

# Takoma Park

## NEWSLETTER

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. . ."

Margaret Mead (1901-1978)

Published by the City of Takoma Park

www.cityoftakomapark.org

June 2005

## Development Hits Old Town — But Is Bigger Better?

By Bob Guldin  
Editor

For decades, Old Town Takoma seemed like the land that developers forgot. From Fourth Street in the District all the way to Takoma Junction, few changes occurred in the small-town streetscape, despite the arrival of Metrorail in the 1970s. The biggest news was construction in 2000 of a CVS at Carroll and Maple.

Now, a wave of development has hit Takoma D.C., with plenty more on the way. On the Maryland side, planned changes are more modest but will still be very noticeable. By the time it's done, between 500 and 1,000 housing units will probably have been added within a three-block radius of the Takoma Metro station. That will mean additional customers for Takoma's struggling retail sector, but also a surge in local traffic, and quite possibly a change in the character and atmosphere of Old Town.

As Sabrina Baron, president of the nonprofit group Historic Takoma, told the *Newsletter*, "People want to live in

Takoma Park because it's Takoma Park — it's not like everywhere else. We don't want to see it homogenized."

### Takoma Parking Structure

Here's the latest status report on what's coming to Old Town and vicinity, and how development is progressing.

In the heart of Takoma Park, Md., two significant developments will change the face of the block that extends from Laurel to Carroll Avenue, and which includes the Post Office.

Long-time Takoma Park property-owner John Urciolo plans to build a restaurant or other retail use in the space on Laurel between Pizza Movers and the Post Office, with a parking structure behind it. (The terrain drops away sharply behind the line of stores.) That means that the bizarre wooden deck on Laurel Ave., which Takomans have puzzled over for years, will be demolished.

Urciolo told the *Newsletter* that his plans "have gotten bogged down a little bit" with Montgomery County planners, because his project requires consolidating what were five different small lots



Architectural drawing by SGA Associates

Condos will rise at 235 Carroll St., N.W., at Maple, where a truck rental company and repair shop now sit.

into one big lot to build the parking structure. But in mid-May, Urciolo received "a verbal go-ahead that they're going to let us consolidate the lot," he said.

Urciolo said that he already has the approval of the county's Historic Preservation Commission to build his "infill" project, and that the Post Office and Pizza

Movers buildings will remain. "We hope to start construction in late spring of 2006," he said.

Urciolo added that he has had to scale down his project. The parking structure, which Urciolo had hoped would have 84 spaces, may be smaller, and plans for a small theater or community center may have to be eliminated. Because of the steep slope, the parking structure should not be visible from Laurel Ave.

At the other end of that block, near Carroll and Westmoreland avenues, developer Bruce Levin is eyeing his options that may include significant new construction — or just a little. Levin heads

Continued on page 12

## 'Stop! You Don't Know Me Like That!' Community Bridges Boosts Girl-Power

By Joy Jones

When it comes to asserting themselves and taking charge of their futures, girls who participate in Commu-

nity Bridges' JumpStart Girls/ Adelante Niñas! program at Rolling Terrace Elementary School have no problem expressing themselves.

"Stop! You Don't Know Me Like That!"

is a basic self-defense order young girls can say as a first step in turning away unwanted attention or behavior. It's also the title of a self-defense booklet these fifth-grade girls decided to publish and distribute to classmates, teachers and family members. A result of learning basic self-defense techniques through a collaboration between Community Bridges and the Metro D.C. Karate and Self-Defense As-

sociation, the booklet is just the latest Community Bridges project to help girls discover who they are and empower themselves and their community. Community Bridges activities are held right at Rolling Terrace Elementary School on Bayfield Street in Takoma Park.

Community Bridges began in 1997 across the kitchen tables of local founders Naomi Nim and Mary Freeman. Nim had worked with school/community collaborations in San Francisco and was eager to do the same in her adopted Takoma Park and East Silver Spring neighborhoods. Freeman, an educator, was looking for a way to volunteer. After meeting with school officials and groups that serve youth, Nim and Freeman started Community Bridges and its core program,

Continued on page 10



Photo by Joy Jones

## 2006 City Budget Nears Completion

As this issue of the *Newsletter* went to press, the Takoma Park City Council was wrapping up its budget deliberations for Fiscal Year 2006, which begins July 1, 2005. It was looking like the adopted budget would closely resemble the budget City Manager Barbara Matthews proposed to the Council in March. The general fund budget, which includes most City programs, will come in at close to \$17 million, about a 2 percent increase over the FY2005 budget.

As Matthews told the *Newsletter*, "This is a fairly status quo budget." For example, the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) staff positions is expected to remain the same.

One change important to all Takoma Park homeowners: the City's tax rate will probably be reduced from 66 cents per \$100 of assessed value to 64.5 cents. But because property values continue to rise year to year, most

Continued on page 4

### Inside this Issue

#### At Crossroads, Big Transit Improvement

Lt. Gov. Steele visits to announce bus transit center

Page 5

#### Builder, Spare That Tree!

Construction can damage close-to-the-surface roots.

Page 5

#### July Fourth Celebration Approaches

Get those floats ready, and please show support.

Page 5

#### Get Parking Permits By Mail

Neighborhood permits expire June 30.

Page 9

ECRWSS  
POSTAL CUSTOMER

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

PRE-SORT STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
TAKOMA PARK, MD  
PERMIT NO. 4422



For further information, or to receive a copy of the legislation, contact the City Clerk's office, 301-891-7267 or e-mail [clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:clerk@takomagov.org).

#### **April 4 - Special Session**

Resolution 2005-23 was adopted, authorizing the temporary relocation of the Farmers Market (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

Resolution 2005-24 was adopted, endorsing a regional approach to limiting the transportation of hazardous materials by rail (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

#### **April 11 - Regular Meeting**

Resolution 2005-25 was adopted, expressing condolences on the passing of Councilmember Seamens' mother (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

Ordinance 2005-9 was accepted at first reading, establishing the Committee on the Environment as a Statutory Committee (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

Ordinance 2005-8 was adopted at second reading, defining the membership composition and terms of the Emergency Preparedness Committee (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

Resolution 2005-26 was adopted, effecting appointments to the Emergency Preparedness Committee (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

The Consent Agenda was adopted (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

- A. Resolution 2005-27, effecting an appointment to the Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs.
- B. Resolution 2005-28, effecting an appointment to the Tree Commission.
- C. Resolution 2005-29, effecting an appointment to the Nuclear Free Takoma Park Committee.

#### **April 18 - Special Session**

Resolution 2005-30 was adopted, declaring 8425 Piney Branch Road as surplus property and available for sale (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

Resolution 2005-31 was adopted, declaring 8435 Piney Branch Road as surplus property and available for sale (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

Ordinance 2005-10, authorizing a contract for the renovation of 7133 Carroll Ave., was accepted at first reading (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

#### **April 25 - Regular Meeting**

Resolution 2005-32 was adopted, recognizing Takoma Park resident Jan Schwartz (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

Resolution 2005-33 was adopted, establishing the Montgomery College Neighbors Advisory Committee (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

Ordinance 2005-10, authorizing a contract for the renovation of 7133 Carroll Ave., was adopted at second reading (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

Ordinance 2005-11, amending Takoma Park Code Chapter 13.12 Parking Meters, was accepted at first reading (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

Ordinance 2005-9 was adopted at second reading, as amended, establishing the Committee on the Environment as a Statutory Committee (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

#### **May 2 - Special Session**

Resolution 2005-34 was adopted, Declaring May 2005 as Historic Preservation Month in Takoma Park (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

Ordinance 2005-12, authorizing a contract with Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Greater Washington, Inc. for a Home Buyer's Club, was accepted at first reading (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Seamens, Williams).

#### **May 9 - Regular Meeting**

Resolution 2005-35 was adopted, recognizing Det/Sgt. Richard Poole as 2004 Police Officer of the Year (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Williams; ABSENT: Mizeur, Seamens).

Resolution 2005-36 was adopted, establishing May 20 as Bike to Work Day in Takoma Park (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Williams; ABSENT: Mizeur, Seamens).

Resolution 2005-37 was adopted, approving the siting of Primary Gateway and Historic District Tertiary Gateway Signage - Phase I (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Williams; ABSENT: Mizeur, Seamens).

Ordinance 2005-12, was adopted at second reading, authorizing a contract with Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Greater Washington, Inc. for a Home Buyer's Club (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Williams; ABSENT: Seamens).

Ordinance 2005-11, was adopted at second reading, amending Takoma Park Code Chapter 13.12 Parking Meters (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Williams; ABSENT: Seamens).

Resolution 2005-38 was adopted, authorizing the execution of a cooperation agreement with Montgomery County for the CDBG and HOME Programs (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Mizeur, Williams; ABSENT: Seamens).

## CITY COUNCIL CALENDAR

**Monday, May 30** - Memorial Day - City Offices Will Be Closed for the Memorial Day Holiday.

**Tuesday, May 31** - Presentation, Public Hearing, Special Session and Worksession of the City Council, 7:30 p.m. (Municipal Building Council Chambers)

**Monday, June 6** - Presentation, Interviews and Worksession of the City Council, 7:30 p.m. (Municipal Building Council Chambers)

**Wednesday, June 8** - Ethics Commission Meeting, 7:30 p.m. (Municipal Building Lobby)

**Thursday, June 9** - Safe Roadways Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Municipal Building Council Chambers)

**Monday, June 13** - Presentation, Regular Meeting and Worksession of the City Council, 7:30 p.m. (Municipal Building Council Chambers)

**Tuesday, June 14** - Facade Advisory Board Meeting, 7 p.m. (6 Grant Ave.)

**Tuesday, June 14** - Tree Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Municipal Building Council Chambers)

**Monday, June 20** - Presentation, Interviews and Worksession of the City Council, 7:30 p.m. (Municipal Building Council Chambers)

**Tuesday, June 21** - Arts and Humanities Commission, 7:30 p.m. (Municipal Building Lobby)

**Thursday, June 23** - Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee, 7:30 p.m. (Location TBA)

**Sunday, June 26** - Wednesday, June 29 - Maryland Municipal League Annual Convention, Ocean City, Md.

For updated schedule information, check the City's Web page at [www.cityoftakomapark.org](http://www.cityoftakomapark.org). If you would like to receive a weekly e-mail of the City Council agenda, or if you would like to receive a weekly agenda by U.S. Mail, contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267 or e-mail at [clerk@takomagov.org](mailto:clerk@takomagov.org).

## Clinic in Takoma Langley Renamed for Marilyn Freeland

A community clinic at 7676 New Hampshire Ave. has been renovated and improved and has been given a new name: the Marilyn K. Freeland, R.N., Family Health Center. The board of directors of Community Clinic, Inc. (CCI), a nonprofit agency, planned to make the change official at a dedication ceremony May 25. CCI has provided Montgomery and Prince George's counties' indigent population with primary health care and related health services for 33 years in six accessible locations.

