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

JANUARY 25, 2007

The Problems of Homelessness And Possible Solutions Explored

by James Giese

At its January 10 worksession, the Greenbelt City Council discussed problems of homelessness with persons who deal with the problem on a day-to-day basis. Councilmembers were also given a hard copy of a visual presentation made on homelessness at a city-sponsored homelessness conference held in November. Although ideas were tossed around on things that might be done to address the problem, no courses of action were considered by council at the meeting.

Present at the meeting were Tim Jansen, executive director of Community Crisis Services, Inc; the Reverend Bobbi Troyer, evangelist, of StreetLights of Bethany; Marcia Voigt, vice president of the board of directors of Help by Phone and Greenbelt Community Church coordinator for Safe Haven; Mary Linstrom of the Catholic Ladies of Charity and Dr. Liz Park, director of Greenbelt CARES.

According to a release by the National Alliance to End Homelessness, more than 744,000 persons are homeless on any single night. This figure is the first nationwide estimate of homelessness made by the Homelessness Research Institute. It is based upon a compilation and analyses of data from local communities nationwide.

According to Jansen, about 1,400 people were homeless in Prince George's County last year. Troyer told council that the number in Greenbelt is down somewhat, but that she will be working with about 25 individuals at any one time.

Park told council that about 20 percent of those homeless are chronically so and the remainder are homeless from temporary situational setbacks.

Conference Presentation

In the presentation made by Andrea E. Morris, M.S.W., at the Homelessness Conference copied to the council, she said 25 percent of those homeless are estimated to be too disabled to work. Some 24 percent of the homeless need medical treatment and 46 percent needed to see a dentist for treatment.

Among adult Washington, D.C., homeless residents in one month, 9.6 percent used an illicit drug, 25.5 percent used cigarettes and 17.1 percent engaged in binge drinking. Up to 35 percent of that homeless population suffer from chronic disorders and many suffer from more than one, such as mental illness and chronic substance disorder.

An estimated 25 percent of homeless adults in Prince George's County suffer from a serious mental illness.

At the meeting it was noted that the number of homeless children is increasing significantly. Morris said that under federal law homeless children are required to be educated in local schools but many are still turned away. Those who do attend have repeated absences, high failure rates and are subjected to bullying and ridicule. Homeless teens have a high drop-out rate. These children are more apt to be born of teenage parents.

Housing Losses

Morris attributes the causes of homelessness to a variety of events. Public housing for the poor became blighted and much has been torn down without being replaced. HIV and crack cocaine have caused additional health problems.

Confining the mentally ill to hospitals was found to be inhumane and hospitals were closed down, particularly during the Reagan presidency, without equal

See **HOMELESS**, page 6

Council Explores Joining Playful City USA Program

by Barbara Hopkins

Council is looking into having the City of Greenbelt become a Playful City USA, a program modeled after Tree City USA and sponsored by KaBOOM!, a national, not-for-profit organization that promotes play.

KaBOOM!

The organization was incorporated in 1996 by Darell Hammond and Dawn Hutchison after they organized a community playground-build at Livingston Manor in Southeast Washington, D.C. That five-day program involved over 500 volunteers and was achieved with corporate funding from The Home Depot and Minkoff Co., Inc.

Among its other projects, in 2006 KaBOOM! launched Operation Playground: Rebuilding Playgrounds, Restoring Childhoods, which is a two-year initiative to build 100 playgrounds in Gulf Coast communities that were affected by Hurricane Katrina or other storms. It has helped communities build nearly 1,000 playgrounds since its inception.

KaBOOM! hopes for a great place to play for every child in America.

City Participation

At its regular meeting on January 8 council discussed accepting two \$600 scholarships offered

Greenbelt by KaBOOM! to defray costs for representatives to attend KaBOOM!'s national U Play! conference in New Orleans early in February. The conference will provide more information about the U Play! program and help identify municipalities to become founding Playful Cities.

Councilmembers showed interest in the program and City Manager Michael McLaughlin said city funds would be available to supplement the scholarships, since costs would likely exceed the amount offered by KaBOOM!. A motion to accept the scholarships and send two representatives passed by a vote of four to one, with Councilmember Rodney Roberts voting no because he thought it sufficient for only one person to go and he did not want the city to spend the money to send two.

In order to be recognized as a Playful City by KaBOOM!, a city must meet a set of commitments that includes creating a local play task force and/or commission, developing an annual action plan for play, auditing play space in the city, setting benchmarks for growth in capital projects spending and maintenance of play spaces and proclaiming and celebrating an annual Play Day.

"Projects to Warm the Heart" Is Focus of Next Artful Afternoon

A community art project to warm the heart will be the focus of the next Artful Afternoon to be held on Sunday, February 4 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Community Center.

Participants will decorate part of a



Each month Artful Afternoon includes Open Studios (3rd floor, 1 to 5 p.m.) to give art fans of all ages the opportunity to talk with the artists-in-residence as they demonstrate their work. See whimsical sculpture displays scattered throughout the center that were created by community members at previous events.

Two New Suits Challenge Construction of the ICC

by Elaine Skolnik

"It's a bad deal, not a done deal," said environmentalists in Montgomery County at a press conference on December 20 called to announce the filing that day of two lawsuits to block construction of the Intercounty Connector (ICC). (That was the deadline day for filing such lawsuits.)

The ICC, a six lane, 18-mile

State Highway Administration (SHA) spokesperson David Buck told the News Review that the SHA was not a defendant in either law suit. He pointed out that approval of the ICC had been granted on May 29, 2006, by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) of the U.S. Department of Transportation. Buck reiterated earlier statements that in this third-round ICC study, unlike unsuccessful studies in past decades, both the state's legal staff and federal agencies have been involved in the process from the beginning. He noted that all involved federal agencies have given the ICC study their blessing. Although official groundbreaking for the ICC is expected in the coming spring, Buck opined that the SHA would move ahead, continuing its preconstruction process

community mural and see how that part contributes to the whole mural. Inspired by the theme "there are all kinds of hearts in the world," Artist-in-residence Mary Gawlik will lead this workshop from 1 to 3 p.m. Those attending will

work with natural materials including wood, cork, rattan and other decorative elements. There are plans to hang the completed mural in the Community Center. There will be an opportunity to make a tile out of cardboard to take home for a Valentine.

New Exhibit

A new exhibit will be open at the Greenbelt Community Center Art Gallery and guests are invited to visit the show throughout the afternoon. The new exhibit

Mary Gawlik will Mary Gawlik, right, discusses with a student the use of varilead this workshop ous natural materials for making tiles.

showcases the talents of ceramic artists who are contributing to the upcoming "Empty Bowls" charitable fundraising community supper in March. The ticket price entitles the patron to choose a hand-made ceramic bowl to keep from an array donated by local potters. The new exhibit honors the community spirit of the ceramic artists mounting this event and offers patrons a preview of the talent they will see reflected in the bowls at the supper. From 1 to 5 p.m. there will be tours of the historic 1930s home oper-

ated by the Greenbelt Museum at 10-B Crescent Road. For a different slant on things consider the question, "Were earlier times really simpler?" during the tour.

Artful Afternoons are held the first Sunday of every month with hands-on art projects, open studios and other activities. Artful Afternoon is free and suitable for all ages. For additional information visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/ARTS or call Barbara Dickey Davis at 240-542-2062. toll highway, will connect Interstate 270 in Gaithersburg with Interstate 95/Route 1 in Laurel at an estimated cost of more than \$2.4 billion.

Hoping that the two law suits would block construction of the controversial highway, the Sierra Club, Environmental Defense, the Audubon Naturalist Society of the Central Atlantic States and the Maryland Native Plant Society claim that the ICC "would violate federal environmental standards and adversely affect the region's environment."

