News Review

Beat The Rush

Please give us your copy on Mondays or at least by noon on Tuesdays. We are trying not to get swamped Tuesday nights.

Volume 63, Number 25

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

Thursday, May 18, 2000

City Public Works Budget Offers No Surprises for Fiscal Year '01

by Betsy Likowski

The Department of Public Works proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2001 (FY01) is one with numbers close to last fiscal year's and there are no burning issues facing the department. The city council reviewed this budget at a worksession on Wednesday, May 3.

The proposed departmental budget for FY01 is \$1,701,000. up from \$1,686,200 in Fiscal Year 2000 (FY00). The difference is basically from increased personnel expenses.

Saving monies and providing better services are the driving forces behind the main issues facing the department. It is proposed that service on the Greenbelt Connection end at 2 p.m. on Sundays. Hanover Parkway is being repaired and the program of working on some city streets every year to maintain the infrastructure will mean that this year Woodland Way and streets in Lakewood will be re-

Some horticultural work will be contracted out and preventive work on vehicles will continue to be contracted out. Public Works will switch from using temporary workers to hiring non-classified workers during the busiest Greenbelt Connection

The Greenbelt Connection provides call-a-ride service within the city of Greenbelt. It is heavily subsidized with an estimated \$8,000 coming from revenues in this upcoming fiscal year and the rest of the needed funds, \$55,000, coming from general city revenues.

Cutting out service after 2 p.m. on Sunday is proposed since there has been little ridership after that time. Council asked for ridership numbers.

raise fares from \$1 to \$1.25 for seniors and children and from \$1.50 to \$1.75 for those ages 18 - 62. Councilmembers spent time discussing the fare increase, the usage of the service, the need for the service, and is it just a glorified taxi service. And public works personnel described the realities of the situation.

There is a limit to how many can be served with this type of service, explained acting Director of the Department of Public Works Kenny Hall. The service is booked solid, said Antoinette Conrad, the woman who takes the calls. And it can take time for each rider. For example, for some there is no way they can be slot. It takes them awhile to get

to the vehicle, in it, and to their destination, she explained.

Trash and Recycling

The city recycling rate for FY01 is estimated to be 45% The city goal is to recycle 50% of the waste stream by 2004. The rate of recycling has been gradually increasing up from 37% in FY98. The city is only estimated to make \$300 on the sale of recyclables in FY01 and has to pay to have bottles, cans, yard waste, and loose leaves taken off the city's hands. A fee raise for A proposed fare hike would recycling is recommended by

> Fees make up the bulk of the revenue of the trash and recycling budget account, which is estimated to be \$461,600 in FY01. Expenses are estimated at \$435,000, which is up from \$422,900 last fiscal year and that is mostly due to employee ben-

> Mayor Judith Davis asked Hall about picking up leaves in the Greenbelt East neighborhoods. When a call comes in for leaf pick-up and the city picks up their refuse, the city picks up their leaves, explained Hall.

Councilmember Thomas White asked if some of the homeowners in Greenbelt Homes Inc. could scheduled in a 15 minute time just rake their leaves to the curb See PUBLIC WORKS, page 5



Billy Foerter and John Kemp work on Comm-U-nity Build during Community Center Open House. - photo by Nick Pergola

Kids Plan New Town In Comm-U-nity Build

by Judith Ransom Bell

As part of the May 6 Community Center Open House, approximately 40 people, ages 2-1/2 to 41, took part in an ingenious game dubbed Comm-U-nity Build. It was a unique opportunity for kids to get a taste of what goes into planning an ideal community.

Studio artist Susan Hale Whitmore initiated the thought process and was the spark behind the plan, according to Renée Landen, community development inspector for the city's Department of Planning and Community Development. Whitmore, Landen, Nicole DeWald, arts coordinator for the Department of Recreation, and Willie Davis, also an inspector with Planning and Development, Community worked together on the project. Nine other people assisted in putting it all together.

The project was broken down into stages, beginning with preparation of a large piece of corrugated cardboard, painted to show land, grass, a lake, streams, and zoned areas before development. Dreamsville

In Stage One the kids could draw on the map any idea that they had about a community. One boy was so intrigued that after he finished his idea he left with his mom and came back with his dad, brothers and sister to continue working.

For Stage Two the planning group had taken business card boxes and cut out the front for buildings and houses. Participants could pick whatever fronts they wanted, and then color them and attach the fronts to the business card boxes and place their buildings on the map. The realization was made by participants that because of zoning they could not place certain things where they wanted. For example, one of the restrictions was that if a tree was disrupted, it had to be replaced.

One boy put in a road; someone thought up the name of Dreamsville. The process lasted three hours. Using the simple tools of cardboard, paper, paint, paste, magic markers and black butcher paper (for the road) a group of kids had a blast building

City FOP Asks for 10 Percent Cost-of-Living Pay Adjustment

by Diane Oberg

Higher pay and benefits topped the agenda for the annual. budget meeting between the Greenbelt Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) and the Greenbelt City Council on May 10. In addition, the officers asked for a review of the city's snow/liberal leave policies, as a result of concerns about how the January 25, snowstorm was handled.

Pay Requests

Greenbelt FOP President Craig Rich told council that over the last 10 years, city pay raises had lagged the consumer price index (CPI) by ten percent. In 1996, 1997, and 1998, city employees did not receive a cost of living adjustment, (although many received longevity increases or performance pay). In addition to their own loss of purchasing power, the officers felt that the city was now at a competitive disadvantage in hiring new offic-

According to the FOP, entry level salaries for police officers in surrounding jurisdictions are all higher than what Greenbelt pays. Based on an Internet search, Rich provided starting salaries for other jurisdictions. Among departments with fewer than 100 officers (Greenbelt has 53), starting salaries range from \$27,400

Gaithersburg. Pay is generally higher in the larger jurisdictions, with starting salaries ranging from \$30,765 for the Prince George's County police to \$33,682 for the Maryland State Police. Greenbelt's starting pay for certified officers is \$27,685. The FOP noted, however, that Greenbelt maintains an "officer candidate" pay scale of \$26,374, for officers in training or not yet certified. This lower pay puts the city at a competitive disadvantage when competing for recruits with jurisdictions that pay officers full entry level salaries

In addition to limiting the city's ability to hire new officers, the city's low pay scale is also costing it experienced officers, Rich said. He said that one officer Greenbelt hired from the county police force has since returned to county service. In the past, Rich said, "this would never have happened." If city pay scales had kept up with inflation, it would really change the way we look compared with other agencies, he said. Several of the officers present, some relatively experienced, indicated that they were considering leaving for higher pay elsewhere.

