

Takoma Park

NEWSLETTER

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. . ."
Margaret Mead (1901-1978)

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November 2006

Crowd Opposes Metro Development



Photo by Rick Henry

Mayor Kathy Porter was among those who testified at a public meeting on development near Metro last month.

by Rick Henry

The standing room only crowd jammed into the Trinity Episcopal Church on Piney Branch Road on the night of October 11 for a public hearing on the proposed relocation of bus facilities and parking changes at the Takoma Metro Station was a metaphor for the development the majority of them had come to speak against — too many people in too little space.

More than 150 people attended some part of the hearing and approximately 60 chose to address Washington Metro Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Board chair Gladys Mack, WMATA site project manager Elisa Hill and WMATA board member and head of

the Real Estate subcommittee, Charles Deegan. Of those 60, less than a handful offered an endorsement of the proposed project construction of at least 84 townhouses on the site.

The great majority of those who spoke voiced their displeasure over any number of elements associated with the development proposed by EYA Associates, including:

- The elimination of the existing open space;
- Reduction of the existing 3.5 acres of green space to .95 acres;
- A reduction in the number of parking spaces from the current 150 to either a 75-space surface lot or 128-space parking garage (financed by WMATA from money from the sale of the land);
- Reduction in the number of bike racks and bike lockers;
- A reconfigured drop-off area that opponents claim would compromise handicap access for passengers wishing to use the elevator; and
- A lack of adequate financial gain for WMATA.

State, county and city officials were first on the docket and all were united against the development proceeding in

Columbia Union College Decides to Stay in Takoma Park

By Virginia Myers Kelly

With Washington Adventist Hospital's plans to leave Takoma Park, it's been touch and go for its sister institution, Columbia Union College, located directly across the street along Flower Avenue. Recently, the school's board of trustees considered the possibility of transferring ownership to Adventist HealthCare, the group that operates WAH. The plan would have shifted CUC from its liberal arts curriculum to health sciences and professional training more directly supportive of the hospital.

The plan, however, was scrapped at a Board of Trustees meeting October 18 — a decision expected to be affirmed by leadership at the Columbia Union College Constituency Session November 17. Of three options — one, to transfer ownership to the health care organization, change curriculum and risk a move that could be associated with the hospital move (though that was never an articulated part of the plan); two, to maintain the liberal arts program and bolster it with new financial strategies; or three, to combine the two plans — the Board voted to maintain the current program, a four-year liberal arts school and an entity of the Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

The decision to stick with its plan and remain independent of Adventist HealthCare came two days after the Takoma Park City Council passed a resolution in support of the college staying within the city limits. Council stated that an ownership transfer to AHC could signal a move as well, and such a move would be a disadvantage for the city. CUC has been a good neighbor, the Council noted, providing employment, educational resources, green space and special events for the community, assets Council does not want to lose.

"You go back to almost the beginning of the community," Councilmember Bruce Williams told college administrators. "I would hate to see any decision that you made take you out of the community." Speaking of the college and the hospital, Williams added, "Both institutions provide valuable services to the residents of this area."

For more on the recent decision, see CUC's web site, <http://www.cuc.edu>.

its current form. Phil Alperson, Legislative Director for Congressman Chris Van Hollen (D, MD-8th), read a statement from the Congressman urging WMATA to "put the needs of the commuting public first, as is WMATA's mission."

This theme was reiterated throughout the evening as many officials and citizens expressed dissatisfaction with WMATA's process for developing the site.

"This poor design is the result of a flawed process that put the transit needs of the station second to the space needed for development," Takoma Park Mayor Kathy Porter said.

Porter pointed out that after the mistakes made in the process of planning at the Takoma Station, WMATA changed its joint development guidelines to prevent this kind of outcome at another station.

"Unfortunately, the mistakes made in this process were not corrected, leaving our station as the example of bad planning that led to reform in the joint development process."

Porter also addressed the issue of inadequate financial compensation for the project.

"Perhaps the major concern we have with the proposal is that the contract with the developer is structured in such a way as to leave WMATA with little or no profit from the sale of the land," Porter said.

According to Porter, EYA is obligated to pay between \$7.3 and \$9 million for the property and will be able to deduct the cost of replacing transit facilities from the purchase price. Should WMATA opt to build a two-

Inside this Issue

- Arborist Pledges to Save Trees Page 3
- New Youth Center Offers Opportunity Page 5
- Teen Reading Page 8
- Action at the IHOP Page 10

continued on page 3

Mayor & Council
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CITY COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE CALENDAR

Thursday, November 2 – Meeting of the Health Services Impact Committee, 7 p.m. (Community Center Rose Room)

Monday, November 6 – Public Hearing, Special Session and Worksession of the City Council, 7:30 p.m. (Community Center Auditorium), Public Hearing on Willow Avenue Speed Humps

Friday, November 10 – City offices closed for the Veterans Day holiday

Monday, November 13 – Regular Meeting and Worksession of the City Council, 7:30 p.m. (Community Center Auditorium)

Tuesday, November 14 – Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs Hearing, 7 p.m. (Community Center Auditorium)

Tuesday, November 14 – Meeting of the Tree Commission, 6:30 p.m. (Community Center Atrium Room)

Tuesday, November 14 – Meeting of the Committee on the Environment,

7:30 p.m. (Community Center Forsythia Room)

Tuesday, November 14 – Meeting of the Safe Roadways Committee, 7 p.m. (Community Center Hydrangea Room)

Monday, November 20 – Presentation, Interviews, and Worksession of the City Council, 7:30 p.m. (Community Center Auditorium)

Thursday, November 23 – City offices closed for the Thanksgiving Day holiday

Friday, November 24 – City offices closed for the Thanksgiving Day holiday

Monday, November 27 – Regular Meeting and Worksession of the City Council, 7:30 p.m. (Community Center Auditorium)

Tuesday, November 28 – Meeting of the Arts and Humanities Commission, 7:30 p.m. (Community Center Hydrangea Room)

For updated schedule information, check the City's web page at <http://www.takoma-parkmd.gov> or contact the City Clerk. 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.

Vacancies on Council Appointed Boards and Committees

There are vacancies on the following Council-appointed boards, commissions, and committees:

- **Arts and Humanities Commission**
- **Board of Elections**
- **Citizens Liaison Committee for the Community Center**
- **Committee on the Environment**
- **Emergency Preparedness Committee**
- **Ethics Commission**
- **Nuclear Free Takoma Park Committee**
- **Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee**
- **Safe Roadways Committee**

Further information is available by contacting the City Clerk's Office at 301-891-7267. To apply, send a letter of interest and resume or statement of qualifications to the City Clerk, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912 or via e-mail to JessieC@takomagov.org.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Monday, November 6, 2006

Additional Willow Avenue Speed Bump

Residents of the 7200–7300 block of Willow Avenue have petitioned for the installation of an additional speed hump on the 7300 block of Willow Avenue. The City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 6, 2006, to take comments on the request.

The first reading of an ordinance authorizing the installation of the additional speed hump is scheduled immediately following the public hearing.

The public hearing will be held at approximately 7:50 p.m. (or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard) in the Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland. Residents are urged to attend the meeting to express their views. Written comments addressed to City Clerk, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912, will also be made part of the record. For further information, contact the City Clerk at 301-891-7267 (or e-mail Clerk@takomagov.org).



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.

September 25, 2006 – Regular Meeting

First Reading Ordinance 2006-44 was accepted, authorizing a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) agreement with Montgomery Housing Partnership for 641 Houston Avenue (VOTING FOR: Porter, Barry, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Clay).

Resolution 2006-55 was adopted, supporting financing of the Hampshire Tower project by the Community Development Administration (VOTING FOR: Porter, Barry, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Clay).

Single Reading Ordinance 2006-45 was adopted by roll-call vote, authorizing the purchase of a pickup truck for Public Works (VOTING FOR: Porter, Barry, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Clay).

Single Reading Ordinance 2006-46 was adopted by roll-call vote, authorizing the purchase of a leaf vacuum. (VOTING FOR: Porter, Barry, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Clay).

The Consent Agenda was adopted (VOTING FOR: Porter, Barry, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Austin-Lane, Clay). It consisted of the following:

Resolution 2006-56, Reappointing Diana Kohn and Alice Sims to the Arts and Humanities Commission.

Resolution 2006-57, Reappointing Steven Cavallo, Henry C. Daniels II, Michael Israel, and Andrew Kelemen; and appointing Charles Thomas, to the Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee.

October 3, 2006 – Special Session

Resolution 2006-58 was adopted, commenting on the proposed changes to the transit facilities at the Takoma Metro Station (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Clay).

Second Reading Ordinance 2006-29 was adopted by roll-call vote, authorizing a contract for rent stabilization recodification services (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Barry, Clay).

October 9, 2006 – Regular Meeting

Resolution 2006-59 was adopted, urging compliance with federal transit requirements at the Takoma Metro Station (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Clay, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Elrich).

Single Reading Ordinance 2006-47 was adopted by roll-call vote, awarding a contract for use of Community Legacy Project funding (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams).

Resolution 2006-60 was adopted, concerning the purchase of eggs produced by confinement of egg-laying hens in battery cages (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams).

Resolution 2006-61 was adopted, approving Community Development Block Grant Projects (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams).

Resolution 2006-62 was adopted, approving Montgomery County Rebuilding Together Projects and application for tax credits under the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Community Investment Tax Credit (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams).

