

## Petitioners Seek Council Action On Refugees, Climate Action

by Kathleen Gallagher

The city council has only one more opportunity to beat this year's record for longest council meeting, which was set at 3 hours, 34 minutes and 16 seconds at the regular meeting of November 23. The only regular meeting this month will be held on December 14. Will the record be broken? Only time will tell.

The first hour of last week's meeting was largely taken up with two petitions to council from the floor. Other topics considered during the remaining time will be reported in other articles.

Considerable discussion took place about two petitions asking council to communicate with its federal and state elected representatives. Although in both cases the initiators were quite insistent that council wave its standing rules which require receipt of petitions at one meeting and any action by council at a later date. The petitioners urged instead that

the council take action that night. However, council scheduled both items for further discussion and action at the December 14 meeting in order that proper public notice can be given and other residents can participate in the discussion or make their views known to council if they wish.

### Climate Change

The first petition, presented by Stephanie Warner and Lore Rosenthal on behalf of the Greenbelt Climate Action Network (GCAN), asked that council send a letter to President Obama, urging him to take the lead in moving the global community toward a strong agreement to deal with climate change at the COP21 conference, which is meeting near Paris from November 30 until December 11.

In a proposed draft letter, GCAN took the tack of stressing the threats presented by climate change but then presenting

Greenbelt as a model of what actions and commitments local governments and citizens are already engaged in with a goal of reducing it. Councilmembers expressed agreement with the intent of the letter and thanked GCAN for its documentation of the many actions the city has taken but directed staff to work further on the letter for discussion at the next meeting.

### Syrian Refugees

The second petition was presented by Josh Hamlin for council to draft a resolution expressing Greenbelt's willingness to welcome Syrian refugees to Greenbelt. He said the intention was largely symbolic and not to ask residents to take refugees in or to do anything more than support the pledge President Obama has already made. Hamlin expressed his deep concern with conditions in Syria.

See PETITIONS, page 7

## Council May Expand City Museum, Accepts Resignations from FPAB

by Kathleen Gallagher

At its lengthy November 23 meeting the Greenbelt City Council approved without comment two consent agenda items of public interest: the resignation of three members of the Forest Preserve Advisory Board (FPAB) and the scheduling of a public hearing to be held on December 14 on the possible purchasing of 10-A Crescent Road, the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) townhouse that adjoins the Greenbelt Museum.

### FPAB Resignations

An item of interest from the consent agenda of this meeting was that among a number of re-appointments to advisory groups were resignations by Robert Snyder, Yoni Siegel and Donna Almquist from the FPAB. As has been played out at city council meetings and worksessions for

many months, not to mention in the letters and paid ads of this newspaper, these three members in particular disapproved of the 6 to 1 decision made by city council in awarding a contract to A. Morton Thompson and Associates of Rockville to evaluate the condition of the Forest Preserve (see the October 15 issue of this paper).

The remainder of the board concurred with council's decision to award the contract. Items on council's consent agenda are understood to move forward without comment or formal motion, so the resignations were accepted without discussion. Review of the resignation letters indicates that they reiterate the same concerns previously expressed by these members, including opposition to the nature of the firm

selected, actions of the city staff and convictions that there should not be consideration of revisions to the maintenance guidelines or any active management of the forest.

Council and the majority of the board have been of the opinion that the information and data to be collected about the health of the forest will be valuable to have and that the city is under no obligation to pursue any specific recommendations that might be made.

### 10-A Crescent

The city may have an opportunity to purchase the GHI townhouse at 10-A Crescent Road. This house is the other half of the duplex that includes the city-owned Greenbelt Museum. The family now selling the house has resided in it for more than 50 years. A variety of museum-related uses have been suggested for the house. Council will hold a public hearing to receive comments from residents about this possible purchase during its regular meeting of Monday, December 14. The purchase is supported by the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum.



PHOTO BY SHARON NATOLI

Greenbelt Mayor Emmett Jordan shares the stage with Santa Claus at the tree lighting ceremony which opened the annual Festival of Lights on December 4, 2015. For more photos, see page 8.



Happy Hannukah!

## American Education Week November 16 to 20

In celebration of American education, these columns tell the stories of selected teachers from the schools that serve the Greenbelt Community. This week readers will get a glimpse inside Greenbelt Elementary School.

The stories feature two teachers or staff members at each school, and are coordinated by David Lange, who originated the series and liaises with the schools, and Alice Murray who works with the reporters.

## "Kind Words" Set Scene For 5th Grade Teacher

by Jim Link

As the ambient noise, chatter and laughter of the scurrying children subsides, as the yellow school buses pull away from Greenbelt Elementary School (GES), as Marson Richardson ushers me into his 5th grade classroom after a long day teaching English and Reading Language Arts, I expect to see a haggard man reluctant to submit to the "gotcha" questions of an annoying paparazzo.

Instead I meet a bright, vivid man enthusiastically willing to talk about the joys of his profession.

An elementary school teacher since 2002 in his native state North Carolina, Richardson is midway through his second year at GES. He has a bachelor's degree in psychology from North Carolina State and his licensure to teach elementary education is from East Carolina University.

His initiation into teaching was quite unusual. At age 22 he began substituting at "my school" for Native Americans in Hollister, N.C. A member of the Haliwa Saponi tribe, Richardson helped to establish his alma mater as a charter school.

Not surprisingly, Richardson is very comfortable with GES's broad ethnic and religious diversity. He considers it an advantage and, speaking of his own students, says that serious racial

issues "never come up." In those rare moments when non-serious issues arise, "we address it directly and move on. Usually I have a talk between two kids and me and the problem is clarified there. Rarely a parent is called in and

we have a conference."

Any discipline problems? "Again, very rarely. I have one or two frisky kids who make a little 'happy noise,' but we talk and deal with it in-house. I'm lucky that Greenbelt parents set expectations high at home, so everything goes pretty smoothly here."

Richardson's most rewarding teaching experience is "seeing student growth, seeing continuous progress, seeing them happy. It's not how much they actually learn that counts, it's how you make them feel. I don't remember who taught me long division

See RICHARDSON, page 13



PHOTO BY JIM LINK

Marson Richardson

## What Goes On

### Saturday, December 12

10 a.m. to noon, Santa's Visit, Youth Center  
3 to 4 p.m., New Deal Nut: A Greenbelt Nutcracker, Free, Community Center

### Sunday, December 13

4 p.m., Greenbelt Concert Band, Community Center, Free

### Monday, December 14

5:30 p.m., Youth Advisory Committee, Greenbelt Library  
8 p.m., City Council Meeting, Municipal Building, Public Hearing on City's acquisition of 10-A Crescent Road Live on Comcast 71, Verizon 21 and streaming at greenbeltmd.gov/municipalvtv

### Tuesday, December 15

6 to 7:30 p.m., North Pole Calling (See city ad for details.)

### Wednesday, December 16

7:30 p.m., Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting, Community Center

8 p.m., Council Worksession, Post-Election Council Goals, Community Center

### Thursday, December 17

7 p.m., Forest Preserve Advisory Board



# Letters to the Editor

## Incomplete Records For No Kill Facility

In response to an inquiry regarding the Greenbelt Animal Shelter's claim of being a No Kill facility, on April 28, 2015, City Manager Michael McLaughlin, responded that the shelter has a Live Release Rate (LRR) of 98 percent. That number was provided to McLaughlin by Celia Craze, director of Planning and Community Development, which runs the shelter. By advertising itself as a No Kill facility, the shelter garners more community support, increased donations and trust of citizens placing animals into the care of the shelter.

Under ASPCA guidelines, a "live release" includes adoptions, return-to-owner and transfers to outside agencies that guarantee adoption (see [www.aspc.org/about-us/aspc-policy-and-position-statements/position-statement-data-collection-reporting](http://www.aspc.org/about-us/aspc-policy-and-position-statements/position-statement-data-collection-reporting).) A commonly used benchmark for claiming to be No Kill is a 90 percent LRR, which allows more than sufficient room for animals who are too incurably sick, injured or aggressive to be adopted out. Following a public information request and a review of the documents provided, we calculate the shelter's LRR to be between 49 percent and 83 percent.

By way of a public information request from our attorney, we received from the city all documents showing or recording animals coming into and leaving the shelter over an 18-month period, from January 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015. Documents we received included (1) a ledger recording every animal coming into the facility and a notation of the outcome, and (2) adoption contracts with adopter information redacted.

Per the ledger, 268 domesticated animals arrived at the shelter, with 26 returns to owners, 196 adoptions and 0 transfers to no-kill rescue organizations. Total live outcomes were 222, for a Live Release Rate of 83 percent.

However, there were 196 adoption notations in the ledger but only 142 adoption contracts, which would exist for every adoption; we thus could not verify that all the adoption notations were actual adoptions, rather than false notations in the ledger. Calculating the LRR based solely on releases to owners, transfers to no-kill organizations and documented adoptions, the LRR drops to just 63 percent.

Other deficiencies were noted with a number of adoption contracts: incomplete or no descrip-

tion of the animal; lack of animal control officer signature; lack of date (to verify that the adoption relates to the period studied.) When giving the city credit only for signed and dated adoption contracts with a description of the animal, the LRR falls to 49 percent.

Additionally, through a public information request to Prince George's County, the County reported receiving 13 cats and dogs from the city during the 18-month period studied. None of these transfers were recorded in the ledger or supported by any transfer paperwork; we could not determine if these 13 animals are among those in the city ledger. The county shelter is not a No Kill shelter, and therefore transfers to the county should not be counted as live releases.

From our analysis, we reached the following conclusions: (1) the Greenbelt Animal Shelter did not support its claim of a LRR rate of 98 percent; (2) our most favorable analysis for the city found a LRR rate of just 83 percent (and 49 percent under the strictest review); and (3) the city is failing to keep sufficient records documenting the outcome of animals brought into its care and trust.

We request that the council work with McLaughlin to have the No Kill designation removed from the city's shelter and website, work toward becoming a No Kill shelter and implement adequate recordkeeping policies and practices. We encourage those in the community who want to see a No Kill shelter in Greenbelt, as we do, to attend the annual budget session this summer and demand more transparency and accountability in the operations of the animal shelter.

Brian Almquist

## For Refugees: Acceptance Is Crucial

Even before I moved here, I became a part of the Old Greenbelt community. I was immediately accepted and welcomed. So, I know Old Greenbelt's values; we welcome everyone and there are so many of us that hold these values close to our hearts. Everywhere, there are at least a few who are ruled by fear and thus speak out against the equilibrium: but I hope when the movement to create a safe place for refugees returns to the Greenbelt City Council on December 14, the City Council will take action, not only here in Greenbelt, but do whatever they can to create

See LETTERS, page 13

## Correction

In the December 3 article Greenbelters Give Thanks at Ecumenical Services, the News Review incorrectly identified Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ.

## City Notes

Animal Control staff reported three dogs were found running at large and returned to their owners, one sick raccoon was picked up, two stray cats were impounded, one bite case was investigated, two dogs and five cats were adopted, four cats were surrendered and one dead squirrel was removed.

Street Maintenance/Special Details crews installed lights on the Roosevelt Center tree, installed the red nose light on the deer sculpture on Hanover Parkway and took out a boat at Buddy Attick Park to remove trash and fishing line from the lake shore.

Horticulture/Parks crew converted a Kubota turf mower to use in snow removal operations. The mower deck was removed, and a snow plow installed with an enclosed cab, heater and snow chains.



Old Greenbelt Theatre  
129 Centerway  
301-329-2034  
[www.greenbelttheatre.org](http://www.greenbelttheatre.org)

Adults \$9  
Senior/Student \$8, Kids \$6  
Members receive a \$1 discount on all shows after 5:00 PM  
All shows before 5 PM:  
Adults \$7, Kids \$5  
OC = Open Captions  
CC = Closed Captions

## SHOWTIMES Dec 11 - Dec 17

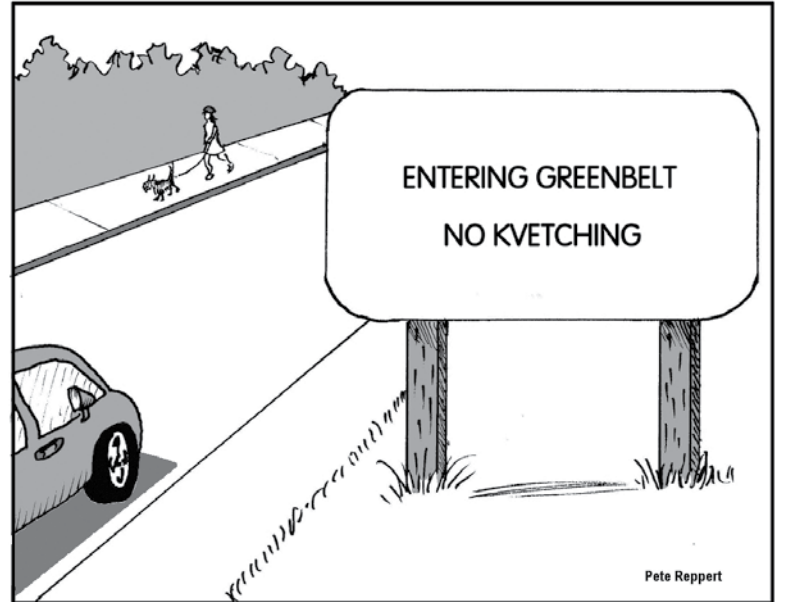
BROOKLYN (PG-13) (CC)  
(112m.)

