

Takoma Park conference builds on a green theme

■ Event focuses on energy-saving methods, environmentally friendly construction

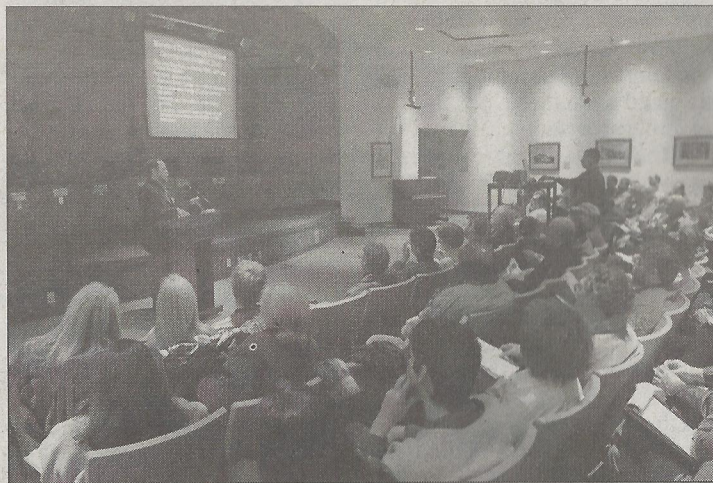
BY RACHEL MAURO
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Takoma Park's first Green Building conference, held Sunday, featured one major theme — living in environmentally friendly communities is possible and can be achieved by simple renovations to your home.

"We're bringing together not just what the city is doing but also businesses in the area, so you can get to know what resources are out there and who to call," said Catherine Tunis of the city's Committee on the Environment. The Green Conference was co-sponsored by the Takoma Park department of Housing and Community Development and held at the Takoma Park Community Center. More than 150 people attended.

A number of experts spoke on topics ranging from design and construction, energy use, healthy homes and reducing negative impact to the environment.

Keith Ware of the Washington



J. ADAM FENSTER/THE GAZETTE

John Spears, keynote speaker at Sunday's Green Building Conference, presents a slideshow on environmentally friendly building techniques in the City Council chamber at the Takoma Park Community Center.

"... There are expensive, high-tech ways to reduce energy but there are also simple low-tech solutions."

Frank Gallant of Takoma Park

