Public hearing explores hospital move

By Suzanne Ludlow
Deputy City Manager

Washington Adventist Hospital (WAH) is again asking the Maryland Health Care Commission for permission to move its hospital from Takoma Park to a location in White Oak. The request is via an application for a Certificate of Need (CON), to be considered over the coming year.

During the consideration of the CON by the Maryland Health Care Commission, the Takoma Park City Council will be weighing in with its recommendations or concerns, as one of several stakeholders permitted to submit formal comments. The decision will be made by the Health Care Commission.

The Council wants to hear from the Takoma Park community on the matter before submitting its comments. This Newsletter overview of the hospital proposal is designed to provide background information in advance of the council’s consideration of its comments.

In addition to this information, a presentation from WAH President Joyce Newmyer and a public hearing are scheduled for Monday, Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. The public is invited to hear the 30-minute presentation and then provide comments to the council for its consideration. The presentation will also be available on Takoma Park City TV via the city’s website, www.takomaparkmd.gov, or on cable channel 13/28. Comments can be submitted to clerk@takomaparkmd.gov or to the city clerk at 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912.

At some point in the coming months, the council will vote on a resolution stating its position on the Certificate of Need application. The position will be based in part on public comments and in part on information and advice provided by the city attorney and the city’s consultant on hospital finance and Certificate of Need matters. Public comments will be accepted up to the time of the vote on the resolution. The council encourages public comment on this important issue.

Giving from the heart

Alternative gift fair is a local holiday tradition

By Virginia Myers

Takoma Park holidays go beyond the usual traditions: besides the fire department Christmas tree sale, we have the Community Center menorah, Morris dancers at the Gazebo and neighbors shopping in their pajamas. But perhaps most meaningful is the Alternative Gift Fair, celebrating its 15th year this Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church, at the corner of Tulip and Maple avenues. Held annually on the first Saturday of December, the event magnifies the season’s gift-giving spirit in a way that satisfies some of the most steadfast do-gooders in town by reaching out to help the needy.

Here’s how it works: Shoppers foregoing (or supplementing) conventional gift-giving and instead donate to charities in the name of the person they are gifting. At the fair, shoppers registration and extended early voting. On Election Day, Nov. 5, national media like NBC News and Al Jazeera America followed the story, declaring the change in Takoma Park historic and rolling cameras on the influx of young people who came to the Community Center to cast their votes just after high school let out.

A total of 99 under-18 residents voted of the 254 who registered. Two hundred twenty-six people voted early, and 89 residents registered and voted during the days of early voting or on Election Day. Overall, a total of 1,199 residents voted in the election. The new

ELECTION BUZZ □ Page 11

Young voters create buzz around city elections

By Virginia Myers and Alvaro Calabia

With no contested races, last month’s municipal elections for City Council and Mayor would not generally be considered the most exciting in the city’s history – unless you were among the elite group of people who became the first in the U.S. to vote before you turned 18.

This is the first election since the City Council passed a charter amendment allowing 16- and 17-year-olds to vote in municipal elections. As a result of the change, 254 under-18 residents registered to vote. The amendment also allows former felons to vote, and changes voter registration to allow same-day
RESOLUTION 2013-65
Adopted Oct. 14
Safe Roadways Committee Appointments
The resolution appoints Sylvia Borenstein (Ward 6), Elizabeth Cattaneo (Ward 2), Jason Cheek (Ward 6), Joe Edgell (Ward 2), Sheryl Cross-Glaser (Ward 1), Katherine Kostuk (Ward 3), Ryan Morden (Ward 5) and Scott Williams (Ward 2).

RESOLUTION 2013-66
Adopted Oct. 14
Voting Task Force Appointment
The resolution appoints Ward 3 resident Leandra Carrasco to the Task Force.

RESOLUTION 2013-67
Adopted Oct. 14
Agreement with Old Takoma Business Association
The resolution authorizes execution of an amendment to the three-year agreement with OTBA. For FY 2014, $35,000 has been granted to the organization with an additional $5,000 provided upon demonstration of matching funds in the amount of at least $5,000 from the District of Columbia.

RESOLUTION 2013-68
Adopted Oct. 28
Takoma Metro Development
The resolution comments on the proposed EYA development at the Takoma Metro and requests that WMATA consider the city’s comments prior to any action; asks WMATA and EYA to modify the design prior to a vote on the Amended Joint Development Agreement; and asks that EYA coordinate closely with the city.

RESOLUTION 2013-69
Adopted Oct. 28
Recognition Task Force Appointments
The resolution appoints members to the Recognition Task Force: Howard Kohn (Ward 3); Diana Kohn (Ward 3); and Richard O’Connor (Ward 1).

ORDINANCE 2013-48
Adopted Oct. 14
Police Vehicle Equipment
The ordinance authorizes the purchase and installation of police vehicle equipment (lights, sirens, computer docks and related equipment) in four recently purchased vehicles. The contract for $50,407 was awarded to Breckford Corp.

ORDINANCE 2013-49
Adopted Oct. 28 (first reading Oct. 21; second reading Oct. 28)
Traffic Calming at Flower and Jackson
The ordinance authorizes installation of stop bar bumps at each of the three stop signs at the intersection of Flower and Jackson avenues.

VACANCIES ON CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

BOARD OF ELECTIONS
(two vacancies)
The Board of Elections plans and conducts city elections in coordination with the city clerk. Meetings are generally held monthly but will be more frequent around election time. Board members also serve as election judges in city elections. Although the council will consider all applications, an appointment from Ward 5 and Ward 6 each would ensure that all wards are represented on the board.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE
(two vacancies)
The Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC) provides community input into the city’s planning for emergencies and encourages residents and others to be prepared. Committee membership includes seven Takoma Park residents appointed by the City Council, senior city staff selected by the city manager, and several members representing other agencies. Resident members serve three-year terms. Currently, the EPC meets the fourth Thursday of each month, alternating between morning meetings (8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.) and evening meetings (7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.).