See ICC, page 8

What Goes On

Friday, January 26 and Saturday, January 27
9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Skate Park Closed for Training Exercises with Local Fire and Rescue/EMS Staff
Saturday, January 27
9 a.m. to noon, Electronics Recycling, Greenbelt Public Works

9 a.m. to noon, Electronics Recycling, Greenbelt Public Work Yard, 555 Crescent Road

Letters to the Editor

Hello from New Soccer Comish

My name is Richelle Green. I was recently appointed by the Greenbelt Boys & Girls Club Board of Directors as the new Soccer Commissioner. Many of you in the Greenbelt community have worked with Kim Paz, the former soccer commissioner. The club and I would like to thank Kim once again for her years of service and dedication to the soccer program.

Spring 2007 Soccer Registration has begun and is going strong! We are going to continue the registration process every Thursday and Friday from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Greenbelt Youth Center until the end of February. If there are any youth in Greenbelt or the surrounding communities wishing to join the county champs in a worldwide sport or if you know of anyone that is interested in soccer, please sign up as soon as possible.

Signing up is simple for new members. All you need is a copy of your child's birth certificate or passport, a small picture that we may keep, proof of Greenbelt residency and check or money order for club fees.

Also . . . there are many opportunities for high school students to receive their community service hours with our soccer program. I will be looking into ways we can get the high school students involved, whether it is helping a coach with team management or working one-on-one with soccer kids to help hone their skills. I want to try to get as many people involved in the great sport of soccer as possible.

I am so excited about the 2007 soccer year! I feel we have a lot of enthusiastic children, parents, coaches and other community members going into the new year. I look forward to meeting you all!

Richelle Green

Grateful to Roberts

The News Review (January 18) reports criticism by Mayor Judith Davis of Mayor Pro Tem Rodney Roberts over his comments at the January 9 school board meeting. I was at that meeting and the problem was not that Mr. Roberts tried to set the record straight in the face of inaccurate statements about the city's position by AIMCO representatives. Rather, the problem was the school board's choice to prohibit comment by any citizens other than developers' representatives. The board thus allowed AIMCO to have the floor for an extended period of time while the public and even their elected representatives were forbidden to speak. As a member of the public attending that meeting, I was disturbed by this silencing of the public in a matter that directly affected us. I can confirm, however, that Mr. Roberts was recognized by a member of the board as he approached the microphone. Although the board refused to turn on his microphone, they declined to have him thrown out, for which - in the current climate of apparent disdain for public participation by our elected officials - I suppose we can be grateful. Mr. Roberts should be thanked for being the only Greenbelt City

Councilmember present at that meeting to keep an eye on the proceedings, not scolded for trying to speak when the public was being denied the right to have any say in a matter involving the fate of publicly-owned land.

I should add that, although the school board did have a belated public hearing on the matter in which members of the public were given two minutes to speak, this was only after the board had already given the developer the letter of intent he wanted for the transfer of 14 acres of taxpayerowned land (despite the fact that his meager offer of \$20 million for the land is "insufficient to respond to the gap in what we perceive are going to be the impacts on the district," according to School Superintendent Deasy as quoted in the Washington Post January 12, 2007).

If anyone's conduct deserves to be questioned here, it is that of the Prince George's County school board, not Mr. Roberts. Greenbelt citizens concerned about the fate of this public property can be grateful to Mr. Roberts for his presence at the relevant school board meetings and to elected officials of Berwyn Heights who spoke against transfer of the property at the public hearing.

Ruth Kastner

A Recovery Center For the Homeless?

I often avoid Roosevelt Center because of the overrepresentation of homeless and mentally disturbed individuals. I do not believe that this image of dismal failure is what Greenbelt is all about.

Yes, I know, a true Greenbelter, actually wants poverty and homelessness to be visible, as this very visibility, along with the easy opportunity to provide hand-outs somehow allow him to feel less guilty. But, as we continue our handouts year after year and continue to see these same persons doing the same thing year after year, a clue should be evolving. I believe that such giving is irresponsible and is damaging to the recipients as well as to the community and that such givers should be fined.

So, if you feel a need to help but cannot make a major personal investment, there is still hope. It might be well to contribute to the efforts of some churches, especially if their programs are slanted just as much toward personal development and recovery as toward providing food. A few months ago I attended the yearly meeting of Greenbelt seniors where some of the city council was present. At that time I brought up this problem and received considerable (initial) support from the others present when I suggested that we consider using the vacated post office as a recovery center for homeless and mentally disturbed persons, while at the same time disallowing any of their hanging out in the Center. I understand that such a spontaneously conceived notion might be a bad or unworkable idea - but I just hope it might stimulate more realistic thinking. As every philanthropist knows, responsible giving requires knowledge, understanding, thought, planning and supervision. Bill Norwood

Wonderful Emergency Procedure Available

About a week ago a friend was experiencing chest pains in my house and I drove him immediately to Doctors Hospital Emergency. He said he was having a heart attack and within five minutes he had an EKG and 70 minutes later there was a stent in place in his heart. It was a major artery blockage but the results were great and he is recovering well now at home. The hospital said that if the procedure, done through the leg vein and called a C-Port or cardiac catheterization, takes place within 90 minutes there is little damage to the heart.

I want to congratulate Doctors for having this wonderful emergency procedure readily available. They said if anyone has chest pains even with no medical history of heart problems, call 911 and have the patient tell them right away. The same can be said for stroke symptoms: if a person cannot grip both hands or has trouble smiling or talking call 911 because within two hours a lot can be done. I consider this good information for all of us and we are so fortunate to have a good hospital nearby and a good example walking around.

Harriette Phelps



Notable Women

For March, the Greenbelt News Review is considering a series of stories to celebrate National Women's History Month. If you know of a Greenbelt woman resident who has significant accomplishments (possibly outside of Greenbelt) and is relatively unknown (within Greenbelt), call us or send an email with the name and some background information.



^{&#}x27;So, your man Peyton is finally heading for the big game!''

<u>On Screen</u>

"Notes on a Scandal"

In this psychological thriller, Judi Dench's lonely, embittered character narrates the story of a teacher (Cate Blanchett) who has an affair with a student. Her husband (played by Bill Nighy) gives the film its moral center but every main character evinces a capacity for manipulative behavior and betrayal.

Director Richard Eyre has won numerous awards for directing stage plays and he elicits powerful performances from the whole cast. Their work has been rewarded with four Oscar nominations, including Judi Dench (Best Actress) and Cate Blanchett (Best Supporting Actress). Patrick Marber also received an Oscar nod for Best Screenplay; his past work includes scripting "Closer" (2004) as well as writing for and appearing in Steve Coogan's chat-show-from-hell, "Knowing Me, Knowing You."

"Notes on a Scandal" runs 93 minutes and is rated R for language and sexual content.

- Cathy Jones



15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-1887 newsreview@greenbelt.com 301-474-4131 • FAX 301-474-5880

> Alfred M. Skolnik, President, 1959-1977 Elaine Skolnik, President, 1977-1985 President Emeritus, 1985-

Editor: Mary Lou Williamson 301-441-2662 Assistant Editor: Barbara Likowski 301-474-8483 News Editor: Elaine Skolnik 301-598-1805 Assistant to the Editor: Eileen Farnham 301-513-0482

Holy Redeemer School (Grades K – 8) OPEN HOUSE Tues., Jan. 30 8:15 – 11:00 a.m. 8:15: Refreshments 9-11: Classroom Visits School Tours 49th & Berwyn Road, College Park (301) 474-3993

www.school.holy-redeemer.org

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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.

Community Events

At the Library Storytimes

Tuesday, January 30, 10:30 a.m., Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months with caregiver; limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, January 31, 10:30 and 11 a.m., Toddlertime for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver; limit 15 children.

Thursday, February 1, 10:30 a.m., Drop-In Storytime for ages 3 to 5; limit 20 children.

GEAC to Meet

The next meeting of the Greenbelt East Advisory Committee (GEAC) will be on Thursday, February 1 at 7:30 p.m., in the Windsor Green community center.