Second Reading Ordinance 2006-44 was adopted by roll-call vote, authorizing a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) agreement with Montgomery Housing Partnership for 641 Houston Avenue (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams).

First Reading Ordinance 2006-48 was accepted, amending Ordinance 2006-32 designating Permit Parking Area 5, to include the portion of the New Hampshire Avenue service road from Prince George's Avenue to the dead end just beyond 6806 New Hampshire Avenue (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams).

First Reading Ordinance 2006-49 was accepted, authorizing FY07 Budget Amendment No. 2 (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Barry, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams).

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

Resolution 2006-63, Appointing Jonathan Wrotny to the Committee on the Environment.

Resolution 2006-64, Reappointing Michael Richards to the Ethics Commission.

Resolution 2006-65, Appointing Fred Schultz to the Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee.

Resolution 2006-66, Appointing Jay Ulfelder to the Safe Roadways Committee.

Resolution 2006-67, Reappointing Melanie Fosnaught and Carol Hotton to the Tree Commission.

October 16, 2006 – Special Session

Resolution 2006-68 was adopted, expressing support for Columbia Union College remaining in Takoma Park (VOTING FOR: Porter, Austin-Lane, Clay, Elrich, Seamens, Williams; ABSENT: Barry).

2007 Council Compensation Committee

The City Council is seeking Takoma Park residents to serve on a Council Compensation Committee to review the salaries of the Mayor and Councilmembers. The Committee will make recommendations to the Council as to whether or not the current salaries should be adjusted. Any adjustment would be adopted by a two-reading ordinance prior to the 2007 election and would take effect with the next succeeding City Council.

The Committee will be asked to make its report and recommendation to the Council in April 2007.

Salaries were last adjusted for the Council term which began in November 2003. Currently, the Mayor receives \$8,000 per year; Councilmembers receive \$6,000 per year.

The deadline for applications has been extended to Monday, November 13, 2006. Apply to the City Clerk, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912 or (JessieC@takomagov.org). For additional information, contact the Clerk at 301-891-7267.

Review the 2003 Council Compensation Report and related information at: www.takoma-parkmd.gov/council.

New Arborist's Message: Plant More Trees

Todd Bolton takes the long view. He sees that the cherished tree canopy in Takoma Park is a big part the city's identity, its leafy streets and parks a draw for residents and visitors — but he also sees past sunlight mottled through autumn branches, and is busy planning for the next 50 years. Because, says Bolton, Takoma Park is about 50 years behind in maintaining that green canopy.

Bolton, who started work as the city's new arborist September 25, is busy handling permits for tree removal associated with construction, landscaping and tree disease, but he's also getting the word out that Takoma Park needs more trees. Considering himself more forest manager than arborist, he looks at the big picture and says most of Takoma Park's trees are about the same age — an "even aged stand" — and as it loses its older trees, new ones must be planted or the city's green will turn brown. Each tree will take about 50 years to reach canopy height.

Last employed as a water resource specialist with the Virginia Department of Transportation, where he identified areas of wetland where construction would be permitted, Bolton says, "I went from cutting down trees to build roads to saving

Todd Bolton helps protect the trees here in Forest Park and throughout the City.

trees to keep Takoma Park green." It goes without saying that he embraces his new position with the city.

Bolton grew up in Garrett Park, Maryland and spent summer vacations in a cabin in the woods. His father was a founding member of the Rock Creek Watershed Association and instilled a love of the outdoors.

After working in construction and restaurant management, Bolton discovered landscaping and went through the design program at George Washington University in the 1980s. He worked for the Natural Resource Protection Group of the Fairfax County Park Authority in tree preservation, then ran his own urban forestry consulting business, doing landscape design and installation. Some of his work — a retaining wall



Photo by ??

and garden on Willow Street included — is right nearby.

As he works to keep Takoma Park green, Bolton's influence will be even greater, encouraging homeowners to plant more trees and take care of the ones they already have. "Plant a tree," he says. "It doesn't matter how big it is. Maintaining the green structure makes our lives much more enjoyable."

Crowd Opposes Metro Development

continued from front page

story garage, the cost would be roughly \$7 million.

Porter was followed and joined in consent against the proposal by Montgomery County Council President George Leventhal (D-At-Large), who addressed the board as a citizen of Takoma Park and not in an official capacity, and each member of the Takoma City Council.

Ward 6 councilmember Doug Barry spoke for many in the audience, both officials and citizens, when he told the board, "The decisions in front of you are complex and difficult, but that is all the more reason to try and get it right. There is time to correct the situation with the Takoma Metro. This is the time."

The council also submitted two official resolutions, both introduced by Ward 1 councilmember Joy Austin-Lane, to the board. **Resolution 2006-58:** Resolution Strongly Urging the WMATA Board to Disapprove the Proposed Amendment of the Mass Transit Plan Regarding the Takoma Metro Station So As to Preserve Full and Continued Access to the Station Facilities for Transit Users and **Resolution No. 2006-59:** Resolution Notifying Transit Administration (FTA) of Concerns Regarding Request for Approval of Joint Development

Property Transfer and Project at the Takoma Park Station. Both resolutions may be viewed at <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/documents/metro/index.html>.

The second resolution could come into play should the approval process progress that far. According to Suzanne Ludlow, Community and Government Liaison for the City, the next step is for WMATA staff to summarize comments from the hearing and produce a report which will be sent to WMATA's Real Estate subcommittee, headed by Deegan. The subcommittee then issues its recommendation to the full WMATA board. The subcommittee can only issue a recommendation for approval or rejection. The full board will officially approve or reject the deal.

Should the deal meet approval from the WMATA Board, it would still have to be approved by the FTA, hence the council's issuance of Resolution 2006-59. Beyond FTA approval, the plan would still face review by the D.C. Planning Board, Zoning Commission and Historic Preservation Review Board, according to Ludlow. In other words, there are many obstacles impeding approval of the project.

Rejection, however, could be swift and easy, many said.

City attorney Susan Silber stressed that the current proposal is an "at-will" contract that "could be terminated today if either the developer or WMATA wanted to walk away."

If it were solely up to those in attendance at the hearing, walking away — and starting over with a different plan — is exactly what would happen. Whether WMATA or EYA feels the same way remains to be seen.

**Deadline for
Submissions:
November 13
Next Issue:
December 1**

**Editor
Virginia Myers Kelly**

**Layout
Bonnie L. Down**

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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.

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To contact the editor e-mail:
tpnewseditor@takomagov.org

Change a Light And Change the World

November is Energy Awareness Month in Takoma Park.

Everyone is encouraged to change at least one light fixture or one light bulb to an Energy Star® fixture or compact fluorescent bulb.

Every light bulb or fixture you change will:
use half the energy of an incandescent light, last up to 10 times longer, save an average of \$30 or more in energy costs and prevent 450 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions over its lifetime, help save energy and prevent the air pollution caused when electricity is generated.

Make the pledge today at
http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=cal.showpledge&cpd_id=1295
and select Takoma Park as the referring organization.

Trash and Recycling Collection Holidays

The City observes Veteran's Day Holiday. The actual holiday is Saturday, November 11, but the City will observe it on Friday, November 10. As a result the Friday trash and recycling routes will be collected on Thursday, November 9.

The Thanksgiving Day holiday is observed on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24. Residents who normally have Thursday trash and recycling collection will receive collection on Wednesday, November 22. Residents who normally have their trash and recycling collected on Friday will receive collection on Saturday, November 25.

Please refer to the City's website for the holiday schedule or call Public Works at 301-891-7633.

COLTA'S CORNER

The Commission on Landlord Tenant Affairs (COLTA) recently approved a hardship rent increase petition and a capital improvement petition for rental properties in Takoma Park. They appear in order of their petition numbers:

Capital Improvement/Hardship Petitions

8208 Houston Court (2006-36H)

On October 10, 2006, an Opinion and Order was issued granting rent increases on all six units at the property ranging from \$0.80 to \$0.94 on objections filed by the landlord. COLTA previously issued a Preliminary Administrative Decision denying any rent increases because the petition year net operating income was higher than the adjusted base year net operating income.

610-612 Kennebec Avenue (2006-49L)

On October 1, 2006, a capital improvement petition was approved for rent increases ranging from \$18.73 to \$21.73 on all 19 units at the property. The improvement included replacing the boiler.

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

Approved Hardship rent increases already included the Rent Stabilization Allowance in effect at the time of the scheduled increases.



Speak with the Mayor

Have a meeting with Mayor Porter and let her know your issues and concerns.

Meeting hours are every Tuesday, 2 to 4 p.m. by appointment;
and Wednesdays from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Walk-ins are welcome for the evening hours only.

To schedule a meeting, contact Executive Assistant Peggye Washington
at 301-891-7230 or peggyew@takomagov.org.

Housing Mailbox

A Tenant contacted The Mailbox and wants to know what his rights are when the Landlord is sending all the tenants a 60-day Notice to Vacate because the Landlord is renovating and wants the tenants to move out.

Tenants faced with this situation should be aware that both Takoma Park and Montgomery County laws come into play. Under our city Landlord-Tenant Law at Section 6.16.070 E, tenants do not become month-to-month tenants at the end of their one-year lease term. If the Landlord has not offered a written one-year lease renewal at least two months before the end of the lease term or has not given a two-month notice to vacate, tenants are presumed to have another one-year lease. Tenants who have a one-year lease term can not be given a two month (No Fault) notice to vacate in the middle of the one-year lease term. See Section 6.16.150A.2. of the city's Landlord-Tenant Law for information on notices to vacate.