To address these problems, the FOP is requesting a ten percent in Hyattsville to \$31,182 in cost of living adjustment in the

upcoming fiscal year, plus a ten percent pay scale revision. To avoid future problems, they also request that city workers receive a full cost of living adjustment each year, automatically.

Mayor Judith Davis asked whether all the departments in the FOP's comparison had the same benefits. Some allow officers to retire at 20 years, while in others, officers must work for 30 years. FOP Conductor Michael Dewey thought that all shown have take home cars. Davis requested a comparison including benefits. Councilmember Rodney Roberts also wanted to see how the departments stacked up at the longevity level (the top pay within each pay grade).

Roberts questioned the glum picture painted by the FOP. There must be some benefits to working in Greenbelt, he said, or none of you would be here. While Rich acknowledged that, he said that the job market is so tight right now that it is Greenbelt's low salary that catches (or fails to catch) candidates' eyes. In turn, Roberts said that he does not have a problem with raising officers' pay. don't see how anyone can live on \$26,000," he said.

Manager City Michael McLaughlin did not comment di-See FOP, page 9

Groups Seek Contributions

by Barbara Bonham Young

At a work session on April 12, members of the Greenbelt City Council welcomed and questioned representatives of various Greenbelt groups wishing to obtain contributions from the city in the next budget cycle. Mayor Judith Davis noted that total requests amount to \$4,700 over what City Manager Michael McLaughlin has included in his proposed budget. McLaughlin has budgeted no change from the \$62,100 incuded in the current year's budget.

The largest request, for \$17,600, was made by the Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC), followed by a request for \$15,000 from the Boys and Girls Club. GAC also requested

\$7,200 for its Youth Initiative program. Michael Cooney explained that among other things, the Arts See CONTRIBUTIONS, page 2

What Goes On

Sat., May 20, 9 a.m. Work session on Metro Area Sector Plan, Municipal Build-

Mon., May 22, 8 p.m. Second public hearing on budget and regular Council meeting, Municipal Building

Wed., May 24, 8 p.m. Council work session, Community Center

Thur., May 25, 7:30 p.m. GHI Board Meeting. Hamilton Place

Letters

No Exceptions Ban A Simplistic Policy

I write to correct and amplify my remarks about drugs and the police, made at council's worksession regarding the city's public safety budget, and referred to in Pauline Bordas' letter to the editor, May 11, 2000.

First, I inquired about the nature of a state law that makes it impossible for municipal police departments to consider any applicant who admits to ever having used drugs, even once. I raised this issue in the context of a briefing on the police department's difficulty in hiring officers. The chief suggested that one factor excluding large numbers of potential candidates from consideration was this no-exceptions ban on anyone with even a passing, longago firsthand knowledge of drugs.

At the meeting, I suggested that the council communicate to our elected State representatives some measure of displeasure at having this State law dictate the city's personnel practices to us. I believe that council should try to discuss serious issues candidly and without worrying about how it'll look in the paper; however, since my colleagues did not choose to discuss the point further, that was the end of the matter. (Note to News Review: How I wish that more of the "nonstarter" suggestions I make could get such prominent coverage!)

Finally, as I read it, the letter reflects a belief that anyone who has ever used an illegal drug becomes permanently unworthy of police work or work in any other field where children might someday try to look up to them. Well, all drug use does not create instant monsters, despite the "drug war" hysteria. And if obedience to the law is the underlying concern, then all prospective police officers who admit under polygraph to having ever driven drunk should be barred from service, since this crime is far more inherently dangerous to others.

No. I wouldn't suggest that past drug use be dismissed lightly; but the city should have the discretion to weigh an applicant's current judgment, professionalism, mental health, education, compassion, work ethic, and character fairly and as a full package, and not be bound by a simplistic onestrike-you're-out policy.

I appreciate this chance to explain an apparently unpopular and misunderstood opinion in the space needed.

Alan Turnbull

Fruits and Veggies **At Farmers Market**

Fresh fruits and vegetables are available at the open-air farmers market, located in the parking lot of the Ellen Linson Swimming Pool/Herbert Wells Ice Rink, 5211 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park. The market features a variety of fresh fruits, vegetables, and plants and is open from 7 a.m. to noon every Saturday through November 18. For further information, call 301-277-3719; TTY 301-249-4252; www.pgparks.com.

CONTRIBUTIONS

(Continued from page 1)

Center wants to spend money on advertising and on developing a program to find out what presentations draw the most patrons and why.

Cooney also discussed ongoing plumbing problems in the space. Cooney said the Youth Initiative funds would be used to further involve Springhill Lake and Greenbelt Elementary School participants.

Several representatives of the Boys and Girls Club appeared to support the club's request for \$15,000. Stressing the need for parent volunteers, Athletic director Darlene Lawrence said the club has begun to require fundraising of its members, and that the goal at this time is to raise \$4,000. She noted that the cost of the awards banquet has tripled in recent years.

Other organizations represented at the work session and amounts requested are:

Organization Amount

Greenbelt Concert Band

Greenbelt Little League

Greenbelt Golden Age Club

Greenbelt Babe Ruth League

not represented at the work session.

Greenbelt Senior Softball

Greenbelt Writers' Group

Aquatic Booster Club

Public Works Employee Breaks Both Feet

by Barbara Bonham Young

Thomas Ray, 26, a local resident, Public Works crew man and Fire Department volunteer, suffered two broken feet when he jumped to the ground from a recycling truck on May Taken by ambulance to Doctors Community Hospital after the 11 a.m. accident, Ray was later moved to Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore and released pending surgery. Until that occurs, Ray is resting at the firehouse.

The driver of the truck, Kent Rowlette, has been with Public Works since 1987. The other crew man present, in addition to Ray, was Jeffrey Gray, a temporary employee who has worked previous summers as a crew man on the trucks.

Circumstances surrounding the accident remain unclear. A preliminary investigation has been undertaken by Acting Superintendent of Operations Bill

Requested

\$2,500

4,600

6,600

5,100

6,600

1,000

Phelan and Acting Public Works Director Kenneth Hall, both of whom were attending a two-day conference and unavailable for comment.

On the advice of his attorney, Ray would not comment on the incident. City Manager Michael McLaughlin said the city "still has investigation to do." Providing background, he noted that "Crews have developed the practice before they take the truck to be emptied, of packing down materials so they don't fly away. They do this by riding in the dumping bins that are on the side of the truck, riding to the top, packing the material down, and then riding down. "Always in the past they have done this in visual and verbal contact with the driver. In this case, apparently there was some lack of communication."