Kids' Discussion On "As You Like It"

Kids ages 10 and up are invited to register at the Community Center for a discussion group that will meet before and after the Sunday, February 18 matinee performance of "As You Like It." Melissa Sites will lead a discussion about the play and how director/composer Chris Cherry adapted it for this year's youth musical. The pre-show session begins at 1 p.m. After the show group members will return to the Community Center for a 60-minute session of refreshments and discussion. Registration and a nominal fee are required.

Register now at the Community Center and pick up a softbound edition of the complete play as well as a copy of the script that will be performed at the Arts Center. Tickets to the performance must be purchased separately. For information call 301-397-2208.

New Deal Annual Meeting Rescheduled

Last Sunday's weather advisory caused the scheduled annual New Deal Café members meeting to be postponed. The meeting is now rescheduled for Monday, February 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Café. The meeting will be preceded by a members potluck dinner starting at 6 p.m. The agenda for the evening includes a review of financial records, future plans, election of three persons to the board and consideration of bylaw changes. (See ad on page 5.) Candidates for the board, known to the N & E committee as of January 21 were Hopi Auberbach, Vasili Frankos, Peter May and Richard McMullin.

Exploration Topic Is Hearing Loss

On Friday, February 2 Explorations Unlimited will host a presentation by Dr. Jamie Hadley, an audiologist at the Hearing Professionals, who will discuss hearing loss and aging. She will go into detail about the various types of hearing loss, warning signs, the main causes of hearing loss and what seniors can do to help prevent more hearing loss. She will also give tips on how to cope with hearing loss and aging.

Hadley received her bachelor of science degree from Mississippi University for Women in Columbus, Miss., where she was also a stand-out on the basketball team. She continued her education at Ohio State University in Columbus, receiving a master of science there, then returned to school and obtained a doctor of audiology degree from the University of Florida in Gainesville in 2002. She has a diverse background of audiology experience and has worked in an ear, nose and throat practice as well as a nonprofit speech and hearing center.

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 classroom, room 114. Everyone is welcome to attend and questions are encouraged. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

Aliens under Attack At Greenbelt Park

Help protect Greenbelt Park from harmful invasive plants. Join in a hands on nature preservation activity and learn about native and non-native plants. Come on Saturday, February 3 at 11 a.m. to the Sweetgum Picnic Area.

This program, a partnership between the Greenbelt Park and the University of Maryland, is held every first Saturday of the month, come rain or shine. Wear appropriate clothing and bring work gloves and a lunch/snack.

The Greenbelt Park entrance is located between Kenilworth Avenue and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway at 6565 Greenbelt Road.

For more information call Greenbelt Park at 301-344-3944 or visit the park website at http:// www.nps.gov/gree.

Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald The Golden Age Club installed the following slate of officers on January 10: president – Ellie Rimar, 1st vice-president – Frank Corrsen, 2nd vice-president – Bill Souser, recording secretary – Bunny Fitzgerald, corresponding secretary – Rachel Algaze and treasurer – Robert Terrell. Karen Haseley of the Recreation Dept. was the installer. Let's give these dedicated members lots of support for all the next year, the 50th anniversary year.

Many thanks to Bill Souser, our outgoing president, who has served five times in that position. Bill does so many things for the club, it is hard to name them all. He sets up for meetings, keeps the sound systems functioning, creates and sends cards for the Sunshine Committee and is our photographer, as well as one of our computer experts. Hugs and thanks to Bill.

There will be an open meeting on January 31 at the Community Center on public transportation at 7:30 p.m. in the Senior Classroom. Steve Jaffe, chief operating officer, will speak.

GIVES to Sponsor Free Tax Filing

GIVES will sponsor free income tax filing for qualified residents. Federal and Maryland income tax forms will be done free at Springhill Lake Recreation Center for Greenbelt residents whose total income is below \$25,000 for singles without dependents or below \$32,000 for those with two or more exemptions. Help is available between noon and 4:30 p.m. on all Sundays in February and March.

Call 301-507-6580 (10 a.m. to noon or 1 to 3 p.m.) to make an appointment or just drop in.

Help Available on Money Matters

The City of Greenbelt has trained volunteers available to help "elderly low income" individuals to organize and pay their bills. Services are available for Greenbelt residents only with the goal of promoting and prolonging independent living for people on limited income who are at risk because of their inability to manage their own finances and who have no friends or relatives available to help them.

AARP Foundation provides liability insurance for the services. After initial referral is complete, the volunteers can help the clients sort mail and organize bills for payment, balance checkbook, set up a list of monthly income and expenses, write checks from a designated account for client signature. To qualify for help from this program, maximum household income guidelines are: single, \$31,529; two person, \$44,613; total liquid assets, \$35,000.

The client must be capable of making decisions and be able to sign checks, assist in developing a list of income and expenses and try to keep to it. The client must not have anyone available to perform these functions, must be willing to accept the volunteer's help and must be willing to sign the volunteer/client service agreement.

For more information call the Volunteer Maryland Coordinator Valarie A. Wright at 240-542-2031.

The Greenbelt Skate Park will be closed Friday, Jan. 26 and Saturday, Jan. 27 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for training exercises with the local Fire and Rescue/EMS staff.

OPEN HOUSE JANUARY 30 and 31, 2007 Between 9 and 11 a.m.

St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic School, an Elementary and Junior High School Grades K – 8

> 145 Crescent Road Greenbelt, MD 20770

Tel.: 301-474-4071 Email: principal@sthughs.com or find us online at www.sthughs.com

Open Registration begins: February 9 for the 2007-2008 school year



Auditions Auditions Witness for the Prosecution By Agatha Christie Jan. 28 & 29 7:30pm 9 men 30-60 3 women 20-50 Readings from Script Varied British Accents Greenbelt Arts Center 123 Centerway, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-441-8770 www.greenbeltartscenter.org



Obituaries

Luis Adrian Gonzalez

Corporal Luis Adrian Gonzalez, 34, of the Greenbelt Police Department died Wednesday, January 17, 2007, at



his home in Glen Burnie where he had lived for four years.

Corporal Gonzalez was born March 1, 1972, in New York City. He was a graduate of the class of 1990 of Clifton High School, Clifton, N.J. He served four years in the United States Air Force.

A corporal with the Greenbelt Police Department for the past eight years, he was supervisor of the Homeland Security unit. Cpl. Gonzalez was selected as one of two police Officers of the Year in 2001 for his outstanding work pursuing the identity of a major narcotics trafficker who was a fugitive from justice in three states. Cpl. Gonzalez was seen as an outstanding police officer and led his squad in overall statistics. He was also the department's on-call Spanish language interpreter.

Before coming to Greenbelt, Cpl. Gonzalez worked as a federal protective officer.

He was a member of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #32 and the American Legion.

His hobbies included collecting police and antique cars and caring for his dogs Harry, Margaret, Tess and Benny. He was known for his sense of humor.

Cpl. Gonzalez is survived by his fiancée Susie Hall of Glen Burnie; his parents Maritza and Luis Gonzalez of Sebring, Fla.; sisters Ana Molloy of Bethlehem, Pa., and Patricia Torres of Sebring; godchildren Lindsay Molloy and Julin Torres; nephews Ryan and Max Molloy; niece Elianna Garcia; uncle and aunt Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gomez (he was also their godson); aunt Mrs. Frances Garredo and nine female cousins.

A funeral Mass was held at noon on Tuesday, January 23 at St. Mary's Church in Laurel. Interment was in Maryland Veterans Cemetery, Crownsville.

Donations of sympathy may be made to Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) at www. nationalcops.org.



vituaries

Jacqueline Sue Gilbert

Former Greenbelter Jacqueline Sue Gilbert, 62, of Silver Spring, died Sunday, January 14, 2007.

She was born June 16, 1944, in California, Md., to Helen and Harold Hufendick. The family later moved to Greenbelt. They were active in Greenbelt Community Church. She graduated from High Point High School in 1962. Later she earned a bachelor's degree in government and politics from the University of Maryland and a master's degree in urban and regional planning from the University of Northern Colorado.