In addition to the above, under the Montgomery County Tenant Displacement Law (Chapter 53A), owners of rental properties that have four or more rental units and are vacating

at least one third of the tenants from the rental facility within a 12-month period because of renovations, must give tenants a 120-day written Notice to Vacate. The 120-day notice must be given at least four months prior to the end of the one-year lease term. Tenants in good standing (those with no outstanding rental payment obligations) are also entitled to two months' rent as compensation for their relocation costs if they move out within 180 days of the notice to vacate received from the owner. The owner is obligated to pay the relocation assistance not more than ten days after the owner receives a tenant's written one-month notice of his/her intent to vacate the rental unit. Please remember that the notice period for both a tenant's and landlord's written notice to vacate starts on the next rent due date. It does not start on the date the notice is sent. The notice must be received by the person prior to the rent due date.

Tenants who receive a notice to vacate because of renovations are encouraged to call the Montgomery County Landlord-Tenant Office (240-777-3658) for additional information on the county's Tenant Displacement Law and the Takoma Park Landlord-Tenant Office (301-891-7215) for additional information on the City law.

Protecting Takoma Park's Trees

A Message from the Takoma Park Committee on the Environment

Have you noticed the tall trees that tower over the houses in Takoma Park? Their branches look as if they are enfolding the homes, protecting them. And in fact they are!

The large oaks and other trees of Takoma Park are natural air conditioners, shading houses, limiting how much solar energy is converted to heat. They absorb water from the soil, using it in their life processes, then releasing it into the air, again having a cooling effect. Anyone who has noticed the lower temperatures in a wooded area in summer has witnessed this effect of trees. In 1999, the Takoma Park Committee on the Environment conducted an experiment with two identical electronic weather stations — one in the Safeway parking lot and one in a treed backyard. The backyard was 12 to 15 degrees cooler than the parking lot during a typical summer afternoon and about three degrees cooler at night.

These lowered temperatures mean less electricity needed for air conditioning, and less fossil fuel consumption and air pollution. Even one well-placed shade tree can lower air conditioning bills up to 30 percent.

And trees provide other benefits: They clean the air by absorbing pollutants and releasing oxygen; protect the

watershed by absorbing water; protect soil from erosion; protect smaller plants from harsh sun; and provide raw materials for mulch. Trees create wildlife habitat by providing food, shelter and shade as well as protection for smaller habitat-supporting plants. They mitigate global warming by cooling the neighborhood, converting carbon dioxide — a "greenhouse gas" — to carbon-rich wood and oxygen.

All these benefits are called ecosystem services. The ecosystem services provided by mature, native trees are of a much higher value than those of newly planted trees or non-native, ornamental species. Each large tree can have one million leaves during the growing season; more leaves mean greater ecosystem services.

Protecting Takoma Park's Large Trees

While some of Takoma Park's trees can be 150 years old or older, they need to be protected from damage that human activity can cause. These simple steps will help to keep our trees healthy:

- Avoid parking, laying new pavement or placing buildings on or near roots. Pavement, sidewalks and garden sheds near trees cut off air and water to tree roots. Parking on lawns damages roots directly and also com-

pacts soils, making them less able to absorb water and air. Compaction can permanently damage soil structure.

- Avoid cutting tree bark with lawn mowers or other tools. A tree's bark is its skin, and protects it from disease and insects.

- Remove ivy or other vines growing on trees. Ivy on a tree trunk provides the perfect habitat for leaf-eating insects, can block sun from the tree's leaves, smothering a tree to death, and can weigh down a tree and cause breakage.

- Treat infestations of leaf-eating insects quickly before they spread. Gypsy moths, forest tent caterpillars, eastern tent caterpillars, and loopers or inch worms appear about the same time as the first leaves, usually in April. For large numbers of these insects, call a reputable tree care company, who can use BT, a bacteria that infects only young caterpillars. If BT cannot be used, ask your tree expert to use an insecticide specific to the insect, and one that will break down in the environment quickly once it has done its job.

- Water trees deeply during periods of drought. During the dry season, trees should be watered about one inch per week. Remember that a tree's roots can extend from the trunk up to 1.5 feet for each inch of the trunk's diameter. It

is especially important to water young trees, trees that have had some roots paved over or otherwise damaged, and trees growing in confined spaces.

Law Protects Large Trees

The purpose of the tree law is to protect and preserve trees 7-5/8 inches in diameter and larger because of the benefits that they provide to all residents of Takoma Park. In the Historic District, trees six inches and larger in diameter are protected. The law should be administered to protect every tree where practical and place the burden of proof on persons who wish to remove trees.

When someone wants to cut down a protected tree, they must apply for a permit. They pay a \$25 fee, and the City Arborist comes to evaluate the tree. Because the law is intended to protect the trees, the Arborist should help the applicant find alternatives to removing a tree. If that is not possible, the Arborist can conditionally issue or deny a permit.

If the permit is conditionally approved, the tree removal application is posted for 15 days. If other citizens think the tree should not be removed, they can file an appeal within the 15 days and the Tree

continued on page 5

Youth Opportunity Center Creates a Crossroads for Success

By Susan Holliday

To the eight laughing Latino teens doing role-playing games one October afternoon at the Crossroads Youth Opportunity Center in Takoma Park, any anti-gang activities going on are invisible. Yet while they give the adult group leaders a hard time about the games, they clearly are learning about relationships and effective communication.

The teens, many of them Takoma Park residents and all ranging in age from 14 to 17, joke and showboat during many of the games. But despite their worst efforts, they end up paying attention, thinking, and understanding the reasons and choices behind some of life's dilemmas.

"This one's too hard," complains one boy about his task.

"Life is difficult, sweetie," administrator and group leader Marlene Guerrero responds sweetly.

Most of the young people served by the center already know how hard life can be. Since its start in May 2006, the center's mission has been to provide prevention and intervention services to all youth 14 to 24 years old from Montgomery and Prince George's Counties who are involved with gangs or at risk for gang involvement. In addition to the life-skills groups for high-school teens and young adults, like the twice-weekly afternoon group described here, the center offers mental health services, case management, legal counsel, parent support programs, and job training and placement.

"We give a whole net of support to ensure no gap in service and a higher success rate," says center facilitator Carlos Mellott. The staff evaluates each individual's needs at the first visit

or even sooner, as happens at the center's component at the Montgomery County Correctional Facility.

Fifteen full-time and part-time center employees come from a network of non-profit and governmental agencies to supply the client services. Identity Inc. is the lead agency, and the employer for Mellott, Guerrero, and Diego Galer, the center's Montgomery County site coordinator. Prince George's County Department of Social Services, YMCA Metropolitan Area Youth and Family Services Department, Pride Inc., the Montgomery County Public Defender's Office, and the Montgomery County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce also cooperate on services to youth and their families.

The center's young clients leave gang affiliations, if any, at the door. "While others see gang members, we see the youth," says Cindy Price, associate executive director for the YMCA Youth and Family Services. "Gangs are not what these kids are about — we look at them as individuals."

The teens in the afternoon youth development program agree that the center's workers are special. When asked if the adult staffers in the program are like their teachers and other adults they know, they say that the center's grown-ups are different.

"They talk like us."

"They listen."

"They're cool."

Mellott says that through his work he has seen "an amazing turnaround for some of the kids — you can really notice a change in their attitudes towards the world."

Helping the Whole Person

Social and mental health services are vital for some of the youth who have

suffered a lot of trauma, says Price. Problems often go beyond more common teen troubles of skipping school or fighting with parents — some of these children experience homelessness, abandonment or separation from their families. The center's agencies collaborate to meet any needs.

Educational support services range from individualized tutoring for getting a General Equivalency Diploma, to learning English, to specific academic subject tutoring. "Sometimes they need the educational support just to convince them to stay in high school," says Price.

The center is developing a job training and placement program with the help of the Montgomery County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Last summer 20 youth participated in a program that provided one week of training in interviewing, resume writing and job etiquette and then placed them in paid internships for the summer. A staff member acted as a coach/mentor throughout the process. Nineteen stayed employed the entire time — a great success rate, according to Price.

Assessment and evaluation tools have been built into the center's programs from the start. These include surveys and other methods for collecting data that the center can report back to Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, which oversee the center's operation. The genesis of the center began with a 2004 final report from the Joint County Gang Prevention Task Force that, among other suggestions, recommended establishing programs to reduce or eliminate gang activity. County Executives Doug Duncan

and Jack Johnson and their respective county councils allotted \$250,000 from each county to fund a center.

The federal government also contributed \$2.3 million to support the joint county gang prevention initiatives with support from the Maryland congressional delegation, according to Joe Heiney-Gonzalez, Latino-Hispanic Liaison, Community Outreach Office of the Montgomery County Executive's Office.

The counties chose the center's location, in a Takoma Park office building at the Takoma/Langley Crossroads, because it's on the border between the counties and is convenient to public transportation. As of October, the center had served more than 150 youth.

All of which doesn't matter to those eight teens gathered in converted office space one afternoon after school. During a break in their structured activities, they suck down juice boxes and think about what they want to do when they're 18 and out of school. Some of them shrug. Some look puzzled. Others answer right away.

