

News Review

Volume 60, Number 18

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

Thursday, April 3, 1997

Come On In!

Our office is located in the Greenbelt Community Center. Use the entrance facing the Municipal Building, go up the inside steps to the first door on the left (Room 100).

Gunman Holds Two Hostages in Tense 6-Hour Standoff

by Dorothy Sucher

Greenbelt was the scene this week of a tense standoff between police and an armed fugitive holding two hostages, who had barricaded himself inside a GHI house.

Richard Lamar Gordon, 26, of Temple Hills, surrendered to police on Monday, March 31, at 7:14 p.m., emerging from a house in 10 Court of Southway where he had held police at bay for six hours. He was charged with armed robbery, use of a handgun during the commission of a crime, burglary, and false imprisonment. Police said the hostages, a woman in her forties and her 17-year-old son, who resided in the house, were unharmed. The names of the hostages were not disclosed.

Police and witnesses said the incident began just before 1 p.m., when a man armed with a 9mm

semiautomatic handgun held up the Citgo station on Southway, near Greenbelt Road. Citgo owner Greg Kulick stated in a television interview that the thief robbed the gas station and several customers who were inside at the time. He also robbed customers as they entered the station, taking their wallets at gunpoint.

Thief Panics

The gunman left the Citgo station, but then apparently panicked when he caught sight of a Greenbelt Code Enforcement Officer who happened to be ticketing cars nearby. The suspect ran off through the woods in the direction of 10 Court and entered one of the houses. "He just opened that screen door and walked in," said Kulick, who could see him. "It was probably open."

By this time a number of Greenbelt police cars had arrived

on the scene. They closed Southway and other roads and rerouted traffic as the suspect barricaded himself in the house, refusing to emerge or release the residents. Meanwhile some nearby residents of 10 Court were evacuated, while others remained locked in their homes, afraid to come out.

Swat Team Called

The Prince George's County Police Emergency Services, or "Swat" Team, was called in and arrived with a full complement of personnel and equipment, including an armored tank. The Greenbelt Police Department does not have this type of unit. Greenbelt's Tactical Team, according to Greenbelt police spokesman George Mathews, deals with entries in search-and-seizure situations but not with barricades and hostage-taking.

See GUNMAN, page 8

Two Hostages Recount Their Ordeal and Its Aftermath

by Dorothy Sucher

On Tuesday morning a cold wind was blowing through 10 Court of Southway, the GHI court that lies closest to the Citgo station where an armed robber had suddenly appeared the day before, and held up the place before fleeing through the woods to this court, where he took refuge in a house whose number won't be mentioned in this article. When he barged into the house through an unlocked door, clutching a 9 mm semiautomatic handgun, he apologized to the two people he found there, a fortyish woman and her son, a high school senior, and asked if he could sit down.

He didn't let them leave, and therefore these two ordinary people became transformed immediately into "the hostages" — known as such to thousands of TV watchers and radio listeners in the Washington area, and to all the motorists whose cars had to be rerouted, not to mention the Greenbelt policemen who were soon ringing the court, and the County Swat Team pulling their armored tank into position in the small yard and shooting out the hostages' upstairs windows with rubber bullets so that tear gas, if that became necessary, could be lobbed inside.

That had been Monday, though, and this was Tuesday. By Tuesday it was all over. On Tuesday the hostages stood forlornly in their torn-up yard, the woman pale and shivering in the cold and pulling a thin sweater around her, while her son threw worried looks at her, and a neighbor tried to comfort them. A couple of GHI maintenance men were also there, surveying the damage, and Buffy, the family dog, ran up and down, wagging her tail.

Both of the hostages — whose names won't be mentioned in this article either, because of the woman's repeated and fearful requests — were angry. Not at the man who had held them prisoner, a 26-year-old black man from Temple Hills named Richard Gordon, but at the police. The hostages just couldn't stop talking about the things the police had done wrong — at least as they saw it, at least at that moment, in the immediate aftermath of the crisis.

And that seemed odd. The police had rescued them, hadn't they? No one had lost his or her life, or even been hurt—physically, at least.

"I'm so stressed!" the woman
See HOSTAGES, page 5



Prince George's County SWAT Team members accompany armored personnel carrier as it rolls up Southway toward 10 Court during hostage standoff.

- photo by Prospero Zevallos

Two Crises Beleaguer 10 Southway

by Dorothy Sucher

Two life-and-death dramas — not just one — were played out in the 10 Court of Southway on the afternoon of Monday, March 31.

Right next door to the house where Richard Gordon barricaded himself with two hostages, Nizar Sleem lay on his deathbed. His wife, Mona, was at his side, as were his daughter, son-in-law, and two grandchildren.

According to neighbors, Sleem had been battling cancer for more than a year and had recently come home from the hospital after doctors had said there was nothing more they could do for him. Since then, a stream of relatives and friends had passed through the row house in 10 Court. Night and day, people had come to say their goodbyes.

The neighbors, of course, were aware of what was going on. Not that they knew the Sleems all that well. "Maybe they were originally Jordanian," said one. "Maybe Syrian. I'm not sure. But Nizar was a sweet, sweet man."

On Monday, it was plain the end could not be far off. To the people in the Sleem house, it must have seemed that the man on the bed was the center of the world, an intensely personal world of grief, circumscribed by the walls of the house.

Until, that is, another world crashed in — a world of holdups and gunmen, of Swat Teams and television cameras. In this world, black-clad men with assault rifles shot out the windows of the house next door, where a desperate fugitive had barricaded himself with two hostages, people the Sleems knew. In this world, armored tanks flattened the fences of neighbors and lumbered across their flowerbeds.

Suddenly policemen were hammering at the Sleems' door. Everyone would have to be evacuated. The situation was dangerous, it was critical, there was no time for discussion.

But a man lay dying and could not be moved. A wife sat by his deathbed and refused to leave.

A compromise was reached.

Two medics and a Swat Team member would stay with Mr. and Mrs. Sleem, and the daughter and son-in-law and their two young children would go with the police. A police escort brought the family group to the nearby Citgo station where, shortly before 1 o'clock, the whole drama had started when an armed robber had held up the station and its customers.

Now all was quiet there except for the ringing of the telephone.

Time passed, while service station employees who had known Nizar Sleem did their best to entertain his grandchildren. Back in 10 Court, negotiations went on and on between the police and the fugitive, while the telephone at Citgo kept ringing so that well-wishers from the community could make sure that the people who changed their oil and fixed their cars and sold them snacks were still okay.

It wasn't until after 5 p.m., with the hostage situation seemingly at a standstill, that a telephone call came for the Sleems. Nizar Sleem had passed away.

Al Herling, Arts Friend, Honored with a Sculpture

by Dorothy Sucher

Greenbelt's Al Herling has stepped down from the Board of the Prince George's Arts Council (PGAC), becoming its first Board Member Emeritus. To mark the occasion, the PGAC commissioned Takoma Park artist M. C. Carolyn to create a commemorative functional sculpture in his honor.

The piece, called "Al's Place," is a large multi-surface stone bench created from black steatite, and is constructed primarily of two massive stones. The 4'6" high by 6' long bench incorporates a musical theme relating to Herling's lifetime commitment to the arts and his love of music.

Artist in the Schools

The sculptor, M. C. Carolyn, is an expert in the art of ancient civilizations who has travelled the world studying old temples and the different ways in which stone has been used. She teaches in the county school system as part of PGAC's "Artists in the Schools" program.

Recently she wanted to do a piece she could leave in the county "as a thank-you," said Albert Maitland, PGAC's executive director. "I said, 'We have this wonderful man who's been my friend and a friend of Greenbelt and the arts in the county. Maybe you could make a piece in his honor, since he's go-

ing off the board."

The resulting piece has now been placed on indefinite exhibit in front of the United States Federal Courthouse, District of Maryland, on Cherrywood Lane in Greenbelt, and will be formally dedicated in April. Maitland explained that the location was chosen in conjunction with a 2-year old program of the PGAC in which it places exhibits of the work of county artists and arts organizations at the courthouse. The sculpture was funded by a grant from the Arts Council.

