

Takoma D.C. Neighborhood Newsletter

April 12, 2009

Wine/Spirits Bar and Gift Shop for Culture Shop Site Applies for Tavern (Class C) License

*Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Votes to Lodge Protest;
Neighbors Are Working on Voluntary Agreement with Business*

A new business venture for Mona and Valentine Davies, owners of the Culture Shop and the storefront it occupies at 341 Cedar Street, and Sarbjit Kochhar ("Mr. Singh"), S&S Liquors at Blair and Cedar, has applied for a "Class C" Tavern license to operate "Cedar Crossing Tavern & Wine Bar" in the former Culture Shop. At ANC 4-B's special meeting on April 2, called to review potential zoning changes as well as the tavern license application, the partners described a "Busboys & Poets or Kramerbooks-type" wine and spirits bar offering light food and seating up to 50 customers, with about 30 percent of the space continuing to offer the Culture Shop's line of Fair Trade gifts and food products. (Cedar Crossings doesn't permit the kind of exhaust installation required for a full kitchen.) With Cedar Crossings condos surrounding the proposed location, the partners did not ask permission for live music. A "Class C" license can permit a business to operate and sell alcohol from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. Sundays through Thursdays, and 10 a.m. to 3 a.m., Friday and Saturdays. The partners said that they do not plan to sell alcohol so early or stay open so late, but had not yet set the exact hours of operation.

Acknowledging substantial community support, the ANC voted to file a protest to "reserve its standing in the case." Neighbors are working with the partners to craft a voluntary agreement that would address community concerns. Contact Mr. Singh, S&S Liquors, 882-2362, or sarbjitskochhar@aol.com; the Davies, The Culture Shop, 726-2211, or cultureshop@cultureshop.com; ANC 4B01 Sara Green, 829-8802 or ancsaragreen@yahoo.com; ANC Chair Douglass Sloan, 455-3616 or 4B09@anc.dc.gov; and Alcohol Beverage Regulation Administration staff Cynthia Simms, 442-4496 or cynthia.simms@dc.gov. (See also ABRA website, www.abra.dc.gov, at "ABC Regulations and Codes.")

TOO MUCH CONFIDENTIAL PAPER FOR YOUR LITTLE SHREDDER?

Bring your old checks, records and papers to Takoma Theatre's Parking Lot, 2 to 5 p.m., Saturday, April 18, 4th Street, between Butternut and Aspen. Ann Zabaldo, of Takoma Village CoHousing, and Dodie Butler, Long and Foster Real Estate, with Takoma Theatre owner Milton McGinty, have arranged for Shred Pro (www.districtshredding.com), a secure document destruction company, to bring its shredding truck to Takoma D.C. Shred Pro securely shreds any amount of paper for 15¢ per pound. Payment can be cash, credit card or check. Contact Ann Zabaldo, 291-7892 or zabaldo@earthlink.net. Not just for TDC—for anyone who wants secure, inexpensive document shredding and recycling.

SHRED IT!

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Inside the News:

TDCNA Update

Around the Neighborhood:

New Block Captains

Big Bad Woof 4th Anniversary

Exercise Class at Trinity Church

Control Speeding on Blair?

Takoma Mural Update

Soprano Beth Rubens to Perform

Theatre Conservancy Reception

TDC Toddlers' Playgroup

Neighbors Inc. Open House

Coolidge PTSO Water Workshop

HandsOnDC At Coolidge Again

Fannie Hamilton's Garden Talk

TPBC Boy Scouts Need Leaders

Zoning Codes Being Revised

S&S License Renewal

Neighborhood Watch Report

Calendar & Takoma Libe

Takoma Rec Center & Pool Offer Wide Range of Spring Activities

Takoma Rec Center and Pool are closed April 16, D.C. Emancipation Day, and there are no public swims the weekend of April 24 to 26 due to Machine Aquatics Long Course Championships (public invited).

Other days they have a variety of offerings this spring to get us moving and/or motivated.

Yoga on Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. or Beginners' Pilates, Saturdays, 10 to 11 a.m. Half-hour swimming classes for Seniors (four levels, taught Tuesday and Thursday mornings), Adults (three levels, Tuesday and Thursday evenings), or children (Mondays and Wednes-

(Rec Center and Pool, continued on page 2)

The Newsletter is produced by Dodie Butler, dodiebutler@yahoo.com, and Katy Kendrick (crime), katyk@his.com, and circulated by volunteer distributors and block captains. Reproduction is funded by Dodie Butler, Long and Foster Real Estate, and by a grant from Safe Takoma to the Takoma D.C. Neighborhood Association. We need help with once-a-month deliveries, call Dodie Butler, 291-5338.

Join the Takoma D.C. email listserv by sending an email to TakomaDC-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Also visit

www.takomadc.info, www.TDCNA.org and SafeTakoma.org.

