

# GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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

AUGUST 19, 2004

## County Schools Reopen Monday Two Weeks Before Labor Day

by Mary Moien

Prince George's County public schools will open next Monday, August 23, possibly the earliest start date in several years — two weeks before Labor Day. Hours for all schools are shown in a box elsewhere in this paper. At the other end of the calendar, schools will close much earlier than usual, June 3, if no make-up dates are needed. A possible reason for the early start is to give teachers more school days early in the year to prepare for all of the mandated tests.

This year the school system has integrated the possibility of make-up days into the school calendar. For example, if the schools are closed unexpectedly in September or October, November 1 is set for a make-up day. Students are currently slated to be off on that date for a teacher Professional Development Day. The second make-up day is March 24, the first day of spring break. Putting these dates into the school schedule makes parents aware that vacation plans for those days may need to be changed if make-up days are needed.

### Age to Start School

The specific ages of children entering preschool and kinder-

garten are changing. To be eligible for preschool, a student must have been born between November 1, 1999 and September 30, 2000. For kindergarten, the birth dates are December 1, 1998 through October 31, 1999. For first graders, ages for admission are January 1, 1998 through November 30, 1998.

In 2001 the Maryland State Board of Education adopted recommendations which changed the entrance cut-off birth dates for school children from December 31 to September 30. This change is being phased in until the 2006-2007 school year when all students must be the required age by September 30.

### Registration

The need for new students to bring all of the necessary paperwork to register for school was emphasized by school staff. This applies to new students and transferring students at all age levels. Students must have six specific documents with them when registering. These include birth certificate, immunization record, child's social security number, proof of residency, name and address of previous school and the child's last report card. Immunizations needed include

diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, poliomyelitis, measles (rubeola) and rubella (German measles). Preschoolers may need additional immunizations.

Proof of residency in Prince George's County could include a deed or an apartment rental contract. The importance of bringing the student's last report card was also emphasized, as the courses taken and grades received can help place the child quickly in the appropriate classroom.

### Attendance

State law requires school attendance for every child between the ages of five and 16. All children in the State of Maryland are required to attend kindergarten or an alternative program. A law was passed several years ago that lowered the age of compulsory school attendance to five years of age. It requires that children attend kindergarten before entering first grade. The law permits some exemptions. Five-year-olds may be enrolled in a child care center or Head Start or homeschool program. When appropriate, a child may be granted a one-year level-of-maturity waiver.

See **SCHOOL OPENS**, page 6

For specific information on school hours, dress code, lunch programs and more, see pages 6, 8 and 10.

## City Council Amends Budget Process, Meets New Counselors

by Sandy Smith

In its meeting on August 9, the Greenbelt City Council got down to business quickly and dealt with a number of issues that generated little debate. Council amended the Capital Projects Budget for Fiscal Year 2005, modified a city ordinance to permit negotiated rather than bid proposals for certain types of items or services and bought a new recycling truck. Council also met two newly appointed crisis intervention counselors and learned that the city had applied for a service coordinator at Green Ridge House under a new grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

### Capital Projects

Early in the meeting, there was a public hearing on a \$1.4 million appropriation in the Capital Projects Fund for FY 05. Due to updates from staff and some additional projects, the total capital funds appropriation increased from \$1.2 million presented earlier in the budget process. Among the additions is \$20,000 to improve the inad-

equat inlet system near the Greenbelt Plaza apartments. Council increased the scope of work for the Hillside outfall project but deferred the Metro Access Drive roundabout.

Some projects slated for FY 2004 which had not been completed had to be accommodated in the FY 05 budget. Later in the meeting, the Capital Projects Budget was approved for second reading and unanimously adopted.

### Bid Process

To streamline the purchasing of certain types of items, the city sought and received approval to eliminate the bid process when total purchases for a year from a vendor exceed a \$10,000 limit but where bidding for these goods and services is not warranted. Examples of purchases to be covered under this resolution are those for which a vendor is the sole or best source or when other governmental agencies have already negotiated a price which could be extended to Greenbelt.

Council approved the pur-

chase of a new recycling truck for \$166,000. The new truck will have a split rear packer which will compact better than side loading vehicles. The city will keep the current recycling vehicle for backup and trade in an older truck, long past its prime, for a trade-in of \$1,500.

### Crisis Intervention

Liz Park, director of Greenbelt CARES, introduced two new crisis intervention counselors, Sara Phillips and Shireen Blair who have joined the CARES staff. Phillips is a recent gradu-

See **COUNCIL**, page 9

## What Goes On

**Wednesday, August 25**  
8 p.m., Council Worksession re: Playground Agreement, Community Center  
**Thursday, August 26**  
7 p.m., Special Meeting, GHI Board of Directors on 2004 Townhouse Furnace Contracts, GHI Board Room

## Former Mayor, Councilman Richard (Dick) Pilski Dies

by Barbara Likowski

Richard (Dick) R. Pilski, Sr., former mayor of Greenbelt, died of a heart attack on Saturday, August 14, 2004, in Washington Hospital Center. He had lived in Greenbelt for almost 50 years.

Born in Kingston, Pa., Mr. Pilski served in the United States Navy on an aircraft carrier for three years during World War II. After his discharge he attended Syracuse University, earning a B.S. degree in business administration.

For six years Mr. Pilski worked for the American Tobacco Company, first as a traveling salesman and later as eastern region merchandising manager. In his travels he met his wife Claire in Mauchunk, Pa.

He worked as a tax representative for Prentice Hall Publishers, retiring after 24 years.

The Pilskis were married in 1953 and at first lived in the Washington metropolitan area.

On Easter Sunday 1958 they bought the last unsold house in the Lakewood subdivision in Greenbelt. A few months later his wife suggested that they become involved in the community. Mr. Pilski began to attend council



Richard Pilski

meetings. When Lakewood owners became upset about high taxes, they formed a homeowners' association and he served as its first president. He worked to get council to lower the tax rate and led the fight to put in the storm drainage channel in the Lakewood stream.

In spring 1963 when Councilman Tom Canning moved to

See **PILSKI**, page 12

## Greenbelt's Morisette Moves From ebay to Artwork

by Jim Lara

Visitors to the Greenbelt Arts Center may notice the artwork along the walls made of household items like curtain rings or paper clips that have been delicately woven together. These displays were put together by artist Elizabeth Morisette, whose work has been on view at the gallery for the past few weeks. "Lifesavers: Collections of a Lifetime" is an exhibit that shows ordinary items we use everyday and is connected by fabric into a large frame.

Each individual exhibit was given a creative name representing its appearance. One display shows rows of little plastic toy guns on the top and smiley faces at the bottom titled "Friendly Fire." "Scattered Showers" is a framework of assorted shower curtain rings of various colors like black, blue and white.

What's special about all the artwork is that all the items on display were purchased by Morisette online at ebay. It took a year for her to create 15 different exhibits. Each display took 20 to 40 hours to finish. Most of the items Morisette bought on ebay were from people selling their collections of stuff like curtain rings and pin buttons. Morisette was intrigued that people collected peculiar items and were willing to part with them. "It's interesting that people

would collect something for sentimental value or as a reminder of the places he or she has traveled to," said Morisette. A couple of examples were the stir sticks and the keychains. Some of the sticks advertised motels in Las Vegas and Indianapolis. The keychains also show that that collector has been across the country whether at Harrah's casino or in the state of Texas.

At each display viewers can read quotations by the people whose collections were used to create the exhibit. They show some of the reasons for selling their stuff on ebay and it wasn't to make a profit, but rather for something more noble like using the money to visit a son or to help pay for a daughter's school tuition. According to Morisette the series of work was to explore the need to collect things and what those collections say about us.

The hard work has paid off for Morisette since she was selected by a jury to show her art at the Center. The Greenbelt resident is a 1994 graduate of North Carolina State University School of Design and is an artist-in-residence at the Greenbelt Community Center. In addition to the arts center, examples of her works can be seen at the Apex Museum

See **MORISETTE**, page 5

## Voter Registration Ends October 12

Greenbelt residents who are not registered for the November 2 Presidential General Election may obtain voter registration applications at the Greenbelt City Office, Motor Vehicle Administration and all public institutions of higher education. October 12 is the last day to register according to the Prince George's County Board of Elections. No registrations will be processed 20 days before through 10 days after the 2004 Presidential General Election.

An application may also be obtained online from the State Board of Elections website at [www.elections.state.md.us](http://www.elections.state.md.us) or at the County Board of Elections at 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Suite 205, Upper Marlboro, MD 207701-3070; telephone 301-952-3270. The 24-hour information line is 301-627-2814; the TDD line, 301-627-3352.

To register and be eligible to vote, an individual must be a U.S. citizen, a Maryland resident and at least 18 years old by No-

vember 2. The resident may not be under guardianship for mental disability; not have been convicted of buying or selling votes; not have been convicted of an infamous crime (any felony or crime involving an element of deceit, fraud or corruption) unless pardoned.

After individuals register, they will receive a Voter Notification Card by mail which will indicate their precinct number and polling place. After registering or informing the local board of elections of a change of address, individuals who do not receive a Voter Notification Card within three weeks should contact their local board of elections.

In Greenbelt on November 2, eligible voters will be voting for their choice for President/Vice President, United States Senator, representative to Congress and judges. There will also be State Constitutional and Prince George's County questions on the ballot.

### Correction

Have you ever had one of those days when things would not go right and, having gotten off track in the first place, kept coming back to haunt you? Probably. And that is just how the News Review feels about the photos that appeared in the Artful Afternoon article on August 5. Once again, in an effort to set the record straight, let us reprint – this time with accurate captions (we hope!) – two photos that seem to have gone wrong despite our efforts. Printed below, with correct captions are photos that include the “real” Paul Sabol and properly identifying Susann Braden, a co-artist with Beth Norden in the “Artful Science” exhibit. Our apologies to all and we certainly hope we have it right this time!



