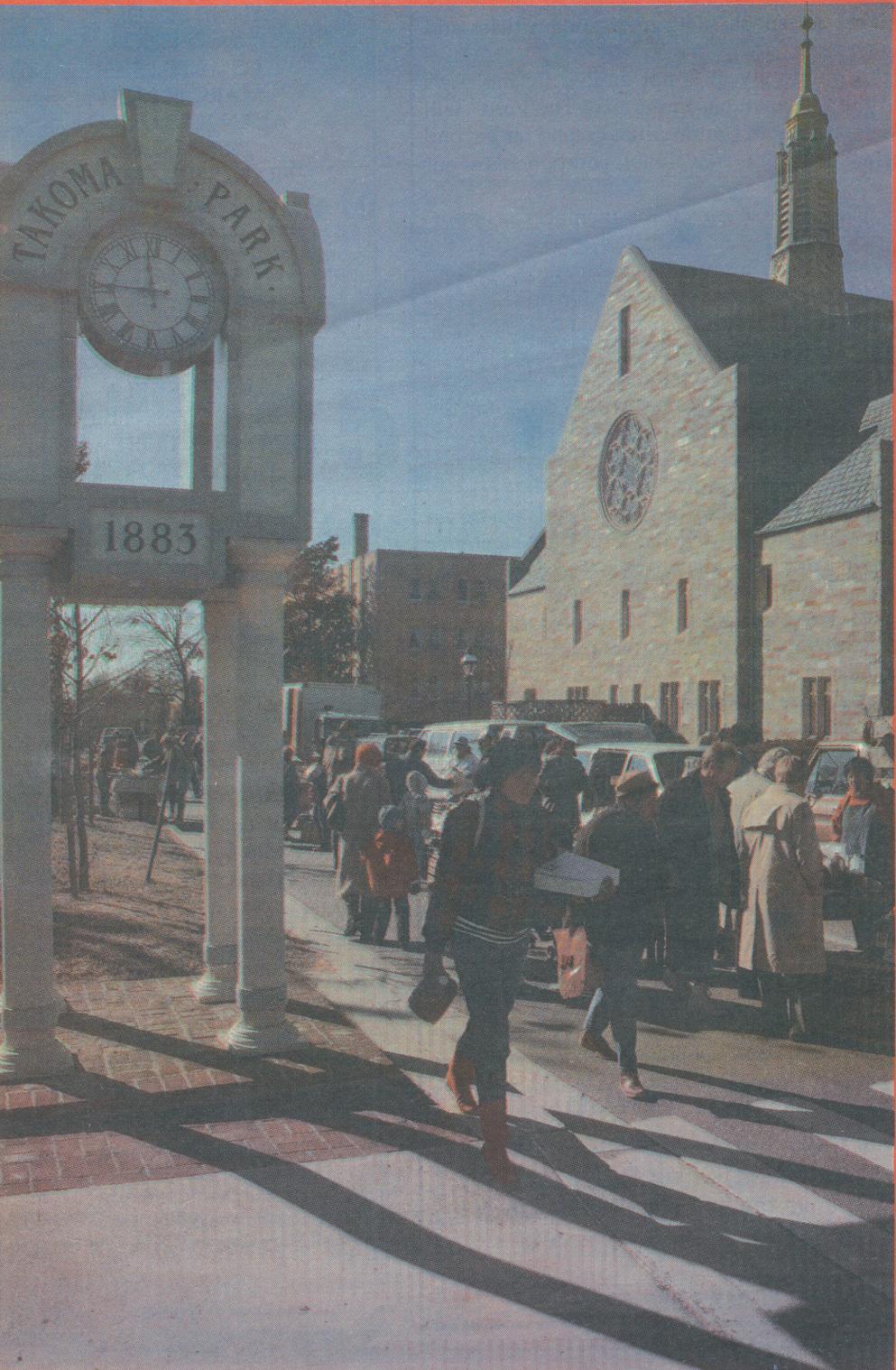


**It was 20 years ago today... —**

# The Takoma Voice

A COMMUNITY JOURNAL & RESOURCE GUIDE • DECEMBER 87



- Silver Spring Development
- Who Runs City Hall?
- Junction Nears Completion
- Is the Metro Safe?
- New Theater Company
- Community Profiles
- School News
- Takoma Resources

