’s Municipal Police Academy independently.

Because of their previous experience, none of the five new officers had to attend full police academies and entered field training immediately.

Four officers have left the agency this year. Capt. George Hubbard retired in May, having served 28 years or three years longer than the 25 year requirement. Sgt. Clarence Jacobs retired shortly before his death in March. Sgt. Linda (Riseling) Lawless retired in April due to injuries received on duty. Cpl. Brian Davis was approved for a medical retirement on Sept. 1.

The Department continues to seek additional applicants. The City currently offers a signing bonus to certified officers joining the agency. For information about benefits and requirements, contact Cpl. Wayne Jackson at 301-891-7130 or any officer.
Stormwater Problems Getting Worse in Takoma and Chesapeake Basin

Last July, Takoma Park experienced a series of intense storms resulting in unprecedented flooding. According to some affected residents such intensity of flooding has not been seen in recent memory. Preliminary rainfall data from the National Weather Service indicated that July rainfall reached a high of 8.69 inches, or 4.84 inches above normal. Intense rainfall over short times caused localized flooding in many small streams and low-lying areas. September rainfall and temperatures were near normal in Baltimore, Washington, D.C., and southern and eastern Maryland. A string of hurricanes and tropical storms across the nation in the late summer made front-page news. Where does all the water go?

Stream flow into the Chesapeake Bay during September averaged 116.2 bgd (billion gallons per day), 430 percent above normal and the highest since 1937. Before it gets to the bay, would it pick up non-point pollution along the way while flooding the “urban” streets and streams? The answer is yes, it sure will, if not managed properly.

Early settlers developed the land based on their perceptions of original flood situations and even if they evaluated it correctly, the anticipated increase in flood heights caused damage. As an example, a Federal study, some 50 years ago, made an estimate of 100-year frequency floods (a flood that statistically occurs once every 100 years) for Four Mile Run in Alexandria. This study by 1980 was completely outdated due to full urbanization of the watershed. The original 100-year flood now occurs every 2 to 4 years. For most small streams, there is no accurate statistical data available as to the original flooding condition of the watershed, so similar striking increases are not noted.

Urbanization, however, increases the intensity of storm runoff in a characteristically predictable way.

Erosion of streambanks and streambeds will increase in direct proportion to increased flood frequency and intensity. This aspect of flood damage has been explained more detail by new research. The extent of water quality degradation as a result of urbanization is also an eye-opening problem of relatively new research.

There has been relatively slow development within the City limits over the past few decades. The accelerated rate of urbanization and development over the neighboring communities is likely to be one of the main contributing factors – if not the leading factor – in intensity and frequency increases of urban and stream flooding.

Takoma Park is a largely residential community with both urban and suburban attributes and perceptions. In a regional scale, traditional land use patterns consisting of a fairly orderly hierarchy of interspersed villages, towns, and cities are increasingly changing. Shifting patterns of traditional urbanization and suburban development is emerging. Slow or nonexistent growth of larger cities along with a suburbanization trend that has marked the recent decades appears to shifting if not reversing. The new emerging pattern in a larger scale characterizes the eastern megalopolis whereas some of the towns and cities are still growing along traditional lines. Planners and analysts are attempting to redirect and control the dynamics of urbanization more adequately.

From the viewpoint of stormwater management, it is necessary to recognize the dynamics of land use to limit certain undesirable effects. A Sustainable Approach

Stormwater management redefined consists of an array of approaches to control urban drainage and flood problems on the smaller streams. It is important to differentiate such methodologies from larger-scale flood control projects like larger rivers systems. A 1950s study by Gilbert White showed that national flood control programs were not designed to deal with the increases in urbanization areas little understood at the time. This and similar studies have taught the lessons of stormwater management in urbanizing areas into focus.

Prior to adoption of “Best Management Practices” by EPA under Section 208 of Water Pollution Control Act and even to this day, many engineers are stuck with the mind set of solving the local water flood problems by getting rid of water quickly through enlarging and straightening lines, channel lining, larger drains and culverts. This approach is not advocated nationally but remains attractive on a local level since for many upstream communities it undoubtedly the least expensive way of handling the problem. In effect the problem is passed on to downstream communities.