Stained glass participant Paul Sabol is assisted by Glass Guild of Greenbelt member Maureen Stone.



PHOTOS BY AGNES CONATY

Beth Norden and Susann Braden look at the “mystery” micrograph. The exhibit has now been extended through August 24. The winners of the mystery photo will be announced the following week.

### Videos GREENBELT VIDEO DVDs

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114 Centerway, Roosevelt Center  
Mon-Fri 3-9pm Sat 11am-9pm Sun 12-6pm

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### GHI Notes

The following meetings are scheduled for the week of August 23:

August 23, 7 p.m., Ad Hoc Nonprofit Committee meeting, Conference Room.

August 23, 7 p.m., Encroachment Problems and Determining Yard Lines meeting, Board Room.

August 24, 7 p.m., Member and Community Relations Committee meeting, Board Room.

August 25, 7:30 p.m., Architecture and Environment Committee meeting, Board Room.

August 26, 7 p.m., Special Board Meeting, Board Room.

### Bi-Weekly Tour Of Bartholdi Park

Explore Bartholdi Park with knowledgeable U.S. Botanical Gardens staff and volunteers on Tuesday, August 24 at 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Stroll through the park to learn about this beautiful garden and gather gardening tips. Tours are free and will be led by Robert Pritchard, gardener supervisor; Amy Pollock, gardener or Hawsie Nash, garden volunteer. Tours are cancelled if it rains. Space is limited and pre-registration is requested.

The park is located at 100 Maryland Avenue, S.W., in Washington, D.C.

### If Disaster Strikes Be Prepared

If disaster strikes, planning is impossible. Planning ahead can provide extra seconds when time is crucial.

Here are some guidelines from Greenbelt's Public Safety Advisory Committee. Plan a way for the family to maintain or reestablish contact in case the home is inaccessible (a friend or relative outside this area can be a designated point of contact). Draw a floor plan of the home, including two escape routes from each room to the designated meeting spot.

Emergency phone numbers should be posted and vital documents secured. A disaster supply kit, including basic tools such as flashlights, fresh batteries and a first aid kit, should be compiled and stored in an accessible place.



### Notice of Annual Cleaning

The indoor pool and hot tub will be closed for annual cleaning on Monday, August 23 and re-open on Monday, August 30. The fitness wing will be closed August 24 and August 25. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

### OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

Week of August 20

GARDEN STATE (R)

Friday  
\*5:00, 7:30, 9:45

Saturday  
\*2:30, \*5:00, 7:30, 9:45

Sunday  
\*2:30, \*5:00, 7:30

Monday-Thursday  
\*5:00, 7:30

\*These shows at \$5.00  
301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745  
129 Centerway  
[www.pgtheatres.com](http://www.pgtheatres.com)

### The Old Curmudgeon



I. J. PARKER ©2004

“Too bad there isn't an Olympic gold medal for getting to work on time!”

### “How Are You?”

While lying in a hospital bed for a few days and nights, it occurred to me that the first thing a doctor, or a nurse, technician or a visitor says to you upon entering your room is “How are you?”

There you are, dressed in a gown that exhibits your behind, lying in a bed, surrounded by ghastly chromed equipment and they want to know “How are you?”

So I reply “Fine.” Why am I lying? Doesn't that catheter suggest anything but good health? Don't these people know

we're in a hospital? That patients are there to get well?

I've concluded that those who greet you with “How are you?” in any setting, hospital or otherwise, are really saying “hello” and don't care a whit how you really feel. Of course there are those who are so eager to tell anyone about their aches and pains that it's like taking your finger out of the dike by asking “How are you?”

Why don't we just say “hello” and be done with it?

— The Old Curmudgeon

## Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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DEADLINES: Letters, articles and 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—\$35/year.

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

## Festival Notes



www.greenbelt.com/laborday

The 50th Annual Labor Day Festival is almost here – less than three weeks away. Plan now to spend the holiday weekend strolling around the festival grounds – the dry festival grounds.

### Fundraising

Two more bake sales will be held before the festival – one each weekend, both on Saturdays and both on the Co-op ramp. Commemorative T-shirts are still available – a grey one and a green tie-dye one. Don't miss getting this collectible commemorative tribute to a special festival. "Proud to Be American" T-shirts are also still available in all sizes.

Raffle tickets for \$200 worth of Co-op groceries, a 50/50 drawing, a wooden Longaberger panel chest and a \$25 gift certificate to Jaspers are currently being sold and will be sold throughout the festival. Drawings for all raffles will take place on Monday, September 6. The above items can also be purchased by calling Patti Brothers at 301-982-2312 or 301-910-0050.

### Wristband Vouchers

Discount vouchers for festival ride wristbands are now on sale at the Greenbelt Co-op office. Each voucher, which costs \$7, entitles the bearer to a \$15 value wristband. Each wristband entitles the wearer to unlimited rides on Saturday, September 4 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. or Sunday, September 5 from noon to 4 p.m.

There is no limit on the number of vouchers an individual can buy. Each voucher is good for one day only. Vouchers will be on sale until September 2 or until the supply runs out. This is by far the best way to take full advantage of the many rides at the festival.

### Pageant

The Miss Greenbelt Pageant this year promises to be the biggest and best ever. The introduction of the contestants takes place on Friday night, the talent portion of the pageant takes place on Saturday night and finals of the pageant occur on Sunday night. The pageant is one of the true highlights of the festival – no night should be missed.

### On Stage

The festival stage is filled with activity all weekend long. The stage is the location for the Opening Ceremonies, the announcement of the Outstanding Citizen and the introduction of the Miss Greenbelt contestants on Friday night. Diamond Alley will open the entertainment on Friday night with their great sounds.

On Saturday the stage hosts the world-famous group, "Herman's Hermits," at 1 p.m. Kids' entertainment follows with The Nocolo Whimsey Show followed by Blue Sky Puppets. Magic Mike, which winds up the children's entertainment, is also a big hit with adults.

The stage will then host some of the area's finest talent through the Festival Talent Show. That show will be followed by the talent portion of the Miss Greenbelt Pageant. The Saturday night band will be Spin, new to the festival this year.

The Sunday stage entertainment begins at 1 p.m. with "24U," a duo returning to the festival after rave reviews last year. They will provide a relax-

ing beginning to the Sunday afternoon activities. John Hill then returns with his easy-listening sounds, always an enjoyable time. The group Adrenalin, also returning to the festival this year, will play great tunes from the '70s which will take festival goers into the Miss Greenbelt finals. "Wayne Brown and 2nd Conspiracy" will fill the last night of the festival with great rock 'n roll that is sure to get everyone moving. Entertainment on Monday will start at noon with the return of Shoe Suede Blues (featuring Peter Tork, formerly of The Monkees) from California. This group plays great blues, originals and oldies (with some Monkees tunes thrown in). What an exciting way to close out the entertainment on the festival stage. The stage will also be the setting for some of the area's (and Britain and the West Coast's) finest entertainment.

### Art Show

The Labor Day Art Shows, taking place at the Community Center, are sponsored by the Greenbelt Association for the Visual Arts (GAVA). There are two shows, one for adults and one for children and teens. Entries for the art show will be accepted on Friday evening from 5 to 7 p.m. The show opens to the public on Saturday and will stay open for the remainder of the festival. Fliers with complete information are available at the Community Center and the Greenbelt Library. Barbara Simon, Labor Day Art Show chair, can answer all questions. She can be reached at 301-474-2192.

### Photo Show

Entries for the photo show will also be accepted on Friday, September 3 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Community Center. On Saturday, the photo show opens to the public. It also will remain open during the entire festival. Keith Zevallos at 301-474-5542 can provide additional information. It costs nothing to enter and recognition will be given to winners in various categories.

### Games

The Greenbelt Recreation Department will be hosting kids' games on Saturday morning, as well as a slow pitch tournament, a tennis tournament, a horseshoe tournament, a home run derby and a golf contest. The pullout in the August 26 edition of the News Review will list starting times and locations.

### Pets

The Annual Labor Day Pet Show, sponsored by teen Girl Scouts of Greenbelt, will be held on Saturday morning from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on the Community Center front lawn. All types of animals are invited to enter. Registration is at 9:30 a.m., judging at 10 and awards given out at 10:30 a.m.

Carol's Critters is returning to the festival and will also be located on the Community Center lawn on Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. There will be a wide array of rescued farm animals – cows, goats, geese and rabbits.

Reptile Wonders, new to the festival, will be located in the

dining hall of the Community Center – on Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. There will be lots of interesting creatures on display – snakes and lizards.

### Information Day

There are still a few spots for groups to participate in Information Day to be held in Roosevelt Center. This day provides participating groups an opportunity to share their cause, mission or product (no sales are permitted) with festival goers. Those who want to participate should call Dave Pitts at 301-345-9605 for more information and an application.

### Talent Show

There is still time to enter the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Talent Show. Auditions/rehearsals are August 24 and 31 at 7 p.m. at the Community Center. The talent show is on Saturday, September 4 at 6 p.m. Call Dennis Lewis at 301-577-1718 for more information.

### Parade

The Labor Day Festival parade, always a highlight of the festival, is on Monday morning starting at 10 a.m. The Outstanding Citizen is the grand marshal of the parade, which includes the pageant winners and contestants, community groups, marching bands and musical groups and fire and police details. Chairperson Linda Ivy is still accepting applications for this year's Labor Day parade. Applications can be obtained and submitted on the festival website at [www.greenbelt.com/laborday](http://www.greenbelt.com/laborday). Ivy can be reached by email at [Lindaivy@aol.com](mailto:Lindaivy@aol.com).

### Shuttle Buses

The festival will once again offer shuttle bus service from various points in the city. Vans will run from satellite locations at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Greenbelt Elementary and Green Ridge House. The Municipal Building is the drop-off and pick-up point for the shuttle. The back of the festival pullout in the August 26 issue of the News Review will contain the shuttle schedule.