**20 years ago**

# The Takoma Voice

## FROM THE EDITORS

**Our first editorial**

You can leaf through the entire first issue of the Voice online at [www.takoma.com](http://www.takoma.com)

Now 40,000 through the Takoma Voice and Silver Spring Voice

Now 6907 Laurel Avenue, Takoma Park MD 20912

Welcome to the *Takoma Voice*. We've taken on the challenge to provide Takoma Park with an independent free press. We have a vision of what that means. First, we will cover the news in the city whether it is about azalea planting or traffic plans. The *Voice* will take an active approach to news gathering. We will make the phone calls, set up the interviews, recruit the writers, sift through the details. Whatever it takes to produce a vibrant, readable newspaper with interesting articles and useful information worth saving all month.

The focus of the paper is the Takoma Park Community. It is not limited by the city's boundaries. What is Takoma DC? A severed limb? A separate community? The *Voice* will cross the line. The cultural bonds of the Hispanic and Asian communities extend far beyond Takoma Park's borders. Their perspectives and achievements are valuable components of our local identity.

The *Voice* will strengthen our community by giving each of our various members an opportunity to share information and points of view. Seventh-day Adventists once comprised the majority of the city government. What is their role in the community now? Have the current baby boomer's affected local lifestyles, the local economy, the city budget? What do they want and need from their city? According to the 1980 census, Takoma Park has a 42% minority population. This is a major increase from the small but stable group of black freemen whose ties to Takoma Park predate B. F. Gilbert's Victorian suburb by several decades.

We will add to the commercial surge which must come to Takoma Park in order for the revitalization to make sense. We are a tool for local businesses to reach their clientele. Individuals will be able to buy and sell services, merchandise, or real estate. Even lost dogs, free refrigerators and teenaged babysitters will have a rosier future.

Like other businesses in Takoma Park, we depend on you to keep us going. This is where we differ from the *Takoma Park Newsletter*, the monthly published by the City. The *Newsletter* is funded by all of us through our taxes, and is both a public forum and vehicle for news from City Hall. We think there is a need to keep the press and the state separate.

We like to think that small business has a special role to play in society. The process of starting and "growing" a business is enriching for everyone involved. We know that this business will grow to the extent that it is supported by you, the community.

It's easy in this day and age to lose track of what community means. How do you get it? Can you buy it? Does the government give it to you? Can you tune it in on a TV or radio channel? Perhaps a community is that group of people closest to us beyond our family and circle of friends.

What makes it easy to lose track is that long-distance communication has become so accessible. The *Voice* represents something different. When you pick up this paper every month, remember that you could visit anyone mentioned in the pages without the use of a car, phone, television, radio, computer, or VCR. We are here. That's what makes the difference. We are the *Takoma Voice*.

**Lou deSabla**

**Dan Robinson**

**Mary Chor**

### SUBSCRIBE TO THE TAKOMA VOICE

We circulate 20,000 copies of the Voice through free home delivery in the city of Takoma Park and merchant locations in East Silver Spring, Langley Park and Takoma, DC. If you would like to have the Voice mailed to you for a year please send your name, address and \$15 to:

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6926 WILLOW ST., NW, TAKOMA, DC 20012 • 882-5271

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**COVER PHOTO**  
The Farmer's Market ended last weekend but Takoma Kitchen's fresh baked goods will still be on available each Sunday from 11-3 on the porch of Takoma Traders at 7063 Carroll Ave.  
Photo by Lou deSabla.

### DECEMBER 1987

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Takoma Communications

## WHAT'S INSIDE



### Silver Spring Development

A Step Forward or a leap into the unknown?

