

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

VOL. 69, No. 13

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

FEBRUARY 16, 2006

Council and SHA Staff Explore Road Construction and Signals

by Carol Griffith

The Greenbelt City Council worksession with the State Highway Administration (SHA) on Wednesday, February 8 began with desserts in honor of the retirement of Charlie Watkins, the District 3 engineer. Watkins has held this position in District 3, which comprises Prince George's and Montgomery Counties, for 10 years. Mayor Judith Davis, noting Watkins' "open mind," thanked him for his "great working relationship" with the city. Watkins responded that the city's administration had been most willing to work as partners with SHA.

Attended also by City Manager Michael McLaughlin, Assistant City Manager David Moran, the entire city council and Assistant District 3 Engineer Lee Starkloff, the yearly stakeholder meeting proceeded with an agenda of seven items.

First was the status of the pilot pedestrian countdown signal scheduled for the intersection of Greenbelt Road and Hanover Parkway. Such a signal makes it clearer to pedestrians whether to walk or wait before attempting to cross the intersection.

Watkins confirmed that the signal was scheduled but that with nearly 100 such signals approved statewide for high-density areas and a shortage of con-

tractors to install them, there was a nine- to 12-month turnaround time.

Davis pointed out that the need for this signal was higher than ever as the opening of the new post office will increase pedestrian traffic in this intersection. Starkloff said he would look into rushing the installation, which would then take only four months.

The second request concerned a plan to patch or resurface the areas of Greenbelt Road where asphalt has peeled, especially in front of Greenway Center, which, as Davis noted, made for dangerous conditions in winter.

Starkloff answered that these improvements are scheduled for the Fiscal Year 2007 budget and that he will have this area addressed first; in the interim he will check this area. He noted the difficulty of making repairs to this part of Greenbelt Road because of its high volume of traffic.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts noted an area near the Golden Triangle where a similar peeling situation exists. Starkloff agreed to look into it.

Confusing Sign

A "No Right Turn" sign on Greenbelt Road just before the entrance to Greenway Center from the west, obviously de-

signed to prevent proceeding onto the exit ramp of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, seems to imply that a driver cannot make a right turn into Greenway Center and has caused some confusion.

Starkloff said the sign had not been installed by SHA; it may have been erected after a wrong-way driving event. He promised to have it removed in four to five weeks.

A sidewalk for the south side of Greenbelt Road from Southway east to the bridge and a crosswalk for that location was the next item of discussion. Davis noted that several years ago this project was to have been part of a neighborhood conservation project that was later shelved. Two pedestrians have been killed walking between Southway and Greenway Center, she said.

Starkloff discussed difficulties with locating such a sidewalk in an area with a steep drop-off. An easement would be required, he said, to erect a retaining wall first, but that he would have a consultant research the area.

Watkins added that under the "unique circumstances" he would check alternate methods.

In response to the question of

See **ROADS**, page 6

Principals of Greenbelt Schools Discuss Their Concerns, Issues

by Mary Moien

The Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) held its annual meeting with school principals on January 30. All local schools, except for St. Hugh's, were represented by the principal or vice principal. The ACE members welcomed the visitors and described some of the objectives of the committee, including helping schools meet their goals and trying to address issues and concerns.

The committee described how they had helped solve some school problems that had been brought up in the past. Several school crosswalks were added or improved. The turn lanes on Greenbelt Road were widened and light timings lengthened to improve access to Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS). Presently the committee is meeting with the owners of Springhill Lake and county staff to try to ensure the best outcome for new schools in Greenbelt West.

Each school representative spoke in turn, bringing the ACE members up to date on activities and issues.

Greenbelt Middle

Judy Austin, principal of Greenbelt Middle School (GMS), described how her school is "bursting at the seams" now that it is accommodating the Springhill Lake Elementary School sixth grade. GMS has 950 students and is using all of its space. Austin said that she is expecting boundary changes to be announced for her students who will be graduating but doesn't know when she will hear. ERHS staff want to visit to meet their potential students but it is uncertain which ones will go to ERHS next year. (Middle school students living within Greenbelt city limits will go to ERHS.)

Austin indicated that about 40 percent of her students live in Greenbelt; there are, however, 15 feeder schools leading to Greenbelt Middle including Springhill Lake, Greenbelt, Magnolia and Berwyn Heights elementary schools. She was discouraged that nothing has been happening regarding the new GMS. She commented that the wiring is so old it is not "as ac-

cessible to new technology." It was brought up that the middle school seems to have disappeared from the list of school projects for next year. ACE members are trying to get clarification from School Board Member Jose Morales.

Springhill Lake

Linda Sherwood, principal at Springhill Lake Elementary School (SHLES), commented that her school is full even though the sixth grade has moved. And enrollment is down to 650 students including 130 in special education. The school has lost 100 students since August. Her understanding is that Springhill Lake apartment management is not renting apartments as they are vacated.

SHLES has the largest Head Start program in the county but there is no room at the school so it is housed in a separate location. The students are ages 3 to 6, but with the constant movement of families, the children who are getting the early assistance

See **SCHOOLS**, page 9

New Post Office Building, Triple In Size, to Open Soon

by Elaine Skolnik

Depending on weather and last minute construction and equipment delays, the new U.S. Post Office in Greenbelt is now expected to open its doors for business late this month or early March. A grand opening ceremony is tentatively scheduled in the spring.

Meanwhile the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) Marketing Department is preparing a letter to announce a firm opening date, along with specific details about the new 20,364 square foot, \$7.2 million post office which is reported to be triple the size of the existing Roosevelt Center facility. This letter will be sent to Greenbelt residents and others in the 20770 zone prior to its opening.

Located on a five-acre tract in Greenbelt East at the intersection of Hanover Parkway and Ora Glen Drive, this was considered the preferred site for the large facility.

However, the hunt for a new post office in the city started decades ago and inched along like a

snail, starting about 1954 when the Greenbelt Post Office was then located in the space later occupied by the pizza-sub shop and Twin Pines Savings and Loan Association. At that time the postmaster estimated post office needs at 1,500 square feet. (By 1964 the estimate had risen to 3,500 square feet.)

As the decades rolled by the amount of required square feet increased. The city's population was growing and the addition of the Goddard Space Flight Center and other routes to the 20770 zone impacted the existing facility. A myriad of sites were examined, such as the 1.39-acre tract owned by Greenbelt Homes, Inc. at the corner of Parkway and Crescent Road, the former Candy Cane City playground site across the parking lot from the current post office and the area between the Professional Building and the

See **POST OFFICE**, page 6

County Council Requests More Study Time on ICC

by Elaine Skolnik

Thomas E. Dernoga, chair of the Prince George's County Council, requested that the public comment period dealing with the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Inter-county Connector (ICC) be extended from 45 to 90 days in a February 8 letter to Nelson Castellanos, administrator of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Neil J. Pedersen, administrator of the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA). This extension would "ensure a full and detailed review of the FEIS," he said.

Dernoga's appeal was based on SHA's briefing before the county council's Transportation, Housing and Environment Committee on January 26, 2006. Dernoga explained, "Although the briefing was very detailed and informative, several issues were raised by my colleagues

which require the council to reconvene in staff worksessions to review the issue and responses."

Dernoga invited the SHA staff to participate in these sessions, noting that final official comments from the county council will then be submitted at the conclusions of further briefings.

The Prince George's County Council has been concerned with the ICC's potential impact and has opposed the selection of Corridor One as the preferred route. At the January 26 briefing the county council requested further clarification "on issues relative to the FEIS."

The FEIS is a key milestone in the project-planning stage of the ICC. A 2,700 page document, plus technical reports, was signed by the FHWA, marking the start of a 45-day period for

See **ICC**, page 6

What Goes On

Sunday, February 19

10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Pet Adoption Day, Greenbelt Animal Shelter

Monday, February 20 - City and GHI Offices Closed in Observance of Presidents' Day

Monday, February 20 and Tuesday, February 21

6 a.m. to 10 p.m., Registration for Passholders and Residents for Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center

Tuesday, February 21

1 to 8 p.m., Red Cross Blood Drive, Municipal Building

Wednesday, February 22 (until filled)

6 a.m. to 10 p.m., Open Registration for Aquatic and Fitness Center

7:30 p.m., Reception for Greenbelt Assistance in Living's New Programs, Community Center Multipurpose Room

Thursday, February 23

6 p.m., Anacostia Trails Heritage Area Meeting, Council Room

7:30 p.m., GHI Broad Meeting, GHI Board Room

Attention Springhill Lakers

We are now delivering several copies of the News Review to each apartment building and to each townhouse in your community. To better serve you we need your help. We need to know if you are regularly receiving the newspaper delivery to your building. Please check one of the following:

- Yes, I regularly receive a weekly newspaper.
 Sometimes, I receive a weekly newspaper.
 No, I rarely or never receive a weekly newspaper.