Senior Softball

by Burt Kerr

The Greenbelt Senior Softball team is back. New members have swelled the ranks to 25 players and have added skill to every position on the field including hitting.

Friday, the team took a double header from the Bowie Bronze with seven homers hit. Your local News Review reporter Al Geiger hit the first grand slam home run of his career and Greenbelter Lefty Smith also powered a homer out into right field. The first game was a squeaker, 13 to 12, but the second game was under control and won by the score

The team has improved under the leadership of new managercoach Ray Reed to three wins and four losses. Anyone wishing to participate or watch can call Reed at 301-568-6977.

ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD

Wednesday, May 24, 2000 7:30 PM **Greenbelt Community Center** Senior Conference/Gallery Room

AGENDA

- 1. Meeting with GHI Board of Directors to Discuss Local Historic District Designation
- 2. Update on Planning Projects and Other Business
- 3. Adjourn

For further information, please contact the Department of Planning and Community Development at (301) 345-5417.

Thanks!

The Greenbelt Double Dutch League requested \$4,000 but was

Greenbelt Nursery School & Kindergarten, Inc. children, parents and staff wish to acknowledge and express our appreciation to the Greenbest businesses that made contributions to our 2000 Spring Fair, Taste of Creenbelt and Live/Silent Auction. We encourage you to patronize the following busine

Bank of America **BB&T Bank** Beautiful Day Café Capital Auctions Capitol Cadillac Chesapeake Bagel Chevy's Restaurant Co-op Supermarket Domino's Pizza Einstein Bros. Bagels Generous Joe's

Greenbelt Potter's Greenbelt Federal Credit Union **Greenbelt New Year** Committee Greenhelt Service Station Greenbelt Shoe Repair Jasper's Restaurant Jeeper's McCarl Dental Offices

New Deal Café Old Greenbelt Citgo Pleasant Touch Popeye's Restaurant **Potomac Printing** Raulin's Bakery Ruby Tuesday Restaurant Smile Herb Shop TGI Friday's TJ's Roadhouse 3 Brother's Pizza

Greenbelt Municipal/Public Access TV MUNICIPAL ACCESS-301-474-8000

Channel B-10 Schedule

Monday, May 22 at 8pm City Council Meeting "live"

Tuesday & Thursday, May 23 & 25

6:00 p.m. - "Earth Café # 10"

6:30 p.m. - "Criminal Justice Youth Academy Graduation"

7:30 p.m. - "Replay of City Council"

PUBLIC ACCESS-GATE-301-507-6581 Wednesday & Friday, May 24 & 26

7:00 p.m. - "New Deal Music"

7:30 p.m. - "Animation of 2000" 8:00 p.m. - "Public Safety"

PRINCE GEORGE'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE

at Eleanor Roosevelt High School

7601 Hanover Parkway • Greenbelt, MD 20770

Register Now for Summer Session I

- PGCC offers summer credit classes at Eleanor Roosevelt High School.
- Five week session, June 5-July 7, 2000.
- Classes three evenings per week
- Course offerings include Computer Literacy, English, Mathematics, and Speech
- Continuous registration at the Largo Campus, Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

For more information, call 301-322-0783.

Prince George's Community College 301 Largo Road, Largo, Maryland 20774-2199

Greenbelt

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Diane Oberg, president; James Giese, vice president; Altoria Bell Ross, treasurer; Elleen Farnham, secretary; and Virginia Beauchamp.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads-10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery atore (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center 15 Crescent Road during office hours. Mail subscriptions-\$32/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.

OFRICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

Need a Garden Plot?

The Greenbelt Garden Club still has some garden plots available on the field located near the Gardenway overpass. For more information call 301-345-3275.

Teddy Bears, Tots Picnic on May 25

The Millennium Teddy Bears Picnic, a free event for children ages 2 -5 and their families, will be celebrated on the lawn in front of Greenbelt Library on Thursday, May 25, at 10:15 a.m.

Each child is encouraged to bring a favorite "Teddy" or other stuffed animal. Besides musical activities, there will be a parade with streamers and badges for each child.

There will be a free drawing for a Millennium Teddy Bear.

This is an annual event sponsored by the Greenbelt Library and Friends of the Greenbelt Library.

(See ad on this page)

Seniors Celebrate Graduation in High Style

by Nelda Young

Is there life after high school? Daddy's little darling and Mom's favorite son are spreading their wings and leaving the nest. The final rites of passage occur in May. Eleanor Roosevelt High School's Senior Prom, Awards Ceremony, Baccalaureate, Graduation, and Grad Night '00 Party will be history by 5 a.m. on June 1.

The Roosevelt Prom will be a formal affair. The fellows wear tuxedos and the girls trail long dresses. Only seniors and their dates are invited to the Baltimore Hyatt from 8 - 12 midnight on Friday, May 19. The ballroom, decorated in Roosevelt's school colors of Columbia blue and white, will rock with popular music provided by a DJ. A buffet dinner will be provided.

The Awards Ceremony for seniors will take place at 9:30 a.m. on May 25 in the ERHS auditorium. At that time the seniors will learn about scholarships and other honors they have received. Parents and friends are invited to attend the celebration.

At 7 p.m. that evening ERHS's Baccalaureate service will be held at the Greenbelt Community Church. Seniors and the public are invited to hear words of inspiration from the clergy and music by ERHS's wind ensemble and concert choir.

Graduation will take place at at 5 a.m. on June 1. Parents 3 p.m. on May 31 at Cole Field should pick up the exhausted House, University of Maryland. revelers at ERHS by 6 a.m.

Community Events

Internet Access Co-op Needs Volunteers

by Gilbert Lee, President, GIAC

The operations of Greenbelt Internet Access Cooperative (GIAC), are carried out by members who volunteer to serve as directors and officers. Without volunteers, the cooperative will fail. In June, several positions on the Board of Directors will become vacant; volunteers are needed to fill them. Help is needed in all the aspects of maintaining the cooperative: advertising, solving technical ISP problems, maintaining/expanding the website, auditing the accounts, attending regular monthly meetings, helping with the monthly classes. Directors are not expected to have technical expertise, just a willingness to help keep the organization running.

The annual meeting is on June 6. Contact Gilbert Lee at familee@greenbelt.com.