Marilyn K. Freeland, a registered nurse, volunteered for CCI in the late 1970s and early 1980s, often working many more hours than her assigned shifts at the CCI-Rockville health center. Freeland gave her time in leadership positions as well, serving on committees and later as chair of the board of directors from 1979 to 1983. In addition to her extraordinary work for CCI, Freeland served as spokesperson for the American Cancer Society.

The Takoma Park clinic, on the second floor of the building, has previously supported four examination rooms for pediatrics only. Now it has taken over almost the entire second floor with a total of 16 examination rooms and has added adult care to pediatrics.

## Want to Be Our Poet Laureate?

In support of Takoma Park's dedication to the arts, the city will name its first Poet Laureate in an upcoming ceremony. Nominees are presently being solicited for this honor.

The Poet Laureate must be a published poet and a Takoma Park resident. Nominations or self-nominations will be considered. All nominees must submit a cover letter, a curriculum vitae/résumé including a list of publications, and three samples of poetry to the Arts and Humanities Commission c/o Sara Anne Daines at 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park MD 20912.

All submissions, including completed application packets, are due by 5 p.m. June 17. For more information call 301-891-7224.

## Committee Vacancies

**Arts and Humanities Commission.** The commission serves in an official advisory role to the City Council on all matters related to the arts and humanities which promote, coordinate and strengthen public programs to further cultural development of the city. Council may appoint a maximum of 15 members to the commission. (Up to three vacancies.)

**Citizens Liaison Committee for the Community Center.** City residents are invited to participate in the Citizens Liaison Committee for the Community Center. The committee serves to foster communication among interested parties and the Council in the ongoing process for the development of a community center. Information about the committee is available on the City Web page.

**Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (COLTA).** The 7-12 member commission is empowered to adjudicate and mediate complaints for violations of Chapter 6.16, Landlord-Tenant Relations, to rule on petitions for rent increases above the rent stabilization allowance, and to decide appeals from the City Manager's decision to deny, suspend or revoke a license under Chapter 6.08, Rental Housing Licenses and Commercial Occupancy Licenses. (Up to three vacancies.)

**Committee on the Environment.** This committee, newly established as a statutory Council-appointed committee, is charged with advising the City Council on all environmental issues, including but not limited to, tree protection, open space conservation, biodiversity, watershed functioning, energy use and conservation, and recycling; reviewing and providing advice on City actions that affect environmental quality; educating Takoma Park residents, businesses, and government on environmental issues; conveying citizen views on environmental issues to Council and City staff; and working with City staff on environmental issues and projects. (Seven to eleven vacancies - initial application deadline 6/13/05. The committee also welcomes participation from non-members who would like to serve as resources to help committee members with a particular issue or special event.)

**Emergency Preparedness Committee.** The committee was established to provide community input to and assist in the City's planning and preparations for emergency operations and to involve residents in providing appropriate assistance during emergency operations. Applicants should have some professional background in emergency preparedness or operations and be available to perform committee duties during the day when required. (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.)

**Free Burma Committee.** The seven-member committee is charged with overseeing implementation of and adherence to the Free Burma Act. (Five vacancies.)

**Montgomery College Neighbors Advisory Committee.** This committee has been established to advise the City Council on neighborhood issues related to the planning and implementation of facility and enrollment changes at the Takoma Park Campus of Montgomery College; and to nurture the good relationship between the college and the community by maintaining regular dialogue, and working proactively to identify and resolve potential issues early in the process. (Nine to eleven vacancies - application deadline 6/13/05.)

**Noise Control Board.** The seven-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. (Three 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. (Four vacancies.)

**Safe Roadways Committee.** The 11-member committee advises the City on transportation-related issues including, but not limited to, pedestrian and bicycle safety, traffic, and transit services. (One vacancy.)

Interested applicants are encouraged to send a letter of interest and résumé or statement of qualifications to the City Clerk, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912 or via e-mail to Clerk@takomagov.org. Further information is available by contacting the City Clerk's Office at 301-891-7267.

## Gimme Shelter: Progress for Bus Riders at Crossroads

By Susan Holliday  
For the Takoma/Langley Crossroads  
Development Authority, Inc.

The days and nights of standing in mud, exposed to the elements, while waiting at a busy Takoma/Langley Crossroads bus stop are over, thanks to a timely collaboration among the local business community, Montgomery and Prince George's counties, and the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA), with input from the Takoma Park Economic and Community Development Office.

Persistence by the Takoma/Langley Crossroads Development Authority, Inc. (CDA) and the cooperation of commercial property owners and several governmental agencies from the differing jurisdictions resulted in the building in April of two bus shelters on a new concrete pad along University Blvd. at the intersection with Lebanon St. Thousands of passengers daily — the largest number of bus passengers boarding or exiting a stop not attached to a Metrorail station in Maryland — will welcome the addition.

While the structure was installed in less than a month, it took years to get going. In 2000, the CDA hosted the county executives of Montgomery and Prince George's County at a press conference, at which both leaders pledged support for building a permanent transit center in the vicinity. Despite continuing interest from the county executives and support from the Takoma Park City Council and staff, the center today is unbuilt due to ever-present jurisdictional and funding problems. While the wheels of government were grinding, bus customers had no choice as they waited for rides.

"To avoid waiting in mud, people would put flattened cardboard boxes on the ground to stand on, it was that bad," said CDA Executive Director Erwin Mack.

Last November, City Manager Barbara Matthews characterized the bus stop as "a virtual mud pit," adding that providing a temporary shelter and eventually a permanent transit center were issues of "common human decency."

After discussions among the jurisdictions and CDA, Montgomery County agreed to build a temporary shelter for its Ride-On buses on the Prince George's County property. "Montgomery County deserves a lot of credit for stepping up to the challenge," said Mack. "The shelter serves the Ride-On buses, but it will directly help riders from both counties."

Unfortunately, the space available was insufficient to install an appropriately sized bus shelter. SHA tried to renew contact with the off-site property owner on behalf of Prince George's County to obtain right of way and got no response. Though

Prince George's County requested that the state use eminent domain to acquire space, Mack instead joined with Bob Hall, the property manager of Langley Park Plaza in Prince George's County, to meet with Ray Shipley, the property manager of Langley Park Center, the site of the proposed shelter.

Shipley and his property owner agreed to give the right of way to Montgomery County and SHA to build the shelter. With the right-of-way clearance, the Montgomery County Division of Transit Services moved promptly to pour a concrete pad. The Prince George's County Division of Transit Planning Section referred its contractor to quickly install the shelters. SHA served as a consultant throughout the process.

"Communication and collaboration are the keys to success when working with multiple public and private entities," said Mack. For example, he noted that planning staff from the City's Economic and Community Development Office spearheaded a multijurisdictional proposal for engineering safety improvements at the Crossroads.

**Deadline for  
Submissions:  
June 13  
Next Issue:  
June 24**

**Editor**  
Bob Guldin

**Copy Editor**  
Carol E. Smalls

**Writers**  
Ethan Goffman  
Rick Henry  
Joy Jones

**Photography**  
Clyde Lassell

**Layout & Production**  
Sligo Computer Services, Inc.

**www.cityoftakomapark.org**  
Vol. 44, no. 9

The *Takoma Park Newsletter* is published 11 times a year as the official publication of the City of Takoma Park, [www.cityoftakomapark.org](http://www.cityoftakomapark.org).

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, will be considered for publication. 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.

The City of Takoma Park is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin, sex, age, marital status or physical or mental disabilities that are unrelated in nature and extent to job performance. The *Newsletter* is printed on recycled-content paper.

To contact the editor e-mail:  
[tpnewseditor@takomagov.org](mailto:tpnewseditor@takomagov.org)

## FY 2006 Budget Nears Approval

Continued from page 1

homeowners will still pay more in City property taxes in FY2006 than in the current year.

Mayor Kathy Porter noted that a number of councilmembers are trying to reduce the tax rate further than the proposed 1.5 cent cut. But Ward 6 Councilmember Doug Barry said that while he's working to keep the budget under control, when he talks to residents about property taxes, "I don't hear a lot of complaints from people in my area; there's not a great clamor."

City residents can expect to see some visible changes in 2006. In 2004, the City borrowed just over \$2 million for street improvements, and about \$1 million of that will be spent in FY2006. So expect lots of street paving this summer.

In addition, the first phase of the Community Center should be completed in early summer, Matthews said, with some staff possibly moving into new offices in July and community recreation spaces opening for use in September. Bids for the second phase of the project, the community plaza level, will be discussed by the Council June 6.

The Council's budget discussions were informed by the work of the TASDI (Tax and Services Duplication Issues) Committee, which studied the ways in which the services of the City and Mont-

gomery County overlap. That raised questions such as, should the City allow the county to take over or share police dispatch and communications functions, thereby saving money?

Matthews said the City and county would discuss that and similar questions over the next year, but cautioned, "I don't think any of these will be quick fixes."

Ward 5 Councilmember Marc Elrich suggested the City could cut the budget by not funding some police officer positions which have in fact been vacant for years, because of the difficulty of finding enough officers.

The budget is expected to include \$25,000 for pedestrian safety initiatives, \$25,000 for affordable housing and \$100,000 for a Public Works storage facility.

And one characteristically quirky City program got yet another reprieve this year. Despite councilmembers' disappointment in the amount of practical grassroots support for it, the Tool Library, which lends tools for free to area do-it-yourselfers, will receive \$14,000 to cover the tool librarian's pay and benefits. A petition signed by 230 people showed that while people may not use the Tool Library much, they like the idea of the Tool Library.

— Bob Guldin

## City Shows Appreciation



The City Council honored members of the City's District 20 Maryland General Assembly delegation with a resolution May 23 thanking them for ongoing financial support of the Community Center.

Sen. Ida Ruben (left) and Delegates Peter Franchot and Sheila Hixson received plaques from Mayor Kathy Porter at the Municipal Building ceremony. "You've really come through, time after time, for the same project," Porter said.

The resolution also honored Del. Gareth Murray of Silver Spring, who was absent Monday but toured the City

with Porter and Lt. Gov. Michael S. Steele May 19.

In all, since the City first requested financial assistance from the delegation to build the Community Center, the state has contributed \$2.15 million to the project.

In recognizing the delegation for its help, councilmembers reminded them that the Community Center still isn't finished. Member Marc Elrich (Ward 5) called the center's gym, removed from current construction plans because of a lack of money, the "missing part" of the project.

## COLTA's Corner



### From Housing Specialist Jean Kerr

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

#### 116 Lee Ave. (2004-60L)

On April 20, a capital improvement petition was approved for amounts ranging from \$3.67 to \$78.90 on all 56 units at the property. The improvements included work done in the common area of the building and the laundry room. Improvements were also done in each unit such as repaired and repainted bedroom, dining room, kitchen, bathroom walls and ceilings, repaired and replaced HVAC, new kitchen sinks, kitchen floors, tubs & showers, living room doors, stoves, refrigerators, garbage disposals, counter tops, toilet tanks, and smoke detectors.

#### 8316 Flower Ave. (2004-113L)

On April 27, a capital improvement petition was approved for amounts ranging from \$8.90 to \$33.92 on six units at the property. The improvements included painting and replacing the windows.