Drivers are still needed for the shuttle. Call Lester Whitmer at 301-345-8897 to volunteer to drive a shuttle shift.

### Ticket Sellers

Individuals interested in being ticket sellers and volunteers are still needed to assist with this year's festival in all areas. This is an opportunity for students in grades 7 through 12 who need community hours to fulfill their service requirement. Ticket sellers must be at least 15 years old. Volunteers who are not students are also welcome to come and help out. Call Patti Brothers at 301-982-2312 for more information about general volunteer positions. Call Lenny Wertz at 301-864-0254 for ticket seller positions.

There will be a mandatory meeting for ticket sellers on Tuesday, August 31 at 7:30 p.m. at Greenbelt Community Church.

### Program Booklet

The festival pullout will appear in next week's News Review. It will have a detailed schedule of all of the activities at the festival. Festival goers should not miss getting a copy so they can plan for the weekend.

*Festival Notes is written by  
Labor Day Festival Chair  
Patti Brothers.*

## Community Events

### Management Series On Diabetes Begins

Beginning Thursday, September 2, the Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program, in conjunction with the Prince George's County Health Department, will present a four-part diabetes education series. This series is designed for individuals with diabetes and those who care for them. Attendees will obtain valuable information on a variety of topics including nutrition, medication, exercise, foot care and complications and stress.

Sessions will meet from 11 a.m. to noon at Green Ridge House, 22 Ridge Road, in the dining room. Classes are free and are taught by a registered nurse, dietician and certified diabetes educator.

The session schedule is as follows: Session 1 - Thursday, Sept. 2; Session 2 - Thursday, Sept. 9; Session 3 - Thursday, Sept. 16 and Session 4 - Thursday, Sept. 23.

Pre-registration is required. Green Ridge House residents may sign up in the lobby of Green Ridge House. All other attendees should call Christal Parker Batey, community resource advocate for the City of Greenbelt at 301-474-8000, ext. 2012. For questions call Jim Bowles at 301-345-1695.

### Rome and Pompeii Explorations Topic

The "Explorations Unlimited" travel video scheduled for August 27 is "Great Cities of the Ancient World – Rome and Pompeii."

See a reconstruction of Rome and Pompeii as they were about 2,000 years ago and the Colosseum, as it stood, with 50,000 Romans applauding bloody gladiator spectacles. Walk the Roman Forum and visit the Circus Maximus where 150,000 cheered chariot races. Gaze at the lavish lifestyles in Rome and Pompeii – the baths, theaters, temples, palaces and markets. Watch Nero's Rome ablaze and Vesuvius' devastation of Pompeii, recreated as it might have happened. This video answers curious imaginations about what these cities looked like and how the people really lived.

This video is the last of the "Explorations Unlimited" summer travel videos shown every Friday beginning at 1 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. All videos are shown in the senior lounge. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

### Mamas & Papas Meet on Wed.

The Greenbelt Mamas & Papas will meet Wednesday, August 25, at 11 a.m. at the playground across from the Greenbelt Library, 11 Crescent Road. Meet other local parents while the children play. For information contact Anne Gardner at [annegard@smart.net](mailto:annegard@smart.net) or 301-220-1721.

### Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

It's always nice to go away on a trip but it's really nice to come home. We had some spectacular sunsets in the Outer Banks, N.C. and a little wind and rain from Hurricane Alex.

Mary Gardner was the greeter at the August 11 meeting and the 50/50 winners were Leney Holohan and Pat Hand.

Bill Souser gave a very interesting talk about the Johnstown flood, illustrated with maps and memorabilia.

The travel coordinators are planning a trip to the World War II Memorial and a trip to Connecticut including the Foxwoods Casino and a tour of Mystic in November.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Ellie and Joe Rimar on the death of their son, Andrew.

### City Seeks Funding For Greenbrook Trail

The City of Greenbelt has submitted a grant application seeking Fiscal Year 2005 funds for assistance in taking possession of the Greenbrook Estates/Village Trail via an easement from the Greenbrook Homeowners Association.

The funding would support the Greenbrook Estates Trail Project in acquiring, rehabilitating and repaving a 1/4-mile trail that connects the local community to Schrom Hills Park.

The Greenbrook Estates Trail Project budget totals \$35,222 of which the City of Greenbelt would contribute \$20,705, or 59 percent of the sum, in cash and in-kind services. The city is applying for funding for the remaining \$14,517 through the National Recreational Trails Funding Program.

### View the Heavens

The Greenbelt Astronomy Club will host a star party this Saturday, August 21, beginning at dark. This event will take place at Wolfe Field on Northway. There is no charge. All are invited to attend. Club members will have telescopes available to share views of celestial objects. In the event of precipitation or hopelessly cloudy skies at the time of this event, it will be cancelled without further notice.



### PRELIMINARY AGENDA

### SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, August 26, 2004

GHI Board Room

7:00 p.m.

### Key Agenda Item

- 2004 Townhouse Furnaces Contract – 2nd Reading

Regular board meetings are open to members.

# Obituaries

## Andrew H. Rimar

Dr. Andrew (Andy) H. Rimar, DVM, age 57, son of Elinor and Joseph Rimar of 6 Court Hillside Road, died suddenly at his home in Lancaster, S. Car., on August 4, 2004.

Dr. Rimar grew up in Greenbelt. He attended North End Elementary School, Greenbelt Junior High School and High Point High School.

Then he attended Prince George's Community College and went to the University of Maryland for two years, studying pre-veterinarian courses. He enrolled in the University of Georgia, graduating in 1975 after four years with high honors.

Dr. Rimar interned by assisting other veterinarians until he purchased his own clinic in 1986. During his internship he met Dr. Carol Dietz, DVM. They married in 1984. They became co-owners of the Lancaster Animal Hospital and the Indianland Animal Hospital. Dr. Rimar operated at the Lancaster location and his wife managed the other, which is located between Lancaster and Charlotte, N. Car.

He is survived by his wife Carol Dietz-Rimar, son Philbrook, parents Elinor and Joseph Rimar and older brother Joseph of Nokesville, Va.

A memorial service celebrating his life was held August 8, 2004, at the Mahaffey Funeral Home in Lancaster, S. Car. It was attended by a large gathering of families, friends and clients.



### Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi (301-937-3666)  
Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

August 22, 10 a.m. "Sorrow, Joy and Growth" by Patricia Most with Nancy Boardman, worship associate



Barbara Wells ten Hove, Jacob B. ten Hove, co-ministers

### Baha'i Faith

Our Button Making booth will be available throughout the Labor Day festival in the Carnival area for you to put your clever ideas or photos on badges, magnets or key chains.

Greenbelt Baha'i Community  
P.O. Box 245  
Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-345-2918 301-220-3160

www.bahai.org www.us.bahai.org



Catholic Community of Greenbelt

SUNDAY MASS, 10:00 AM AT MUNICIPAL BUILDING

SERVE BREAKFAST AT S.O.M.E.

Sunday, August 29, 2004

Meet at St. Hugh's School Parking Lot, 6:00 AM

## In Memoriam



Andrew Rimar and wife Carol

Andy loved all animals. At one time or another Andy's bedroom at 14-R Laurel Hill Road was home to Toby, a squirrel who would spend nights in the house. Toby would leave the house in the morning, spend the day in the woods and come home to sleep at night. A bantam rooster, ferret and pet skunk were kept in cages in our back yard.

We have these special memories And, although our son is gone, In time the sadness will fade away But the memories linger on.

- Ellie and Joe Rimar

### National Arboretum Hosts Stone Exhibit

Discover the intrigue of viewing stones valued for their untouched, naturally weathered beauty and for the images they suggest of natural scenes or objects, during a free exhibit of the U.S. National Arboretum's permanent collection. The exhibit will be open from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends through August 29. The Arboretum is located at 3501 New York Ave., NE. Visit [www.usna.usda.gov](http://www.usna.usda.gov) or call 202-245-5898 for information.

### Patuxent Refuge August Programs

The Patuxent Research Refuge offers the following free programs. "Butterflies: Nature's Festival of Color!" Sunday, Aug. 22 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., ages 10+ Bring water and dress for a 3-mile hike. "Bird Walk" Saturday, Aug. 21 from 8 to 10 a.m., all ages. Bring field guides and binoculars. "Night Hike" Saturday, Aug. 21 from 7:30 to 9 p.m., all ages. Reservations may be made by calling 301-497-5887. For more information, visit [patuxent.fws.gov](http://patuxent.fws.gov).



### Congregation Mishkan Torah

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770, 301-474-4223  
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield

A warm, comfortable and involved congregation  
K to post-confirmation education program  
First year school FREE for one child  
Reconstructionist/Conservative affiliation  
[www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)

Services: Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.  
Family, 7:30 first Friday of the month

### Greenbelt Community Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hillside & Crescent Roads  
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings  
[www.greenbelt.com/gcucc/](http://www.greenbelt.com/gcucc/)  
**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..."



### St. George's Episcopal/Anglican Church

7010 Glenn Dale Road (Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)  
301-262-3285 | [rector@stgeo.org](mailto:rector@stgeo.org) | [www.stgeo.org](http://www.stgeo.org)

**Sundays:** 8:00 am Simple, quiet Mass  
9:00 am Christian education for all ages  
10:00 am Sung Mass with organ and folk music, ASL interpreted  
1:30 pm Signed Mass (last Sunday of each month only)  
**Wednesdays:** 7:00 pm Simple, quiet Mass

An inclusive congregation!

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

### UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church



HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE  
[www.gbmg-UMC.org/mowatt](http://www.gbmg-UMC.org/mowatt)

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt 301-474-9410  
**SUNDAY**  
Sunday School 9:45 am  
Worship Service 11:00 am  
Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm  
Third Friday, Games Night 7:30 pm

Rev. DaeHwa Park, Pastor

August 22, 12th Sunday after Pentecost  
Sermon: "Are We Ready for the Kingdom?"