Takoma D.C. Neighborhood Association Update

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 28, 7:30 p.m.

TDCNA's March 24 meeting featured neighbor and Board member Ellen McBarnette, of Urban Solar Solutions, sharing information on financial incentives for reducing energy use in D.C. homes. She offered up-to-date information on the incentives in the Federal stimulus package for green home renovation. Ellen also talked about grants and programs available to offset costs of energy-efficient home improvement projects. Local and national programs can be used together in many cases. Additionally, www.dcgreenworks.org makes rain barrels available to D.C. residents, and we are also eligible for \$50 rebates for planting trees in our yards. (See [\[trees.org\]\(http://trees.org\).\) Ellen McBarnette can be reached at \[takoma101@yahoo.com\]\(mailto:takoma101@yahoo.com\).](http://casey-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Our next monthly meeting (open to everyone) is Tuesday, April 28. Members of several neighborhood initiatives will be letting us know about their projects and how we can get involved. Topics will include the Recreation Center, The Takoma Theatre and Takoma Time Bank.

Memorial Park (Piney Branch and Blair) needs a friendly mower! If you need community service hours or simply love running a mower, contact TDCNA (Simone de Lima, 386-2552). We'll provide the mower and the community service certificate, you help us keep the park looking great.

(Rec Center and Pool, continued from page 1)
days, from 4:30 p.m. Also, Sundays, 12:30 to 3 p.m., a scuba program for youth 9 to 17. Golden Olympics swimming events are at Takoma, May 4 to 8. The public swims Monday to Friday, 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mentoring activities at Takoma Rec include "Young Ladies on the Rise," Mondays and Wednesdays, 6 to 8 p.m.; "Boys to Men," Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; and "Supreme Teens," Monday and Friday, 6 to 8 p.m. Outdoors, Rec offers Street Hockey, Tee Ball, Tennis, Soccer, Flag Football, and Basketball Clinic. Information: visit the facilities or www.dpr.dc.gov, or contact Rec Center Manager Al Cook, 576-7068, al-mustafa.cook@dc.gov, or Aquatic Center Manager Sean Link 576-9285, sean.link@dc.gov.

Around The Neighborhood...

Welcome New Block Captains! Susan Pultz has volunteered to be block captain for the 800 Block of Whittier Place and Barbara McCoy will be block captain delivering newsletter to her neighbors in the 800 Block of Van Buren.

Big Bad Woof Celebrates Fourth Anniversary. Congratulations to Takoma D.C. residents Pennye Jones-Napier and Julie Paez whose business, Big Bad Woof, at 117 Carroll St., has now been selling 'essentials for the socially conscious pet,' hosting pet adoptions, and providing leadership in the Takoma business community since 2005. They are celebrating the success of their green and responsible business model by offer franchises to like-minded business persons. Contact them at inquiries@bbwoofinc.com or 291-2404. See also bigbadwood.com and bbwoofinc.com.

Seniorcise Fitness Class Continues at Trinity Episcopal Church, Piney Branch Rd. and Dahlia St. \$5 per session. Fridays, 9 to 9:45 a.m. The current series continues Friday mornings through April 17, breaks for a week, then begins again. Contact is Diane Robinson, DLR814@aol.com.

Concerned About Speeding on Blair Rd. South of Butternut? Contact Luke Turner, 257-9180 or lualan@live.com, who is working with his neighbors in the 6600 and 6700 blocks of Blair Road to petition the D.C. Department of Transportation to implement traffic-calming measures to slow down the traffic that passes their blocks on Blair, south of the Blair/4th/Cedar crossroads. The petitioners state that DDOT's Takoma Traffic Study Plan neglected speed problems in these blocks although they were covered in the original study plan. The petition is also on the agenda for ANC 4B's April 27 meeting.

Takoma Mural Project Update. Committee Chair Dan Turbitt reports that the Takoma Mural Committee met with the D.C. Arts and Humanities Commission Thursday, March 26, to present the idea of the Takoma Metro Station mural project and to ask if the Commission would fund the project. Commissioners expressed support for the project, but asked the committee members to provide additional information to help them assess the importance of the project. The Committee has complied with the request; Commissioners will vote on the measure at their monthly meeting in late April.

TDC Neighbor, Soprano Beth Rubens, to Perform in Bethesda. Whittier Street Soprano Beth Madeline Rubens and pianist Gillian Cookson will perform works by Purcell, Gershwin, Rodrigo and others, **Sunday, April 19, 5 p.m.**, at the Dennis and Phillip Ratner Museum, 10001 Old Georgetown Rd., Bethesda, Md. The suggested tax-deductible donation is \$25; all proceeds go to the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer. Space is limited. RSVP though a link at amicoartists.com, where you will also find directions to the Museum.