In the early years of her career while attending school she worked for the City of Greenbelt. She started Camp Pine Tree in the early 1960s. She married former Greenbelt Recreation director Richard Stevenson. The marriage later ended in divorce.

After working as an Adult Reader's Advisor at the D.C. Public Library, Ms. Gilbert joined the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) in 1974 as a planning technician. At M-NCPPC she was promoted to different levels, becoming division chief in 1996. She was instrumental in park/land acquisition and development of facilities/centers. She led projects including the construction of the Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex, Prince George's Stadium, Show Place Arena, the College Park Aviation Museum and the redevelopment of Mt. Airy Plantation.

Ms. Gilbert's interests were music, reading, history, travel, gardening, running, hiking and softball.

Her husband Stephen Gilbert preceded her in death.

Her survivors include her mother of Owatonna, Mn.; her son Chris Stevenson of Falls Church, Va.; stepsons Tim Gilbert, Portland, Me., Jake Darsch, South Kingstown, R.I., and Ben Gilbert, Annapolis; sister Sondra Stripling, Silver Spring; brothers Ron Hufendick, Cheyenne, Wy., and Steven Hufendick, Minneapolis, Mn.

Memorial services were held January 20 at Christ Congregational Church, Silver Spring. Interment was private.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to So Others May Eat (SOME), Montgomery County Humane Society and the American Lung Association.

Save Darfur Benefit To Be Held Saturday

On Saturday, January 27 at 7 p.m., Café Tzedakah, co-sponsored by the Eleanor Roosevelt High School Jewish Students Association and the Mishkan Torah Social Action Committee, will hold a Darfur benefit concert at Mishkan Torah, 10 Ridge Road. The concert will offer a smorgasbord of ERHS acclaimed musical talents: the Dixie Land Jazz Combo, the a capella group Pearls, the Clarinet Choir, a string quartet, a violin duet, pianists, guitarist and other musicians. The night's beneficiary will be the Save Darfur Coalition to end the Sudanese genocide.

Donations will be accepted at the concert.

For further information call Michelle Robert Goldberg-Strassler at Library. 301-345-8755.

Smith Center Holds Benefit Piano Recital

On Sunday, January 28 at 3 p.m. a benefit recital for the International Piano Archives at Maryland (IPAM) will be held featuring Santiago Rodriguez on piano.

Hailed as a phenomenon by the New York Times, Rodriguez will play to benefit IPAM with selections from a varied repertoire in solo recital. This concert will take place in Gildenhorn Recital Hall. The recital is free but tickets are required.

This performance is dedicated to Constance Keen (1921-2005), concert pianist and advisor and friend of IPAM. An open house follows the recital in the IPAM piano room of the Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library.



Remember to count your blessings. For more information about gratefulness from an Islamic perspective, call 301-982-9463 or email info@searchislam.org or visit www.searchislam.org.



Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Sundays 10 A.M. Municipal Building

Baha'i Faith

"As long as women are prevented from attaining their highest possibilities, so long will men be unable to achieve the greatness which might be theirs." – Abdu'l-Bahá

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





Greenbelters were saddened to learn of the death of former Greenbelter Jacqueline Sue Gilbert. While working for the City of Greenbelt Ms. Gilbert in the 60s started Camp Pine Tree which is still popular with Greenbelt children.

Our sympathy to Alan Schultz of Research Road on the death of his mother Annabelle last week at the age of 88. A memorial service is being planned at Riderwood Village in Silver Spring, where she and Alan's father, Stanley moved to from Dayton, Ohio, three years ago.

Congratulations to former News Review office girl Sophia Kean, niece of editor Mary Lou Williamson and Jim Williamson, who has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2006 semester at Florida Southern College. Sophia is majoring in graphic arts.

Best wishes to News Review staffer Peter Curtis whose heart is now running better with the help of newly-added stents. He is home recuperating comfortably. We wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to his return to Tuesday's editing table.

Congratulations to the following ERHS students named to the Spring 2006 National Honor Roll: Gbolahau Goriola, Kanwal Haider, Christine Hull, Regina Joseph, Michael Robinson and Oluwatimilehin Ugbade; and to Greenbelter S.Y. Srilekha Jayanthi, who attends the Washington International School.

Academy 8 Theatres

Beltway Plaza Mall Center Court 301-220-1155 All shows starting before 6 p.m. Are ONLY \$5.00 R = ID Required (!) = No pass, No Discount Ticket

Week of

January 26 FRI. – SAT. Stomp the Yard, PG-13 (!) 12:50, 3:45, 6:45, 10:20 Night at the Museum, PG 12:15, 2;40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10 Hitcher, R (!) 12:30, 2:40, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20 Smokin Aces, R (!) 12:15, 2:45, 5:20, 7:50, 10:30 Freedom Writers, PG-13 (!) 12:45, 3:30, 6:45, 10 Dreamgirls, PG-13 (!) 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 10:20 SUN. Stomp the Yard, PG-13 (!) 12:50, 3:45, 6:45 Night at the Museum, PG 12:15, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40 Hitcher, R (!) 12:30, 2:40, 5:20, 7:50 Smokin Aces, R (!) 12:15, 2:45, 5:20, 7:50 Freedom Writers, PG-13 (!) 12:45, 3:30, 6:45 Dreamgirls, PG-13 (!) 12:45, 3:45, 6:45 MON. - THURS. Stomp the Yard, PG-13 (!) 2:30, 5:10, 7:40 Night at the Museum, PG 2:45, 5:10, 7:40 Hitcher, R (!) 2:45, 5:20, 7:30 Smokin Aces, R (!) 2:45, 5:20, 7:40 Freedom Writers, PG-13 (!) 2:30, 5:10, 7:50 Dreamgirls, PG-13 (!) 2:30, 5:10, 7:50

At the New Deal Café Annual Members Meeting to be held on February 5, the following bylaw changes will be presented for consideration:

Article III, Section 1 Qualifications. Paragraph 3 is modified to read:

Maintaining membership in the Cooperative requires \$15 annual dues. Payment of either the annual dues or the membership fee makes a person a member for the membership year that finishes at the end of the annual meeting next following said payment. Exception: The person may specify that it is a payment in advance for the membership year after that.

Article III, Section 1 Qualifications., Paragraph 2 is modified to read: Employees of the Café are deemed members after six months paid employment._Membership privileges continue to the end of the first annual members meeting after the employee is no longer employed by the cooperative.

Article III, Section1, **Qualifications.** Sentence #3 is modified to read: Maintaining membership in the Cooperative requires \$20 annual dues.

#

#5

Article IV, Section 1 – Annual Meetings. is modified to read as follows: There shall be a regular annual meeting of the membership will be scheduled on or about the third Sunday in January, held at a time on that date to be determined by the Board of Directors. At this meeting, the Board of Directors will be elected.

Article IV, Section 3 Agenda. is modified to read:

Any matter of business shall be placed on the agenda of a membership meeting of the Corporation on written notice to the Secretary for such action by five members at least seven days in advance of such a meeting. A petition calling for censure or removal of a member of the Board will be placed on the agenda only if presented not less than 31 days before such a meeting.

<u>#6</u>

#9

#10

Article IV, <u>Section 7a – Nominations and Elections</u>. is modified to read: Applicants for a position on the Board of Directors shall submit an application stating their qualifications for, and interests in, the position to the Nominations and Elections Committee at least 30 days before the election. The Nominations and Elections Committee shall make the names of the candidates and their application letters available to the membership at least 21 days prior to the election.

Article IV, <u>Section 7b – Nominations and Elections</u>. is modified to read: Only persons who are members (i.e., membership dues are up to date) shall be eligible to run for the Board of Directors.

#8 Article IV, **Section 7d – Nominations and Elections**. is modified to read: Each member shall have one vote on all questions voted at any membership meeting. Voting shall be by show of hands unless the Chair or the membership by majority votes calls for a secret ballot. Voting by proxy shall be subject to the limitation that only a member may hold a proxy. Proxy votes are allowed for an election to the Board of Directors, if they are signed and dated no more than 30 days before the vote, and if they state the names of the candidates to be voted for. No other proxy votes are allowed.