Name _____

Address _____

Please return to:
 Greenbelt News Review
 15 Crescent Road, Ste. 100
 Greenbelt, MD 20770

Letters to the Editor

Post Office/Access

I found it interesting that the letter from city council in last week's paper said that my claims of inadequate access to the new post office was inaccurate, considering that my claim was sparked by Councilmember Herling's original statement in the official minutes of the May 10, 2004, meeting: "He [Herling] said there would need to be an effective level of public transportation to make a facility in Greenbelt East accessible."

I'm wondering what has been done since that meeting that now satisfies Mr. Herling, other than the sidewalks the post office is building? Those sidewalks do not mitigate the long-standing need for the city to extend sidewalks continuously on both sides of Hanover Parkway, from Greenbelt Road to Good Luck Road. As far as constructive criticism, I think that's what my call for accessibility to the post office and Greenway Center is. I couldn't impose on the News Review any more than 800 words so I couldn't add other constructive suggestions, such as retaining the Federal Express, UPS and postal boxes outside the old post office. And publicizing the fact that anyone can mail a small package in the FedEx box simply by using the envelope provided in the box. All you have to do is write your credit card number on the envelope, you don't need to know the package weight. FedEx charges about \$7 to ship an envelope.

Rate information for FedEx, UPS and the U.S. Postal Service

is online.

I might have added my suggestion that the post office create a similar drop-off box for their Priority Mail, which would allow us to mail larger packages at a lower cost, provided they too accept a credit card number as payment. The post office has flat rates of \$4.05 and \$8.10 for shipping their envelopes and boxes respectively.

But I'm not sure that would be worth publicizing because it would raise citizen hopes for what is really a pipe dream.

Don Comis

A Post Office Too Far

I'm responding to the news regarding the relocation of the Greenbelt Post Office. I'm new to Old Greenbelt (GHI) and was unaware of this drastic change until recently. Apparently this battle was fought (and lost) long before I bought my home in July.

I realize that Greenbelt has grown far beyond the borders of the historic part of town and that a larger, more modern facility was undoubtedly long overdue to order to fulfill the needs of the entire community. But I am heart-sick that the post office did not see fit to secure a substation in Old Greenbelt. One of the biggest draws for me was the village environment where one could leave the car at home and walk to the grocery store, library, restaurants, dry cleaners, theater and, yes, the post office. And as I approach retirement age, this advan-

Explore Improved Gardening Skills

On Friday, February 24 Explorations Unlimited will have Dr. Howard Waterworth as a guest speaker. Waterworth will teach how to improve gardening skills. This session serves as an introduction to the gardening course he will be teaching in the Sage program that begins on March 14 at the Community Center. Topics will include information needed in preparing a new lawn, things that could go wrong such as under watering and over fertilizing, information on pruning and thinning trees and shrubs, maintaining flower beds and vegetable gardens and other topics depending on interest.

Waterworth received a Ph.D. in plant pathology/horticulture from the University of Wisconsin and has been giving lectures and training on gardening for several years. He taught a 12-hour course on gardening for the University of Maryland for seniors. He has maintained a large vegetable and flower garden for over 40 years and performed research on diseases of plants for 35 years.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. This presentation will be held in the Senior Class Room 114. Everyone is welcome to attend and questions are encouraged. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

tage was particularly attractive.

Yes, I can order stamps online and even purchase them at the Co-op. But to do any other business with the post office, I will now have to drive. There are a lot of older citizens who no longer drive, who chose to grow old in historic Greenbelt, undoubtedly because of walking access to these venues and they will not be grossly inconvenienced.

How long will it be before we are no longer a self-sustaining village? What's next to go - the library?

Catherine Hardy

THANKS

To the neighbors of 19 Court Hillside Road, thank you for the help you gave me and other neighbors during the snow storm of the past week. We had no electricity and I'm unable to shovel. The neighbors cleaned the parking lot, sidewalks and cars. One neighbor brought me coffee.

My special thanks to Marat and Steve, who cleaned off my sidewalk and porch. I can't express how much I appreciate what you all did.

Betty Shifflett

Grin Belt



"Snowboarders - Go for the gold before the snow melts!"

AGNES CONATY ©2006

On Screen

"Capote" in Cold Blood

"Capote" comes to Old Greenbelt Theatre Friday, February 17 with a shot at Academy Awards next month. Up front is Philip Seymour Hoffman as fey author Truman Capote, seeking a fresh leg up in the 1960s via an up-close account of a farm family murder in Kansas. Matters sharpen when Capote weighs in closely with Perry Smith (Clifton Collins, Jr.), one of the two killers.

Laconic cop Alvin Dewey (Chris Cooper) and his star-struck wife help body out the intense story, along with writer Harper Lee (Catherine Kennedy) as Capote's "research assistant." At one point he says, "More tears are shed over answered prayers than over unanswered ones."

Director Bennett Miller actively works terrain between those two states. R (chiefly due to violent language and images), 98 minutes.

- Eli Flam

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; James Giese, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Thomas X. White, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Bell and Pat Davis.



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.

 Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club 

GENERAL MEMBERS MEETING
 with Prince George's County State's Attorney
 GLENN IVEY
 and Greenbelt Police Department Officer
 GEORGE MATHEWS
 Speaking on County and City Crime:
 Prevention and Statistics

Friday, February 17, 2006, 7:30 p.m.
 Terrace Room, Greenbriar Community Building
 7600 Hanover Parkway at Greenbelt Road (Rte. 193)

 Refreshments and Social after the meeting. 

Everyone is welcome! For information, call 301-474-2896

**OLD GREENBELT
 THEATRE
 WEEK OF FEB. 17
 CAPOTE (R)**

Friday
 *5:00, 7:30, 9:55

Saturday
 *2:30, *5:00, 7:30, 9:55

Sunday and Monday
 *2:30, *5:00, 7:30

Tuesday - Thursday
 *5:00, 7:30
 *These shows at \$5.00

301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745
 129 Centerway
 www.pgtheatres.com

Community Events

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition "Food and Friendship" program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center. Meals need to be reserved by 11 a.m. the day before participants are planning to eat to assure sufficient quantities of food are ordered. Call 301-397-2008, ext. 4125 for information about the program and to make reservations.

Meals are served beginning at noon. All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and one percent milk. There will be no "Food and Friendship" on Presidents' Day which is Monday, February 20. Menus for Tuesday, February 21 through Friday, February 24 include:

- Monday - All sites closed for Presidents' Day.
- Tuesday - Minestrone soup with crackers, stuffed peppers, seasoned corn, green beans, brownie.
- Wednesday - Orange juice, turkey with gravy and cornbread stuffing, asparagus tips, sweet cherries.
- Thursday - Grape juice, chili con carne, fluffy white rice, seasoned spinach, applesauce.
- Friday - Orange-pineapple juice, chicken cordon bleu with cream sauce, California mixed vegetables, red-skinned potatoes, spinach salad with walnuts and oranges, sweet potato pie.

Scrapbooking Group Meets at Greenbriar

On Wednesday, February 22 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. a scrapbooking group will meet in the Greenbriar Terrace Room. All ages are welcome. Call Lisa Hazell at 301-772-0111 for details.

Nursery School Holds Open House Feb. 25

Greenbelt Nursery School will hold its annual Open House on Saturday, February 25 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This is the beginning of registration for the school year starting in September 2006. Greenbelt Nursery School is a not-for-profit parent co-operative in its 64th year of operation. The school is certified by the Maryland State Department of Education and accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The school offers classes for children ages 2, 3 and 4. Full-day educational programs are available.

Families seeking pre-school programs are invited to attend the Open House, meet the director and teachers, view the classrooms and get information about the classes.

The school is located at 15 Crescent Road in the Greenbelt Community Center. Parking is available in the lot behind the Greenbelt Public Library. For information, visit the school's website at www.greenbelt.com/gnsk or call the school at 301-474-5570.

Greenbriar GCA Meeting on Feb. 22

There will be a meeting of the Greenbriar Community Association (GCA) board on Wednesday, February 22 at 7 p.m. in the Greenbriar Commons Room.



PHOTO BY MICHELLE EDWARDS

Karen Haseley draws the winning sweepstakes entry.

Waldron Is Marriott Sweepstakes Winner

On Monday, February 13 at 3 p.m., Greenbelt's Therapeutic Recreation Director Karen Haseley drew one name from among the entries to choose a winner in the News Review's Love Notes Marriott Getaway Sweepstakes. The prize winner is Mary Waldron.

When notified on Tuesday morning, Waldron said, "Oh my gosh . . . I never win anything. I'm beside myself." Waldron was busy filling goody bags for her 7-year-old son Noah's class Valentine party at Holy Redeemer in College Park. Waldron is a 16-year resident of Greenbelt. She and Noah live in the 11 Court of Southway. Her friend Beverly Long, who works in the adult care center in the Community Center, called Waldron to see if she had entered the contest and then volunteered to place her name in the News Review office.

Greenbelt Marriott's General Manager Robert M. Allen says he looks forward to seeing that Waldron has a spectacular weekend at Greenbelt's newly-renovated Marriott.