RESIDENTIAL STREETSCAPES TASK FORCE
(vacancies)
On June 3, an ad hoc committee of Takoma Park residents presented recommendations on development of a residential streetscape policy for the city. The presentation is available for review online at: http://bit.ly/1eCGz25

Mayor Bruce Williams was recently appointed to the Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission; congrats, Mr. Mayor! Read up on the commission here: http://bit.ly/1eCGz25

--- www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD

December 2013
City showcases select gifts at holiday art sale

Saturday, Dec. 14
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center

Already becoming a center for local art, the Takoma Park Community Center will welcome a crowd of artists and art-lovers, along with holiday shoppers, to its seventh annual Holiday Art Sale on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The event is a hybrid: It is juried, meaning it is limited to artists who have been carefully selected for the quality of their art and for an appropriate mix of media, so it is an art show in that sense. But the event is also an art sale, with much of the art selected with gift-giving in mind. That means many of the items for sale are artistically designed for everyday use and enjoyment, rather than for formal exhibit.

Among the selections expected this year — from the 35 elite artists — are ceramics, textiles, jewelry, sculpture, clothing and accessories as well as straight-up paintings, drawings and photography.

David Prete, who participated in the Mathematically Inclined exhibit at the Takoma Park Community Center earlier this year, will be selling jewelry designed using software that translates mathematical functions and equations into three-dimensional shapes.

Elizabeth Graeber will be selling illustrations on mugs, tote bags and holiday cards. Her work has been featured in the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post and in a new book, “The Illustrated Guide to Cocktails.”

“The holiday art sale has so many unusual and original things,” says Sheila Blake, a Takoma Park resident and member of the Arts and Humanities Commission, which helps organize the event. “While I’m looking for beautiful things to give as gifts, I always have to buy something just for myself.”

Led Zeppelin played here?

Thursday, Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

Did you know Led Zeppelin’s first live show in the D.C. area may have been at the Wheaton Recreation Center? There were 50 people there, or so goes the legend.

With no photos, articles or a paper trail to prove the concert ever happened, in 2008 filmmaker Jeff Krulik set out to explore this enduring regional tale. Five years later “Led Zeppelin Played Here” is ready for the silver screen. It debuted at the AFI Silver Theatre earlier this fall and will be showing at the Takoma Park Community Center on Thursday, Dec. 12.

“Led Zeppelin Played Here” features interviews with rock writers, musicians and fans, and several people who claim they were there witnessing history that night.

The stage at Wheaton Recreation Center, formerly known as the Wheaton Youth Center, sits adjacent to the Wheaton Regional Library on Georgia Avenue. Built in the early 1960s, the building was the same in 1969 as it looks today. There’s even been some recent controversy about it.

Montgomery County wants to tear it down and replace it with a $36 million complex called the Gilchrist Center for Cultural Diversity, local preservationists want it to stay, citing both the building’s history and its iconic mid-century architecture.

The film screening is part of the We Are Takoma series sponsored by the City of Takoma Park’s Arts and Humanities Commission.
REGISTRATION FOR WINTER ACTIVITIES, CLASSES AND PROGRAMS BEGINS DEC. 15, 2013!

For a full listing of Takoma Park Recreation Department programs, activities and classes, please see the enclosed Rec Guide for Winter 2014 or visit us online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation.

Non-residents $35
After Care
4 – 6 p.m.
TP residents $25
Non-residents $35

CLASSES
Sign Language: For Beginners
Ages 6 - 15
The American Sign Language is not only reserved for hearing challenged individuals, communicating in signs is a creative experience when put to music and songs. It can be fun when signing to a friend across a crowded room or when sharing special information in a silent world. This visual language encourages and demands attention. At the end of the course, students will be able to participate in a basic sign language course. TP Community Center Hydrangea Room Tuesdays, Jan. 7 – 28, 4 – 5:30 p.m.
TP residents $59
Non-residents $69

MARTIAL ARTS
Kung Fu
Ages 4 – 16
This ancient form of self defense provides physical and mental exercise which could help students defend themselves by strengthening hand and eye coordination. The student will gain physical fitness, mental and spiritual strength. There is a one-time, non-refundable fee of $50 paid to the instructor at the first class for uniform. TP Community Center Dance Studio Saturdays, Jan. 11 – March 15
Beginners 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.
Advanced 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
TP residents $129
Non-residents $149

Taekwondo
Ages 5 and older
The Korean martial art of Taekwondo promotes fitness and strength in a fun and social environment. Taekwondo (foot-hand-way) is known for beautiful and powerful kicks. Students learn self-defense and practice drills, forms and sparring. The Tenets of Taekwondo – courtesy, integrity, perseverance, self control and indomitable spirit – are emphasized. Adults are welcome to register with their children. There is a one-time fee paid to the instructor at the first class (non-refundable) for uniform ($40 children, $50 for adult). TP Community Center Dance Studio Wednesdays, Jan. 8 – March 12, 6 – 7 p.m.
TP residents $129
Non-residents $149

TEENS
Teens on the Move Winter Edition
Ages 12 – 17
Don’t want to be stuck in the house during winter break or tired of going to the same hang out spots? Join us during winter break as we take some great trips. New ideas are always welcome. Advanced registration is required. Some trips may...

RECREATION □ Page 5
**RECREATION**

**From page 4**

require admission and/or money for food. Register for one day or all four. Paperwork required prior to the start of the program.