Man of Integrity

Maitland, a musician, said he
See HERLING, page 5

What Goes On

Mon., April 7, 7 p.m. Recycling Advisory Committee, Community Center

7:30 p.m. Council Budget Worksession on CARES, Miscellaneous, other funds. Municipal Building

Wed., April 9, 8 p.m. Council Budget Worksession on Public Safety. Municipal Building

Thurs., April 10, 7:30 p.m. GHI Board Meeting, Hamilton Pl.

Sat., April 12, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Community Teenage Job Fair, Springhill Lake Recreation Center

Letters to the Editor

GHI Clarification

Clarification is needed to the story on GHI's March 20 Board meeting, which included the potentially misleading headline "GHI Board Reduces Fees...." The action taken by the Board was, in fact, a formal restatement of GHI's longstanding policy as a cooperative and a not-for-profit corporation, namely to benefit members with any surplus of reserves over expenses. (We are told that the IRS needs such a formal statement to protect our Federal tax-exempt status.) The motion did not specify the exact way in which members will be benefitted, as this has yet to be discussed. We won't know the precise sum involved until completion of the audit.

In recent years, surplus funds generally have been applied to the Replacement Reserves Fund or expended on needed projects such as parking lot resurfacing or landscape improvements. Consideration of exactly how to use the 1996 surplus to benefit our members will be addressed on an agenda later this spring. I encourage any interested members to attend.

Alan Turnbull, President
Greenbelt Homes, Inc.

Never Heard Of?

The March 27 News Review tells us that some startling statements were allegedly made at City Council when the Greenbelt police union asked for various benefits for the city police active and retired employees. The reported statement, as reported, which most amazed me was allegedly one by Councilmember Rodney Roberts, to the effect that he "never heard of" any private company or other jurisdiction (other than Greenbelt City) paying for health insurance costs for retired employees. This was in reaction to the cops' union request for city contributions to the cost of health insurance for retired city police, according to the news story.

Mayor Bram was reported to have commented that the police requested better benefits than the federal government grants; it is not clear from the story whether she was talking about the totality of the requests or just about the request for city payment of part of retirees' health insurance.

I am amazed. It was hitherto unheard of that anyone would say it is unheard of for employers (governmental or private) to pay part or all of the health insurance costs of their retired employees and their spouses (and often of their other family dependents up to certain ages).

The U.S. Government and the District of Columbia governments do pay — and have for years paid — part of the health insurance premiums of both actively-employed and retired employees and their eligible dependents.

I am covered (and my wife is also) under the group health insurance plan of my former employer, as are the other retirees from that private employer

and the actively working people there too, as are hundreds of thousands of other active and retired employees (and dependents) of many, many other private employers, mostly by union-negotiated plans (as was mine); and many are decades old. My plan and many others are entirely paid for by the employer (what is called "non-contributory plans").

The immediate issue should be, what can the city taxpayers afford, should it be just for the police or for all the city's employees (active and retirees), what kind of plan, who pays how much, what are the eligibility requirements (length of service, minimum age of retirement, etc.). Health insurance is costly; if something is agreed to, other requests may have to be shaved back or denied now.

Because health-care costs are huge and growing, and unmanageable by individuals and families alone, and many millions are uninsured or inadequately covered, and for-profit companies and overpaid executives of HMOs and other insurers fatten at consumers' cost, we need instead to create an American form of what Canada and many other nations have — a national, universal-coverage, comprehensive-benefit, cradle-to-grave, single-payer plan, such as would be provided by HR 1200, Rep. McDermott's (D-Wash.) and many co-sponsors', reintroduced in Congress recently. Among other virtues, it would relieve the City of Greenbelt, and other local jurisdictions, of that responsibility and the Greenbelt councilmembers of having to deal with what is incredibly an unheard-of (to them?) issue.

Mat Amberg

Fantastic Place

Hi - just wanted to say thank you for the articles on the Patuxent Research Refuge located on Powder Mill Road/Rt. 198. I couldn't believe how fantastic this place is, oh so close. Greenbelters take note. Go visit? You will be pleasantly surprised.

Edie Wright



Need Your Support

Dear Citizens and Business Owners of Greenbelt:

It is that time again to ask for your support during our Annual Fund Drive for 1997. We very much appreciate your support during the previous fund drives.

Due to your generous donations last year, we were able to make many improvements to our fire and rescue equipment, as well as improvements to the fire station. Recently, we upgraded our computer system and are anticipating several other projects during the year.

As in the past, I strongly emphasize that you should not accept any solicitations over the phone from persons identifying themselves as members or representatives of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc. This department only asks for donations through the mail.

As always, we are looking for dependable people interested in becoming members. We accept applications from the age of 13 years to become Junior Associates, 16 years and above to become Fire/EMS members. For more information call us at 301-345-7000.

Again, thank you for your past and continued support.

Jay A. Remenick
President
Greenbelt Volunteer Fire
Department and Rescue
Squad, Inc.

More on Spraying

As reported in the March 6 edition of the Greenbelt News Review, the Maryland State Department of Agriculture is planning on spraying the areas around Greenbelt Lake, St. Hugh's, all GHI residences below Eastway, and Lakeside Drive in late April or early May to control gypsy moths. The pesticide the state is planning on using is Dimilin.

The state of Maryland intended to notify all property owners in the spray area in late February of an opportunity to discuss concerns at a public meeting held March 19. Due to the fact the state used property tax rolls to identify property owners, individual GHI residents were not notified, and the state is working on getting notices out to GHI members in the spray area.

There is apparently some controversy about the effects on human health of the pesticide Dimilin. Flyers which I found on the community bulletin board in the Co-op grocery store

present details and list organizations concerned about pesticide use. The state of Maryland confirmed some of the information in the flyer, which lists an alternative pesticide used to control gypsy moths called B.t., and that some states (e.g., New Jersey) and localities (Takoma Park, Alexandria) do not allow use of Dimilin in residential areas, and instead use B.t. The state said that B.t. is more expensive and tricky to use because of its short half-life (48 hours instead of two to three months for Dimilin).

Persons concerned about the upcoming spraying of Dimilin and with time to pursue the matter further may want to try to get information for themselves. Robert Tichenor is Chief, Forest Pest Management, Maryland Dept. of Agriculture (1-410-841-5922). The flyer lists Environmental Action Fund (202-745-4870), Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides (1-503-344-5044), National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides (202-543-5450), Rachel Carson Council (301-652-1877). The cities of Takoma Park and Alexandria could also be useful resources and perhaps could explain their decisions not to use Dimilin in residential areas. I thought Greenbelt residents might want to be informed of the above information I have discovered prior to the spraying, and that there is an alternative to Dimilin known as B.t. which some believe is safer for human health.

Anne Manley, GHI member

Spring Toastmasters Speechcraft Program

Greenbelt Toastmasters continue the Spring Speaker's Speechcraft program at 7 p.m. on April 8. People who wish to improve their public speaking skills are urged to participate in the program. Meetings are free, open to the public, and are held at the Greenbelt Library. For more information call David Weatherford at 301-474-0417.

Brutal Action

Mid morning on Tuesday, March 18, I was walking down a path from the picnic area at Greenbelt Lake. As I approached the main trail near the boathouse, I saw four teenagers, three boys and a girl, herding two of the white ducks. They had surrounded the ducks and were clubbing them by the time I had them in full view. With the ducks lying motionless on the ground, I headed for the Greenbelt Police station to report the incident.

At that time and since, I have reflected upon the senseless and brutal action I witnessed. What could motivate such behavior? I have no answer.

Why didn't I intervene? I decided that it was wiser for me to seek the police as I was outnumbered, had nothing with which to defend myself, and am in my late sixties.

Senseless acts have been around throughout history, but it seems that proportionately they are increasing. Unfortunately it appears that much of the increase in shocking and senseless behavior is a product of youthful individuals and groups.

Name Withheld

Hard of Hearing Meeting April 10

The next meeting of the Prince George's County Chapter of Self-Help for the Hard of Hearing will be held on Thursday, April 10, 2 - 4 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center.

For all who have a hearing aid in the drawer or are frustrated by the inability to use one, a short film by C. Everett Koop, M.D., Getting the Most Out of Your Hearing Aid, will be shown. A hearing professional will be present to answer questions.