Article V, Section 1 - Board of Directors. is modified to read:

The properties, business and affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors composed of five voting members. In addition, the Manager of the Café shall serve as a non-voting member of the Board of Directors. The Board has the responsibility to provide the Co-op with direction and oversight and respond to wishes of the co-op membership as expressed in annual and special meetings.

Article V, Section 3a - Vacancies. is modified to read:

A vacancy in the Board of Directors shall occur upon the death, resignation, removal or disqualification of a director of the Corporation. A director of the Corporation may resign by giving notice in writing to the secretary. A Director of the Corporation automatically shall be disqualified and to have vacated his/her office if she/he is absent from three regular meetings without permission of the Board during his/her term of office or if she/he is employed or retained by the Corporation.

Article V, <u>Section 3b – Vacancies</u>. is modified to add the following: If a vacancy on the Board shall occur, the Board shall by a plurality of 50 percent or more of the remaining directors of the Corporation, name a member of the Corporation to fill the vacant directorship until the next regular annual meeting of the members. Prior to filling a vacancy on the board, an advertisement shall be placed in the Greenbelt News Review to notify the membership of the vacancy and solicit candidates at least 21 days prior to the Board's filing of the vacancy



VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups. Vacancies exist on the: Arts Advisory Board, Advisory Planning Board, Employee Relations Board, Public Safety Advisory Committee, Recycling & Environment Advisory Committee, Youth Advisory Committee For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING Saturday, January 27, 2007 9am-12noon Public Works Yard

City residents, businesses and organizations can recycle old and/or unwanted computers and other electronic items. Bring your items to the collection bins located at

Greenbelt Public Works, 555 Crescent Rd.

Accepted Items Include: central processing units, monitors, keyboards, printers, laptop computers, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, wires and power cords, computer mice, fax machines, recording equipment, cameras, telephones and radios. NOT ACCEPTED: TELEVISIONS

Special arrangements must be made for drop-off of more than 10 items or items over 50lbs. Please call in advance.

For further information, contact the City of Greenbelt Recycling Office at 301-474-8308.

GREENBELT RECREATION DEPARTMENT and GREENBELT ARTS CENTER present THE 2007 WINTER YOUTH MUSICAL

AS YOU LIKE IT

By William Shakespeare~Music by Christopher Cherry February 16, 17, 18, 23 and 24 at 7:00 pm and February 18 at 2:00 pm

Tickets \$5. Buy tickets now at the Community Center or charge them by phone: 301-397-2208.

Featuring more songs than any other Shakespeare play, "As You Like It" is a witty, gender-bending musical romp in the Forest of Arden, where a banished duke maintains his court in exile, and love wears many guises. For this production, director/composer Chris Cherry has shortened the script and created new songs. Come see twenty-two talented teenagers in one of the world's favorite plays -- a funny, romantic, lovely story that truly sings.

THE WINTER YOUTH MUSICAL SELLS OUT EARLY, FORSOOTH! BUY THY TICKETS NOW!

NEW!! KIDS' AS YOU LIKE IT DISCUSSION GROUP ADDED Course No. 144231-1

Kids ages 10 and up are invited to register for a discussion group that will meet before and after the Sunday, February 18 matinee performance of As You Like It. Melissa Sites will lead a discussion about the play and how director/composer Chris Cherry adapted it for this year's youth musical. Register now at the Community Center and pick up a softbound edition of the complete play as well as a copy of the script that will be performed at the Arts Center. The pre-show session begins at 1:00pm. After the show, group members will return to the Community Center for a 60-minute session of refreshments and discussion. The fee is only \$5. Tickets to the performance (also only \$5) are on sale now at the Community Center.

#12

Article V, Section 4c - Powers and Duties is modified to read:

After consultation with the Audit Committee, annually elect or hire an auditor, auditing agency or certified public accountant and define the scope of the audit. Alternatively, the Board may assign the Audit Committee to conduct the audit.

#13

Article V, Section 4h - Powers and Duties is modified to read:

a. Make a comprehensive report, including financial statements, at the annual meeting of the Corporation, and submit a summary budget or an approximate estimate of the items of income and expenses for the current year. The financial statements shall consist of reasonably detailed statements of income and expenses for the preceding two years. The statements of income and expenses shall segregate labor and material costs from other costs. A copy of the financial statement shall be made available to every member at the café. The summary annual Profit and loss statement will be provided with the notice of the annual meeting and a copy of the summary budget shall be made available to members upon request.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

GREENBELT SKATE PARK

NOTE! The Greenbelt Skate Park will be closed on Friday, January 26th and Saturday, January 27th from 9am-2pm for training exercises with the local Fire and Rescue/EMS staff.

The Greenbelt Skate Park is open to registered members 7 days a week from 9:00 a.m. to sunset For registration information visit www.greenbeltmd.gov, call the Greenbelt Recreation Department at 301-397-2200 or drop by the Greenbelt Skate Park in front of the Youth Center and check for notices on the bulletin board outside the park.

REGISTRATION IS NOW UNDERWAY FOR GREENBELT'S MANY CAMP PROGRAMS. INFORMATION ON CAMPS AND HOW TO REGISTER IS NOW POSTED AT WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV MAKE YOUR PLANS EARLY, SESSIONS FILL UP QUICKLY. INFO: 301-397-2200

HOMELESS continued from page 1

funding going to alternative forms of services to aid the mentally ill. Welfare reform reduced funding for aid to low income persons.

Section 8 housing, the alternative to public housing, offers significantly fewer housing units, creating waiting lists so long that newcomers can not get on the lists.

Unaffordable Housing

The lack of affordable housing in this metropolitan area adds to the problem. Morris says the Washington metropolitan area is the least affordable region for housing. In 2003 a worker earning minimum wage (\$6.15 an hour) must work 152 hours more to afford the same two bedroom apartment as for the previous year, an increase of 22 percent.

Approximately 60 percent of those residing in metropolitan households have incomes below \$35,000 and pay more than 30 percent of their income for housing. In the last five years, area housing prices increased 91.2 percent, the biggest five-year gain in the nation and twice the national average.

Jansen noted the replacement of low cost housing in the District with upscale apartments. As better housing is developed there and Metro service expands, the homeless are pushed out into places with lower densities and less availability of transportation.

There are no laws to force affordable housing, Jansen contended. When laws were put on the books to require builders who build more than 20 housing units to provide one out of 20 as an affordable housing unit, builders began taking out permits for 19 units at a time.

He also contended that zoning laws prohibit rooming houses, and that for many homeless who cannot afford the cost of apartments, a rented room could meet a need. (In Prince George's County, zoning regulations do permit homeowners to rent out a limited number of rooms in a home but do not permit housing consisting only of rooms to rent.)

Mayor Judith Davis told council that at the recent National League of Cities Conference, Henry Cisneros spoke on the homeless problem and advocated obtaining housing as the first step in dealing with the problems of those who become homeless. Jansen agreed, but noted that only three permanent shelters were available in the county to offer emergency housing opportunities. After an emergency, there is a need for transitional and permanent housing, he said. Jansen said case managers were also necessary to work with those in need. Prince George's County has many fewer case workers than the District, he noted.

Shelters

Besides permanent shelters, three temporary shelters operate during the cold weather: Safe Haven, Winter Haven and Warm Nights. Run by churches, they house another 95 persons. "The churches participating are doing a marvelous job," Jansen said.

Warm Nights will take anybody and receives county support, Jansen reported. Winter Haven has separate space for single men and single women. Safe Haven, which operates in this area of the county, takes only 15 single men who tend to be chronically homeless.

Davis wanted to know if the county's mega-churches were doing enough. Jansen said no. One church, he said, is providing shelter for a week, but could do more weeks.

Jansen said that following Hurricane Katrina his agency took 4,000 calls offering housing. "If we had that good will for the homeless," he said, " we would not have a problem."

