

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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

JANUARY 6, 2011



PHOTO BY JIM DAVIS

Firefighters from Greenbelt and neighboring towns work on extinguishing the fire in two units in the 51 Court of Ridge Road.

Fire at 51 Court Ridge Rd. Displaces Two Families

by Thomas X. White

In the early evening hours of December 14 two units of a four-unit row at 51 Court Ridge Road were damaged by a fire that appeared to start on the garden side of one of the units and traveled to the roof. The most severe damage occurred to the unit where the fire broke out and to an adjacent unit. Two other units in the row mainly suffered smoke damage.

Firefighter units from Greenbelt and surrounding communities responded to the call and the fire was quickly extinguished. There were no injuries. Immediately following the firefighting

operations, Greenbelt Homes Inc. (GHI) maintenance personnel arrived at the scene and stabilized the affected units. Occupants of the two units most affected were displaced by the fire. A third unit was already vacant.

Residents in the fourth unit, farthest from the fire, were allowed to remain in their home. GHI reported that Pepco turned off power to the three vacant units.

GHI Maintenance representatives noted they will be working

See **FIRE**, page 6

ACE Annual Meeting Held With School PTA Officers

by Mary Moien

Each fall the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) hosts a meeting to hear from PTA (Parent Teacher Association) officers from all schools that are physically located in Greenbelt or serve a significant number of Greenbelt students. This year's meeting was held on October 26. Schools represented included Greenbelt Elementary School (GES), Magnolia Elementary School, Greenbelt Middle School (GMS), Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) and Turning Point Academy. Only Springhill Lake Elementary was not represented. St. Hugh's School has merged with St. Joseph's in Beltsville and no longer is located in the city. Jon Gardner, ACE chair, described ACE and the activities that they sponsor such as a reading club and two science clubs, one that meets in Greenbelt East and one that meets in the Greenbelt Community Center. The main thrust of the evening, however, was to hear from the PTA representatives.

All of the PTA representatives were searching for ways to increase parental involvement in the schools and PTA meetings.

Theresa Saunders, representing ERHS and the president, Prince George's County Council of PTAs, commented on the overcrowding at the high school. Current enrollment is in the area of 2,800 students.

Turning Point

Roxsand Devese and Destiny Washington represented Turning Point Academy PTO (Parent Teacher Organization). They stated that the school is just setting up a PTO. As a charter school, they have students coming from as far away as Fort Washington. When the school was first opened, the school system provided bus service. Now only a partial payment is received. Because the families come from all over the county, it is difficult to convince the parents to come back at night for a PTO meeting. However, the

See **ACE MEETING**, page 12

The Little Paper that Could . . .

by Cindy Henneberger

On November 24 the Greenbelt News Review celebrated its 73rd anniversary as Greenbelt's weekly community newspaper. In recognition of its anniversaries, the paper usually publishes its own account of its history. This week we present, with the permission of Greenbelt.Patch.com, the remaining portion of the series that appeared in that forum on the internet in September 2010.

The Greenbelt News Review's impact has reached far beyond its neighborhoods and bordering Beltway. A 1966 libel suit against the paper and its president, Alfred M. Skolnik, made it all the way through the Corinthian columns of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Charles Bresler, a local real estate developer, balked at the News Review's October 1964 coverage of him. It had printed citizens' remarks in city council meetings that had characterized his development negotiations as "blackmail." And his lawyer equated this to the News Review charging his client with "the commission of the crime of blackmail." Bresler, for his part, claimed their actions had made him "the most hated man in Greenbelt."

This may have been an exaggeration, but by the time he slammed the perennially strapped newspaper with a \$2 million lawsuit, not so much. Within weeks, friends of the News Re-

view banded together to form the Greenbelt Freedom of the Press Committee and solicited funds for the newspaper's legal defense.

The Washington Post also helped by recommending its own law firm get involved. The firm placed the newspaper's defense in the hands of Roger A. Clark, one of their young attorneys – who would go on to make his name with this pro bono case.

A long legal battle ensued. And in January, 1968, the Prince George's County Circuit Court ruled against the News Review, awarding Bresler a \$17,500 libel judgment.

"We were really, really shocked," said Virginia Beauchamp, long-time News Review staff member who served on its Board of Directors for many years. "It was just like the end of the world."

The bad news kept coming, when in May 1969 the Maryland Court of Appeals upheld the verdict.

The News Review kept on

fighting, taking the case to the land's highest judicial authority. And on May 18, 1970, the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously reversed the lower court's ruling. Justice Potter Stewart rendered the decision, holding that "even the most careless reader must have perceived that the word – blackmail – was no more than rhetorical hyperbole, a vigorous epithet used by those who considered Bresler's negotiating position extremely unreasonable."

Greenbelt erupted in celebration. Mary Lou Williamson, the News Review's current editor, who also wrote one of the news stories named in the case, remembers citizens flooding the phone lines with the good news. "We had a huge party," she said.

Once more, as in the early Roosevelt Days, from the Washington Post to the Evening Star and New York Times, the headlines were full of Greenbelt and the local newspaper that had safeguarded the First Amendment rights of a nation.

Charter School Board and County Review Why Application Denied

In the November 25 Greenbelt News Review, it was reported that Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) had denied an application for the planned Greenbelt Public Charter School (GPCS). Members of the Founding Board of the planned charter school met with county staff on December 14 to discuss reasons why the application was denied. Below is a summary of the PGCPS staff report produced at that meeting.

In the opinion of the staff, the application was weak in two areas: budget and the International Baccalaureate (IB) program.

The budget was based on an enrollment of 172 students in four grades (class sizes 20-23 students). The authorizing agent (PGCPS) has determined that a minimum opening enrollment of 250 students is required for a charter school to become financially stable. Based on salary projections in the budget, the assumed lease amount, and training for International Baccalaureate authorization, PGCPS did not believe the school could open and operate without substantial outside support. Such support was not evident in the application.

PGCPS staff also doubted the ability and expertise of the Founding Board to open a charter school and at the same time apply to become an IB/Primary Year Programme (PYP) school.

Specifically, they found that the proposed plan does not clearly define and integrate the goals of the IB Program, does not adequately indicate how the IB Program will be incorporated into the Maryland State Curriculum, lacks sufficient detail about how IB Inquiry will be implemented in the social studies and science classes, does not clearly articulate IB added curriculum and content requirements, does not sufficiently address the timeline for achieving IB recognition nor address the financial and professional cost involved in becoming an IB school. It also does not provide specific details of how the school intends to meet requirements for IB Organization status.

The Founding Board was prepared for concerns about the budget, which it shares. The expressed doubt about its ability to start an IB/PYP school in Greenbelt was a surprise, however. The board has already applied for and been accepted as an applicant school and found the IB Organization to be supportive, encouraging and generous with time and information. The board agrees this is an expensive venture, but believes the benefits are worth the investments IBO asks schools to make. It is interested in establishing an educational program in Greenbelt that focuses on development of the whole child both inside the classroom

See **DENIAL**, page 6

What Goes On

Saturday, January 8

9 a.m. to noon, Donation Drop-off, Municipal Building Parking Lot

Monday, January 10

8 p.m., City Council Meeting, Municipal Building, live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at greenbeltmd.gov

Tuesday, January 11

10:30 a.m., Registration for GED Program, Municipal Building

Wednesday, January 12

8 p.m., Council Stakeholder Meeting with Clergy, Community Center

Thursday, January 13

7:30 p.m., Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Board Meeting, GHI Board Room

Letters to the Editor

THANKS!

The Greenbelt Lions Club wishes to thank the community for its continued support of our toy drive. With your help we have distributed approximately 1,000 toys per year for the last 25 years to those in need. We especially thank Beltway Plaza Mall, the Greenbrier Condo Association, the Co-op Grocery and the Community Center for allowing us to place toy collection boxes.

Ron Wells
Toy Chair
Greenbelt Lions Club

THANKS!

Thanks to the City of Greenbelt for hosting Sunday's Artful Afternoon. This was the first we attended and had a blast making button covered jewelry. We had a fun time picking out fabric and stringing the beads along the ribbon. And we got to see so many friends and neighbors: a wonderful intergenerational event.

Li'l Dan Celdran
and Danzson Celdran-Taylor

City Seeks Alternatives To Parkway Widening

The following letter was sent by the city December 21 to Victor Mendez, administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, with copies to Maryland's U.S. Congressmen, Senators, Maryland members of the General Assembly representing Greenbelt and to county officials.

Dear Administrator Mendez:

The City of Greenbelt has recently learned that \$1 million has been approved for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to determine the feasibility of adding a third lane to both the northbound and southbound directions of Maryland Route 295/Baltimore-Washington Parkway between Interstate 695 and New York Avenue.

The City recognizes that the Parkway is crowded but believes there are alternatives other than building new or expanding existing roadways to address congestion. The City also strongly believes that widening the Parkway will change the very nature of the roadway from a parkway to an interstate.

The Baltimore-Washington Parkway is currently an important part of the region's green space, as well as part of its transportation network.

Besides the change in the character of the roadway, the City has other concerns about expanding the Parkway which include:

- Enabling further regional sprawl and reliance on motor vehicles rather than reinvesting in existing neighborhoods and existing mass transit infrastructure;
- Additional noise and pollution created by the vehicles utilizing the additional capacity; and
- Underutilization of available developable areas such as around Metrorail stations that could provide both smart-growth and transit oriented projects.