# FOGM Opens Website On Museum News

by Sandra Lange

Friends of the Greenbelt Museum (FOGM) board member Rita Cacas has designed a new website at [www.greenbeltmuseum.org](http://www.greenbeltmuseum.org). The website features information on FOGM's history, the challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and upcoming events. It also shows items in the gift shop and previous information



Rack card

on how to become a museum volunteer. The website also has links to other Greenbelt-related sites.

Videos of recent lectures, including Sharon Bradley's talk on "Restoring Roosevelt Center," Helen Langa's "Art for the People: American Murals from the Great Depression" and John Breihan's "Middle River: The Town that Bombers Built," are now available for a small fee. Call the museum office at 301-507-6582 to order a copy.

The museum has a new rack card (see photo above) - a glossy postcard-sized card that briefly describes Greenbelt's history as a national historic landmark, its innovative design features and the his-

toric house. Also listed are the museum's location, hours and website address. The card will be placed in hotels and other public areas where tourists interested in visiting Greenbelt can pick it up. It is also available at the Community Center and other public locations.

The Franklin D. Roosevelt American Heritage Center is

online at <http://www.fdrheritage.org>. It is dedicated to advancing the legacy of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and the New Deal. The Franklin D. Roosevelt American Heritage Museum opened on Saturday, July 24 in historic Worcester, Mass., at the renovated Union Station.

**PRAY for BRYAN**

Paid Advertising

### HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Sunday 8:00 a.m. Worship  
8:45 a.m. Fellowship  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
9:15 a.m. Bible Class  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Evening Worship



Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail [myholycross@erols.com](mailto:myholycross@erols.com)

### GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org) [greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net](mailto:greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net)  
Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor



Sun. Worship 8:35 am, 11:00 am  
Wed. Praise and Prayer 7:00 pm  
Wed. Living Proof, Youth Event 7:00 pm

"Building Bridges to the Family of God thru the Love of Christ"

### MASS SCHEDULE:

Sunday 8, 9:30, 11 a.m.  
Saturday 5 p.m.

Daily Mass: 9 a.m.

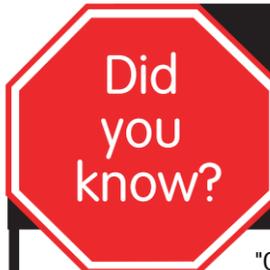
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Pastor: Fr. Walter J. Tappe

Pastoral Associate: Fr. R. Scott Hurd

### ST. HUGH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Md.



Islam is considered by its followers as a way of life rather than just a religion, as it gives guidance in every aspect of human life.

"O you who believe! Let not a group scoff at another group; it may be that the latter are better than the former. Nor let (some) women laugh at others; it may be that the latter are better than the former. Nor defame nor be sarcastic of each other, nor call each other by offensive nicknames. How bad it is to insult one's brother after having Faith. And whosoever does not repent, then such are indeed wrongdoers."

- The Holy Qur'an 49:11

To find out more about Islam, call 301-982-9463 or e-mail us at [muslimguide@hotmail.com](mailto:muslimguide@hotmail.com) or visit the website [www.islam-guide.com](http://www.islam-guide.com).

# MORISSETTE

continued from page 1

in Washington, D.C., and the Target Gallery in Alexandria, Va. She is currently planning an exhibit at the Glenview Mansion in Rockville early next year to show various three-dimensional artwork.

Mary Seng is the gallery manager at the arts center and is happy to have Morisette's work displayed in the building. "It adds an extra dimension that we can cover the arts in addition to the plays, poetry readings and concerts," said Seng. The response has been positive from everyone, especially young people. "The kids from the creative arts camps have been curious seeing that everyday objects can be made into art and it gives them the idea that they too can create something just as simple," Morisette said.

The exhibit will be on display through August 28. For more information call the center at 301-441-8770 or visit the website at [www.GreenbeltArtsCenter.org](http://www.GreenbeltArtsCenter.org).

## Behnke's Offers Tomato Tasting

On Saturday, August 21, Behnke Nurseries will host its 10th annual tomato celebration from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Behnke's located at 11300 Baltimore Avenue in Beltsville. New this year will be a variety of fun and games for children and adults together.

The Tomato Festival was started in 1994 by Sonja Behnke, daughter of founder Albert Behnke. At this year's festival eight varieties of tomatoes from at least five growers, members of the Maryland Direct Farm Market, will be featured.

About 300 visitors usually attend the Tomato Festival. This year some new events have been added. Cyndi Brown, a tomato specialist from Green Springs Garden Park, will speak on tomato cultivation at home, from selection and planting of seeds through maturity, including caring for the plants and problems encountered.

As usual, "Peter Pepper" will also be there with his various peppers and will answer questions. Gardeners who listen to Garden Sense on Saturday afternoons will be happy to meet John Peter Thompson, host of the popular radio show.

## Running Club Offers A Fun Benefit Race

The Prince George's Running Club's "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun . . . With the Guys" 5K race will be held Saturday, August 28, meeting at the 94th Aero Squadron Restaurant parking lot at 5240 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park. The 5K course (3.1 miles) on the Paint Branch Stream Trail runs past historic College Park Airport, loops around Lake Artemesia and returns. The women-only race begins at 8 a.m., followed by the men's estimated time run at 8:45 a.m.

There is an entry fee. Proceeds will be donated to Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the National Capital Area. Online registration is available at [www.racepacket.com](http://www.racepacket.com).

All female registrants receive T-shirts and post-race refreshments courtesy of the Atlanta Bread Company. For information call Lucy Younes at 301-927-1924 or visit [www.pgrc.org](http://www.pgrc.org).



Our sympathy to Claire Pilski and family on the death of her husband and their father Richard "Dick" Pilski. Mr. Pilski was on the city council for 10 years and served three terms as mayor.

Congratulations to Vicky Hernandez, resident retention specialist at Springhill Lake, who was named Employee of the Month for July 2004 for her outstanding contribution. While making her scheduled renewal calls, she found that an elderly resident was in the hospital pending surgery and could not come in to renew his lease. Vicky went to the hospital the following Saturday with the lease renewal, balloons and plenty of well wishes for the resident. She stayed to visit with him after helping him sign his renewal, saving him undue stress and additional expense.

Mrs. Mary Gardner of 2D Plateau Place was recently honored at a surprise 80th birthday party given for her by her children. The party took place at the Olney home of her son. Her three children as well as three of her

four grandchildren were present. Relatives and friends were present from New Jersey, Florida, California and many parts of Maryland. There was much socializing and a good time was had by all.

Congratulations to Karl and Annie Peña of 69 Court Ridge Road on the birth of their first child. Daughter Astrid was born on August 10, 2004, at 5:03 p.m., weighing in at 7 lbs., 4 oz. In addition to being a very proud dad, Karl is a staff photographer for the News Review.



It's a girl for News Review staffer Anne Gardner and husband Jon, who welcomed new daughter



Rebecca Katharine on August 17, 2004, at 2:43 a.m. Rebecca Katharine weighed in at 9 lbs. 1 oz. and joins big brother David, 6, and sister Elizabeth, 3. Congratulations to the Gardner family.

## Chorus Auditions At Maryland U.

The Maryland Chorus and Music Director Edward Maclary will hold community member auditions August 30 and 31 at the University of Maryland, College Park.

The 2004-2005 concert season will feature choral excerpts from Britten's operatic masterpiece, Peter Grimes, with the University of Maryland Symphony Orchestra; Handel's ode, Alexander's Feast, in honor of St. Cecilia; plus the popular Annual Holiday Concerts highlighting Bernstein's Chichester Psalms and the Vaughan Williams Fantasia on Christmas Carols.

Rehearsals and concerts take place in the state-of-the-art Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center on the College Park campus. Call 301-405-5571 to schedule an audition.

## Dystonia Group Offers Support

On August 29 at 1:30 p.m. a support group for people with dystonia will meet at Holy Cross Hospital, Auditorium 1, 1500 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring. Doctors will discuss recent developments in dystonia research.

For more information call 301-572-9596.

## Learn about Bonsai

Drop in at the U.S. National Arboretum's National Bonsai & Penjing Museum for a free informal demonstration on Saturday, August 21 or Sunday, August 22 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Learn basic bonsai techniques as a bonsai expert transforms a nursery plant into a beautiful bonsai. There is no registration required. Visit [www.usna.usda.gov](http://www.usna.usda.gov) or call 201-245-5898 for information.