Voigt told council that Help by Phone serves between 55,000 and 65,000 persons a year. The service is intended to bridge the gap while people get approved for food stamps. That used to be a 10-day period but now takes about 90 days.

Help by Phone then organized Safe Haven. Voigt said that about 10 of the men have been with Safe Haven from the start. Others of the 15 there have usually been seen before. They seek food and a safe shelter. They want rules and do not want drug addicts and other problem persons with them. They also want to try and find work.

There are no shelters in the southern part of the county, she said.

Greenbelt Community Church, Greenbelt Baptist Church and Berwyn Presbyterian Church are some of those participating. Each provides shelter for one week during the 10-week cold season. Mishkan Torah Synagogue helps Community Church by providing volunteer overnight supervision on Christmas night since the Community Church is responsible for the week of Christmas. However, not all Greenbelt churches participate in Safe Haven.

Troyer said her job is to find out what help the homeless need and then to get that for them. Sometimes it is birth certificates and other documents needed for assistance and job applications. She can get birth certificates online in many cases, she said.

She determines what church her clients belong to and gets family assistance from the churches. She keeps her car loaded with clothing to satisfy needs along that line immediately. Her biggest need is bus passes so the homeless can get to shelters and to service agencies.

At present Troyer works with 49 people in this area. To find the homeless she walks around shopping centers and drives around the area. She recognizes persons she has worked with and who trust her and gets them to help her find those in need.

Troyer proposed that small groups of churches, no more than seven, work together to aid the homeless. She thought that groups of small cities working together could work, too.

Councilmember Leta Mach thought that corporations could provide revolving loan funds to assist those in need of housing to get started. To rent an apartment requires one month's rent up front as a deposit plus prepayment of the first month's rent, plus deposits with the various utility companies.

Linstrom noted that the city manages a fund to help prevent

people from being evicted. That is supposed to be a revolving fund. But most recipients move away and do not come back, she said, or make repayment. City Manager Michael McLaughlin noted that the emergency fund is supported by churches and other groups. Whenever the funds get low, he said, he puts the word out and they are replenished by the religious community.

Barbara Havekost, who accompanied Linstrom to the meeting, pointed out that the fund does succeed in keeping people from becoming homeless.

Park told council that Greenbelt CARES has a whole list of resources to help those in need. There is difficulty, however, in getting such persons to address their problems, she said.

Wells Rink Offers Ice Skating Specials

The Herbert Wells Ice Rink at 5211 Paint Branch Parkway in College Park, a facility of the Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission, is hosting special skating events in February.

On Thursday, February 9, 8 to 10 p.m., it's Ladies Night. Ladies ages 18 years and above skate for free. Skate rental fee applies.

Friday, February 10, 7 to 10 p.m. is Cheap Skate Date Night, entry fee includes skate rental.

Sunday, February 12, 1 to 3 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. those wearing their Girl Scout or Boy Scout uniform will be admitted with fee which includes skate rental.

Some People Don't Smile in Pictures . . . Ask yourself if any of these areas may be affecting the beauty of your smile:





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- Uneven or unhealthy gums

If so, come into the offices of the McCarl Dental Group for a complete and comprehensive evaluation.

Nicole Burgess of Severna Park had severely discolored teeth from a very early age. Throughout her life, Nicole had been self-conscious of her smile. In just three short weeks, the McCarl Dental Group gave Nicole a beautiful smile and a new start in life! Call the McCarl Dental Group to see if a



smile makeover could change youn life.

It's never too late to give yourself a beautiful smile. For over three generations the McCarl family has provided a full range of dental services to Greenbelt and the surrounding communities. In the past, cosmetic dentistry was only for the wealthy. Today, however, cosmetic dentistry is affordable and available to everyone. Give someone you love the gift of a smile!

Call us today for an appointment! 301-474-4144



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McCarl Dental Group 301-474-4144

28 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-0717

Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket 5x16

Police Blotter

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

Robberies

January 12, 8:51 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a man reported that he was walking to the plaza when he was approached by two men, one armed with a handgun. They demanded his wallet and cell phone and struck him in the head with the handgun. The man ran from the scene to the mall and contacted police. The suspects are described as a black male in his twenties, 5'7", wearing dark baggy clothing and a hat and a black male in his twenties, 5'11", wearing dark baggy clothing and a hat. The victim was transported to a hospital for head lacerations.

January 18, 6:22 p.m., Hamilton Place and Ridge Road, a woman reported that she was waiting at a bus stop when a man approached her and grabbed her purse, knocking her to the ground. When she refused to let go of her purse, the man produced a knife and cut the shoulder strap. He then fled the scene on foot on Ridge Road toward Roosevelt Center. The suspect is described as a black male, 18 to 20 years of age, 5'5", 120 to 140 pounds, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt.

January 18, 8:45 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court, a man reported that he was walking home when he was approached from behind by three men. One of them forced the man to the ground, kicked him and took his backpack. The suspects fled the scene in an unknown direction. The man declined treatment for minor injuries. The suspects are described as a black male, wearing a gray or yellow jacket; and two black males, wearing dark jackets.

Assaults

January 13, 9:35 p.m., 6200 block Springhill Court, a man reported that he was inside an apartment building when he was approached by one of two men who struck him in the head with an unknown object, causing him to fall to the ground. He stood up and began to yell, at which time both suspects walked away. The suspects are described as a black male, 5'10", 150 pounds with black hair in a short Afro, brown eyes and a medium complexion, wearing gray clothing and a black male with black hair and brown

January 13, 1:36 a.m., 9100 charged with first-degree assault. way Plaza.

A man reported that he and the woman were in a verbal argument that turned into a physical altercation. The woman then grabbed a knife and stabbed the man in the arm and the leg. He was transported to a hospital for treatment. The woman was arrested on the scene and transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Trespass

January 13, 8 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with trespass after police responded to a report of a trespasser in custody at the shopping center. A security guard reported that they observed the man inside the mall after he had previously been banned from the mall by agents of the property. A computer check revealed that he had an open warrant with the Prince George's Sheriff's Department. The suspect was transported to the Department of Corrections for service of the warrant.

Vandalism

January 13, 9:28 p.m., 5 Court Gardenway, unknown person(s) broke out the living room window of a residence.

January 13, 9:56 p.m., 7700 block Jacobs Drive, unknown person(s) broke out the kitchen window of a residence.

January 14, 2:17 a.m., 7800 block Walker Drive, a witness advised that a woman entered the lobby of the Hilton Garden Inn Hotel and became disorderly, knocking a potted plant to the ground and breaking a picture frame. She then fled the scene in a vehicle described as a yellow Chrysler Concord. The suspect is described as a black female, 5'4" to 5'6", 135 to 140 pounds, with black hair, wearing a black jacket, a black shirt, blue jeans and black boots.

Burglary

January 12, 8:52 a.m., 9100 block Edmonston Court, unknown person(s) entered a residence by breaking out the patio window. Money was taken.

Vehicle Crimes

A green 2000 Plymouth Voyager, Maryland tags 761M761 was stolen from the 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace.

Theft from and vandalism to vehicles were reported in the following areas: 7700 block Hanover eves. Parkway, 6200 block Breezewood block Edmonston Terrace, a resi- Road, 9300 block Edmonston dent woman was arrested and Road (three incidents) and Belt-

Gang of Youth On a Crime Spree

On Friday evening January 12, a gang of youths roamed about Breezewood Drive between Springhill Drive and Cherrywood Terrace in the Springhill Lake apartment complex. Three incidents of robbery and assault were reported by victims. One victim reported as many as 40 persons, another 25. In the third incident, four youths were involved and subsequently four Greenbelt juveniles were arrested and charged for the incident. The juveniles were subsequently released to their parents for action by the juvenile justice system.

The first incident was reported at 5:20 p.m. in the vicinity of Breezewood Drive and Springhill Lane. A man reported that he was approached by as many as 40 people and became involved in a physical altercation with one youth who forced him to the ground and punched and kicked him several times, taking his cell phone in the process. The suspect is described as a black male, approximately 15 years of age, 5'7", 150 pounds with black hair and brown eyes.