The effects of urbanization on stormwater can be avoided or mitigated by designing systems that mimic natural systems where stormwater is integrated into building and site development. Disconnecting the flow from the storm sewer system and directing water to more natural systems, such as landscaped planters, swales and gardens, reduces and filters stormwater runoff.

Planting vegetation and trees creates the management systems that reduce the impacts of impervious surfaces.

Blues Legends To Perform Dec. 4

The Black Box Theater at Montgomery College Takoma Park offers a rare opportunity to spend an evening with blues legends John Cephas and Phil Wiggins on Saturday, Dec. 4, in two one-hour shows at 7 and 9 p.m. With just 100 seats, the theater allows audi ences to experience artists in an up-close and personal way.

Cephas first met John Wiggins in 1976 at the Smithsonian National Folklife Festival in Washington, D.C., and the duo of Cephas & Wiggins was born. When these two great musicians joined forces, they immediately proclaimed them the new champions of the East Coast Piedmont style of blues first popularized by artists like Blind Boy Fuller, Rev. Gary Davis and Willie McColl. And because both musicians were born in D.C., they bring a unique urban sophistication to the traditional rural blues they perform on guitar and harmonica.

Performances will take place at Black Box Theater, which is located inside the Communication Arts Center, at the corner of Philadelphia Ave. and Chica go Ave., on the Takoma Park campus of Montgomery College.

Tickets cost $15 for general admission, $10 for seniors, and $5 for Montgomery College students and faculty. To purchase tickets, call 301-988-4475 or log on to www.classactarts.org.

Holiday Safety Tips

At home a shining Christmas tree surrounded by packages looks lovely, but also serves as a temptation to burglars. Consider closing shades or drapes.

• Keep doors and windows locked. Use timers on lights and a radio when you are away.
• Record the serial numbers from new electronic purchases and keep them stored safely. An engraver may be borrowed from the police to mark new items through Operation ID.
• Know if and when your neighbors are away. Leave a message with your neighbors after you are away.
• Record the serial numbers from new electronic purchases and keep them stored safely. An engraver may be borrowed from the police to mark new items through Operation ID.
• Keep in mind when your neighbors are away.
• Know if and when your neighbors are away.

The editor will close with a personal note on the need to be a collector of political buttons. About three years ago, I got what I thought was a cool World War II-era anti-Axis button. But when I got home, I looked at the Web and examined it more closely, and concluded it was a fake — a recent reproduction.

I explained the mistake to Schneider, who quickly agreed to refund my money and did it with a smile. (Of course, I used the refund to buy another button.) Not a bad way to do business.
City TV has some great stocking stuffers for you this holiday season. Get warmed up with Irish-inspired music performed by Jennifer Cutting's Ocean Orchestra and Bog Wanderers, an All-Star Celtic ceilidh band. Hear animated stories from Noa Baum, and watch African folklore come to life with Nana Malaya and the Nubian Theatre Company. Joe Glazer and Oscar Brand will rouse you with political infused music.

The Takoma Park Street Festival performances will air this month as promised. See riveting performances by iLYAIMY and the Kennedys. Listen to Cajun music from Rita and the Nachos and Three Quarter Square, high-level gifted musicians.

In the New Year, City TV will air four new Street Festival performances including the Nighthawks, one of the top bands in D.C., playing a mixture of rock, blues and soul music. Also from the StreetFest--Czavin' Dogs, who boast a unique blend of folk, rock, '80s new wave and bluegrass. Finally, get jumping with highly charged American music performed by Tom Principato and Robert Lighthourne, an exciting one-man blue experience.

Takoma Snapshots in December includes the following segments:
- Community Oriented Policing: Meet the Newest Officers
- Takoma Park Film Festival
- Takoma Park’s Halloween Parade

January Snapshots will include features on the City’s Noise Ordinance and Columbia Union College’s 100th Anniversary. Visit our Web site at www.cityoftakomapark.org/cable to access show listings and times and other specific programming information.