**OPENINGS ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES**  
**Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups. Vacancies exist on the:**  
 Arts Advisory Board  
 Board of Elections  
 Park & Recreation Advisory Board  
 Recycling & Environment Advisory Committee  
**For more information, please call 301-474-8000.**

**Meetings for August 23 - August 27**  
**Wednesday, August 25, 8:00pm, COUNCIL WORK SESSION re: Playground Agreement, Multi-Purpose Room, Community Center**

**GREENBELT MUNICIPAL/PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 71**  
**MUNICIPAL ACCESS 301-474-8000: Tuesday & Thursday, August 24 & 26: 10am & 6pm "Ask the Expert Special Edition with Helen Barnes," 11:00am & 7:00pm "Ask the Expert-Diabetic Care," 8:00pm: "Greenbelt Labor Day Parade 2003."**  
**PUBLIC ACCESS (GATE): 301-507-6581: Wednesday & Friday, August 25 & 27th 7:00pm "Future View," 7:30pm "Public Safety Spotlight," 8:00pm: "GATE Filmworks Festival."**

**OWNERS OF ADOPTED PETS... MARCH IN THE GREENBELT LABOR DAY PARADE WITH YOUR PET AND THE GREENBELT ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER! FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT SUSIE HALL AT 301-474-6124**

**USED VEHICLE SALE BID 2004**  
 The City of Greenbelt will be accepting sealed bids for sale of the following vehicles.  
 Interested bidders may view vehicles/equipment the week of August 23rd, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., at the Greenbelt Public Works Department, 555 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD. For questions regarding the condition of the vehicles, contact the City Mechanical Shop at 301-474-0426.  
 Sealed bids shall be submitted to the City of Greenbelt, 555 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770, no later than 4:00 p.m. Monday, August 30, 2004. Bids will be opened on Tuesday, August 31, 2004, at 10:00 a.m. Bids must include the name, address and phone number of the bidder and the complete vehicle/equipment description, including the serial number. The highest bidders will be notified by phone or mail. Once notification has been made, successful bidders will have three working days to remove the vehicles from the Public Works Yard.  
 The City reserves the right to reject any bids.  
**Vehicles**  
 Unit #2 1994 Pontiac Grand Prix, Ser.#1G2WJ52M4RF271033, Odometer 120,582  
 Unit #24 1992 Chevy Caprice, Ser.#1G1BL5377NR150849, Odometer 113,052  
 Unit #815 1995 Chevy Caprice, Ser.#1G1BL52P8SR167351, Odometer 103,915  
 Unit #816 1996 Ford Crown Vic, Ser.#2FALP71W7TX186653, Odometer 101,686  
 Unit #900 1994 Chevy Caprice, Ser.#1G1BL52P9RR195394, Odometer 155,145  
 Unit #707 1991 Pontiac Grand Prix, Ser.#1GNNT13W5R0177808, Odometer 137,216  
 Unit #111 1993 Chevy Dump Truck, Ser.#1GBJK34N7PE232117, Odometer 30,881  
 Unit #115 1987 Ford Pickup, Ser.#1FTHF26HXHNA77631, Odometer 219,538  
 Unit #126 1991 Ford Dump Truck, Ser.#2FDLF47M7MCA45815, Odometer 31,161  
 Unit #160 1990 Chevy Fleetside Ser.#1GCCS14Z3M0137543, Odometer 61,376  
 Unit #261 1987 Ford Truck/Comp. Ser.#1FDYW82A6HVA59330, Odometer 56,012  
 Unit #402 1993 Chevy Dump Truck, Ser.#1GBJK34N2PE231781, Odometer 24,905  
**Equipment**  
 Unit #120 1985 Case Loader, Ser.#17025469  
 Old 8hp Mont. Ward Snowblower Ser.#8317C1 379  
 Old Hunter Sys. 700 Tire Machine Ser.#BA2737  
 Old Fuerst Tractor Mount Fertilizer Spreader- no serial number

# ✓ Your Vote - Your Voice ✓

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 Valid Aug. 19 thru Aug. 30, 2004  
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**301-572-4241**  
 Store Hours: M-F 10-8, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5

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**Volunteers Needed**  
 We have a great selection of wedding dresses!

**The Arc**  
 Prince George's County Proceeds Support Children and Adults With Mental Retardation

## SCHOOL OPENS continued from page 1

A parent or guardian of a child who attended an alternative program must register the child for first grade prior to the opening of school in the school year in which the child becomes six years old and must provide documentation showing proof of attendance in the alternate setting. Documentation includes the date the child was enrolled and the number of days the child was absent.

A six-year-old child who moves into Maryland who has not had a kindergarten experience may be enrolled in kindergarten or first grade. The local school system will determine the appropriate grade placement.

### Meal Prices

Lunch and breakfast prices will remain the same as for the last several years. Elementary school children's lunch will be \$1.75. Lunch for middle and high schoolers will be \$1.85. Reduced price lunches will be 40 cents for all grades. Breakfast in elementary schools will be \$1.10; in middle and high schools it will be \$1.25. Reduced price breakfast is 30 cents. Milk prices will also stay the same - 40 cents. Adult meals will be priced a la carte.

Children will be bringing home information about free or reduced cost lunches close to the first day of school. A detailed report of new income requirements is in a separate article in this issue.

### Rights/Responsibilities

The school system is drafting new and greatly expanded guidelines on the rights and responsibilities of students, their parents and guardians. The draft was on the school system website over the summer; it has now been removed to incorporate comments that were received. It will then be posted on the site again. It was not available in paper format. It will formalize rights and responsibilities, access to records and privacy concerns and issues related to conduct and disciplinary measures. One section was "Conduct warranting disciplinary measures resulting in denial of educational participation" and described levels of misconduct and levels of discipline ranging from detention to parent conferences, peer mediation, etc. The draft indicated that principals have the authority to assess suspensions of one to 10 days. Until these guidelines are finalized, the information below is expected to remain in effect.

### Extracurricular

High school students need to have a 2.0 or better grade point average in order to participate in extracurricular sports or activities. Averages will be computed quarterly.

### Expulsion Policy

Strict standards will continue to be upheld for drug, alcohol and weapons (including knives) abuse. Students need to be aware that none of these may be brought to school at any time and that expulsion will result should the rule be broken. According to the Code of Student Conduct, students will be expelled for the first offense involving the use of or possession of weapons.

For incidents involving drugs or alcohol, students will be expelled for the first offense involving distribution and the second offense involving possession. Most of these students are not

eligible for re-admission to the Prince George's County school until the following fall semester. They must also present documentation of satisfactory participation in the alcohol/drug treatment program. Should a child bring a loaded weapon to school, the parent will be prosecuted under state law.

### Medication Policy

The Department of Health and Human Services within Prince George's County Public Schools, acting on a recommendation from the State of Maryland, changed school policy several years ago regarding the dispensing of prescription and non-prescription medicine to students.

No medicines will be given to students without a physician's medication authorization form PS-51 or PS51-EPIPEN. Forms are available at all schools. All medications will be kept in the health room and not taken to the child's classroom.

Parents are asked to inform the school principal, health services staff and the classroom teacher of any known allergy or serious health problem their child(ren) may have. Every effort will be made to protect all students from injury and to provide a healthy environment.

Students will be transported by ambulance to the nearest medical facility should they require emergency treatment that cannot be provided at the school site. Parents will be notified as soon as possible.

### Websites

All schools in Greenbelt have a website (see box for website addresses). Some are more detailed than others and, as of mid-August, not all had been updated to reflect the new school year. However, most schools have a list of needed school supplies on their sites. The Prince George's County school system has an elaborate website ([www.pgcps.org](http://www.pgcps.org)) containing general information about the school system as well as detailed information on bus schedules, policy issues, future plans, school board meetings and agendas and information about individual schools in the system.

The most popular site at the county level is a listing of lunch menus for an entire month. Students, parents and community members are encouraged to access their school website. Greenbelters without children in school may want to access this site to learn more about the school system and its philosophy and activities.

One particularly useful service available to parents is an email notification that is issued if schools close early for any reason. Parents can find this service on the parents page under weather-related closings.

## School Facilities Available to Public

Public school facilities are available to non-profit community groups and organizations for use after school hours. Nominal rental fees are set according to Board of Education policy. The use of classrooms, gymnasiums, auditoriums, cafeterias and conference rooms is not only allowed by the school system but encouraged. School events receive priority consideration in scheduling. Contact the local school for availability.

## St. Hugh's School Opens August 31

Tuesday, August 31 is the first day of school at St. Hugh's. School hours are normally 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be noon dismissals the entire first week. Uniforms are required from the first day of school.

St. Hugh's School is comprised of grades kindergarten to eight, with before- and after-school care. The school has a website at <http://www.StHughs.com>. A few openings may still be available in the lower grades.

For more information call the school at 301-474-4071.

## Income Guidelines For School Lunches

Prince George's County Public Schools has announced revised income eligibility guidelines for free and reduced-price meals for the coming school year. Household size and income determine eligibility.

A child in a family or household of two would be eligible for a free meal if the household's current annual income is below \$16,237. For each additional family member, \$4,134 is added to this figure to compute eligibility. To be eligible for a reduced-price meal, a family of two must have an income of less than \$23,107 with \$5,883 added for each additional member of a family. Reduced-price lunch is 40 cents and breakfast, where available is 30 cents.

Contact the school system for more information at 301-952-6580 or through the Maryland Relay at 1-800-735-2258.

## Dress for Success at County Schools

Springhill Lake Elementary School is the only public school in Greenbelt with a voluntary uniform system. Berwyn Heights Elementary School, a school attended by some Springhill Lake students, has a uniform requirement. For other Prince George's County schools, the following dress code has been in effect for over six years.

- A headdress can be worn indoors for religious or health reasons only.
- Shirts and blouses should be continuous from neckline to waist. The entire mid-section should be covered. There can be no tank tops or muscle shirts; no clothing with vulgar language, obscene pictures, weapons, drug/alcohol products; and no see-through clothing.
- Skirts, dresses, shorts and spandex skirts should be approximately six inches below the buttocks or not shorter than fingertip level.
- Pants should be secured at the waist - no sagging below the waist to expose undergarments.
- Tights, stretch pants, leggings and spandex body suits must be worn with clothing long enough to cover buttocks.
- Shoes must be worn.

## Bus Schedules

Since school bus schedules have been computerized, the school system has been unable to provide this information to the News Review. Elementary students are considered "walkers" if they live within 1.5 miles of school; the radius for middle school and high school students is two miles. For information call the school system's Department of Transportation at 301-952-6570.

## Emergency Closing

When schools must be closed, opened later than usual or closed early because of weather or other emergency conditions, an announcement will be made over all Washington area radio and TV stations. Parents are requested not to call the schools, central office or radio stations. When schools are closed early, bus transportation will be available for those students who are bused.

## Hours/Websites

Berwyn Heights Elementary  
[www.pgcps.org/~berwyn](http://www.pgcps.org/~berwyn)  
Opens 9:15 a.m.; Closes 3:25 p.m.

Greenbelt Elementary  
[www.pgcps.org/~gbeltes/](http://www.pgcps.org/~gbeltes/)  
Opens 9:15 a.m.; Closes 3:25 p.m.