Seniors to Visit Art Museum in Baltimore

On Thursday, March 2 a group from the Greenbelt Senior Center will take a trip to the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore. The group will travel to Baltimore by charter bus (compliments of the Golden Age Club). Lunch will be at the Garrett Jacobs Mansion. Transportation, tour of the museum and lunch are included. The bus will leave from the library parking lot at 9:15 a.m. Spaces for the trip are still available. There is a fee and registration is required.

Do not miss out - register soon to guarantee a spot on the trip. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

Donors Help Meet Dire Need for Blood

The next blood drive in Greenbelt, sponsored by the Greenbelt Recreation Department and the American Red Cross, will be held at the Greenbelt Municipal Building on Tuesday, February 21 from 2 to 8 p.m.

The urgent need for blood makes it important that there is a large turnout.

Those who have not already made an appointment through the Red Cross should call Janet Goldberg at 301-397-2212. As was the case in the last blood drive, walk-ins will be accepted at the end of each hour to fill in for no-show appointments.

At the Library

Children

Tuesday, February 21, 10:30 a.m. - Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months with caregiver, limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, February 22, 10:30 a.m. - Toddlertime for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, limit 15 toddlers.

Thursday, February 23, 10:30 a.m. - Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 children.

Adults

Tuesday, February 21, Teen Book Discussion, ages 13 to 18, 4:30 p.m. Call the library at 301-345-5800 for details.

Green Ridgers Hold Annual Flea Market

On Saturday, February 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Green Ridge House Residents Association will hold its annual "Indoor Flea Market."

All items sold are provided by the residents, their friends and families. All work is done by volunteers. All money realized from the sale is donated to such causes as local hospices, the Salvation Army, Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Greenbelt Labor Day Festival and to aid victims of disasters such as Hurricane Katrina.

Green Ridge House is located at 22 Ridge Road.

Reception Honors New GAIL Programs

The Greenbelt Assistance In Living Program (GAIL) invites the community to attend a reception for the Preferred Provider Program, the Adaptable Equipment Program and the Pediatric Wellness Program. These programs have been made possible through partnerships between the City of Greenbelt, Bowie State University and other community groups.

The reception will be held in the Community Center multi-purpose room in Wednesday, February 22 at 7:30 p.m. RSVP to 301-474-8000 ext. 2012.

CHILI COOK-OFF AMERICAN LEGION 6900 GREENBELT RD.

**SAT., FEB. 18
1-4**

ENTER your chili - \$10.00
OR come &
SAMPLE - \$15.00
Includes: Draft Beer - Soda
Hot Dogs - Dessert - DJ

Info & Entry Form:
(301) 577-3025



FREE Pizza Night

February 23rd 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
6th-12th graders
Greenbelt Youth Center

**Free Pizza and Games!!!
Drop in & join the fun.**

SOUL'D OUT Youth Group
More info call John or Jody
(301)574-2488

Proposed U.S. Budget Would Cut BARC

Congressman Steny Hoyer criticized President Bush's Fiscal Year 2007 budget proposal for cutting over \$9 million from the Beltsville Agriculture Research Center (BARC), including the closure of two BARC labs critical to improved fruit production and vital to understanding the nutritional value of fruits and vegetables.

The President's budget proposal would close both the Phytonutrients and Fruit labs - terminating critical research projects and impacting 43 individuals. The Phytonutrients Laboratory focuses on biologically active compounds found in fruits and vegetables believed to have a protective effect against heart disease and cancer. The research undertaken at the lab will enable BARC scientists to make recommendations for diet to help support health in the American population.

The Fruit Laboratory is critically important to small fruit growers and consumers on the East Coast, all the way from Canada to the Southern States. Among other things the laboratory develops small fruit varieties with superior qualities and improves overall fruit production traits.

The President's budget also eliminates funds for a number of important research programs currently underway at BARC.

Center Seeks Volunteer Help

Volunteers ages 13 and up can help with gardening, animal care and assist naturalists at Mt. Rainier Nature and Recreation Center, 4701 31st Place, Mt. Rainier. Schedules vary with type of volunteer position. This is an opportunity to receive service-learning hours for Prince George's County public school students. For information call 301-927-2163, TTY 301-699-2544. The Mt. Rainier Nature and Recreation Center is a facility of the M-NCPPC's Department of Parks and Recreation.

Volunteers Help Focus on Fitness

Volunteers are needed to help adults with disabilities participate in a day program called Focus on Fitness. This program focuses on sports and fitness for adults with developmental disabilities. Locations vary based on the activity. Activity times are 10 a.m. to noon with a flexible schedule. Prince George's County public school students can earn service credits for this activity.

For more information call 301-454-1479, TTY 301-454-1493.

GIVE BLOOD
Feb. 21 2 to 8pm
Greenbelt Municipal Bldg.

Beltway Plaza Mall
Celebrates
BLACK HISTORY MONTH
Friday, Saturday, Sunday February 17, 18, 19
All Day at Center Court
COLLECTIBLES SHOW

Saturday, February 18, 2 p.m.
"COLOURS"
will amaze you with song and dance

Saturday, February 25, 2 p.m.
Springhill Lake Elementary School Dancers

 **BELTWAY PLAZA**
6000 Greenbelt Road
301-345-1500
www.beltwayplazamall.com

Target • Value City Dept. Store • Burlington Coat Factory • Giant Food • Gallo Clothing • Marshall's
AMC Theatres • Jeepers • Gold's Gym • Jo-Ann Fabrics • CVS

**GREENBELT BOYS & GIRLS
CLUB, INC.**

SPRING SOCCER REGISTRATION

TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS IN FEB. 2006
FROM 7-8:30 PM
AT THE GREENBELT YOUTH CENTER

IF YOU ARE NEW TO THE CLUB PLEASE BRING

- PROOF OF RESIDENCY
- COPY OF CHILD'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE
- CHECK OR MONEY ORDER

**\$135 1ST CHILD
\$80 2ND CHILD
ADDITIONAL \$55 FOR 3RD OR MORE CHILDREN**

- THESE FEES COVER ALL SPORTS FOR THE 2006 SEASON
- ALL FEES INCLUDE A \$30.00 NON-REFUNDABLE REGISTRATION FEE

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT KIM PAZ, SOCCER
COMMISSIONER AT 301-474-3750
OR KAPAZA40@AOL.COM**

Obituaries



Mary Jane Gates

Known by her nickname "Terri" by her many friends, neighbors and co-workers at the Greenbelt News Review, a power stronger than any other took her from us on Thursday, February 9, 2006, at 7:30 a.m. at the age of 70 years at her home in the 5 Court of Laurel Hill Road.



Being retired from the teaching profession in both Prince George's and Montgomery Counties enabled Terri to enjoy the many hobbies that enriched her life. Having become an avid gardener after moving to Greenbelt, she grew many of her favorite flowers from seed and loved sharing them with some of her neighbors. Directing the Thursday afternoon bridge club at the Senior Center was a mainstay in her life. Her natural leadership abilities and unending quest for life also propelled her into forming a simplicity group as well as a book club that is still operating.

Terri was a native of Johnstown, Pa., and is survived by two brothers, various nieces and nephews living there and in Virginia as well as Arizona. Although never married, she considered her two dogs Bubba and Mack to be her "children."

She derived much of her strength and happiness from the friendships formed here in Greenbelt.

Memorial service information will be announced as soon as details are completed.

— Lu Price



Baha'i Faith

"O Friend!
In the garden of thy heart,
plant naught but the rose of love."
— Baha'u'llah

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
MASS**

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

David L. Evans

David L. Evans, a 20-plus year resident of Greenbelt lost his battle to cancer on February 9, 2006.

He was a painter by trade and worked at the Baltimore News American. However, most of his career was spent at the Government Printing Office. He also was an owner-operator of a tractor-trailer and delivered produce into the Jessup market during the 1982s to early 1992.

Mr. Evans enjoyed the sport of trapshooting and was often found at the M-NCPPC Trap and Skeet facility off Greenbelt Road.

He is survived by his wife Angie; his four children – David and his wife Amy Sadacca, Chris and his wife Anne Evans, Kathy and her husband Jim Canby and Susan and her husband Pat Hennegan; the children's mother Patricia Evans (nee Sweeney); brother Joseph Evans and his family; stepson Jeff Morris and his wife Kathy; and six grandchildren – Ben, Caitlin, Sam, Emily Olivia and Charley.

A memorial service will be held at Holy Cross Lutheran

Church, 6905 Greenbelt Road on Saturday, February 18, 2006, at 10 a.m.

Memorial gifts in his name may be made to the Hospice of Howard County, Holy Cross Lutheran Church or a charity of one's choice.

Millard (Buddy) Beall

Millard (Buddy) Beall, 47, a lifelong resident of Greenbelt, died on Monday, February 13, 2006, after a three-year battle with cancer.