Studying the expansion of a roadway such as the Baltimore-Washington Parkway is only one way to address growing demands to move about the region. Will this study look at other alternatives that would reduce this demand? Alternatives could include, but not be limited to, incentivizing development around existing infrastructure, expanding mass transit between Baltimore and Washington, providing commuter shuttle service from key residential centers such as Greenbelt, Laurel, Columbia, etc., and enhancing bicycle and pedestrian opportunities.

The City Council of Greenbelt is very concerned that a feasibility study will not look at whether the Parkway should even be considered for expansion at all and whether there are viable alternatives, but only whether it can be expanded from an engineering and construction perspective.

The Council requests that the FHWA come to Greenbelt in late January to conduct a public meeting to explain:

- Why the study has been requested;
- What the study's purpose is; and
- If the study will examine the feasibility of alternatives other than widening the Parkway to achieve the same purpose.

Please have someone contact Cindy Murray, City Clerk, at 301-474-8000 or cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov to schedule the meeting.

Sincerely,
Judith F. Davis,
Mayor

Free Alzheimer's Care Workshop

Arden Courts in Silver Spring will sponsor a free Alzheimer's care workshop on Tuesday, January 25 from 1:30 to 5 p.m. Space is limited; call or email by January 20 to reserve a seat: 301-592-1611 or aclemmons@seniorhelpers.com.

The seminar will be conducted by Wendy Johnson, M.S. Topics include Alzheimer's Disease: Understanding Dementia, Improving Communication and Understanding Behavior. Three CEU credits will be awarded for completion.

Arden Courts is at 2505 Musgrove Road in Silver Spring.

Around the World With Wilbur Wright

On the first Saturday of every month from noon to 4 p.m. see the world without leaving the College Park Aviation Museum. The museum invites people to participate in a fun and educational tour of the museum where they can make their own passport, visit places around the world and learn a little about aviation history. Visit the museum front desk to get started on the trip around the world. This event is free with regular museum admission.

Family in Need Of Meals, Cards

The family involved in the auto accident on Crescent Road on December 28 is in need of support and assistance according to Megan Hughes, a family friend. The two young children, ages 3 and 5, were seriously injured and are in Children's Hospital in the District. The older child has had surgery and is improving; the younger child is in more serious condition in a coma.

Hughes is coordinating simple evening meals for the family including extended family members and can be reached through email at mhughes3@umd.edu. She also suggests gift cards for the Co-op Grocery Store or cards expressing concern and support for the family.

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

WEEK OF JAN 7 Black Swan

(R)

Friday

*5:15, 7:30, 9:40

Saturday

*3, *5:15, 7:30, 9:40

Sunday

*3, *5:15, 7:30

Monday – Thursday

*5:15, 7:30

Starts January 14: The Kings Speech

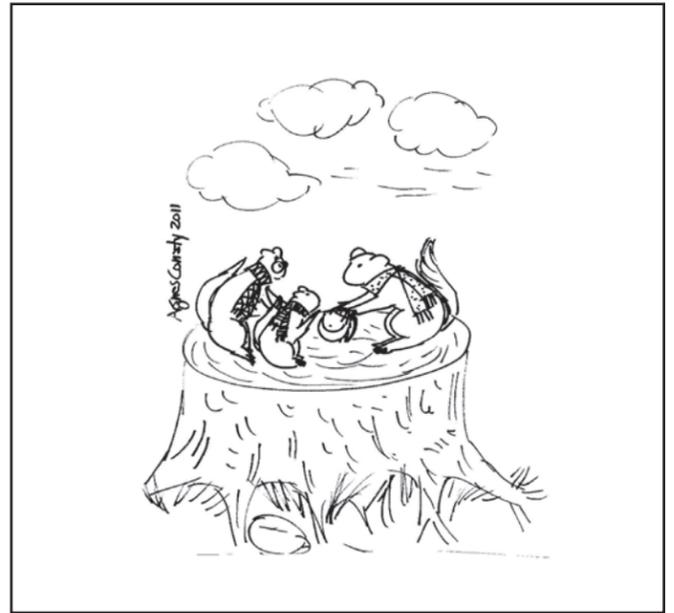
*These shows at \$6.50

Tuesday is Bargain Day.
All Seats Only \$6.50.

Now accepting Visa, Discover and MasterCard for ticket sales only.
301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745

129 Centerway
www.pandgtheatres.com

Grin Belt



"I invited Jack Frost over the weekend for a cup of tea."

Non-public Applicants for TAG Programs

The Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Talented and Gifted Office is currently accepting applications for testing of non-public-schooled students for Talented and Gifted (TAG) program eligibility. The testing is for students currently in grades 1 through 7 who are entering PGCPS from a non-public setting.

To request an application call TAG Supervisor Theresa Jackson at 301-808-3790 or email tjackson@pgcps.org or TAG Pro-

gram Specialist Scott Brenner at sbrenner@pgcps.org. The deadline for applications and supporting documentation is January 14.

Testing

Only applicants will be tested; there will be no walk-ins. Testing is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 5 at Kenmoor Middle School, 2500 Kenmoor Drive in Landover. The snow date for testing is February 26.

For more information call 301-808-3790 or email tjackson@pgcps.org.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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President Emeritus, 1985-

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CIRCULATION Core of Greenbelt: Ian Tuckman 301-459-5624

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Altonia Bell Ross, secretary; James Giese; Diane Oberg; and Mary Willis Clarke

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.

GIVE BLOOD GIVE LIFE
Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE

NOTICE TO GHI MEMBERS

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Thursday, January 13, 2011

GHI BOARD ROOM, 7:30 PM

GHI Key Agenda Items:

- Crescent Road Right of Way Approval
- Exception Request for Oversized Shed – 4M Laurel Hill
- Contract for GHI Website Redesign – 1st Reading
- RFP for Technical Design Writer for Energy Efficiency Improvements in Pilot Project
- Recommendation on Communicator in the News Review
- Hoarding Policy
- Purchase of Two Vans for Maintenance Department

Regular Board meetings are open to Members
For more information, visit our website - www.ghi.coop

Community Events

At the Library

Tuesday, January 11, 7 p.m., Kid's Book Discussion, ages 8 to 12, Rick Riordan's The 39 Clues Book 1: The Maze of Bones

*Wednesday, January 12, 10:30 a.m., Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 children.

*Thursday, January 13, 10:30 a.m., Drop-in Storytime for ages 18 to 36 months, limit 15 children.

*Pick up free tickets for the Storytime events at the Information Desk.

Saturday, January 15, 2 p.m., Read to Rover for ages 6 to 11. Children build their reading confidence by reading aloud for 15 minutes to specially trained therapy dogs. Registration is required. Call the branch at 301-345-5800 for details.

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition "Food and Friendship" program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215.

All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for January 10 to 14:

Monday - Grape juice, green beans, whole boiled potatoes with parsley, corn muffin, strawberry parfait.

Tuesday - Corn chowder, roasted turkey with gravy, seasoned cabbage with carrots, diced peaches.

Wednesday - Orange juice, Kashi cereal, ham, egg and cheese croissant, mixed fresh fruit with coconut, yogurt cup, granola bar (Premium Meal).

Thursday - Creamy broccoli soup, pepper steak, mixed squash, brown rice, diced peaches.

Friday - Cranapple juice, lasagna with meat sauce, sliced carrots, garden salad, pineapple tidbit.

GHI Notes

Friday, January 7, Offices Closed (Note: Members needing emergency service during closings can call maintenance at 301-474-6011.)

Tuesday, January 11, 7 p.m., Nominations and Elections Committee Meeting - GHI Library

Wednesday, January 12, 7:30 p.m., Architectural Review Committee Meeting - Board Room

Thursday, January 13, 7:30 p.m., Board Meeting - Board Room

Mark the calendar: Town Hall meeting on upcoming energy pilot program Sunday, January 23, 2 p.m. at the Community Center.

Committee and board meetings are open; members are encouraged to attend.

Tutoring Starts At SHL Center

Greenbelt Elementary students homework club begins on Saturday, January 8 at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center from 10 a.m. to noon. The tutoring is for math and reading.

The Greenbelt Moving Ahead program for middle and high school students also begins on Saturday, January 8 for math and reading at the same time and place.

For more information call Janet Goldberg at 301-397-2200.

TRU-G Meeting Is this Saturday

The next regular meeting of Transit Riders United of Greenbelt (TRU-G) will take place on Saturday, January 8 from 10 a.m. to noon in the Greenbelt Community Center, room 202. Everyone concerned with public transit issues in the Greenbelt area and the impact of the recently restructured bus service is invited.

Limited rides to the meeting are available by request; email trugreenbelt@gmail.com. Learn more about public transit issues by subscribing to the TRU-G listserv at trugee-subscribe@yahooogroups.com.

Co-op Food Demo Features Ravioli

On Wednesday, January 12 from noon to 4 p.m. the Co-op's first "New to Natural" food demonstration will feature Rising Moon Organics ravioli. The series will be offered on the second Wednesday of each month, with a sampling of foods from the natural foods department. This is an opportunity for those new to natural foods to taste the product before buying it. There will also be information about the manufacturers and the ingredients used.

Co-op food demonstration events are free and open to all.

Governor's Wellmobile In Greenbelt Monday

The Governor's

Wellmobile will be at the Franklin Park Leasing Office Parking Lot, 6220 Springhill Drive, Greenbelt, on Monday, January 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

It will be there the second and fourth Monday of every month.