For further information call 301-474-0345 or 301-262-8174.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-1887
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BUSINESS MANAGER: Mary Halford; Core of Greenbelt Circulation: David Stein, 899-4800 (Linda); Springhill Lake Circulation: Karim Fadil, 441-9120.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Diane Oberg, president; James Giese, vice president; Virginia Beauchamp, treasurer; Bernina McGee, secretary; and Barbara Likowski.

DEADLINES: Display Ads—10 p.m. Monday; Letters, articles and other ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center 15 Crescent Road during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$32/year.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., 8 - 10 p.m.; Tuesday 8-10 p.m.
Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.



We Are Looking For A Few Good People

Are you one of those good people whom we are seeking? Are you willing to give your time to run GHI? Are you willing to run for a position on the Board of Directors, the Audit Committee or the Nominations and Election Committee? If so, please contact Julia Eichhorst—345-5508, Shelia Alpers—345-8265, Charles Braun—441-8653, Judy Goldstein—474-9203, Robert Snyder—474-0403 for a consent form or further information.

Active participation of GHI members is vital for a healthy cooperative.

Golden Age Club

by Dolores Capotosto
Between the crazy weather and the Citgo service station robbery and hostage situation, Greenbelters could look on April Fool's Day as rather sane and quiet in contrast.

The next meeting of the Golden Age Club will be held on Wednesday, April 9, at 11 a.m., in the Multi-purpose Room of the Greenbelt Community Center. The featured speaker will be our own Jim Maher, who will choose an interesting topic to discuss.

Time grows short to reserve your place at the Golden Age club's annual luncheon, scheduled to be held on Friday, April 18, at E.J.'s Landing Restaurant. See Phyllis Budin at the meeting. This is one of the nicest events of the year. Don't miss it! Thanks are due to Phyllis for all her hard work in organizing this activity.

After all the discussion at the last business meeting about the donation of books to the local school libraries, it turned out to be an easy task—so reports Mary Gardner. Other Greenbelters are urged to join in this worthwhile Buy-a-Book program.

A big thank you goes to the Co-op pharmacist Sajida Oayumi for her wonderful presentation at the March 26 meeting. After an interesting and informative talk, she answered numerous questions and handed out samples and information flyers.

This month's Golden Age trip is the "Baltimore Overview" with lunch at Hausner's Restaurant included in the fee. There is still space available for the Thursday, April 24, trip, so sign up at the meeting.

There are some nice times ahead for Golden Agers this spring. Come out and enjoy the fun and fellowship.

NARFE to Meet

The National Association of Retired Employees (NARFE) will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 9, at noon at the Greenbelt Library.

The speaker will be Dean Prager of Care, Inc. who will speak on Long Term Health Care.

At the Library

Poetry Plus on Saturday, April 5, at 10:30 a.m. will feature selections from Philip Larkin. The session will be led by Patricia French from the University of Maryland.

P.J. Storytime for ages 4 - 6 will be held on Wednesday, April 9, at 7 p.m.

On Thursday, April 10, Drop-In Storytime for ages 3 - 5 will be held at 10:15 a.m.

Tickly Toddle Storytime for 2 year olds and a parent or care giver will follow at 11:15 a.m.

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE
474-9744

WEEK OF APRIL 4
All Seats \$5.00

Oscar Winner
"SLING BLADE" (R)

Fri & Sat:
(4:40 All Seats \$3.00)
7:20 9:50
Sun:
(4:40 All Seats \$3.00)
7:20
Mon:
(All Seats \$3.00)
7:30
Tues, Wed & Thur
7:30

Community Events

GHI to Have Plant, Grass Seed Sale

The Architecture and Environment Committee will conduct its Spring plant and grass seed sale on the following Saturdays: April 12, 19, and 26 from 9 a.m. to noon at Hamilton Place.

Bill Phelan, City of Greenbelt horticulturist, has selected a variety of plants for use in both shade and sun gardens including hostas, butterfly bushes, foam flowers, Japanese anemones, clematis, turtleheads, tall garden phlox, and daylilies. The plants, which are reasonably priced, will be available until sold out. Come early for the best selection.

Our Neighbors

by Linda Savaryn
301-474-5285

Condolences to Albert Bistany and family upon the death of his wife, Aida, and their mother and grandmother.

Our sympathy to Mona Sleem and family on the death of her husband, their father and grandfather, Nizar Sleem.

Kara Yates, a fourth grader at Greenbelt Elementary School, was the winner in the school's "Unsung Heroine" contest, part of the school system's essay contest. The children were to write about someone who made a difference in their lives. Kara selected her mom whom she said has a powerful impact on her life. Kara participated in a recent county ceremony.

Congratulations to Kara and her mom.

On Thursday, March 27, twenty neighbors, Club members and some of the family of Gertrude Law helped her celebrate her eighty-first birthday at the Bowie Jaspers.

Her second son, Thomas (from Smithsburg, MD) was there to tell everyone about his performance at Carnegie Hall in New York City on February 8 with the Civil War group, the Confederate States of America Fife & Drum Corps. Both sons are Civil War Buffs and into all the East Coast enactments.

Gertrude ended up a good week by winning a Univ. of Maryland Baseball tee shirt when on the third throw her ball went into the basket during a baseball throwing contest held at Safeway.

Spotlight on the Arts

by Konrad Herling

"You, the Night and the Music Opens This Weekend," a musical revue of Broadway showtunes from the 1930's to the present, opens this weekend, Friday and Saturday evenings, April 4 and 5 and runs three weekends, concluding Saturday, April 19. Greenbelters are welcome to take in tunes which range from Gershwin to lesser known composers as Rupert Holmes, from Broadway hits "Oliver" to "Mame." Director Ron Wilder and musical director Max Fancher have etched together a program of pieces you've heard before and some you haven't. As director Wilder puts it, "This venue of the revue gives the performers a chance to perform songs they might not otherwise get a chance to do." Translating the creative juices of Wilder and Fancher into a cohesive collage are vocalists Erica Drezek, Nina Desmond, Liz Hester, John Cleland, Lois Cleland, Richard Richardson and Linda Smith. The show's producer is Gene Duarte, lighting designer is Mary Lou Fisher and stage managers are Marie Bowles and Laura Ann Fisher. Reservations can be made by calling the Arts Center at 301-441-8770.

Fun at Goddard

Model rocket enthusiasts are invited to meet at the Goddard Visitor Center on the first and third Sundays of each month to see rockets launched. This Sunday, April 6, the launch is at 1 p.m. Visitors can bring rockets or simply watch the fun.

The activity is appropriate for all ages and all launches are monitored for safety. In case of inclement weather, call 301-286-8981 for information.

Lions Announce White Cane Days

Members of the Greenbelt Lions Club will be soliciting White Cane contributions at the various Greenbelt grocery stores (Co-op, Safeway and Giant) and at NationsBank between 6 and 9 p.m. on April 10; from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on April 11 and from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. on April 12 and 18.

The Lions solicit contributions twice a year, usually in the spring and fall. All contributions are used to assist those with sight problems, to support youth programs and to help community residents in need. Other uses are to support Lions International and District programs relating to hearing impairment, drug prevention and diabetes research.

The Greenbelt Lions are grateful to Greenbelters for their past generosity and hope they will continue their warm spirit of giving during this spring's White Cane campaign.

Photo Club Meets

The Greenbelt Photo Club will next meet on Tuesday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center. Paul Bowling, the new Darkroom Administrator, will discuss plans for the Community Center darkroom space and take questions from the crowd. There will also be an open print critique session. The meeting is open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

The Greenbelt Photo Club meets the second Tuesday of each month in the Community Center. For more information call 301-474-6425.

Weekly Yard Waste Collections Renewed

Due to the increasing volume of yard debris set-outs, the Public Works Dept. has reinstated weekly yard waste collections for city refuse customers. Call Public Works at 301-474-8004 before 12 noon on Tuesday to arrange for a Wednesday collection of bagged leaves, grass and small branches. Do not mix household trash with the yard waste. Please bundle all brush and branches and tie securely with rope or twine. Bundles cannot exceed 4 feet in length or 50 pounds. For more information, call Public Works at 301-474-8308.

Drug Awareness Program at ERHS

by Betty Timer

Life is like a puzzle. When people have all the pieces, it all fits. DRUGS... remove an important piece. Then, nothing works!

Do you have accurate information about drugs? Could you identify drugs if you saw them? What drugs are currently a problem in the Greenbelt area? What would you do if you suspected that someone you loved was on drugs? Where would you go for help?