Mr. Beall grew up in the 45 Court of Ridge Road. He graduated from Parkdale High School in 1976. He had his own heating and air conditioning business for many years, after learning the trade at Columbia Tech.

A 32nd degree Mason, Mr. Beall was a member of the William R. Singleton Lodge. A gun rights advocate and member of the NRA and various gun clubs,

he loved hunting and fishing. He enjoyed guitar and piano, traveling and cruises.

The Greenbelt Step Club was an important part of his life for many years.

Mr. Beall is survived by his daughter Summer Beall, age 10; his mother Betty Reed; sister Laura Horstkamp; and brother John Beall.

A funeral service will be held at the Greenbelt Community Church on Saturday, February 18 at 11 a.m., with a reception to follow in the social hall. A private burial is planned by the family.



Greenbelters were saddened to learn of the death of Terri Gates. Terri was director of the Thursday afternoon bridge club and worked for the Greenbelt News Review.

Our condolences to Angie Evans and family on the death of her husband David.

We extend sympathy to family, friends and neighbors on the death of Buddy Beall.

Greenbelters are proud to have Raymond Peterson, chair of the city's Advisory Committee on Education, as a participant in a group stakeholder interview of the three finalists for the county school system's CEO position.

Army Pvt. Rene E. Paniagua has graduated from the Light-wheeled Vehicle Mechanic Advanced Individual Training (AIT) course at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. He is the son of Nyla Zamore of Mandan Road and Rene Paniagua of Houston, Texas.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410

Rev. Dr. Paul C. Kim, Pastor

Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am

Prayer Meeting Wed. 6:45 pm

Crossways Bible Study Tues. 7:30 pm Thurs. 10:30 am

Handicapped Accessible Come As You Are!



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School/ Bible Study
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service



Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail myholycross@verizon.net

Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbelt.com/gccucc/

**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. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322



Mass Schedule:

Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.

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

Pastor: Fr. Walter J. Tappe

Pastoral Associate: Fr. R. Scott Hurd

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH
Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org greenbelt_baptist@verizon.net
Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor

Sunday School:	9:30 am
Worship Service:	10:45 am
Weds. Worship:	7:00 pm
(Adult Bible Study/Prayer & Children's Ministry)	

Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family through Loving Service

**St. George's Episcopal/
Anglican Church**
7010 Glenn Dale Road
(Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | 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!

**Congregation
Mishkan Torah**
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223
An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian
synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your
extended family in the 21st century.

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM.
Educational programs for children K-12 and for adults.
Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children.
Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program.
Opportunity for leadership development.
Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors.
Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities.
Interfaith families are welcome.

Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

"Honoring the Three, Celebrating the One"

YOU are cordially invited to Greenbelt Baptist Church to join us in a Night of Praise on Sunday February 19 at 6 pm (free). Our Worship Team, "Set Apart" will lead us in a night of fun and praise to the Lord. Also joining in on the praise will be our new Children's choir and the new Youth choir. Come join with us as we come together to celebrate His faithfulness through testimony and song. Come celebrate with us and experience the joy of worshipping the Three while worshipping the One.



YIELD

Sometimes life gets hard and we wonder why things go wrong, but let's not forget the greatest of virtues – patience.

God explains to us, in the Qur'an: "Be sure we shall test you with something of fear and hunger, some loss in goods or lives or the fruits (of your toil), but give glad tidings to those who patiently persevere; who say, when afflicted with calamity: 'To God we belong, and to Him is our return.' They are those on whom (descend) blessings from God, and mercy, and they are ones that receive guidance."
— The Holy Quran 2:155-157

This is the guidance sent forth to humankind by the Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) nearly 1400 years ago. And it is still relevant today. To order a free DVD or book about the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), contact www.cair.com/muhammad or email us at info@searchislam.org.

Funding for Open Space Increases

"It appears that the city will receive approximately \$550,000 in Program Open Space (POS) funds, well over historical figures," according to City Manager Michael McLaughlin. This allocation would be three times the highest amount of recent years.

"However, it comes with a big string attached," McLaughlin remarked, as Governor Ehrlich wants a plan for how the money will be encumbered between July 1 and the gubernatorial election. The city has been asked to provide the Maryland-National Capital Parks and Planning Commission staff with a list of projects by February 28 to demonstrate "How we plan to encumber at least \$550,000 in POS funds in FY07," stated McLaughlin.

Film Festival At Mishkan Torah

A double feature film will be shown at Mishkan Torah on February 18 at 7 p.m. It will be shown on a 65-inch television set that the Men's Club of Mishkan Torah rented for the film festival.

The first feature will be "Like Father Like Clown," a comedy cartoon. This film was made in 1991 and lasts 30 minutes. It was one of "The Simpsons" series. The voice of Rabbi Hyman Krustofski is that of Jackie Mason.

The second feature will be "A Thousand Clowns." This film stars Jason Robards and Martin Balsam and was made in 1965. It is 118 minutes long. Martin Balsam won an Oscar for an actor in a supporting role in this film. The black and white film, nominated for six Oscars, is serious but has some comic aspects. A social worker is threatening to separate the nephew from the influence of his iconoclastic uncle.

There is no charge to attend the showing, however there will be a basket for donations to help defray the expense of renting the large screen TV.

City Notes

The Public Works facilities maintenance crew assisted the contractor with repairing the Greenbelt theater marquee.


Parks crews completed installation of erosion fabric, gravel and large stone at the underpass at Hillside and Crescent Roads and installed an Adopt-a-bench at the police station and at the Aquatic and Fitness Center.

Planning and Community Development has determined that beavers have been damming up the stream at Springhill Recreation Center, thus far without damaging effects.

At the Aquatic and Fitness Center, a lifeguard performed a rescue in the deep section of the pool when two swimmers became distressed and went under water. Following the rescue the individuals were shaken but sustained no injuries.

Percussion Concert At Smith Center

On Thursday, February 23 at 8 p.m., guest recitalist Tracy Wiggins will perform a modern music concert for percussion featuring works by James Tenney, John Cage, John Welsh, David MacBride, Trace Wiggins and UM faculty composer Thomas DeLio. This free concert is presented by the UM School of Music in Gildenhorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, College Park.



**PRELIMINARY AGENDA
MEETING OF THE
GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Thursday, February 23, 2006
GHI BOARD ROOM,
7:30 PM**

Key Agenda Item:

- Smith Barney Approval to Lend Share Loans
- Standing Committee Guidelines
- Master Insurance Policy Deductible
- 2006 Community Beautification Program
- Addition Maintenance Program

Regular board meetings are open to members.

Come have a Holy Mardi Gras!

Feb 25th at St. Hugh's Church
6pm to midnight (food from 6-9)



All you can eat: Steamed Oysters, Fried Breaded Oysters, Gumbo, Pit Beef with Rolls, Red Beans & Rice, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, King Cake, and Soft Drinks (Beer and Wine available for purchase).

Plus music, raffles, a cake wheel and more!

Adults: \$30 • Kids (6 - 12): \$12

Contact Chuck Hatcher (474-0638) for information or to buy tickets (tickets will not be sold at the door).



City Information

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City Offices will be closed Monday, February 20th,
in observance of Presidents' Day.
The Greenbelt Connection will not be operating.

REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Week of February 20th

Monday Route – Collected Tuesday
Tuesday Route – Collected Wednesday
Wednesday Route – Collected Thursday
Thursday Route – Collected Friday

There will be no appliance or yard waste collections
on Friday, February 24th.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups.
Vacancies exist on the:
*Advisory Committee on Trees
Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
Youth Advisory Committee
(Opening for adult position)*
For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

All are invited to a

KICK-OFF RECEPTION

for new Assistance in Living programs
including: Preferred Provider Program,
Adaptable Equipment Program and
the Pediatric Wellness Program
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND
7:30pm
GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER
Multi-Purpose Room
RSVP: 30-474-8000 ext 2012

Fit n' Fun Babysitters Wanted

M/W/F 9:15am-11am, \$7.25/hour
Greenbelt Community Center
Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

GREENBELT AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTER


SPRING SESSION—MARCH 6-APRIL 29
REGISTRATION FOR PASSHOLDERS AND RESIDENTS: FEBRUARY 20 & 21
OPEN REGISTRATION: FEBRUARY 22-UNTIL FILLED
Register at the Aquatic & Fitness Center
between 6:00am and 10:00pm.
For a schedule of classes visit www.greenbeltmd.gov.
For more information call 301-397-2204

PET ADOPTION DAY

**FEBRUARY 19TH
10AM-1PM**

GREENBELT ANIMAL SHELTER

Located in the Rear Parking Lot of the
Greenbelt Police Station
550 Crescent Road



COME OUT AND SEE THE
LOVABLE PETS AVAILABLE
FOR ADOPTION THROUGH
THE CITY OF GREENBELT.
For more information call
301-474-6124

GREENBELT RECREATION DEPARTMENT
and GREENBELT ARTS CENTER present

26 TALENTED TEENAGERS in

PERSEUS AND THE GORGON

A New Musical by Chris Cherry

Adapted from Greek myth, the show features two kings,
two queens, a prince raised as a humble fisherman's son,
the mysterious all-seeing Gray Ones, and a monster so
hideous that simply looking at it turns people to stone!