Fri.: 5:30 PM, 8:00 PM  
Sat: 1:00 PM, 3:15 PM,  
5:30 PM 8:00 PM  
Sun: 3:15 PM (OC),  
5:30 PM, 8:00 PM  
Mon. & Tues.: 5:30 PM,  
8:00 PM  
Weds: 3:15 PM,  
5:30 PM, 8:00 PM  
Thurs: 5:30 PM, 8:00 PM

Cult Classic:  
DIE HARD (1988) (R)  
(132 m.)  
Fri. 11:00 PM

Family Series:  
ELF (2003) (PG) (97 m.)  
Sat: 11:00 AM

Holiday Series:  
THE SHOP AROUND  
THE CORNER (1940)  
(NR) (99 m.)  
Sun. 1:00 PM



Pete Reppert

## Are You Looking For Your Letter?

If you don't see it, it could be because you didn't sign it and didn't give us a telephone number where we could reach you.

All letters must be signed and the letter writer's name, address and telephone number should be typed or clearly printed.

All letters are subject to editing for reasons of space, libel, taste and clarity. Letters are considered accepted when published.

## Puppet Show In College Park

Beech Tree Puppets presents their new show, Rainbow Crow Brings Daylight, on Saturday, December 12 at 11:00 a.m. at the Christian Community Church in College Park, 4221 Metzert Road (located off Route 193). The story, adapted from two Native American Indian folktales from the Lenape and the Inuit tribes, follows Crow on his journey to the Sky Spirit as he saves the animals and travels to the Land of Daylight. Ingrid and Ole Hass, founders, delight audiences with their singing and handcrafted puppets and sets. The show is recommended for age 4 to 104; there is a suggested donation.

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and Classified Ads—8 p.m. Tuesday. Display Ads 4 p.m. Monday, 8 p.m. Tuesday if camera ready. 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—\$45/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 10 p.m.

## This week's Swifty . . .

**"Maybe if I just clear my mind, I'll remember that Freudian construct where you operate on instinct," he thought i \_ ly.**

Answer to 11-29 15 Swifty: "I'm certain you connect the black wire to the cathode," he directed p OSITIVE ly.



# Community Events

## World Climate Workshop Sunday

On Sunday, December 13 from 2 to 4 p.m., the Greenbelt Climate Action Network will host a World Climate simulation workshop in Room 202 of the Community Center.

World Climate is a role play simulation of the Paris climate negotiations, including both face-to-face interaction and computer climate modeling. Participants will play world leaders who must produce a global agreement to reduce CO2 emissions enough to limit global warming to 2C/3.6F by 2100. Developed by Climate Interactive and MIT, World Climate has been played by thousands, from middle school students to U.N. officials, in dozens of countries worldwide. Come experience what it's like to negotiate a climate deal and change the course of atmospheric history. The facilitator will be Millicent Allenby.

Allenby recently moved to Greenbelt from Montpelier, Vt. She works in higher education administration. As a facilitator, she is interested in how play and curiosity can engage people in learning.

For more information, contact Lore Rosenthal at [lore@simplicity-matters.org](mailto:lore@simplicity-matters.org) or 301-345-2234.

## Kids' Open Mic At New Deal Café

There will be a Kids' Open Mic at the New Deal Café on Sunday, December 20 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. The Open Mic takes place on the third Sunday of every month. Those aged 17 and under are invited to play a musical instrument, sing, dance, juggle, recite a poem or otherwise perform in a low-key friendly place for families.

Performers should RSVP to Rebecca Holober at [bbholober@comcast.net](mailto:bbholober@comcast.net) at least one day before the date of appearance; they may include a brief bio that will be read as the performer is introduced (where performer is from, title of songs presented, musical influences, fun facts, etc.).

## Shop with a Cop December 19

The Greenbelt Fraternal Order of Police announces its annual Shop with a Cop on Saturday, December 19 at the Target Store located in Beltway Plaza.

This program partners needy children from the community with Greenbelt police officers so children can purchase Christmas presents for themselves and family members. Each child is allotted a budget of \$100 and is accompanied by police officers to make purchases. The children are then taken to a present wrapping party where they can enjoy lunch while they wrap their gifts. The children are selected to participate through nominations by their elementary school.

The program is funded through corporate sponsorship and community donations. Donations to fund this program can be mailed to Greenbelt FOP, P.O. Box 94, Greenbelt, MD 20768 or dropped by the police station in an envelope marked Greenbelt FOP/Shop with a Cop. For further information, contact Scott Kaiser at 240-542-2135 or by email at [Skaiser@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:Skaiser@greenbeltmd.gov).

## GIVES Holds Meeting, Holiday Celebration

GIVES (Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service) will have its quarterly meeting on Saturday, December 12, at 10 a.m. in the Community Center. There will be a short meeting followed by our annual holiday celebration. Those wishing to bring a treat to share are invited to do so.

This is an excellent opportunity for Greenbelters who have heard about our program but not become members, to learn about what we do and to meet the other members. GIVES is part of the spirit of Greenbelt, in which we share our talents with one another to make living in this community even better.

The meeting and celebration offer a convivial atmosphere in which to join with friends new and old. For further information, call Jean Cook at 301-345-2597.

## Greenbelt Park Hosts December Events

The following events will take place at Greenbelt Park.

Sunday, December 13: Historic Greenbelt – The New Deal Era. Join a park ranger to learn about Greenbelt, one of the first planned cities of the New Deal Era, and the contributions that Eleanor Roosevelt made to the city. Meet at the Ranger Station at 10 a.m.

Saturday, December 19: A Winter Walk in the Woods, an interpretive walk to see winter's grip on nature. Learn of the influence of the winter season on the flora and fauna of Greenbelt Park. A short walk on the pedestrian road and Perimeter Trail will follow the presentation. Meet at the Ranger Station at 10 a.m.

Saturday, December 19: The Urban Forest Wildlife. Greenbelt Park is a home for a wide variety of animals in the midst of this urban forest. This presentation will discuss the characteristics and needs of birds and small animals. Meet at the Ranger Station Classroom at 2 p.m.

Sunday, December 20: Winter Wonderland Walk. Skip the crowded malls, enjoy some fresh air and discover the forest in winter. Meet at the Sweetgum Picnic Area at 1 p.m.

Sunday, December 27: Invasive Plant Species in Greenbelt Park. Join a park ranger on an education tour of the forest floor occupied by invasive plants that have become detrimental to the woodlands of Greenbelt. Meet the ranger at the Azalea Trail at 10 a.m.

## Concert Band Plays Holiday Concert

On Sunday, December 13 at 4 p.m., the Greenbelt Concert Band presents a Holiday Lights Concert at the Community Center.

The band, under the direction of Tom Cherrix, will perform a variety of seasonal music, including It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas, A Canadian Brass Christmas Suite, Christmas Through the Ages and A Chanukah Celebration. The band will also perform Fingal's Cave and other music, including a march by John Phillip Sousa.

Admission is free.

## 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 margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for the week of December 14 are as follows:

Monday, December 14: Pineapple juice, sloppy joes, corn, seasoned greens, wheat hamburger bun, fresh fruit.

Tuesday, December 15: All Sites Closed, Red and Gold Gala.

Wednesday, December 16: Apple juice, stuffed salmon, wild rice, steamed squash, wheat bread, diced pears.

Thursday, December 17: Grape juice, cheese omelet with cheese sauce, turkey sausage patty, O'Brien hash browns, biscuit, hot spiced fruit, raisins.

Friday, December 18: Cranberry juice, beef vegetable soup with crackers, fish sandwich, mixed green salad with French dressing, tartar sauce, fresh fruit.

## GHI Notes

Thursday, December 10, 7 p.m., Finance Committee Meeting, Board Room

Friday, December 11, noon, Office Closed (Employees holiday party). Emergency maintenance will be available.

Monday, December 14, 7 p.m., Member Outreach Committee Meeting, Board Room;

7:30 p.m., Marketing Committee Meeting, GHI Lobby

Tuesday, December 15, 7:30 p.m., Companion Animal Committee Meeting, GHI Lobby

Wednesday, December 16, 7 p.m., Woodlands Committee Meeting, Board Room

Thursday, December 17, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting, Board Room

Friday, December 18, Office Closed. For emergency maintenance service, call 301-474-6011.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.



## Mowatt UMC Hosts Christmas Cantata

On Friday, December 18 at 6:30 p.m., Mowatt's Remarkable Celebration Choir is presenting their annual Christmas Cantata. Come hear a new retelling of the Christmas story by Simone Rollings, as well as the Parable of the Birds. The choir, led by guest director James Sedares will incorporate the children of the church, many musicians and the Carillonners Chime Choir. The congregation will light candles and sing Silent Night as the evening concludes. Light refreshments will be provided. The church is located at 40 Ridge Road.

## Events at MakerSpace

MakerSpace is the best place to warm up this chilly December. Come in for fun STEAM events and community activities.

Friday, December 11 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. is the monthly Little Makers event. Pre-K kids and their families are invited to come make art for Color a Smile, an organization that sends artwork to senior citizens, deployed service members and anyone in need of a smile.

Saturday, December 12 from 10 a.m. to noon is Coder Dojo for kids, and from 12:30 to 2 p.m. is First Lego League.

Sunday, December 13 is our last Watercolors class with teaching artist Marianne Lipovsky. Those interested in participating should come by from 2 to 4 p.m. and bring a small donation to help cover supplies.

Tuesday, December 15 has Coder Dojo for kids from 7 to 8 p.m. and for adults from 8 to 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 16 has a First Lego League meeting from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and Knit (and other Fibery Pursuits) from 7 to 9 p.m. Come work on those holiday gifts — all experience levels welcome.

Thursday, December 17, the last open tutoring session of the school year is from 3 to 5:30 p.m. First Lego League will meet from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and Make-Write — the MakerSpace writers' group — will meet from 7 to 9 p.m.



**ACADEMY STADIUM THEATERS**  
6198 GREENBELT ROAD  
CENTER COURT OF BELTWAY PLAZA  
301-220-1155  
For directions visit [www.academy8theaters.com](http://www.academy8theaters.com)

R = ID Required  
(!) = No passes, (!!) = No passes weekend  
\* Not part of the morning and Tuesday discount shows

Most features are \$5.50  
all day on Tuesdays; add \$2.00 for 3-D

### Week of December 11

#### FRIDAY – SATURDAY

In the Heart of the Sea, in 3D (!)  
PG13  
1:45, 10

In the Heart of the Sea, in 2D (!)  
PG13  
11, 4:30, 7:15

The Good Dinosaur, PG  
10:50, 11:45, 1:05, 2:10, 3:20,  
4:25, 7, 9:15

Creed, PG13  
11:10, 2, 4:10, 5:35, 7:20, 8:30,  
9:30

The Peanuts Movies, G  
1:50, 4

Krampus, PG13  
11, 1:30, 4:45, 7, 10:15

The Hunger Games:  
"Mockingjay Pt. 2", PG13  
10:40, 1:40, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40

The Night Before, R  
11:10, 1:40, 4:35, 7:10, 10:05  
Spectre, PG13  
10:45, 6:30, 9:40

#### SUNDAY – WEDNESDAY

In the Heart of the Sea, in 3D (!)  
PG13  
1:45

In the Heart of the Sea, in 2D (!)  
PG13  
11, 4:30, 7:15

The Good Dinosaur, PG  
11:10, 11:45, 1:45, 2:10, 4:00,  
4:30, 6:30, 7

Creed, PG13  
11:10, 2, 4:10, 6:45, 7:20

The Peanuts Movies, G  
1:50, 4

Krampus (!) PG13  
11, 1:30, 4:45, 7

The Hunger Games:  
"Mockingjay Pt. 2", PG13  
10:40, 1:40, 4:10, 7:10

The Night Before, R  
11:10, 1:40, 4:35, 7:10  
Spectre, PG13  
10:45, 6:30

Martian PG-13 6:45

#### THURSDAY

Star Wars: The Force Awakens,  
in 3D (!) PG13  
9

Star Wars: The Force Awakens,  
in 2D, (!) PG13  
7, 7:30, 9:30, 9:55

Krampus, PG13  
11:20, 2, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45  
Creed, PG13

11:55, 1:30, 3:45, 6:40, 9:35  
The Peanuts Movies, G  
10:50, 4:10

In the Heart of the Sea, PG13  
10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7, 9:45

The Hunger Games: "Mockingjay Pt. 2", PG13  
11:55, 3:45

The Night Before, R  
11:10, 1:40, 4:10  
Spectre, PG13  
1, 6:20

The Good Dinosaur, PG  
11:10, 11:45, 2, 4:15, 5, 6:30  
Sisters, R  
7, 9:40

Utopia Film Festival Presents  
Sunday, Dec. 13th & Wednesday, Dec. 16th  
Beginning at 8 PM

"Keeper of the Kohn (2006)", "Music of the Brain (2010)", "Quest For Peace (2013)", and "Jim Morrison: Lifelong Fit (2014)"

On Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATe)  
Comcast 77 & Verizon Fios 19 Channels

## Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATe)

2nd Floor, Greenbelt Community Center, Suite 204  
[www.greenbeltaccessstv.org](http://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org) • Studio: 301-507-6581

### Free and Open to the Public

Board of Directors Meeting  
Tuesday, Dec. 15th at 7:30 PM

For the Channel schedule go to  
[www.greenbeltaccessstv.org](http://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org) and click on "Channel".



# Obituary

## Magdalene Mary Fuchs



PHOTO COURTESY OF FUCHS FAMILY

**Magdalene M. Fuchs**

Magdalene Mary Fuchs was born June 29, 1930, in Flower Hospital in New York City and died peacefully at home on November 28, 2015.

Magdalene was baptized at St. Stephen of Hungary Catholic Church (New York) on July 19, 1930, which began her lifelong commitment to God and the Catholic Church. Her strong faith was instilled by her parents Anthony and Mary Bauer.