#### 8014 Flower Ave. (2005-4L)

On April 25, a capital improvement petition was approved for amounts ranging from \$61.35 to \$91.62 on three units at the property. The improvements included painting, replacing tile, washer and dryer, plumbing fixtures, tile, hardwood floors, sump pump, mail box, carpet and cabinets.

#### 321 Boyd Ave. (2005-24L)

On April 25, a capital improvement petition was approved for \$53.11 on one unit at the property. The improvements included painting the unit, replacing the toilet, refrigerator, counter top, fan and sink.

#### 7106/7108 Maple Ave. (2005-28L)

On March 21, a capital improvement petition was approved for \$18.89 on one unit at the property for painting.

All increases are in addition to the annual Rent Stabilization Allowance in effect at the time the increases are taken.

### From Landlord-Tenant Coordinator Moses A. Wilds, Jr.

#### Jackson & Gilbert v. Pounders

On March 16 in a consolidated case involving two tenants' allegations of defective tenancy, COLTA issued a decision ruling in favor of the tenants; (1) any condition in a rental facility that constitutes a violation of the lease terms, the Landlord-Tenant Relations Law, or the Property Maintenance Code is by definition a defective tenancy; (2) when a tenant has provided the landlord with written notice of the defect and the landlord has not corrected the defect or made a good faith effort to do so within one week after the written notice was given, that tenant may file a defective tenancy complaint with COLTA which

is empowered to award the tenant his or her actual monetary damages that resulted from the defective tenancy; (3) where a defective tenancy (roach infestation, recurring electrical outages, etc.) occurs it may result in the diminished value of the tenancy and a reduction in the tenants' monthly rent until the violations are corrected; (4) the tenants' rent is reduced by 50 percent from \$833.94/\$879.79 per month to \$416.97/\$439.90 per month until the Landlord corrects the violations causing the defective tenancy; (5) the Landlord is directed to pay the affected tenants the amounts of \$4,169.70/\$4,399.00 respectively as damages for the defective tenancy by April 1, 2005; and (6) if the Landlord does not pay the tenants the monetary damages amount noted in # 5 above by April 1, 2005, the tenants may withhold the payment of their rent for each month until the total amount of the awarded monetary damages is reached or until the Landlord has paid any remaining balance of the monetary award.

#### Pasha v. Southern Management Corp.

On May 6 in a case involving an alleged defective tenancy for failure to properly install, maintain or repair air conditioning and heat, COLTA issued a decision in favor of the landlord.

COLTA ruled that the tenant did not present sufficient evidence that a defective tenancy existed within the one year preceding the filing of the COLTA complaint. COLTA went on to state that such evidence might consist of code violation reports, similar complaints filed by neighbors, temperature readings from the affected rental unit or any other objective evidence of insufficient air conditioning or heat during the year preceding the filing of the complaint.



# Lieutenant Governor Michael Steele Visits, Announces Transit Funds for Crossroads

By Suzanne Ludlow

Community and Government Liaison

Lt. Governor Michael Steele toured the City of Takoma Park on May 19 and coupled the visit with an announcement proposing to use \$7.3 million in regional transit funds for the construction of a bus transit center at the intersection of University Boulevard and New Hampshire Avenue. In addition to making this major announcement, the lieutenant governor heard from many Takoma Park citizens on the need to restore state funding to pedestrian and road improvement projects in the community.

The visit was part of a series of visits Lt. Gov. Steele is making to Maryland municipalities. Approximately a dozen high-level state officials from several departments accompanied Steele, including Maryland Secretary of Transportation Robert L. Flanagan.

Mayor Kathy Porter, City Councilmembers Joy Austin-Lane, Doug Barry and Heather Mizeur, District 20 Delegates Gareth Murray and Peter Franchot, and delegates from nearby Prince George's County participated in the tour.

At a stop in Old Town, Steele was met with more than 20 seniors and disabled

persons from Victory Tower carrying signs protesting the cutting of state funds to be used to correct the unsafe intersection at Westmoreland and Carroll avenues. Many Victory Tower residents are physically unable to cross Westmoreland Ave. due to the slope of the crosswalk.



Photo by Danielle Gordon

**ON THE MOVE:** Lt. Gov. Michael Steele (center) announces funding for transit center at University Blvd./New Hampshire Ave. intersection. Visible behind the Lt. Gov. are (left to right): Maryland Transit Administrator Lisa Dickerson; Dep. Secretary Betsy Burian, Md. Dept. of Planning; Takoma Park Mayor Kathy Porter; Secretary Victor Hoskins, Md. Dept. of Housing and Comm. Dev.; District 20 Delegates Gareth Murray and Peter Franchot; Takoma Park City Councilmembers Doug Barry and Heather Mizeur; and Takoma/Langley CDA Executive Director Erwin Mack.

Other topics addressed in Old Town were economic development plans and public safety efforts to better coordinate the police departments of Takoma Park, the District of Columbia, Montgomery

County and Metro.

The stop at the Takoma-Langley Crossroads area focused on Lt. Gov. Steele's announcement of funds for a large transit facility to be built on the site of the Taco Bell at the University Blvd./New Hampshire Ave. intersection. Steele called on Montgomery and Prince George's counties to each contribute \$2.5 million toward the project.

All three jurisdictions have been discussing plans for the transit center during the past year as part of studies related to the Bi-County Transitway (or Purple Line). However, Montgomery County officials have worked for years to get a bus transit center established at the intersection. Several years ago, the county allocated planning money for the effort and evaluated possible locations for a facility, but did not receive sufficient support from the state or from Prince George's County.

Bus facilities at this intersection are getting attention because there are more transit boardings in this area than at 33 Metrorail stations in the Washington region.

The lieutenant governor ended his tour by visiting the site of the proposed Mother Teresa Center in Langley Park and announcing funding for some of the programs of the Spanish Catholic Center on University Blvd. in Takoma Park.

## July 4th is Coming, Takoma Celebration Needs Your Support

On Monday July 4, 2005, Takoma Park will hold its 116th Independence Day celebration, one of the oldest such celebrations on the East Coast. The event will include a colorful two-hour parade at 10 a.m. headed by Mayor Kathy Porter and the Grand Marshal, community leader Erwin Mack.

The free evening program will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will be held at the Takoma Park Middle School Field at 7611 Piney Branch Road. Featured will be the Takoma Park Concert Band with soloist David Goette and other entertainment. The nationally known Zambelli fireworks will begin at dark, after 9 p.m.

This year's theme is "Takoma Park: A Main Street Community." Mayor Kathy Porter and Grand Marshal Erwin Mack will lead off the parade joined by state, county and municipal officials.

Of course, the usual musical groups, namely the MacMillan of Montgomery Pipe Band, DC Motors, Mecca Temple #10 Drum and Bugle Corps, the Morning Few, D.C. Pan Jammers, Image Band, Trinidad and Tobago Steel Band, etc. will be back again.

The traditional July 4th gala is planned, directed and primarily financed by the Takoma Park Independence Day Committee, Inc., and supported by the Mayor and Council of Takoma Park and City departments.

While the committee holds fund-raising events, your personal support is needed. Donations may be mailed to the Takoma Park Independence Day Committee, 109 Sheridan Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912.

For more information, or to offer help, call 301-270-6876, or 301-565-0190. Also see [www.takomapark4th.org](http://www.takomapark4th.org).

## Builder, Spare That Tree! Preventing Collateral Damage

By Brett Linkletter

City Arborist

Construction damage is one of the leading causes of injury and mortality to trees in urban and suburban areas. Because construction damage usually causes a slow decline before mortality occurs, homeowners rarely recognize it as the cause of the death of their trees.

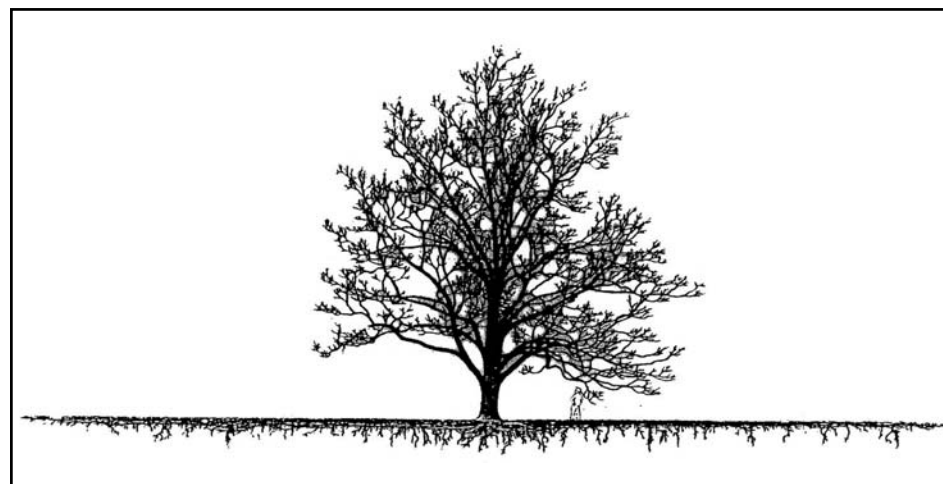
Construction damage also can cause enough stress in trees to invite secondary pests and pathogens that attack weakened trees. The outward symptoms of decline or death would appear to come from the pest or pathogen, but in reality, the decline in health is mostly caused by the construction damage. The pest and pathogens are just coming in later to hasten the decline process.

With the tight real estate market in the region and the desirability of Takoma Park as a place to live, there has been an increase in Takoma Park of homeowners putting additions on their homes. These additions often have quite a negative impact on nearby trees. In recognition of this, Takoma Park's Tree Ordinance has a provision requiring homeowners to

have a tree impact assessment done by the City arborist if there is a disturbance of 25 square feet within 50 feet of a tree. Takoma Park has many trees, and houses are fairly close together, so it is very hard to imagine your average addition being more than 50 feet from a tree in the city. So, if someone in Takoma Park is putting on an addition (or doing any other construction, for that matter) they should contact the City about any tree preservation requirements before starting construction. Failure to go through the proper procedures in Takoma Park can result in a \$1,000 fine.

The requirements and the fine may seem a bit severe to some, but not when you consider the root system of a tree and the benefits the trees have in this community.

Tree roots typically fan out from the trunk, close to the surface of the soil. In fact, usually about 80 percent of a tree's root system is within the top 12 inches of the soil. Also, tree root systems go a long way out away from the tree. Some of the large trees in town can easily have tree roots that extend into a neighbor's, neighbor's yard. These facts about tree



Source: Morton Arboretum, Chicago

**Many local trees, including oaks and maples, have a wide, shallow root structure that can be damaged by construction.**

roots are why the requirements are so strict and why there is so much concern about construction and, in particular, soil disturbance.

Once a tree has experienced damage from construction, it can sometimes take up to 10 years before mortality finally occurs. This sometimes causes homeowners, contractors, architects, landscape architects, engineers and others involved with construction to overlook the importance of proper tree protection. Tree protection, when designed properly, should consider the long-term aspects of the site while also considering the needs of citizens and

be sensitive to the space requirements needed to get the project done.