Dodie Butler · Realtor

Cell (202)409-4961 · Office (202)363-9700 · DodieButler@Inf.com

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D.C.'s Office of Planning Is Updating Outmoded Zoning Codes

The D.C. Office of Planning is rewriting the 60 year old zoning codes for construction throughout the city. (Zoning typically protects existing uses from negative effects of new uses, guides growth, and influences building forms.) A new website, www.dczoningupdate.org, describes the many land use issues under review and how residents can send

their comments or join working groups on specific zoning topics. Travis Parker, 741-5243 or travis.parker@dc.gov, from D.C. OP's Zoning Division spoke at two recent public meetings--ANC SMDs 4B02/02/03 on 3/31 and the ANC 4B special meeting, April 1—on the changes being proposed in zoning of residential areas.

S&S License Renewal

S&S Liquors is one of 57 liquor stores listed in a Public Notice of Renewal Applications posted April 3. Any petition to protest renewal must be delivered to ABRA by midnight May 18 (may be faxed or an emailed pdf). S&S Liquors is in Judi Jones's ANC4B07 Single Member District. She has asked for this license renewal to be on ANC 4B's April 27 meeting agenda.

Around The Neighborhood...

Takoma Theatre Conservancy Reception at WES, Monday, April 20, 7 to 9 p.m. Entertainment, refreshments and an update on plans to buy and revive the Takoma Theatre. At Washington Ethical Society, 7750 16th Street NW (just south of 16th St. and Kalmia Rd.). See takomatheatreconservancy.org, or contact TTC President Loretta Neumann, 882-9274 or lneu@rcn.com.

Takoma D.C's Toddler Playgroup has been meeting for about 2 1/2 years, writes group contact Caryn Wick, "and we always welcome new members. The children in this group are around 2 1/2 years old, give or take a few months. In cold or inclement weather we meet at one of the members' homes, in good weather we meet at a park." The group gets together every other Saturday from 10 to 11:30 am. For more information, contact Caryn at carynat25@yahoo.com.

Meet Northwest Neighbors at Neighbors Inc.'s Spring Open House, Sunday, April 26, 4 to 6 p.m. Rachel Kennedy will host a Neighbors Inc. open house, at her home, 6600 7th Street N.W. (northwest corner of 7th and Van Buren). Neighbors, Inc., was formed in 1958 to stop "block-busting" by unscrupulous real estate agents in upper Northwest D.C., retain existing residents and welcome new neighbors. As a result the neighborhoods have remained racially-integrated and NI continues to bring people of all races together for social and educational events, including open houses in members' homes. Contact: Susan.Learmonth@gmail.com or 722-1042.

Workshop on Assessing Water Quality in Your Home. Coolidge Senior High School's PTO (Parent, Teacher Student Organization) is sponsoring a free, four-part workshop on water quality issues. It will cover the source of D.C.'s water, pollutants, impacts on health, and effective use of home water filters. Mondays, April [6], 20, 27, and May 4. 6:30 to 8 p.m. (You do not have to have attended the first workshop to attend the other sessions.) Room 129. Enter from the back of the building, via Sheridan Street. Call Barbara Patterson to register, 321-6080.

HandsOnDC Returns for Workday at Coolidge SHS, Saturday, April 25, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Volunteer to help spruce up Coolidge SHS April 25. More information is available online at HandsOnDC.org. Register online or email Cherita Whiting, cherita_whiting@yahoo.com, to join a team working at Coolidge.

Takoma D.C. Master Gardener Fannie Hamilton Speaks on Organic Gardening. Shepherd Park Library, May 2, 10:45 a.m. to 12 noon. Aspen Street's Fannie Hamilton retired from Shepherd Park Library a few years ago, but returns regularly to give gardening workshops. The title of her talk on Saturday, May 2nd is "Back to the Basics: Growing Food, Growing Organically." 7420 Georgia Avenue, N.W. (between Geranium and Hemlock).

Troop Leaders Needed for Takoma Park Baptist Church Boy Scouts. After their success with the Girl Scouts, Takoma Park Baptist's Annie Rudolph is working to revitalize TPBC's Boy Scout Troop, which the church sponsored for 75 years until about six years ago. According to Boy Scouts of America, D.C., troop leaders need to be in place before a charter can be issued between the Scouts and TPBC. Contact Ms. Rudolph at EllaRuth57@aol.com or 882-9526.

Neighborhood Watch Report

Sign up for the 4th Police District's email listserv by creating an ID at yahoogroups.com and sending an email to MPD-4D-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Learn about Safe Takoma, a cross-jurisdictional crime prevention program focusing on Takoma Metro and nearby areas of D.C. and Maryland, at www.SafeTakoma.org.