In the fall of 1932, with the U.S. economy flailing and Mrs. Bauer getting homesick, she moved back to Hungary with Magdalene and her younger brother Lester, with Mr. Bauer joining them a short time later. In January 1937, there was brewing unrest and the Hungarian economy was dire. Mr. Bauer returned to New York in pursuit of better employment with the hope of having his family join him once he was able to afford their transit. Despite his best efforts, he was two weeks too late in obtaining the tickets and paperwork for his family as the Hungarian border was closed due to World War II. Mrs. Bauer and their four children lived in a small three room home in Mor, Hungary, with Magdalene's grandmother and aunt. Despite living in a war zone, the family remained strong in their faith that they would survive the horror and someday reunite with Mr. Bauer. Magdalene has shared stories from those difficult days – from witnessing the Germans coming in the middle of the night to take away her Jewish friend and the girl's family, to being huddled four months in the basement of a neighbor's home to protect themselves from the bombing and fighting, to getting shot by a Russian soldier.

With the war ended, the Bauer family was able to start its journey back to the United States in May 1946. On June 5, the family set sail onboard the USS Brazil from Le Havre, France. Magdalene frequently spoke of her emotional arrival on June 13 – first sighting the Statue of Liberty, then being able to finally embrace her father after more than nine years. Mr. Bauer, a talented shoemaker, owned and operated a shoe repair business on Main Street in College Point, N.Y., where the family settled.

On Saturday, January 13, 1951, Magdalene attended a dance at St. Stephen of Hungary Catholic Church. Mutual friends introduced her to a young man named Charles Fuchs. The group of friends went to a White Castle after the dance where Charles and Magdalene struck up a conversa-

tion. The following Friday they went on a double-date to the movies. By Good Friday, April 13, Charles and Magdalene were speaking of a life together and their shared interests, including how many children they would like to have. Charles thought three children would be nice, Magdalene was thinking four. They both got their wish as they eventually had seven children. Charles and Magdalene were married on October 31, 1951, and eventually settled into their home on Lakeside Drive in 1962. Mr. Fuchs died November 26, 2011, just weeks after celebrating 60 years of marriage.

Mrs. Fuchs was a dedicated employee of St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church where she performed all of the financial recordkeeping and administrative activities for the parish. After 33 years of service, she retired to serve as caretaker for her ailing husband. Shortly after Mr. Fuchs' death, she returned to the rectory and volunteered assistance almost every day up until shortly before her death. Mrs. Fuchs was also a long-time volunteer for the Republican Party and served as chief judge for a Greenbelt precinct for many years.

In addition to her love of God and family, Mrs. Fuchs enjoyed traveling, doing jigsaw and crossword puzzles and teaching her children and grandchildren how to make various Hungarian dishes.

Mrs. Fuchs is survived by her children Jackie Schweizer, Linda Gehrman, Valerie Barnett, Charles Fuchs, Janet Ellis, Mark Fuchs and Karen Brown; her four siblings Lester Bauer, Tibor Bauer, Valerie Bohlen and Steve Bauer; 17 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews and other

relatives. She was also blessed with many wonderful neighbors and friends over the years in Greenbelt.

A Mass celebrating her life was held on Monday, December 7, 2015, at St. Hugh's, followed by interment at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Silver Spring. In his eulogy Father Tappe spoke of Magdalene's decades of dedication to the Rectory of St. Hugh, to keeping an accurate financial record and to her loyalty and discretion to the priests during their time out of public view. The Ladies of Charity served luncheon in Grenoble Hall.

*Charles Fuchs*

## Remembering Gudi Mills

I have fond memories of Gudi Mills from the 1980s. I was then the first chair of the newly-established Arts Advisory Committee. I had never served on an advisory committee or board before, and while I was anxious for the committee to contribute substantially to the community, I was uncertain of how to work properly through what seemed to me to be a labyrinth of government procedures. I turned to Gudi Mills for advice, which turned out to be my best first step. With great patience and careful thoughtfulness, she guided me through the process of leading the committee. The Arts Advisory Committee accomplished a great deal in those early years, creating a city arts policy and working toward a significant arts presence in the planning of the Community Center. All along Gudi Mills was consistently helpful and reassuring. I was very grateful to her then and have never forgotten her nurturing kindness.

*Barbara Simon*

**CHRISTMAS EVE  
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE  
6:30 PM**

**Greenbelt Baptist Church**

101 Greenhill Road Greenbelt, MD 20770  
(301)474-4212 [www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)

## Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



1 Hillside (at Crescent Road)  
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings  
[www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org](http://www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org)

Sunday Worship  
10:15 a.m.

Rev. Glennyce Grindstaff, Pastor

**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 3:30-4:30 p.m.

**Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe**



Congratulations to Elsie Forbes, whose 98th birthday was celebrated on Sunday by family and friends at a combination birthday/Hanukkah gathering at the Lakewood home of her daughter Rae Brooks. Elsie was born December 7, 1917 in the



**Elsie Forbes**


the 30th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. A very large number of the congregation accepted his invitation to the luncheon in Grenoble Hall, to offer their thanks and congratulations. Father grew up in nearby Silver Spring (St. Bernadette parish). He was sent to St. Hugh's for several years in the late 1990's as an assistant, while carrying out other assignments in the Archdiocese. In 2004 he returned to St. Hugh's as pastor and has served with distinction ever since. Congratulations, Father Tappe!

To send us information for Our Neighbors, email us at [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com) or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

*Kathleen McFarland*

small town of Elgin, Nebraska, where she rode a horse to school. In her long life, she had many careers --as a legal secretary, in real estate, and even tobacco farming, always with an interest in politics as well. She lived in Greenbelt before moving to her present residence at the Patuxent Nursing Center in Laurel.

On December 6, Father Walter Tappe, pastor of St. Hugh of Grenoble Church, invited his parishioners to celebrate with him

  
**Catholic  
Community  
of Greenbelt  
MASS**  
Sundays 10 A.M.  
Municipal Building  
ALL ARE WELCOME.

## Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors  
[www.greenbeltumc.org](http://www.greenbeltumc.org) 301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor



**Worship Service 10 a.m.**  
**All are welcome Sunday Holiday Dinner 11:30am**

## 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 at 9:30 AM.  
Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.

For further information call 301 474-4223 [www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)  
Conservative and Reconstructionist

## Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi  
Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



December 13 10 a.m.

**"Love Born Again: The Truth of Dream"**

Holiday Choir Service - The PBUUC choir presents its annual Holiday Service featuring traditional French, Spanish and Bulgarian carols and a "Christmas Goes Classical" medley with an explosive ending. Don't miss the sweet collaboration with the Children' Choir on "May All Children Everywhere."



**Celebrate the Birth of Jesus Christ**  
**At Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

Christmas Eve - Dec 24th

12:15 p.m. Simple Service of Holy Communion

6:00 p.m. Festive Candlelight Service of Holy Communion  
(Brass, Choir, Nursery Provided)

Christmas Day - Dec 25th

9:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

6905 Greenbelt Rd. 301-345-5111

[www.myholycross.org](http://www.myholycross.org) (Join us on Facebook)



**At the New Deal**

Thursday, December 10, Mid-Day Melodies with Amy C Kraft from noon to 2 p.m. Open Mic hosted by James and Martha from 7 to 10 p.m.

Friday, December 11, John Guernsey plays American standards on piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Johnny Cash Tribute band, Cold Hard Cash, performs their Holiday Edition show from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 12, Bruce Krittr plays classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m., followed by Guernsey on piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Ginada Pinata offer up a blended, vibe of jazz, funk, rock and fusion from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 13, the Deaf Brunch will be held from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Snakehead Run, an acoustic blues, strings and jug band, will play 5 to 8 p.m.

Tuesday, December 15, Poetry Night Open Mic from 7 to 9 p.m.

Wednesday, December 16, the monthly Pub Quiz from 7 to 9 p.m.

Thursday, December 17, Mid-Day Melodies with Amy C Kraft from noon to 2 p.m. Open Mic hosted by Joe Harris from 7 to 10 p.m.

Friday, December 18, Guernsey plays American standards on piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The Beat Fairy offers up folk traditionals, jazz standards and whimsical originals with Malian, Ghanian and Nigerian rhythms from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 19, Bruce Krittr plays classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m., followed by Guernsey playing jazz standards on piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Full Powered Blues performs smooth Chicago-style blues with modern heart and soul from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

**At the Library**

Monday, December 14: Ballet at the Library, 4:30 p.m., for ages 12 years and younger. Connect the Dots Dance Company presents an interactive performance of excerpts from The Nutcracker. Enjoy beautiful costumes and music while exploring ballet at the library.

Monday, December 14: Teen Writers Club, 6:30 p.m., teens (13 to 18 years old). Meet other teens who share an interest in writing. Learn some tips to improve writing, try new approaches and meet authors and other experts in the publishing field.

Monday, December 14: Chinese/English Preschool Storytime, 4:30 p.m., for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 people. This bilingual storytime includes children's stories, songs, rhymes and other activities in Chinese and English.

Wednesday, December 16: Preschool Storytime, 10:15 and 11:15 a.m., for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 people.



# City Information

**GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL- REGULAR MEETING**  
Municipal Building, December 14, 2015 – 8:00 p.m.

**ORGANIZATION**

Call to Order  
Roll Call  
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag  
Consent Agenda – Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by \*] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)  
Approval of Agenda and Additions

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- Presentations  
  Council of Governments  
- Public Hearing  
  Acquisition of 10-A Crescent Road  
- 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

**LEGISLATION**

- A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of Design Services Required for the Redesign of Existing Parking Facilities and the Incorporation of Stormwater Best Management Practices at the Buddy Attick Park Parking Lot with Bradley Site Design, Inc., of Washington DC, at a Cost of \$33,700 - 2nd Reading

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- Letter to Governor Hogan – Support of Syrian Refugees  
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Federal Bureau of Investigation  
- Award of Purchase – Public Works Equipment  
- Council Reports  
- \* Appointment of Councilmembers to City Boards and Committees  
- \* Appointment of Councilmembers to Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Policy Boards and Committees  
- \* Reappointments to Advisory Groups  
- \* Reappointments to Advisory Groups  
- \* Resignation from Advisory Group

**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.*

**This holiday season, consider making a Charitable Donation to City of Greenbelt's Agency Funds**



Consider donating at this time of year to the Agency Funds, which helps our neighbors in need. Agency Funds are managed but not financed by the City. All donations to the funds are used for the listed charitable purposes.

**Donation areas include the following:**

**The Recreation Department:** funds used to support camp scholarships and special events.

**Greenbelt CARES Youth and Family Services Bureau:** the funds provide refreshments for the counseling sessions.

**The Good Samaritan Fund:** funds provide for out-of-town persons stranded in Greenbelt and monies for groceries for low income families with whom CARES is working.

**Emergency Assistance Fund:** funds assist Greenbelt residents at-risk of eviction.

**Advisory Committee on Education (ACE):** fund initiatives such as ACE scholarships.

**The Greenbelt Theater:** funds help keep the theater open.

**Spay and Neuter Clinic Agency Fund:** funds used to purchase supplies and equipment to perform cat and dog neuters at the shelter.

Checks may be made payable to the City of Greenbelt. Donors may direct their donation toward one or more of the agency funds. Donations are tax deductible and upon request a letter acknowledging your gift will be issued.

**Thank you to all residents who have contributed in years past. Happy Holidays!**

For more information on City Activities, Services and Events, visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov)  
Follow [cityofgreenbelt](https://www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt) on Facebook!  
We are also on Twitter and Instagram at [@cityofgreenbelt](https://www.instagram.com/cityofgreenbelt)

**MEETINGS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 14-18**

Monday, December 14 at 5:30pm, **YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, Greenbelt Library, 11 Crescent Road.

Monday, December 14 at 8:00pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**, Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Comcast 71, Verizon 21 and Streaming at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv)

Tuesday, December 15 at 6:00pm, **LEGISLATIVE DINNER.**

Wednesday, December 16 at 7:30pm, **PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**, Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Wednesday, December 16 at 8:00pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION re: Post Election/Council Goals**, Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Thursday, December 17 at 7:00pm, **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD**, Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. *On the agenda: Introduction of new member – Jason Martin, Discussion of Subcommittee E Project: FPAB info on the City website – Donna Hoffmeister, Trail Erosion in Area A, Discussion of possible by-law changes.*

**The schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.**

**CARES INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING**

Greenbelt CARES offers Individual Adult Counseling. Individual counseling is conducted using a Cognitive Behavioral Approach. Counselors work with clients to determine the goals of therapy, and then help clients implement strategies that improve overall functioning. Services are free of charge for Greenbelt residents, and for those in several zip codes surrounding the city. CARES currently has immediate openings for appointments.

**VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES**

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: – Advisory Committee on Education, Arts Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee and Youth Advisory Committee  
**For information call 301-474-8000.**

**UPCOMING FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS EVENTS**

**SANTA'S VISIT: Saturday, December 12, 10am-12pm Greenbelt Youth Center, 99 Centerway, For all ages. FREE!** Santa has fit time into his busy holiday schedule! All the children will receive a FREE picture with Santa.

**ELVES WORKSHOP: Saturday, December 12, 1:30pm- 3:30pm, Greenbelt Youth Center, 99 Centerway, Ages 7-12, \$5/Child, Pre-registration required. Call 301-397-2200**

Children will bake holiday cookies and make a beautiful holiday craft. Instructor: Gaye Houchens

**NORTH POLE CALLING December 15- December 17, 6-7:30pm. Ages preschool-second grade. FREE!** Santa and his helpers will make a special CALL to your home to check whether your kids are being naughty or nice. Complete the informational flier available online at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3076](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3076) and throughout city recreational facilities for your child's opportunity to chat. Return flier by 12/14 to the Greenbelt Youth Center, 99 Centerway.