So, if you are going to do a project on your property and are going to disturb more than 25 square feet, that's 5 feet by 5 feet, the City of Takoma Park should be notified so a tree impact assessment can be done. Remember, failure to do so can result in a \$1,000 fine and, more importantly, trees important to the community may be lost.

If anyone has any questions about tree impact assessments, the tree ordinance, or any other questions about trees, feel free to contact the City arborist at 301-891-7612 or [BrettL@takomagov.org](mailto:BrettL@takomagov.org).

# RECREATION

## Create Your Own Musical Camps

### Grades 5 - 8

Students will have the opportunity to write a play, explore various aspects of acting, create costumes and props, act as stage crew, stage managers, and makeup artists. The final performance would truly portray the voices of the participating students and their community. Maximum of twenty, minimum of ten.

When: Monday - Friday  
Session I: June 20 - 24, 2005  
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Location: Municipal Building, 7500 Maple Avenue  
Fee: \$130

## Counselor-In-Training Program

### Grades 9 and 10 (as of Sept. '05)

This program is for young teens interested in gaining knowledge of working with young children, personal growth, leadership and work experience. Fee includes CPR and First Aid certification, on-the-job training, special events, speakers and field trips. Must attend pre-training week and work at least two weeks over the summer. To register, pickup an application at the Recreation Office and return no later than June 1, 2005. Minimum of six participants.

Mandatory Pre-Training:  
When: June 20 - 24, 2005  
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Training Location: Municipal Building, 7500 Maple Avenue

On the Job Training  
When: June 27 - August 12, 2005  
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Camp Locations:  
Takoma Park Municipal Building,  
7500 Maple Avenue or  
Takoma Park Recreation Center,  
7315 New Hampshire Avenue

Fee for two week commitment:  
T.P. City Resident \$150  
Non-Resident \$200

## Creative Adventures

### Grades 1 - 5 (as of Sept. '05)

This Camp offers endless opportunities for discovery and play. Each week brings new fun and more adventures an experiences: arts and crafts, games, sports, nature activities, special events, trips to a basketball game, swimming, the beach and much more. Seven weeks. No Camp July 4.

When: Mon. - Fri., June 27 - Aug. 12, 2005  
Time: Before Care: 7:00 - 9:00 a.m. (Additional fee)  
Camp hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
After Care: 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. (Additional fee)

Locations: Takoma Park Recreation Center,  
7315 New Hampshire Avenue  
Piney Branch Elementary School,  
7510 Maple Avenue

Fees: T.P. City Resident \$105/week  
Non-Resident \$115/week

Fee if paying for whole summer:  
T.P. City Resident \$725  
Non-Resident \$775

## Skateboard Club

### Grades 5 - 12

Improve your Ollie, 360, rail slide, and grind. Take field trips to skate parks in Gaithersburg, Leesburg, Columbia and more. Eight weeks.

When: Saturdays, June 25 - August 13  
Time: 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. (Times may vary depending on skate site)  
Location: Will meet at the Municipal Building  
Fee: \$60.00 (includes admission into the parks)  
All participants must pick up an itinerary packet at time of registration.

## Fun Day Trip 2005

Swimming at Water Park,  
Gaithersburg, MD  
When: Wednesday, June 15  
Time: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$10  
Non-Resident \$15

## Outdoor Soccer Clinic

### Grades 6 - 8

Knock the ball around a bit at Lee Jordan Centre.

When: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays,  
June 1 - June 13, 2005  
Time: 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.  
Location: Lee Jordan Field, 7611 Piney Branch  
Road (behind Takoma Park Middle School)  
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$10  
Non-Resident \$15

## Dodge Ball

Remember when the only thing on your mind was 'red light green light' or 'hide-n-seek'? A time when recess was the highlight of every day. It's time to act like a kid again. Eight weeks.

### Grades 8 - 10

When: Monday, June 20 - Aug. 8  
Time: 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
No program July 5.

### Grades 11 and Up

When: Friday, June 24 - Aug.12  
Time: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Location: Takoma Park Elementary School Gym,  
7511 Holly Avenue  
Fee: Free

## T Ball Program

### Grades K - 1

We emphasize the fundamentals at this t-ball program. Participants will be assigned to individual teams after registration. Participants will be called by league director or coach after team assignments are made by Thursday, June 2. Coaches should call the Recreation Department to arrange for equipment and schedule pick-up. Eight weeks.

When: Saturdays, June 4 - July 30, 2005  
Time: 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.  
Location: Jequie Park, Spring Park, Hodges Field  
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$35  
Non-Resident \$40

Volunteer Coaches are needed to make this a successful program! Please contact the Recreation Department if you are interested in coaching.  
No program July 2, 2005.

## Beginner In-Line Skating

### 17- Adult

Learn to skate with certified Inline Skating instructor, Jane Beech. You will learn all the basics of inline skating: forward movement, turning and most importantly, how to stop and control your speed. Required equipment: skates, helmet, elbow pads, knee pads, and wrist guards. Equipment is available for rent directly from the instructor. You must reserve equipment in advance by calling Jane Beech at 301-919-2017 or e-mail to: inlineclass@aol.com. Four weeks.

When: Sundays, June 12, 19, July 10, 17  
Time: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
Location: T. P. Middle School Tennis Courts,  
7611 Piney Branch Road  
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$70  
Non-Resident \$75

## Tremendous Trips

### Grades 1-5

June 20 - 24  
\$20 per trip or \$85 for the whole week.

Monday, June 20: Port Discovery  
Tuesday, June 21: Maryland Zoo  
Wednesday, June 22: Walkersville Southern Railroad  
Thursday, June 23: Bowling @ White Oak Lanes and  
Swimming @ MLK Pool  
Friday, June 24: Discovery Theater's performance  
of Kivulu and Roller Skating @  
Laurel Skating Center

## Extreme Horizons

### Grades 6 - 9 (as of Sept. '05)

ATTENTION ALL MIDDLE SCHOOLERS: THIS IS NOT A CAMP, IT'S AN ADVENTURE! Interested in challenging new horizons and exploring your possibilities? Then this is the place for you. You'll go on three fabulous field trips every week. This year is going to be even more exciting! Limited to 13 or 26 participants. Fees include camp t-shirt, field trips and special events. Six Weeks of day camp and week #7 is an overnight camp (see below). No camp July 4.

When: Monday - Friday,  
June 27 - August 12  
Time: Before Care: 7:00 - 9:00 a.m. (Addtl fee)  
Camp hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
After Care: 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. (Addtl fee)  
Location: Municipal Building, 7500 Maple Avenue  
Fees: T.P. City Resident \$180/week  
(Week #7 \$215)  
Non-Resident\$200/week  
(Week #7 \$225)  
Fee if paying for whole summer (not including week #7):  
T.P. City Resident \$975  
Non-Resident \$990

## Extended Care Options

Extended care is available for those families who require or desire additional activities beyond the regular camp hours. Campers in the following camps may enroll in the extended care program: Creative Adventures, Extreme Horizons, Takoma Park Babe Ruth Baseball/Softball camp, Basketball, Soccer Camp and \*U.S. Sports Institute (\*before care only).

Fee per week for before care (7:00 - 9:00 a.m.)  
T.P. City Resident \$30  
Non-Res. \$35  
Fee per week for after care (4:00 - 6:00 p.m.)  
T.P. City Resident \$30  
Non-Resident \$35

## Infant and Child CPR

### 16 and Up

Six total hours of class time are required for this course. Upon successful completion of class requirements, you will earn an American Red Cross Infant and Child CPR Certificate, good for one year. Instructor: Steve Cavallo

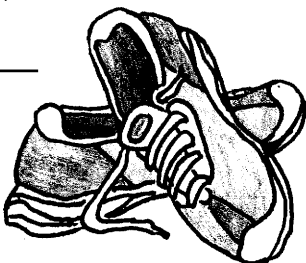
When: Saturday, June 4, 2005  
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Location: Takoma Park Municipal Building,  
7500 Maple Avenue  
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$25  
Non-Resident \$30

## Abs and Stretch Class

### 16 and Older

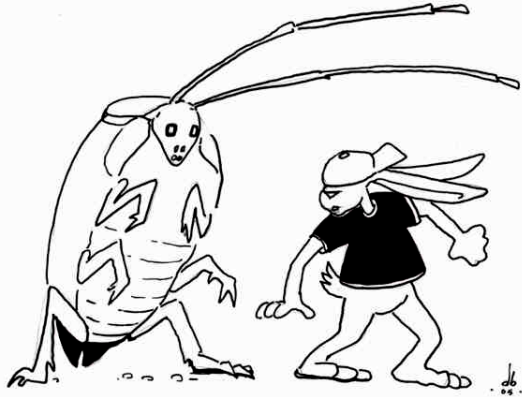
Are you interested in training your abdominal muscles? This class will help guide you on your journey to getting that ultimate six-pack! Eight weeks. Instructor: Amy Rutland

When: Tuesdays & Thursdays, June 7 - July 28  
Time: 7:00 - 7:45 p.m.  
Location: Takoma Park Recreation Center,  
7315 New Hampshire Ave  
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$30  
Non-Resident \$35





## SUMMER QUEST 2005 IS SMALLER THAN EVER!



Drawing by Dave Burbank, Library Assistant

It's a big world out there - and it seems even bigger when you are only one inch tall and shrunk to insect size. Somehow our Summer Questers must survive the dangerous wilds of ... THEIR OWN KITCHEN!

Our annual Read-To-Move adventure game begins Friday, June 10, just before school is over.

As with every year, there will be challenges and rewards along the way. Come pick a character and get very, very small....

### "Sing Into Summer!"

Greta Ehrig, Takoma Park poet, singer, and song-writer, will usher in summer with an evening of interactive musical fun for all ages Wednesday evening, June 1, at 7 p.m.

Greta is well-known to the youngest Takoma Parkians and their parents and caregivers. She has been the person the Library has turned to for leading Circle Time on Tuesdays when the regular leadership is not available.

Check out Greta's website at [www.gretaehrig.com](http://www.gretaehrig.com) to see how her "wooing of the multi-headed muse" is coming along. Please join us for the fun June 1.

### Fire Safety Education And Materials Free At the Library

Montgomery County Safe Kids in conjunction with the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department will educate families in fire prevention on the second Saturday of each month from June through October at the Takoma Park Library.

Representatives will be available between 1 and 4 p.m. on June 11, July 9, Aug. 13, Sept. 10 and Oct. 8 to give away smoke alarm batteries and flashlights, and to assist families in preparing home escape plans.

## LIBRARY

### In Memoriam: Gene Inyart Namovicz

Gene Inyart Namovicz, a hidden treasure of Takoma Park, died on May 4 at Washington Adventist Hospital. She and her husband Stan raised four children (and helped with many grandchildren) on Lincoln Ave. Their home hosted many small literary salons for children's book authors and librarians over the years, even into these past few years of Gene's failing health.