"I want to go to college."

"I want to be a therapist."

"I want to get a good job."

Their adult group leaders smile.

Crossroads Youth Opportunity Center

7676 New Hampshire Ave., Suite 411
(Near the corner of University Blvd.)

Takoma Park, MD • 301-422-1270

Monday-Friday 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.;

Saturdays 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

All services are free and available to residents of Prince George's and Montgomery Counties.

Protecting Takoma Park's Trees

continued from page 4

Commission will hear testimony and decide. If the tree is dead or damaged so that it is in imminent danger of falling, the person can get a waiver from permit requirements and cut the tree immediately. Checks and balances are in place to assure the benefits the tree provides to the community are weighed against the private interests of the property owner. There are no rights to appeal when a waiver is issued.

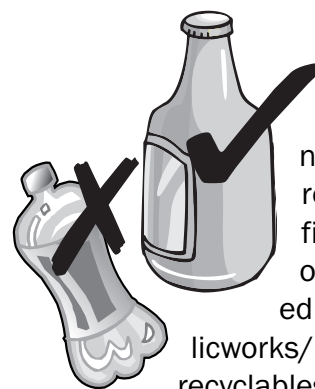
If a permit to cut a tree is issued, a replacement tree or trees must be planted. Because replacement trees are much smaller than the trees cut, replacement trees do not come close to replacing the environmental values of large tree, so to protect the environment we all love in Takoma Park, we must protect our large trees!

The Committee on the Environment was established in 1992 to provide

advice, assistance and guidance to the City Council on environmental issues. With its annual Arbor Day celebration and Adopt-A-Tree program, established in 1993, the Committee has given away more than 5,000 trees. It has created a Local Action Plan for Greenhouse Gas Reduction, promoted energy conservation in City buildings, coordinated Energy Workshops, won a grant for solar hot water heaters, developed Green Building Guidelines for the City, promoted tree health and preservation and coordinated a Tree Care Workshop, supported good land stewardship and the City's acquisition of open space lands for habitat preservation, promoted healthy watershed functioning, and provided technical support for the Master Plan Advisory Group, the West Nile Virus Task Force, and the Municipal Energy Authority Task Force.

Tip of the Month

Use Glass



It's a terrific thing to recycle all those plastic containers — but did you know that not all plastic can be recycled in the City's recycling bins? Narrow-necked bottles are fine — but jars, "clam shell" salad or carry out containers and yogurt cups are excluded (see <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/publicworks/recyclerecycling.html#quick> for a list of recyclables in Takoma Park). Plastic still takes up 25 percent of our landfills by volume, and it eats up an estimated 200,000 barrels of oil a day in production. Even the plastic made from renewable sources, like corn, does not biodegrade unless it's put in the rare landfills that meet specific conditions. Glass, which is a cleaner recyclable, is a better choice. You can choose it for bottled drinks, milk, and everything else from maple syrup to marinades. And recycle it through the City's program.

RECREATION

The Recreation Department has moved to its new permanent home on the Community Center level (where Housing and Community Development used to be). Thank you for your patience while we were located in the trailers. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday.

After office hours and on weekends the public may drop off program registrations at the front desk of the Community Center until 10 p.m., Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Saturdays, and 2 – 6 p.m. on Sunday. Checks and money orders only, please – no cash.

Drop off after hours (checks or money orders, no cash) in the gray mail box at the rear entrance of the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912. Takoma Park Recreation Department phone: 301-891-7290.

“Read all About It” – Bringing Books to Life

Ages 1 1/2 – 3 1/2

You and your child will experience fun language, sensory, fine and gross motor activities inspired by favorite children's books. Circle story time, individual, and small group activities. Min. of five, Max. of 12. Six weeks. Instructor: Alicia Sar

Session 2: Fri. Nov. 3 – Dec. 15
Time: 11 a.m. – noon
Location: Azalea Room, T.P. Community Center
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$65/session
 Non-Resident \$75/session

Session 4: Tues., Nov. 14 – Dec. 19
Time: 4 – 5 p.m.
Location: Heffner Community Center
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$65/session
 Non-Resident \$75/session

No class Nov. 24.

Bright Minds – Science for Young Explorers

Ages 1 1/2 – 3 1/2

Each session will feature hands-on activities to explore basic science concepts of cause and effect, how colors change, the magical properties of cornstarch and much more. Come ready for a fun and messy time. A \$15 materials fee due to the instructor the first day of class. Min. of five, Max. of 12. Instructors: Kirsten Sandberg-Da Silva and Alicia Sar

Session 2: Thurs., Nov. 2 – Dec. 14
Time: 10 – 11 a.m.
Location: Azalea Room, T.P. Community Center
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$65/session
 Non-Resident \$75/session

Session 5: Wed., Nov. 1 – Dec. 13
Time: 4 – 5 p.m.
Location: Heffner Community Center
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$65/session
 Non-Resident \$75/session

No class Nov. 22 and Nov. 23.

One Session Parent Support Seminars

Keeping Peace at Home

The following one-time session is geared towards parents of young children (birth–4 years). Keeping Peace at Home – Encouraging positive sibling relationships is a challenge for many parents. In this session we will explore strategies and tools that will help maintain the peace and encourage young children to develop positive social relationships with their siblings and peers.

When: Wed., Nov. 29
Time: 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Location: Forsythia Room, T.P. Community Center
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$20
 Non-Resident \$25

1,2,3 Cooking up Math with Me

Ages 1 1/2 – 3 1/2

Combine a young child's love for hands-on cooking with age appropriate pre-math skill building activities. Explore measuring, sorting, proportion and counting as we cook up fun and tasty foods. Parent resources provided each session. Min. of five to Max. of 12. Instructor: Kirsten Sandberg Da Silva.

Session 2: Wed., Nov. 1 – Dec. 13
Time: 10 – 11 a.m.
Location: Azalea Room, T.P. Community Center
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$65/session
 Non-Resident \$75/session

Session 4: Thurs., Nov. 2 – Dec. 14
Time: 4 – 5 p.m.
Location: Heffner Community Center, 42 Oswego Avenue
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$65/session
 Non-Resident \$75/session

No class Nov. 22 and 23.

Arts Alive

Ages 2 – 4 1/2

An educator with several years experience in museum-based early childhood classrooms will guide you and your child through fun, hands-on museum-related activities that will enhance your child's creativity and imagination. Two metro-accessible museum trips explore the themes covered during class. A \$15 materials fee due to instructor the first day of class. Minimum of five, Maximum of 10. Six - week session. Instructor Kirsten Sandberg-Da Silva

When: Sat., Nov. 4 – Dec. 16
Time: 10 – 11 a.m.
Location: Azalea Room, T.P. Community Center
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$65
 Non-Resident \$75

No class Nov. 25.

Abrakadoodle

An \$18 materials fee to be paid to the instructor the first day of class. Max. of ten, min. of four. Six weeks.

Twoosy Doodlers

Ages 20 – 36 months

This is a special art class just for toddlers and a parent or care giver. Little fingers will experiment with painting, gluing, sticking, printing, and creating, while developing fine motor, language and self-help skills. Six weeks.

Session 2: Tues., Nov. 7 – Dec. 12
Time: 10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

Session 4: Wed., Nov. 8 – Dec. 13
Time: 3:15 – 4 p.m.
Location: Art Room, T.P. Community Center
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$68/session
 Non-Resident \$78/session

Session 6: Fri., Nov. 10 – Dec. 22
Time: 10:15 – 11
Location: Heffner Community Center, 42 Oswego Avenue
Fee: T.P. City Resident \$68/session
 Non-Resident \$78/session

Mini Doodlers

Ages 3 – 5

Around The World. Travel to exotic places with Abrakadoodle using paint, printing, sculpture, collage and color. Come with us as we explore Ecuador to create beautiful birds, Africa to create masks, India to create festival elephants, Mexico to create sun sculptures, Japan to create dragons and more! Get your ticket today.

Session 2: Wed., Nov. 8 – Dec. 13
Location: Art Room, T.P. Community Center
Time: 4:15 – 5 p.m.
Fee: T.P. Resident \$68
 Non-Resident \$78

Doodlers

Grades 1 – 5

Castles and Dragons
 Abrakadoodle welcomes lads and lasses to explore the medieval world of castles, dragons, family crests and shields. Create castles, shields, crests, crowns, magic wands, banners and more with foam, paint, glitter and sparkles!

Session 4: Wed., Nov. 8 – Dec. 13
Location: Art Room, T.P. Community Center
Time: 5:15 – 6 p.m.
Fee: T.P. Resident \$68
 Non-Resident \$78



Photo by Debra Haiduvén

Morning Addition

Grades K – 6

New this year! This before-school program is designed for those families that need early morning options before the school day starts. Staff will be available to provide informal recreation activities and will escort the children to T.P. Elementary School and Piney Branch Elementary School. Children will also have time for homework assignments, breakfast (not provided) or prepare for their day at school. For more information please call Carey Antoszewski at 301-891-7233.

When: Mon. – Fri., through June 14
Time: 7 – 9 a.m.
Location: Azalea Room, T.P. Community Center
Fee: T.P. Resident \$175/quarter
 Non-Resident \$215/quarter

No program Nov. 1, 7, 23 and 24, December 25-29.