Wearing academic robes, white for the girls and Columbia blue for the guys, 730 ERHS stu-

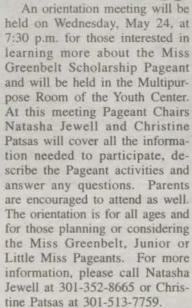
dents will graduate this year. Valedictorian Vinita Kailasanath will speak, as will the salutatorian, Istvan Laszlo. The public is encouraged to attend.

Then the real fun begins -Grad Night '00. All good parties are well-planned and parents and staff at ERHS have experience in that department. Tickets must be purchased in advance during lunch period on May 15 - 19, 22 - 26, or 30. Seniors must sign a contract promising to arrive at the party drug-, tobacco-, and alcoholfree and remain so during the duration of the party. It is called a lock-in because students are not allowed to come and go from the event.

Wearing their tickets, which are Grad Night '00 tee shirts, and their school photo Ids around their necks, ERHS seniors will meet at the school between 10:30 p.m. and midnight on May 31 to begin their surprise adventure. They will be bused to an undisclosed location for a six-hour party. Prizes will be awarded throughout the night.

In addition to dancing, there will be carnival games, basket-ball. Sumo wrestling, and swimming. Swim suits are required, so seniors should bring a small gym bag containing the essentials. The party will end at 5 a.m. on June 1. Parents should pick up the exhausted revelers at ERHS by 6 a.m.

Festival Notes



Greenbelt CARES

Wendy Wexler reports that May 10 was the final session of the Teen Discussion Group at Eleanor Roosevelt High School. This group had eight sessions with topics that included anger management, substance abuse, communication skills, school priorities and decision making.

The annual ACE Student Awards, sponsored by the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education, at the May 8 City Council meeting, recognized the achievements of seven boys and seven girls from Greenbelt area schools. The schools are: Greenbelt Elementary, Springhill Lake Elementary, Magnolia Elementary, St. Hugh's School, Greenbelt Middle School, Goddard Middle School, and Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Teresa Smithson completed the last session of a sixth grade pre-teen discussion group at Greenbelt Middle School. The group has discussed friendship skills, anger management, and violence prevention. The session concluded with a pizza party. Smithson has been assisted by Devonne Johnson, the sixth grade guidance counselor.

Golden Age Club

by Ruth Huggins

At our May 10 meeting, President Bill Souser led members in the Pledge of Allegiance and in the absence of chaplain Florence Holly, Shep Odom led members in a prayer.

Sunshine chair Betty Petroff sadly announced the death of Irving Siegel. A former president of the club and always active member, Irv will be sorely missed. Club members extend condolences to Irv's wife Pearl, who is our Golden Age Corresponding Secretary.

We were privileged to have as our speaker Betty Moore, docent at the National Archives in D.C. Moore is a retired teacher and former Greenbelt resident who graciously answered the many questions asked by our Golden Agers. She also announced that National Archives #1 and #2 are in need of volunteers. If interested, contact Visitor Services at 202-501-5205.

The May 17 Birthday Party will be reported in next week's column. On May 24, the speaker

At the Library

Tuesday, May 23, 7 p.m., P.J. Storytime, ages 4 - 6.

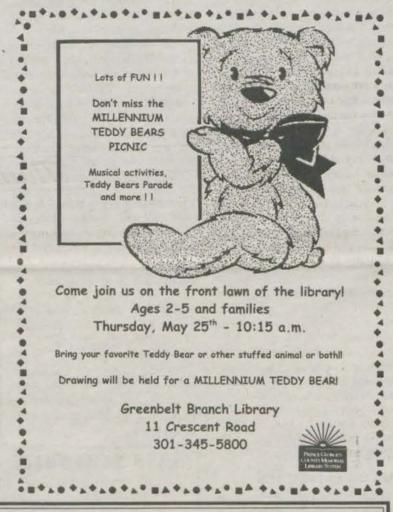
Thursday, May 25, 10:15 a.m., Millennium Teddy Bears Picnic, ages 2 - 5 and families.

Comedy at Center

Prince George's Home School Learning Network will present a free performance of the play "Martin Vanderhof's Family," an adaptation of the play "You Can't Take It With You" on Friday, May 26, at 1:45 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. The play is a comedy about a loving family who lives life to its fullest.

will be Mary Lou Williamson, whose topic will be the local newspaper, the Greenbelt News Review.

Travel chair John Taylor (301-345-1608) still has seats available for the Tuesday, May 23, trip to Fredericksburg, Virginia. Anyone is welcome to sign up. There are also a few seats left for the Nova Scotia trip on September 8.



GREENBELT NEEDS YOU!



TO VOLUNTEER TO SERVE ON AN ADVISORY BOARD OR COMMITTEE. VACANCIES EXIST ON THE FOLLOWING:

Advisory Committee on Trees
Advisory Planning Board
Arts Advisory Board
Employee Relations Board
Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee
Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
Youth Advisory Committee

For more information, please call 301-474-8000.



OBITUARIES

Ellen Mae Cosgrove

Ellen Mae Cosgrove died on Friday, May 5, 2000. A Greenbelt resident, she formerly lived in Lanham.

Mrs. Cosgrove was a writer of romance novels. She had completed ten books and was working on another at the time of her death. She was also a long-time Girl Scout leader.

Her parents Alice Gertrude Steiner and Geoffrey Carl York preceded her in death. She is survived by daughters Patty Tonchuk and Terry Sutcliffe; sons Mark and Greg Cosgrove; and six grandchildren.

Services were private. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in her name to the American Cancer Society.

Our Neighbors

Congratulations to Marcela Smid, a 1999 graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School who has earned her first letter as a freshman on the Case Western Reserve University women's softball team. The outfielder played in 44 of 45 games for the Spartans, including 43 starts. She finished 9th on the team in hitting with a .262 average with 33 hits in 126 at bats, 18 runs scored and 14 runs batted in. Smid also posted a .828 fielding average. The team finished the year 21-24 overall and finished 5th in the University Athletic Association with 2-6 record.

Smid is currently majoring in art history/medical anthropology at CWRU.

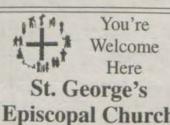
Kristine Elaine Smith, daughter of Edward G. and Patricia M. Smith has been accepted as a Peace Corps volunteer. Smith will depart for Honduras on May 30. As a Peace Corps volunteer, Smith will work as an Urban and Regional Planner, implementing a water sanitation project for Honduran communities.

Free Health Fair At Laurel Hospital

Laurel Regional Hospital will hold a free health fair for the community on Saturday, May 20, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The event will be held at the hospital located at 7300 Van Dusen Road in Laurel.