Gene was originally a children's librarian with the D.C. public libraries. After 10 years she became a full-time mother and children's book author. Her books included *Tent Under the Spider Tree*, *Susan and Martin*, *The Joke War*, and *To Talk in Time*. But once a librarian, always a librarian. She believed fiercely in the care and feeding of librarians, particularly those who served children, and she took me under her wing when I first came to the Takoma Park Maryland Library. She became a mentor and advisor, especially in the early days of my work. Under her aegis, the position of children's librarian of the Takoma Park Maryland Library became officially recognized for membership in the prestigious Children's Book Guild of Washington, of which Gene was an early member.

In the Children's Book Guild, Gene was noted for her keen wit, generous spirit and razor-sharp common sense. Through her patronage I became friends with Gene's author friends, including Katherine Paterson, Colby Rodowsky, Peggy Thomson, Phyllis Naylor, Becky Jones, M.C. Helldorfer and Jane Conley, to name just a few. In pondering Gene's great gift for friendship, I am reminded of one of her quips: "If eight women were to be stranded on a stalled elevator together and released an hour later, five would undoubtedly remain friends for life."

Re-reading the dedication page of Katherine Paterson's *Jacob Have I Loved*, the winner of the Newbery Award in 1981, I have to laugh, thinking of the warmth and humor of Gene's friendships. Katherine Paterson wrote, "For Gene Inyart Namovicz ... I wish it were *Emma*, but you already have two or three copies of that. With thanks and love."

Gene Inyart Namovicz's passing is a profound personal loss, but it is also a loss for our community, whether you knew her or not. The soul of the Takoma Park Maryland Library has been quietly and deeply enriched by her life and influence, and for that we may all be grateful.

—Jillian S. Hershberger  
Children's & Youth Services Coordinator

### Baby Sitters Graduates



The VFD Baby Sitters Class that was completed in May. Sitting L to R - Dewey Gelnow-Brickley, Rebecca Partan, Elisabeth Defourny, Maite Defourny, Danielle Graham. Standing L to R - Katelyn Luker, Emma Guerrero, Elizabeth Partan, Katie Ehrmantraut, Larkin Turman, Dylan Cunningham. Assisting with the class (but not pictured): Mrs. Sandy Egan, Sgt. Kurt Gilbert, TPD, EMTs Tom Horne, Mike Livingston, Deanna Stewart, TPVFD. The next class will be in September. Contact Rec Dept. for information.

### Ward 6 Rock the Block Party, May 21



### Library Programs in June

#### "Sing Into Summer!"

Greta Ehrig  
all ages  
Wednesday, June 1, 7 p.m.  
(see story)

#### Summer Quest 2005

begins Friday, June 10  
(see story)

#### Neighborhood Circle Time

Neighborhood Circle Time  
Open to all preschoolers & their adults  
each Tuesday at 10 a.m.  
Informal sing-alongs, poetry, finger games,  
and nursery tales, with participant-  
leadership welcomed.  
All ages; no preregistration required!

Call 301-891-7259 to preregister for  
programs or for more information.



# THE CRIME REPORT

The following report is excerpted from the blotter of the Takoma Park Police Department, prepared by Lt. Richard Cipperly. It is not intended to include all reported crimes and arrests.

## Robberies

**Hickory Ave., unit block:** On April 28 at 10:02 p.m., a strong-arm robbery occurred. The victim, an adult male, was walking with an acquaintance when they were approached by three subjects. One subject asked the acquaintance a question while another subject punched the victim, went through his pockets and removed his property. All three subjects fled on foot and were later seen entering a vehicle and fleeing the area. The victim was able to get a tag number. The victim was not injured.

**Cedar Ave. and Dogwood Ave.:** On April 30 at 10:45 p.m., an armed robbery occurred. The victim, a juvenile male, was walking alone when he was approached by a subject who displayed a handgun and demanded money. After the victim gave the subject his money, the subject fled in a silver car. The victim was not injured.

**Anne Street, 1000 block:** On May 2 at 1 a.m., a strong-arm robbery occurred. The victim, an adult male, was walking alone when he was grabbed from behind, pushed to the ground and assaulted by four subjects. The subjects took property from the victim before fleeing the scene. The victim was not injured.

## Burglaries

**Holly Ave., 7500 block:** On April 24 at 6:30 p.m., a storehouse burglary occurred. Windows were forced open in order to gain entry. Property was taken.

**Poplar Ave., 6700 block:** On April 25, between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., a storehouse burglary occurred. The door of the shed was pried open in order to gain entry. Property was taken.

**Willow Ave., 7300 block:** On April 26, between 12:30 a.m. and 6 a.m., a storehouse burglary occurred. A garage door was forced open in order to gain entry. Property was taken.

**Holton Lane, 1300 block:** Between April 25 at 6:30 p.m. and April 26 at 7:50 a.m., a commercial burglary occurred. A window pane of the rear door of the business was broken in order to gain entry. Property was taken.

**Belford Place, 500 block:** On April 27 at 10 a.m., a storehouse burglary occurred. An unsecured shed door was opened to gain entry. Property was taken.

**East-West Highway, 900 block:** Between April 20 at 9:30 p.m. and April 30 at 8:15 a.m., a commercial burglary occurred. A window of a door was broken in order to gain entry. Property was taken.

**Albany Ave., 500 block:** On May 4 at 11:05 a.m. in the 500 block of Albany Ave., a residential burglary occurred.

Entry to the home was made through the unlocked front door. Property was taken.

**University Blvd., 1300 block:** Between April 29 and May 3 at 10:40 a.m., a commercial burglary was attempted. Vent hoods on the roof of the building were damaged in the attempt.

**Philadelphia Ave., 300 block:** On May 7 at 9:19 p.m., a residential burglary occurred. A window of the basement door was broken in order to gain entry to the home. A shed on the property was also entered by forcing open the door. Property was taken from the home.

**Carroll Ave., 7400 block:** Between May 7 at 2 p.m. and May 10 at 7:30 a.m., a burglary occurred. The lock to a shed was removed. Property was taken.

## Auto and Related Theft

**Poplar Ave., 6600 block:** On April 26, between 8 a.m. and 6:20 p.m., a 1996 Mercury Grand Marquee was stolen.

**Carroll Ave., 7600 block:** On April 26, between 10:15 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., an auto theft was attempted. The door lock was damaged in the attempt. Property was taken.

**Lockney Ave., 8200 block:** Between May 13 at 5 p.m. and May 14 at 10:30 a.m., a 1998 Honda Accord was stolen.

**4th Ave., 6400 block:** On May 19 at 10:15 a.m., a 1987 Toyota Cargo was stolen.

## ARRESTS

**Cockerille Ave., 6500 block:** On April 23 at 8 p.m., an adult male was arrested and charged with 2nd degree assault and two counts of malicious destruction of property after officers responded to an assault in progress.

**Maple Ave., 7700 block:** On April 24 at 2:26 p.m., an adult male was arrested and charged with one count of 1st degree assault, two counts of 2nd degree assault, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct and disturbing the peace. He was also served with an outstanding Montgomery County warrant for failure to appear in court on a charge of driving while impaired.

**New Hampshire Ave., 7600 block:** On April 25 at 11:04 p.m., an adult male was arrested on an open warrant from Metro Transit Police for 2nd degree assault.

**Cedar Ave., 7400 block:** On April 26 at 12:55 p.m., after a routine traffic stop, an adult female was arrested on open Montgomery County warrants for failure to appear in court on separate charges of telephone misuse and driving while suspended. Several traffic citations were also issued.

**Maple Ave., 7500 block:** On April 30 at 9:40 p.m., an open warrant filed by Takoma Park Police was served on an adult male charging him with unlawful taking of a motor vehicle, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and theft under \$500.

**New Hampshire Ave., 7400 block:** On May 4 at 3:20 a.m., a juvenile male was arrested and charged with possession of CDS (drugs) with intent to distribute, possession of CDS and possession of CDS paraphernalia.

**Maple Ave., 7100 block:** On May 4 at 6:50 p.m., an adult male was arrested and charged with two counts of possession of CDS, possession of CDS paraphernalia and destruction of property after a routine traffic stop. The subject was also served with an outstanding Montgomery County warrant for possession of CDS.

**University Blvd., 1100 block:** On May 6 at 5:35 p.m., a juvenile female was arrested and charged with theft over \$500, unlawful taking of a motor vehicle and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, after a routine traffic stop.

**Maple Ave., 7600 block:** On May 7 at 1:22 a.m., an adult male was arrested and charged with two counts of child abuse and two counts of 2nd degree assault after police responded to a call for an assault in progress.

**New Hampshire Ave., 6900 block:** On May 16 at 2:30 a.m., an adult male was arrested and charged with driving while impaired by alcohol. He was also arrested on an open warrant from Montgomery County for carrying a concealed deadly weapon.

**Houston Court, 8200 block:** On May 16 at 8:43 a.m., two adult males were arrested on open Montgomery warrants for manufacturing, transporting, possessing a destructive device and conspiracy to manufacture, transport, possess a destructive device stemming from an incident that occurred in Takoma Park on May 3 in the 8200 block of Houston Court.

**Piney Branch Road, 7600 block:** On May 19 at 3:43 p.m., a juvenile male was arrested and charged with trespassing, possession of CDS and possession of CDS paraphernalia.



## The Firehouse Report

As of April 30, 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 333 fire-related incidents. The department handled or assisted with 866 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 1,199 incidents this year. Totals for 2004 were 360 and 815, respectively, for a total of 1,175, representing an increase of 24 incidents.

### A FIRE SAFE TOUR

Look carefully through your house for fire hazards you may have overlooked. It only takes a bit of organization to get rid of many of these hazards. Others require a small expense. Whatever the cost or effort, preventing a fire in your home is worth it.

### Kitchen...Unsafe cooking is the leading cause of home fires and burn injuries.

- Keep cooking surfaces clean.
- Hang curtains, potholders and dishtowels at least three feet from the stove.
- Cook with the lowest effective heat.
- Never leave cooking unattended.
- Supervise children in the kitchen at all times.
- Unplug appliances when not in use.

### Living Room or Den...Careless habits can cause tragedies.

- If people smoke in the house, empty ashtrays often, but only when the contents are cool.
- Avoid extension cords. Never run them under rugs or where they may be pinched.
- Keep combustibles, children and pets at least 3 feet from heat sources.

See picture of Baby Sitters Class on p. 7

### Basement, Workroom or Attic...Out of sight, out of mind? Take a closer look.

- Have the furnace inspected annually.
- Store flammable liquids outside of the house in a metal locker or container.
- Do not store large amounts of unused paper or cloth items.
- Oily rags can ignite without warning. Wash them in detergent and discard.

### Bedrooms...Half of house fire deaths are caused by fires that begin between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

- Never smoke in bed.
- Sleep with bedroom doors closed to slow the fire's progress toward you.
- Install smoke alarms right inside sleeping areas.

### The House as a Whole...Heating and electrical fires are common.

- Install at least one smoke alarm on each level of your home.
- Maintain smoke alarms with monthly tests and new batteries twice a year when you change your clock times.
- Have a licensed electrician check the house's wiring if lights flicker, fuses blow, or sparks fly from outlets or appliances.
- Do not overload electrical outlets.
- Check cords and plugs for wear.
- Windows and doors must be easy to open from the inside.
- Keep matches and lighters up high away from children.