**NEW DEAL NUT: A Greenbelt Nutcracker, Saturday, December 12, 3-4pm, FREE!**  
**Greenbelt Community Center Gym, 15 Crescent Rd.**  
Greenbelt Dance Studio, presents an original production inspired by holiday favorite, The Nutcracker. Set in Greenbelt past and present, the dancers ages 5 and up featuring diverse dance styles from ballet, jazz tap contemporary and more.

**GREENBELT CONCERT BAND: Holiday Lights Sunday, December 13, 4pm, FREE!**  
**Greenbelt Community Center Gym, 15 Crescent Rd.** Get into the holiday spirit and enjoy an afternoon of holiday music presented by the Greenbelt Concert Band. Under the direction of Tom Cherrix.



**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

## Welcome Syrian Refugees to Greenbelt

"The same basic choice of courage or compliance continually faces us all, whether we fear the anger of constituents, friends, a board of directors or our union, whenever we stand against the flow of opinion on strongly contested issues . . . A man does what he must, in spite of personal consequences, in spite of obstacles and dangers and pressures, and that is the basis of all human morality."

– Senator John F. Kennedy, *The Meaning of Courage*

### To the members of the Greenbelt City Council,

First, we want to thank you for accepting the request of many Greenbelt residents to make a strong statement on the issue of the resettlement of Syrian refugees, and the constructive discussion in which you all engaged when that request was presented on November 23. We requested that the City Council adopt a "resolution welcoming Syrian refugees to Greenbelt, and urging local, state and federal leaders to work together to address the current refugee crisis . . ." This action is particularly important given the actions of at least 30 governors (including Maryland Governor Larry Hogan) requesting or demanding that the federal government stop the resettlement of Syrian refugees in their respective states. An annotated draft resolution was submitted with the request, providing ample support for the position. Through the discussion in that meeting, it became clear that the Council is more inclined to take action in the form of a letter to Governor Hogan and other elected officials expressing concern about the crisis and, perhaps, disagreement with the Governor's position.

We are writing to again urge you to take a strong, formal action on this matter; whether you call it a resolution, proclamation, or declaration is immaterial, but it must be unequivocal. The Governor and other elected officials are not our audience - our audience is our neighbors in Greenbelt, Prince George's County, the State of Maryland, the United States, and the world! We are answering the question: "*who are we, as Greenbelters?*" The Council needs to speak up against fear as loudly and as forcefully as it can, and a letter asking Governor Hogan to change his mind does not do that. Make no mistake, a resolution is just the beginning. There is much work to be done providing a safe and inviting place for refugees, but we have no doubt that Greenbelters will make it happen.

We could try to convince you that strong action is justified purely because it is in our national security interest to take in refugees and include them in our communities. After all, in September, a bipartisan group of 22 national security and international relations experts urged the Obama Administration to accept 100,000 Syrian refugees, a tenfold increase over the Administration's current commitment. The group further urged the Administration "to take extraordinary measures, as were taken for refugees from Vietnam, Northern Iraq and Kosovo, to provide expedited yet secure processing measures . . ." Also, just this week, another bipartisan group of national security experts, including former Secretaries of Defense, Homeland Security, and State, as well as former National Security Advisors and Directors of the Central Intelligence Agency, expressed strong opposition to "proposals that would effectively halt the resettlement of Syrian and Iraqi refugees in the United States following the terrorist attacks in Paris." Recognizing that "[r]efugees are victims, not perpetrators, of terrorism," the group stated that "[c]ategorically refusing to take them only feeds the narrative of ISIS that there is a war between Islam and the West . . ."

Even Congressmen who voted for the recently-passed House bill effectively barring resettlement are having second thoughts: Rep. Steve Russell of Oklahoma (who voted for the House bill) asked Republicans in the Senate to think carefully before supporting the House bill, saying they should not get refugees confused with the broader issue of immigration. Russell noted that the United States has been down this road before, denying entry to Jews fleeing the Nazis during World War II. "We have had dark periods when we have done this in the past," he said. "History never judges it kindly — never."

As compelling as the case for action on national security grounds may be, it is not the reason we believe the Council must take action in the form of a resolution. Instead, making a strong statement about Greenbelt's willingness to take in those in desperate need of help, and make them a part of our community, is simply living out the Community Pledge that you approved shortly after the attacks of September 11, 2001. Speaking forcefully and unequivocally in the face of fear, and the hatred that fear breeds, is about who we are. There is a fine line between values and platitudes, and if the Community Pledge is indeed a statement of our values, then we must live it. We have provided you with a list of local jurisdictions that have adopted resolutions similar to the one you have been asked to consider, and that list is growing. You will be in very good company should you choose to join the list; just last week, Cleveland, OH, Madison, WI, East Lansing, MI, Carrboro, NC, Northampton, MA, and our neighbors in Takoma Park all adopted great resolutions.

Thanks again for your consideration of the request, and we again urge you to adopt a resolution. We are heartened by the sincere desire that some of you have expressed about the steps that we, as a community, can take beyond a "symbolic" resolution, but we continue believe that such resolution is important in its own right, and a crucial first step. Whatever action you take, we look forward to working with you to make Greenbelt as welcoming a place as it can possibly be. *That is who we are.*

### *Greenbelt Community Pledge:*

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate people of many cultures, faiths, and races living together. By sharing together all are enriched.

We pledge to foster a community which is respectful, safe, and fair for all people.

More information concerning this issue, including the petition that was presented to the City Council on November 23, can be found at: <https://www.change.org/p/greenbelt-city-council-welcome-syrian-refugees-to-greenbelt-maryland>

Sincerely,

David and Rachel Alexander  
Sister Catherine Callaghan, S.C.H.J.  
Bob and Fran Caruso  
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen  
Joan Conway  
Alicia Deligianis  
Marjory Donn  
Amethyst Dwyer and Dorian Winterfeld  
Melissa and Jeremy Ehrenreich  
Ed Fallon  
Jo-Anne Fournier  
Elizabeth Gaines and John Mason  
Marjorie Gray  
Kate Green  
Judith Hamburg  
Daniel R. Hamlin

Josh and Pam Hamlin  
Kyla Hanington  
Michael Hartman  
Theresa Henderson  
Stacy Hindalong  
Neil McConlogue  
Shirley Middleton  
Dawn Mooney  
Cynthia Newcomer  
Randy Ontiveros  
Brian Powell  
Nathan Rich  
Luisa Robles  
Kim Rush Lynch  
Ronnie Scotkin and Edward Hickey  
Marc Seiden

Kathleen Shaw  
Susan Stewart and Jonathan Gordy  
Ray and Barbara Stevens  
Gwen Vaccaro  
Marsha and Larry Voigt  
Joan Whelan  
Karen Yoho  
Jane Young and John Lippert

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



**In Memoriam**  
**Magdalene Fuchs**

The following article is excerpted from one that originally appeared in the June 19, 2003, issue of the Catholic Standard newspaper of the Archdiocese of Washington. It is reprinted with permission.

by Richard Szczepanowski

The computer Magdalene Fuchs uses in her job as bookkeeper at St. Hugh Parish in Greenbelt is a far cry from the abacus she used when she first learned mathematics from the Franciscan Sisters who taught at her Catholic school.

And, while there is a world of difference between an abacus and a computer, so too is there a world of difference between Magdalene's life today and the life she lived as a child in Nazi-occupied Hungary during World War II.

During the war years, Magdalene learned first aid and how to put on a gas mask in case of an emergency. Because paper and pencils were rationed, she would erase her schoolwork in order to use the paper again.

For about the last two years of the war, food was very scarce. "We hardly ever had meat, unless an animal was killed by a bomb," she said. Her grandparents had beehives and gave them honey. They also grew gooseberries, red currants, raspberries and strawberries.

"With no electricity most of the time, we had to use kerosene lamps," she said. "When there was local news, a drummer walked around town, then stopped at a street corner to read off the announcements."

Despite the horrors of war, there were some acts of kindness that Magdalene recalls.

"One afternoon, when the soldiers marched by our house, my sister Valerie was outside and asked for some bread," Magdalene said. "That evening, a soldier came to our house crying that Valerie reminded him of his own little girl and he wondered if his family was alive in Romania. He gave us the loaf of bread he got for the day."

Magdalene also remembers the day "the German trucks and tanks" came to town. Because her school overlooked a city square, she and her classmates watched the soldiers' arrival from their classroom.

"I had many Jewish classmates and some were good friends of mine. I'll never forget the look on their faces when we looked out the window and saw the German trucks and tanks arriving in town," she said. "One of the teachers said, 'This is the saddest day in our lives.' We all knew what it meant."

After the Nazis' arrival, Magdalene recalls visiting her Jewish friends.

"One of the girls gave me her brand new school books she had purchased for the senior year, and said, 'I will never need these.' They had to wear yellow stars all the time and no one was to talk to them," she said.

The stronger Jewish men, she said, were made to do manual labor. They would be required to dig ditches, and repair railroad tracks and other damage caused by the bombing of her city.

"They were not given uniforms, they wore their own clothes," she recalled. "My grandmother fixed breakfast for five of them and my brother and I would take it to them at the synagogue



Magdalene M. Fuchs

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CATHOLIC STANDARD

at 5 a.m., and at 6 a.m. they would be marching down the street and were made to sing derogatory songs."

On the day "what was feared came true," Magdalene said, Nazi soldiers went from house to house in Mor seeking Jews. In that sweep, she said, "185 women, children and older men were all gathered and taken to the synagogue. After they were all gathered, they were marched to the railroad station and put into cattle cars."

During the Nazi occupation, Magdalene and her eldest brother Lester were required to dig ditches and trenches. "We were watched by armed German soldiers because Russian prisoners of war were with us," she said. She remembered once she and her brother were required to dig trenches for anti-aircraft artillery in a cemetery. In order to make room for the artillery, "we were digging up skeletons of people who were buried many years before."

Because they had to do without during the war, they learned to be creative. "We watched airplanes get shot down and paratroopers bailing out," she said. "We would gather up the parachutes and use the cord for knitting or take them apart and sew with it." During the war, the Forint (Hungarian currency) was so devaluated that "people would prefer exchanging food and clothing." She said her piano lessons cost one egg per lesson.

"I'm very proud that I learned to play the piano for one egg a lesson," she said. "We could not eat too many eggs because we had to save them to have chickens. An egg was more valuable than money."

Throughout the war years, the family was unable to communicate with Anthony back in the United States. Through the Red Cross, he would send \$50 each month to his family. Magdalene and her mother would have to travel monthly to the American Consul in Budapest to collect the money. Because she was born in the United States, young Magdalene was considered an American citizen and the money would be turned over to her. Since there was no way for her to communicate with her father, the fact that Anthony received a monthly bill from the Red Cross for the money Magdalene received was how her father knew that at least some members of his family were still alive.

The darkest days of the war were also the final days of Nazi occupation of her town. The family had to go into hiding in a neighbor's basement for three months.

On Christmas Eve 1944, the town of Mor was attacked with heavy bombardment. "We took shelter in the wine cellar and stayed there full time, day and night until March 22," when the town was recaptured by Russian soldiers, she said. During their

time in the cellar, "We prayed constantly, especially the Act of Contrition. We were always ready to die. We never really thought of getting out of there alive."

For the three months the family was in the basement, the town was subjected to intense bombing and street-to-street fighting.

"Sometimes my brother would go with the priests, assisting them on their Communion calls," Magdalene said. "He would come back and tell us that the windows were broken and homes were destroyed."

While in hiding, the family would scavenge food that the German soldiers dropped when they raided farmhouse pantries. "I remember picking up lentils from the ground, washing them and eating them."

Although they thought they found security in that neighbor's basement, it was in that hiding place that Magdalene was shot by a soldier. "While the street fights were going on, a Russian soldier was shot and killed in front of our cellar," she said. "The Russians thought we had Germans inside, surrounded our cellar, fired through the window with machine guns and threw in hand grenades." Of the people hiding in the cellar, one woman was killed when her legs were blown off by a grenade, one man was hit by a bullet and some shrapnel and Magdalene was shot in the leg.

"We had a letter from the American Consul that said not to bother us because we were Americans. The Russians read the letter and left us alone," she said. After being taken out of the basement, Magdalene was brought to a makeshift clinic set up in the high school basement.

The bullet remained in her leg until a little while later when a Russian soldier came to her family's home looking for a place to stay. "He saw me lying on the couch in pain," she said. When the soldier learned that it was another Russian soldier who shot her, "he put two or three chairs together, had me lie on them, and dug the bullet out."

The bullet, she said, had chicken feathers on it because it passed through a feather bed before lodging in her leg. "I still have the bullet," Magdalene said.

After the war, Magdalene and her family were able to come to the United States to be reunited with her father. The circuitous route took five weeks.

Magdalene - who has served St. Hugh's Parish as either a secretary or bookkeeper for the past 28 years - and Charles have been married for 51 years. The couple has seven children, 17 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

"I talk about these things because I want my kids to know that it has not always been the good life we have now," Magdalene said of her willingness to talk about those bleak and scary years. "We have a very close bond in our family because we know material things could be taken away tomorrow."

Despite the experiences she endured, Magdalene maintains "I would not change one thing, because when you have sadness, you appreciate happiness and when you are poor, you appreciate money. And, besides, there were always good, good people in my life."

Richard Szczepanowski is a Greenbelt resident and a parishioner of St. Hugh of Grenoble.