Get the answers to these questions and more by presenters from the Prince George's School District's Office of Drug Education, a Prince George's County Police Officer, and Officer David Buerger of the Greenbelt Police Department at a drug education seminar at the Eleanor Roosevelt High School Media Center on Tuesday, April 8, at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend this event sponsored by the Eleanor Roosevelt Parent Teacher Student Association.

- Mark Your Calendar -



GHI Annual Meeting May 15, 1997 Schedule of Deadlines

- To place an item on the agenda by petition..... **April 10**
- To appear on the official ballot all nominations by petition and all written consent-to-serve forms must be in the hands of the Secretary or filed at the Corporation office by 5 p.m..... **May 8**
- Proxies must be received by the Secretary (by midnight) or at the Corporation office (by close of business)..... **May 10**
- Article IV, Section 8d of the Bylaws states: "The official proxy form may be obtained only by a member submitting a written request, over his or her signature, to the Secretary or to the business office of the Corporation. The form will be sent to the member by mail unless requested in person by the member." Application for absentee ballot at GHI offices between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m..... **May 12- May 14**
- Annual Membership Meeting to be held at Community Center - 7:30 p.m..... **May 15**
- Voting for Nominations & Elections Committee seats will take place during the meeting..... **May 15**
- Voting for Board & Audit Seats..... **May 15** at recess.
all day voting - 7 a.m. to 8 p.m..... **May 16**

- Mark Your Calendar -

The Greenbelt Arts Center
presents **YOU and THE NIGHT and THE MUSIC**

Director Ron Wilder
Music Director Mac Fancher

Performances:
Friday and Saturday
April 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19 at 8:00 pm
Sundays April 6, 13 at 2:00 pm

\$8.00 Adults
\$6.00 Students and Sr. Citizens
Reservations (301) 441-8770

The Greenbelt Arts Center
123 Centerway Greenbelt (next to the Post Office)
For more information call (301) 441-8770

OBITUARIES

Aida Bistany

Aida Bistany, a long-time Greenbelt resident, died at her home in Boxwood on Easter Sunday, March 30. She died surrounded by her family who had cared for her during her year and one-half battle against ovarian cancer.

Aida was born on January 21, 1932 in Honduras and raised in the Panama Canal Zone. She came to the United States to attend St. Vincent College in New York City, where she received her B.S. in nursing. After graduation, she returned home to the Canal Zone. It was here she met and married Albert Bistany on July 6, 1957 and moved shortly thereafter to Greenbelt. Over the years she worked in her profession at various local hospitals while rearing her five children.

While her family and her profession were the center of Aida's life, she had many other interests, especially her strong religious convictions. In 1992 she completed an "Education for Parish Service" (EPS) training



Aida & Albert Bistany

Nizar Aref Sleem

Nizar Aref Sleem died at his home on Southway on Monday, March 31. He was from Amman, Jordan.

He is survived by his wife, Mona Sleem, children, Nadia, Lina, Zlad and Eman; brothers, Adnan, Fouad and Mazen Sleem; cousin Fouad Sleem and eight grandchildren.

Services were held on Thursday, April 3 at noon at Daral-Hira Mosque, Falls Church, VA. Interment was at National Memorial Park, Falls Church.

Greenbriar-Glen Oaks Clothes Collection

The Greenbriar Community Association will collect clothes for its annual clothing drive during the month of April. Clothing will be donated to the Prince George's County Chapter of the American Rescue Workers. Greenbriar and Glen Oaks residents are encouraged to do some spring cleaning and give unwanted clothing to someone less fortunate. Boxed or bagged clean clothing may be brought to the Game Room in the Community Center during the entire month of April. For more information, please call Barbara Parham at 301-441-1096.

program at Trinity College in Washington. This training strengthened her understanding and belief in the Catholic faith. She was also professed in the Order of St. Francis.

The Bistany family were members of St. Hugh's parish, where the five children attended grade school. Aida was active in many aspects of the school and parish, most recently in the St. Hugh's Ladies of Charity.

At every opportunity, Aida traveled, visiting new places and meeting new people. She traveled through Europe, Japan, the Caribbean Islands and frequently her native Honduras. In her daily life and in her travels, Aida made a host of lifelong friends. Her final months were comforted by visits and messages from these friends, who will all greatly miss her charm, her dignity and her goodness.

Aida is survived by her husband, Albert, of the family home in Boxwood; by her son, Joseph, and daughter-in-law Janice of Lanham; daughter Rose of Tennessee; daughter Anne and son-in-law Paul Pettitt of Laurel; daughter Mary and son-in-law Neil Gates of Silver Spring; and son William and daughter-in-law Mimi of Laurel. She also leaves seven grandchildren; Gregory, Michael and Erin Bistany; Victoria Pettitt; and Taylor, Colin and Casey Gates.

Mass of Christian Burial was held on Wednesday at St. John the Baptist Church in Silver Spring with interment at Resurrection Cemetery in Clinton, MD. Expressions of sympathy may be made by contributions to EPS-Trinity College, 125 Michigan Avenue, Washington, DC 20017.

Remembering Jim

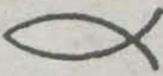
On March 20, 1997, the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc., and Ladies Auxiliary lost a fellow volunteer, best friend, mentor, company secretary, and a great part of its foundation — we lost Jim Bordas, suddenly and unexpectedly. We are all stunned, shocked, and asking — what do we do now, after 45 years of having Jim share his wisdom, expertise, and "encyclopedia" of knowledge? We grieve his loss enormously. Jim was such an immeasurable asset to the every day operation of the fire department. Whatever and whenever Jim was asked to do something, it was done with pride and perfection. Always a job well done.

Over the years, Jim was recognized for his accomplishments with award after award. Not to the surprise of anyone, Jim always did the unexpected — no one had to ask, Jim just did it!

We will miss his sense of humor, always a joke, a smile, a distinctive laugh. He knew how to "push our buttons." The really funny part was — we knew it! Jim was a legend. His memory will always be in our hearts and his loss will be felt for many, many years to come. He was one in a million.

To Jim's loving and devoted family, Pauline, Cliff, Barry, Sandy, Samantha, Leo, and Ashley our most sincere, heartfelt sympathy. We love you and will always, always be there for each of you. Thank you for sharing Jim with us for all these years. We will be eternally grateful and thankful for being blessed with the privilege of knowing Jim — a true friend, volunteer fireman, teacher, mentor, and company secretary. We love and miss you Jim, until we see you again.

Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Dept. & Rescue Squad and Ladies Auxiliary


Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS
 Municipal Building
 10 A.M.

Recovery Program At Baptist Church

"Steps of Grace" is an open and confidential Christ-centered 12-Step recovery speakers meeting held every Saturday evening from 6 to 7 p.m. at Greenbelt Baptist Church.

Everyone has difficulties dealing with life's situations from time to time. There is no shame in any of these difficulties or struggles. When struggling, it's sometimes necessary to be around people of like faith who understand, who have gone through some of the same struggles, and are not afraid of lending a helping hand through these struggles, and not face burdens alone.

These meetings combine contemporary Christian music, significant life application topics, real relationships, and God's word applying recovery for people serious about their recovery. Topics will be presented by various speakers, professionals and non-professionals. Saturday, April 5 "Steps of Grace" will present "Search for Significance." Anyone who is interested in learning more about his/her significance, please feel free to attend.

For more information call the hot line and comment line at 301-513-2581.

Resnick Group Holds Book Review

The Judith Resnick Group of Greater Washington Hadassah will hold its next meeting at 7:45 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8, at the home of Lois Fields. The program for the meeting will be a book review by Amy Pasternak on The Founder by Amos Elon.

For more information and directions and to RSVP, please call 301-345-2018.

Hadassah is a not-for-profit organization involved in support of Hadassah hospitals and other Hadassah projects in Israel, as well as educational, social and youth projects in Israel and the United States.