AVOIDABLE TRAGEDY! Every year in this country about 3,500 people die in fires at home; about 20,000 are injured; and billions of dollars worth of property are destroyed in house fires. Most of these tragedies are preventable. There is no such thing as a fireproof home. But simple maintenance, a few new skills and some inexpensive equipment can make your home more fire-resistant. A HOME ESCAPE PLAN IS A MUST FOR YOUR FAMILY!

Note: If you would like for someone from the fire department to come to your home and make a "home safety check," just contact the fire station at 301-270-4242. Do this in the interest of your safety.



# Takoma Park Police Celebrate Police Week

## POLICE NEWS

Takoma Park Police celebrated National Police Week, May 15-21, with its annual awards dinner, attendance at Law Enforcement Memorial's candle-light vigil and a park dedication.

Det/Sgt Richard Poole was selected 2004 Police Officer of the Year for his performance as an investigator, attaining a closure rate of 41.4 percent on a caseload of 123 investigations last year. He effected 31 arrests on charges of child abuse and burglary to armed robbery and car jacking. As the acting supervisor, he also oversaw the work of other investigators.

City officers also held a ceremony dedicating a City park in memory of a Maryland State Police colleague who was killed on duty investigating drug crime in and around the City. The former Eastridge Park was renamed and dedicated as the Toatley-Fraser Park on May 13. Cpl. Edward M. Toatley was undercover in 2000 when he was killed by a drug dealer in the District of Columbia. The park's other namesake, Dr. Haynes Fraser, was active in lobbying for gun-control and other civic activities. The park, on Eastridge Ave. off Flower Avenue, was renamed in a 2001 Council

resolution, which reads in part, "Honor his sacrifice and her work by using the park in a violence- and drug-free manner."

Mayor Kathy Porter issued a proclamation recognizing that the U.S. Congress and President have designated May 15 as

Police Week.

Two officers received the Meritorious Service Award for service in the line of duty that demonstrated conspicuous bravery involving risk of life. Cpl. Doug Malarkey was recognized for a suicide prevention. As a mentally ill patient stood at the edge of a roof several stories off the ground, Malarkey removed his uniform shirt, weapon and other protective gear, passed outside the roof's barrier wall and engaged the subject in conversation, eventually convincing the man to come down.

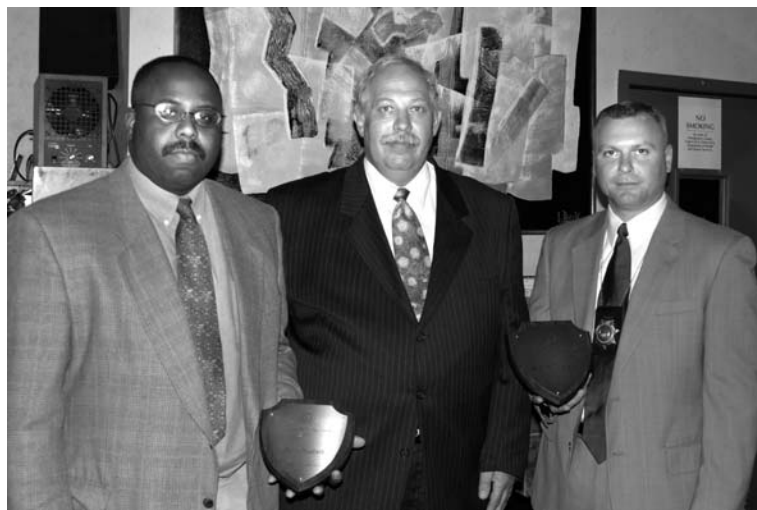
In a separate incident, Cpl. Wayne Jackson was working security at a local fast food restaurant when suspects entered, one grabbed and pointed a gun at a clerk demanding property. When Jackson intervened, interrupting the robbery attempt, the suspect fled. Jackson followed outside the restaurant,

where the suspect again showed his weapon to the officer, who fired. The suspect fled.

Among other awards given were Honorable Service Medal to Cpl. R. Cannatella and Ofc. N. Carter, S. Barsch and D. McDowell. Command Recognition to Sgt. R. Bowers, Sgt. D. Frishkorn, D/Cpl Andrew John, Ofc. J. Butler, C. Conrad, T. Smith and D. Fields, and Disp. A. Guarini.

The Unit Citation was awarded to Squad One, led by Sgt. R. Bowers, including Cpl. K. Largent, Cpl. R. Cannatella, and Ofc. E. Mueller and N. Carter. Others who served on the squad for less than four months were given a Letter of Recognition: Those were Cpl. R. Rodriguez, and Ofc. M. Holmes, S. McLean, S. Barsch and D. Palmer.

A Letter of Commendation was given to Ofc. G. Wolff for CPR provided a homeless man, who later succumbed to his illness in the hospital, and to Cpl. T. Collington and Ofc. D. Palmer for patrol alertness. Cpl. Collington also earned the Department's Firearms trophy for 2004.



**Lions Club dinner honoring the 2004 Police Officer of the Year. Club President Mike Bigler (center) presents awards to Det/Sgt. Richard Poole (right) and Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Dept. Member of the Year, Jerry Sanford (left).**

Peace Officers' Memorial Day, and the week in which May 15 falls as National

## Parking Permits Offered by Mail

Parking permits for designated permit-parking areas throughout the city expire on June 30. To ease the process and to encourage early registration, the Police Department will offer permits by mail, as well as through in-person purchasing.

Residents need only to complete the attached form and return it, with payment, to the Police Department. Photocopies of the current vehicle registration card for each vehicle and a driver's license for at least one owner must be submitted with this form. These attachments must show a current Takoma Park address in the requested permit area.

A decal and year sticker for each registered vehicle will be mailed back within three business days of receipt. Two visitor parking permits will be included for each address. An additional \$1 will be

charged for permits sent by mail.

Citizens in several neighborhoods throughout the City requested that street parking be limited to residents, to ease a problem of commuter parking on residential streets.

The Permit-by-Mail program is available only to residential addresses. Be sure to include day and evening phone numbers in case any questions arise in processing.

Those operating a business in the permit areas should submit the names of employees on a company letterhead with their request. Not more than three employee permits are allowed. A home-based business must show evidence of a currently-operated business, which is current on payment of personal property taxes.

A limited number of Area B permits (one year only) are available to residents who live farther than .75 miles from the Takoma

Metro station. Nine Area B permits are available only through in-person application at the Police Administration window, on a first-come, first-served basis, beginning Monday, June 27, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. The space for Area B parking was decreased in 2003 due to Metropolitan Trail construction. At the time, nine permits had been distributed and the Council agreed to continue offering this number in the future. Applicants will need to show all normal identification and vehicle registration.

Questions regarding permit parking can be answered at 301-891-7112 during regular business hours. This form below may also be accessed online under "Current Topics" at [www.cityoftakomapark.org](http://www.cityoftakomapark.org)

## Fireworks Illegal In Montgomery County

When planning your Independence Day celebration over the coming three-day weekend, remember that snap-and-pop noise makers, snakes and party poppers are the only legal fireworks in Montgomery County. Even gold label sparklers are banned; these popular notions burn at 1,800 degrees Fahrenheit (nearly hot enough to melt gold!) making them less-than-safe for children. Last year, City police responded to 17 calls for service related to fireworks during the holiday weekend and issued several citations.

All fireworks are illegal to possess or discharge in Montgomery County. Each year, fireworks in the United States cause approximately 12 deaths, 2,000 serious eye injuries and 5,000 other injuries, including amputated fingers.

It doesn't matter where the fireworks are purchased or how they are brought into Maryland, whether by mail or public carrier. The possession or discharge of fireworks for use in the State of Maryland is illegal, subject to misdemeanor charges and fines not to exceed \$500.

A private fireworks display at a residence is not allowed, although a public display can be allowed with proper permits and insurance. For more information, contact the Montgomery County Fire/Explosive Investigations Section at 240-777-2255.

## Permit-Area Parking

(please print legibly)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: Takoma Park State: MD Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ A photocopy of the current registration card for each vehicle is attached.
- ☐ A photocopy of the current Driver's License for at least one resident is attached.

Vehicle #1 \_\_\_\_\_ (license plate #) ☐ One-year permit (\$12.50) ☐ Two-year permit (\$20)

Vehicle #2 \_\_\_\_\_ (license plate #) ☐ One-year permit (\$12.50) ☐ Two-year permit (\$20)

Vehicle #3 \_\_\_\_\_ (license plate #) ☐ One-year permit (\$12.50) ☐ Two-year permit (\$20)

Postage and handling for Permits by Mail, add \$1.00.

List additional vehicles on a separate sheet. Current registration showing the address in the permit parking area must be attached for each.

Two Visitor Permits will be included per household that purchases a permit.

Return this form to TPPD, Permit Parking, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912. Permits will be mailed within three business days of receipt.

TPPD USE ONLY: ☐ Area 1

☐ Area 1A

☐ Area 2

☐ Area 2A

☐ Area 3

☐ Area 4

# Community Bridges Boosts Girl-Power

*Continued from page 1*

JumpStart Girls/ Adelante Niñas! to meet the needs of young girls at local schools, including third-to-fifth graders at Rolling Terrace Elementary. JumpStart Girls/ Adelante Niñas! programs can also be found at Eastern Middle School, and Silver Spring International Middle School.

Community Bridges operates as an independent nonprofit with a staff of 5 and a 9-member volunteer board of directors. The organization also gets an assist from several AmeriCorps volunteers and interns from local colleges, as well as from parents and community residents. Given information from teachers and school counselors, the program quickly began to focus on young girls whose special needs could not always be met by caring school personnel. JumpStart Girls/ Adelante Niñas! is open to any elementary or middle-school girl whose family meets certain income guidelines and who is recom-



mended to the program by teachers and school counselors. This school year, 100 girls actively participated in program activities. There is no cost to the girls or their families.

Co-founder Nims says, "We knew many of the girls at Rolling Terrace came from loving families whose parents often had to work several jobs to support them. But we did worry about girls who were going home after school and spending long hours without adult supervision. We looked for some way to guide young girls through their pre-adolescence and bring out the intelligence, energy, and creativity that they already possessed. One of our core beliefs is that given the right environment, opportunities and support, girls can achieve at high levels and play an important role in the community."

In addition to the self-defense project, fifth-graders in the Rolling Terrace program learn organizational and money management skills, including how to set up a bank account. Right now the girls are learning what it takes to develop a business plan. They'll use these skills later on in the program when they explore entrepreneurship — researching, designing, and selling a product.

For girls in third and fourth grades at Rolling Terrace, the Community Bridges program is just as challenging. Third-graders read and learn about the history of movement and famous women in the arts as they try out modern dance moves and the joys of tap dancing at Tappers With Attitude in downtown Silver Spring.