The Wellmobile provides free healthcare for the uninsured. Nurse practitioners see patients and take care of their medical problems and social workers provide linkages and referrals to needed services.

Sick visits include full physical exams, including blood pressure and vision, female exams and pap smears and men's exams, also school and sports physicals.

Referrals are for primary care providers, emergency services and assistance with applications for governmental assistance and health insurances.

People are eligible for service if they do not have medical insurance; are not covered by Medicare or Medicaid; have insurance with limited coverage or high deductible; or do not qualify for other state and federal healthcare programs.

For an appointment call 1-866-228-9668.



Greenbriar Boards To Meet Tuesday

On Tuesday, January 11 the Greenbriar Phase III Board of Directors will hold a meeting at 6 p.m. At 7:30 p.m. Phase I and Phase II boards will meet.

Animation Workshop Space Still Available

The GAVA/GATE Animation Program still has room for participants in its free animation workshops this winter. Workshops take place on Saturdays, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Community Center and begin January 15. Participants must be between 11 and 14 years old and live in Greenbelt. Join the animation team to create an original animated special to celebrate Greenbelt's 75th anniversary. Contact Barbara Simon for more information at 301-474-2192 or simongava@gmail.com.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

All You Can Eat
Jan. 15

Mowatt Methodist

Church

40 Ridge Road
5 - 7 p.m.

Pies for Sale



Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club
and District 22 Legislative Team
will have its annual

Evening in Annapolis - January 17

There will be bus transportation at a nominal fee for those who have pre-registered. The bus will begin loading at 4:45 p.m. in the lower parking lot behind the Greenbelt Library. RSVP at 301-858-3652.

Computer Club Holds Meeting

The Greenbelt Computer Club will hold its first meeting of 2011 on Thursday, January 13 at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, Room 103 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Everyone is welcome.

More Community Events
see pages 2, 4, 5 and 12.

Academy Stadium Theatres

Beltway Plaza Mall
Center Court
301-220-1155

ALL SHOWS BEFORE 5 p.m.

Adults/Seniors: \$6.50

Children: \$6.00

ALL SHOWS BEFORE NOON
ON SATURDAY \$5.00

ALL SHOWS AFTER 5 p.m.

Adults: \$8.50

Students/Military: \$7.50

Children: \$6.00

Seniors: \$6.50

R = ID Required

(!) = No pass, (!!) No pass weekend

Week of JAN 7

FRI. - SAT.

Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage

of the Dawn Treaders, PG

11:40, 2:10, 4:50, 7:25, 10:10

The Fighter, R (!!)

11:20, 2, 4:50, 7:35, 10:20

TRON - 3D, PG, No fees (!!)

11:20, 2, 4:50, 7:35, 10:20

Little Fockers, PG-13 (!)

11:45, 2:10, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10

Gullivers Travels, PG (!!)

11:50, 2:05, 4:10, 6:15, 8:20, 10:45

Season of the Witch, PG-13 (!!)

11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 10:25

Yogi Bear, PG

11:50, 2:10, 4:15, 6:20

The Tourist, PG-13

9

True Grit, PG-13

11:45, 2:20, 5:10, 7:45, 10:30

SUN.

Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage

of the Dawn Treaders, PG

11:40, 2:10, 4:50, 7:25

The Fighter, R (!!)

11:20, 2, 4:50, 7:35

TRON - 3D, PG, No fees (!!)

11:20, 2, 4:50, 7:35

Little Fockers, PG-13 (!)

11:45, 2:10, 4:40, 7:25

Gullivers Travels, PG (!!)

11:50, 2:05, 4:10, 6:15

Season of the Witch, PG-13 (!!)

11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:40

Yogi Bear, PG

11:50, 2:10, 5:10

The Tourist, PG-13

7:45

True Grit, PG-13

11:45, 2:20, 5:10, 7:45

MON. - THU.

Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage

of the Dawn Treaders, PG

12:15, 2:35, 5:10, 7:40

The Fighter, R

12:40, 3:45, 6:30

TRON - 3D, PG, No fees

12:40, 3:45, 6:30

Little Fockers, PG-13 (!)

12:15, 2:35, 5:15, 7:40

Gullivers Travels, PG

12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7

Season of the Witch, PG-13

12:15, 2:35, 5:15, 7:40

Yogi Bear, PG

12:30, 2:50, 5:30

The Tourist, PG-13

7:40

True Grit, PG-13

12:15, 2:35, 5:10, 7:40

GREEN RIDGE HOUSE OPENS WAITING LIST

Green Ridge House, the City of Greenbelt's HUD Section 8-202 apartment building, will open its waiting list from January 3-7 and 10-14, 2011, from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Green Ridge House is an independent living apartment building located at 22 Ridge Road. All applicants must apply in person and be 62 years of age or older or be a disabled adult. All applicants will have a credit and criminal background check performed to determine eligibility. Applicants should be prepared to move within 30 days once they receive a call that a unit is available. Rent is based upon 30 percent of one's income within a maximum gross income of \$36,625 for individuals and \$41,400 for couples. All apartments are one bedroom units. Only applicants who would consider moving within the next 6 months to one year should apply.



Happy New Year from the Greenbelt Arts Center!



Coming January 21 Doubt: A Parable

January 21 - February 12

Fridays & Saturdays at 8:00

Sunday, Jan 30 and Feb 6 at 2:30

\$15 General/\$12 Students/Seniors

123 Centerway • Greenbelt, MD 20770
<http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org>
Located underneath the Greenbelt CO-OP

Coming Soon: Reefer Madness - March 11 - April 2

Call 301.441.8770 for more information

Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday 10am - 4pm

Good, clean clothes for women, men and children!
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111

GCAN Meeting Focus Is Low-Tech Farming

The next Greenbelt Climate Action Network (GCAN) meeting will be on Wednesday, January 12 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Room 114 of the Greenbelt Community Center (15 Crescent Road). There will be presentations by Bob Yoho, Mark Fisher and Kimberly Spencer on "Low-Tech Technologies."

Bob Yoho, of Environmentally Appropriate Technologies (E.A.T.) (eatechnologies@yahoo.com), wanted to find ways for his family to have good food on the table while avoiding high costs and chemicals. Thus began E.A.T. Yoho will discuss intensive farming techniques to produce more food on limited land, utilizing discarded material to build effective low-tech hydroponic and aquaculture systems on a small scale, waste management and nutrient retrieval using composting, vegetative "filtering" and vermicomposting, simple and free desalination of sea water to fresh water, production of fish and livestock feed and low-tech utilization of free energy from sun, wind and water.

Mark Fisher, of the Harvest Chapel Mission, Inc. (www.harvestchapelmission.org), is a structural engineer who has developed appropriate technologies in various African countries. Fisher will explain, with some demonstration, technologies such as the simple grinder to the more complex "Empower-train," a prototype diesel/electric hybrid farm vehicle for local farmers. The vehicle was transported as checked baggage and assembled in country with hand tools. Local farmers identified water pumping, grain grinding and oil pressing as key features they would like to have, to improve farm income potential.

Kimberly Spencer will have clay oven pictures and a personal story of her construction of this oven at her home. Her ideas for retirement from teaching and sharing this technology in Africa can stimulate our thinking about promoting good stuff in needed places, including in their own homes.

For more information call Lore Rosenthal at 301-345-2234 or email lore@simplicity-matters.org.

African Dancing In College Park

The College Park Arts Exchange will present African Heritage Dancing and Drumming at the Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road in College Park on Friday, January 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Stir the blood with the rousing rhythms of Africa and make this free event a part of the Martin Luther King, Jr., weekend celebration.

For more information email info@cpae.org or call 301-927-3013.

Exploring the Sonnet

On Friday, January 14, Explorations Unlimited opens its 2011 winter season, once again welcoming Jim Link. Link is a veteran teacher in the Prince George's Community College SAGE program and an aging wannabe sonneteer. He will present and discuss half a dozen or so poems about love, politics, the transience of glory and beauty. All are welcome to come, including lovers, politicians and gloriously beautiful people.

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.

Monthly Movie Is Some Like It Hot

This month's free movie at the Greenbelt Senior Center will be shown on Tuesday, January 11 at 10:30 a.m. The movie will be *Some Like It Hot*.

When musicians Jerry (Jack Lemmon) and Joe (Tony Curtis) accidentally witness the St. Valentine's Day Massacre, they get out of town the only way they know how: dressed as women. But things heat up on the road when they meet a curvy blonde (Marilyn Monroe) who plays the ukulele. This legendary comedy reveals dark, hilarious roots and winning performances that helped it earn classic status.

The movie will be shown in the Senior Lounge, Room 111, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. For questions call 301-397-2208.



We were sorry to hear of the death on December 22, 2010, of former Greenbelter Frances Lastner Arnold of Greenspring, W.Va. She was the younger daughter of the late Frank and Hilda Lastner. Her father was mayor of Greenbelt for several terms in the 1950s. A memorial service for Mrs. Arnold will be held at a later date.

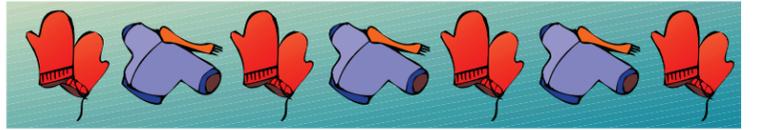
Congratulations to:

– Katherine Sorber, the granddaughter of Rosemary Sorber of Hanover Parkway, who received her Ph.D in bio-chemistry from the University of California in San Francisco. She was a molecular geology student studying the parasite that causes malaria. Katherine graduated from ERHS in 2001 and from Maryland University cum laude in 2004; she expects to return to Maryland in the spring. The family flew to San Francisco for the festivities including a party after her presentation that was hosted by her professor.