Magnolia Elementary  
[www.pgcps.org/~magnolia/](http://www.pgcps.org/~magnolia/)  
Opens 9:15 a.m.; Closes 3:25 p.m.

Springhill Lake Elementary  
[www.pgcps.org/~spring/](http://www.pgcps.org/~spring/)  
Opens 8:15 a.m.; Closes 2:25 p.m.

Greenbelt Middle School  
[www.pgcps.org/~gbms/](http://www.pgcps.org/~gbms/)  
Opens 9 a.m.; Closes 3:40 p.m.

Eleanor Roosevelt High School  
<http://erosevelths.pgcps.org/>  
Opens 8:25 a.m.; Closes 3:05 p.m.

For more school related stories, see pages 8 and 10.



### Auto Loans

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112 Centerway, Greenbelt, MD  
301-474-5900

apply online at [www.erols.com/gfcrun](http://www.erols.com/gfcrun)  
or call to apply

Interest rate is annual percentage rate subject to change.



The nature of this flower is to bloom. —Alice Walker

## "Green" Mum Sale!

Take advantage of this great deal  
and get a jump on your fall garden.

Save big on mums by planting them now! Even though they're not yet in bloom, you can plan your fall garden palette with confidence—plants are guaranteed to be accurately labeled. Regularly \$4.99.

**Sale \$3.29!**

Listen to "Garden Sense" Radio Show  
Saturdays at noon on WMAL 630 AM!

## Don't Miss These August Events!

At Beltsville  
**Tomato Festival!**

Our annual  
tomato-tasting celebration!  
Saturday, August 21, 10am-3pm

At Potomac  
**Wine Tasting!**

Great Maryland wines from  
Linganore and Boordy.  
Saturday, August 21, 10am-2pm



Beltsville, MD 11300 Baltimore Ave. 301.937.1100  
Potomac, MD 9545 River Road 301.983.9200  
Largo, MD 700 Watkins Pk. Dr. 301.249.2492

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***Greenbelt Consumer Co-op Ad***

# POLICE BLOTTER

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

## Robbery

July 21, 7200 Hanover Drive, an arrest warrant has been obtained in an armed robbery reported July 13 charging a resident man with robbery, assault and use of a handgun in a violent crime.

August 6, 6:50 p.m., Greenway Center, a woman reported that she was walking to her vehicle when she was struck from behind by a man who then took her purse. He got into a vehicle described as a white 4-door hatchback and fled the scene. He is described as a black male in his thirties with a thin build, short black hair, wearing a T-shirt, black denim pants and dark colored tennis shoes. The woman was transported to the hospital for a facial injury.

August 9, 6:50 p.m., Greenway Center, a cashier at The Curiosity Shoppe reported that a man walked behind the counter, produced a knife and told the cashier to open the cash register. After taking money he fled the scene on foot. He is described as a black male in his twenties with a skinny build, black close-cropped hair, a thin beard, wearing a white shirt, jeans and sunglasses.

August 11, 9:43 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane, a man reported that he met two men at a bar the previous evening and they followed him to Cherrywood Lane, where they assaulted him, punching and kicking him. They took the victim's wallet and fled the scene, possibly in a vehicle described as a Honda with unknown state tags HAZ2544. The suspects are described as a Hispanic male, 23 to 25 years of age, 5'5" and an Hispanic male, 20 to 22 years of age, 5'8", both with medium builds.

August 11, 10:23 p.m., 8000 block Lakecrest Drive, a man reported that he and his wife had parked in front of a residence when they were approached by two men. One was armed with a handgun and announced a robbery. After obtaining money from the victim, both men fled on foot. They are described as two black males, approximately 20 years old and 140 pounds. One was 5'6" with black hair, wearing a black T-shirt, blue jeans and a black bandana around his forehead and the other was 5'5" with black hair, wearing a black sleeveless T-shirt with a striped shirt underneath and beige shorts.

## Attempted Rape

August 7, 8:37 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive, a non-resident man was arrested and charged with abduction of a child under the age of 16, attempted rape, assault, third degree sexual assault and fourth degree sexual assault. A 15-year-old girl reported that the man, who is known to her, pulled up next to her in a vehicle, got out and pulled her into a laundry room. He attempted to sexually assault the girl, but she was able to flee the scene and contact police. The suspect came to the Greenbelt Police Station and was arrested. He was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner.

## Assault

August 2, 9:12 a.m., Eleanor Roosevelt High School, a non-resident youth was arrested on peti-

tion for assault after he was involved in a fight with another student.

August 8, 6:25 a.m., 7800 block Hanover Parkway, a non-resident man was arrested and charged with assault. A man reported that he and the suspect were involved in a verbal confrontation when the suspect attempted to stab him with a knife. The victim was cut while attempting to defend himself and was transported to the hospital for treatment of lacerations to his hands. The suspect was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner.

August 8, 8 p.m., Greenbelt Road and Mandan Road, a man reported that he was driving east on Greenbelt Road when he observed a youth standing on the shoulder of the roadway. The youth pulled a BB-type handgun out of his waistband and fired at the man's vehicle and at a second vehicle. One of the victims, an off-duty Metropolitan Police officer, exited his vehicle and chased the youth on foot. The suspect, who was last seen running on Mandan Road toward Canning Terrace, was not apprehended. He is described as a black male, 13 to 15 years of age, bald with brown eyes, wearing a black shirt and pants.

August 11, 5:44 p.m., 9200 block Springhill Lane, an officer on foot patrol observed a man punch another person in the face, then run from the scene. The victim was rendered unconscious and was transported to the hospital for treatment. The suspect is described as a black male, 20 to 30 years old, 6', 150 pounds with black hair, brown eyes, a light goatee, wearing a black T-shirt, blue or black jeans and a black ball cap or handkerchief on his head.

## Weapon

August 9, 7:40 p.m., 5900 block of Cherrywood Terrace, a resident youth was arrested for carrying a dangerous weapon. Police observed the boy standing with a group of youths in a courtyard area. Upon seeing police the youth acted in a suspicious manner. Police approached him on foot, at which time he reached into his waistband and removed what appeared to be a handgun and pointed it toward several children who were playing nearby. Police ordered the youth to drop the weapon and he did so. Further investigation revealed that the weapon was an air-type BB pistol. The youth was released to a parent pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

## DWI

August 7, 5 a.m., Hanover Parkway and Good Luck Road, a non-resident man was arrested and charged with driving while impaired and driving under the influence after being stopped for a traffic violation. He was released on citations pending trial.

## Drugs

August 2, 9:01 a.m., Eleanor Roosevelt High School, one resident and seven nonresident youths were arrested for possession of marijuana. They were found in a restroom by a school

administrator. The responding school resource officer detected the odor of what he believed to be marijuana and discovered a quantity of suspected marijuana on the floor. All of the youths were released to school administrators pending action by the School Board and the Juvenile Justice System.

August 5, 9:31 p.m., 100 block Centerway, a woman and a man of no fixed addresses were arrested and charged with possession of marijuana, disorderly conduct and intoxicated endangerment. Police responded to a report of a fight in progress and observed a physical confrontation in the parking lot of Woody's Mobil Station. The two were also shouting profanities and disturbing the normal flow of business. The fight was broken up and the woman was found to be in possession of a quantity of suspected marijuana. The man advised that the marijuana was his. Both were released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner.

## Disorderly

August 6, 7:04 p.m., 54 court Crescent Road, a resident man was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. Police responded to a report of a man bleeding from the head. Police located the man who appeared to be intoxicated. He refused medical treatment, and then urinated in full view of passersby and began yelling loudly. He was released on citation pending trial.

August 13, 4:12 a.m., 54 court Crescent Road, a woman, of no fixed address, was arrested and charged with disorderly intoxication when police responded to a report of someone sleeping in the hallway of an apartment building. The woman, who appeared to be intoxicated, was located and refused several requests to leave the property. As police escorted her from the property she became disorderly and was arrested. She was released on citation pending trial.

## Vehicle Crimes

Four vehicles were stolen: a 1998 Infiniti I-30 4-door and a 1998 Chevrolet Caprice 4-door from Beltway Plaza Mall; a green 1997 Chevrolet Tahoe, Maryland tags 273M140 from the 9100 block Springhill Lane; and a burgundy 1994 Nissan Altima 4-door, Maryland tags LMJ684 from the 8000 block Lakeside Drive.

Five vehicles were recovered, one by Greenbelt police and four by other police departments with no arrests in any of the recoveries.

Vandalisms to, thefts from or attempted thefts of vehicles were reported in the following areas: 7200 and 7600 blocks Hanover Parkway, 7800 block Mandan Road, 7300 block Morrison Drive, 7600 block Ora Glen Drive, unit block Parkway, 21 and 22 courts Ridge Road, 6100 block Breezewood Court, 6100 (two incidents) and 6200 blocks Breezewood Drive, 5800 block Cherrywood Lane, 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, 9000 block Edmonston Road, Market Lane and Springhill Lane, 6200 block Springhill Court and Beltway Plaza Mall (two incidents).

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Citizens may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.

## School Bus Safety Tips

The American Red Cross offers the following tips for school bus safety. Children should:

- Line up facing the school bus door – not along the side of the bus.
- Carry belongings in a backpack or book bag.
- Never reach under a school bus to get anything that has rolled or fallen underneath.
- Wait for a signal from the bus driver before crossing the street. Walk at least 10 steps away from the front of the bus to be visible by the driver.
- Never cross the street behind the school bus.

## How to Resolve School Problems

If a child encounters a specific problem or concern during the school year, the school system recommends that parents take the following steps: 1) Contact the child's teacher or other person with whom the problem was encountered; 2) If the problem was not resolved in step 1, call or make an appointment with the principal; or 3) If after talking with the principal the issue is not resolved to the parents' satisfaction, contact the Chief Educational Administrator

(CEA) of the community school cluster. In Greenbelt, the Principal of Eleanor Roosevelt High School is also the CEA of Greenbelt area schools.