TP Community Center Teen Lounge
Weekdays Dec. 26 – 31, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
TP resident $25/day
Non-resident $35/day

**ADULT**

**ART**

Ceramics (Mondays)
Ages 16 and older
Learn to sculpt cast heads and figures. Tools and other materials provided. There is an $15 materials fee due to the instructor on the first day of class.
TP Community Center Art Studio
Wednesdays, Jan. 13 - March 17, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
TP residents $85
Non-residents $105

Ceramics (Wednesdays)
Ages 16 and older
Receive instruction on using the potter's wheel. Participants will make cups, bowls and dishes. Tools and other materials provided. There is a $15 materials fee due to the instructor on the first day of class.
TP Community Center Art Studio
Wednesdays, Jan. 15 - March 5, 6 - 8 p.m.
TP residents $85
Non-residents $105

Ceramics (Fridays)
Ages 16 and older
Come make bowls, vases, mosaics, tiles, sculpture heads, clay animals and more. Your imagination is your only limit! All glasses are food safe. Tools and other materials provided. There is a $15 materials fee due to the instructor on the first day of class.
TP Community Center Art Studio
Fridays, Jan. 17 - March 7, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
TP residents $85
Non-residents $105

College
Ages 16 and older
You will be introduced to a variety of collage techniques, work with elements and principals of design, and explore creative two and three dimensional assembly. Instruction will be given in surface preparation, adhesives, color theory and composition and is suitable for beginners, as well as more experienced students. Basic materials (adhesives, supports, papers and paint) will be available. A materials fee of $30, paid directly to the instructor, will be due on the first day of class.
TP Community Center Art Studio
Tuesdays, Jan. 7 - Feb. 18, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
TP residents $215
Non-residents $245

**SPRINT/SPORTS/HEALTH**

Aerobics: Cardio-Intense Groove and Strength
Ages 16 and older
Heart pumping and easy to follow, Hi-Low Aerobics flows to the beat of a great sound system with high-energy moves interspersed with moments that really make you sweat! Following the best liberates the body and mind to move in the moment. Muscle-building strength work with resistance tools follows, and then a well-earned stretch.
TP Community Center Dance Studio
Mondays, Jan. 6 - Feb. 14, 6:10 - 7:15 p.m.
TP residents $85
Non-residents $75

Yoga for Beginners (Iyengar)
Ages 16 and older
Yoga can be all about strength and flexibility, but more importantly it is about awareness and alignment. As you work with your body throughout the foundation poses in this class, you will also develop the qualities of attentiveness and quietness of the mind. Mats and props will be provided to make each pose accessible to all levels of flexibility. Wear comfortable clothing (not too baggy) and come on an empty stomach.
TP Community Center Dance Studio
Tuesdays, Sept. 10 – Dec. 17, 6 – 7:15 p.m.
TP residents $150
Non-residents $145

Intermediate Yoga (Iyengar)
Ages 16 and older
For the intermediate student, Iyengar Yoga takes you deeper into the poses. As one gains strength and stability one moves towards the alignment and harmonization of the body and the mind and eventually the mind with the soul. This Iyengar Yoga class will introduce the more advanced poses and include inversions. The class is appropriate for those who have a firm foundation on Level 1 (beginner’s class). Introductory pranayama (breathing) will be included in the session. Mats and props are provided.
TP Community Center Dance Studio
Tuesdays, Jan. 7 - March 25, 7:30 - 9 p.m.
TP residents $125
Non-residents $145

**FOREVER YOUNG: 55 PLUS**

**DROP-IN**

Adults 55 Plus Multi-Activity Room
Open For Your Leisure
This comfortable room is available for adults age 55 and older to read, play cards and board games, use the computers, and attend classes at various times each month. Daytime hours may be adjusted at various times during the month to accommodate special events and classes for seniors.
Monday – Friday, noon – 8 p.m.
Saturday/Sunday, noon – 5 p.m.
Food and drinks are not permitted except at City of Takoma Park Recreation Department sponsored events. Four computers are available to seniors. You need a Takoma Park Library card to access the computers. For more information about the library cards and computers, please contact the library at 301-891-7298. Computers are also available in Computer Labs A and B and the library.

Bingo
Try your luck Win a prize. Drop-in event, no registration required
TP Community Center Senior Room
Thursday, Dec. 19, noon – 2 p.m.
Free

Blood Pressure Screening
Adventist Healthcare offers a free monthly blood pressure screening. Drop-in event, no registration required
TP Community Center Senior Room
Thursday, Dec. 19, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Free

**55-PLUS Recreation Advisory Group Meeting**

Seniors and boomers, we want to hear from you. Join other active adults 55 and older at the next recreation advisory group meeting. Bring your suggestions and ideas for this recreation program in Takoma Park. Light refreshments will be served. Come to an open and relaxed meeting and get involved! Drop-in event, no registration required.
TP Community Center Senior Room
Friday, Dec. 13, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Free

**Fun with Planting Indoor Succulents**

Ages 16 and older
Think you don’t have a green thumb? Planting and choosing hardy succulents is easy and fun. Come learn how to grow and care for these ornamental favorites. Bring three small glass jars or containers. Plants and soil will be provided.
TP Community Center, Art Studio
Thursday, Jan. 2, 7 – 8 p.m.
TP residents $30
Non-residents $49

**TRIPS**

Holiday Display - U.S. Botanic Garden, Washington, D.C.
Despite the cold outside, the conservatory, a warm tropical paradise, has one of the largest collections of decorated trees in Washington, D.C., and a poinsettia showcase. The fantasy train display and World’s Fair exhibitions fill the East Gallery with the sights, scents and sounds of the season. Bring spending money for lunch at a local eatery. Meet at Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave. Bus pick up at Franklin Apartments, Mapleview Apartments, and Victory Tower only. In-person, advance pre-registration is required.
Wednesday, Dec. 11, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Free
No cost for transportation.

