

For Immediate Release

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Lease Signed for Takoma Park Ace Hardware in Maryland

New hardware store in Takoma Park, Maryland, will bring purchasing power to residents in need of basic supplies for home-maintenance and renovation projects.

Takoma Park, MD, 11/19/09 – Area hardware-store owners Gina Schaefer and Marc Friedman are bringing their brand of friendly, home-maintenance shops to Old Town Takoma Park. The couple signed the lease for a 7,500-square-foot space at 7001 Carroll Avenue last week, and is looking forward to a spring 2010 opening of Takoma Park Ace Hardware.

“Marc and I love the small-town feel of walking down Carroll Street,” Schaefer said of the town’s main drag. “We think our business will fit in with the locally owned retail establishments that are already there.” And while the husband-and-wife team has generally focused their sites on urban neighborhoods, the location outside of a city center is a promising new venture with the number of homeowners working on renovation projects and caring for larger, suburban yards.

Takoma Park Ace Hardware is the couple’s seventh store in seven years. It follows in the footsteps of its six predecessors by offering a diverse product line of more than 25,000 items as well as specialty services, the combination of which will allow residents to make practical purchases at a neighborhood store they can walk to instead of having to drive miles to the closest big-box store. (However, there will be plenty of free parking in the lot behind the store.) “We think the density is high enough that people won’t need to leave Takoma Park to shop for basic necessities,” Schaefer said.

In addition to an enhanced lawn-and-garden section, Takoma Park Ace will feature traditional home-maintenance departments (paint, cleaning, tools, plumbing, hardware, outdoor, house wares and novelty gifts), and offer a variety of services including key cutting, glass and wood cutting, tool rentals, delivery, paint matching, lock re-keying, and knife and scissor sharpening.

Schaefer and Friedman plan to employ a 15-person team and keep the store open seven days a week. Proposed hours are Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

About Takoma Park Ace Hardware

Takoma Park Ace Hardware and its sister stores in Washington, DC (Logan, Glover Park, Tenleytown Ace and 5th Street Ace) and Baltimore, MD (Waverly Ace and Federal Hill Ace), are owned by Gina Schaefer and Marc Friedman. The husband-and-wife team invested in the Ace Hardware co-operative in 2003 with their first venture Logan Hardware, and since then has anchored several communities with their local, down-home stores that provide basic home-maintenance products and knowledgeable service.