 Actively Seeking and Including All People
St. George's Episcopal Church
 Sundays
 9 am Folk Service
 10 am Sunday School
 11 am Sung Service
 Lanham-Severn & Glenn Dale Rds.
 Just South of MD 193, Glenn Dale
 262-3285

Greenbelt Community Church
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Hillside & Crescent Roads
 Phone: 474-6171 mornings
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:15 a.m.
 Daniel Hamlin, Pastor
"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MOWATT MEMORIAL
 40 Ridge Road • Greenbelt • 474-9410
 Sunday Bible Studies 9:30 am
 WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 am
 Children's Service 11:30 am
Dr. Whit Hutchison, Pastor
 Counseling 301/681-3201
 Where there is welcome for the stranger and community with others who seek love and justice.

Experience forgiving relationships
 Reverend Drew Shofner -- Pastor
 Early Morning Worship (Sunday) 8:35 AM
 Bible Study for all ages (Sunday) 9:45 AM
 Worship Service (Sunday) 11:00 AM
 7:00 PM
 Prayer Service (Wednesday) 7:00 PM
 For transportation or more information call 474-4212
 Located at the corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads
Greenbelt Baptist Church


HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
 Friendly people worshipping God and serving their community.
 Schedule of Services for Holy Week and Easter Sunday
 March 27; Maundy Thursday: 12:15 and 7:30 p.m.
 March 28; Good Friday: 12:15 and 7:30 p.m.
 March 30; Easter Sunday: sunrise 7:00 a.m., 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.

 6905 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
 Visit us on the Web
<http://member.aol.com/hcrosslcms/hclchome.htm>
 Rev. Stephen H. Mentz, Pastor (301) 345-5111

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
 3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi (301-937-3666)
 Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community
 April 6, 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.
 "Wanta Borrow a Jack?"
 Rev. Rod Thompson

 Religious education at 9:30 services; child care available

Berwyn Presbyterian Church
 6301 Greenbelt Road
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
 All are Welcome
 Interim Pastor
 Rev. Jack Wineman 474-7573

Jesus is the answer to increased
 crime—
 violence
 divorce
 alcoholism
 &
 drug abuse
 Potpourri (Thursdays) 7:00 PM
Steps of Grace
 6:00 PM
 Significance in Jesus
 Saturday April 5
 For more information call 301-523-2581
Greenbelt Baptist Church
 Located at the corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads

Baha'i Faith
 "Observe carefully how education and the arts of civilization bring honor, prosperity, independence and freedom to a government and its people."
 —Baha'i Sacred Writings
 Greenbelt Baha'i Community
 P.O. Box 245
 Greenbelt, MD 20770
 345-2918 220-3160

HOSTAGES

(Continued from page 1)

kept saying. "I didn't sleep at all last night!" And she and her neighbor kept talking about broken windows, and mud tracked on floors, and candy wrappers strewn around by the police, and damage done by the armored tank, which, truth to tell, had left the yard a mess. "I never felt threatened by him," the woman said. "Only by the police."

The son, a senior at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, had had Monday off and had gone to work at his part-time job. He'd decided to come home for lunch, though, which was why he'd happened to be home with his mother when the fugitive walked in. "I'm worried about her," the boy said. And he, too, was angry.

The woman was still talking about the fugitive. "He was just scared," she said. "He wanted to die. We tried to talk him out of it. He never threatened us."

The son said, "He called his brother and his sister on the phone."

"And he kept trying to call his mother," the woman said. "But he never did reach her. Oh, how he wanted to reach his mother."

Nobody said anything, anything at all, about the telephone calls from the police. About the thoughtful, patient negotiations that had gone on hour after hour. It was odd, it was definitely odd.

The son said, "Buffy went right over to Richard. He breaks in the house and she tries to make friends!"

The mother said, "Buffy's a part Golden Cocker Spaniel — well, what she is is a pound puppy, really. Get me a coat," she said to her son. She was shivering more and more.

"Buffy sat right down next to him," the son said. "He started to pet her. He didn't pose a threat. Buffy was sitting there, right on top of the gun." He went in the house then and came out with a coat, which he helped his mother put on.

Bookland Closed, New Store Opens April 11

Bookland in Beltway Plaza will be closed April 7 - 10 in order to complete its move to a new and larger storefront. Bookland, one of the longest continuous tenants in Beltway Plaza, is to move from its current location near the AMC theaters to its new space near Caldor's.

Visit Bookland over the April 11 weekend to celebrate its grand reopening. Henry Gershman, Bookland manager, is proud of this current move: "We're going from 3500 square feet to 4500 square feet and we'll have a new Hallmark card section."

For more information, call Henry Gershman at 301-474-0033.

Plant Sale

The April plant sale of the Beltsville Garden Club will be held on Saturday, April 12 in the parking lot of High Point High School, 3601 Powder Mill Road in Beltsville. The sale starts at 8 a.m. and will last until about noon.

The Gunman's Situation

The mother said, "He'd just separated from his wife! Well, I don't know if he was married. Separated from somebody, anyway." The Swat Team had driven their tank into the yard and maneuvered it into position, facing the house, she said, so that they could break through the wall if they wanted to. "He told us if they came in, to go and lie down in the far corner. Bullets would be flying, and he didn't want us to get hurt."

She was talking faster now. "I just didn't want anybody to be killed. We talked him out of killing himself! I just didn't want to see anybody die."

The hostage was weeping now, and the son was looking on helplessly as the neighbor put her arms around her and held her tight.



"Al's Place." a sculptural bench created by M. C. Carolyn in honor of Al Herling. The building in the background is the United States Federal Courthouse on Cherrywood Lane in Greenbelt.

HERLING

(Continued from page 1)

had come to know Al Herling at the time he was giving a benefit concert in Greenbelt, and had been impressed with his integrity. "He's one of the most moral men I've ever known," he said. "He nurtured me, though he doesn't know that. I grew a lot through the insights he gave me into the arts and the county, and from his example, and I tried to develop a granting pattern that would help the county and Greenbelt. His second concert, where he played with his teacher, was an example of the fact that music has to be communicated and learned, one on one. That's what I saw in Al. It's so important to have the one-on-one contact in the arts. When he wanted to learn something, he'd go right out and grab the person who could teach him. And he'd hold on like a bulldog."

Founder and Activist

Herling was one of the founders of the PGAC, as well as a long-time supporter of the county library system. He fought

for many causes over the years, was named Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizen in 1983, and co-chaired the Greenbelt Freedom of the Press Committee in 1966 to raise money for the defense of the Greenbelt News Review when it was hit with a two-million dollar libel suit.

A former New Yorker, Herling has been a musician, Unitarian minister, publicist, journalist, and consultant to the United Nations. A long-time Greenbelt resident, he is married to Frances Herling, a former library staff member, and is the father of Konrad Herling, who founded the Greenbelt Arts Center.

Explore University Theatre at U of MD

On Friday, April 18, Rudy Pugliese, formerly of the University Theatre at the University of Maryland, will be presenting at Explorations Unlimited. Pugliese is a Greenbelt resident and member of the Golden Age Club.

Explorations Unlimited is a speaker series held every Friday from 1 - 3 p.m. at the Community Center. This presentation will be held in the Senior Classroom. Everyone is welcome to attend and questions are always encouraged. Please call 301-397-2208 for more information.

GHI PLANT AND GRASS SEED SALE

Plants for Shade or Sun

**April 12, 19 and 26
9 a.m. to 12 noon**

Hamilton Place

sponsored by the
Architecture and Environment Committee

PRELIMINARY AGENDA



GHI Board of Directors

**Thursday, April 10, 1997
7:30 p.m.**

GHI Board Room

GHI

- Concrete Sidewalks Contract
- Underground Storage Tanks Contract
- Frame Roof Replacement Contract
- Fee for Service
- Resale Standards
- By-laws Change on Investing
- Replacement Reserves Study

Board meetings are open to members



Greenbelt Recreation Department

presents a:

KITE FLYING CONTEST

Sunday, April 6, 1997, 1:00 pm at Schrom Hills Park

Join in for an afternoon of family style fun!
Prizes to be awarded in the following categories:
largest kite, smallest kite, most unusual kite,
best home made kite, prettiest kite, youngest
flyer, oldest flyer.