**PETS**

Dog Obedience Training
Dogs of any age
Getting your dog started with a solid foundation of obedience training is one of the most critical and rewarding things you can do for your dog. Improve your relationship with your dog and build your dog’s confidence with proven positive rewarding techniques that use not only food, but real time rewards such as praise, play time, toys and freedom.
Heffner Park Community Center
Tuesdays, Jan. 7 – Feb. 11, 7 – 8 p.m.
TP residents $100 per dog
Non-residents $129 per dog

Just because the green of summer has passed doesn’t mean you can’t enjoy your favorite herbs all winter long. Come learn how to create your own indoor herb garden. Bring three of your own small pots (or creative containers with holes in the bottom for drainage). Plants and soil will be provided.
TP Community Center Art Studio
Thursday, Jan. 9, 7 – 8 p.m.
TP residents $30
Non-residents $49

**WE WANT YOU!**

Hiring Now For Flag Football Officials

Summer Camp Opportunities Open Feb. 1

Teach Sports And Games – Outdoor Activities – Arts And Crafts – And More

For job openings and application information, visit www.takomaparkmd.gov/hr/careers

December 2013

Takoma Park News Page 5
HOSPITAL MOVE
From page 1

Background
The hospital first applied for a Certificate of Need application to move in 2006. The City of Takoma Park monitored the process closely and submitted comments to the Maryland Health Care Commission regarding the application. The city expressed its concern that the proposal did not adequately protect the primary health care needs of those Takoma Park residents least able to travel to the White Oak location. The city was also concerned that the proposal for the Takoma Park campus might not be economically feasible.

After a lengthy review process, the first Certificate of Need application was recommended for denial by the reviewing commissioner. Before the full commission acted on the recommendation, WAH withdrew its application in order to revise and resubmit it.

When the hospital first announced its desire to move, the Takoma Park City Council established two committees to provide recommendations to the council. One, the Health Services Impact Committee, looked at the health needs of the Takoma Park community, and the other, the WAH Land Use Committee (WAHLUCC), was to look at land use issues related to the Takoma Park property.

Over time, WAHLUCC also made recommendations about community health needs and the hospital's first Certificate of Need application. The deadline for that application has expired. The Council has not yet determined if a new committee would be helpful to the council.

There are many decisions and determinations that will be made over the coming months that may affect the hospital's proposal and that may affect Takoma Park. These include:

- Whether or not the hospital is permitted to operate two campuses under one hospital license
- Changes in Maryland health care law and allowable payments that have not yet been finalized
- Zoning provisions regarding the Takoma Park campus that may be affected by the changes of uses on the site

The City of Takoma Park staff and consultants are reviewing the new Certificate of Need application and will be following the process of its consideration. Information regarding the application will be posted on the city's website at www.takomaparkmd.gov/tcd/wah-relocation-application. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Suzanne Ludlow, deputy city manager at 301-891-7229 or suzanne@takomaparkmd.gov.

What would the move mean for Takoma Park?
The new hospital proposal submitted in October would maintain many primary services on the Takoma Park campus. Washington Adventist Hospital would continue to own the property. The new application has a number of significant changes from the first request, several of which affect Takoma Park:

- Operation of both the new White Oak hospital and the medical services remaining on the Takoma Park campus under a single hospital license, rather than having a hospital license for the White Oak facility only
- WAH-run operation of a walk-in primary care clinic (to be run, at least initially, 24 hours per day) in the current emergency room
- Keeping the WAH-run adult inpatient psychiatric facility and the separately-owned in-patient and out-patient Adventist Rehabilitation Hospital in the Takoma Park hospital building
- Keeping a number of WAH-run primary care services on the Takoma Park campus, including laboratory, pharmacy, radiology, wound care and prenatal and postpartum services
- Keeping and expanding an appointment-based clinic operated by Community Clinic, Inc. (CCI) on the Takoma Park campus to, in part, work with certain patients who have been discharged from the hospital but are at risk of readmission without careful care
- Leasing 55,020 sq. ft. of space on the main floor of the current hospital building to Washington Adventist University for approximately $1.5 million per year
- Leaving several floors and sections of floors of the current hospital building vacant; this space may be available to use or lease in the future

Washington Adventist Hospital outlines its Certificate of Need proposal

[Washington Adventist Hospital was asked to provide a summary of its plan, which follows.]

By Diana Tronse
Public Relations and Marketing Manager

When Washington Adventist Hospital opened in 1907 as Montgomery County’s first hospital, it had 40 beds and provided care in a tranquil setting. At the time, Takoma Park was considered a rural escape, far from the bustle of Washington, D.C.

Over time, the hospital expanded to meet the growing needs of the D.C. region as development occurred around the campus. Today, the 252-bed hospital remains focused on its mission to deliver excellent health care to all, regardless of ability to pay. It has opened its doors to patients and families for generations as the region has grown.

While once an advantage, the location of the hospital has become a challenge. The hospital is in a residential area, accessible only by narrow, two-lane streets, making it difficult for emergency personnel, patients, physicians, employees and others to reach the hospital. Also, Metrobus service is unavailable to the Takoma Park campus, creating a hardship for Prince George’s County residents who rely on this mode of public transportation.

Now, in order to continue meeting the health needs of a growing community and to reflect the coming changes under the Affordable Care Act and Maryland’s new reimbursement model, the hospital has proposed the construction of a 201-bed replacement hospital facility on approximately 49 acres in the White Oak area of Silver Spring, while retaining an array of health-care services on its current Takoma Park campus.