If a parent is unable to come to a satisfactory resolution of his/her concern at the school or CEA levels, call Dr. Bruce Katz, the newly appointed Acting Regional Assistant Superintendent for Region II (the region containing Greenbelt schools) or the Superintendent of Schools at 301-952-6008.



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# COUNCIL continued from page 1

ate of the Marriage and Family Therapy Program at the University of Maryland. This past fall she was a group leader for the Strengthening Families Program at Springhill Lake Elementary School. She described the success of that program and the satisfaction of families who had participated.

Blair is a clinical professional counselor, licensed both nationally and by the state as a crisis counselor. She has extensive experience in the Prince George's County Public School System, working as a counselor for the Walk-In Student Counseling and Family Support Centers and as a home and hospital teacher. Mayor Judith Davis said it was a pleasure to welcome such experienced staff to an important job.

### Green Ridge House

The city may also be able to extend its services to citizens if a grant from HUD is approved for a service coordinator to be assigned to Green Ridge House. Council congratulated staff on finding and applying for this grant that would provide funds for three years totaling about \$192,000. Staff believes that if the application is approved and the program put in place, funding would continue past the initial three years. The program is intended to provide services to residents who are elderly and frail to enable them to live in their homes as long as possible. The response from Green Ridge House has been very positive, David Moran, assistant city manager reported.

### Goddard

The only item on the agenda stimulating much debate was the varied reaction of council members to a draft letter to the National Capital Park and Planning

Commission on its proposed capital improvements program for Fiscal Years 2005-2010. Comments centered on the road improvement at Goddard Space Flight Center and brought up long-standing issues of environmental impact.

Davis and Councilmember Leta Mach wanted to recognize the very cooperative relationship between the city and Goddard while still showing concern for preserving woodlands and wetlands. Councilmember Rodney Roberts wanted to be more specific and to oppose the reconfiguration of Soil Conservation Road, which he said would have a negative environmental impact.

City Manager Michael McLaughlin indicated that the letter could be revised to be positive in tone yet convey the city's legitimate concerns.

### Other Action

The Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB) has noted that at least one City Contribution Group (organizations receiving funding from the city) begins its meetings with a religious meditation. CRAB is concerned that some residents may be uncomfortable with this practice and possibly feel excluded. Instead CRAB recommends that groups begin their meetings with a moment of silence as council does. Staff drafted a letter to be sent to all City Contribution Groups and council approved this action.

Councilmember Konrad Herling suggested that groups could opt to use the Greenbelt pledge, which is secular and promotes community values. City Contribution Groups include many of the recreational, arts and sports groups in Greenbelt.

Davis mentioned plans for the

dedication of the new bus stop on Greenbelt Road, which will take place on August 18. She noted that the bus stop resulted from work by the City of Greenbelt and the State Highway Administration. This will be a safer bus stop for riders and a more convenient road design for drivers.

Davis asked about the use of the small motorized scooters in Schrom Hills Park which had been mentioned in a recent park ranger report. McLaughlin responded that they are not allowed on park property and that the city would first inform citizens of that fact and later issue citations if the practice continues. He said it had been a serious problem a few years ago and that the city had taken steps to prevent it and would do so again if necessary.

### Riversdale Concert Held Rain or Shine

As the sun sets, bring a blanket or lawn chair to the newly landscaped grounds of Riversdale Mansion. Unpack a picnic basket and enjoy music from the portico of this federal mansion. On August 25, a free concert will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. rain or shine (in the event of rain, the concert will be inside). If packing a picnic is a hassle, buy dinner on the grounds before the show. The Civil War era Federal City Brass Band will perform.

Riversdale, a national historic landmark, is located at 4811 Riverdale Road in the town of Riverdale Park. For more information call 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544 or check the website at [www.pgparcs.com](http://www.pgparcs.com).

# ERHS Senior Awards Won by Greenbelters

Eleanor Roosevelt High School recognized outstanding seniors at its 2004 Awards Ceremony at the end of the school year. Many parents, faculty, students and local officials including Greenbelt Mayor Judith Davis attended. Students were recognized for obtaining four-year grade point averages (GPA) of 4.0 or above. Additionally, awards were presented by each department to outstanding students and by a number of outside organizations. Recipients from Greenbelt are shown below.

Graduates who obtained a GPA of 4.0 or above included Rosanne Baker, Catherine Butterworth, Kira Cayo-Cotter, Yee Man Chan, Jessica Mealey and Leanna Powell.

Jessica Mealey and Omar Jackson were the recipients of the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) award. Mealey also received the Mann Civitan Award and the National Honor Society Award.

Erika Thomas won the

Skolnik award, given to a journalism student in memory of Al Skolnik, long-time editor of the Greenbelt News Review. Thomas also won a journalism award and the Judy Frank Memorial Scholarship.

Catherine Butterworth won the science fair award; Joshua Attick won the Delegate Healey Award; Tion Johnson was awarded the David Craig Memorial Scholarship; Christina Chiddo won the Vivian Conyers Memorial Scholarship and the Cooperative Office Education award; and Evodia Jeremy won the Thelma Elaine Maddux Price Memorial Award.

Leanna Powell won an award from the Rhode Island School of Design as well as an Art award. Other awardees included William Dorsey for Diversified Occupations, Irfan Hussain for Physical Education, Lauren Schreiber for Sign Language, Mary Fominaya for Family and Consumer Science and Claudia White for Cooperative Career Education.

### Preventing Storm Damage to Trees

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) offers some practical suggestions to spare trees from storm damage. Property owners should be aware of potential hazards which may include cracks in the trunk or major limbs; hollow, aged and decayed trees; one-sided or significantly leaning trees; branches that hang over the house near the roof; and close proximity to utility lines.

To prevent damage, owners should remove dead, diseased or damaged limbs and consider removing trees with large cavities of decay. Leaning trees may indicate a root problem that needs inspection

by an arborist. Branches too close to a building or to the street should be pruned to provide clearance. Branches that are too close to or touching utility lines should be reported to the local utility company for pruning or removal. Homeowners should not undertake this task themselves.

Heavy rains and wind can cause trees to crack, split and even uproot. Severe storms with heavy rains can soak the soil so thoroughly that tree roots cannot stay fastened in the ground during strong winds. Consult an arborist for more details that can protect your trees and your property.

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**DR. JAY MCCARL**

Dental Implant Symposium, Boston University.

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**DR. DAVID J. MCCARL**

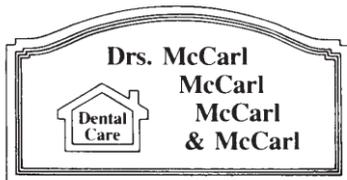
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### PTAs Announce Fall Schedules

Most public schools in Prince George's County have a parent and teacher association. The organizations provide an opportunity for parents, teachers and administrators to work together on various school-related programs.

PTA meetings are held on the first Tuesday in elementary schools, the second Tuesday in middle schools and the third Tuesday in high schools.

The County Council of PTAs meets on the fourth Tuesday in October, November, January, February, March and April at Largo High School, 505 Largo Road, Upper Marlboro. For more information call 301-262-7382.

### Volunteer at School

Volunteers help enhance education for students in the Prince George's County School System. Parents, students, neighbors, friends, business and government employees, crafts people, retirees and anyone who has time to share is invited to be a volunteer.

Volunteer activities include: tutoring children individually or in small groups; aiding teachers in reading, mathematics, handwriting, science, English as a Second Language or any area of interest; or sharing skills and talents, job expertise or life experience, as special resources for classroom instruction.

The volunteer could assist staff in the school office, media center, health room or cafeteria. Those unable to travel to a school could volunteer to help from home by making instructional materials, typing, making displays and many other activities.

Contact the local school to offer assistance.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Join a dedicated team of Greenbelters who work hard to provide an important community service.

Call Mary Lou at 301-441-2662 or Eileen at 301-513-0482

### Volunteers Needed

The USDA's Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, in conjunction with the National Institute on Aging of the National Institutes of Health, are planning a nutrition study and are recruiting healthy volunteers between 40 and 50 years of age, nonsmokers who normally eat three meals a day. If you meet all the above criteria, you may be eligible for this study.

Compensation up to \$2,200.

This is a pilot study that evaluates whether meal regularity/frequency influences risk factors for disease. Dr. Benjamin Caballero is the Principal Investigator.

For more information, please call 301-504-5454.

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### RATES

**CLASSIFIED:** \$3.00 minimum for ten words. 15¢ for each additional word. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 10 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 7 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770. **BOXED:** \$8.10 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$12.15). Deadline 10 p.m. Monday.

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### MERCHANDISE

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**YARD/MOVING SALES**

**YARD SALE** – Sat., Aug. 21, 8 a.m., 112 Lakeside Dr.

**MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE** – Sat., Aug. 21, 9-1, 5924 Natasha Drive, Berwyn Heights, Md. Ladies almost-new clothing, books, videos, toys, household items. Dir: from Greenbelt Rd, south on Kenilworth Ave, first right on Pontiac St. into B.H., left on 60<sup>th</sup> Ave, right on Natasha Drive. Rain date: Aug. 22, 8-12.

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**Brick Townhome**  
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**Corner Lot**  
 Great location just steps from Roosevelt Center. Large fenced yard with hedges for privacy. 3 bedrooms, remodeled kitchen. \$150,000 SOLD

**Frame Townhome**  
 Close to Roosevelt Center and Greenbelt Road. Wide floorplan with many improvements. Own this for less than rental payments! \$119,900

**Two Bedroom Townhome**  
 Remodeled townhome with modern kitchen. Fenced backyard with large custom-built shed. Near USDA property - great location! \$105,900

**Historic Greenbelt**  
 Single-family home with in-law apt. and separate entrance. 4 br. & 2 full baths. Completely renovated. Large deck and shed. \$324,900 SOLD

**Three Bedroom Townhome**  
 One of the few GHI homes with a bedroom and full bathroom on the first floor. Remodeled kit., stacking w & d and fenced yard. Coming Soon.