Free screenings will include blood pressure, glucose, cholesterol, depression, anxiety, vision, lung, body fat and more. Informational literature and experts to answer questions and offer advice will be provided as well.

For further information, call 301-497-7914 or 410-792-7636.



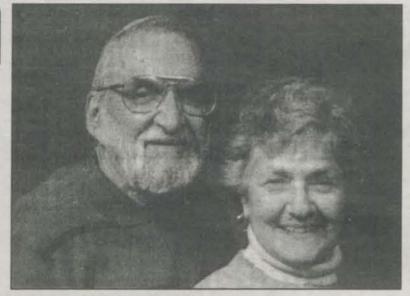
Episcopal Church
Episcopal/Anglican
Corner of Lanham-Severn Road

(MD 564) and Glenn Dale Road, just south of Greenbelt Rd (MD 193), Glenn Dale

301-262-3285

Sunday Services

9 am Folk Service (Interpreted for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing) 10 am Education for all ages 11 am Sung Service



Irving and Pearl Siegel

Irving Siegel

Irving Murray Siegel, 19 Court Ridge Road, died on May 9, 2000 after a long illness. Mr. Siegel was 80 years old.

He was born in New York City and went to school there and in New Jersey, where he attended an agricultural college.

He served in the Civilian Conservation Corps in Washington state and in the Pacific during WWII as medical personnel.

He and his wife Pearl moved to the Washington Metropolitan area in 1946 and have lived here ever since. After moving to Greenbelt in 1973, he became active in the Eleanor and Franklin D. Roosevelt Democratic Club and was a chief Democratic election judge for many years.

As a member of the Greenbelt Golden Age Club, he and his wife took many trips with the club. In 1997 he was president of the club, and continued to serve on the board.

He was a member of OASIS and in addition to taking courses, was a tutor in their Intergenerational Reading Program. He got a lot of personal satisfaction out of this, as it helped a child learn to read.

For the past three years Mr. Siegel was a member of the Arts Advisory Board of Greenbelt. His hobby was photography and he was a member of the Greenbelt Photography Club.

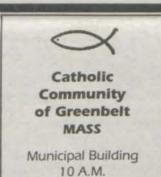
The Greenbelt Community Center was where he liked to be most of all. He was a regular, daily visitor there for meetings, events, the food and friendship lunch program, playing pool with his friends and just visiting in the Senior Lounge.

He made many friends over the years and he really loved Greenbelt.

He is survived by his wife Pearl, his daughters Bryna Anton (Peter) and Ellen Siegel and his grandchildren Philip, Terran and James.

Memorial services will be held May 28 at 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center.

Contributions may be made to Washington Home Hospice, 3720 Upton Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016.



MASS SCHEDULE:

Sunday 8, 9:30, 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m. Saturday 5 p.m.

Summer Schedule Effective June 4th

No 12:30 p.m. Mass

Daily Mass: As announced Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Rev. Thomas F. Crowley, Pastor

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Morning Worship Service (Sunday)

Bible Study for all ages (Sunday)

Evening Worship and Small Groups (Sunday)

8:35 & 11:00 AM
9:45 AM
6:00 PM

Evening Worship and Small Groups (Sunday)

Prayer (Wednesday)

For transportation or more information call 474-4212

or contact us on the Internet at GrnBaptist@aol.com

Greenbelt Baptist Church

Black Churches Begin Teen Dialogue

Churches in the Greater Prince George's County area are invited to apply for the Black Churches and Black Teens Pilot Project to begin a faith-based teen dialogue curriculum on relationships and sexuality. Ten churches will be selected for the project, conducted by the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice Black Church Initiative. The National Alpha and Omega Church Services Corporation, Inc. (NAOCS) of Mitchellville/Bowie has been selected to administer the project. NAOCS is a non-profit organization that works with faith-based/church-based and non-profit community development corporations and organizations to improve their strategic program planning and service

Deadline for applications is June 5. To receive an application, churches should contact Audrey B. Daniel at 202-215-3446 or write NAOCS, Black Church Initiative, P.O. Box 439, Bowie 20718-0439.

Research Update

Seven neurofibromatosis research projects studying NF-1 and NF-2 will be described by their principal investigators at a meeting on Sunday, May 21, at The National Institutes of Health, Building 31 C Wing, Room 6 on the 6th floor, 9000 Rockville Pike. Bethesda, from 1 to 5 p.m. Free printed materials about NF will be available. The meeting is sponsored by Neurofibromatosis, Inc.-Mid-Atlantic. Refreshments will be served. A real-time captionist for the deaf will be present. There is no charge for the meeting and plenty of free parking. All are welcome.

Neurofibromatosis (NF) is a genetic disorder that causes tumors to grow on the nerves anywhere in the body at any time. The condition affects 1 in 3,000 males and females of all races and ethnic groups. At this time, there is no known cure and the symptoms are generally treated with surgery.

For more information, contact Neurofibromatosis, Inc.-Mid-Atlantic Chapter, 8855 Annapolis Road, #110, Lanham, Maryland 20706, 301-577-8984; e-mail: nfincl@aol.com

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

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

May 21, 2000 - 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.

9:30 a.m. Religious Education Volunteer Recognition and Brunch

11:15 a.m. "Poetry of the Spirit" Barbara Wells, co-minister and friends



Barbara Wells and Jaco B. ten Hove Co-Ministers

Baha'i Faith

"Unless you have passed through the state of infancy, how would you know this was an infant beside you? If there were no wrong, how would you recognize the right? If it were not for sin, how would you appreciate virtue? If evil deeds were unknown, how could you commend good actions? If sickness did not exist, how would you understand health?."

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

301-345-2918 301-220-3160 Information about the Baha'i Faith is on the World Wide Web at http://www.bahai.org/

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

A warm, comfortable and involved congregation
Creative nursery school for two to four year olds
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First year school FREE for one child
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www.mishkantorah.org

Services: Friday, 8 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am Family, 7:30 first Friday of the month

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt 301-474-9410



SUNDAY Children and Adults

Bible Study 9:30 am
Worship Service 11:00 am

dicapped accessible Rev. Guillermo Chavez, Pastor

All persons from all races and cultural backgrounds are welcome. Together we learn to serve Christ.

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Sunday Worship Services 8:30 and 11:15 A.M. Education Hour

10:00 A.M.