“This combination of outpatient and inpatient services in White Oak, along with robust medical and health services in Takoma Park addresses the changing nature of the health-care delivery system in Maryland and across the nation,” said Joyce Newmyer, President of Washington Adventist Hospital. “It’s the best possible plan to ensure a vibrant future for Washington Adventist Hospital and the communities we serve.”

The new facility will be located off major connecting roads with enhanced public transportation options, dramatically improving access for the communities we serve,” Newmyer explained. “In addition to not being a cost-effective solution, rebuilding on our current campus will cause great disruption to our patients, staff and community because of nighttime demolition.”

The projected total cost for the renovations to the Takoma Park campus and development of the White Oak facility is $573 million. This includes approximately $339 million for the construction, and capital costs related to construction of the White Oak hospital facility and approximately $34 million for the renovations and capital costs related to facilities/services on the Takoma Park campus. The new facility in White Oak is currently scheduled to open in late 2018.

WAH NEED PROPOSAL Page 7 December 2013
Federally Qualified Health Center
The Taloma Park campus will retain a Federally Qualified Health Center operated by Community Clinic, Inc. to improve access to primary and preventive care. CCI currently serves the uninsured or under-insured in the hospital’s catchment areas of Montgomery and Prince George’s counties.

In addition, the program will specifically target, through discharge and transition planning, underserved patients at high risk of hospital readmission. The program will link these patients with primary care phys-icians and disease management specialists integral to a population-based care model. The FQHC is expected to open to patients this year in Taloma Park, and an expansion is planned as early as next year to accommodate CCI staff including three primary care providers, four part-time disease man-agement specialists and treatment rooms to accommodate 12,000 patient visits a year.

Behavioral health services
The 40-bed behavioral health unit and its affiliated outpatient and partial hospitalization services will remain in place at Taloma Park in an upgraded and expanded space.

Women’s Center
The Women’s Center provides prenatal, postpartum and related gynecological ser-vices to the community served by Washing-ton Adventist Hospital. The program was designed to meet the needs of women who meet the criteria for Maryland Medi-cal Assistance as well as women who are participants in the Montgomery County Maternity Partnership Program. Deliver-ies for patients of the Maternity Partnership program will take place in White Oak.

Educational Space
The Taloma Park campus will also in-cude more than 55,000 square feet of space to be leased to Washington Adventist Uni-versity, a growing higher education institu-tion with an adjoining campus.

Washington Adventist University is sup-portive of the proposed move of Washing-ton Adventist Hospital to a site that is much more conducive to providing 21st century health care,” said Weymouth Spence, Presi-dent of Washington Adventist University. “Due to the recent development and enroll-ment growth of the University we are in need of additional instructional and residen-tial space. It is our intention to satisfy this need by expanding university opera-
tions to some of the space now occupied by the hospital.”

Various clinics and office space
Physician offices, various clinics and of-ice space for administrative staff of Ad-ventist HealthCare, the parent company of Washington Adventist Hospital, will re-main on the Taloma Park campus.

Transportation expansion
Washington Adventist Hospital will provide an employee shuttle bus service between Taloma Park and the hospital’s White Oak campus. Washington Adven-tist Hospital has agreed to make this shuttle bus service available to hospital patients, visitors and others for a modest fee. The shuttle program will consist of two buses that will operate from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

New Facility in Current Service Area
The proposed new medical campus is located at Plum Orchard Drive and Cherry Hill Roads in the hospital’s current service area (just six and a half miles from cur-rent campus). The new campus will have improved access for public transportation, and is located off major interconnecting roads enhancing access for ambulances, the community we serve in Montgomery and Prince George’s counties, and employees.

The new site will allow for a modern, 201-bed hospital that will have private rooms for patients, and more space for clinical care and state-of-the-art equipment and technology. The White Oak campus will also have ample space for physician offices, outpatient services and parking, in contrast to the current campus which has limited expansion options and access that is restricted by narrow, two-lane roads.

The relocated hospital will include the following:
• An emergency department with 35 treatment bays
• Eight operating rooms (five for general surgery, two for cardiac surgery, one for hybrid/specialty surgery)
• Six cardiac/vascular angiography suites
• 32-bed telemetry unit
• 28-bed critical care unit
• Maternity unit (21 post-partum rooms, seven labor and delivery rooms, two C-section rooms)

• 20 short-stay observation beds (eight in a dedicated unit in the patient tower, 12 adjacent to the ED)

• Approximately 750 surface parking spaces

The hospital is organized to maximize patient safety and efficiency with a patient tower of five medical-surgical floors on a “base” with emergency, radiology, surgery, cardiac, and maternity services. Patient rooms are designed around the family care model and will contain dedicated areas for family members in each room.

The hospital design is compact and effi-cient. Efficient buildings are less costly to construct and operate, easier for visitors and staff to navigate, and retain more space for future expansion.

Sustainable features of the building in-clude:
• Energy efficiency: the design includes a goal to exceed code requirements

• Envelope efficiency: the design will in-corporate an efficient envelope to maxi-mize light while minimizing heat gain.

• Efficient lighting will reduce energy use and improve interior environment quality.

• The project will be commissioned and will employ sophisticated control sys-tems and measuring sensors to ensure the operation meets the design intent.

• Stormwater design: the project will control for both quality and quantity within the site.

• Light-colored roofs will reduce the heat island effect.

Next Steps
Washington Adventist Hospital has de-veloped a project designed to meet com-munity needs for health services within an environment where health care, influenced by the Affordable Care Act and other fac-tors, is rapidly changing. The hospital is still in the early phases of the regulatory process and will continue its dialogue with the community.