– News Review staffer Leonie Penney is excited about the arrival of her first great-grandson, Michael Warren Focht, on January 2, 2011. The new baby is the fourth child of Leonie's granddaughter Rose (Garber) Focht and her husband Michael, who live in the Atlanta area. He is joyfully welcomed by his three older sisters and all the family.

Send us your reports of new babies, awards, honors, etc. to share with our readers. To send information for "Our Neighbors" email us at newsreview@greenbelt.com or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

– Kathleen McFarland



Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
 Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
 www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

Worship Service 10:00am

BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 301-474-7573
 6301 Greenbelt Road
 Berwyn Heights, MD 20740
 berwynpresbyterian.net

Sunday School	: 9:30 am
Worship	: 11:00 am
Child Care Available	
Office Hours	: M-F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

"A hospitable, multicultural community of faith"

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: Rev. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Rev. R. Scott Hurd

St. George's Episcopal Church
 Join us around a table where all are welcome!

Services

- Sundays
 - 8 a.m. simple, quiet service (no music)
 - 10 a.m. main service (music includes a mixture of acoustic guitar, piano and organ music)
- Wednesdays
 - 7 p.m. service with healing prayers (no music)

7010 Glenn Dale Road (Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
 301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org

Greenbelt Community Church
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hillside & Crescent Roads
 Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
 www.greenbeltucc.org
 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..."

Hope Fellowship
 ... living life together

Now meeting at Greenbelt Elementary School, 66 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Please come this Sunday
WORSHIP AT 11:00

Pastor Nigel C. Black, MDiv. (410) 627-8381

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
 3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi
 Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

January 9, 10 a.m.

"Lighting the Chalice: More than a Ritual," Rev. Diane Teichert and Abby Crowley, worship associate

Exploring the history of the "chalice with flame" as a symbol of U.U. living tradition.

"Religion is verily the chief instrument for the establishment of order in the world and of tranquility amongst its peoples. The greater the decline of religion, the more grievous the waywardness of the ungodly."

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
 1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918
 Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com www.bahai.us

Greenbelt Baptist Church
 101 Greenhill Road
 Greenbelt, MD 20770 – (301) 474-4212
 www.greenbeltbaptist.org

Welcome!

Sunday	9:45 am	Sunday School
Sunday	11:00 am	Worship Service
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

ALL are Welcome!

"Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family Through Loving Service"

Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.
 Municipal Building

Mishkan Torah Congregation
 10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
 Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield

Friday evening services 8:00 PM except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:30 PM

Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM
 Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.

For further information call 301 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
 Conservative and Reconstructionist

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
 6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111

Worship 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday School & Bible Class 9:30 a.m.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church is a traditional Bible-believing, Christ-centered congregation! Join Us!
 E-mail myholycross@verizon.net

Upcoming Events At New Deal Café

On Thursday, January 6 from noon to 2 p.m. pianist Amy C. Kraft plays mid-day melodies. The weekly open microphone session for music, poetry, prose and storytelling is from 7 to 9 p.m.

On Friday, January 7 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. pianist John Guernsey plays lively jazz and blues notes (every Friday and Saturday). From 8 to 11 p.m. The Wharf Rats play mostly Grateful Dead, as well as some Allman Brothers, Santana, Dylan and others.

Saturday, January 8 classical guitarist Bruce Krittr plays (weekly) from 4 to 6 p.m. Guitar prodigy Andy Poxon, star of the New Deal's Blues Festival last summer, will play from 8 to 11 p.m.

On Sunday, January 9 the Sign Language Brunch Discussion group meets in the Café front room from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Jim Stimson plays Renaissance lute in the back room from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. From 5 to 8 p.m. Jack Couldn't Make It will play old time folk music.

Next Week

Tuesday, January 11 from 7 to 9 p.m. Greenbelter Rob Petrie with Cold Hard Cash will recreate the songs and sounds of Johnny Cash. On Wednesday, January 12 from 7 to 9 p.m. singer/songwriters Owen Danoff and Kelsey Siegel play original acoustic folk/rock/pop/Indie music. On Sunday, January 16 the Not2Cool Jazz Trio plays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., followed by the Kids' Open Microphone session from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. From 5 to 8 p.m. Mateo Monk plays instrumental world/electronic music.

For more information call 301-474-5642 or visit www.newdealcafe.com.

Dems Invite Everyone To District 22 Social

Greenbelt's Eleanor & Franklin Democratic Club invites everyone to meet District 22 leaders in Annapolis on January 17, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, at a special social event from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Senate Office Building. Senator Paul Pinsky and Delegates Tawanna Gaines, Anne Healey and Justin Ross will be present to speak with guests. The event includes a meal with music along with speeches about Dr. King's inheritance.

There will be a bus from Greenbelt to the event, which will load behind the library at 4:45 and leave at 5 p.m. There is a nominal charge for the bus. Only those pre-registered can be accommodated; reserve a space by calling 301-858-3652 as soon as possible. The bus will return to Greenbelt around 8:30 p.m. Those driving cars are reminded there is free parking in the Navy Stadium parking lot in Annapolis.

The Annapolis evening will take the place of the Roosevelt Democratic Club's usual third Friday night meeting for January. Mark the calendar for the next meeting on February 18. All are welcome.

Smell Gas?

(Sulfur or rotten eggs)

Call Washington Gas Light

800-752-7520 or 911



City Information

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL MEETING

**January 10, 2011 - 8:00 p.m.
Municipal Building**

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

Petitions and Requests (Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)

* **Minutes of Council Meetings**

Administrative Reports

* **Committee Reports**

- **Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Report #10-1 (Annual Open Forum Report)**

- **Park and Recreation Advisory Board, Report #10-4 (Recognition Group Application for Greenbelt Soccer Alliance, Inc.)**

LEGISLATION-none

OTHER BUSINESS

- Appointment of Councilmembers to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Policy Boards and Committees

- Park and Recreation Advisory Board Report #10-3 (Proposed Volunteer Background Checks, CAR #25-2009)

- Other Reports

-* Reappointment to Advisory Board

MEETINGS

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public, and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10am on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

In observance of the upcoming Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, the Greenbelt City Council and the Community Relations Advisory Board join President Obama and others by encouraging residents to take part in community service opportunities. During these challenging economic times, the demands on service organizations are greater than ever. Throughout the City's history, Greenbelters have generously volunteered their time for the betterment of our community.

You can use the links below to find more information on service opportunities in our area.

- The City's many volunteer organizations can use your help. A list of clubs and contacts is available at www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation/clubs.html
- The online home of President Obama's "United We Serve" initiative: www.serve.gov

10-WEEK WINTER GED COURSE

**January 11-March 24, 2011
(Tuesdays and Thursdays)**

REGISTRATION IS AT 10:30AM ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 11 AT THE GREENBELT MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 25 CRESCENT ROAD, GREENBELT, MD 20770

Free for Greenbelt residents; \$175 for non-residents. Students are required to purchase calculators and textbooks. Classes will be held in the Municipal Building. GED I is 10:30am - 12:30pm, and GED II is 1pm - 3pm.

For enrollment info, call Greenbelt CARES at 301-345-6660, x2016 or email jhering@greenbeltmd.gov.

GAIL PROGRAM NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

The GAIL Program will be celebrating 10 years in 2011. In order to continue to provide Greenbelt residents with aging services that meet their needs the GAIL Program is currently conducting a needs assessment. Please take a few moments to participate. If you have received a paper copy in the mail please do not complete the online survey. Your participation is greatly appreciated. The deadline to complete the assessment is January 31, 2011. Access the survey at www.greenbeltmd.gov/seniors

GREEN RIDGE HOUSE OPENS WAITING LIST

The Green Ridge House waiting list will be open from January 10-14 from 9-4pm. Applications must be made in person at Green Ridge House, 22 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770. Please see ad in this issue for more information.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. Vacancies exist on: Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Appeals, Forest Preserve Advisory Board For information call 301-474-8000.

MEETINGS FOR JANUARY 10-14

Monday, January 10th at 8pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**, at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and Streaming at Greenbeltmd.gov

Wednesday, January 12th at 8pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION w/ Clergy (stakeholders)** at Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000 or contact the City Clerk at cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov.

CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

Your discarded Christmas Tree can be recycled. The Public Works Department will pickup trees at the locations listed at www.greenbeltmd.gov (and in the December 30th News Review) and process them through the wood chipper. The chips will be used as mulch around trees and flower beds. Please bring trees to any of these areas up until February 4, 2011



GREENBELT ANIMAL SHELTER
550-A Crescent Road
(behind Police Station)

CONGRATULATIONS TO HANK, GYPSY, CHESSIE AND TEDDY ON THEIR ADOPTIONS! COME OUT AND VISIT:

April, 6 month old, sweet female tabby. Very loving.

Remy, 6 month old female Lab Mix. Super playful and friendly.

Tammy, 2 year old long haired gray tabby



The shelter is open on Wednesdays from 4-7pm, Saturdays from 9am-12pm or by appointment INFO: 301.474.6124 Make a donation in the name of a friend! Visit the Greenbelt Animal Shelter on Facebook!