Fun Day Program 2006

Grades K – 5

The Fun Day Program offers exciting field trips on scheduled whole-day closings and activities and performances on scheduled half-day closings. Participants will meet at the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. On half days only students attending Takoma Park Elementary will be picked up in the cafeteria and children attending Piney Branch Elementary will be picked up in the gym by a Recreation staff member. Bring a snack! Trips, activities and performers are subject to change. Advance registration is required. Space is limited, sign up early.

Date	Trip/Activity	Time	Resident	Non-Resident
Wednesday, November 1	BAPA's Sleeping Beauty and Ice Skating at Wheaton Regional	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	\$20	\$25
Tuesday, November 7	Baltimore Museum of Industry and B&O Railroad	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	\$20	\$25
Thursday, November 9	Mad Science	1 – 5 p.m.	\$10	\$15
Friday, November 10	Cantare' Explore Latin Culture	1 – 5 p.m.	\$10	\$15

★ Takoma Park Community Center ★ Fall Hours • November – December 22, 2006*

Game Room
 Monday through Thursday
 2:30 5:30 p.m. Ages 7 12
 6 9 p.m. Ages 13 19
 Fridays until 9:30 p.m.
 Saturday Ages 7 19
 12:30 – 5:30 p.m.
 Sunday Ages 7 19
 2 – 5:30 p.m.

Teen Lounge Ages 13 19
 Monday through Thursday
 2:30 9 p.m.
 Fridays until 9:30 p.m.
 Saturday 12:30 5:30 p.m.
 Sunday 2 5:30 p.m.
 Hours subject to change.
 Membership is required.

*Game Room and Teen Lounge
 will be closed on November 10, 23, 24

Drawing and Watercolor

Ages 11 – 14

Have fun learning black and white and color drawing, watercolor painting, pen and ink and mixed media; still life, portrait, landscape (weather permitting) and floral studies. Develop observational skills and explore personal expression through color, texture, light, form and movement. Materials/model fee of \$25, paid directly to the instructor, due on the first day of class. Maximum 12, minimum seven. Six weeks. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman.

When:	Tues., Nov. 14 – Dec. 19	
Time:	3 – 5 p.m.	
Location:	Art Room, T. P. Community Center	
Fee:	T.P. Resident	\$130
	Non-Resident	\$140

Advanced Drawing and Portfolio Development

Ages 15 – 18

If you are thinking about putting together a portfolio for college entry or just want to enjoy making art, this class is a great choice. Katie Dell Kaufman (former Director of Admissions at the Corcoran College of Art and Design) will instruct in graphite, charcoal, trois crayons, oil and chalk pastels and give demonstrations, critiques and individual instruction appropriate to each student's level. Materials/ model fee of \$30, paid directly to the instructor, will be due on the first day of class. Maximum 12, minimum seven. Six weeks.

When:	Mon., Nov. 13 – Dec. 18	
Time:	3 – 5:30 p.m.	
Location:	Art Room, T. P. Community Center	
Fee:	T.P. Resident	\$175
	Non-Resident	\$185

“Bone Builders” Osteoporosis Program

“Bone Builders” includes balance exercises, weight training and discussion of diet, safety and exercise. The program uses trained RSVP volunteers to lead the classes with supervision by a certified trainer. The first class will be a demonstration of the program where you can then sign up. For information call 301-891-7280. Transportation not provided. Max. 15 students.

When:	Nov. 13 – Ongoing, Mon. and Thur.
Time:	10 – 11 a.m.
Fee:	Free

Collage

Ages 18 and older

Explore ways of combining collage materials and art media. Learn a variety of collage techniques, work with found and altered materials and explore creative two- and three-D assembly. Basic materials will be available. A materials fee of \$30, paid directly to the instructor, due the first day of class. Maximum 12, minimum seven. Six weeks. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman.

When:	Tues., Nov. 14 – Dec. 19	
Time:	11:30 – 2:30 p.m.	
Location:	Art Room, T. P. Community Center	
Fee:	T.P. Resident	\$200
	Non-Resident	\$220

Beginning Ceramics

Ages 16 and older

Learn the basics of ceramic art. Students will be introduced to hand building or throwing on the potter's wheel, learn about wedging, correct use of tools, and glazing. Make sure you wear clothes that you don't mind getting dirty. Price includes instruction, one 25 lb bag of clay, and open studio time on Sundays from 2 – 5 p.m. Seven weeks. Instructor: John Baker.

When:	Mon., Nov. 6 – Dec. 18	
Time:	7 – 9 p.m.	
Location:	Art Room, T.P. Community Center	
Fee:	T.P. Resident	\$135
	Non-Resident	\$145

Y.E.S. Basketball Program

Grades 7 – 12

Friday Nite Y.E.S. Basketball League is here! Just like our classic summer league, Friday Night Y.E.S. League provides all the ballers out there a great hoops program at a great price. Each player MUST attend one scheduled evaluation workout in order to play. Get your game on.

Where:	Piney Branch Elementary School, 7510 Maple Avenue	
When:	Nov. 27 – March 9	
Fee:	T.P. Resident	\$20
	Non-Resident	\$25

7th – 9th grade Workout Dates:
Mon., Nov. 27 & Dec. 4
Time: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

10th – 12th grade Workout Dates:
Fri., Dec. 1, 8
Time: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

WE NEED VOLUNTEER COACHES!
Call 301-891-7290 for more details.



Photo by Debra Haiduven

Choosing the Right Dog For Your Family

Would you like a little guidance in selecting the dog that's best for you? Join us in a fun seminar to consider your options: buy or adopt? Puppy or adult? Big dog or small? Learn how to choose the best canine companion for your real life.

When:	Sat., Nov. 4	
Time:	1 – 2:30 p.m.	
Location:	Auditorium, T. P. Community Center	
Fee:	T.P. City Resident	\$15
	Non-Resident	\$20



Dog Training Classes

Puppy Kindergarten

Teach your puppy the foundation skills: attention, sit, come when called, leave it, settle and beginning leash walking. Positive reinforcement training using NO PUNISHMENTS. This class is for puppies 14 months and under, not aggressive. Must have current vaccination records. Kids 10 and up with adult are welcome! Limited to six dogs. Indoor location. Six weeks. Instructor: Gretchen Savoy, who has more than 20 years of dog training experience.

When:	Wed., Nov. 8 – Dec. 20	
Time:	6 – 7 p.m.	
Location:	Heffner Park Community Center	
Fee:	T.P. City Resident	\$85
	Non-Resident	\$95

Basic Dog Manners

Teach your adult dog basic obedience and manners: attention, sit and stay, come when called, leave it, beginning leash walking and more. Positive reinforcement training using NO PUNISHMENTS. Dogs 14 months or older, not aggressive. Current vaccination records. Kids 10 and up with adult are welcome. Limited to six dogs. Indoor location. Six weeks Instructor: Gretchen Savoy, who has over 20 years of dog training experience.

When:	Wed., Nov. 8 – Dec. 20	
Time:	7 – 8 p.m.	
Location:	Heffner Park Community Center	
Fee:	T.P. City Resident	\$85
	Non-Resident	\$95

No Class on Nov. 22.

Jazz Dancing:

Ages 8 and older

This one-hour class offers the dancers an introduction to jazz movements, warm up stretches, isolations, basic steps, combinations, across the floor moves, simple steps, such as skips, chasses, leaps, step ball change, hip rocks, square step, lindy, 3 step turns, pas de burre, and more. Six weeks. Instructor from Suto Dance Company.

When:	Mon. or Fri., Nov. 3 – Dec. 15	
Time:	ages 10 – 12 Mon., 6 – 7 p.m. ages 13 and Up Mon., 7 – 8 p.m. ages 8 – 10 Fri., 5 – 6 p.m.	
Location:	Dance Studio, T.P. Community Center	
Fee:	T.P. City Resident	\$60
	Non-Resident	\$65

No Class on Nov. 24.

Hip Hop

Ages 12 and older

An opportunity for self expression to today's top 10, Hip Hop and R&B music, this class includes simple warm up exercises, body isolation, and a variety of basic popular dance moves, such as Nellie, B-Boy steps, Top Rock, slide and arm and leg work. Instructor from Suto Dance Company.

When:	Fri., Nov. 3 – Dec. 15	
Time:	6 – 7 p.m.	
Location:	Dance Studio, T.P. Community Center	
Fee:	T.P. City Resident	\$60
	No Resident	\$65

No Class on Nov. 24.



Photo by Debra Haiduven

Finding Teen Hits On the Bookshelf

By Karen MacPherson

If you're looking for a good book for the teenager in your life, you're in luck. There are two great resources available for those interested in teen reading: the Printz Award for Young Adult Literature, and "500 Great Books for Teens," a new book by children's/teen literature expert Anita Silvey.

Let's start with the Printz Award. Never heard of it? You're not alone. It's a relatively new award presented annually by the American Library Association, the same group that selects the Newbery Medal for the best-written children's book of the year and the Caldecott Medal for the best-illustrated children's book of the year.

Unlike the Newbery and Caldecott — often called the "Oscars of children's literature" — the Printz Award hasn't yet gathered nearly so much public attention. But experts who care about teens and the books published for them believe the Printz has made an impact in the world of young adult literature — nicknamed "YA lit" — since the award was first presented in 2000.

The award is named for Michael Printz, a Topeka, Kansas high school librarian and passionate supporter of young adult literature until his death in 1996. Defining the literary qualities of a Printz Award winner is challenging, however. Even those who created the award had trouble stating definitive criteria, noting that "what we are looking for, in short, is literary excellence."