**PETITIONS** continued from page 1

"We're on a dangerous road," he said, and expressed his belief that no more time should be lost by individuals and communities in standing up for their beliefs.

Hamlin tied his request to the Greenbelt Community Pledge, which he read aloud and which was quickly recognized by councilmembers as a possible unifying principle for addressing the topic in a statement from the city that would likely be in a letter form rather than a resolution, as is typically Greenbelt's practice.

Generally, there was a willingness on council's part to consider making such a statement. Mayor Emmett Jordan suggested that perhaps it should be directed to Governor Larry Hogan with copies to others. Councilmember Konrad Herling suggested it should be sent to the city's Congressional delegation as well, since the authority for acting on the matter is federal.

The Community Pledge reads as follows: "The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate people

of many cultures, faiths, and races living together. By sharing together all are enriched. We pledge to foster a community which is respectful, safe, and fair for all people."

Several people spoke in support of Hamlin's petition and urged council to take action that night, including Reverend Daniel Hamlin and Melissa Ehrenreich. A motion by Councilmember Rodney Roberts to put it on the agenda for action did not receive a second. Instead, council directed the city manager to develop a draft letter for consideration at the next meeting.

It is expected that both petitions will be on the agenda of the Monday, December 14 meeting.



**Send Holiday Greetings**

The News Review will publish holiday greetings in the December 24 issue.

**Greenbelt Arts Center**  
**DON'T MISS**

**WINNIE THE POOH**

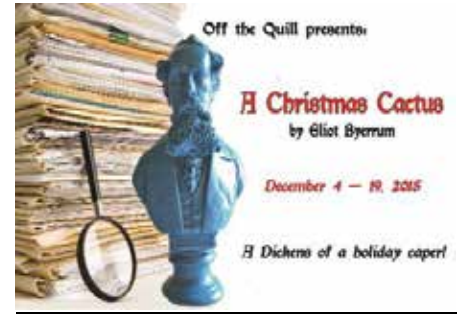


by le Clanché du Rand  
directed by Jon Gardner

**December 12, 13, 19, 20**

**Saturday and Sunday at 2:00**  
Pooh ticket prices: \$15 General Admission, \$10 Youth (12 and under with adult)

**A CHRISTMAS CACTUS**



by Eliot Byerrum

a Guest Production from Off The Quill  
**Dec 10, 11, 17, 18 & 19 at 8:00pm**

Cactus ticket prices: \$20 General Admission, \$16 Senior/Student/Military, \$12 Youth

**December 12 only:**  
**CHROMATICS CONCERT**



**December 12th at 8:00 PM**

Chromatics Tickets are \$20, \$16 for students/seniors/military, \$12 Youth

**COMING SOON**

**Zombie Prom** - January 22 - February 13 - Directed by Jeff Lezniak

For information & reservations, call 301-441-8770 or email: [info@greenbeltartscenter.org](mailto:info@greenbeltartscenter.org) or **BOOK TICKETS ONLINE** at [www.greenbeltartscenter.org](http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org)



# Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Goes Off Without a Hitch at New Venue

by Jacob Taylor

The square in Roosevelt Center filled up with over 150 people this past Friday for Greenbelt's annual Christmas tree lighting.

This is the first year that the Christmas tree lighting has been held at Roosevelt Center, according to performing arts program coordinator Chris Cherry. Past lightings have been on the lawn of the community center, where mud and water were often concerns.

Cherry said there was "lots of wonderful teamwork between Parks and Public Works."

The permanent trees in the square at Roosevelt Center were all lit with thick lines of white Christmas lights. Les Stampfer, the city electrician, said the setup is more energy efficient, despite using more lights, thanks to the lower electricity needs of new LED Christmas lights versus the incandescent bulbs used in the past. Plus, the lights were plugged into the lampposts in the square, which causes them to automatically shut off during daylight hours.

Brian Townsend, the city's horticultural supervisor, said of the Christmas tree and decorations, "It all came together real nice." He said the tree will be replanted sometime in the spring in the Greenbelt Dog Park. His hope is that it will be reused in future dog-related holiday events in the dog park.

Santa was dropped off at 7 p.m. by a blaring firetruck.

The gathered crowd swarmed around him as soon as he stepped off the truck as excited children cried, "it's Santa, it's Santa."

Mayor Emmett Jordan met Santa at the opposite end of the square where a short platform held the Greenbelt Concert Band.

When Jordan addressed the crowd, he said how wonderful he thought it was for people to be gathered here, celebrating the holidays together. "It's just a really beautiful thing," he said.

He thanked the Merchants' Association, the Public Works Department, and the Recreation and Parks Department for their work towards making the event a success.

Jordan then led the crowd in a countdown to the lighting. The



Families enjoy the annual tree lighting ceremony at Roosevelt Center on December 4, 2015.

tree lit up right as the crowd shouted "zero!"

After the lighting, Jordan said he thought it was a fantastic idea to move the event to Roosevelt Center.

Mayor Pro Tem J. Davis said she thought there was a nicely sized crowd and that she felt a lot of people had come out this year to see how the change of venue affected the event.

Volunteers from the Greenbelt Zero Waste Initiative were at the event helping make sure that trash, recyclables, and compostables were placed in their proper bins. One volunteer, Yasmeen Brooks, a resident of Laurel, said she liked the event and said, "Hopefully we'll see this in Laurel."

Susan Harris, an attendee, said, "I'm really happy it's here in Roosevelt Center." She and her friend Annie Shaw, both adults, said they were looking forward to the free showing of "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas" at the Old Greenbelt Theatre later that evening. The theater filled up quickly.

The three Miss Greenbelt winners served cookies provided by the Merchant's Association, sporting their sashes and crowns. This is the first year that the Roosevelt Center Merchants Association has been involved in the Christmas tree lighting.

Miss Greenbelt, Alisha Karley, said, "I think this is a wonderful event that brings the community together." Katherine Larkin, Little Miss Greenbelt, agreed and Junior Miss Greenbelt, Allison Beatrez, said she thought the event was very well put together.

Dan Stafford and Crystal Bergemann, both residents of College Park, were in atten-

dance with Oscar, 2, and Sam, 8 months.

Stafford thought the event was "awesome" and wondered aloud, chuckling, "why do we live in College Park?"

*Jacob Taylor is a University of Maryland graduate student writing for the News Review.*



Santa hands out candy canes at the tree lighting.

PHOTO BY BEVERLY PALAU

PHOTO BY SHARON NATOLI



Greenbelt Concert's Band brass choir provides festive music for the crowd.

PHOTO BY BEVERLY PALAU



## Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club

Democratic Club Holds Elections

Hear the latest news from County Council Member Todd Turner

Holiday Party Celebration with good conversation and delectable food

Friday, December 18, 2015, 7:30pm

Greenbriar Community Building, 7600 Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt MD

Info: (202) 321-4207 or [president@rooseveltclub.com](mailto:president@rooseveltclub.com)

[www.rooseveltclub.com](http://www.rooseveltclub.com)



## Greenbelt American Legion Post 136



In conjunction with the Marine Corps Reserve Toys For Tots Foundation announces its annual

Toys For Tots donation program

Toy collection boxes are at the American Legion Post located at

**6900 Greenbelt Road (301-807-7642)**

Please visit the Legion Post facility today and make a toy donation. Toys, intended for children up to 16 yrs, should be new and unwrapped.

You are invited to attend the "Breakfast With Santa" (See Post webpage for details) pancake breakfast Saturday, December 5 at the Greenbelt American Legion from 8 to 11 a.m. Along with your child's visit to see Santa, please bring a toy donation for Toys For Tots!

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

Warmest thoughts and Best Wishes for a wonderful Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!

Council Member  
**TODD M. TURNER**  
Prince George's County Council, District 4  
(301) 952-3094  
District4@co.pg.md.us  
[www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/district4](http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/district4)  
"Service. Community. Progress."



# Sarah Jammal Loves Her 4th Grade Math Class

by Jim Link

Sarah Jammal's 4th grade math classroom at Greenbelt Elementary School (GES) sprawls with messiness. Reeks of messiness? Is steeped in, or saturated with messiness? Choose your word but be assured it's the good kind of messiness –



Sarah Jammal

PHOTO BY JIM LINK

graders are naturally squirmy, but squirminess can be very positive," she laughs. "I'm never sitting still and don't expect them to either, for long periods. I incorporate movement into different activities. Throwing around our plastic math cube really excites me, for example."

backpacks strewn everywhere, construction paper on the floor in mid-project, tablets (iPads) askew on the desks – a cozy, comfortable, functional messiness.

While her squirmy young scholars (see below) are at P.E. class in the gym, she snatches the time to describe them to me. Her 30 charges are a mix of African-American, Hispanic, white and Asian kids, with a sprinkling of Muslims, Native Americans and special education students.

Does this human potpourri challenge her sanity? "Oh no," Jammal smiles. "I love it. There's a lot of diversity here, but no racism. The broad mix gives us different stuff to talk about; it's an advantage, actually."

"No racism?" I ask. "How about discipline? Any problems?" Jammal smiles again. "Not really, no. Movement and a little bit of noise don't bother me. 4th

She tosses a soft one-foot, number-covered cube at me. My fingers alight on a math problem: 7 X 23 = ? Each pitch and catch provides a problem for the kid teams to solve.

"It's physical and mental; they move and think, collaborate and solve. A tad noisy, but who cares?"

"Very clever," I say.

"They invented it themselves," says Jammal.

Fresh out of the University of Maryland with a Bachelor's degree in elementary education and a Master's degree in special education, Jammal is midway through her second year of teaching, both at GES. Like her students, she is ethnically mixed. "My dad is Lebanese; my mom is Irish. I guess that's why I like to travel a lot."

Indeed, her big "Meet Ms.

See JAMMAL, page 12

# Juried Craft Fair at Festival of Lights

by Hannah Klarner

The 44th Juried Craft Fair was held at the Greenbelt Community Center the weekend of December 5 to 6, welcoming over 70 crafters selling handmade goods. The craft fair brings residents together to start their holiday shopping. The craft fair is juried, so vendors must apply, present their work and be granted a position at the fair.

Vendors came from as close as Greenbelt and as far away as Pennsylvania, selling a variety of goods including pottery, knit wear, clothing, soaps, lotions, toys, stuffed animals, books and more.

This year the vendors were spread throughout four rooms on the first floor of the Community Center. Each room had multiple vendors, with tables set around the edges of the room. The main auditorium had four rows of vendors and lively background music.

Naima Dozier, owner of Fearless Threads, returned for a second year to sell her clothing and accessories. She said she liked the organization of this year's



Marguerite (left) and Tom Baker show the items they purchased at the fair.

PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG



PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG

Lola Skolnik (second from right) shows, from left, Velma Kahn, Karen Haseley, and Betty Timer her pottery work.

festival and intends to keep coming back for as long as possible.

Greenbelt Pottery Group, a collective of potters who work in the studios at the Community Center, is a mainstay of the craft fair. The group is comprised of eight different potters, including three emerging artist potters, who sell a variety of clay pottery pieces. Their work filled one of the largest booths at the fair.

Lola Skolnik, a longtime member of the group, said "We'll definitely be back," at future craft fairs. She said, "I love it, personally, because I've lived in Greenbelt for 38 years and seeing your friends and neighbors at the craft sale is really fun."

Brandi Fields of College Park came to the fair for the first time this year. She said the fair is a "great place to get some great gifts for a lot of family members."

Pauletta Riley also attended the fair for the first time this year. She purchased stuffed animals from Creative Expressions owner Loretta Waldron for her niece and granddaughter and appreciates the community nature of the event. She looks forward to coming back in the future.

Chris Casey of Greenbelt said that he always comes because, "It's absolutely fabulous and a great collection of wonderful artists." He also said he believes the festival "gets better every year."

Les and Lynn Hawkins returned to the craft fair this year after missing recent fairs. They said they came back to browse and do some holiday shopping for coworkers.

Hannah Klarner is a University of Maryland graduate student writing for the News Review.

These are just a few of the great buys you will find at Co-op this week!