*For additional information, call the
Greenbelt Recreation Department at 397-2200.*



The Greenbelt Recreation Department would like to thank the following organizations for their generosity in helping to support the 1997 Easter Egg Hunt:

- 3 BROTHERS PIZZERIA
- 7 ELEVEN
- JASPER'S
- GREENBELT AMERICAN
- LEGION #136
- JEEPER'S
- GIANT FOOD
- EINSTEIN BROS. BAGELS
- CHEVY'S MEXICAN
- RESTAURANT
- GREENBELT CO-OP
- GREENBELT VARIETY STORE
- AMC MOVIE THEATERS
- LEDO PIZZA SYSTEM
- GENEROUS JOE'S CARRYOUT
- SAFEWAY
- FIRESIDE BEEF HOUSE



GREENBELT TEENAGE FAIR

Saturday, April 12, 1997
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Springhill Lake Recreation Center

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

OPPORTUNITIES FOR
SUMMER PAID JOBS
COMMUNITY SERVICE JOBS
GREENBELT MOVING AHEAD PROGRAM (GMA)

Program will provide:
Tutoring, filling out job and college applications,
opportunities to learn about college requirements.

KEVIN MCLINTON, former Maryland Basketball star will be present.
For additional information, Call Janet at the Greenbelt Recreation Department at 397-2200

FOR SALE

GHI—3BR Brick, cook's kitchen, fresh paint, a dream home! \$70s

Woodland Hills—3/4 bedroom, 2 bath, brick rambler, new gas furnace, new kitchen, new windows, new roof, new deck, screened porch, 2 fireplaces, backs to acres of woods. A must see!! \$159,900

Boxwood Village—4 spacious bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths, tons of room for growing family, Florida room, extra family room with fireplace, large level, fenced lot. \$174,200

LORIE SCHEIBEL
Long & Foster 301-262-6900

All Sale Prices Effective
Monday, April 7th
thru
Sunday, April 13th
1997
Not Responsible for Printer Errors
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Sunday 10 a.m. til 6 p.m.
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Manufacturers
Coupons**
See Store For Details

FRESH QUALITY MEATS

Fresh Lean Ground Beef \$1⁰⁹ lb.	
CO-OP Lean Beef Boneless Chuck Roast \$1⁸⁹ lb.	CO-OP Lean Beef Porterhouse -or- T-Bone Steak \$3⁹⁹ lb.
CO-OP Lean Beef Filet Mignon \$6⁹⁹ lb.	Fresh Pork Shoulder Blade Steak \$1⁵⁹ lb.
Fresh Grade 'A' Boneless Chicken Breasts \$2⁸⁹ lb.	Fresh Pork Western-Style Spareribs \$1⁷⁹ lb.
CO-OP Lean Beef Chuck Shoulder Roast \$2¹⁹ lb.	CO-OP Lean Beef Boneless Stewing Beef \$2⁶⁹ lb.
Weaver Frozen Chicken Croquettes \$2⁹⁹ 23 oz.	Gwaltney Sliced Bacon \$1⁹⁹ 16 oz.
Oscar Mayer Turkey Breast \$1⁹⁹ 16 oz.	Tower Isle Frozen Jamaican Beef Turnovers \$2⁶⁹ 13.5 oz.

DAIRY

Land-O-Lakes American Singles \$1⁵⁹ 12 oz.
Tropicana Season's Best Orange Juice \$1⁶⁹ 1/2 Gal.
Best Yet Soft Vegetable Spread \$1¹⁹ 3 lb. Bowl
Breakstone Low Fat Cottage Cheese \$1³⁹ 16 oz.
Best Yet Jumbo Biscuits 99¢ 16 oz.

DELI

Wilson's Virginia Baked Ham \$3⁶⁹ lb.
Continental Roast Beef \$3⁹⁹ lb.
Russer's German Bologna \$1⁴⁹ lb.
Sorrento Provolone Cheese \$2⁹⁹ lb.
Amish Creamy Cole Slaw \$1⁰⁹ lb.

HOT FOODS DELI

Hot & Tasty Pork Bar-B-Q Sandwich \$1⁴⁹ Each
--

SEAFOOD

Orange Roughy \$5⁹⁹ lb.
26/30 Count Shrimp \$6⁹⁹ lb.
Schooner Fish Cakes 99¢ 8 oz.

BAKERY

Fresh Baked Challah Bread \$1⁵⁹ Loaf
--

GROCERY BARGAINS

Dawn Liquid Dish Detergent All Varieties 99¢ 14.7 oz.		Tide Ultra Liquid Laundry Detergent \$2⁶⁹ 50 oz.
Kounty Kist Corn-Peas-Green Beans 39¢ 14-1/2 oz.	Best Yet Pork & Beans 3/\$1⁰⁰ 15-1/2 oz.	Soft 'N' Gentle Bathroom Tissues 79¢ 4 Roll Pk.
Mardi Gras Giant Roll Paper Towels 89¢ 135 Sheet Roll	Best Yet Tomato Sauce 5/89¢ 8 oz.	Hanover Kidney or-Chili Beans 39¢ 14 oz.
Light & Fluffy Noodles Medium-Wide-Xtra Wide 69¢ 12 oz.	Musselmann's Apple Juice \$1⁵⁹ 1/2 Gal.	Schmidt's Country White Potato Bread \$1⁰⁹ 18 oz.
Heinz Barbecue Sauces 79¢ 18 oz.	Kraft Grape Jelly 99¢ 32 oz.	Best Yet Tea Bags \$1³⁹ 100 pk.
Del Monte Spaghetti Sauces 89¢ 26 oz.	Jiffy Corn Muffin Mix 3/79¢ 8-1/2 oz.	Nabisco Ritz Crackers Original-Low Salt-Wheat-Reduced Fat \$2⁴⁹ 14-1/2 oz.-16 oz.
Campbell's Original Tomato Soup 59¢ 10-3/4 oz.	Crisco Shortening Sticks \$1⁵⁹ 20 oz.	Heinz Hamburger Dill Slices 89¢ 16 oz.
Tulip Pink Salmon \$1¹⁹ 14-3/4 oz.	Nabisco Nilla Wafers All Varieties \$2²⁹ 11 oz. min.	Dad's Chunx Dog Food \$4⁸⁹ 20 lb.
Hefty 1-Zip Storage -or- Freezer Bags Quart-Gallon \$1⁴⁹ 15 pk. min.	Heinz Pickle Relishes 79¢ 10 oz.	Best Yet Vegetable Juice 99¢ 46 oz.
Puffs Facial Tissues White-Asst. \$1³⁹ 250 pk.	NEW SUPER LOW FILM DEVELOPING PRICES	Progresso Italian Bread Crumbs \$1³⁹ 24 oz.
Cascade Auto Dish Detergent \$1⁹⁹ 50 oz.	12 Exposure Roll \$1⁴⁴	Snuggle Liquid Fabric Softener \$3⁸⁹ 40 oz.
Scooples Cat Litter \$2¹⁹ 10 lb.	24 Exposure Roll \$2⁸⁸	Aunt Sue's Honey In Squeeze Bottle \$1⁷⁹ 16 oz.
McCormick Taco Seasoning Mixes 1-1/2 oz. 2/79¢	36 Exposure Roll \$4³²	R.J. Coor All Natural Soda Asst. Flavors 6 pk.-12 oz. cans \$1⁸⁹
Dole Pineapple 79¢ 20 oz.	FREE DEVELOPING ON 7TH ROLL	Best Yet Peaches Halves-Slices 79¢ 16 oz.
	READY NEXT DAY OR FREE	Heinz Squeeze Ketchup \$1⁴⁹ 28 oz.
	COUPON GOOD FOR ONE FREE 5x7 ENLARGEMENT OF YOUR FAVORITE COLOR NEGATIVE No Purchase Required-Limit 1	

FARM FRESH PRODUCE

	Sunkist 113 Size Navel Oranges 6/89¢
Vine Ripe Tomatoes 79¢ lb.	California Strawberries 99¢ Pint
Fresh Express American Salad Mix \$1⁴⁹ 12 oz.	Red Delicious Apples 69¢ lb.
Crisp Celery 79¢ Each	Thompson Seedless Grapes \$1⁴⁹ lb.
Green Beans 89¢ lb.	Sunkist Minneola Tangeloes 6/99¢
Florida Red Potatoes 49¢ lb.	California Kiwi Fruit 5/99¢
Fresh Express Italian -or- European Salad Mixes 10 oz. min. \$1⁴⁹	FRUIT CLUB FOR KIDS FREE ANJOU PEAR See Store For Details

FROZEN FOOD

Banquet Original Meat Pot Pies Beef-Chicken-Turkey 7 oz. 2/89¢
Pensupreme Ice Cream All Flavors \$2⁴⁹ 1/2 Gal.
Inland Valley Mashed Potatoes Plain-Cheese-Chive 18 oz. \$1¹⁹
Hanover Yellow Corn-Mixed Vegetables-Broccoli Cuts-Sliced Carrots 16 oz. 79¢
Klondike Ice Cream Bars Asst. Varieties 6 pk. \$2¹⁹

BEER & WINE

Lite Beer \$7⁶⁹ 12 pk.-12 oz. cans
Red Dog Beer \$3⁸⁹ 6 pk.-12 oz. cans
Schlitz Beer \$4⁹⁹ 12 pk.-12 oz. cans
Taylor California Cellars Wines 3 Liter \$7⁹⁹
Straccali Chianti \$4⁹⁹ 750 ML.