The award creators added: "We hope the award will have a wide audience among readers from 12 to 18, but popularity is not the criterion for this award. Nor is message.... Controversy is not something to avoid. In fact, we want a book that readers will talk about."

The Printz Award books definitely

generate buzz among teens. The first Printz Award winner, in 2000, was "Monster," author Walter Dean Myers' gut-wrenching look at a young man accused of murder. Other Printz Award winners are: "Kit's Wilderness" by David Almond (2001); "Step From Heaven" by An Na (2002); "Postcards From No Man's Land" by Aidan Chambers (2003); "The First Part Last" by Angela Johnson (2004); and "How I Live Now" by Meg Rosoff (2005).

This year's Printz Award winner is "Looking For Alaska" (Dutton, \$15.99), a remarkable debut novel by John Green. "Looking For Alaska" focuses on Miles Halter, an only child who's tired of his no-name status in his public high school and decides to transfer in his junior year to the Alabama boarding school once attended by his father.

Upon his arrival there, Miles meets his energetic and eccentric roommate Chip, a.k.a. the Colonel, who introduces Miles to cigarettes, cheap liquor, daring pranks and, most importantly, a bewitchingly beautiful and troubled girl named Alaska.

The Library has "Looking For Alaska" and the other Printz winners. So come check one out! And don't forget to check the reference section in the Children's Room for "500 Great Books For Teens." Silvey's book is an easy-to-read guide for parents, teachers and teens to the ever-growing mountain of YA books.

In the book, the 500 titles chosen by Silvey are divided into 21 sections, representing different genres, such as adventure and survival books, fantasies, romances, and graphic novels. For teens, the book provides a plethora of suggestions for books they might like to read; adults, meanwhile, can use the book to understand the types

Kids' Programs Keep Library Abuzz

The Children's Room will be hopping with activity in November. Spanish Circle Time, taught by the popular Señora Lupe, will be held on the first two Thursdays of the month, November 2 and 9. Then, on Saturday November 4, we'll have the second of our monthly "Spanish Storytelling Saturdays," presented by Laura Kleinmann. On Monday, November 6, Tomas Eaglebear and Friends will make a return appearance to the Library, bringing their special mix of American Indian music and culture. And on Monday, November 13, we'll celebrate Children's Book Week with a special program of poetry and art for kids ages kindergarten through fifth grade, led by local poet Roseanne Singer.

Book Sale Perseveres

Neither rain nor sleet nor wind nor hail will stand in the way of the Friends of the Library Book Sale — at least not for very long!

Some untimely flooding and the loss of some of our book donations precluded a book sale in the fall. But a winter book sale has been scheduled for Saturday December 9, and will be held in the lobby of the Learning Center adjacent to the Library.

Join us between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. and find those special pre-holiday book bargains. Your purchases will help to fund Library programs, materials and other services.

For more information, or if you are interested in helping at the sale, call Ellen at the Library 301-891-7259.

LIBRARY

Reading Goes to The Dogs

The Library is going to the dogs! But it's for a good cause — helping kids to read better. Middle-schooler Carine Riley and her mom, Ann Riley, are beginning a new program at the Library in conjunction with Pets On Wheels of Prince George's County. With this once-a-week program, elementary school-age kids can sign up to spend 10–15 minutes reading to one of the Rileys' dogs, who are specially trained to be loving (and calm!) with kids. The overall idea is to allow kids to practice their reading aloud to a sympathetic canine companion. If your child is interested in participating, please sign up at the Library, or call 301-891-7259.

Celebrating Children's Books

On Monday, November 13, at 7:30 p.m., we're having a party to celebrate Children's Book Week and all the wonderful things you can find at the Takoma Park Maryland Library. Party festivities will be aimed particularly for children ages kindergarten through fifth grade and their parents, although others are welcome. We'll have games, sing songs and read some stories. Please join us! Call 301-891-7259 to let us know you are coming.

Friends Discuss "All the King's Men"

The next book discussion sponsored by the Friends of the Library is planned for Wednesday, December 6, in the Community Center Atrium at 7:30 p.m.

"All the King's Men" is a literary classic written by Robert Penn Warren, winner of three Pulitzer Prizes, the National Book Award, the National Medal for Literature, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Set in the 1930s, this Pulitzer Prize-winning novel traces the rise and fall of Willie Stark, who resembles the real-life Huey "Kingfish" Long of Louisiana. Stark begins his political career as an idealistic man of the people but soon becomes corrupted by success. This novel is generally considered the finest novel ever written on American politics.

All are invited and are welcome to join this discussion. Copies of the novel are available in the Library for checkout.

Library Programs for November

La Hora de Juego en Español
 Thursday, November 2 and 9, 10 a.m. at the Library
 Spanish story time with Lupe Marks

Sabado Gigante para Niños en la Biblioteca!
 Saturday, November 4, 10:30 a.m. at the Library
 Spanish story time with Laura Kleinmann

Tomas Shash "Eaglebear" and Friends
 Monday, November 6, 7 p.m. at the Library
 An evening of dances, stories and songs from the Xicano & Apache Cultures

"Leaves of Autumn" with Rosanne Singer
 Monday, November 13, 7 p.m. at the Library
 A program of poetry and art for kids ages kindergarten through fifth grade to celebrate Children's Book Week

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



THE CRIME REPORT

This blotter is not intended to be inclusive of all crime and arrests reported to the Takoma Park Police Department.

Prepared by: Det. A/Lt. T. Collington

Robberies

On September 20 at 12:49 p.m. in the 7600 block of Flower Ave., two adult males found two subjects rummaging through items in the trunk of their car. When the victims approached, one of the subjects produced a handgun. As the victims ran off, one subject hit one of the victims with a bat then both subjects fled in a white four door sedan type vehicle. The victims heard a shot fired as the subjects fled. No one was injured. The victim's 1997 Dodge Intrepid lock was damaged.

On October 1 at 3:20 a.m. in the 7400 block of New Hampshire Ave., an altercation between several males began outside a restaurant then continued inside. One of the males produced a handgun and fired at the group, injuring two of the males before fleeing. Both victims were taken to hospitals with non-life threatening injuries. An arrest was made on October 5.

On October 6 at 11 p.m. in the 6900 block of New Hampshire Ave., two subjects entered a restaurant, displayed handguns and ordered the three employees to the back of the restaurant. A fourth employee who had been delivering food, entered the restaurant and went into the back, unaware that a robbery was in

progress. The subjects took cash and personal items from the employees, then took cash and phone cards from the register before fleeing on foot. No one was injured.

On October 8 at 11:30 p.m. at the intersection of New Hampshire Ave. and Kingwood Ave., an adult female was walking when two subjects inside a black four-door vehicle slowly approached her. As the vehicle passed her, the passenger reached out through his window and yanked the victim's purse off her shoulder then sped off. The victim was not injured.

On October 12 at 6 a.m. in the 200 block of Tulip Ave., an adult male was walking when he was approached by three subjects who knocked him to the ground, punched him and rifled through his pockets, taking his wallet and other property before they fled on foot. The victim was not injured.

Burglaries

On September 16, between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. in the 7400 block of Glenside Dr., a residential burglary occurred. Entry was gained through an unlocked window. Property was taken.

On September 19 at 12:15 p.m. in the unit block of Pine Ave., a residential burglary occurred. Homeowners returned to their home to find a subject inside. They

immediately left and called police. The suspect fled before police arrived. A door was damaged in order to gain entry. No property was taken.

On September 20 at 2:10 a.m. in the 7100 block of Maple Ave., a residential burglary occurred. Entry was gained through an open window. A resident was awakened by the family dog and scared off the subject who climbed back out the same window. Property was taken.

On September 28, between 6:10 p.m. and 8:45 p.m. in the 7000 block of Eastern Ave., a residential burglary occurred. An unknown subject climbed to an unlocked window on the second floor to gain entry. Property was taken.

On September 29 between 8:21 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. in the 7500 block of New Hampshire Ave., a commercial burglary occurred. A window was shattered. No property was taken.

On September 30 at 5:20 a.m. in the 1100 block of University Blvd., a commercial burglary occurred. The front glass door of the business was shattered. Property was taken.

Between October 1, time unknown and October 2 at 2:15 p.m. in the 7000 block of Eastern Ave., a residential burglary was attempted. The homeowner came home and

found a ladder propped up against his house leading to a window on the second floor. The window was locked, entry was not gained.

Auto and related theft

On September 24, between 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. in the 1200 block of Holton Lane, an auto theft occurred. Unknown means were used to steal the 1999 Ford Crown Victoria.

On September 29 between 10 a.m. and 1:45 p.m. in the 400 block of Belford Place, a 1994 Honda Accord was stolen by unknown means.

On October 2 at 1:04 a.m. in the 300 block of Philadelphia Ave., an auto theft was attempted. The owner of the 1994 Honda Civic saw two unknown subjects inside his car and yelled at them. They fled on foot.

Between October 4 at 1 a.m. and October 5 at 1 p.m., in the 7400 block of New Hampshire Ave., a 2000 Ford Crown Victoria was stolen by unknown means.

ARRESTS

On September 21 at 10:41 a.m., in the 600 block of Houston Ave., an adult male was arrested on an open warrant charging him with failure to appear in court on a charge of 2nd degree assault.