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www.erols.com/myholycross

Rev. Stephen H. Mentz, Pastor (301) 345-5111

PUBLIC WORKS

(Continued from page 1)

instead of having to bag them up. City Manager Michael McLaughlin replied that staff will take a look at the situation. Streets

Several streets will have work done on them in the upcoming fiscal year: Southway, Woodland Way, Springhill Lane, and streets in the Lakewood neighborhood. And landscaping will be placed on Hanover Parkway at Hunting Ridge. With more than 25 miles of streets in the city to maintain, \$503,100 is budgeted for this purpose in FY01

Work is ongoing on the repair of Hanover Parkway. There is even debris under the parkway, said Hall, so the workers are having to dig down 30 inches deep to get rid of it all. It was not built according to design plans, he said. In some places there is merely two to three inches of asphalt on top of soil, said McLaughlin.

The city is sharing a street sweeper with several other jurisdictions. Hall thought the arrangement is working well. The sweeper is putting an emphasis on cleaner streets that the city never had in the last 25 years, opined McLaughlin.

Parks

The city has 496 acres of parkland including 31 playgrounds and four ballfield complexes. Park expenses will raise slightly with \$792,200 proposed for FY01, up from \$777,800 in FY00. Employee benefits have increased from \$145,600 in FY00 to \$161,400 in the FY01 budget. And park and playground maintenance expenses will increase from \$376,900 in FY00 to \$387,400 in FY01.

In a new program \$10,000 is budgeted to contract out some simple mulching and weeding jobs.

This will allow the city's horticultural workers to focus on more complex tasks. "We're better off having our people do more skilled things" and have the contractor do the less skilled things, said City Horticulturalist Bill Phelan.

Personnel

The total for salaries for the 48 public works employees is \$1,597,000 in the proposed FY01 budget. This budget year it is planned to stop using temporary help and instead hire non-classified part time employees. Also this fiscal year it is planned to hire a new director of the public works department.

The total estimated expenses for the public works administration in FY01 is proposed to be \$515,400. Personnel expenses will come to \$417,000 of this.

Miscellaneous

The proposed budgeted amounts in FY01 for other aspects of the department are: \$194,200 for maintenance of multi-purpose equipment; \$52,200 for Roosevelt Center Mall; \$1,000 for the city cemetery near Ivy Lane; \$56,700 for maintaining the Municipal Building; and \$72,200 for traffic control.

The program of contracting out preventive maintenance on the city vehicles has proved to be a success and will be continued. It has improved the condition of the vehicles and resulted in less down time for each vehicle. And the resulting

Teacher Recruitment Fair at Roosevelt

The Prince George's County Public School System will hold a "Teacher Recruitment Fair," Saturday, May 20, 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, 7601 Hanover Parkway. Career opportunities are available in early childhood, elementary education, special education, secondary content areas, and specialty areas such as foreign tanguages, library media, and French Immersion. Potential teachers should bring resumes, college transcripts, NTE/ PRAXIS scores, and state teaching certificates.

"We are looking for good teachers and are ready to hire 1,800 new teachers on the spot," said Judith Miller, associate superintendent of Human Resources. "We offer an excellent starting salary and higher salaries are currently being negotiated."

The Prince George's County Public School System offers extensive staff development and career advancement potential. To schedule an inter-

savings have offset the rising cost of fuel used by the city's fleet of vehicles.

Representatives from Washington EAR, a reading service for the visually impaired, pled with council to continue the tradition of giving a grant to the service. No monies for this are in the FY01 budget; in FY00 \$1,000 was given to Washington EAR.

Industrial Herbs **Discovery Station**

Plants in shoes? On the floor? Where else can people find them in products they use every day? The products on display May 27 - 28, 1 - 3 p.m., at this free, informal, drop-in station for all ages in the National Herb Garden at the U.S. National Arboretum may surprise people.

view, mail or fax a cover letter with resume and credentials to: Human Resources Office, Prince George's County Public Schools, 14201 School Lane, Upper Marlboro, Maryland, 20772. Fax: 301-952-6015 or 301-952-6238.

For more information contact Robin Breedon, director of Communications, or Athena Ware, supervisor of External Communications, in the Office of Communications at 301-952-

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Action

Action

Action

Action

Action

Discussion



PRELIMINARY AGENDA

MEETING OF GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS Thursday, May 25, 2000 • 7:30 p.m. GHI Board Room

Key Agenda Items

a) Board Reorganization and Election of Officers b) Designation of GDC Stockholders

c) Schedule Board/Audit Committee Training

d) Summer Meeting Schedule e) Contract for Mechanical Engineer - 1st Reading

R Use of Personal Security Devices

Regular Board meetings are open to members.

PRESENTS

The First Annual

WHEN: Saturday, May 20

TIME: Anytime between 2:00pm and 5:00pm

WHERE: Greenbelt Community Center-Gym

There will be a variety of activities throughout the day including tours. crafts, games, face painting and staff to answer any questions. All camps will be





REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL ROOM May 22, 2000 - 8:00 P.M.

- I. ORGANIZATION
 - 1. Call to Order
 - 2. Roll Call
 - 3. Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
 - 4. Consent Agenda Approval of Staff Recommendations (The consent agenda consists of those items marked by an asterisk [*] subject to such revisions as may be made by the Council prior to approval.)
 - 5. Approval of Agenda and Additions

II. COMMUNICATIONS

- 6. Presentations
- 7. Public Hearings
 - -2nd Public Hearing on Proposed FY 2001 Budget and Hearing on Constant Yield Tax Rate
- Petitions and Requests

(Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless the standing rules are waived by the Council.)

- Minutes of Meetings
- 10. Administrative Reports
- Committee Reports * 11.

III. LEGISLATION

- 12. A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of a Dump Truck from Tysons Ford of Vienna. Virginia at a Cost of \$44.059.46 -2nd Reading
- A Resolution to Establish Admission Fees and Pass Rates for the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center and Repeal Resolution 764 -2nd Reading
- A Resolution for Negotiated Purchase of Ballfield Lights for Braden Field -1st Reading

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

- 15. Amendment to Policy on Non-Resident Summer Daily Admission to the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center
- Presentation on Proposal for Curfew Law
- Plan to Upgrade City Playgrounds
- Memorial Garden at Schrom Hills Park
- Electric Aggregation Coalition
- Proposed Agreement with Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATE)
- Red Light Traffic Cameras Memorandum of Understanding
- Approval of Board of Appeals Resolution for Variance
- * 23. Local Government Insurance Trust (LGIT) Board of Trustees Ballot
- Attendance at National League of Cities' Small Cities Council Steering Committee Summer Meeting
- Resignation from the Board of Elections

MEETINGS

- Four Cities Coalition Meeting Date and Agenda

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. For information, please call 301-474-3870. If special accommodations are required to make this meeting accessible to any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 or 301-474-2046 (TDD) to request such accommodation before 10:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting.