DONATION DROP-OFF

American Rescue Workers
Saturday, January 8, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.
Parking lot between City Office and the Community Center

City of Greenbelt Recycling Office: 301-474-8308.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, Public Works Yard

City residents 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 Road.

Accepted items include: TVs, CPUs, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, laptop computers, recording equipment, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, wires and power cords, fax machines, cameras, telephones, radios, DVD players, VCRs, alkaline batteries taped on one end. New! Expanded Polystyrene (block "Styrofoam" #6).

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS MUST BE MADE FOR DROP-OFF OF MORE THAN 10 ITEMS OR ITEMS OVER 50 LBS. PLEASE CALL IN ADVANCE.

GREENBELT CARES WINTER WORKSHOPS IN LIFE SKILLS

Register for one or all of the following by calling 301-345-6660.

January 24-Fighting the Winter Blues

January 31-Setting and Keeping Personal Goals

February 7-Living Alone and Liking it

February 28-Learning to be Assertive

March 7-Living Well Through Mid-Life Changes

Workshops will be held from 5-6:30pm at the Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770



**Greenbelt CityLink: www.greenbeltmd.gov
Find us at
www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt**

FIRE continued from page 1



COURTESY OF P.G.F.D. FIRE

Flames melt the vinyl siding in the fire at 51 Court Ridge Road

with GHI's insurance carrier to begin reconstruction and repair of the affected homes. Debris from the fire and firefighting operations has already been removed and the properties dried out.

GHI projects that restoration of the homes will take about two to three months. GHI also noted that the fire service and insurance company are conducting an investigation into the probable cause of the blaze. A preliminary assessment points to possible defective wiring, either on the inside or outside of a unit on the garden side of the row.

Cancer Society Holds Free Phone Workshop

The American Cancer Society is offering a program for those affected by a loved one's cancer diagnosis and will host a series of free telephone workshops for family, caregivers and friends to learn about information and support related to caring for someone with cancer. The next workshop will be held on Tuesday, January 11 from 1 to 2:15 p.m. and focus on body image. The final workshop, on February 8 from 1 to 2:15 p.m., is "Take a break! Self-care tips for the cancer caregiver."

Workshops include tips and practical problem-solving techniques and discussion.

To register call the American Cancer Society at 800-966-3586 or visit <http://cancer.org/sacaregiverworkshops>.

Laurel Seeks Adult Volleyball Players

The South Laurel Recreation Council is looking for male and female adult volleyball players who are experienced in competing in leagues and/or full-day tournaments to play on a women's or coed team in the winter-spring Prince George's County Volleyball League. There is no fee for participation.

If interested in being a substitute or full-time player on an adult volleyball team, call Diane at 301-776-2805 as soon as possible.

DENIAL continued from page 1

and in the world outside (IBO/PYP). A strong relationship with IB can help accomplish this mission.

Two of the five county representatives encouraged the Greenbelt team to reapply. In order to improve opportunity for success, they suggested the IB component of the program be dropped and the PGCPS curriculum be taught with a global focus until it is proven the team can successfully operate a charter school. Then it could consider applying for IB/PYP authorization in its long-range plans.

Dependent upon continuation of a federal grant, the Maryland State Department of Education will award a grant of \$550,000 to the Founding Board once approval is granted to open a school. These funds will be used for professional development and facility

upgrades and compliance. The IBO, in Bethesda, has offered to meet with the Founding Board to discuss how they might offer assistance and support.

New applications for charter school authorization from PGCPS are due mid-March, so the clock is already ticking on reapplication.

The board encourages online discussion (www.greenbeltpcs.org) about the information presented here. A board meeting is scheduled for January 12 at 7 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. All those interested are invited to attend.

Invasive Plants Are Topic of Free Talk

The Prince George's Audubon Society and Patuxent Bird Club will sponsor a free talk about Dangerous Invasive Plants: An Urban Myth at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 11 at the College Park Airport Annex, 1985 Corporal Frank Scott Drive. Doug Gill, Professor Emeritus of Biology at the University of Maryland will talk about invasive plants, their effect on the environment and what people should – or should not – do about them. This free program is open to all who are interested. Call 301-262-5148 for more information.

GIVE BLOOD

**NEED FREE CLOTHES?
COME TO THE FIRST NEW TO YOU CONSIGNMENT
AND
BOY SCOUT TROOP 1212
MLK FREE WINTER CLOTHING FOR ALL DRIVE**
SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2010
NOON – 5:00 PM
GLENN DALE FIREHOUSE
11900 Glenn Dale Blvd (Route 193)
Glenn Dale, MD
CALL 301-262-1818 FOR DETAILS
OR JUST SHOW UP!

DENTAL CARE FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS SINCE 1924

TOP DENTIST
The Capital READERS CHOICE
2010 WINNER

**For 3 Generations
Our Passion
Has Been Focused
On One Family...**

...Yours

The McCarl Dental Group is a family and cosmetic dental practice featuring the very latest techniques and technologies with a legacy of compassionate care and patient satisfaction. Please make an appointment to learn more about the many ways we can help improve your smile and dental health.

Please visit us online for Special Discounts
www.McCarlDental.com
www.facebook.com/mccardental

\$45 NEW PATIENT INTRODUCTORY OFFER
Includes: Dental Exam, Cleaning and Necessary X-rays (\$295 Value)

\$200 CUSTOM IN-HOME TEETH WHITENING FOR NEW & EXISTING PATIENTS (\$450 value)



MCCARL
Dental Group

Greenbelt - (301) 474-4144
28 Ridge Road

Millersville - (410) 987-8800
Shipley's Choice Medical Park

Thanks For Voting Us Best Dentists!

Greenbelt



Supermarket Pharmacy

Farm Fresh Produce

Golden Ripe Nutritious Bananas 39¢ lb.	Antioxidant Rich Broccoli Crowns \$1⁶⁹ lb.	California Navel Oranges 8 lb. bag \$5⁹⁹
Fresh Crisp Garden Salad Mix 1 lb. bag \$1⁵⁰	Imported Sweet Ripe Cherries \$3⁹⁹ lb.	Extra Large Green Peppers \$1⁶⁹ lb.
Florida Red Ripe Strawberries 1 lb. \$2⁹⁹	Fresh Crisp Romaine Hearts 3 pk. \$2⁹⁹ lb.	Florida Red Grapefruit 3/\$2⁰⁰

Fresh Quality Meats

Fresh 85% Extra Lean Ground Beef \$1⁸⁸ lb.	Fresh Value Pack Boneless Chicken Thighs or Drumsticks 99¢ lb.	Fresh Lean Boneless Chuck Roast \$3²⁹ lb.	Fresh Lean Boneless Center Cut Pork Roast \$3⁷⁹ lb.
Fresh Value Pack Bone-In Rib Eye Steaks \$6⁹⁹ lb.	Fresh Value Pack Boneless Country Style Pork Spareribs \$3²⁹ lb.	Hatfield Sliced Bacon Assorted 1 lb. BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	Hatfield Meat Franks 1 lb. BUY ONE GET ONE FREE

Dairy

Deli

Frozen

Yoplait Assorted Yogurts 6 oz. 38¢	Shurfine Vegetable Spread 48 oz. \$1⁹⁹	Deli Gourmet Virginia Cooked Ham \$4⁹⁹ lb.	Shurfine Classic Vegetables 16 oz. \$1⁰⁰	Banquet Assorted Entrees Select Varieties 5-10 oz. \$1⁰⁰
Sargento Shredded Cheese Assorted 5-8 oz. \$2⁰⁰	8th Continent Soy Milk Assorted 64 oz. \$2⁵⁰	Willow Brook Chicken Breast Roll \$3⁹⁹ lb.	Stouffer's French Bread Pizza Assorted 2 pk. \$2⁵⁰	Marie Callender's Complete Dinners Assorted 8-21 oz. \$3⁰⁰
Deli Gourmet American Cheese \$3⁹⁸ lb.				

Health & Beauty

Seafood

Citrus Case Sale
4 Days Only, Jan. 13-16
Special prices on your favorite citrus fruits.
See circular for details.

Natural & Gourmet

Bakery

Nature Made Vitamins & Supplements Assorted 30-300 pk. BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	Fresh Catch Haddock Fillets \$6⁹⁹ lb.	Bob's Red Mill Flaxseed Meal 16 oz. \$2⁹⁹	Fresh Store Baked Vienna Bread loaf \$1⁴⁹
Aim Tooth Paste Assorted 6-7 oz. 88¢	Sea Best Frozen Tilapia Fillets 1 lb. \$3⁹⁹	Bob's Red Mill Old Country Muesli 18 oz. \$3⁹⁹	Fresh Store Baked Hoagie Rolls 6 pk. \$1⁴⁹

Grocery Bargains

Libby's Canned Vegetables Assorted 14-15 oz. 44¢	Campbell's Original Soup Ch. Noodle/Tomato 10.75 oz. 48¢	Hunt's Spaghetti Sauce Asst. 26 oz. 78¢	Barilla Pasta Spaghetti/Macaroni Assorted 12-16 oz. \$1⁰⁰	Progresso Classic Soups Assorted 18-19 oz. \$1⁰⁰
Betty Crocker Meal Helpers Hamb./Chick./Tuna 4-9 oz. \$1⁰⁰	Scotties Facial Tissues Assorted 60-132 pk. \$1⁰⁰	Hunt's Canned Tomatoes Assorted 14.5 oz. \$1⁰⁰	Ajax Liquid Dish Detergent 16 oz. \$1⁰⁰	Betty Crocker Supreme Brownie Mix Assorted 18-20 oz. \$1⁰⁰

NOW INTRODUCING best buy \$avings on thousands of items throughout the store. Look for the **best buy** signs in all departments.