Washington Adventist Hospital consid-ers itself a valuable community asset and a major health-care provider in the region, and is committed to continuing that role, fulfilling its mission and serving the com-munity.

ALTERNATIVE GIFTS

To learn more, or to volunteer, see www.aggw.org/TakomaPark.html.
Drawing the classics

Local author turns Shakespeare into comics

By Karen MacPherson

As a child, Gareth Hinds loved reading comics and often had fun drawing his own, which featured a character named “Gareth the Hero.” But while Hinds was a natural artist, words weren’t quite as easy for him. So, in his earliest childhood comic strips, “Gareth the Hero” is given one thing to say: “I do not want to write at all.”

It’s a bit of interesting foreshadowing for Hinds, who today regularly wins critical kudos for the artwork in his graphic novel interpretations of classic tales like “Beowulf” and “The Odyssey,” as well as William Shakespeare’s “King Lear” and “The Merchant of Venice.”

Now, Hinds—a new Takoma Park resident—has just published his visual retelling of another of Shakespeare’s best-known plays, “Romeo and Juliet.” Brimming with energy and color, Hinds’ graphic novel interpretation of Shakespeare’s tragic love story offers a unique twist: the Capulets, dressed in reds, are from India, while the Montagues, wearing blue, are from Africa.

The story is best for ages 12 and up.

This twist underlines the timeless and universal nature of the story. Yet, Hinds also has endeavored to make his book relevant to today’s teens. While he sets the book around the time that Shakespeare wrote the play—1597—the younger characters, including Romeo and Juliet, are portrayed in a more modern way, with the men wearing their shirts open and sporting tattoos, for example, while the women have knee-length dresses.

“It’s historically improbable, but it’s more interesting to young readers,” Hinds said during a recent book launch event at the library, jointly sponsored by Politics and Prose and the library.

“One of the reasons that I wanted to do this book is that it is one of the most taught in schools around the country. The characters are all a little foolish, but the language is so exquisite.”

Hinds’ “Romeo and Juliet” has received raves from critics. Writing in The Horn Book, Joanna Rudge Long noted: “From swirling action to subtly delineated emotion, [Hinds] delivers the play’s essence and beauty, its glorious language, furious con-
Join the Friends Reading Group on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center for a discussion of stories by Alice Munro, winner of the 2013 Nobel Prize in Literature.

Here is what the critics say: Alice Munro “…has quietly emerged as one of our greatest living writers. Munro has an unerring talent for uncovering the extraordinary in the ordinary” (New Yorker)

“Her stories are like few others. One must go back to Tolstoy and Chekhov…for comparable largeness.” (John Updike in The New York Times Book Review)

“Spanning almost 30 years and settings that range from big cities to the small towns and farmsteads of rural Canada…” (The New York Times)

Alice Munro makes lives that seem small unfold until they are revealed to be as spacious as prairies and locates the moments of love and betrayal, desire and forgiveness, that change those lives forever.” (Publishers Weekly, “Selected Stories”)

Hinds, meanwhile, says he sees his job as “making the classics more accessible to anyone, kids or adults, who might be intimidated by the language of the original.” Right now, he’s working on an interpretation of “Macbeth,” and plans to do visual re-tellings of other Shakespeare plays in the future, including “The Merchant of Venice.” Hinds’ self-published version of “King Lear” and then published the original version of his interpretation of “The Merchant of Venice” in 2009.


At this point, I cut loose from my day job and totally committed to doing my next book, “The Odyssey,” Hinds said.

“The Odyssey” was Hinds’ break-out book, bringing him to the notice of both mainstream readers and reviewers. Along with “The Merchant of Venice” and now “Romeo and Juliet,” “The Odyssey” has allowed Hinds to tap into the school market.

Hinds, meanwhile, says he sees his job as “making the classics more accessible to anyone, kids or adults, who might be intimidated by the language of the original.” Right now, he’s working on an interpretation of “Hamlet,” and plans to do visual re-tellings of other Shakespeare plays in the future, including “Julius Caesar” and “A Midsummer’s Night’s Dream.”

In addition, Hinds would love to do his own version of “The Iliad” as a companion to “The Odyssey.”

While Hinds also dreams of doing a picture book someday, he concludes that “I think graphic novels will always be the main place where my heart is located.”

A good season for Kay’s Garden

This is the third year vegetables and flowers have bloomed like a green oasis in the blacktop parking lot of the Community Center, thanks in large part to Councilmember and long-time Takoma Park resident Kay Daniels-Cohen. “Kay’s Garden” was planted and is maintained by volunteers from the Recreation Committee, the Recreation Department teen programs, and others. On Nov. 10, many of them gathered to dedicate the garden to Daniels-Cohen, shown here with Mayor Bruce Williams. Daniels-Cohen was deeply moved by the tribute, and is wiping away a tear.

CORRECTION: In an article on page one of the November 2013 issue of the Newsletter, “City registers low greenhouse gas emissions, sets new goals,” the information on Takoma Park’s emissions was incorrect. The city’s 2013 emissions register at 94,372 MTCO2e (metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents), not 94,372 MTCO2e  (million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents). We regret the error.

Help Us Plan for the Takoma Park Library’s future

Fill out the on-line survey before Dec. 20
https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TakomaParkMarylandLibrary

or...