February 17, 18, 19, 24 and 25 at 7:00 pm
and February 19 at 2:00 pm Greenbelt Arts Center
123 Centerway
Tickets \$5 @ 301-397-2208
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

The City of Greenbelt's Municipal Website,
GREENBELT CITYLINK
(formerly at www.lci.greenbelt.md.us) has moved.
The site can now be found at

www.greenbeltmd.gov

Please make sure to update all your links.
Visit us for information on your city government,
city services, city events and more. Now posted:
new SUMMER CAMP information.

GREENBELT MUNICIPAL/PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 71

MUNICIPAL ACCESS: 301-474-8000: Tuesday
& Thursday, February 21 & 23: 10am & 6pm "Ask the
Expert-Emergency Preparedness," 7pm "Talking Together
Volunteering," 7:30pm "Restoring the Chesapeake Bay."
PUBLIC ACCESS (GATE): 301-507-6581
Wednesday & Friday, February 22 & 24: 7pm Greenbelt
Arts Center presents "Chance Gardener," 8:45pm "Gauley
River White Water Rafting."

ROADS continued from page 1

whether a decorative fence would prevent people from crossing Greenbelt Road where it is dangerous, Starkloff answered that historically this approach does not work; pedestrians cross wherever it is easiest.

Backups for Lights

Davis then asked about the availability of battery backups for traffic lights in the event of power failure. This is a new issue for SHA, Watkins answered, and is of particular interest since the recent tragic accident on Route 175 at a "dark" intersection in which there was a teen-aged fatality. Little data exists showing accidents at "dark" intersections; such an accident is "highly unlikely." He explained SHA's policy that local police must monitor the intersection until an SHA technician arrives, usually within an hour.

Although a battery backup can last for seven or eight hours, the cost is \$25,000 to \$30,000 per intersection. Much of this cost lies in first changing the bulbs in the lights to LED displays. Therefore, complex intersections such as those with multiple turn lanes would be the first to have a battery backup installed. Some battery backup systems run on propane, causing a danger if an accident occurs at the intersection. Starkloff stated that the issue had "more questions than answers" at this time and Watkins opined that money would be better spent on increasing the number of technicians.

Councilmember Leta Mach asked if air quality concerns warranted changing all the lights to LED display and the answer was that this change will be made at the rate of several hundred per year.

Road Projects

Davis next asked about scheduled projects along Greenbelt Road or Kenilworth Avenue/Edmonston Road. Watkins replied that work at the intersection of Cherrywood Lane and Kenilworth Avenue will proceed in the spring. The Greenbelt Road-Hanover Parkway intersection is slated for an additional turn lane

for traffic going west on Greenbelt Road.

He also referred to improvements to the ramp leading from the inner loop of the Beltway onto Kenilworth Avenue, which will bring traffic to a stop by removing the merge lane. This area will be landscaped and maintained by SHA and receive a "gateway sign" welcoming drivers to Prince George's County.

Work at the Goddard Space Flight Center entrance at Good Luck Road will start in the spring, as Goddard now has a permit to begin construction. At the intersection of Cherrywood Lane at Greenbelt Road, the owner of Beltway Plaza has agreed to give up property in order to construct a sidewalk.

Signal Needed

Davis requested a traffic signal for the intersection of Frankfort Drive and Greenbelt Road, stating she was aware that this project was on hold. She was asking again, she said, since a pedestrian was recently struck in that intersection.

Starkloff replied that circumstances at this intersection indicate that a signal should be installed – limited sight, high speed, presence of a school and one road as a major artery. There is a study in progress, he said, which will look at traffic patterns and crash data. In the meantime SHA has asked for police enforcement in the area.

He warned, however, that if a signal were to be placed there, the interruption of the traffic flow could create unforeseen problems. Starkloff explained that a signal will only correct angular collisions, which excludes sideswipes and rear-end collisions. Sixty-five percent of all collisions are the rear-end type, he said, which may be caused by the traffic signal itself.

Roberts asked if there were funds for noise walls along the Beltway, particularly should the Beltway be expanded. It was suggested that he pursue the matter with elected officials. Roberts said he would place the request on the legislative agenda.

POST OFFICE continued from page 1

Co-op Supermarket. Developers owning land in Greenbelt tossed in some of their vacant acreage for consideration as well.

As city council members noted last week in their letter to the editor, "From the very beginning of the process, we made it clear that we expected the postal service to retain service in Roosevelt Center. Representatives from the postal service understood this position and were supportive of it. It was only in the last two years that the financial difficulties facing the postal service forced it to pull back from making continued service in Roosevelt Center a reality."

Staff Transfer

Luvenia Hyson of the postal service's communications division told the News Review that the entire staff from the existing post office in Roosevelt Center, including the acting postmaster, will be working in the new facility on opening day. Reportedly, at that time, the Roosevelt Center post office will close.

Hyson pointed out that 29 spaces for customers and two handicapped spaces will be available in a separate parking lot. Customers will enter from

the parking lot off of Ora Glen Drive to the post office building's main entrance, which leads into the lobby where the retail store will be located.

There will be three windows, which will operate "more or less on a full service basis," and some 3,000 post office boxes. The number of personnel serving this operation will depend on "customer traffic," Hyson said.

The postal service's mail and delivery trucks and employee cars will park in a separate compound surrounded by a fence.

Enjoy Classical Saxophone Concert

D a l e Underwood offers a free faculty recital featuring an evening of classical saxophone music by Maslanka, Del Borgo, Piazzolla and Maurice. The concert will be held on Wednesday, February 22 at 8 p.m. in the Gildenhorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center in College Park.



ICC continued from page 1

input from the public.

Upon completion of the public comment period on February 27 (unless the deadline is extended), the FHWA will analyze all comments and issue a Record of Decision. This will be the final determination among the three study alternatives: Corridor One or the preferred alignment (the southernmost of the two proposed corridors, also known as the Master Plan route), Corridor Two (the northern corridor) and the "no build" option.

The preferred ICC route is a six-lane, multi-modal, 18-mile highway connecting existing and planned development areas between I-270 in central Montgomery County and the I-95/US1 corridor in northwestern Prince George's County. Both the draft and final statements have included toll estimates for ICC commuters. According to the SHA, the preferred ICC route is expected to cost \$2.4 billion (plus financing costs).

Emphasizing that he was speaking only for the SHA, David Buck, the administration's spokesperson, told the News Review there would be no further extensions for gaining public input.

The FHWA is expected to respond within a week. Buck noted that the Final Environmental Impact Statement and technical reports have been available on the Internet for viewing and downloading at www.iccstudy.org. A response from the FHWA should be available soon.

History

The ICC has been planned for approximately five decades. In 1950 the National Capital Planning Commission proposed an outer circumferential freeway or Outer Beltway. However, in 1968 Montgomery County dropped the Outer Beltway Alignment and retained the current ICC Master Plan Alignment.

Then in a joint decision in 1975, Montgomery County and Prince George's County dropped the Outer Beltway concept but kept the portion between I-270 and I-95 as the ICC.

Between 1979 and 1999 the SHA conducted two project planning studies for the ICC. Draft Environment Impact Statements during this period were submitted in 1983 and in 1987 when the Environmental Protection Agency expressed concern about the project, especially the Master Plan Alignment. Also the first study did not adequately identify alternatives to the preferred alignment.

A 1977 study, which analyzed five alternatives, was halted in 1999 by then-Maryland Governor Parris Glendening, "due to detrimental environmental impacts."

The SHA initiated the current project planning study in 2003 at the request of Governor Robert Ehrlich.

Open Rehearsals Continue on Campus

On Monday, February 20 at 5 p.m. the Guarneri String Quartet holds an open rehearsal. Now in its 23rd year in residence at the University of Maryland School of Music, this legendary quartet continues its tradition of free on-campus, open rehearsals, now held in the Gildenhorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.



PHOTO BY KAREN HASELEY

Students in the city's Knitting for Charity class enjoy fellowship and the benefits of sharing their talents with others. Pictured above are – at the table in the foreground (clockwise from the top) Betty Kidwell, Dorothy Ashford, Marge Whitesed, Shanna Heath; at the middle table (clockwise from the window side) Kathie Jarva, Pearl Siegel, Joan Chiusano and Carole Siegel; and the far table (from center) Kathleen McFarland and JoAnn McCarthy. Not pictured are Kathy Abbott, Mary Ernsberger, Gail Feagans, Thelma Forte, Blondel Hazel, Estrella Jaureguizar, Carolyn Karch, Rosemarie Mangialardi, Sharon Miller, Kathy Smith, Liz Yurasits and Instructor Eve Gresser.