Busch Beers **\$3⁹⁹** 6 pk.-12 oz. cans

Yellow Tail Wines **\$11⁶⁹** Assorted 1.5 Liter

Beer & Wine

Elsa Wines **\$8⁹⁹** 750 ML

Sam Adams Boston Lager 12 pk.-12 oz. btl's **\$13⁹⁹**

Modelo Esp Beer **\$11⁶⁹** 12 pk.-12 oz. cans

Chapelle Pouilly-Fuisse Wine 750 ML. **\$12⁹⁹**

Blockbuster \$1 Movie Rentals Now At Co-op!



Prices Effective: JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	10	11	12	13	14	15
16						

SUPERMARKET PHARMACY

121 CENTERWAY-ROOSEVELT CENTER GREENBELT, MARYLAND
Visit us online at www.greenbelt.coop

SUPERMARKET
Monday thru Saturday 9 a.m. until 9 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-0522

PHARMACY
Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. until 7 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-4400
Closed Sunday

Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robberies

December 23, 2:13 p.m., Cherrywood Lane, a woman reported that she was approached by a man while at the Metro bus stop. She felt something press into her back, which she believed to be a weapon. The man took her purse and fled the area. The suspect was described as a black male, 5'11" tall, weighing 180 lbs., wearing a green hoodie, blue jeans and a black ski mask.

December 23, 7:16 p.m., 9100 block of Edmonston Court, a woman was approached from behind and complied with the suspect's demands for her money. She did not turn around and the suspect fled from the scene.

December 27, 8:01 p.m., Ora Glen Drive at South Ora Court, a woman was walking home from a shopping center when she was approached from behind by two young men, who robbed her at knife point of personal property before fleeing on foot. The woman was not injured during the incident. The suspects were described as two Hispanic males, both aged 17 to 22, approximately 5'4" tall and weighing 120 to 130 lbs. One of the suspects was wearing a light-colored jacket and blue jeans; the second was wearing a dark-colored jacket, blue jeans and a light-colored skull cap.

Home Invasion

December 22, 12:24 a.m., 9300 block of Edmonston Road, a person interrupted a burglary in progress and was held at gunpoint while two men removed property from the residence. Both men then fled the scene in a black Chevrolet. The suspects were described as black males, aged 18 to 21, both with dark complexions. One was wearing blue jeans, a black jacket and a black knit cap; the other had short hair and was wearing black pants and a red jacket. Electronic equipment and jewelry were taken.

Reckless Endangerment

December 28, 12:06 a.m., 6100 block of Breezewood Drive, two men were wrestling over a gun during a disagreement and the gun accidentally discharged. No injuries were sustained.

Vandalism

December 26, 5:23 p.m., 6000 block of Springhill Drive, a bedroom window was broken.

Burglary

December 22, 6:41 p.m., 6000 block of Springhill Drive, electronic equipment was reported taken.

Vehicle Crimes

Attempted thefts of vehicles were reported at the 7200 block of Mandan Road and twice at Beltway Plaza.

Two stolen vehicles were recovered by Greenbelt police with no arrests made in either recovery.

Stolen tags were recovered; a nonresident man was arrested

Bus Stop Shootings Wound Two Dec. 28

Two shootings on the same day at two different Greenbelt bus stops left two area men wounded. On Tuesday, December 28 at 12:53 a.m. a man reported he was approached by two youths as he got off a bus at the Metro bus stop at 135 Crescent Road (St. Hugh's). One of the youths displayed a handgun and demanded the man's money. When the man refused to comply, he was attacked by them and shot in the leg. Both suspects then ran off.

The suspects were both described as Hispanic youths, aged 14 to 16, 5'5" to 5'7" in height and weighing 130 to 150 lbs. Both were wearing dark jackets, blue jeans and ski masks.

The second incident occurred at 11:40 p.m. at the Metro bus stop in the 5500 block of Cherrywood Lane. A man reported that three men approached him and demanded his money. One of the men attempted to stab him but missed. They shot him twice, in the left eye and in the right ear and fled.

The man was flown to Shock Trauma in Baltimore and is in stable condition. The three suspects were described as black males, wearing all black clothing.

Anyone with information on these incidents is asked to call the Greenbelt Police Criminal Investigations Unit at 240-542-2133.

and charged on citations in lieu of arrest with theft under \$100, possession of CDS paraphernalia and traffic citations.

Thefts from vehicles were reported in the following areas: 6100 block of Breezewood Court (iPod Shuffle); Greenbrook Drive at Lake Drive (GPS); Jacob's Drive at Emily's Way (Md. tag KDZ857); parking lot of Buddy Attick Lake Park (catalytic converter); 5800 block of Cherrywood Terrace (sander/floor edger); 7800 block of Walker Drive (Md. tags 1FNP26); 8000 block of Lakecrest Drive (radio receiver, GPS); Beltway Plaza (2 incidents - tailgate, validation sticker); Greenbrook Drive at Wingerwood Court (address book); and 6200 block of Springhill Court (GPS).

Vandalism to vehicles was reported at 5900 block of Cherrywood Terrace (damaged window), Beltway Plaza (slashed tire), 9100 block of Edmonston Road (slashed tires), Greenbrook Drive at Candlewood Court (broken window), Greenbelt Road at Mandan Road (windshield cracked), 6100 block of Breezewood Court (broken window), 6200 block of Springhill Court (broken window), 9100 block of Springhill Lane (broken mirror) and 9100 block of Edmonston Court (broken windows).

City Notes

Animal Control staff reports two dogs, five cats and one ferret were adopted, one dog was found running at large in Buddy Attick park and one dog was impounded in a cruelty case.

Planning staff re-sent a collection letter to George Christacos for his portion of the Roosevelt Center emergency sewer repair costs and forwarded a recommendation for consolidation of regulatory signage at Northway and Northway Fields.

Facilities/Building Maintenance crew replaced the motor on the heating system at the Municipal Building and continued work on the heating system at the Aquatic & Fitness Center.

Refuse and Recycling collected 21.85 tons of refuse and 13.51 tons of co-mingled recyclable materials.

Street Maintenance crew installed 40 hydrant markers onto fire hydrants around the city, to mark their locations in case of a snow event.

Recreation staff reports that since cameras were installed on the exterior part of the Springhill Lake Recreation Center roof, unwanted activity has decreased.

CARES

CARES staff has completed the last session of the DRAMA Club, Dispute Resolution and Managing Anger. Three participants completed all nine weeks and received a certificate.

Volunteers Sought For Hospice Calls

Hospice of the Chesapeake is seeking volunteers with excellent phone skills to join its "Tuck-In Team." Volunteers call patient caregivers on Thursdays from the Annapolis office to assure they have enough medications and supplies through the weekend. Morning and afternoon shifts are available and training is provided.

For details call Director of Volunteers Kathy Bourgard at 443-837-1549 or email kbougard@hospicechesapeake.org.

Blue Sky Puppets Presents Pig Tales

The College Park Arts Exchange and Blue Sky Puppets present "Pig Tales" on Sunday, January 9 at 3 p.m. at the Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road in College Park.

Three young pigs learn to share in a free show filled with audience participation and laughs for all ages. For details email info@cpae.org or call 301-927-3013.

Fire Damages Two Units In University Square Apts.

A 911 caller reported smoke in a building at 161 Westway in the University Square Apartments just before 1 p.m. on Monday, January 3. Fire was found in the furnace area on the first floor with some extension to the upper and lower floors.

The fire was quickly extin-

guished but \$40,000 worth of damage was done. The cause was determined to be electrical. Three adults were displaced from units 101 and 201. Apartment staff were able to house the residents in two vacant units within the complex. Eight pieces of equipment and 32 firefighters were on the scene.



A firefighter is on the balcony, above. Below, smoke billows from second floor balcony at the fire on Westway.



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Greenbelt Seniors Enjoy Trip to Niagara Falls

by Kathleen McFarland

Still basking in the glow from the June show trip to the Smoky Mountains of Tennessee, new tour leaders Mary and Barry Moien took on their second venture, a five-day tour of Niagara Falls and Toronto, starting October 18. Many people who had enjoyed the earlier trip signed on again and new friends and relatives swelled the number to 43, almost completely filling the Diamond Tours bus. With news of the rescue of the 33 Chilean miners in the news, I began to think of us as "Los 43."

On our first full day in Canada we experienced the highlight of the trip, Niagara Falls itself. Our schedule had been changed with the weather report, which forecast chillier weather and possible rain for our final day.

Most of us have heard about Niagara Falls since we were children and had seen photos and TV documentaries about the falls. Nothing prepared me for the actual sight, however – for actually "being there," feeling the spray of the water on my face and seeing the rainbows on Rainbow Bridge near the falls.

We joined more than a hundred other people to board the "Maid of the Mist," marching in a long line down and down a curving cement walkway to the edge of the water. We looked like crowds of little blue hobbits in the hooded ponchos which had been handed to us as we descended to the boarding place.