On September 21 at 11:35 a.m., in the 1000 block of Jackson Ave., an adult female was arrested on an open Montgomery County warrant for 2nd degree assault.

On September 21 at 1:20 p.m., in the 7600 block of New Hampshire Ave., an adult male was arrested and charged with 2nd degree assault and theft under \$100 (shoplifting). The subject was also served with an open Montgomery County warrant for failure to appear in court.

On September 23 at 1 p.m., in the 7600 block of Maple Ave., an adult male was arrested and charged with trespassing.

On September 22 at 4:45 p.m., in the unit block of Manor Circle, an adult male was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, driving while impaired by alcohol and several traffic related charges.

On September 27 at 11:30 a.m., in the 1100 block of Kirklynn Ave., a juvenile male was arrested and charged with burglary.

On September 28 at 9:23 a.m., in the 7400 block of Central Ave., a criminal citation for possession of CDS paraphernalia was issued to an adult female.

On October 2 at 4:13 p.m., in the 8600 block of Flower Ave., an adult male was arrested on an open Montgomery County warrant for failure to appear in court on a charge of driving under the influence of alcohol.

On October 4 at 10:30 a.m., a juvenile male was arrested on a warrant obtained by Takoma Park Detectives charging him with 2nd degree rape for an incident that occurred on April 10 in the 7600 block of Maple Ave. (The suspect was known to the victim)

On October 8 at 11:14 a.m., an adult male was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol and driving while impaired by alcohol.

The Firehouse Report

As of September 30, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the personnel of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service assigned to the Takoma Park station responded to 754 fire-related incidents. The department handled or assisted with 2,001 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 2,755 incidents this year. Totals for 2005 were 818 and 1,956 respectively, for a total of 2,774, representing a decrease of 19 incidents.



Public Safety Memorial

A groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of the Montgomery County Public Safety Memorial was held on October 5, 2006 at the Public Safety Training Academy (PSTA) in Rockville. The orb-shaped memorial will be a tribute to the 28 men and women from the County's public safety agencies that have lost their lives in the line of duty since 1928. The \$300,000 memorial, which will feature a granite fountain and five stone walls engraved with the names of the public safety officers who lost their lives — will be built near the entrance to the training academy off Great Seneca Highway. "This memorial will not only pay homage to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in public service, but it will also serve as fitting tribute to the men and women who put their lives on the line every single day as public safety officers," said Montgomery County Executive Douglas M. Duncan. "Our public safety workers contribute much to the quality of life in Montgomery County, and that's what makes our community great." Construction of the Montgomery County Public Safety Memorial should be completed by next summer, when it is expected to be open to the public.

Day Light Savings Time

It's that time of the year: on October 29, change your clocks and at the same time change your batteries in your smoke alarms.

Hold An Exit Drill Every Six Months

An NFPA survey revealed that while many people have home escape plans, only one in four have plans they have practiced. Practice your escape plan at least twice a year. Try an unannounced drill to make the experience as realistic as possible. Appoint a monitor to begin the drill by pushing the test button on a smoke alarm and yelling, "Fire drill! Everybody out!"

- Some studies have shown that some children may not awaken to the sound of the smoke alarm. Know what your child will do before a fire occurs.

- Make sure everyone in your home knows the sound of your smoke alarm.

- In a real fire, you must be prepared to move quickly, carefully, and calmly. Don't let your exit drill become a race; make sure everyone knows exactly what to do. Don't run.

- Vary your drills by pretending some escape routes are blocked.

- Since the majority of fatal home fires start when people are asleep, practice your escape plan by having each member of your household wait in his or her sleeping area for the monitor to sound the alarm.

- Start by coaching your children, but remember that your goal is to teach them to escape without your help. REMEMBER...HAVING A PLAN IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE IS A MUST!

A Few Safety Tips To Make Your Halloween Safe

- Check to see that the costumes are flame-retardant so the little ones aren't in danger near any open flame.

- Keep costumes short to prevent trips and falls.

- Try make-up instead of a mask. Masks can be hot and uncomfortable and, more importantly, they can obstruct a child's vision — a dangerous thing when kids are crossing streets and going up and down stairs.

- Make sure kids wear light colors or put reflective tape on their costumes.

- Trick-or-treaters always should be in groups so they aren't a tempting target for real life goblins. Parents should accompany young children.

- Take along a flashlight.

Have Fun...and Let's Boooo Careful Out There!

92 Years Young!

On October 8, 2006, Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary President Edna Fiske celebrated her 92nd birthday. At the department's membership meeting, members presented her with a cake and sang Happy Birthday.

New Members

The Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department voted into membership two new members Amy Roberts and Bryan Clay. Welcome aboard! Note: If you would like to join the Takoma Park VFD, as a firefighter or EMT, please contact Mike Livingston at the fire station 301-270-8209.

Police News *continued from page 9*

Pedestrian and Driver Safety Campaign a Success



Photos by Erwin Mack

Columbia Union students come together to help out during the police department's recent pedestrian safety initiative, above, while Corporal Roberto Rodriguez shares safety advice with pedestrian near a bus stop, right.

The Maryland International Corridor Collaborative Supervision and Focused Enforcement Initiative (CSAFE), sponsored the Multi-Jurisdictional Pedestrian Safety Initiative Safer Walking — Safer Driving Campaign, took place on October 4 along the 8100 block of New Hampshire Avenue. Police and student volunteers were out in force, in a continuing effort to make roads safer for pedestrians and motorists.

Three jurisdictions combined efforts to concentrate on University Boulevard and New Hampshire Avenue, covering areas of Langley Park, Takoma Park and Silver Spring. Police officers from Montgomery County, Prince George's County and the City of Takoma Park collaborated to conduct focused traffic enforcement in and around the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue and University Boulevard.

More than 20 volunteers, from Columbia Union College and other organizations, distributed safety fliers to urge pedestrians to use crosswalks safely in and around the Crossroads junction. With the majority of pedestrian accidents attributed to "pedestrian error", the education of walkers is vital. This intersection and nearby roadways have seen numerous pedestrian fatalities and injuries in recent years and, with the national rise in pedestrian-related accidents, including hit and run pedestrian fatalities, this initiative was crucial to improving the safety of area residents.

While plans are underway to engineer for greater safety, police and citizen groups are using enforcement and education to impact safety immediately. As a result of the combined efforts of CSAFE and the three police jurisdic-

tions, 49 citations and 56 warnings were issued to both drivers and pedestrians. One outstanding arrest warrant was served and one arrest related to a citizen assault was made during this event.

CSAFE Director Mary Kendall and Community Organizer Gretchen Hilburger are credited with bringing together all of the resources which made this campaign such a success. The following agencies are also credited with lending support and assistance:

- City of Takoma Park Police Department
- Columbia Union College
- Latin American Studies Center, University of Maryland
- Montgomery County Highway Safety Office
- Montgomery County, Office of the County Executive
- Montgomery County Police Department
- Northwestern Boys and Girls Club
- Prince George's County's Executive's Office Prince George's County Highway Safety Office
- Prince George's County Police Department
- State Highway Administration
- Takoma-Langley Crossroads Development Authority
- University of Maryland Department of Public Safety, Police Services Bureau



POLICE NEWS

Shooting at the I-HOP Leads to Successful Arrest

Takoma Park Police responded at approximately 3:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 1 for a shooting at the International House of Pancakes in the 7400 block of New Hampshire Avenue. Two men were transported to area hospitals with non-life-threatening injuries.

Initial investigation suggested that a group of men, patrons of the restaurant, engaged in some type of confrontation outside, which resulted in a shooting.

The description of the suspect was a black male, 6' to 6'1", 150-160 lbs, short bushy hair, and dressed in all black. A silver Nissan 350Z was seen on New Hampshire Avenue, lights off and traveling at high speed, immediately after the incident. After an exhaustive investigation conducted by the Takoma Park Police Criminal Investigations Division, commanded by Lieutenant Tyrone Collington and lead Detective, Sergeant Richard Poole, Takoma Park detectives arrested a Prince George's County man on charges related to the shooting. Mischa A. Walker, 25, of 16th Avenue, was charged with two counts of attempted murder, two of first degree assault, and additional weapons charges.

The investigation suggests that a group of young men, some of whom are Takoma Park residents, approached Walker at about 3:30 a.m. and engaged in a verbal altercation with him. Walker displayed a handgun, firing once outside and at least once inside the entryway to the establishment before fleeing the establishment. Further investigation revealed that the Nissan 350z was related to the victims and not Walker.

Two victims were treated at local hospitals. One was released the same day. The other was released after his condition stabilized; he is expected to make a full recovery.

Takoma Park Police believe, based on accounts of restaurant patrons, that the incident was not the result of a random stranger confrontation or robbery attempt.

Nothing yet known suggests that the incident is related to a September 24 incident that occurred shortly after midnight. In that event, a group of about 20 young male diners entered into a food fight in the restaurant, with some physical punches also exchanged. During the commotion, the teens left the restaurant without paying for their meals. No physical injuries were reported.

Complaints Against Officers Accepted

Any resident or citizen may make a complaint against a police officer for misconduct, unfair treatment, and policy or procedure violations, among other inappropriate behavior. The resident first will talk with the on-duty supervisor, who will discuss Departmental policy as it relates to the specific incident. This may be done in person or by telephone.