> Check out the Greenbelt Citylink website at www.ci.greenbelt.md.us

> > Kathleen Gallagher City Clerk

Kraft

Sauces

Star Kist

Tuna

Best Yet

Napkins

Cut Ziti-

Vermicelli-

Cinnamon

Pebbles Cereal

Crunch

Ketchup

Kraft

Macaroni

Assorted

Varieties

Cat Foods

Pickle Spears

Friskies

Vlasic

Kraft

Miracle

Dill

& Cheese Dinners

Elbow Macaroni

San Giorgio

Barbecue

All Flavors

Solid White

GROCERY BARGAINS

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18 oz.

250 pk

16 oz.

13 oz.

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5.5 oz.

Kraft

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Kraft

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Italian

Lipton

Lemon

Dixie Ultra

Paper

Cups

Iced Tea Mix

Pickle Relishes Asst. Varieties

Match Light

Quik Light

Charcoal

Best Yet

Regular

Ground

Coffee

All Purpose-

HEALTH & BEAU

Colombian

Marquee Ultra

Dura Kleen

Hairbrush &

Styling Set

Toothbrushes 🔲

Makes 20 Qts.

Bread

Dressings

Mayonnaise

Original-Reduced Fat 32 oz.

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20 oz.

50 pk.-9 oz.

11-13 oz.

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Fresh

89

16 oz

Lloyd's Assorted Barbecues 32 oz

Fresh Veal Loin Chops Leidy Sausage Grillers Homestyle

Beef Burgers Claussen Pickles **All Varieties** 20 oz. min.

Kraft Cracker Barrel Cheeses 10 oz. stick

Breakstone Sour Cream

16 oz. Orange

Juice 96 oz. Kraft Square Singles American-Swiss-Sharp 12 oz.

Wampler Turkey Breast Brown Sugar-Lite

Ham

Imported

Domestic Swiss Cheese

Fresh Tasty Country-or-Dutch Potato Salad

HOT FOODS DELI

Hot-To-Go \$ 349 Stouffer Macaroni & Cheese

Fresh Instore Baked French Bread SEAFOOD

Alaskan Frozen Snow Crab Legs

Whip Original-Lite 32 oz.

Puffs

49 Unbreakable Plastic

250 pk.

Starplast Plastics S

HOUSEWARES

Ice Cream Scoop each

Best Yet

Crisp Crunchy **Empire** Apples

California Premium Strawberries

Ripe Cantaloupes

Choice 32 oz Lemons

6-7 oz.

.3-3 oz.

26 oz.



French's Squeeze Mustard Original-

Deli Brown 12-16 oz. Doritos Corn Chips

Asst. Flavors 10-14 oz. Dixie Ultra Paper

25 pk.-83/4 in.

2 liter Lundberg Organic

Rice Cakes

Beverage

Fresh Express Garden Salad Mix 1 lb. bag

Crisp Baby **Peeled Carrots**

Super Select 2/5 Cucumbers

Fruit Club For Kids FREE EMPIRE APPLE See Store For Details

FROZEN FOOD

Hanover

Spinach-

Minute Maid

Lemonade

Concentrate

Yellow Corn-

Cut Green Beans-

Mixed Vegetables

Seeet Peas-

89 Green Giant 5 **Red Potatoes**

5 lb. bag

16 oz. Red

Vidalia

Sweet

Onions

12 oz. Healthy Choice Chicken Fajitas -10-Chicken Alfredo

Cool Whip Dessert Topping

6 pack - 12 oz. N.R.'s

Round Hill \$ Wines

6 pk. 12 oz. cans

Kendall-Jackson \$ Chardonnay Wine Wine 750 ml.

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Prescriptions

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Buy 1

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> SAN GIORGIO SPAGHETTI REGULAR-THIN

Buy 1 GET 1 FREE 16 oz.

With This Coupon & \$7.50 Min. Purchase. Excluding Coupon Items. Limit 1 Per Customer FLEMING YORK PSC #134, PO BOX 589, YORK, PA 17405-0589

OUPON IS VALID MONDAY, 5-22 THRU SUNDAY, 5-28-00

Buy 1 BREYER'S GET 1 YOGURTS FREE **ALL VARIETIES**

8 oz. With This Coupon & \$7.50 Min. Purchase. Excluding Coupon Items. Limit 1 Per Customer FLEMING YORK PSC #134 PO BOX 589 YORK PA 17405-0589

COUPON IS VALID MONDAY, 5-22 THRU SUNDAY, 5-28-00 EDEEM ONLY AT GREENBELT CO-OP KOOL AID Buy 1 PRESWEETENED GET 1 FREE

FRUIT DRINK MIXES 19-20 oz. ASSORTED FLAVORS

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COUPON IS VALID MONDAY, 5-22 THRU SUNDAY, 5-28-00 REDEEM ONLY AT GREENBELT CO-OP

> BLUE BONNET MARGARINE QUARTERS

GET 1 FREE 1 lb.

Buy 1

With This Coupon & \$7.50 Min. Purchase. Excluding Coupon Items. FLEMING YORK PSC #134, PO BOX 589, YORK, PA 17405-0589

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loaf

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Marshmallows Original-Mini Handi Snack

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Pudding Cups

Rice Dream Non-Dairy

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7-10 oz.

32 oz.

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POLICE BLOTTER

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

Sexual Assault

9100 block of Springhill Lane, May 7, 9:28 p.m., a female was walking by a group of youths when they began to call her names. Two of the youths then approached her and began fondling her. The victim broke away and ran to a neighbor's house to call police. The victim was transported to the hospital for observation.

Assault

6000 block of Springhill Drive, May 7, 6:53 a.m., a woman and a companion were leaving the woman's apartment when her estranged husband lunged at them with a large knife and allegedly threatened to kill them. A warrant was obtained charging the husband, a 20-year-old nonresident, with two counts of first-degree assault, two counts of second-degree assault, and violation of an ex-parte order. The warrant was given to the Prince George's County sheriff's department for service.

7800 block of Hanover Parkway, May 10, 10:14 a.m., a 15year-old was chased and assaulted by three other persons while waiting at a bus stop. The victim was transported to the hospital for treatment of minor contusions.