Fourth-grade girls independently research accomplished women in the arts, sports, science and in their own families to determine the qualities that make these women so special. As a part of Community Bridges' ongoing partnership with The Theatre Lab (Takoma Park resident Deb Gottesman is a co-founder and director of the D.C.-based theater arts group), fourth-graders in the program get a chance to explore both their dramatic and silly sides with lessons in improvisation.

But according to Mary Saba, Community Bridges' program leader at Rolling Terrace, the 40 girls who actively participate in the program at Rolling Terrace are getting something much more valuable than just an after-school diversion.

"The girls we work with are already beautiful, intelligent and strong. Many have come from disrupted backgrounds, including escaping war and poverty in their countries of origin in Central America,

West Africa and South-east Asia. They have unique needs as they face the multiple challenges of pre-adolescence and adjusting to a new country, a new community, a new culture, a new language and a new school. They are very much aware of the importance of family and friendship in their lives, and they cling to these precious connections," Saba said.

"What we do is enhance the strengths of these girls by helping

them explore, develop and express in positive ways their attitudes about and sense of self, family, friendship, and community."

Each quarter, the girls at Rolling Terrace and Community Bridges celebrate these family and community connections with a family dinner and show. Everyone brings a treat or dish to share, and the girls get to showcase their talents (singing, dancing, self-defense, poetry, African flour-paste painting) for proud parents, siblings and other family members. A special highlight of these dinners, especially the year-end celebration, is a visit from graduates of the program who are now in middle school or high school and who come back to share their successes and cheer on the younger girls.

Community Bridges has some exciting plans coming up for the JumpStart Girls/ Adelante Niñas! program at Rolling Terrace Elementary. Working with Create Art, a local arts organization, girls in the program will design and create a mural on Colesville Road in the new downtown Silver Spring. The mural's theme is "The World of Music," and the project will be a welcome step in reviving a fire-damaged site.

The girls' program also continues into the summer with an adventure camp for those who participated in the school-year activities.

Early in 2005, Community Bridges received the Nancy Dworkin Award for "Outstanding Service to Youth by an Organization" from the Montgomery County Commission on Children and Youth and

Gazette Newspapers for its dedication to young girls and their families and its track record in meeting community needs.



Photos by Joy Jones

Megan LaBriola, Executive Director of Community Bridges since 2004, sees it this way.

"Community Bridges is an empowerment vehicle, providing girls and their families with the information and resources they need to be successful. We are advo-

cates, facilitating the voice of vulnerable and sometimes invisible young girls and their families to be heard. It's not unusual at all for JumpStart Girls/ Adelante Niñas! girls and their parents to accompany staff

to County Council hearings where they have a chance to learn about and influence County budget decisions. This is what we mean by empowerment."

Community Bridges is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that is supported by county funds, small foundation grants, local business donations and individual contributions. Right now the group is looking for additional board members, especially those with local corporate/business affiliations and experience in fundraising. For more information visit the Community Bridges Web site, [www.communitybridges-md.org](http://www.communitybridges-md.org), call 301-585-7155 or e-mail [info@communitybridges-md.org](mailto:info@communitybridges-md.org).

Joy Jones is a free lance writer and a former board member of Community Bridges.

## Are You Jazzed?

### Takoma Park JazzFest June 11

Takoma Park's 10th annual JazzFest will take place Saturday, June 11 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Jequie Park. That's in North Takoma at the intersection of Fenton St. and Takoma Ave.

The lineup of performers features six groups, as well as a jam session in which all comers are invited to display their chops. Each group will play for about 55 minutes.

#### The schedule:

11 a.m.	Soukous Stars: African drum ensemble with dancers from the Congo
12:10 p.m.	Chuck Redd Quartet
1:20 p.m.	Tom Roberts: blues piano concerto, stride and ragtime
2:30 p.m.	Jam Session: "Bring your axe."
3:40 p.m.	Roberta Washington's Jazz Zen Ensemble
4:50 p.m.	Ron Holloway Group, featuring Nicki Gonzalez
6 p.m.	Postmodern Blues – the winner of the Jazz Band Brawl, the pre-festival qualifying "battle of the bands"

Note that the JazzFest will also include vendors' booths (jazz paraphernalia especially welcome) as well as food. If you're interested in having a booth, please contact Juanita Kus-Lorenz at 301-588-1803, 301-589-4433 or [lorpres@maxinter.net](mailto:lorpres@maxinter.net).

For more, and more up-to-date, information, check the Web site [www.tpjazzfest.org](http://www.tpjazzfest.org).

## Folk Festival is Coming: Be a Part of the Fun

The Takoma Park Folk Festival is an annual community event produced solely by volunteers. It would not take place without the extraordinary volunteers that help make this wonderful day happen. This year, Takoma Park is celebrating its 28th Annual Folk Festival on Sept. 11, 2005. Everyone is invited to be a part of the fun.

The festival, a local institution, consists of a music and dance from around the world; children's activities; a juried crafts show and sale displaying the diverse talents of 50-plus area craftspeople; representatives from over 100 community organizations; and delicious ethnic cuisine from more than 20 food vendors.

Members of the community are welcome to attend the committee meetings to help plan the festival. Upcoming meeting dates are Thurs., June 9; Tues., June 21; and Thurs., July 7. The meetings take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Heffner Center, 42 Oswego Ave. (near Public Works) in Takoma Park. To get to the Heffner Center, go north on Piney Branch Road (from Rt. 410), turn right on Ritchie Ave., and right on Oswego.

To learn more about the volunteer committee meetings or for other ways to get involved in the festival, e-mail [volunteer@tpff.org](mailto:volunteer@tpff.org) or call 301-589-0202. Please leave a message and they will get back to you promptly.

## Takoma Snapshots 50th Episode Airs in June

City TV is pleased to announce that the 50th edition of Takoma Snapshots, the channel's premier monthly magazine show, will air starting on June 1.

Snapshots is City TV's vehicle for covering the myriad activities held in Takoma Park, and focuses on City and community-based activities. Each month includes a segment on Community Oriented Policing, co-produced by the Takoma Park Police Department's Public Affairs Specialist Carol Bannerman, along with award-winning producer Paula Rehr. Rehr noted, "I can't believe we've done 50 of these! It's gone so quickly, and I've met so many fascinating people. Takoma Park residents are fortunate to have such a fantastic police department with so many committed individuals supporting the community policing efforts. Snapshots is a great way to highlight them."

Takoma Park Police Chief Cindy Creamer stated that she finds Snapshots "to be an excellent venue for reaching the public... regarding crime prevention to show case the department's capabilities and allows the community to see the police in a positive light."

Other segments feature City activities, such as the introduction of a new staff member, or a focus on a specific service area. Recreation Department Director Debra Haiduven noted, "I wanted you to know how much I enjoyed the Snapshots segment on the Halloween Parade: it really captured the mood and tone of the evening. It is truly a signature event for our City and editor Alvaro Calabia is a master at communicating the image of this artsy, wacky, adults-get-in-the-act, kids-say-the-darndest-things-town. City TV has been a great resource for promoting Recreation Department events every year like the basketball finals, the Egg Hunt and our first ever 'Rock the Block' ward parties."

City Arborist Brett Linkletter commented, "I've gotten a lot of great feedback from residents on the Snapshots segments we've done on tree planting and mosquito control. I think the show is a great way to get information about the arborist's office activities to the community, and we are planning to do a seg-

ment on the new tree ordinance this year."

Communications Director Lonni Moffet noted, "We make every effort to send a crew to the many weekend and evening activities going on in Takoma Park. We have received great feedback from viewers these past four and a half years; people really enjoy seeing television about local activities and learning more about City government services."

Since January of 2001, the show has included segments on the usual annual Takoma Park events: the Martin Luther King, Jr. annual celebration, the Folk Fest, Jazz Fest, Street Fest and Jazz Band Brawl, and of course the Independence Day Parade. City TV crews have walked with the Council, toured the city with pedestrian safety expert Dan Burden, cleaned up parks with Boy Scouts, College Park Scholars and CUC students; played ball with the Babe Ruth League, the Thunderbolts and the YES League, and marbles with the Rec Department's marble team. Takoma Artist Guild exhibits and events have been highlighted, and City TV staff have danced at every music festival in town. Viewers have met new City staff, including the City Arborist, Police Chief, HCD director and City Manager.

Library Director Ellen Arnold-Robbins said, "We were thrilled by the quality of the Snapshots episode done about the 2003 Takoma Park Film Festival. The juxtaposition of film fragments with interviews of the film makers and some spectators captured the excitement of this community event. Producer Alvaro Calabia helped us to make a CD-ROM from this episode which was used as part of our press packet promoting the 2004 Festival."

Spanish language segments have included City of Takoma Park Office of Landlord-Tenant Affairs/Oficina de Inquilinos y Propietarios, GW Mammovan at CASA de Maryland (en español & English) and Asientos de Seguridad.

Snapshots episodes on VHS tape are available for patron checkout at the Takoma Park Maryland Library, and dubs on VHS or DVD are available through City TV (call 301-891-7118).

## Takoma Park City TV Events in June 2005

New programs on City TV this June will include several new performances from the Taste of Takoma Festival held on the Columbia Union College campus this spring. These will include the Kelly Bell Band, plus Shapiro; the Satin Doll Trio; Ron Warren and William and Doris; and the Perry Canticchio Quartet, the Acro-Air, and Lori Bell.

Join City TV staff on June 11 as we tape the annual Takoma Jazz Fest at Jeque Park! Great performances are anticipated for this 10th Birthday Jazz Fest.

Takoma Snapshots in June includes the following segments:

- Community Oriented Policing: DARE to be Drug Free—Problems and Solutions
- Dedications: Toatley-Fraser Park and Walt Penney Field
- Visits: Lt. Governor Michael Steele; District 20 Delegation Thank You!
- Snapshots' 50th Anniversary Collage

Visit our Web site at [www.cityoftakomapark.org/cable](http://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 check out 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 (pick up) or \$18 (mail). Some programs are now available in DVD. Call 301-891-7118 or send an email to: [cabletv@takomagov.org](mailto:cabletv@takomagov.org) for more information.