Report all crimes — emergencies and non-emergencies — to the police at 911. Provide information on drug dealing or other suspicious activities to the Vice Squad, 730-0611, or email Lt. Jude Waddy, jude.waddy@dc.gov. Also notify your block captain of crimes or problems in your part of the neighborhood.

These crime reports are compiled through review of The Washington Post, the 4th District Police website, Takoma D.C. listserv and feedback from neighbors and block captains. Contact: Katy Kendrick, katyk@his.com.

Cedar Street, 200 block, Mar. 11, 12:40 a.m., theft from convenience store.

Georgia Avenue, 6500 block, Mar. 10, shoplifting. Mar. 24, 11:40 p.m., three suspects robbed a person in a parking lot at gunpoint. 7300 block, Apr. 8, 5:35 p.m., robbery (gun), Rex Cleaners. 7800 block, Mar. 23, 7:30 p.m., theft from store.

Piney Branch Road, 6800 block, Mar. 27, 10:15 p.m., burglary, two suspects gained entry into a residence after a woman knocked on the door and asked to use the phone, and then a male suspect appeared and produced a handgun.

Underwood Street, unit block (#s 0 – 99), Mar. 30, 4:30 a.m., assault (gun), a suspect shot a person after a verbal altercation; victim transported to hospital in stable condition.

Fifth Street, 6600 block, Mar. 18, 5 p.m., attempted burglary, a man tried to kick in the front door of a house while a resident was home, then ran off when the resident screamed.

Sixth Street, 6600 block, Mar. 9, 9:30 a.m., several armed suspects tried to rob a female pedestrian; she refused to comply, and they fled.

Stolen autos: 7100 block of Georgia Ave.; 200 block of Van Buren St.; unit block of Walnut St.; 6500 and 6800 blocks of Fifth St.

Thefts from auto: 6600 and 7600 blocks of Georgia Ave.; 6500 block of Piney Branch Rd; 100 block of Whittier St.

Calendar

Thursday, Apr. 16, 4th District Police Citizens Advisory Council Public Meeting and Q&A with Commander and 4D leadership. 7 p.m. 6001 Georgia Ave. Contact: James Key, 576-7236.

Thursday, Apr. 23, 7 p.m. — NOTE NEW MEETING DAY — PSA 402 (south of Aspen St.) meeting. MPD 4th District Headquarters. Speaker from D.C. Homeland Security Emergency Management Agency. Contact Officer Heather Straker, 715-7418 or heather.straker@dc.gov.

Monday, April 27, 6:30 to 9 p.m. ANC 4-B meeting. 4th Police District Headquarters, 6001 Georgia Ave. Takoma-area ANC representatives are: 4B01, Sara Green, ancsargreen@yahoo.com, 829-8802; 4B02, Faith Wheeler, fewdcc@gmail.com, 882-7565; 4B03, Monique-Michelle Smith, moniquemichellesmith@gmail.com, 882-8407, and 4B-07 Judi Jones, cariblamond@yahoo.com, 291-5327.

Tuesday, Apr. 28, TDCNA meets,

see story, page 2, and more information at www.TDCNA.org.

Sunday, May 3, 1 to 5 p.m. 36th Annual Historic Takoma House and Garden Tour. Tickets are \$15 if purchased before May 3 at: The Culture Shop, Now and Then, Mark's Kitchen or the Takoma Park Coop; \$20 the day of the tour, or purchased on the website, historictakoma.org.

Thursday, May 14, 7 p.m. PSA 401 (north of Aspen St.) meeting. MPD 4th District Police Headquarters, 6001 Georgia Ave. Contact Lt. Ronald Thomas, 730-0603 or ronald.thomas@dc.gov.

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And, at Takoma Branch Library, 5th and Cedar streets, Helen Hiltz, branch manager, wants to remind neighbors that the library has reopened, and "if you haven't yet done so, please stop by and check us out. Laptop users will be very pleased to learn that our tables now come equipped with electrical plugs for laptops and don't forget we still

offer free WiFi." Call the branch at 576-7252. Send emails to the branch manager, Helen.Hiltz@dc.gov; children's librarian, Rachel.Meit@dc.gov, or young adult librarian, Heather.Petsche@dc.gov.

Wednesdays. 10:30 a.m. PreSchool Storytime, children ages three to five with adult.

Tuesday, Apr. 14, 7 p.m. Pajama Storytime, babies and children up to six years old, with adult. Stories, songs and snacks. Kids are welcome to wear their pj's.

Wednesday, Apr. 15, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Resume and Job Searching Workshop. For teens and adults. Presented by Librarian Jeanne Lauber. Please call to register.

Thursday, Apr. 23, 7 p.m. Poetry Slam. Ages 14 and up. Perform your poetry or someone else's. Judges and prizes.

Saturday, Apr. 25, 2 p.m. Saturday Crafternoon. Crafts for children ages four and up, with adult.