The second incident occurred at 9:10 p.m. in the vicinity of Breezewood Drive and Cherrywood Terrace. The victims reported that they were walking to their homes when they were approached by as many as 25 people, who demanded money and the food they were carrying. The victims refused, at which time they were assaulted by the group of people. They managed to flee the scene on foot and contacted police. They declined treatment for their injuries.

The last incident was in the 6200 block of Breezewood Drive at 9:58 p.m. A man reported that four youths began chasing him; he ran into a friend's apartment. The youths followed the man into the apartment and began punching and kicking him, while demanding his jacket. The youths proceeded to take his wallet and cell phone, then fled the scene on foot. Police located them nearby and one of them dropped property belonging to the man to the ground upon being approached by police. The youths were then positively identified by the victim Two 14-year-old a 15-year-old and a 16-year-old Greenbelt youths were arrested for strong arm robbery and second-degree assault. All suspects were released to parents pending action by the juvenile justice system. According to Master Police Officer George Mathews, a police investigator advised that they are looking into the possibility that the incidents are related. The detectives have reached out to the victims for more information. The investigations are ongoing. Also, in regard to the attempted strong arm robbery which was reported January 12 in the area of Breezewood Drive and Cherrywood Terrace involving as many as 20 to 25 people, further investigation puts the number of suspects invovled at eight or nine.

ICC continued from page 1

with test soil borings that could in some areas require minor changes in the ICC alignment. He said that SHA will await the judges' early ruling on these matters.

SHA is also in the process of acquiring rights-of-way for the ICC and is negotiating with homeowners who have been notified that part or all of their property would be needed for the highway. Two homes, he said, have already been purchased.

Mike Harold of the Audubon Naturalist Society asserted: "We don't want any ICC construction to take place until the lawsuits are decided. It would be irresponsible to destroy land prior to the courts making their decision."

Two New Suits

Approval of the Intercounty Connector earlier this year by the FHWA is being challenged in two different law suits.

The first is being brought by Environmental Defense and Sierra Club as plaintiffs in the District of Columbia District Court. This suit challenges the approval of the ICC by the FHWA and Metropolitan Washington's Transportation Planning Board, defendants.

According to the plaintiffs' law suit summary: The ICC was approved without properly evaluating its effects "on local particle pollution." Recently the EPA has strengthened the national standard for particle (soot) pollution, which is considered the "deadliest pollutant regulated in the U.S."

The plaintiffs note that the ICC approval had been granted without considering whether the resulting emissions would violate this new EPA standard. Currently all monitors near major highways in the Washington metropolitan area already indicate violation of the national health standard for particle pollution.

The second objection of the plaintiffs deals with the failure

Free Md. Events **Calendar Offered**

In any season there's a reason to visit Maryland - boat races, music concerts, wine festivals, bike rides, crab derbies and gallery walks are but a few of many things that Maryland has to offer during 2007. The Maryland Office of Tourism Development, an agency of the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development, has published the 2007 "Maryland Calendar of Events," which contains information on 870 fairs, festivals and special events.

To receive the free 2007 Maryland Calendar of Events by mail, call 800-719-5900. Also included in the packet is Destination Marvland, the state's official guide to travel, plus a Maryland State Highway map. Or stop at any Maryland State Welcome Center located on major highways throughout the state. Or visit www.visitmaryland.org then click on "Order Your Maryland Vacation Travel Kit Today."

of the air pollution analysis to quantify the impacts of dangerous toxic pollutants for which EPA has not yet set federal standards. Maryland's air pollution program prohibits levels of benzene and other toxic components of vehicle exhaust that cause a greater than 1 in 100,000 risk of cancer. Measures of such emissions along I-95 already "exceed these limits," the suit claims.

The plaintiffs' third objection deals with the strengthening by Congress of a provision in federal transportation law requiring that transportation projects be funded only if they "minimize fuel consumption." The plaintiffs charge that this requirement was not considered by the transportation agencies in evaluating alternatives.

Second Suit

The second law suit to block construction of the ICC is brought by several plaintiffs - Audubon Naturalist Society of the Central Atlantic States, Inc., Maryland Native Plant Society and Montgomery County residents Roger Metcalf and Eve Burton. The defendants are the FHWA, the United States Department of Transportation and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

The plaintiffs allege that the "ICC highway project in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties would be a toll road costing billions to connect I-95 and I-270 while doing little or nothing to alleviate traffic congestion on existing roads, including the Capital Beltway, I-95 and I-270." In addition to "its enormous financial cost," the suit alleges that the ICC would "damage . . . high quality natural resources" and add to sprawl, as well as drawing attention away from other "significant transportation problems in suburban Maryland."

Bowie Hosts Negro League Exhibit

Learn more about Negro leagues and sandlot baseball by seeing the exhibit Rough Diamonds - the Negro Leagues and Sandlot Heroes in the Mid-Atlantic Region on display Thursday, February 1 to Wednesday, February 28 at Huntington Community Center, 13022 8th Street in Bowie. The center is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

Photographs and memorabilia tell the history of the Negro leagues and sandlot baseball players in this area before Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in professional baseball. Local teams, including the Mitchellville Tigers and the Washington Black Sox, that played at Black Sox Park in Bowie, will be featured. The exhibit is free and open to all ages. For details call 301-464-3725, TTY 301-218-6768.

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.

Montpelier Celebrates **Black History Month**

The Montpelier Arts Center at 9652 Muirkirk Road in Laurel hosts "Railroads and the African American Experience," an exhibition of photographs and artifacts which demonstrates the deep impact that railroads had on African American communities in this region. This exhibition runs February 4 to 26 in honor of Black History Month. A reception will be held on Sunday, February 4 from 2 to 4 p.m.

School Board Finance Committee Will Meet

The Finance, Audit and Budget (FAB) Committee of the county school board will meet on Thursday, February 1 at 6 p.m. in the Sasscer Administration Building, Board Executive Meeting Room, 14201 School Lane, Upper Marlboro. The FAB Committee will discuss the Superintendent's FY-08 Proposed Operating Budget. The meeting is open to the public; however, there will be no public participation.

Dr. Lynn Feldman

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OFFICE ASSISTANT needed for Roosevelt Center business. Walk to work! For details, send an email to office@greenbelt.biz

ON-SITE PROPERTY MANAGER needed for residential rental property in old Greenbelt. For details, send an email to manager@greenbelt.biz

LOST and FOUND

FOUND - videotape on 01/06/07 in 6 Ct. of Hillside. Pls. call (301) 474-6186 to identify and pick up.

MERCHANDISE

FOR SALE - PSP w/memory card, 2 games, good condition. Call Kevin (301) 513-0573.

SPLIT RAIL FENCING - 10-A Southway, approx. 200 ft. Asking \$100 OBO. (301) 345-2917.

MAUSOLEUM - Fort Lincoln Cemetary. Companion with 2 burial rights. Price, \$12,690. Sale \$10,500 OBO. 301-474-1777

NOTICES

SPAGHETTI DINNER - Sat. Feb. 3, 2007, 5-7 p.m. Mowatt Methodist Church - 40 Ridge Road - All you can eat - spaghetti, bread, salad & dessert. \$8 adults, \$6 children 5-12 years, children 4 and under free. Homemade pies for sale - (301) 474-7291.

REAL ESTATE - RENTAL

ROOM FOR RENT - in Greenbelt East, close to NASA, Beltway and Parkway. Room is complete with bath & kitchenette (\$550). Call (301) 910-0986.

REAL ESTATE - SALE

14A HILLSIDE ROAD, GHI area – 2 bedroom frame end unit with 1 bath for \$188,900. Newly re-finished hardwood floor, 2 new storm doors, well-maintained home, shed. GHI Orientation on Saturday, January 20, Open House from 12:30 to 4 p.m. Come and visit the home! Contact Jennifer Willigan -410-804-6371.