The more adventurous of us went to the open top of the boat but even those on the covered lower tier received a thrill when we sailed into the very heart of Horseshoe Falls and were whipped by wind and drenched by the spray. The streams of water running down our hair and into our eyes seemed to make us part of something big and powerful.

I had not expected to be so awed and impressed by the experience. One of the men in our group, standing next to me, turned and said, "This is something I'll remember for the rest of my life" – my feeling, exactly.

Later, we strolled along the sidewalk above the falls, next to buildings and shops of the town. Here we were looking down over



Rainbow over Rainbow Bridge, taken from the "Maid of the Mist," on the Niagara Falls and Toronto tour led by Mary and Barry Moien in October.

PHOTOS BY KATHLEEN MCFARLAND

a fence at the very rim of the falls.

The power and force of the water amazed us. Photos do not do it justice. "Where does all this water come from?" one of us less-traveled seniors asked. The answer: Lake Erie.

The water flows from Lake Erie into the Niagara River and then into Lake Ontario and out into the Atlantic Ocean via the St. Lawrence Seaway. Our tour guide explained that the governments of the United States and Canada cooperate to divert some of the water from the falls. Hydroelectric power generated by this system provides electricity for a wide swath of New York State and New York City itself.

That's why I like these bus trips: they are educational as well as fun.

River Gorge, Park

Earlier that morning we had taken a bus ride along the Niagara River Gorge and Queen Victoria Park. We toured the gardens of the well-regarded School of Horticulture and stopped at the famous Floral Clock just in time to see the hands turn to 11 a.m. and hear the bells sound. Weather throughout our trip was beautiful, mild and sunny most of the time. Here there had not yet been a first frost.

Then one more stop before

lunch: the "Aeroride" in a cable car across the deep gorge in the river dividing the U.S. and Canada. The gorge itself was a beautiful site, with the trees on its steep sides beginning to turn color, whirlpools churning below.

Only the bravest of our group bought tickets, left the comfort of the gift shop above and descended steps into the cable car. The ride across to the American side and back took only 15 or 20 minutes and my friends assured me it was not very scary after all. Those with cameras shot beautiful scenes from the cable car.

After lunch and the "Maid of the Mist" experience, we returned to our hotel in Niagara Falls to freshen up before dinner at a notable restaurant, "Betty's."

Toronto

Our second full day in Canada, we traveled almost two hours by bus to Toronto, a cosmopolitan city of almost three million people, the largest in Canada and capital of Ontario. From our bus we saw the CN tower, which our tour guide told us is the tallest free-standing tower in the world.

We were surprised to see the many skyscrapers, most built within the past 10 years, and the ultra-modern shopping centers and upscale stores. We were on our own for lunch and shopping in the city.

Strolling along the harbor, we

became acquainted with the Tim Horton restaurants (similar to Atlanta Bread Co.) which are everywhere in Canada, like McDonalds here. In Toronto our change was given to us in Canadian money; we learned about "loonies" (one-dollar coins) and "toonies" (two-dollar coins).

After lunch we toured Casa Loma, the former estate of Sir Henry Mill Pellatt, a prominent Toronto financier, industrialist and military man. Built to look like a medieval castle, it was constructed in 1911 on a hill overlooking the city.

One fact I retained is that Sir Henry collaborated with Thomas Edison to make Toronto the first city to have electric street lights. Our dinner that evening was at a beautiful restaurant next to the harbor on Lake Ontario, with lights gleaming on the water.

Final Day

On the last day our tour guide, Judy, who had been with us our whole time in Canada, took us on a wide-ranging trip to many sites in the Niagara area. We drove through the "Fruit Belt" of large fields of grapevines and peach trees.

She explained the area was in a zone of temperate weather caused by its location between Lake Ontario and a ridge of higher land. We learned about "IceWine," a specialty of the

area. Some grapes are left on the vines to ripen, covered for protection from birds and then picked by hand on certain cold January nights. They produce a rich wine "of luxurious flavor" promoted in all the gift shops. Alas, my friends and I were too frugal to pay the small fee charged in the shops to sample the wine. But I did purchase a can of icewine tea.

We drove through the Welland Canals Centre which connects Lake Ontario to Lake Erie, then shopped and lunched in a picturesque village, Niagara-on-the-Lake. We attended a Rossi glass-blowing demonstration and visited a peanut store where nuts and candies of all kinds could be sampled and purchased.

After the ride back to our hotel in Niagara Falls, some of our group left for the nearby casino, while the less energetic retired to their rooms to relax before dinner.

Final Evening

This last evening in Canada, we had dinner in the revolving restaurant at the top of the Sky-lon Tower. High above the city, we could see the falls, the town and the surrounding countryside through wide windows.

As we finished dessert, a black cloud appeared in the sky above us, with streaks of lightning slashing and a rain shower we could see below. Then a wide rainbow appeared, seeming to start from the trees below us and disappearing into the dark cloud. Barry claimed no credit for this dramatic finale to our trip.

We left our hotel early Friday morning for the bus ride home but encountered a long delay at the border, waiting our turn to go through U.S. Customs in a long line of tour buses.

Finally we were on our way, traveling through the beautiful rolling farmland of New York State and into Pennsylvania, stopping for lunch and, several other times, watching "That's Entertainment" on the bus TVs or just dozing and thinking back on the good time we had had.

Los 43 arrived back at the Greenbelt Library parking lot under a full moon, saying goodbye to new friends and old and everyone asking what the next destination would be. Traveling south would be nice – maybe Savannah?



The hobbits prepare to get drenched at Horseshoe Falls.



The Aeroride across the Niagara River Gorge.

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NOTICE

90-HR CHILDCARE COURSE, Greenbelt Children's Center. M/W, 6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. and Saturdays 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Starts January 17. \$450 includes textbook. Deborah Wood, 301-576-3423.

MY AGENDA: Since autism has affected my sisters and other relatives, I seek to improve public awareness. Your homework: look up causes of autism online. Warning: it is complicated and controversial, but embrace the controversy and use your own judgment as to where the truth must lie. More to follow. Bill, bnorwood111@gmail.com

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PGCPS Disability Group Meets

The Prince George's County Board of Education's Disability Issues Advisory Board will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 12 at 6 p.m. This meeting is open to the public and will be held at the Sasscer Administration Building Board Room, 14201 School Lane in Upper Marlboro. The committee will discuss ADA issues and make recommendations on policies, procedures and to help ensure that the needs of disabled students and staff are met.

Mad Science Program At Aviation Museum

Before Wilbur and Orville could even begin to build an airplane, they had to understand the science that makes flying possible. Join Mad Science of Washington, D.C. on Saturday, January 8 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for an interactive program about science. There is a nominal fee for the program which includes museum admission.

The museum is located at 1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive, College Park. For more information call 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544.

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ACE MEETING continued from page 1

charter policy requires parents to come to “discovery night” once a month for character education.

Greenbelt Middle

Amy Hansen, Greenbelt Middle School (GMS) PTA president, described issues surrounding GMS. The school has a new principal this year and the school year got off to a good start. Because the school is only a 2-year school for many students (grades 7 and 8) and a 3-year school (grades 6-8) for students living in Franklin Square apartments (the old Springhill Lake Apartments), it is often difficult to gain parent involvement. The students are not at the school long enough to encourage parental involvement and due to past issues, some parents decide to send their children elsewhere for middle school.

There had been no PTA at the school in recent years but Hansen helped organize a meeting last summer that led to the formation of a PTA. Prince George’s County Council Member Ingrid Turner provided funds for a meeting with feeder schools parents and children. There was game playing and the GMS band played at the meeting. There should be more open houses and the GMS PTA should talk with the elementary schools’ PTA leaders. The elementary parents must see that the school can be good for their children, she said.

Parent Involvement

Meeting participants began tossing out ideas that they had tried or had heard of to increase involvement in the schools. Jonnetta Gross, secretary at GES, commented on how Hansen has “stretched” the PTA involvement to cover many areas. Gross suggested a meeting that might highlight math or other subjects; Gardner commented that many parents attend meetings when the band is playing or the choir is singing. Wendy Wexler, city staff liaison to ACE, commented that a geography bee was the basis for a popular meeting in a College Park school. Hansen then suggested a competition with teachers – “Are you smarter than a 7th grader?” Gardner mentioned that ACE might look into a citywide math competition among schools.

Lucy Dirksen, PTA president at Greenbelt Elementary School, indicated that she is talking with a nutritionist about describing and making healthy snacks at a future meeting. ACE member Susan

Breon suggested that PTAs look into having a babysitter present to watch the smaller children that sometimes attend meetings. She cautioned that a babysitter must be fingerprinted by the county before they can watch the children. Wexler added that if a fingerprinted adult is present for an activity with the children, it might be possible to use ERHS students who are looking for community service projects.

Movie Nights

Randall Pippen, representing the PTO at Magnolia described that school’s success with movie night with blankets. Held on Friday nights from 7-9, those activities are packed. One movie night is for students third grade or below and another night is for grades four to six. The PTO also has a talent show which is very well attended. But he said that the PTO is afraid that holding a meeting at the same time will “deflate the group.” Gardner responded that Greenbelt Elementary has meeting nights and then has separate social events. They might have a game night or an art night with no meeting. He described it as “a way for parents to get to know each other.” Hansen added that school systems can sometimes get free movies but that PTAs should be aware that they must pay royalty fees on some movies.