SPECIALTY

After the Fall Soda Orange Iccle or Strawberry Vanilla 6-12 oz. cans \$2²⁹
Old Savannah Mixes Carrot Cake-Brownie Banana Walnut 15-16 oz. \$1⁶⁹
Fantastic Foods Hot Cereal Cups Assorted Varieties 1.6-1.9 oz. 69¢

BIG BUYS

Charmin Value Pack Bathroom Tissue 24 Roll Pk. \$5⁹⁹
Bounty Value Pack Paper Towels 12 Roll Pk. \$9⁴⁹
Hi-C Lunch Box Variety Pack Fruit Drinks 27 pk. \$5⁹⁹

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RICE-A-RONI RICE SIDEDISHES ALL VARIETIES (#EO4ED) **49¢** 4.3 oz. min.

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POLICE BLOTTER

Based on Information Released by the Greenbelt Police Department

A 14 year old non-resident youth was arrested on Friday afternoon, around 3 p.m. The youth, detained by school security for truancy, had a quantity of suspected marijuana and a six-inch fixed blade knife in his possession. The youth was charged with possession of marijuana and carrying a deadly weapon on school property and released into the custody of a guardian pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

On Sunday, March 23, a woman involved in a verbal argument with her boyfriend was slapped in the face during the argument. Officers responded to the residence in the 6000 block of Springhill Drive and arrested the 29 year old resident man, charging him with assault. After appearing before a District Court Commissioner, the man was released pending trial.

A man began yelling profanities at an officer investigating a group of loiterers in the 9200 block of Springhill Lane on Tuesday evening, March 25. The man refused a request to stop yelling and leave the area. The man advanced towards the officer in a threatening manner and then fled on foot. The man, known by the officer, was placed under arrest a short time later at his residence. The man, an 18 year old resident, was charged with disorderly conduct, obstructing and hindering, and resisting arrest and held on \$1,500 bond pending trial.

Two incidents of unattended children were reported. In the first, a 39 year old resident woman was arrested, charged with leaving children unattended in a motor vehicle, when an officer located two children, ages 3 and 9, in a van in the 7500 block of Greenbelt Road on Monday evening, March 24.

In the second incident a 29 year old resident woman was charged with leaving children unattended when an officer investigated a report of a child outside a residence in the 9100 block of Springhill Lane wearing only a diaper. The officer found three other children unsupervised in the residence. The woman was released on citation pending trial. Social Services is investigating the incident.

A black man, 5'0", heavyset, black short hair, brown eyes and wearing a light blue sweatshirt and blue jeans is the suspect in an incident in the 9300 block of Edmonston Road on Monday, March 24. A woman investigating a noise outside her bedroom window noticed the man looking in through the window. The man fled towards the 9200 block of Edmonston Road.

The School Resource Officer arrested a suspended student on Tuesday morning, March 25. The youth had been suspended almost two weeks ago and was not to return to school without a parent. The youth, a 17 year old non-resident, was charged with trespassing and released to a relative pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

Two other trespassing inci-

dents were reported during the week. The first occurred on Saturday, March 22, in which a 13 year old resident youth was observed in Beltway Plaza after having been barred from the property. The youth was charged on citation and released to a parent pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

A 40 year old non-resident woman was arrested in the second incident, which occurred at Greenway Shopping Center on Wednesday afternoon, March 26. The woman returned to the Ross store after having been banned from the store. Charged with trespassing, the woman was released on citation pending trial.

A large rock was thrown through the balcony window of a residence in the 9100 block of Edmonston Terrace in an act of vandalism on Sunday evening, March 23, around 7 p.m.

A man detained by a Caldor security officer began swinging an axe around threatening employees on Monday, March 24, around 5 p.m. The man fled the store with the Loss Prevention officer in pursuit. The officer lost sight of the man as he fled down the exterior stairs of the parking garage. The man is described as black, 30 - 25 years old, 5'11", 160 lbs., black hair, brown eyes, wearing a black nylon mid-length coat, black shirt and pants.

A vehicle registration plate reported stolen on February 14 from the 7600 block of Ora Glen Drive was recovered by Prince George's County Police in Riverdale, with one arrest being made.

Thefts reported include: an unattended portable digital phone at Jeepers, Beltway Plaza, on Friday, March 21, around 11 p.m.; a carpet shampoo machine from a yard in the 25 Court of Ridge Road on Saturday afternoon, March 22; and computer equipment from an office suite in the 7500

block of Hanover Parkway on Monday, March 24.

Two youths asked to leave school property were observed by the School Resource Officer entering a 1989 Honda Accord. A computer check revealed the vehicle had been reported stolen to county police the previous day. The vehicle was stopped at Mandan and Greenbelt Roads and both youths were arrested and charged with theft over \$300. One youth, a 16 year old non-resident, was released to the Department of Juvenile Services, and the second, a 17 year old non-resident, was released to a guardian pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

A 1995 Cadillac reported stolen on February 17 from Capitol Cadillac was recovered by Metropolitan Police on Wednesday, March 26, in the 8200 block of Eastern Ave, N.W. No arrests were made.

Vandalism to, theft from, and attempted theft from vehicles was reported in the following areas: 6000 and 7500 blocks of Greenbelt Road, 7900 block of Greenbury Drive (two incidents) and 100 block of Westway.

Free Sports Injury Program

Laurel Regional Hospital is offering a free community program on sports injury on Thursday, April 10, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., in the hospital's J. Russell Jones Room.

Dr. Joseph Layug, orthopedist, will discuss athletic conditioning, treatment methods in sports medicine, protective athletic equipment, evaluation of sports injuries and common overuse injuries.

To register, call 301-497-8736 or 1-410-792-2413.

GUNMAN

(Continued from page 1)

The county Swat Team, on the other hand, specializes in such emergencies.

At first the police apparently considered setting up their command center in the parking lot behind the library and community center, the entrances to which were blocked off for about an hour while police vehicles converged there. However, they then moved closer to 10 Court of Southway.

County police officers in full body armor and carrying assault rifles surrounded the house, while Greenbelt police secured the perimeter and evacuated residents.

Communications Established

Telephone communications were soon established between the police and the fugitive, and a long period of negotiations ensued. Greenbelt police spokesman George Mathews described this as a "conflict resolution situation," stating, "They want to be as patient as possible because they don't want to see anyone get hurt. As long as it takes—that's how long it's going to take."

Hours passed while police withheld details of the negotiations, concerned about what the suspect might see on television and increasingly worried about his mental state and the safety of the hostages.

Eventually, however, the patience of negotiators paid off. The fugitive emerged from the house with his arms in the air, and the hostages were released unharmed. Gordon, who was arraigned before a District Court Commissioner, is being held on \$850,000 bond.

Easter Egg Winners

The Easter Bunny blew into town on a blustery Easter Monday and hid some of his special treats at Buddy Attick Lake Park, as part of Greenbelt Recreation Department's Egg Hunt. Lucky Golden Egg winners include: 0 - 3 years, Brandon Wetzel; 4 years - kindergarten, Billy William; 1st and 2nd graders, Kyle Armstrong; 3rd and 4th graders, Vinnie Deright; 5th and 6th graders, Lewis Torres.