## Takoma Park City TV June 2005 Programming Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>7:00 AM</b>	Community Bulletin Board	Community Bulletin Board	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Community Bulletin Board	Takoma Snapshots	Community Bulletin Board	Community Bulletin Board
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Takoma Park Snapshots	PreSchool Power!		Takoma Park Snapshots	Community Bulletin Board	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Takoma Park Snapshots
<b>9:00 AM</b>	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Takoma Park Snapshots	National Gallery of Art	Coffeehouse	NASA Programming		Haiti a Suivre
<b>10:00 AM</b>		Coffeehouse	Takoma Park City Council Meeting (Replay)	Music da camera	Government Focus	Takoma Park Snapshots	Coffeehouse
<b>11:00 AM</b>	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	CaribNation		Takoma Park Folk Festival	National Gallery of Art	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Media Watch on Hunger
<b>NOON</b>		Community Bulletin Board			Takoma Park City Council Meeting (Replay)		
<b>1:00 PM</b>	Earth Café	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Takoma Park City TV Local Events		Media Watch on Hunger	Takoma Park Folk Festival
<b>2:00 PM</b>	Media Watch on Hunger			Music da camera			Takoma Park City TV Local Events
<b>3:00 PM</b>	Takoma Park Snapshots	NASA Programming	Takoma Park Snapshots	Coffeehouse	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Haiti a Suivre	
<b>4:00 PM</b>	PreSchool Power		Government Focus	Haiti a Suivre		Takoma Snapshots	
<b>5:00 PM</b>	Music da camera	Takoma Park Snapshots					
<b>5:30 PM</b>	Chinese News	Community Bulletin Board	Chinese News	Community Bulletin Board	Takoma Park Snapshots	Community Bulletin Board	Community Bulletin Board
<b>6:00 PM</b>		National Gallery of Art		Takoma Park Snapshots	Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Coffeehouse	Takoma Park Snapshots
<b>7:00 PM</b>							
<b>7:30 PM</b>	Takoma Park City Council Meeting (LIVE)	Coffeehouse	Takoma Park City Council Meeting (Replay)	Takoma Park Folk Festival		Takoma Park City TV Local Events	Takoma Park Folk Festival
<b>8:00 PM</b>		Takoma Park City TV Local Events		Haiti a Suivre	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Haiti a Suivre	Coffeehouse
<b>9:00 PM</b>							
<b>10:00 PM</b>		CaribNation		Takoma Park City TV Special Events	Coffeehouse	Takoma Park Folk Festival	Takoma Park City TV Local Events
<b>11:00 PM</b>		NASA Programming	Takoma Park Snapshots		Haiti a Suivre		
<b>12:00 Midnight</b>	Takoma Park Snapshots						

Programming subject to change without notice.

**Takoma Park City TV**  
7500 Maple Avenue  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
301-891-7118

Email: [cabletv@takomagov.org](mailto:cabletv@takomagov.org)  
Web: [www.cityoftakomapark.org/cable](http://www.cityoftakomapark.org/cable)

## Got a Movie? Send it To Takoma Film Festival

The Takoma Park Film Festival is accepting submissions for its fourth annual extravaganza. The deadline for filmmakers to submit is Sept. 1, 2005. The festival seeks provocative and visionary—or just plain fun—films and videos made by those who live in, work in, or simply love Takoma Park. Roles of Takoma Park-related participants can range from production assistant to director to producer.

The festival screens works of all lengths and genres, about any topic, and is committed to showcasing the most diverse group of filmmakers possible. The festival will take place the third weekend in November in the Takoma Park City Council Chambers. To pick up entry forms and to submit films, go to the Takoma Park Maryland Library, 101 Philadelphia Ave., call 301-891-7259 or get an application online at: [www.takomaparkfilmfestival.org](http://www.takomaparkfilmfestival.org). For more information contact [filminfo@takomaparkfilmfestival.org](mailto:filminfo@takomaparkfilmfestival.org).

## Liz Lerman Dance Exchange In Silver Spring June 4, 5

The Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, the internationally renowned dance troupe based in Takoma Park, will be performing in downtown Silver Spring June 4 and 5.

The show, called Mining Silver, is an opportunity to see Liz Lerman's dance pieces New York City Winter, her pivotal go-go dancing solo from 1974, In Praise of Animals and Their People, complete with a group of canine guest artists, plus new work from Peter DiMuro, Margot Greenlee and Martha Wittman.

Performances will be Saturday June 4 at 8 p.m. and Sunday June 5 at 3 p.m. at the Round House Theatre at 8641 Colesville Road, adjoining AFI. Tickets are \$20 general and \$10 for kids, seniors and students.

For tickets call the theater box office at 240-644-1100. For program info see [www.danceexchange.org](http://www.danceexchange.org) or call Chuck Schneiderhan at 301-270-6700, ext. 11.



# Old Takoma Faces Big Changes

Continued from page 1

a company called Keystar, which in partnership with Infrastructure Capital Group has purchased an irregular T-shaped property that sits behind Taliano's restaurant and includes a parking lot. The limited partnership has bought 7001 and 7003 Carroll Ave.

Levin told the *Newsletter*, "We don't have an exact plan yet because it's a very complicated property. We're still trying to evaluate the site from a physical perspective, doing soil tests."

"We could do nothing, or we could do a mixed use redevelopment," Levin said. "We could tear down the existing structure and put up a new one." But, Levin noted, "the façade on Carroll Ave. is protected by the historic district. It's not clear about the rest of the properties."

"Ideally, we'd like to do ground-floor retail and residential above it," Levin said.

Baron, president of Historic Takoma, urged Levin to consult with Historic Takoma and other community members as early as possible to make sure that his Carroll Ave. project "will preserve the character of the neighborhood." Baron noted that Urciolo's first design was "a futuristic building" that would not have fit in with the look of Old Town. After consultations, Urciolo's architect "went back to the drawing table" and came up with a design that Historic Takoma feels is attractive and right for the location.

## Fast Growth in D.C.

First out of the gate in the Takoma development derby was "Elevation 314," across the street from the Metro station at (naturally) 314 Cedar St., N.W. The apartment building contains environmentally friendly features such as a "green roof" with growing plants to retain rain water.

The building contains 52 one- and two-bedroom rental units, renting for \$1,000 to \$1,825 per month. Building manager Marci Thomas told the *Newsletter* that 85 percent of the units are now rented, and that the building continues to fill. The restaurant Savory opened an outpost there, but other ground-floor retail space remains vacant.

While many existing and proposed projects include ground-level retail space, developer Bruce Levin has his doubts about its viability: "It's a very soft retail market," he said. "There isn't a lot of daytime activity to support retail."

Also close to the Metro station is Cedar Crossing, a 49-unit condominium development at the intersection of Cedar St., N.W. and Blair Road that is nearing completion.

And right on the doorstep of Takoma Park, Md., is a proposed four-story apartment building at 235 Carroll St., N.W. at the corner of Maple (the current site of an auto repair shop and a truck rental company). The building is expected to have 70 condominium units

and retail stores on the ground floor. See illustration, page 1.

Sabrina Baron of Historic Takoma said that the organization worked successfully with the architects of 235 Carroll to improve its design. Their first plan, Baron said, was "metal and glass – not a Takoma Park-style building." But Historic Takoma worked with the Bethesda-based architects to come up with the current plan – "a very amenable design for Takoma D.C."



Current proposal for 7041 Blair Road, N.W., the site of B&B Catering. Historic Takoma is hoping for a more Takoma-Park design.

Architectural drawing by Eric Colbert & Associates

## Where's the Funk?

Up at Blair Road a short distance – at the site of B&B Caterers – developer Bruce Levin has plans for a 160-unit condominium apartment building. The four-story building at 7041 Blair, he said, will be less than 50 feet high, with a courtyard and underground parking.

D.C. planner Anita Hairston said the B&B condos are "a matter-of-right" development, but that the builders "have attended community meetings and ANC (Advisory Neighborhood Commission) meetings. It's in a historic district, so it must go to community groups and get a review."

Baron said that Levin had presented his Blair Road project at a meeting of Historic Takoma, but said she found it "a very massive, un-Takoma-Park-like building." She added, "Takoma Park likes buildings that are funky and whimsical. But the proposed building on Blair does not demonstrate any whimsy or funk." No doubt, Historic Takoma and the developer have a lot to discuss.

But not all neighborhood activists are as critical as Baron and Historic Takoma. For example, Alice Giancola, a long-time community activist in Takoma D.C., told the *Newsletter* that with some developments, "something is being put in that is much nicer than the existing use," such as a vacant lot or a car repair shop. She added that "younger people who are moving in are very excited about these developments."

## And At the Metro

Perhaps the most controversial prospective development in all Takoma is the planned townhouse development that would occupy the grassy area in front of the Metro station. The development company Eakin Youngentob Associates (EYA) is moving ahead in negotiations to buy the property from the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA).

According to Aakash Thakkar, an EYA

development executive, the two parties "are attempting to wrap up a final sales agreement, officially called a joint development agreement, within a month." Thakkar told the *Newsletter* May 23 that while the sale itself is not subject to public hearings, construction plans are.

Three months after the joint development agreement is signed, WMATA "has to have a compact hearing." At the same time, EYA will begin a planned unit development or PUD process on its

Historic Takoma's Sabrina Baron voiced several objections to the current plan – starting with the fact that WMATA "was unwilling to have a dialogue with communities that are affected." Baron also noted that the project as currently envisioned will cut the number of parking spaces for Metro riders, will reduce space for buses and will diminish "the only open space we have in this neighborhood."

Not far away, developer Douglas Jemal is eyeing a major residential development behind the CVS, between Willow and Maple Street, N.W. in an area now

grassy open space. Because both the proposed Metro development and Jemal's property are in a historic district, they must go to D.C. community groups for review before they can be approved.

Suzanne Ludlow, Takoma Park's community and government liaison, said, "D.C. has adopted design provisions, as part of its Takoma Small Area Plan, that just went through last month. Nobody has seen what it will mean to implement them."

And Sara Anne Daines, head of the City of Takoma Park Department of Economic and

Community Development, explained that in Maryland, development in a historic district is a complex process.

Plans for development in a historic district must be approved by the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission, but within Takoma Park, the City's Façade Advisory Board has a right to give input to the decision.

The City and county boards are supposed to give weight to numerous architectural criteria, and new buildings should "complement" the existing architecture. "A nebulous criterion," Daines noted. "But you don't have to build a new old building in a historic district."

## Carroll Ave. Facelift in Jeopardy

Carroll Ave. in Maryland has been scheduled for a three-part redevelopment, but it now seems that one section of the plan may fall through for lack of funds. The goal of the streetscape project is to make Carroll Ave. between the D.C. line and Takoma Junction easier to walk on and more attractive, in the process improving it as a shopping area. Funding for the project has come from the state of Maryland, in three separate grants.

The first section, on Laurel Ave. just off Carroll, is near completion. Work on the second section, between the fire station and Columbia Ave., will begin soon. However, because of a State Highway Administration funding shortfall, the fate of the street improvements between Columbia Ave. and Laurel was put in doubt in May.

That section of Carroll includes the senior living facility now known as Victory Tower (until recently called Takoma Tower). Some of the elderly residents of the Tower have had trouble navigating uneven pavements and narrow sidewalks – in particular the intersection of Westmoreland and Carroll

avenues. On May 16, several residents of Victory Tower appeared before the City Council to ask the City to try to get the state funding reinstated, which City officials agreed to do.

Meanwhile, Sara Anne Daines wanted to respond to citizen inquiries about why the renovated block of Laurel Ave. will not have brick sidewalks, as it did until recently. Daines explained that much of the renovation, including making the median level with the street surface, is aimed at making Laurel Ave. fully accessible to persons with disabilities.

The main part of the sidewalk, therefore, is being paved in concrete to eliminate tripping hazards. There will still be a wide brick border to make the street more attractive.

Daines also thanked the Laurel Ave. merchants "for their patience, while we were digging up the sidewalk. They have been great." While the Sunday Farmers Market has been temporarily relocated to Willow Ave., the stores on Laurel are still open for business during the reconstruction work.

—BG