Dirksen indicated that the PTA at Greenbelt Elementary is still advocating for the arts, to have arts at least once a week. She talked about the importance of grants and how a county grant got GES \$500 a grade to bring in artists, music and performing arts. Last year they got a grant to buy art supplies and they are kept in a central closet that any teacher can use for art projects. She would love to see a salad bar and hopes to start a community garden. Wexler commented that the city has a grant program and that last year each school submitted at least one proposal and each school received a grant. This year no schools have submitted a grant proposal and the deadline was November 1.

Fund raising ideas were also discussed including local restaurants that donate a percentage of a certain night checks; talent shows or international dinners that could raise money or a secret Santa shop which children can buy small gifts for their families.

Belair Hosts Early Maryland Lecture

On Tuesday, January 11 at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Timothy Riordan will lecture on “Digging Up the Past: The St. Mary’s City Lead Coffin Project,” at Belair mansion in Bowie. Riordan will discuss the exhumation and examination of the lead coffins of several 17th century Marylanders. This event is free.

School Board Holds Public Budget Hearing

On Tuesday, January 11 at 7 p.m. the Prince George’s County Board of Education will hold a Fiscal Year 2012 operating budget public hearing in the Sasscer Administration Building Board Room, 14201 School Lane in Upper Marlboro. The meeting provides the public an opportunity to share input on the FY12 operating budget.

Wildlife Visitor Center To Host Film Festival

The Conservation & Wildlife Film Festival and the Patuxent Research Refuge’s National Wildlife Visitor Center are hosting a once-a-month winter film series from January through April. Short and feature documentary films will be screened in the 218-seat auditorium during two separate series that each last two hours. Guest speakers, including the filmmakers, may be present for some of the films to answer questions.

There is a nominal fee for the series. Series 1 runs from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and Series 2 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call 301-497-5763 for details.

Films will be shown on the following Saturdays: January 15, February 19, March 19 and April 9.

For more information visit www.WildlifeFilmFestivals.com.

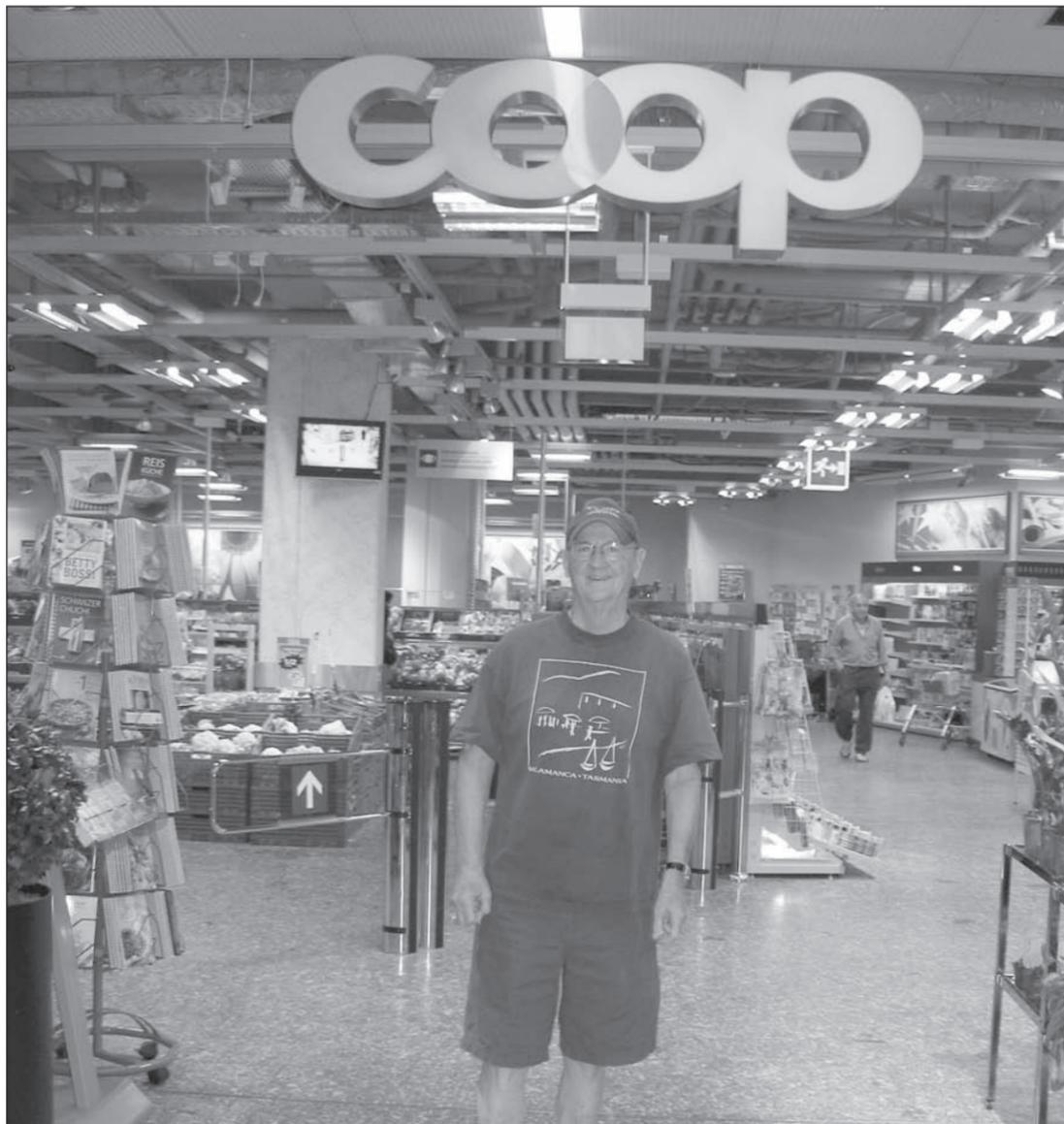


PHOTO BY HELEN WHITE

Tom and Helen White found a co-op grocery store in downtown Basel, Switzerland, last summer. A neat feature they liked in the fresh produce department provides a small tape with a cost on it after one weighs the produce on a special scale.

Register on Jan. 11 For GED Classes

Greenbelt CARES will hold its spring 10-week GED course on Tuesdays and Thursdays from, January 11 through March 24 in the Municipal Building Conference Room at 25 Crescent Road.

Registration will be on Tuesday, January 11 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The first instruction class will be on Thursday, January 13.

GED I runs from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It is for students who need a review of basic math (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, decimals, percentages and word problems) and English grammar skills.

GED II goes from 1 to 3 p.m. for students who have successfully completed GED I and/or are ready to learn algebra and geometry, English literature and writing skills and prepare to take the GED test.

Students must show proof of residency (i.e. current lease, phone or electric bill, driver’s license or Motor Vehicle ID card).

There is no charge for Greenbelt residents. Nonresidents must pay a \$175 registration fee. All students have to buy a copy of the GED textbook and calculator, which can be purchased from Greenbelt CARES.

Students do not have to be 16 years old to take the GED course and can take a free GED pre-test given at Greenbelt CARES. The actual GED test is given by the State of Maryland. Students who are ready to take the test can get the application forms from CARES.

For questions and enrollment information regarding either GED I or GED II, contact Judy Hering, course instructor, Greenbelt CARES, at 301-345-6660 ext. 2016 or by email to jhering@ci.greenbeltmd.gov.

GIVES Provides Services, Opportunities for Residents

by Virginia Beauchamp

When GIVES – that’s the Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service – began more than 10 years ago, the idea was to provide mutual assistance and support among members of the Greenbelt community. Anyone participating could earn hours by performing a service or carrying out a task for another member. These service hours could then be later reimbursed in service hours performed by another member. No money was involved in this exchange.

To bring the story up to date, the terms of commitment are still the same and the organization is flourishing. During the last fiscal year of the organization, from June 1, 2009 to May 31, 2010, more than 200 members provided something like 2,000 hours of different kinds of services for one another.

Among such services, the largest category has been administrative and clerical help. This should be no surprise, since staffing the GIVES office and receiving and responding to phone messages to fill requests is, of course, essential to the exchange.

The office is on the first floor of the Community Center, shielded behind cupboards in the Senior Citizens Lounge. It is open five days a week from 10 a.m. to noon. and 1 to 3 p.m., though requests for service may be left by voice mail at any time. The phone number is 301-507-6580.

Other categories of frequent service are doing laundry and light housework, providing transportation (primarily in the Greenbelt area), performing yard work and offering telephone reassurance. This

last category is often carried out by members who are themselves confined at home but who can still offer this important service. And don’t be surprised if someone calls you to say “Happy Birthday!”

Service Categories

The two most frequent requests involve assistance with shopping and errands and with pet care, such as walking a dog. But in inclement weather, such as last winter’s snow storms, members might also seek help in clearing sidewalks.

During the early weeks of the year, a significant, often requested service is assisting with income tax returns. New categories of service involve assistance in installing computers and technical assistance with cable television. Obviously such complicated help depends on specific knowledge available within the organizational membership, which may vary as newcomers arrive and former members may move away.

Current officers of GIVES are President Sharon Jacobson, First Vice President Kathleen Gallagher, Second Vice President Judith Davis, Treasurer Linda Curtis, Secretary Mary Chapman and Office Manager Jean Cook.

The organization also includes a Board of Directors and an Advisory Board. Information concerning GIVES is included in packets now provided to new residents in the city. At the recent December meeting of the group, three new members showed up to participate, having learned about the group in just this way.

Information about joining is available by calling the organization at 301-507-6580.