**Brick Townhome**  
 Unique GHI townhome on the library end of town. Many modifications and improvements. Large yard and close to Center. \$174,900 SOLD

**Townhome With Addition - Backs To Woods**  
 Frame townhome with extra half-bath on first floor. Large addition that overlooks Parcel 1 protected woodlands - very private! \$129,900 SOLD  
 U.C. = Under contract; seller may consider back-up offers



## Notable Dates in Festival History

The Greenbelt News Review has covered Labor Day Festival events since the first festival was held in 1955, making it an excellent source for documenting the festival's history. The following is a timeline of selected noteworthy dates from the first 25 years of the festival, as reported in the Greenbelt News Review. Look for dates from the second 25 years in a future issue.



**Here is the new insignia for the Greenbelt Festival. Designed by Beverley Fonda, chairman of the Youth Center Advisory Board, the idea for the design originated out of a desire of Earl Thomas, Chairman of the Baton Twirling contest to award to winners. The medals awarded contestants differ from the above design in that the center shows an outstretched majorette instead of the torch.**

### 1955

Greenbelt News Review publishes first article on the Labor Day Festival and parade

### 1959

"Queen of the Festival" procedure is changed: contestant standings will not be announced until the end of the festival

### 1960

Baby crawling contest (later dubbed the "Diaper Derby") is added

Festival crest is designed by Youth Center Advisory Board Chairman Beverley Fonda

### 1961

Dedication of Greenbelt Youth Center

### 1964

Dedication of Greenbelt Municipal Building

### 1966

Two separate booth requests by the Greenbelt Committee for Peace in Vietnam are denied, prompting numerous letters to the editor from both sides of the issue and a statement from then Mayor Edgar Smith.

### 1968

Crabs and beer are made available for the first time

David Eisenhower, Julie Nixon and Gladys Spellman participate in a political rally held at the festival

### 1969

Festival Committee members appear on the Norman Ross show on channel 14 on August 28, the festival is also covered on other local channels

### 1976

Festival Steering Committee, in an effort to eliminate "rowdyism," votes against asking for a special exception to a city ordinance prohibiting beer from being consumed around the Center

Joanne Volk's entry into the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Logo Contest wins and is still in use today

### 1978

Shuttle bus service is added to help attendees get to events and to discourage automobile traffic during the festival

### 1979

Festival celebrates its 25th Anniversary

## BARC Honors Dubey for Research on Diseases

by Marat Moore

J. P. Dubey, a well-known Greenbelt resident, has won one of the highest honors given in the U.S. Department of Agriculture for his research into the identification and control of major diseases transferred from animals to humans.

Dubey, a veterinary parasitologist at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC), is one of seven executives and scientists at the department's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) who have won the Presidential Award of Rank for 2003 following a year-long review process that requires a presidential signature. Recipients of the honor, which recognizes exceptional career accomplishments by senior executives, receive a certificate signed by President Bush and a cash award. Winners are recognized for demonstrating "strength, integrity, business acumen and a commitment to excellence in public service," according to an ARS press release. Traditionally this award has gone only to administrators; Dubey and two other scientists became the first researchers to win the distinction.

"I've worked all my life to identify and prevent diseases caused by single-celled parasites," said Dubey, who has authored four books and more than 800 peer-reviewed papers. The impact of his research reaches far beyond BARC. He discovered the life cycle and transmission of *Toxoplasma gondii*, the parasite that causes toxoplasmosis. This disease can threaten the health of newborns if an expectant mother is exposed through ingesting undercooked infected meat or coming into contact with kitty litter that contains infected cat feces. Dubey describes it as a disease "of developed countries, not undeveloped countries," and adds that in France, up to 80 percent of the population carries the parasite because they eat



J.P. Dubey

much meat which is not fully cooked. In the United States, some 30 percent carry the parasite.

The disease poses the greatest danger to pregnant women. "There is a 50-50 chance a pregnancy will be affected" if a woman is exposed, and affected infants may suffer mental retardation or loss of vision. Each year 3,000 children are born in the United States with the disease, he said. As a result, cat litter now carries a warning that pregnant women should not handle used cat litter. Toxoplasmosis also has an impact on elderly adults and anyone whose immune system is depressed. Dubey noted that tennis star Arthur Ashe, who died of AIDS, was first diagnosed with toxoplasmosis, which can only be controlled, not eradicated.

"All meat should be cooked well," warns Dubey, who leads a group of scientist from ARS and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in a nationwide study to determine the presence of *T. gondii* in grocery store meats. He led research that led to guidelines for reducing the presence of the parasite in pork.

### Pioneering Research

In 1988 Dubey discovered the organism which generates neosporosis, a cause of abortions

in dairy cattle and paralysis in dogs. He also named the organism that causes equine protozoal myeloencephalitis, a neurological disease affecting horses. Dubey's pioneering research has saved billions of dollars worldwide in healthcare and livestock production costs.

Dubey has long been recognized for his contributions to his field. In 1995 he won the WAAVP/Pfizer Award from the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology for his groundbreaking research. He has also served as a consultant to the United Nations and the World Health Organization, and is a former professor at the Ohio State University.

As an immigrant from India, Dubey has a special appreciation for the career opportunities in the United States open to people who are motivated to work hard to succeed.

"I am very happy to be living in the United States," he says. "My family in India was poor, and I did not have the opportunity, as most Americans do, to choose their line of work."

In fact, he was an accidental veterinarian. When a friend applied to veterinary school in India, the friend's family helped J.P. to attend with him. But struggle brought unexpected benefits, too — unable to buy books, Dubey developed his photographic memory because he couldn't keep the books he borrowed.

Recently he was promoted to the highest level of government classification (ES-1), one of eight scientists at the Department of Agriculture to be elevated to that position. His wife Niti and sons Ravi and Raj are very proud of the well-deserved recognition. When he's not working, J.P. enjoys spending time with his three granddaughters and Niti is off helping with another celebration — the birth of a nephew's child in Virginia.

"Overall, it's been a very good year," he says.

## PILSKI continued from page 1

College Park, Mr. Pilski was appointed to serve in his place. Council was to make a decision on the zoning of a strip of land between Edmonston Road and Kenilworth Avenue north of Greenbelt Road. The owner, Alfred Stidham of the Stidham Tire and Rubber Company, wanted zoning changed to manufacturing in order to build a tire retreading plant on the site. The council was evenly divided and Mr. Pilski's vote became the deciding one. He voted against the rezoning and later said he was glad that he had "helped to protect that one little triangle."

Years later he cast the deciding vote on the decision not to rezone Parcels 1 and 2.

He ran for re-election in September 1963 and lost. Not daunted, he ran again in 1965 and won by one vote. After that he was elected to nine more terms (20 years). He served as mayor for three terms.

### Rapid Growth

During Mr. Pilski's tenure on council there was rapid growth and many accomplishments by the council. These included the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, an addition to the Municipal Building, construction of the public works facility, the new Greenbelt police station, the development of Greenbriar and Greenbelt East, the annexation of Greenway Center and much of the southern portion of Greenbelt East, addition of green space for the city and an addition to the Youth Center.

### Controversial Issues

There were other, more controversial issues — the gun referendum, the opening of Cherrywood Lane through Beltway Plaza (a big campaign issue) and the building of a sewage treatment plant for Greenbriar. This was a tough campaign issue. Mr. Pilski believed it was the thing to do. To prove the cleanliness of the water (effluent) from the plant as it was proclaimed very clean, he drank a glassful. Later, when the plant was no longer needed and was to be dismantled, Mr. Pilski fought to keep it in operation. He was outvoted. He believed that smaller plants for communities was the way of the future.

He worked hard to get the necessary procedures done in order to build the Green Ridge House for the elderly and handicapped. He also supported the first multimillion dollar bond issue.

### Sign War

In his 1969 campaign it became apparent that his signs were being removed almost as soon as

they were put up. He and his followers went out one night, placed a sign securely in a tree and waited. Soon two people came along and tried to bat the sign down. Instead they fell down and the perpetrator turned out to be one of the other candidates. Since the police were called, warrants were issued. But when asked by someone he admired in high office to drop the complaint, he did. After that he worked with the other councilman.

Mr. Pilski fought against issues he believed were not good for Greenbelt. He was against the National Park Service's effort to swap Greenbelt Regional Park for a Virginia amusement park. He was proud that not one vote that he took had gone against what the planning board and the people wanted and so Greenbelt was only quality, not industrial development. Mr. Pilski considered it an honor to represent and serve the people of Greenbelt.

Mr. Pilski taught at Prince George's Community College. After his retirement he also served as a MARC aide to the Maryland Secretary of Transportation doing primarily public relations work.

He served on the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments Board of Directors for 10 years and on the National League of Cities Transportation Committee for 10 years. Also, he served on the first Prince George's County Tax Differential Committee that eventually devised a formula for reducing the tax rates in municipalities in recognition of services provided by them instead of the county. He returned to politics briefly in 2002 when he ran unsuccessfully for state senator.

Mr. Pilski was a member of St. Hugh's parish and the Knights of Columbus. He was also a member of American Legion Post 136. He helped with meals for S.O.M.E., which serves meals to the needy. He was known for his work in collecting day-old food from various stores and taking it to food banks. Wherever he went in Greenbelt he always met friends.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Claire, of their home in Greenbriar; son Richard Pilski, Jr., daughters Nancy Grill and husband Robert and Christine Weaver; grandchildren Erika Young and Melanie Weaver; and sisters Paula Hanko and Sabina Sarnak.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Hugh's Church on Wednesday, August 18, 2004. Interment was in Greenbelt Cemetery. Arrangements were by Borgwardt Funeral Home.



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