Community and neighborhood groups may submit non-commercial notices regarding meetings or special events to City TV for inclusion on the bulletin board. All Council meetings and Snapshots episodes are available for patron checkout at the Takoma Park Maryland Library. VHS tapes of these shows, as well as other Takoma Park City TV events, may be purchased for $15 (pickup) or $18 (mail). Some programs are now available in DVD. Call 301-891-7118 or send an e-mail to: cabletv@takomagov.org for more information.
Meeting Jan. 19 to Discuss Renovation Of Park Including Ed Wilhelmi Field

Many Takoma residents know there's a fair-sized park that stretches between Piney Branch Elementary School and Takoma Park Middle School and includes Ed Wilhelmi Field. But they may not know that its official name is Takoma Piney Branch Local Park.

But users of the park will surely want to know that a renovation of the facility is planned.

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) has begun a plan for the renovation of the park, based on community discussions several years ago and recent discussions with school and recreation officials. The facility plan will be discussed at a community meeting in January.

The park has steeply sloped wooded areas, a picnic shelter, playground, tennis courts, basketball courts, a field shared by baseball and soccer teams, and serves as the playground for Piney Branch Elementary School.

Recently, several meetings have been held with the City of Takoma Park and Piney Branch Elementary School staff to determine their recreational needs and to discuss safety issues. Improvements proposed for the park include adding a playground near the school as well as improvements to the current play area, basketball courts, ballfields, picnic shelter and storm water management system.

When the facility plan is completed and adopted, the cost estimate for completing the design and construction will be recommended in the next Capital Improvement Project Budget cycle for fiscal years 2007-2012. Construction could not occur before Fiscal Year 2008, which begins with July 2007.

Takoma/Langley Crossroads

Takoma/Langley Crossroads, Montgomery College, Columbia Union College, Washington Adventist Hospital, and Community Center.

Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Champions Honored

By Susan Holloway

Champions of traffic and pedestrian safety in Takoma Park and Silver Spring earned top honors from the Montgomery County Highway Safety Office (MCHSO) at its Taskforce Recognition Luncheon on Sept. 20 at the Kensington Fire Department.

Margo Stanton, director of the highway safety office, presented the annual awards to community members and police officers who performed exceptionally over the last year to improve driver and pedestrian safety. She noted four recipients for their outstanding service to the county.

Do You Know the Way to Takoma?

Continued from page 1

• Tertiary Gateway: these would be for entrances into residential neighborhoods that are on or close to the boundary of the City such as the intersection of Flower Avenue and Maplewood Avenue.

• Vehicular Directional: these are the signs that would help people to find different destinations around the City.

These are the primary destinations that these signs would direct people to:

Takoma Park, Long Branch, Takoma/Langley Crossroads, Montgomery College, Columbia Union College, Washington Adventist Hospital, and Community Center.

• Identification Sign: these would be used to identify City facilities such as parks and gardens.

• Once the sign concept is finalized, other signs will be designed such as secondary gateway signs, interpretive historic signs, banners, and a pedestrian orientation map for Old Town.

We would like to receive more community input about the proposed sign design. To let us know what you think, please go to the City's Web site (www.cityoftakomapark.org) and click on Gateway and Wayfinding Under Current Issues. There are a few specific questions that we ask on this Web page.

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The rising toll of pedestrian accidents at the Takoma/Langley Crossroads junction of New Hampshire Ave. and University Blvd. — the designated third worst intersection in Maryland — played a drumbeat in recent years that elected officials found hard to ignore. Erwin Mack made sure that the beat persisted.

Mack, the executive director of the Takoma/Langley Crossroads Development Authority, Inc. (CDA), received an award for elevating the cause of pedestrian safety in Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties. In 2003, with CDA approval, he initiated an ad hoc Pedestrian Safety Committee of traffic and pedestrian safety experts, including Chief of Police Steve Crampton, which would later be reconstituted as the Taskforce.

Takoma Park has a reputation for being one of a few liberal, progressive communities in the region. We thought we’d take a look at how residents of the City voted in the Nov. 2 presidential election.

Below are the totals for all presidential candidates who appeared on the ballot. We’ve computed totals by precinct (with polling place to help identify it), plus for the City as a whole and the state as a whole.

Takoma Park Votes for President

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