Local Group Meets Weekly For Knitting for Charity

by Kathleen McFarland

Walk down the hall at the Community Center on a Friday morning and the babel of voices and laughter will lead you to city's Recreation Department "Knit for Charity" class. You'll find 15 or 20 women of all ages and all levels of expertise chatting away while turning out baby caps and booties, socks, blankets, hats and scarves for children and grownups – all manner of items, in many different colors and designs – which are given to charities in the area.

The project started in January 2005 as the brainchild of the city's Therapeutic Recreation Director Karen Haseley. Haseley, an accomplished craftswoman herself, had been given a large amount of yarn of all kinds and colors. So she added a crocheting class and a knitting class that semester to the offerings in her catalog of Community Center classes with a stipulation that the participants use the donated yarn.

Soon the crocheting group, led by Bill Souser and knitting group across the hall led by Eve Gresser were producing colorful one-foot squares, some plain, some in more fancy patterns, which were sewn together to make eight or more beautiful afghans. One was raffled off by the Golden Age Club. The others were donated to the senior daycare center and other local programs.

When the crocheting group discontinued for the summer, a few members drifted across the hall to join the knitting class. Soon Gresser found that the class had produced a large number of "preemie" hats and washcloths, simple patterns she had suggested for her beginning knitters. That summer she took the knitted items to St. Ann's Infant Home where they were received with enthusiasm and gratitude.

"Bring us all you can make," they said.

Since then the knitting class has been offered each season and Gresser has donated items not only to St. Ann's but to Prince George's Hospital Center, the Greenbelt Day Care Center, the Greenbelt Brown Bag program, the Community Ministry of Prince George's County and the Salvation Army.

The name of the class has been changed officially to "Knit for Charity." As of this January,

464 items made by the class have been donated to charities.

About half of the knitters live in Greenbelt; others come from surrounding areas. Some are brand-new beginners, others experienced knitters. Some learned at their grandmother's knee but hadn't knitted since then.

Gresser encourages her class members to get to know each other and has even made up little place cards with each knitter's name. The current class has three Kathys and two Marys. At the beginning of class each one says his or her name and shows what they've been working on. "Show and tell," one woman called it.

"I finally finished my socks," said JoAnn as she waved them in the air. A spontaneous burst of applause ensued. "But one's a little bit larger than the other," she said. "Don't worry," piped up one of the Kathys from the next table; "you can knit another pair just like them."

New Ideas

The "show and tell" results in new ideas for projects, one member explaining her pattern to another and more experienced knitters showing others how to do things. Gresser is pleased that some of her beginners have gone on to produce scarves in fancy patterns, "basket weave" and "fan and feathers," for instance and have mastered more advanced procedures such as knitting socks on four needles.

But, "It isn't school," she says. "You don't get marked down if you miss a class or didn't accomplish anything this week."

She just asks that her students use up the donated yarn and know that she will be giving their completed work to people who really need it and appreciate it. The heart-warming letters she has received from those charities are the proof.

The knitting class, which began with seven members, now has 22. The current class is full. Registration for the next class, which begins March 31, will begin at the end of February for residents and March 8 for non-residents.

Gresser is also a News Review staff member. Souser has been a longtime member of the Golden Age Club, serving as president and in other capacities.

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.

Assault Arrests

February 3, 5:15 p.m., 7800 block Mandan Road, a resident youth was arrested for second-degree assault, resisting arrest, willfully disobeying a lawful order, fleeing and eluding and refusing to sign a traffic citation. Police stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation and attempted to give the youth the citation for the traffic violation. She refused to sign the citation and attempted to flee the scene in the vehicle. The officer attempted to turn off the ignition but the youth drove away with the officer still partially inside the vehicle. The officer was able to free himself from the vehicle and the youth fled. She was located a short time later getting out of the vehicle in the 7800 block of Hanover Parkway. She was advised that she was being placed under arrest but resisted attempts to place her into custody, pulling away from police and attempting to flee the area on foot. She was apprehended and arrested after a short foot chase and was released to a parent pending action by the juvenile justice system.

February 5, 12:41 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive, a resident man was arrested and charged with first-degree assault. A man reported that he and his roommate were engaged in a verbal dispute when the roommate stabbed him with a knife. The man declined treatment for a cut to his shoulder. The suspect was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

February 9, 4:16 p.m., Jacobs and Frankfort Drives, two resident youths were arrested for second-degree assault after they allegedly assaulted another youth and fled the scene. They were located and released pending action by the juvenile justice system.

Robbery

February 7, 8:13 a.m., 9200 block Edmonston Road, a youth reported that he was walking to school when he was approached by four to six people, one of whom threatened to beat him up if he didn't give them money. The suspects then threw the youth to the ground, punched him several times and fled the scene. The suspects are described as four to six black males, 12 to 13 years of age, wearing black clothing.

DWI Arrests

February 1, 11:33 p.m., Greenbelt Road and Kenilworth Avenue, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with driving while impaired, driving under the influence and failure to reduce speed to avoid a collision as a result of investigation of a traffic accident. He was released on citation pending trial.

February 5, 11:52 p.m., Greenway Center, a nonresident woman was arrested and charged with driving while impaired, driving under the influence, failure to obey a traffic device, reckless driving and other traffic offenses

after being stopped for a traffic violation. She was released on citation pending trial.

Drug Arrests

February 2, 9:24 p.m., T.G.I.Friday's Restaurant, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with possession of paraphernalia. Police inside the restaurant detected the odor of marijuana coming from a patron, who was found to be in possession of paraphernalia commonly used to store marijuana. He was released on citation pending trial.

Unattended Child

February 4, 12:58 p.m., 5900 block Greenbelt Road, a resident woman was arrested and charged with one count of unattended child in a motor vehicle. A vehicle was observed illegally parked in a handicapped parking space with an unattended 18-month-old child inside. The woman returned to the vehicle, was arrested and released on citation pending trial.

Vandalism

February 8, 10:01 a.m., Greenbelt Community Center, unknown person(s) sprayed a fire extinguisher inside a stairwell at the center. Three possible suspects who were seen leaving the area immediately after the incident are described as three black males, 13 to 15 years of age, each wearing a dark coat.

Burglaries

February 5, 10:14 a.m., unit block Crescent Road, it was reported that unknown person(s) broke into two storage areas. Nothing appeared to have been taken.

February 5, 12:43 p.m., Lakeview Circle, it was reported that unknown person(s) broke into a home under construction. A suspicious person seen in the area at the time is described as a white male, 20 to 30 years of age with a long beard, operating a red work van.

February 7, 7:49 p.m., 61 court Ridge Road, it was reported that unknown person(s) attempted to enter the residence by tampering with the front door lock. Entry was not gained but the door lock was damaged.

Vehicle Crimes

A champagne 2004 Mercedes-Benz C240 4-door, Maryland tags MNA652 was stolen from the 7400 block Frankfort Court. The vehicle was left unattended and unlocked with the engine running. A black male, wearing dark clothing was seen driving it away.

No vehicles were recovered.

Vandalism to and theft from vehicles were reported in the following areas: 7700 block Hanover Parkway (three incidents), unit block Crescent Road, Roosevelt Center, 2 Court Gardenway, 4 Court Gardenway (two incidents), 71 Court Ridge Road, 200 block Lastner Lane, Lastner Lane and Julian Court, Buddy Attick Park, 6500 block Capitol Drive, 9100 block Edmonston Court and Edmonston Road and Edmonston Court.

Big Snow Affects Local Blood Supplies

The weekend winter storm caused the cancellation of several community blood drives and countless blood donor appointments across the area, resulting in more than 400 units of blood going uncollected, according to the Red Cross. Immediate recovery from this shortage is critical to ensure supply for patients in local hospitals. The Greater Chesapeake & Potomac Blood Region of the American Red Cross is issuing an urgent plea for both whole blood and platelet donations. Whole blood donors are asked to call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE and platelet donors can call 1-800-272-2123.

While all blood types are welcome and badly needed, the Red Cross is reporting an urgent need for type O blood. "The community inventory of type O blood is well below the safe level," said Gary Ouellette, chief executive officer for the region. American Red Cross Donor Centers are located throughout the region. The community blood drive schedule, as well as hours of operation and driving directions, is available by calling the American Red Cross at 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visiting the region's website at www.myredcross.org. Greenbelt will host a Red Cross blood drive in the Municipal Building on Wednesday, February 21.

Adaptable Equipment Applications Accepted

This week the new Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) Adaptable Equipment Program has begun accepting applications. The City of Greenbelt has partnered with GIVES, Green Ridge House and Greenbelt Homes, Inc. to offer Greenbelt residents assistance in receiving adaptable equipment for their homes.

This new program will offer seniors and disabled residents a choice of two items from the following list: non-skid bath mat, toilet safety frame, raised toilet seat, handheld shower, tub grip bar, smoke detector, shower chair or shower transfer bench.

Items will be delivered and installed by community partners although participants also have the option of installing items themselves.