MARC ELRICH

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### All's Well at the Junction

The Takoma Junction is finally getting a much needed facelift. The Post Office isn't moving there but all else looks great.

DANIEL NEAL

11

### Walking Distance to Metro

We have convenient access to Metro, but there are risks. Are you prepared?

MARY CHOR

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### Who Runs City Hall?

The rat trap problem is one of the examples that Lynne uses to explain "How an Octopus Directs Traffic."



**THEN:** "It depends upon the legal nature of our particular form of government... Mayor has no vote... a role that is neither fish nor fowl... both mayor and city administration have general admin supervision..." It's time the City reviewed and cleaned up its Charter...and clarify lines of responsibility...at least we would now who to hold accountable."

**SINCE:** A new Charter in 1991 gave the mayor a vote, trimmed away one councilmember (to retain odd number of votes), and installed a City Manager. Is there any less confusion today about who is accountable?

25

### The Colby-Cherry Area

Pre-dates Gilbert's Takoma Park

TED ROORDA

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### Spotlight

New Theater Group in Takoma  
ALAN KAZANJIAN

**THEN:** "Premiere Arts Company has five year plan to become the resident drama company at the Historic Takoma Theater."

**SINCE:** An ever-changing cast of characters has tried to revitalize the theater and save it from destruction. Currently, the Takoma Theatre Conservancy has a grant to prepare a feasibility study to determine potential users and audiences.

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### Community Profiles

Washington Adventist Hospital  
RUSSELL ARGENT

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### Easy Gardening

Joyful Decorations for the Holidays  
FRANCES MUSTARD WARD

Yes, gardening was the original column, although Frances Mustard Ward gave way to Pat Howell (still writing), as well as others like Susan Harris who give advice on how to keep our yards healthy and happy.

Some of our original advertisers  
**Where are they now?**

A Different Kind of Kids' Store  
Now & Then  
6939 Laurel Avenue, Takoma Park, MD  
3 Blocks from Takoma Metro  
301-270-2210

Cotton Basics Sizes 2-6  
Caps Gloves Turtlenecks Tights  
Non-Skid Socks Acid-Washed Jeans  
Thermal Tops & Bottoms

Now and Then has expanded over the past 20 years and changed its address to 6927 Laurel Avenue. In 2007, Voice readers voted Now & Then the "best place to find exactly what you didn't know you were looking for."

• PYRAMID ATLANTIC •  
• A UNIQUE CENTER FOR THE ART OF PAPER, PRINT AND BOOKS •  
▶ Fully equipped for Artist Book and Fine Edition printing,  
our new facility offers offset, letterpress, intaglio, and hand papermaking.  
6925 Willow Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20012  
(202) 291-0088  
▶ Please write or call for more information.

After a move to College Park in the 1990s, Pyramid Atlantic returned to Silver Spring (8230 Georgia Avenue), and continues to be a strong resource for artists working with

### MIDDLE EAST MARKET

7006 Carroll Avenue • 270-5154

Middle Eastern and International Specialties available year round.

#### December Specials:

French Roast Coffee.....\$3.95/lb.  
(whole or ground)

California Pistachio Nuts.....\$3.95/lb.  
(roasted & salted) \$16.50/5 lb. bag

Walnuts.....\$2.95/lb  
\$12.50/5 lb. bag

Bulghar (cracked wheat).....50¢/lb.

In 1987 Middle East was retail only. It has since opened a restaurant side and offers belly-dancing on Saturday nights.

Plus a few more:

Arise, Deephaven Landscaping, House of Musical Traditions, Long & Foster, Takoma Kitchens, and York Castle.

We appreciate their continued support and the support of new businesses.

In addition, we would be remiss not to mention those businesses that are no longer with us:

Jack Allen Carpet, Capital Tees, Kaz, Paul Plant's Plants, The Takoma Cafe, Takoma Traders, Taliano's,