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Saturday 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-4400  
Closed Sunday

Greenbelt



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Fresh Quality Meat	Farm Fresh Produce	Dairy	Frozen	Seafood
Fresh Natural Chicken Thighs or Drumsticks <b>\$1.29</b> lb.	Fresh Crisp Cut + Peeled Baby Carrots 16 oz. <b>99¢</b>	Kraft Assorted Cracker Barrel Cheese Chunk 7-8 oz. <b>\$2.50</b>	Celeste Assorted Pizza 5-6.9 oz. <b>\$1.00</b>	Fresh Catch Atlantic Salmon Fillet <b>\$7.99</b> lb.
Best Yet Whole Boneless Ham <b>\$1.99</b> lb.	Fresh Juicy Clementines 5 lb. Box <b>\$4.99</b>	Breakstone Sour Cream Assorted 16 oz. <b>\$1.50</b>	Hanover Gold-or-Silver Line Vegetables Select Varieties 8-16 oz. <b>3/\$4.00</b>	Sea Best Frozen Tilapia Fillet 1 lb. <b>\$3.49</b>
Fresh Lean Pork Center Cut Pork Chops <b>\$2.49</b> lb.	Fresh Crop Idaho Potatoes 5 lb. <b>\$1.99</b>	Pillbury Assorted Crescent or Cinnamon Rolls 8-13.9 oz. <b>\$2.00</b>	Banquet Assorted Family Size Dinners 24-28 oz. <b>\$3.00</b>	Pasteurized Jumbo Lump Crab Meat 1 lb. <b>\$11.99</b>

Grocery Bargains	
Betty Crocker Assorted Brownie - or Cake Mix 15-19.9 oz. <b>\$1.00</b>	Betty Crocker Assorted Specialty Potato Side Dishes 3.7-5.1 oz. <b>\$1.00</b>
Gold Medal All Purpose Flour 5 lb. <b>\$2.00</b>	Del Grosso Spaghetti Sauces Assorted 24 oz. <b>\$1.25</b>



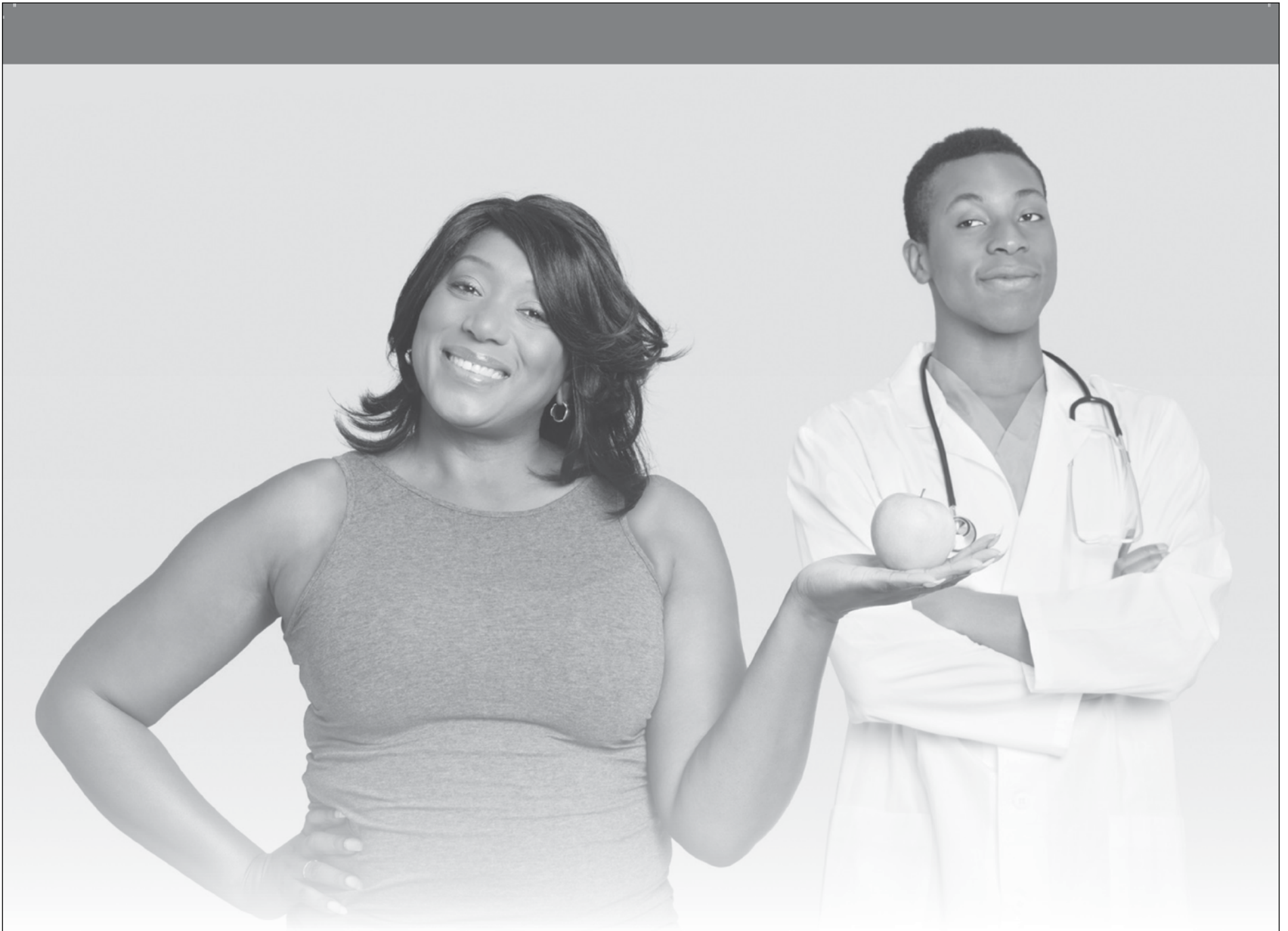
Grocery Bargains	
Progresso Traditional Soups Select Varieties 18-19 oz. <b>\$1.25</b>	Domino Granulated Sugar 4 lb. <b>\$2.00</b>
Best Yet Assorted Pineapple 20 oz. <b>\$1.25</b>	Maier's Sliced Italian Bread 20 oz. <b>BUY ONE GET ONE FREE</b>

Deli	Bakery	Hot Food Deli	Natural & Gourmet	Beer & Wine
Smithfield Canadian Maple Ham <b>\$3.99</b> lb.	Fresh Store Baked Raisin Bread Loaf <b>\$2.99</b>	Fresh Cooked Instore Steamed Shrimp <b>\$8.99</b> lb.	Heartland Granola Assorted 16 oz. <b>\$2.99</b>	National Bohemian Beer 6 pk.-12 oz. cans <b>\$4.69</b>
Cooper C.V. Sharp Cheese <b>\$5.99</b> lb.	Fresh Large Pumpkin - or - Apple Pie 10 Inch <b>\$5.99</b>	Grab + Go Macaroni + Beef <b>\$5.99</b> lb.	Orrington Farms Gourmet Soup Broth Base Assorted 12 oz. <b>\$2.99</b>	Smoking Loon Wines 750 ML <b>\$7.99</b>

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Lanham, Maryland 20706



# Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, [www.greenbeltmd.gov/police](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police)  
 Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

## Robbery

November 27, 4:30 p.m., 6900 block Hanover Parkway. Two men at Schrom Hills Park approached another man, who, as he tried to walk away, was struck from behind and fell. The men then tried to take his backpack and threatened him with a knife. When the man took out his own knife, the two men fled on foot. The injured man refused treatment for a minor injury.

## DWI/DUI

November 27, 11:34 a.m., 6000 block Springhill Drive. A 41-year-old resident was arrested and charged with alcohol- and other traffic-related charges during the investigation of a person acting suspiciously. He was released on citations pending trial.

## Indecent Exposure

November 25, 4:15 p.m., 500 block Crescent Road. A woman reading in her vehicle at Buddy Attick Park looked up and saw a man expose himself and then flee on foot. He is described as black, 50 to 60 years old, 5'7" tall, 150 pounds, wearing black pants, a red jacket with the letter H printed on a sleeve and white patches on the elbow areas.

## Reckless Endangerment

November 30, 3:30 p.m., 8100 block Mandan Road. A man came home and saw what he believed to be a bullet hole in his living room wall. Investigation revealed that a neighbor accidentally discharged his gun while cleaning it and was afraid to contact police.

## Counterfeit Money

December 2, 5:31 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive. A pizza delivery person took an order to an apartment building, where the person ordering met him in the hallway and paid for the food with what later turned out to be a counterfeit bill.

## Theft

November 25, 6 p.m., 200 block Lakeside Drive. A parcel package was taken from the front

stoop of a residence.

November 30, 5 p.m., 200 block Lakeside Drive. Parcel packages were taken from the front stoop of a residence.

December 2, 11 a.m., 100 block Westway. A parcel package was taken from the front stoop of a residence.

## Burglary

November 26, 8:30 p.m., 16 Court Ridge Road. A backpack, wallet, credit cards, jewelry and keys were taken from a residence, with entry gained by way of a possibly unsecured sliding glass door.

November 29, 9:30 p.m., 7 Court Ridge Road. Two laptop computers were taken from a residence. Entry was gained through a possibly unlocked door.

December 2, 10:12 a.m., 100 block Westway. A man inside his residence heard the sound of breaking glass and discovered that a bedroom window had been broken in an attempt to enter the home. Entry was not gained.

December 2, 3 p.m., 6900 block Hanover Parkway. A vacant residence was entered after breaking the lock assembly.

## Vehicle Crime

Two thefts from vehicles were reported, in the 7800 block Hanover Parkway (four tires and rims) and 6200 block Breezewood Drive (front tag).

An attempted theft from auto occurred in the 6000 block Springhill Drive, where an unlocked vehicle was entered and rummaged through. Nothing was taken.

Vandals spray painted two cars, one in the 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace (hood) and the other in the 6100 block Breezewood Court (hatchback area).



## Democratic Club Holds Elections, Holiday Party

by Konrad Herling

On Friday, December 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Greenbriar Community Center, the place to be for fun, food and elections will be with the Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club. The club will elect its new board members, who will then be sworn in by our County Council member, Todd Turner. Donations will be collected for the Greenbelt Emergency Relief Fund to assist Greenbelt residents who need financial assistance for basic living expenses. Afterwards, members and guests will celebrate with food, drink and conversation.

During the last couple of years, the club has featured a number of interesting programs, ranging from income inequality, featuring Robert Reich's film *Inequality for All* (co-sponsored with Reel and Meal), to the effects of coal power plants (co-sponsored with the Sierra Club), to the challenges facing Planned Parenthood. Last year, the club held a forum featuring two of the state Democratic Party lieutenant

gubernatorial candidates: Rev. Delman Coates, who was running with Delegate Heather Mizeur, and Ken Ullman, former Howard County Executive, who was running with former Lt. Governor Anthony Brown.

The club, which began in the mid-1970s, raises funds to help party candidates in their respective campaigns; informs area residents about a broad range of issues including education, public health, the environment, public safety and foreign policy; and raises money to help the Greenbelt Emergency Relief Fund. It also is a great way to meet new friends and continue long-held friendships with folks from the greater Greenbelt area.

The club is a volunteer organization. Consistent with the volunteer effort, feel free to bring a treat or two to share. For more information about the December 18 event or how to help the club, call the club's president Nicole Williams at 202-321-4207.

# Officer Steven Keller to Retire After 30 Years with Police Dept.

by Jacob Taylor

Most of the people Officer Steven Keller worked with when he first joined the Greenbelt Police have already retired or otherwise left the department. He describes himself as "one of the last holdouts."

"Many of our new officers weren't even born when I was in the police academy," he said.

Keller worked a number of jobs before he became a police officer: he was an emergency medical technician, a volunteer fireman and a security guard. One weekend, a friend convinced him to come along on a backpacking trip where he took his first serious outdoor photos. Not too much later, he was making money as a wedding and portrait photographer and had created a small, personal business called Keller Photography.

Keller is a life-long resident of Prince Georges County. He joined the Prince George's Police Department in January of 1986 and graduated from the Howard County Police Academy in the summer of the same year. Keller said he still thinks it's odd that officers can join the police force before they go to the police academy. "Who would want someone on the street who's never been trained?" he said. By 1987, he had turned his passion for photography onto his job and began taking pictures for the police.

He became an evidence technician in 1988 and single handedly ran an evidence lab starting



Officer Steven Keller and friend.

in 1990 when the Greenbelt Police moved to their new building.

He said that the changes that have occurred in evidence technology since he first got started, especially with regard to photography, have been "huge, astounding."

As his skill improved over the years, passing those skills onto others became a new passion for Keller.

He became an instructor with the Maryland Police Correctional Training Commission, where he taught crime scene processing, forensic photography, fingerprint processing and forensic digital imaging. He later taught firearms courses as well, which he said he may have enjoyed most of all. "I wish I'd jumped into firearms earlier," he said.

He also taught courses in fo-

rensic photography, crime scene investigation, latent fingerprint processing and DNA identification as an adjunct professor at Prince Georges Community College.

In 1999, the federal government asked Keller to travel to Bosnia for a few weeks to train local police forces in modern investigative techniques.

After a 30-year career, Keller said his biggest regret was that he didn't become involved in teaching sooner.

Sergeant Robert Lauer, a former squad member of Keller's, said Keller "always had a good attitude." Lauer also said that, as an evidence technician, Keller always seemed to seize any opportunity to teach his fellow officers something new. He said Keller took a genuine interest in constantly improving the department.

In retirement, Keller hopes to visit his daughter and grandchildren in Texas more, do lots of camping and see as many national parks as possible. He thinks he might buy a new camper to facilitate his travel. When asked if he planned to continue working, he said, "I might look for a part-time job or something, you know, something to pay for gas money." Who knows, perhaps something else he wished he'd had a go at earlier.

Jacob Taylor is a University of Maryland graduate student writing for the News Review.

## Patuxent Refuge In December

Stop by the Visitor Center to see the Hollingsworth Art Gallery's artists. December features artist Gloria Hynes. For more information about the Hollingsworth Art Gallery artists, visit [fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent/visit/gallery.html](http://fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent/visit/gallery.html).

Hunting is now in session and may be occurring in various areas throughout the refuge through January 31. Make sure to stay on marked trails at all times and find out about closed areas when visiting.

Patuxent Research Refuge will observe the following closures:

Thursday, December 24, the North Tract closes at noon (building and grounds) and the National Wildlife Visitor Center will be closed all day per the normal Thursday closure (grounds remain open until sunset).

Friday, December 25, North Tract and Visitor Center closed (buildings and trails).

Thursday, December 31, the North Tract closes at noon (building and grounds) and the National Wildlife Visitor Center will be closed all day per normal Thursday closure (grounds remain open until sunset).

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 301-681-6636  
 No special equipment needed



## Holiday Tours At Montpelier

Montpelier Mansion will hold Holiday Candlelight tours through Thursday, December 31 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. (closed Wednesdays and December 25). See Montpelier dressed up for the holidays on self-guided tours. Rooms are decorated in traditional style by local garden clubs. There is a nominal fee for this event for all ages. No reservations are required and refreshments will be served.