If the resident wishes to make a formal charge, a Citizen Complaint Form (available in English or Spanish) is provided. The supervisor is responsible for making sure the form is completely filled out, legible, and signed. A photocopy will be given to the citizen.

A charge alleging brutality must be filed within 90 days by an individual with first-hand knowledge of the event. Also, such complaints must be notarized; Police Administrative staff can provide notary services during normal business hours.

Complaints alleging corruption, brutality, improper use of force, breach of civil rights and criminal misconduct are conducted by Criminal Investigations detectives. Others are reviewed by Division Commanders or other supervisory staff.

Investigation of a complaint should be concluded within 30 to 60 days, depending on the type of complaint.

Investigations will be postponed until conclusion of any court case, if the event involves one. Interim reports are required periodically for uncompleted inquiries. Investigations are conducted in accordance with the Law Enforcement Officer's Bill of Rights. The Professional Standards Manager, currently A/LT. Tyrone Collington, supervises the complaint process, including notification of the citizen at the investigation's conclusion.

If a complaint pertains to acts of race, national origin, sex or other protected class discrimination or harassment, the citizen may also contact the city's EEO Representative, Karen Hampton, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912, telephone 301-891-7201.

The Professional Standards Manager will review any complaint believed to have been made falsely against a police employee and contact the State's Attorney's office to request a review when necessary.

Police News *continued from page 9*

Creamer's Retirement Celebrated

A celebration honoring Chief Cindy Creamer's retirement is scheduled for Thursday, November 9, at the Sheraton College Park, 4005 Powder Mill Rd. Social hour begins at 6:30 with dinner and presentations to follow. Please contact Diana Dean at 301-891-7147 or e-mail dianad@takomagov.org with questions.

Fall Safety Tips to Prevent Residential Burglary

With the change in season and the holidays approaching, criminals will try to target your home as a source of revenue. A few simple steps can make your home safe and secure. The following are safety tips that will make your home a less appealing target to a likely burglar:

1. Consider exterior safety lighting, place lights on motion sensors to illuminate dark areas of your residence and eliminate areas where someone could hide.
2. Consider an alarm system. One that connects to a monitored alarm company will help to protect your home by automatically sending a signal to a monitoring station who

will then contact the police. These systems also emit an audible warning to potentially ward off the intruder.

3. Lock windows and doors. Statistics show that the majority of burglars gain access to homes by windows and doors that are left either open or unsecured.

The Takoma Park Police also conduct residential security surveys. These surveys are conducted by a officer trained to inspect homes for security deficiencies and make recommendations on how to improve security. For additional information relating to a home security survey, contact Corporal Tina Smith at 301-891-7125.

Police Welcome New Info Officer

Detective Andrew John of the Criminal Investigations Division has assumed the duties as the agency's Police Information Officer. John has been with the agency since 1995 and is excited to have the opportunity to serve the Takoma Park Community in this function. John is also a professional photographer with extensive experience in photographic media and photojournalism. Outgoing police affairs specialist, Carol Bannerman, has left the department to pursue a career with the federal government.

Don't Make Yourself a Victim of Robbery

Many of us will be making our commutes home from work in early evening hours and soon, in the dark. With the time change approaching and many commuters using both Metro Rail and Bus services, citizens need to use caution while walking home at night.

Be aware of your surroundings, try to walk in areas with ideal lighting and don't carry large amounts of cash with you. Avoid dark streets and areas without illumination.

Although it is enjoyable to wear your Ipod or walkman while walking or out for a jog, it is not a safe practice to engage in. You need your hearing to be fully aware of what is occurring around you. If you see suspicious activity or individuals who you believe are out of place or not familiar to your neighborhood, contact the Takoma Park Police immediately at 301-270-1100.

Cable Committee Representative Needed

The City is looking for a Takoma Park resident to serve on the Montgomery County Cable Communications Advisory Committee. Representative is required to attend one monthly meeting in Rockville. Some experience and interest in cable television, telecommunications or local government would be preferred. Please send a letter of interest to: Lonni Moffet, Communications Director, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912; call: 301-891-7236; or email to: LonniM@takomagov.org.

Takoma Park City TV Events in November 2006

City TV staff have been busy all fall covering a variety of musical festivals, government meetings and special community activities.

Several new tapes from the 29th Annual Takoma Park Folk Festival held in September are edited and airing; these include: #1: Ziva Spanish Dance Ensemble, plus Yarawi; #2: Samovar Folk Ensemble, plus Klesmos; #3: Alicia Deeny, plus Hot Soup; #4: We're About 9, plus Lisa Moscatiello and The Space Dots; #5: Rachel Cross, Jesse Palidofsky and Mary Sue Twohy, plus Cletus Kennelly and Lori Kelly; #6: Sense of Wonder: Rick and Audrey, plus Mystic Warriors. City TV has also been covering some of the Takoma Park Maryland Library's College Bound Series, and the first of these, Financial Aid for College, is now playing.

Other Special Events playing this month will include replay of the WMATA Compact Hearing on the Takoma Metro Development held in mid-October, and the Congressional Hearing on Gang Activity, held in Council Chambers in September. Both of these events are also available on the City website as archive webstreams at www.TakomaParkMD.gov/cable. Be sure to visit this award-winning web page for specific program information each month.

Takoma Snapshots will feature the following episodes:

- Community Oriented Policing: C-SAFE
- Old Town Street Festival Highlights
- Rec-u-mentary (New Hampshire Avenue Recreation Center)
- Halloween Parade

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 also 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 also available on DVD. Call 301-891-7118 or send an email to: cabletv@takomagov.org for more information.

Takoma Park City TV November 2006 Programming Schedule

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

Programming subject to change without notice.

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

Email: cabletv@takomagov.org
Web: www.takomaparkmd.gov/cable

Street Fest

There was dancing in the streets as the Takoma Park Street Festival drew colorful crowds to a grand spread of food, from funnel cakes to ethnic grills; arts and crafts like tie-dye, photography, pottery and painting; music leaning toward rock and folk; political and advocacy displays representing peace activists, environmentalists, volunteer firefighters, service dogs, and more. In short, the fest put Takoma Park's thriving community spirit on display.



Photos by Lonni Moffet



Council Takes a Stand for Chickens

In a unanimous vote October 9, Takoma Park joined its voice with Austria, Germany, Switzerland and many other countries in protesting the use of battery cages, small wire chicken cages, "based on the inherent cruelty of confining egg-laying hens." The resolution also discourages consumers from buying eggs produced under such conditions.

The public microphone at the City Council meeting hosted a stream of activists and Takoma Park residents voicing their concern over the cruelty inherent in keeping birds in cages so confining they cannot engage in natural behaviors such as nesting, perching, dustbathing, walking and even spreading their wings.

Council member Bruce Williams, who introduced the resolution, says the "United Egg Producers Certified" label maintains the worst practices in raising hens, allowing them to spend their lives in 62-square-inch cages. "[That is] equivalent to two-thirds of a sheet of letter sized paper," says Williams. "This is not what people think of when they buy eggs, but they should — we should all buy eggs that come from chickens that don't live like that."

Labels that indicate more humane treatment include Certified Humane, Free Farmed, Certified organic, cage-free or free-range.

Mayor Kathy Porter suggested the resolution be shared with local merchants to encourage them to make free-range eggs available. The city is the first municipality in the U.S. to oppose battery cages for egg-laying hens. More about the issue can be found on the City's website at www.takoma-parkmd.gov, and at the Humane Society website at www.hsus.org.



Photo by Clyde Lassell

The late Roscoe the Rooster, once a common sight in Old Town, would approve a recent Council resolution protecting hens.

Alternative Gift Fair Celebrates Eighth Year

The eighth annual Takoma Park Alternative Gift Fair will be held in the Fellowship Hall of the Presbyterian Church at Maple and Tulip in Takoma Park on Saturday, December 2 from noon to 4 pm. Started by town residents in 1999, the festive event has grown every year and typically raises more than \$20,000 each year for a variety of charities.

Organizer Gina Duffin points out that the word "alternative" for this fair could be replaced by "traditional" since these fairs, which take place across the country during the holiday shopping season, actually restore the holiday tradition of doing something special for children and people in need as the winter season begins. "We make it easy for people to choose from a large and varied group of charities," says Duffin.

The logic of these fairs — giving a gift to another person by donating to a cause in their honor — is certainly alternative enough compared to the usual holiday shopping. "Most of us have friends and family who we know will love this sort of gift," says Takoma Park resident Steve Whitney, a volunteer at this year's fair. "These are the people who can be the hardest to shop for too, because they've maxed on 'things' in their lives." For an elderly parent or grandparent, it can be perfect. Because the charities are working on a range of social and environmental causes, there is often a match for the particular passions of everyone on the holiday gift list.

Kids are another focus of the fair. One mother says her children actually save money during the year to spend at the fair — but it's not on themselves. "It's amazingly wise to encourage this," observes Ronda Keys, volunteer communications director for the Fair. "The children learn empathy and empowerment, doing something about a particular problem in the world, and they also learn about making choices in the way they direct their generosity."

Kids' Hour, from noon 1 p.m., includes a visit from Ranger Rick, the National Wildlife Federation spokes-raccoon. There will also be live music and cookie decorating. Alternative gifts are all tax-deductible. Cash and checks are accepted. For more information on the eighth annual Takoma Park Alternative Gift Fair, contact Gina Duffin at aggw_inc@yahoo.com.