Other residents will pay based on a sliding scale in 25 percent increments. For example: Residents with income of up to 25 percent above the poverty line will receive items at 25 percent of the full cost. Residents with income 50 percent above the guidelines will receive the items at 50 percent of the cost. New federal poverty guidelines went into effect February 1.

Applicants must be residents of incorporated Greenbelt, be disabled adults or seniors 60 years of age or older and require the two items selected to help maintain their independence. Applicants will be required to show proof of gross income, bank statements and residency. Assets may not be greater than \$15,000 for a couple or \$10,000 for individuals. Assets do not include one's residence or automobile.

For additional information about the program call GAIL at 301-474-8000 ext. 2012 or ext. 2036.

Greenbelt Museum Lecture Brings Back Memories

by Virginia Beauchamp

John Dewey is more than a name to me. Not that I ever met him. But his eminence still lingered at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where I grew up, and where he had taught for five years early in the 20th century. At the University of Chicago, where I took my last graduate degree and where he had also taught, he established the famous Lab School for young children that our very own News Review editor attended. Progressive Education, the concept that he originated, seems to have permeated my life.

So of course I was interested in the Greenbelt Museum lecture on Tuesday, January 24 by Owen Lourie, about "Greenbelt's connection to the progressive education movement" in what the advertisement called "the early 20th Century." The provocative title was "How Mike Mulligan and his Steam Shovel Built Greenbelt."

Well, not exactly.

Some of the books Lourie talked about were published about the time Greenbelt was under construction or first filling up with residents. The books dealt with such things as steam shovels and little dogs – not with fairy tales, as Lourie characterized the earlier books for children. But the shovels and animals were talking characters, it seems. How real is that!

Yet I never heard of these books. I was already grown up, long past children's books and, in a couple of those years, serving overseas.

But more about that later.

On the other hand, I have vivid memories of what progressive education was all about. I spent first grade in a small Michigan town where we sat in severe rows with seats affixed to the floor. No one moved around. So when our family went to Ann Arbor the next year, I was pleasantly surprised to discover that in the new school we sat in little chairs at small tables that could be moved about in various ways. I didn't know I was taking part in a new theory of education but I can testify that it worked.

I can still feel my excitement when we undertook to make a zoo. Each of us chose an animal, which we created out of cardboard, with two sides that were hinged together at the top. Mine was a zebra. It stood about a foot high, as I remember, and I painted it with poster paint.

Then we dictated sentences about our animals. Our teacher wrote them on the board and we made a kind of original book about what we had created. We

soaked up all kinds of information about our animals – and of course we were reading our own words and building vocabulary.

The project ended with a zoo parade, led by the biggest boy in the class. (I now realize that Salvador, a Mexican child, must have been held back in school because English was for him a second language. To us, his very size gave him pride of place.)

In 7th or 8th grade at University High School, our two social studies classes had another memorable project. My class, using a large tray that covered two of our class tables and was filled with dirt, created a northern forest scene with log cabins and a nearby Indian village. The afternoon class, in the same way, developed a Southern plantation – a kind of toy Mount Vernon.

The projects took some time and each group followed with enthusiasm the developing progress of their own and the others' scene. The projects made memorable what we were simultaneously learning in our textbook. In true Dewey fashion, we were learning by doing.

Now fast-forward to 1945 in the Philippines, where I was working with the armed forces in club recreation with the American National Red Cross. On a weekend day-off – the first in perhaps a month – I went with a group of soldiers to visit a rest-leave site in a palm grove near the ocean, a place with beautiful sandy beaches. We had been swimming but had come ashore as the sun was setting.

An outrigger canoe with a group of fishermen was also coming into shore. They were bare from above the waist and certainly looked native and unschooled. Pulling the boat up to shore was a struggle and on impulse several of us walked over to help them. I had learned a few words of Tagalog, the dialect of that portion of Luzon Island, and greeted them in their own language.

After the boat was secured, one of the fishermen turned to me and in perfect English, said, "Do you know much Tagalog?" When I demurred, he introduced himself as the principal of a nearby high school and went on to ask if I "liked it here."

And of course I answered yes, then went on to say how much I was learning in this new environment.

"Yes," said the fisherman, "as your great John Dewey says, 'Education is living.'"

* * *

Now that was really learning by doing!

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.

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SCHOOLS continued from page 1

don't necessarily come to her elementary school.

The committee asked Sherwood about estimates of children in the planned developments. She indicated that she is involved with curriculum; she is not the person who is estimating the numbers of students. She does hope to have a school large enough to house the Head Start program. Sherwood's wish is to have one school from pre K to 8th grade all in one building and incorporate the Greenbelt West and Berwyn Heights communities. She expressed concern about where the students would be housed during construction of a new school.

Greenbelt Elementary

Cassandra Edwards, vice principal at Greenbelt Elementary School (GES), is in her first year at the school. She indicated that the school has 550 students. The school is looking for volunteers to help in the cafeteria and on the playground at lunchtime. Perhaps because many of the ACE members are very familiar with GES, there was little discussion of the school.

Magnolia

Mary Ford is the assistant principal at Magnolia Elementary School. She has some Greenbelt students in her school. She indicated that they have 460 students and are using all of their space. Ford commented on the "nice diversity" of her students but indicated that some families just "leave the country for a while"

to visit their homeland and don't even tell the school. She is working on this issue with foreign parents.

Ford indicated that Magnolia has a need for paid recess monitors for three hours a day. The pay may be approximately \$8.80 an hour. She commented that volunteerism in the school is up. She cited a successful PTA fund raiser where students donate \$2 for the chance to wear no uniform to school for a day. (Magnolia and Springhill Lake students wear uniforms.) Ford says that she has to keep an eye out for high school students who sometimes hang around the school. She isn't sure if they are from Duval or ERHS. ERHS principal Sylvester Conyers told Ford to notify him immediately if she thinks his students are hanging around.

Magnolia had a break-in this year which has never happened before. Sherwood then mentioned that Springhill Lake has had a rash of graffiti this year but little crime. The conversation moved to children being dropped off at school before the school is even open. At Magnolia and Springhill Lake, some parents drop their children off very early even though they know they will be standing outside. Conyers indicated that they have kids arriving at 6:30 a.m. and staying past 6:30 p.m. "We're not a community center." This is apparently an issue at many schools. Some mentioned a liability if they let the children in before there is proper supervision.

ERHS

Conyers then presented his update on ERHS. At 2,900 students, it's the second largest school in the state. Both Bowie and Flowers high schools are approaching ERHS in size. Conyers continued, "Size is not an issue for us. Consistent quality education is our main concern." Parents are concerned about the size but the students are not. They are used to crowded halls and cafeterias.

Conyers thanked Greenbelt for the police presence in the school. There have been some break-ins at the temporary classrooms, which now number 21. Graffiti also. He said there has never been as much as now. He doesn't think it's gang related, but is not sure. He feels that conflicts seem to occur between students from one housing community versus another.

Boundary changes should not affect ERHS this year. There are also no planned changes to the science and technology program.

Attendance is closely monitored by the state and attendance is a problem even at ERHS. Overall attendance must be 94 percent or higher. Conyers said that parents always have a reason why their kids should have an exception. He needs excused absences to be equitable and does not want them based on academics. The students need to be accountable and come to school.

Conyers indicated that it is

important for ERHS to know what students are learning and how they are learning in both elementary and middle school. Schools can't compartmentalize; teachers at the lower levels must be concerned about how their students will do once they reach high school. In a general discussion that followed, Ford mentioned that at Magnolia, students are reminded every morning that "This is a new opportunity to make a right choice." Edwards applauded the ERHS students ("excellent girls") who are learning and helping in the GES early childhood classes. Conyers reminded the ACE members that ERHS is a great draw to Greenbelt. He'll have an open house for next year's parents in the spring. Parents come by the school all summer - parents who want to know what areas to live in to be within the ERHS boundary.

State Scholarships Currently Available

Del. Tawanna P. Gaines (D-Prince George's County) has announced that House of Delegate scholarship applications for the 2006-2007 academic year are now available. She warns, however, that if the Governor cuts the education budget, delegates will need to discontinue the opportunity to provide scholarships to deserving students in their districts.

Interested students may request an application by forwarding their name, address, phone, email address and school they currently attend to Ppowers@house.state.md.us or via U.S. Mail to Delegate Tawanna Gaines, 207 Lowe House Office Building, Annapolis, MD 21401 Attn: Pamela Powers. Information as to eligibility can be addressed by calling Pamela Powers at 301-858-3058.

Open House

Saturday, February 25, 10 am - 1 pm

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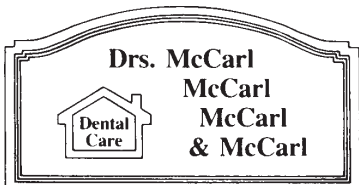


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Fun and Helpful At the Same Time



PHOTO BY MARY LOU WILLIAMSON

The deep snowfall brought out many a "Good Samaritan." Above, Leonard Wallace uses his Honda ATV to clear driveways all over the Lakeside community. The neighborly gesture was a win-win situation – helpful to residents and great fun for the driver. For more pictures of the weekend snowfall, see page 12.