The mansion is located at 9650 Muirkirk Road (Muirkirk Road at Route 197) in Laurel. For more information call 301-377-7817, TTY 301-699-2544 or visit [pgparks.com](http://pgparks.com).

## New Carrollton Library To Close

On Monday, December 28 the New Carrollton Branch of the Prince George's County Memorial Library System, located at 7414 Riverdale Road, will close for renovations. The renovations will take approximately 18 months, during which time the interior of the building will be completely gutted and renovated. Exterior site work will also be done during the renovation period.

Patrons are encouraged to use other nearby branches during the renovations, including Greenbelt; Hyattsville, 6530 Adelphi Road; and Bladensburg, 4820 Annapolis Road.

**GIVE BLOOD  
 GIVE LIFE**

## Old Maryland Farm Has Holiday Hayrides

Old Maryland Farm is offering Holiday Hayrides through the Winter Festival of Lights on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays in December. There is a nominal fee and the hayride is not available on Christmas Day. The Old Maryland Farm is located at 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro. For more information, visit [pgparks.com](http://pgparks.com).

## Donate Blood During This Holiday Season

The American Red Cross is asking eligible donors to make sure a blood or platelet donation – the gift of life – is first on their holiday to-do list. To make an appointment, download the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Donors can use RapidPass to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, from a computer or laptop. Visit [redcrossblood.org/RapidPass](http://redcrossblood.org/RapidPass) to get started.

A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are at least 17 years of age (16 with parental consent in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

For more information, please visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) or visit Twitter at @RedCross.



# Council Explores Rules, Petitions and Procedures

by James Giese

What was scheduled to be a quick review of Greenbelt City Council Standing Rules at the beginning of a new council term for the December 2 city council worksession became a full evening discussion when council discussed handling of a citizen petition regarding welcoming Syrian refugees that had been presented at its November 23 regular meeting. That petition will be on the agenda again for the council's next meeting on December 14.

After extensive discussion on two particular aspects of the standing rules, petitions and requests procedures and resolutions, council requested the city manager and city solicitor prepare new language to better define the differences between ordinances, resolutions, letters and proclamations.

Other unrelated rules were also considered for change at the meeting and a second worksession item relating to council goals was deferred to a December 16 worksession.

## Petitions

The rules provide that petitions can be made either in writing addressed to the mayor or to council and listed on the agenda under petitions and requests and first considered by council followed by any petition made by a person in the audience. The rules limit the presentation to one spokesperson within a time of five minutes. Others present for the petition are to be recognized only for purposes of clarification of the petition. Petitions shall not be considered for discussion by council at time of presentation.

Following presentation, council can refer the matter to the city staff for handling, refer to city staff or an advisory board for investigation, evaluation and report at a future meeting, add to the agenda of a subsequent meeting or by adopted motion or place on the agenda for the current meeting. As a practice, unless there are special reasons of urgency, council does not act on petitions at the same meeting, giving notice of the matter instead so that all sides of an issue may be present and comment at the meeting at which the matter is put on the agenda.

At the November meeting, more than one person was permitted to speak on behalf of the petition and the petitioners strongly urged council to take immediate action.

## Concerns

Councilmember Silke Pope raised concerns as to the appropriateness of the petition subject for council action, noting that council was a non-partisan body. "We need to be cautious in pushing our political beliefs in our meetings," Pope said. Councilmember Edward Putens noted that for years and years, council has avoided getting into state and federal issues, the exception being matters of financial concern to the city. However, he admitted that council had strayed from time to time, but should come back in line.

In agreeing, Mayor Emmett Jordan said that was something the council needed to clarify for people to understand.

Rodney Roberts took exception, asking "What is it you're asking us not to do? We should do more proclamations; we can do better than a letter." Later he

declared, "All politics is local. We need to be willing to take leadership and participate when we support an issue."

Councilmember Konrad Herling asked, "When we get issues outside the city, should we stay silent? When Fair Housing got passed, should we have stayed silent?"

Jordan responded, "I think you can write a letter as a city councilmember, but not take council action."

Councilmember Leta Mach said it was difficult to say what council could and couldn't do. "I don't have a problem with someone who wants a letter."

## Difference?

Councilmember Judith Davis asked, "What does a resolution do?"

City Solicitor John Shay said a resolution establishes a policy, may establish a rule or express an opinion. It doesn't become the law of the land.

City Manager Michael McLaughlin noted that the city charter requires a resolution to transfer funds, but an ordinance to increase appropriations. "There are times when council needs to do a resolution to express participation in a grant program, but, in general, we do letters expressing council's will. Shay said that in a letter you are freer as to a subject. Jordan suggested that staff needed to make a job in better prescribing when to do a proclamation and when to do a letter. Roberts agreed that was needed and the public should be made aware of it.

## Submissions

Davis raised an issue of residents making requests of individual councilmembers and expecting the request to be automatically placed on the agenda. She noted a petition is to be addressed to the council. While a person could do so by email, she felt it important to address it to all councilmembers. This is best done by submitting the request to the city clerk but addressed to the city council. Davis noted that someone had become upset that a request made to a councilmember had not come up at the meeting. In that case, Davis noted, the petitioner was at the council meeting but did not ask for recognition when McLaughlin opened the agenda item for petitions and requests.

Putens felt that a petitioner ought to present the petition in person. McLaughlin said that all persons submitting petitions or requests were advised to come to the meeting at which it would be presented, but that some petitioners were unable to attend. Putens felt there needed to be a good reason for a request not to be held up until the petitioner could attend the meeting.

Pope raised the issue of limiting those who spoke for a petition as the rules require. "We must be more formalized," she said.

Jordan said that if there was not a problem, he was willing to let others speak. "Should we not do that?" he asked.

"Could we require all to come up together?" Davis asked.

But Councilmember Leta Mach said, "If you have more than one, even if they say the same thing, you should let them speak. That's the democratic process."

Konrad Herling said that he had often been a petitioner before election to council and that he appreciated the ability to express ideas.

Putens disagreed. A petition is not an agenda item subject to deliberation. "When it becomes an agenda item, then all should speak. When it is on the agenda, then all sides can be heard. We have to get down to the business of the city."

Davis agreed that the best time to speak on a petition was when it has been placed on the agenda. When a petition is presented, she thought the audience could be asked if there were other supporters present, but the best time was when it became an agenda item. To this Mach agreed.

Pope said that if five people came up and said the same thing over and over again that was a problem. "We need to be fair to everyone."

Putens suggested that if it was known someone was coming, the petitioner should receive information on the standing rules. "There are exceptions, but 98% of the time it should be followed," he concluded.

Davis noted that the College Park council allows people to speak only at the end of the meeting and for that they needed to first sign up to do it. Shay said some municipalities request those wishing to speak to sign up at the beginning of the meeting, but generally the councils still ask for comment.

## Other Rules

Mach raised the possibility of a councilmember participating in a meeting by telephone. Shay said that there was an adjudicated case upholding participation by telephone.

Roberts thought it was a bad idea. But Mach asked, "Why not?" She thought it could be a solution when a super-majority was needed to take action. Pope agreed.

Putens said he was aware of more and more participation via telephones. "You'll have to get used to it," he said, but advocated such practice only in extenuating circumstances.

Davis suggested it be done only upon the approval of a majority of council.

Davis wondered if language requiring the attendance of all members at meetings should be extended to work sessions. McLaughlin advised that work sessions were committee-of-the-whole meetings and council could take no actions at them.

Davis said a rule was needed to the effect that a silent vote was an affirmative vote and Putens and Pope agreed. Roberts said that when he voted no, he spoke out extra loud. A silence differs from an abstention in which a councilmember declares not to vote for an acceptable reason.

## Council Reports

Councilmembers, and most particularly Davis and Mach, give reports at meetings of non-city meetings and activities they have attended and information of interest to council gained therefrom. Council had decided to hold off making these reports to Monday worksessions, which are televised.

Mach said she didn't like this new procedure and advocated doing reports at the end of regular

meetings if it was before 10:30 p.m. Jordan suggested 10 p.m.

Davis said she preferred doing her reports on television so the public could gain the information as well.

Jordan didn't want to allocate set time to do this at meetings. He also thought there needed to be more balance among the council as to the extent of reporting.

Herling thought it was important to report on councilmembers attending conferences and what they had learned. He suggested special Monday worksessions to do this.

Pope felt that there should be two items, one for reports on such things as attending conferences and one for activities, such as attending a citizen function. Roberts said there was not a need for both. He requested that reports not list those councilmembers in attendance and those who were not. "Some people have to work," he added.

## JAMMAL continued from page 9

Jammal" display on the wall shows her frolicking with friends in exotic places all over the world. I see her in an Irish pub – a real one, in Ireland, not Washington, D.C. – on St. Patrick's Day in 2012, during her junior year in college. In 2015 she was in Budapest, Hungary and in Orlando, Fla., at Disneyworld. "That's my favorite," Jammal says, pointing to herself in Harry Potter World. Appropriately, she visited Disneyworld in 4th grade.

When I ask Jammal if she has sampled Chef Karim's excellent Lebanese food at the New Deal Café, she laughs. "Not yet. I'll have to take my dad there, but I know he'll say it can't be as good as his mom's."

## Biggest Thrill

Jammal claims that her biggest thrill, the greatest satisfaction that teaching gives is watching student attitudes improve as they master skills. "It's beautiful to see a student realize that 'I can do it!' When that light bulb goes on, I feel great!"

After she described her long day - arrival around 7:30 a.m. after a commute from Arlington, a half-hour lunch at 12:30 p.m., heading home at 3:45 p.m., but maybe as late as 7 p.m., I asked her what frustrates her most about teaching. Excessive paperwork? Lousy salary?

## Holiday Tips For Pet Owners

Don't give dogs bones from holiday turkey or ham and avoid feeding table scraps.

Seal garbage bags and place them in a tightly covered container to prevent pets from getting into them.

Onions, garlic, chocolate, raisins, grapes, macadamia nuts and raw or undercooked food can create major problems for pets. Be especially vigilant about xylitol, a sweetener found in sugar-free gums and candies. The substance, which is extremely toxic to pets, is also used for baking and can even be found in some brands of peanut butter. If a pet has ingested xylitol, get to an emergency animal hospital as quickly as possible.

Try to keep pets inside and ensure that ID tags and microchip information are up to date.

If a cat or dog starts showing signs of illness or distress, take it to a veterinarian or an emergency animal hospital right away.

Pausing thoughtfully, Jammal said, "If I'm being honest, I would have to say that it's not exactly that teachers don't get much respect, but that people often assume that it's the teacher's fault if a situation gets out of hand. They assume the teacher did something wrong, not the kid."

After another pause, Jammal adds, smiling, "But that never happens here, because I'm mobile and they're squirmy, so that's a good fit."

I asked this young, idealistic, already excellent teacher when she knew she wanted to teach. "I can pinpoint the exact time, actually. All during my 5th grade I was lucky to have an inspiring reading and science teacher, Mrs. McPhaul. She made everything exciting and interesting. Mrs. McPhaul was the best teacher I've ever had, even through high school and college. Fifth grade was a magical time. I knew I wanted to do this, to make kids feel the way I do."

Lucky kids!



## Send Holiday Greetings

The News Review will publish holiday greetings in the December 24 issue.



## GUTTER CLEANING

DCG Cleaning & Gilbert Construction are performing GHI's fall gutter cleaning and inspections.

The week beginning December 14<sup>th</sup>, work will be in this approximate area (weather permitting):

**Hillside Courts 2-8; Northway Courts 1, 2, & 135; Plateau Place Courts 1-12; & Ridge Courts 51-54**

During that time, workers will be on ladders around buildings. Please close your window shades to preserve your privacy.

You may contact Peter Joseph at (301) 474-4161 ext. 141 if you have any questions or comments.



# Letters continued

legislation and urge the Senate and House to create legislation, that will help more refugees be relocated to Greenbelt and the United States. This leadership will set precedence for the movement that follows that will help prevent discrimination and promote justice in Greenbelt and all throughout the United States of America.

This is an issue that Greenbelt cares about, which is shown by the signatures on the petition circulating and the passion spoken at the last council meeting. How many friends, family, those you hold most dear would be here today, if America had not welcomed them into its arms? Imagine life without those people and realize that you and those close to you may not even have been born if our ancestors had not been able come to the United States. Let us be our name. Let us be united in the idea that we are all neighbors, we must let our hearts and minds work together to be people that our ancestors would be proud of and let Greenbelt pave the way.

*Alicia Deligianis*

## I'm Overwhelmed!

I wish to thank those friends and neighbors who attended Mishkan Torah's celebration party of my 80th birthday and also those who voluntarily contributed something to Mishkan Torah in my honor. When I heard a vague description of what was being planned, I had no concept of how many people would attend the party. I knew of the plans that were made, but I had no concept of the numbers and nobody informed me of those numbers before I arrived at the party. I expected 25 to 30 people would attend, and found out that there were over 100 people there!

I also want to thank those people who made the party possible. It is the coming together of the various groups of people in Greenbelt that makes this city so special. That is why our family made the decision many years ago to remain in Greenbelt. I thank the City Council of Greenbelt for the special citation and I appreciate receiving my "golden hammer".

*Jordan Choper*

## RICHARDSON continued from page 1

or how to write a complete sentence, but I remember who made me feel comfortable and valued." Who did that for you?

"Mr. Johnson, my 7th grade writing teacher. I wrote stories and showed them to him. They weren't officially assigned, but he took them home and put positive comments on them! He took his own time to encourage me; I've always been grateful."

Is there a downside to teaching?