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Alex Barnes and Brianne Boylan

Couple Joins Peace Corps As Volunteers in Niger

by Rebecca Boggs

"Barka da Kwana!" Brianne Boylan remarks after searching through several neatly written note cards. Translated, this means "good morning" in Hausa, a native language of Niger, West Africa.

Married in July 2006, Boylan and her husband, Alex Barnes, a Greenbelt native, recently decided to volunteer for the Peace Corps in Niger. They left the U.S. for their two-year assignment on January 9 and are currently doing cultural training in Hamdallaye, 20 miles from Niamey, the capital of Niger.

Boylan, who speaks Spanish, says: "The Peace Corps suggests we learn French, the official language and a little of the local languages. There are six main ones."

Niger, she informs me, is predominately a Muslim country. Two thirds of Niger is covered by the Sahara desert and it has only one year-round body of water, the Niger River. It is the most sparsely populated country and has the lowest standard of living in the world. Located southeast of Algeria, it is slightly less than twice the size of Texas. The average life expectancy is a mere 43 years.

Boylan and Barnes met in June 2003 at Twin Oaks Community, a commune in rural Virginia, where 100 people live, growing almost all their own vegetables and raising animals for all their meat. Barnes states, "I went to the commune because I saw it as a better way to live."

Boylan adds, "It gave me a closer connection with the people and the land." Regarding their move to rural Niger, Boylan says, "Going from the wealthiest country to the poorest is quite a jump. At least since we lived in the community we are used to composting toilets and a lower standard of living, making \$2,000 a year. But we had running water and electricity." She continues, "In Niger, I've read in the Peace Corps literature. 'You will sleep outside with only your mosquito net between you and the stars.' It is good to know we will at least have a walled-in courtyard for a little privacy." The Peace Corps guarantees them a courtyard and a cement floor in their hut. They will have to rely on water from a well and there will be no electricity. Barnes has previous Peace Corps experience. He served in Tanzania teaching math and physics from 1996-1999. He says, "The area I lived in was mostly rural but not as rural as what we are expecting in Niger." Regarding the most rewarding part of his Peace Corps experience, he says: "I don't know, maybe I had a connection with the students, it's hard to say. What I liked most was going to the local market, being with the people, walking in the cashew fields and learning about the cashew harvest – their cash crop."

When asked why they decided to join the Peace Corps, Barnes chimes in: "She thought it was a good idea." They both laugh. "It's a great way to see the world," he continues.

Boylan says, "I haven't traveled a lot and I feel it's important to have an understanding of the way people live. Coming from a privileged area. I want to give back and at least promote good relations. Peace Corps is one of the few things the U.S. government does to work on peace. I like the way the Peace Corps is unique as far as most nonprofits go, since you actually go live with the people, see what they need and want and work with them to achieve their goals." Currently there are approximately 100 Peace Corps volunteers in Niger.

Barnes and Boylan will be assigned to a rural community in Niger. Barnes says, "I will be dealing mostly with food crops like millet and beans and looking for ways to extend productivity, irrigation being the most probable method."

Boylan, who grew up in Iowa, explains, "I will be working with crops, agro forestry, natural resource management, volunteer soil and water conservation and reforestation efforts." Their main goal, though, is to make friends, establish good working relationships and learn to feel at home in their surroundings.

Barnes states: "The Peace Corps mission is for Americans to learn about people of a foreign country. For people of another country to learn about real Americans and to help countries meet developing wants and needs as they see fit." When asked what they hope for, Barnes replies, "I want to be comfortable." When pressed, he elaborates: "I want to be able to walk out of my house and say 'hi' to the neighbors, go to market and function in the market and go to the capital and function there, too." Boylan says, "I hope to learn a lot and to bring back that knowledge to the States, to form friendships with some people and make a small difference in at least one person's life. We would love to get letters from people," Boylan continues.

City Pioneer Receives Award

by Judy Bell

Joyce Mangum, a Greenbelt pioneer and longtime resident of 13 Court Ridge Road, has been volunteering for Meals on Wheels for 20 years. In December she was recognized with a plaque for going the extra mile. The plaque reads, "To Joyce Mangum for your outstanding service 2006."

Mangum's current duties include chairing Route 2, which covers Greenbelt up to Cipriano Road. She delivers meals on that route four to five times a month, serving as many as 22 people. Last week she had 14 stops.

"It's very rewarding. You get attached to these people, very attached. You help them out when they need it," Mangum said.

Linda Curtis, her neighbor and friend, said that Mangum has worked as many as four or five times a week when other volunteers are unable to work, filling in with duties such as packing meals or other tasks she is called on to do.

The meals are cooked on the premises in College Park. Two meals, sometimes three, are delivered Monday through Friday to people who are unable to prepare their own meals. Mangum said that they have delivered oatmeal on occasion, with an extra slice of bread for toast. "People are appreciative. This week a woman told me 'Yesterday's meals were delicious," she recalled.

For more information call 301-474-1002.



Joyce Magnum

J. O'Connor's Photos On Display at Patuxent

Former Greenbelt Photographer Jim O'Connor will display his artworks in the Hollingsworth Art Gallery of the Patuxent Research Refuge's National Wildlife Visitor Center through January.

O'Connor, who grew up in Greenbelt later moved to An-



Trained teachers provide instruction for new and experienced dancers.

Scottish Dancing Fun Takes Place Every Tuesday Here

by Ellen Ternes

Research is showing that dancing is a great way to exercise the body and the brain. Here in Greenbelt, Scottish country dancing, the traditional social dance of Scotland, provides an exciting and fun form of dancing for all ages.

Every Tuesday night in the dance studio of the Greenbelt Community Center, the St. Columba's Scottish Country Dancers hold classes for dancers from Greenbelt and around the area. Classes dance to lively jig and reel and beautiful strathspey tunes that drive the thousands of Scottish country dances.

"It's so much fun," said Betsy Hall-Wallace. She and her husband started dancing just last year. "We had seen the dancing at the Scottish games and decided to try it. Now we're hooked."

In addition to the Tuesday classes, dancers can attend dance parties all over the region, which feature some of the top dance musicians in country. In fact, Scottish country dancers can go anywhere in the world and find groups to dance with.

Scottish country dancing dates back to the 18th century when it was performed in the castles of Scotland. Since a revival that began in the 1920s, Scottish country dancing has become a popular social dance from Greenbelt to Japan, from Scotland to New Zealand.

One of five groups in the Washington-Baltimore area, St. Columba's welcomes new dancers at any time. "You don't have to be Scottish or even have any dance experience to do Scottish country dancing," said Janet Simmon, president of the St. Columba's group. "And you don't have to come with a partner. You just have to love to dance and have fun."

St. Columba's Scottish Country Dancers meet Tuesdays from 8 to 10 p.m. in the dance studio, ground level of the Community Center.

Trained teachers provide instruction for new and experienced dancers. Spring beginner classes begin on January 30. Comfortable shoes and clothing are recommended.

For more information email ellenter@comcast.net. See http:// rscds-greaterdc.org/ for more on Scottish country dancing in the Washington-Baltimore area.

Send air mail letters to:

Alexander Barnes and Brianne Boylan, Corps de la Paix, B.P. 10537, Niamey, Niger Par Avion.

Let them know we wish them well as they step out of their comfort zone to spread peace by making friends and helping people in need in Niger. napolis where he found much subject matter for his photographs. He now lives in Ellicott City with his wife and four-yearold daughter.

Using mainly digital photography, O'Connor started taking photographs as a hobby. A couple of years ago he became more serious about photography and now does it as a part-time job while working full time. He photographs a variety of subjects from wildlife to landscapes, architecture to portraiture. He says that experimenting with a variety of subjects "allows me to develop my all around skills" as a photographer.

The National Wildlife Visitor Center is located off Powder Mill Road between B-W Parkway and MD Rt. 197, south of Laurel. For information call 301-497-5763 or visit http://patuxent.fws. gov.