Plateau Block Party Raised Katrina Animal Relief Funds

by Li'l Dan Celdran

In September, soon after Hurricane Katrina, Plateau Place celebrated its second annual block party. The theme was "Mardi Gras" and it had been planned many months before Hurricane Katrina. Everyone involved felt much sadness for all the victims, both two-legged and four-legged victims of the storm. Even in the wake of the devastating storm, it was decided to go ahead with the block party and to keep the Mardi Gras theme. In an effort to keep people's spirits up despite the tragedy, it was decided to incorporate a raffle for the hurricane victims.



Young Plateau Place resident is decked out in Mardi Gras garb.

The Plateau community is made up of a lot of animal-loving people. In all, \$41 was collected by those participating and the decision was made to contribute the money raised toward relief efforts. The raffle winners picked out donated goods from one of the party planners, Cindy Allen. Eileen Murray did a splendid job of decorating the "money jars" with various-colored Mardi Gras beads.

The \$41 raised has been contributed as a gift to the Humane

Society of the US to help with animal relief for Katrina victims. All participants hope it will help a bit, even though it is late in being sent. Plateau residents' thoughts continue to be with the animal victims of Katrina, many of which are still very much in need.

Aviation Museum Needs Volunteers

Volunteer where Wilbur and Orville Wright made aviation history, the College Park Aviation Museum located at 1985 Corporal Frank Scott Drive, College Park.

Teen and adult volunteers are needed to assist in the gift shop, work at the front desk, act as tour guides, help with special events and work in restoration and the workshop. Schedules vary with position. These positions require people who love aviation, working with and restoring historic aircraft.

For information call 301-864-6029, TTY 301-864-4765.

The College Park Aviation Museum is a facility of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's Depart-

ment of Parks and Recreation. The volunteer work qualifies as service-learning hours for Prince George's County public school students.

Hospice Needs Help

The Hospice of the Chesapeake's Children Circle Playback Theater needs a few adults to join a newly formed troupe to serve children of the community. No acting experience is required, only an open heart and courage to hear and honor the stories of young people's lives. For more information call Deb Hollander at 301-499-4500

President's Wife Visits Montpelier

On Sunday, February 26 at 2 p.m. "Bedlam" will entertain and amuse with 18th century music played on authentic, period instruments. Then Abigail Adams (as played by Kate Stevenson) will visit Montpelier just as she did on November 21, 1800.

The program is suitable for ages 10 and up and is free but advance reservations are required. For information call 301-953-1376 or see www.pgparcs.com. Montpelier Mansion is located on Muirkirk Road at Route 197 in Laurel.

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Weekend Snowfall Elicits Varied Response – Awe, Fun and Damage to Trees, Power Lines

by James Giese

Last weekend's snowfall left Greenbelt covered with eight to 10 inches of wet snow. City snow removal crews managed to keep up with the snowfall and kept streets opened to traffic. The more serious problem was damage to trees and shrubs. The heavy snow accumulated, weighing branches down, causing young trees and smaller shrubs to bend over and causing larger trees, particularly older pines, to fall over or lose their limbs.

Five trees fell onto Crescent Road according to Gene Diest, Public Works street maintenance supervisor. One of these trees brought down power lines with it causing power outages in the North End of the central part of the city. A large tree limb on Northway near Hillside Road also brought down power lines. Power was out from around 2 a.m. until 6 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, February 12. Public Works crews managed to move some of the obstruction off the roadway using a front end loader but could not fully clear it until PEPCO crews removed the live wires on the ground.

The most serious treefall occurred on Kenilworth Avenue just north of Good Luck Road where a tree on the west side of the road fell into the southbound lane on top of a car containing two women. Diest said the city's front end loader was requested by city police to help extricate the women but they were freed before it got there. The women were not injured, Diest said.

Another Crescent Road tree fell on a parked Toyota Camry just north of the southern intersection of Parkway with Crescent. That tree caved in the entire roof of the vehicle.

At 46 Court Ridge Road, a resident reported that a tree fell on a power line, knocking a power pole awry and causing power there to be out until PEPCO crews restored it at 9:30 p.m. Sunday evening. A fallen pine tree was also reported at the 50 court of Ridge.

Another large tree fell across the driveway at Greenbelt Community Church at the corner of Hillside and Crescent Roads. Fortunately there were no vehicles parked there and services were cancelled on Sunday due to the weather.

Diest said that crews worked from 3 p.m. Saturday until 4 p.m. Sunday. There were 13 crew members operating snow plows, eight shoveling sidewalks and three using small tractors with plows.

Power was also knocked out at the Public Works maintenance facility. An emergency generator had to be hooked up to provide power for the gasoline and diesel fuel pumps in order for the snow removal equipment to be refueled.

Diest has over 40 years' experience with city snow removal. As a young boy he often rode with his father Ralph as he plowed snow on city streets. He recalled that he would ride on the passenger seat sitting on a phone book so that he could see out. Henry Thurston would be in the back of the truck shoveling salt out onto the street; no fancy salt spreaders back then. Upon completing high school Diest joined the Public Works Department and has been with the city ever since.



PHOTO BY MARY LOU WILLIAMSON

A fairyland of snow-laden branches above Greenbelt Lake.



PHOTO BY JON GARDNER

David Gardner (7), Mairead Alexander (8) and Scott Candey (7) ride a triple-sled "train" down the hill



PHOTO BY JON GARDNER

. . . and wipe out at the bottom!



PHOTO BY MARY MOJEN

Snowmen, women and children appeared throughout the city. This family was spotted on Northway.



PHOTO BY MARY MOJEN

The remains of a car after a tree fell on it near the intersection of Crescent and Parkway.

City Information

The City's Role In Development Review

This article is the fourth in a series to ensure that Greenbelt residents are aware of the development and redevelopment proposals being considered for Greenbelt West. Greenbelt West is that area of the city west of Kenilworth Avenue, east of the Metrorail tracks and between the Capital Beltway and Greenbelt Road.

The last article two weeks ago described the plans for the rebuilding of Springhill Lake by its owner AIMCO. This week's article is about the city's role in planning and zoning and in the review of development plans.

When it comes to planning and zoning, Greenbelt is the victim of a great irony. The original part of Greenbelt is historically significant as a model planned community. It is one of the first planned communities in our nation. In developing the plans for Greenbelt, there is no doubt that the planners were not just laying out a town that reflected good urban design, they were also seeking to engender a "sense of community," something best defined at the local or community level. It is therefore truly ironic that this model planned community has never had authority over the planning and zoning of property in Greenbelt, as that authority lies with a regional body, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). Since the federal government left Greenbelt, the city has only had the ability to review and comment on development proposals. While in many instances the city has been able to favorably influence the details of development proposals, no municipality except Laurel has authority over the planning and zoning of its community in Prince George's County.

In spite of this, over the years, the city has become more and more successful in defining what development should occur in Greenbelt and what should not. For example, more than 30 years ago, Capital Office Park was planned to be garden apartments until the city argued that there were already enough in the community. Capital Office Park is now the premier office park in the county. Twenty years ago, the area of Greenbelt East south of Ora Glen Drive was planned and zoned for development of as many as 800 townhouses. The city demanded that more single family homes be built, and the area has become a very successful mix of single family homes, townhomes and office space. Very recently, the county approved a plan for the Greenbelt Station that provided for a regional mall larger in area than Arundel Mills, more office space than Capital Office Park and the Maryland Trade Center combined and housing that was too insufficient in number and poorly located to be considered part of a transit-oriented development. In spite of the city's opposition to the plan, it was approved. In the 18 months since the court ruling was issued, the city has negotiated with the developer and the county, and the plan has been significantly modified to reduce the commercial floor area, increase the housing mix, and include design elements which will make the development not only transit friendly, but also sensitive to the environment, the community and our neighboring municipalities.

The city's success in influencing the design of new developments through negotiation and hard work has created a situation which can be confusing for residents and property owners. Residents expect the city to have the authority to advocate for and protect the community's interests. Developers, on the other hand, know they have to meet the requirements of the county and M-NCPPC, but they are not always clear on how to deal with a city government like Greenbelt. So while residents expect the city to be able to be the final authority on development in Greenbelt, the city actually only has the ability to "negotiate" for its interests. A developer can decide to ignore Greenbelt's interests and pay attention only to the county's demands. Generally this has not occurred; rather, the city council, community and staff have become more expert in defining and advocating for the city's interests. But if and when it has happened that a development plan that disregards the interests of Greenbelt is approved, the city has continued to call upon every option available to make sure that the proposed development is undertaken in a fashion that builds on the strengths and character of the city.

If there are questions about this article, please forward them to the Planning Department at 301-345-5417 or email pcd@greenbeltmd.gov. The next article will describe Tax Increment Financing (TIF).

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