"Well, in Greenbelt teachers are well-respected, but nationwide, not so much. Like doctors and attorneys we are trained and credentialed; everyone remembers teachers, but only with the same eyes they had as kids."

A lingering student was chalking "MARSON RICHARDSON" on the board and I asked why. Mr. Richardson shrugged as the

student chalked his own first name - ADEAPO - next to his teacher's. "I take it as a compliment."

I gave Richardson a compliment of my own. I told him that when I mentioned to Sarah Jammal that I was going to interview him, she said "Oh, he's fabulous!"

He laughed, "Oh, Sarah's way more fabulous than I!"

Apparently Richardson practices the motto he has on the classroom bulletin board: "Kind words are the music of the world."



## AARP Maryland Consumer Tips

As part of our ongoing effort to ensure the comfort and safety of the 50 plus community, AARP Maryland would like to share monthly consumer education tips from our volunteer Fraud Watch

### Common charity scams

Americans are generous people, donating at least \$358 billion to charities last year. As the tax year winds down, many of us are inundated with appeals for assistance. Unfortunately, the latest AARP research finds that some charities are not who or what they claim to be. AARP Maryland urges consumers to take some time and do their homework. Here are four things to know:

- If the appeal is an inbound call to your home, do not provide your credit card or bank information over the phone. A legitimate charity will be happy to follow up with additional information and a way to pay by mail or online. If they hesitate, hang up.

- Go online for a free background report from Charity Navigator, CharityWatch and the Wise Giving Alliance. This trio of major charity watchdogs rates charities on factors such as how they spend money and steps they take to protect donor privacy. (Each uses somewhat different criteria, so check short-listed charities with at least two, if not all three, watchdogs.)

- Bigger is not always better. In general the highest-rated charities spend at least 75 percent of donations on program activities; fundraising efforts and administrative costs shouldn't exceed 35 percent.

- If you suspect a scam, contact the AARP Fraud Watch Network at [www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork).

## A Review

# Miracles and Mystery

by Jim Link

The basics: A Christmas Cactus is a smart, funny, merry, manic mystery set entirely in the office of Private Investigator Cactus O'Riley – pretty but prickly – and her male secretary Fred, on Christmas Eve.

Two escaped convicts burst into the office, demanding that Cactus and Fred prove their innocence — no peaceful Christmas Eve this year!

Literally under the gun, they placate (somewhat) the convicts Smedley and Ramirez by re-examining the case files, and by lying to unexpected visitors Adelaide (Fred's mom) and Stuart (Deputy DA) about the convicts' identities.

Desperately, hilariously pretending to be playing a game — think Clue — Cactus and Fred enlist the help of Adelaide and Stuart to investigate the criminal cases.

Blithely unaware at first of the real and present danger, Adelaide and Stuart are delighted to help.

But if the convicts are innocent, who framed them?

The plot complexifies beautifully when Cactus's considerable powers of ratiocination turn the play into a virtual locked room mystery, making everyone a plausible suspect!

To discover the miraculous denouement, go see this wonderful Off the Quill production.

Fleshing out the basics, or, praising the talent: Shannon Riley has the smarts, moxie and beauty to play Cactus. If she weren't a detective she could be a film noir "dame" and is quite proudly "a woman dick."

Donald Cook is hilariously

convincing as the frenzied, gun-toting convict Neville P. Smedley, whiny and forceful by turns. Marlowe J. Vilchez plays his much calmer, reasonable, plaintive sidekick Ramon Ramirez, an illegal immigrant who is a Charles Dickens scholar with a pregnant wife. The two convicts are great foils for each other.

Thomas Stratton is excellent as the wry, cynical henpecked son of Adelaide who gets progressively drunker but more committed to solving the mysteries as the evening plunges on. Part of the investigative ruse is that the "game" is a Christmas party entertainment. Booze helps plenty.

J. Peter Langsdorf is the smooth, handsome, confident Deputy DA Stuart Windsor, who participates in the "game" in order to melt Cactus's resistance to his increasingly drunken overtures. He tumbles drunk into her office with true Off the Quill acrobatic verisimilitude.

Last but hardly least is the superb Katie Wanschura as the domineering, wifty, flirty, garish, audacious Adelaide. Flaunting her leopard skin cape and black leotards, she comes on to the baffled (and delighted) convict Smedley with coy aggression.

Only the brilliance of the five other actors prevents Wanschura from stealing the show.

Director Leanne Dinverno has Wanschura as her assistant director and Patrick Mullen as producer — this excellent trio has created an enchanting, miracle-filled Christmas mystery/comedy.

See it at the Greenbelt Arts Center at 8 p.m. on December 10, 11, 17, 18 and 19.



### PRELIMINARY AGENDA

## GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Thursday, December 17, 2015

GHI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 7:30 PM

### GHI Key Agenda Items:

- Marketing Committee Report
- 2016 GHI Budget Expenditure Authorization, 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading
- Contract for Employee Life and Disability Insurance Benefits, 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading
- 2016 Property and Business Owner's Insurance Policy Renewal, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading
- City of Greenbelt's Interest in Purchasing the Right of Perpetual Use of 10A Crescent Road
- Request from the Member of 4K Gardenway to Purchase an Adjacent Boiler Room
- Request from the Member of 6G Research Road to Retain an Existing Serviceside Entry Door
- Review Draft Agreements between GHI and Members re: Fee Deferrals and Financing of Optional Improvements

Regular Board meetings are open to Members.

For more information, visit our website: [www.ghi.coop](http://www.ghi.coop)



To request a sign language interpreter for this meeting, go to <http://www.ghi.coop/content/interpreter-request-form>, or go to the GHI Office (One Hamilton Place) or contact us by phone (301-474-4161) or fax (301-474-4006).



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**GHI Townhome** - 2 BR Unit near USDA with washer and dryer on top floor. Fenced backyard with wood deck and large shed. Remodeled kitchen & bath. **SOLD**

**Townhome on Corner Lot** - 2 BR GHI end unit with fenced yard, shed and corner lot. Hardwood floors, remodeled kitchen and bath. Nice! **SOLD**

**3 Bedroom GHI Townhome** - Backyard with covered porch that backs onto large, mature trees. Hardwood dining area - extra window. Dishwasher, too! **SOLD**

**Corner Lot** - 2 Bedrooms with large fenced yard and deck. New flooring and fresh paint throughout. Modern kitchen and granite counters. Very Nice!

**Screened Porch** - 2BR Townhome with fenced, corner lot that backs to protected woodlands. Butterfly, vegetable and perennial gardens. Peaceful...

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**Columbia** - 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA Remodeled townhome with maple floors. Front & rear decks. Covered parking in front. More than \$50K in modern renovations.

**Two Bedroom GHI Townhome** - Completely remodeled with new kitchen and bathroom. Refinished hardwood floors. Like new inside! Wide floorplan.

**Priced To Sell** - 2 BR townhome within walking distance to center. Sound-proofing on the exterior walls. Fenced backyard & shed. \$104,900 **SOLD**

**Brick Townhome** - Large Floorplan 3 B4. GHI with extra storage on main level. Large fenced backyard. Walking distance to Roosevelt Center. Roomy!

**GHI 2 Bedroom Townhome** - Ceramic tiled bathroom floor & tub area, double sink in kitchen. Fenced front & back yds. Adjacent to protected woodlands.

**Brick Townhome - Extra Half-Bath** - 2 BR unit with 11'x17' MBR. Luxury replacement windows. Remodeled kitchen. Beautiful setting. \$155,000

**2 BR Frame Unit - Corner Lot** - Completely remodeled by GHI. Fresh paint, new carpet and refinished floors. Modern kitchen with new appliances. Nice!

**Priced To Sell** - 2 Bedroom GHI townhome with remodeled kitchen - New appliances & more. Opened floorplan on main lev. Hardwood Flrs. \$109,900

**Block Townhome** - 2 bedroom townhome with hardwood floors. Modern kitchen. Located in Roosevelt Center. Priced to sell at \$147,000. **SOLD**

**Remodeled Townhome** - 2 BR GHI home with French doors opening onto brick patio. Large covered porch with shed. Upgraded lighting & more. **UNDER CONTRACT**

**Brick Townhome - Corner Lot** - Fireplace, hardwood floors, hardwood flooring, vinyl, and granite. Energy sav. appliances, fresh paint & more. Nice! **SOLD**

**Corner Lot** - 2 BR GHI frame townhome with large fenced yard. Remodeled throughout with modern kitchen and bath. Refinished hardwood floors.

**Brick Townhome** - 3 Bedroom GHI unit with new hardwood floors on main level. Dining room converted into office space with lots of shelving. **UNDER CONTRACT**

**Your Greenbelt Specialists In Roosevelt Center**



# Zero Waste Circle Sets Sights on the Holidays

by Erin Josephitis

On Friday, December 4, the Festival of Lights Tree Lighting Ceremony at Roosevelt Center marked Greenbelt's commitment to zero waste festivals and events. The Green Team's Zero Waste Circle set the precedent that waste reduction and resource recovery are important steps to strengthen the local economy, environment and community.

**Economy:** The City of Greenbelt spends less money on dump truck tipping fees at recycling facilities than at landfills, so increased recycling is an easy way to save the city money. Instead of spending money on trash disposal, the city could spend it on improving public lands and developing more recreational opportunities, making Greenbelt an even more desirable place to live and work.

**Environment:** The second highest component of U.S. landfills is organic waste, the largest source of methane emissions. Individuals can do a lot to change the situation. A total of 1,075 pounds of compostable materials was collected throughout Greenbelt's 2015 zero waste festivals and events, including the New Year's Eve Celebration, Green Man Festival, Crazy Quilt Festival, Labor Day Festival, Fall Fest and Festival of Lights Tree Lighting Ceremony. If residents are looking for a green holiday gift that keeps on giving all year round, they can find where to purchase a discounted Enviro World 82 gallon Compost Bin by contacting Luisa Robles at [lroble@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:lroble@greenbeltmd.gov).

**Community:** Zero waste events mobilize high school students and other interested volunteers to take action and reduce the carbon footprint of their community. Zero waste volunteers are trained and then teach others how



PHOTO BY ERIN JOSEPHITIS

**Volunteers, Yasmeen Brooks and Marissa Kevan, promoted recycling and composting at the Tree Lighting Ceremony.**

to reduce landfill waste by recycling and composting in Prince George's County. Serving as a zero waste volunteer provides an exciting opportunity to develop leadership skills while learning how to protect the environment.

Susan Barnett, member of the Zero Waste Circle, wrote a holiday song to the tune of Grandma Got Run Over By a Reindeer, which the zero waste volunteers joyfully sang, "Greenbelt's got a Zero Waste Circle. We intend to reduce landfill waste. You may say that's really crazy, but as for our circle, we believe!" Zero waste volunteers reflected on the event as a positive, knowledgeable and rewarding experience.

Those interested in being a part of the zero waste efforts for the upcoming New Year's Eve Celebration on Thursday, December 31, email [ejosephitis@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:ejosephitis@greenbeltmd.gov).

Zero waste festivals and events are made possible by the City of Greenbelt Public Works Department in partnership with the Green Team's Zero Waste Circle. Special thanks to William Smith, Public Works employee, for pairing the recycling and landfill bins together at the Roosevelt Center.

## A Review

# A Jolt of Good Cheer With Winnie the Pooh

by Jim Link

Trade in your holiday stress for a jolt of good cheer by cavorting for an hour with Winnie the Pooh and his (her?) redoubtable pals Piglet, Eeyore, Rabbit, Kanga, Roo, Owl and Christopher Robin.

Primarily featuring a cast of Greenbelters from ages six to 72, this hilarious, but philosophically deep, caper shines at the Greenbelt Arts Center through December 20 at 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

Under the masterful directorial touch of Jon Gardner, this Winnie the Pooh is a song and dance-filled magic journey wherein Pooh, Piglet and Roo search for the very depressive donkey Eeyore's missing tail, stolen by Owl. After many pratfalls, they retrieve and return it to Eeyore in time for him to celebrate a happy birthday, or at least a less gloomy one.

Stephanie Thom as Pooh, the Bear of Very Little Brain, must be very bright in real life because it takes a smart, savvy actress to play a clueless animal so skillful-



**The entire cast poses for final applause.**

ly and winsomely. Jim Pasquale is congenitally, inconsolably, superbly sad as Eeyore. "Good morning Pooh Bear, if it is a good morning, which I doubt..."

Tiffany Chadwick (Rabbit), a law school student and mom, gets to share the stage with her adorable daughter Harper (Roo). Sophie Cooper is excellent as the adventurous Piglet; Jenn Robinson is convincing as Roo's prissy nanny Kanga; Alyssa Heintzel-

mann is an entirely sympathetic, sensitive Christopher Robin.

And the ancient, wise Bill Jones is a hoot as Owl. His "Whoooo?" rings true.

Jon Gardner's wife and children contributed mightily to this production's success. Anne, David, Elizabeth and Rebecca helped with choreography, lighting, tech work and stage managing.

Susan Breon and Mac Fancher were boffo on piano. Malca Giblin is yet again a producer extraordinaire, and Samantha Fitschen choreographed up a storm.

The opening afternoon crowd of 85, half of whom were kids sitting on their moms' and granies' laps (some of whom were clutching their stuffed Pooh Bears), was wildly enthusiastic and thoroughly enchanted. Go get enchanted, too.



**Piglet (Sophie Cooper) and Pooh (Stephanie Thom) in the Hundred Acre Wood.**

Photos by Jon Gardner.



**Rabbit (Tiffany Chadwick) and Roo (Harper Chadwick).**



**Bill Jones as Owl.**



**Christopher Robin (Alyssa Heintzelman) cheers up Eeyore (Jim Pasquale).**

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