Request a printed survey
Available at the Library or Computer Center
Fill it out and return it by Dec. 13.
Vehicles must follow parking regulations

One of the most common complaints to Takoma Park’s Code Enforcement department is about abandoned or nonoperational vehicles. Those on the street may be reported to the police, but those on private property are subject to the Takoma Park property maintenance code. It states that all vehicles must be parked on a paved or surfaced area. Vehicles may not be parked on green space, yards or sidewalks. Vehicles must also be operable and may not be in a state of major disassembly. Finally, vehicles must have license plates and current registration stickers displayed on the vehicle. Residents may park a vehicle in an enclosed garage, but if a vehicle is covered with a tarp or car cover, it is still subject to the requirements of the city code.

Condominium fee assistance available

A new program called “Home Savers” is being offered by Asian American Home Ownership Counseling Inc. to condominium owners who are behind in the payment of their condominium fees. The program offers an interest free loan of up to $4,000 for eligible county residents. To qualify, you must be current in your mortgage payments, attend two financial education classes, qualify financially (Montgomery County medium income applies) and the condo must be your primary residence. The loan has to be repaid within two years, although an extension may be applied, depending on your financial situation. Additionally, for those homeowners (single family homes or condos) who are having financial difficulty and cannot pay their mortgages, one-on-one counseling and assistance is available at the Gilchrist Center, 2424 Reede Drive, Suite 220, Wheaton, Md 20902. To schedule an appointment for either program, call 301-760-7636 or e-mail counseling@aa-hc.org. AAHIC is a 501c3 non-profit and HUD approved housing counseling agency. Everyone is encouraged to apply. You do not have to be Asian to participate in these programs.

Landlord-Tenant administrative regulations proposed

Administrative regulations are being proposed that pertain to 1) fees that can be charged to tenants for amenities and 2) the process for transferring the cost of utilities to tenants. The regulations supplement Sections 6.16.090 and Section 6.16.100 respectively of the Takoma Park Code.

Pursuant to the requirements of the “Administrative Regulations Ordinance” (authority, Chapter 2.12 “Administrative Regulations” of the Takoma Park Code), notice of the city’s intention to adopt an administrative regulation must be published in the Takoma Park Newsletter and such notice must provide a minimum of 30 days for comment on the proposed regulation. A copy of the regulations is posted on the city’s web page, www.takomaparkmd.gov.

Comments may be mailed to the city clerk, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912, sent by e-mail to jessie@takomaparkmd.gov or faxed to 301-270-8794 by Dec. 30, 2013.

Passport service

Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Passport service is available at the Takoma Park Community Center
Please call Sofia Visurraga, customer service representative, at 301-891-7100 for information.

Servicios de pasaporte
La oficina de Pasaportes está abierta a Lunes a Jueves de 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
No necesitas hacer cita para presentar su aplicación. Por favor llámala al 301-891-7204 para obtener información para aplicar por su pasaporte americano.

Rental housing licenses required

Renewal applications due Dec. 31
By Code Enforcement Staff
By Nov. 30 information will be sent out to all Takoma Park landlords informing them that they must apply online for the renewal of their rental housing license. All applications must be submitted online as the city no longer accepts paper copies of the license renewal form. Be aware that e-mail addresses will be mandatory beginning this year. All 2014 renewal applications are due by Dec. 31.
While the process to renew a rental license may have changed, the requirements have not. If you own a rental housing property in Takoma Park, you are required to obtain a rental housing license or you could face court actions and fines for operating an illegal rental facility.
There are five requirements that must be satisfied before you can get your rental license renewed. You must 1) complete the online application form, 2) pay the License Fee ($102 per unit), 3) maintain a valid Landlord Certification, 4) provide the city with a copy of your MDE Lead Certificate, and 5) successfully pass a Property Maintenance Code inspection. Licenses are issued for the calendar year and only after all requirements have been met.
If your landlord certification has expired, we offer a monthly class here at the Community Center that introduces and briefly reviews the requirements and laws that apply to rental housing in Takoma Park. The classes are held the third Thursday of every month on alternating mornings and evenings. If you plan on attending, please call 301-891-7255 to register for the class.
If your property was built before 1950, the state’s lead risk reduction requirements must be satisfied. Additional information is available online www.mde.state.md.us/lead or by contacting the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

First, city law requires that landlords rekey locks on all doors between tenancies, so you may not need to change the locks after all. The cost of rekeying is the sole responsibility of the landlord. Talk to your landlord to make sure he/she has done this, and take a look at our landlord-tenant law, which covers this and other lock-related issues (Obligations of landlords-Section 6.16.050).
If you still want to change the lock, you must obtain written permission from your landlord prior to the installation of any new or replacement lock and provide the landlord with keys to the new or replacement lock within seven calendar days of installation (Obligations of tenants-Section 6.16.040H). If you fail to comply with these requirements, it may be viewed as a breach of lease with resulting negative consequences.
Now, about that maintenance question. Landlords must provide tenants with 48-hour written notice of entry into a unit (Section 6.16.110), and that includes all scheduled maintenance as well as exterminations. In addition, tenants must prepare their rental units in accordance with written instructions provided by their landlords for that scheduled maintenance, including extermination services, painting or other requested repairs (Section 6.16.040).
Tenants or landlords with questions regarding the city’s Landlord-Tenant and COLTA Laws can contact Moses A. Wilds, Jr. at 301-891-7215 or maws@takomaparkmd.gov.