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- 12-D Ridge
- 9-E Research
- 26-D Ridge
- 37-J Ridge
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- 23-M Ridge
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Reduced Trash Pick-ups Sought But No Tax Increase in Budget

by Diane Oberg
 There was good news and bad in the budget proposal for fiscal year 1998 (FY98) presented by City Manager Michael McLaughlin to the Greenbelt City Council at its March 24 regular meeting. The good news included no tax increase (for the first time in four years), savings to be realized from not filling the Deputy City Manager position previously held by McLaughlin, and a slight (3%) increase in total revenues. The bad news included a proposed reduction in refuse collection services (from twice to once per week) with no reduction in fees, and continued declines in the city's assessable base (resulting in a decline in the revenue realized from each cent of the city's tax rate) from \$53,200 in the current fiscal year to \$52,800 in FY98, which begins July 1.

While no cost of living increase is proposed for city employees, McLaughlin called for increased "merit pay" to recognize employees whose performance exceeds standards. McLaughlin noted that in 1996, 82 percent of employees received such performance awards. While council did not discuss the budget in any detail, Councilmember Rodney Roberts noted that he already had "a couple of bones of contention" with McLaughlin's proposal. He predicted that it would be an "exciting" budget review season.

The council and staff now begin a series of worksessions on the budget (see box), which is scheduled to be approved on Tuesday May 27. In the intervening weeks, the

News Review will present more detailed stories on the overall city budget and on the budgets for each department.

Other Actions

Council unanimously approved a freestanding sign for the CVS store that has opened on Greenbelt Road (in the old Chi Chi's building near Cherrywood). Although the nearly 10-foot-tall sign exceeds council's preferred height limit, council has no legal authority to regulate city signs. The company had worked closely with city staff, according to planner Terri Hruby, working through six different proposals and significantly reducing the height from the 24 feet originally proposed by the company. (Except where covenants or

other agreements give the city some power to review or approve signs, signage is covered by county law, which, Hruby said, would permit a 25 foot sign at that location.) Council, Hruby and Advisory Planning Board Chair Roberta McCarthy all praised and thanked the company for its willingness to cooperate with the city and to revise its plans to find a compromise between

the company's needs and the city's concerns.

On behalf of the city, Mayor Bram accepted the first Community Service Award from the area chapter of the American Heart Association. The award recognized the Aquatic and Fitness Center's work in the area of health and fitness.

Doug Love of the Greenbelt Astronomy Club

announced the club's observance (along with the Goddard Astronomy Club) of Astronomy Day, on Saturday, April 12 from 6 - 10 p.m. at Owen's Science Center (on Greenbelt Road adjacent to DuVal High School). Weather permitting, Love said, there will be as many activities outside the building as inside.



Budget Worksessions

- April 7, 7:30 p.m. - Greenbelt CARES, Miscellaneous, Other Funds
- April 9 - Public Safety
- April 16 - Planning and Community Development, Capital Funds
- April 23 - Recreation
- April 24 - Refuse Collection and Recycling Program Changes
- April 30 - Green Ridge House
- May 5 - Contribution Groups
- May 7 - Public Works
- May 12 - Public Hearing on the Budget
- May 19 - Final Budget Worksession
- May 27 - Budget Adoption

Meetings start at 8 p.m. except where noted. Watch city ads for possible schedule changes.



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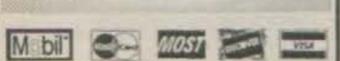
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Barry Blechman, owner of Beltway Plaza Hardware, is busy stocking shelves and organizing his new location in the mall. - photo by Prospero Zevallos

Blechman's Beltway Plaza Hardware Has Opening Sale

by Eileen Farnham
Beltway Plaza True Value Hardware has completed a move to new quarters in Beltway Plaza. The store is now located further down toward the Cherrywood Lane end of the Mall, closer to Giant than before and next door to the Dollar store.

Stocking 18,000 hardware items, the new store takes advantage of computerized "just in time" ordering. This allows for a compact store where merchandise is more conveniently located right at hand. The system also provides a savings for the store, which no longer has to manage a large inventory or lease space to house it.

Owner Barry Blechman, a "daytime Greenbelter" of many years standing, says the new store is busy — he and customers are enjoying advantages of the new location. Part of his enjoyment is for his new "cock-

pit" office in the front of the store. Blechman explains he moved from a cluttered office behind the old store, away from the action, to a cockpit-style version, with two computer screens, in the front. He enthuses about his new office in the center of things, where he can keep an eye on the store, greeting his many friends as they come in.

Blechman, owner of the store since 1978, has been a Greenbelt Lion since 1983 and is active in many Greenbelt festivals and activities. He also owned the True Value Hardware store in Penn Mar Shopping Center, in Forestville. He recently closed that store, consolidating and streamlining the two stores into the one improved, sleeker version now welcoming old and new customers and friends at the Beltway Plaza location.

For long-time customers,

UM Showcases Jazz Big Band Music

The University of Maryland School of Music is pleased to present the 1st Annual Jazz Invitational Showcase on Monday, April 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the Colony Ballroom of the Stamp Student Union. The program will feature big band music of various eras including compositions by Sonny Rollins, Miles Davis, Thad Jones, Thelonius Monk, Billy Strayhorn, Duke Ellington and others. Participants include the University of Maryland Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Lab Band, Chris Vadala, director. The UMBC Jazz Ensemble, Ron Diehl, director, and the DeMatha High School Jazz Ensemble, John Mitchell, director. Admission is free and the public is invited to attend. For additional information call 301-405-5519.

who know Beltway Plaza Hardware and its owner as the hardware version of Harry Weiner's old Ben Franklin store, there is reassuring news that Blechman will continue to have all kinds of items available. In the course of talking about his move and changes in stocking the store, we happened to mention we were looking for rubber tips for a cane/stool. What was needed was in stock and he was fully informative about selecting proper replacements.

All are invited to stop by for refreshments and to join in the store's Grand Re-opening sale at the new location from April 4 through 19.

Extra Tax Help Is Now Available

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is offering several easy ways for taxpayers to get the help they need to meet the fast approaching April 15 tax filing deadline. The IRS will provide extended telephone assistance, extra walk-in assistance, joint one-stop assistance with the Maryland State Comptroller's Office, convenient help at area shopping malls, and late night help at several post offices.

In addition to the regular hours for telephone assistance, weekdays 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., IRS representatives will also be taking calls on Saturday, April 5, and Saturday, April 12, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. answering questions for taxpayers who need help completing their returns. The toll free number is 1-800-829-1040.

In addition to the regular 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. weekly walk-in hours, all IRS offices throughout Maryland will be open on Saturday, April 12, to provide walk-in assistance from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. On deadline day, Tuesday, April 15, walk-in assistance will be available at all offices from 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

To make it even more convenient for taxpayers to get the help they need, IRS representatives will be stationed at area shopping malls to distribute forms and answer questions. Taxpayers can get help on Saturday, April 12, from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m., at Laurel Centre Mall and Wheaton Plaza.

Finally, on April 15, after its offices close, IRS personnel will again be stationed at post offices to provide late night tax return assistance and forms to help taxpayers meet the midnight deadline. This extra help is available at the Washington, D.C. Post Office at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE and the Brentwood Post Office at 900 Brentwood Road, NE.

The IRS office in Wheaton is located in the Citizens Bank Building, Lower Level, 11510 Georgia Avenue, Room 107. It is open 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with self-help preparation on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Landover IRS office is located at Metro-plex 1, Room 300, 8401 Corporate Drive. It is open 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with self-help return preparation on Tuesday and Wednesday.



Beautification Program

The annual Community Beautification is in its third week and we are presently in the Northway area. If extensions are needed to complete work at your unit past the 30 day deadline a written request must be submitted to GHI. Attn: Phillip John Rondeau. Extensions are granted on a 1 (one) month basis.

Attention GHI Members:

- Clean up your yard.
- Lend a hand to a neighbor.
- Earn high school community service hours.
- Ask for help if you need it.
- Neighborhood pride—show some!

Unite with other volunteers from GHI.
Participate!

GHI Clean Up Day
Saturday, April 26
To register and for more information, call 345-5508

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A Grand Re-opening Sale!

10% OFF EVERYTHING in the store

APRIL 4 through 19

"We have Everything for your Every day hardware needs," says owner Barry Blechman.
"See me for special orders, I'm always here, now. Be sure to stop by and say Hello!"

Beltway Plaza Hardware