Selfies” newest distracted driving menace

AAA Mid-Atlantic says social media is showing the latest dangerous distracted driving behavior: taking “selfies” while driving.
According to AAA, drivers are using Twitter and Instagram to send out photos of themselves while driving with the hashtag #drivingselfie, #drivingfast, #drivingtowork, #rainx and #drivinginthereain. Some of the photos show the speedometer, which indicates the car is moving while the driver is taking his or her own picture, according to AAA.
The hashtag #rainx “includes videos of people holding their phones to the windshield while driving in the rain in order to see the heading of rain produced by using the product Rainx. In some cases, the driver lowers the phone enough to see the speedometer, which shows that the vehicle is moving at nearly 70 miles per hour while the driver is distracted,” according to AAA in a press release.
AAA is encouraging drivers to put the camera down. “Don’t let that driving selfie or video be the last photo you ever take,” said John B. Townsend II, AAA Mid-Atlantic’s Manager of Public and Government Affairs.
Hang up and drive. It is Maryland law – and, it makes sense.
Alanna Natanson became the first 16-year-old to vote in an official election in the United States. She took advantage of legislation we care about. “I think it’s important that we do a two-step process,” Natanson told City TV, “to vote early will set up a habit of voting as adults. “To me, lowering the voting age is all about raising awareness for the rest of their lives,” said Richie. “A lot of people in this country don’t care enough about their government and about making a change.” Richie believes younger people should also be allowed to run for office, and was disappointed the council voted against such a measure. “It displays a certain lack of confidence in our elected officials if they are worried to run against a teenager.”

The Takoma Park VFD will open up for business starting the weekend following Thanksgiving. The hours will be 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Fridays; 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturdays; and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Sundays. The lot is located between the fire station and the Takoma Park Silver Spring Co-op, at Carroll and Ethan Allen avenues.

**Toys for needy children**

The Takoma Park VFD will start its 33rd annual Toys For Needy Children Program. “We need toys! We will start collecting on Dec. 1 until Dec. 22. If you have new or like new toys, you may drop them off at the fire station during this period. Families needing assistance with toys, please contact the fire station at 240-773-8954.

**Christmas tree sales**

The Takoma Park VFD will take orders for Christmas trees. The hours will be 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Fridays; 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturdays; and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Sundays. The lot is located between the fire station and the Takoma Park Silver Spring Co-op, at Carroll and Ethan Allen avenues.

### CITY OF TAKOMA PARK ELECTION RESULTS – NOVEMBER 5, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFICES AND CANDIDATES</th>
<th>WARD 1</th>
<th>WARD 2</th>
<th>WARD 3</th>
<th>WARD 4</th>
<th>WARD 5</th>
<th>WARD 6</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tr>
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<td>221</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>116</td>
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<td>BRUCE R. WILLIAMS</td>
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<td>ELIZABETH FORBES WALLACE (registered write-in)</td>
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<td>15</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>WRITE-IN</td>
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<td>36</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>WARD 1: SETH GRIMES</td>
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<td>SETH GRIMES</td>
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<td>TIM MALE</td>
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<td>WARD 4: ERIC MENDOZA (withdrew from race)</td>
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<td>FRED SCHULTZ</td>
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Note: This service is for children under 10 years old only.

**Safety tips for a safe Christmas**

- Make sure your Christmas tree is fresh. Shedding needles is a sign of a dry tree.
- Never place a tree so that it blocks an exit.
- Only buy electric lights that are approved by a national testing lab.
- Always unplug lights before going to bed or leaving your home.
- Never run electrical cords through doorways and under rugs.
- Keep your tree fresh by placing it in a stand that holds water. Check the water daily.
- Place the tree away from direct sources of heat.
Fall leaf collection program

Loose leaf collection will be provided by the city from Nov. 18 through Dec. 20. Residents can rake leaves to the curb at their convenience during the five-week period. Most streets do not have an assigned collection day. The goal of the program is to collect leaf piles within two weeks of their appearance at the curb. Leaf collection is dependent on the weather and rain or freezing conditions can slow collection. There are five streets that do not receive collection on scheduled days. These streets are State Highway routes and have a heavy volume of traffic.

Carroll Avenue, (7000 to 7800 block), Ethan Allen Avenue and Philadelphia Avenue, from the 7900 to 8600 block, will have collection on Saturday, Nov. 23 and Saturday, Dec. 14.

Pinney Branch Road and Flower Avenue (7900 to 8600 block) will have collection on Monday, Nov. 25 and Friday, Dec. 13.

There will be no collection on the Thanksgiving holiday which is observed on Thursday, Nov. 28 and 29. Also no other streets will receive collection on the dates when the posted streets are collected (Nov. 23 and 25 and Dec. 13 and 14).

During the collection in November, the crews will concentrate on picking up large piles of leaves. In December, when the crews are making the last collection on each street, they will thoroughly collect all remaining loose leaves from the gutter and grassy strip along the curb.

The Public Works Department welcomes your comments and suggestions about the service we are providing. Please contact Public Works by phone: 301-891-7633. You can also call the leaf collection hotline at 301-891-7626 to notify us when your leaves have been raked out. Our goal is to collect leaf piles reported on the hotline within 10 days of the call.

Please follow these guidelines:

1. Rake leaves into a pile at the edge of the curb. Do not rake leaves into the street. Leaf piles can create traffic hazards.
2. Do not park your car in front of a leaf pile and when raking please try to avoid piling leaves where cars are likely to be parked.
3. The vacuum leaf collection is for loose leaves only. Do not include branches, brush, vines, rocks or debris. These items can seriously damage equipment and delay collection.
4. Do not pile leaves near storm drain inlets. Leaves can block the drains and cause flooding problems.

The city also provides weekly Monday collection for bagged grass, leaves, branches and brush all year long. The Monday collection requires leaves and loose yard materials to be in paper bags, trash cans or stiff-sided containers. Plastic bags cannot be used for yard material because these items are composted and the plastic interferes with the composting process. Branches must be less than 4 feet long and less than 3 inches in diameter and tied into small bundles or stacked in a trash can. The Monday yard waste collection is cancelled when a holiday is observed on Monday.