8100 block of Lakecrest Drive, May 11, 8:38 p.m., a man and his girlfriend were involved in a verbal altercation when she cut him on the arm with a knife. She then fled the scene. The victim refused treatment for a minor laceration to his arm. Investigation is continu-

Drugs

7 court of Southway, May 9, 8:52 p.m., a 16-year-old resident

was arrested on petition for possession of marijuana. Officers responding to a report of youths shooting a pellet gun discovered that one was in possession of a quantity of suspected marijuana. The youth was released to a guardian pending action by the juvenile justice system.

Burglary and Theft

Eleanor Roosevelt High School, May 5, 12:55 p.m., a 16-year-old nonresident was arrested on petition for theft in reference to a purse stolen at the school. The youth was released pending action by the Board of Education and the juvenile justice system.

7600 block of Ora Glen Drive, May 8, 9:28 p.m., a storage bin was broken into; toys and clothing were taken.

9200 block of Edmonston Road, May 9, 8:02 p.m., a television set and a video game player were taken. Entry was gained by unknown means.

44 court of Ridge Road, May 11, 7:41 a.m., someone attempted to gain entry into a residence by tampering with the front door

The Party Store at Beltway Plaza Mall, May 11, 5:22 p.m., an unattended purse was taken.

Jasper's in Greenway Shopping Center, May 12, 12:56 a.m., an unsecured purse was taken from behind the reception desk.

Trespassing

9200 block of Springhill Lane, May 9, 6:50 p.m., a 24-year-old male nonresident was arrested and charged with trespassing after being observed on the property of Springhill Lake Apartments after

being banned. He was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Vandalism

9100 block of Edmonston Court, May 6, 6:40 p.m., an 11year-old resident and a 9-year-old resident were arrested and released to parents on petition for malicious destruction after they threw rocks at a bedroom window, breaking it.

9200 block of Springhill Lane, May 10, 1:50 p.m., a recycling bin was spray painted with a swastika.

Vehicle Crimes

The following vehicles were reported stolen: a white four-door 1987 Toyota Camry with Maryland tags 007 BBC, May 5, from the 37 court of Ridge Road; a tan four-door 1988 Toyota Camry with Maryland tags CBL 056, May 5, from the 9200 block of Springhill Lane; a red four-door 1988 Chevrolet Spectrum with New Jersey tags HUU 73R, May 8, from the 100 block of Westway; and a black two-door Mercury Tracer with Maryland tags 768 BFB, May 10, from Greenway Shopping Center.

Vandalisms to and thefts from vehicles were reported in the following areas: 9100 block of Springhill Lane, 6000 block of Cherrywood Court, 6100 block of Cherrywood Lane, 6000 block of Springhill Drive, 15 Crescent Road, 7400 block of Greenway Center Drive, Beltway Plaza Mall, 7800 block of Cloister Place, and 7600 block of Hanover Parkway.

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Greenbell Swim Team Registration for the Summer Session Je/Sr Team-swimmers 6 to 18 years

Date: Time: 5:00-6:00 p.m. May 23, 24, 25

Aquatic & Fitness Center

\$30 per swimmer Registration Fee

\$30 per family Volunteer Point Fee ('returned if earned')

Registration is open to swimmers who are Greenbelt Residents or non-residents who are summer members of the Greenbelt Aquatic Fitness Center. Proof of membership or residency required at reg-

For more information contact: Mark Otto at 301-431-1838 Or visit our website at www.greenbelt.com/swimteam

ATTENTION GHI MEMBERS **Community Beautification Program**

The fifth week of the 2000 Community Beautification Program will start May 23rd. The units scheduled for that week of the program will include the following:

- 7 through 15 courts of Laurel Hill Road
- 19, 20 & 22 courts of Hillside Road
- 133 Greenhill
- 65 & 73 courts of Ridge Road

Further updates will be posted weekly in the News Review as needed. All questions, comments or suggestions should be directed to Phillip Rondeau at (301) 474-4161 ext. 132. When possible, calls will be answered within 24 hours.

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DR. CLAYTON S. MCCARL, JR. Fellow in Academy of General Dentistry.

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8-5 Monday 9-8:30 Tuesday 9-8:30 Wednesday Thursday 8-4 Friday 8-4 Saturday 8-11:30

FOP

(Continued from page 1)

rectly on the FOP request. When asked by Councilmember Thomas White, he noted that the personnel officer is conducting a citywide pay and benefit study, which he expects to present to council within two months. The budget includes \$125,000 which can be used to pay the cost of any approved increases. That amount, he acknowledged, could be too much or too little.

Retention Issues

Other issues affecting the city's ability to attract and retain officers, according to State Trustee John Rogers (a Greenbelt officer), are the lack of promotion opportunities and the lack of benefits. Compared to bigger agencies, there is relatively little room for advancement in Greenbelt's 53 officer force. While the city has responded to the past FOP concerns by creating the Master Patrol Officer rank between the Private First Class and Corporal ranks, in a relatively small force, there are years when few or no positions are posted. Rogers noted that there could be "a lot of room for upward mobility" in the next five years if senior officers retired when eligible, but that will likely be followed by another lull. Davis and Rogers agreed on one thing; there is little the city can do to increase promotion opportunities with a small force. "We can't have five chiefs," said Davis.

Rich also called for a review of the entire police pay scale against other departments. It is possible, he said, that a city police lieutenant may make less than a sergeant in another jurisdiction.

Benefits

The main benefit concern of the FOP is the retirement system. All of the large police forces have left the MCLEO system. Keeping that system functioning would require high contributions for low benefits. Although the officers had the option to join the enhanced state retirement system, they opted not to do so, as it would have required them to work

The FOP is currently studying alternate systems. They told council they need an upactuarial study. McLaughlin said that a new study could be done at any time. However, the studies are costly (roughly \$7,500), so he is reluctant to recommend that one be conducted until the FOP has narrowed its options and is ready to make a decision based upon the results. He did not specifically fund it in the budget for that reason, but was confident that funds would be available when needed.

Snow Policy

Greenbelt's government did not close on January 25, when many other jurisdictions did. The federal government closed, although this closure was announced late. As a result, employees who decided that they could not safely make it in to work were charged a day's leave. Those who did come in received only their normal pay. The FOP requested that employees who did not come in should have their leave restored because the city government should have closed, and those

who did report to work should be rewarded for their efforts with overtime pay.

The FOP found a receptive -among audience councilmembers to the concern that the city does not have a clearly stated snow policy nor any good way to announce the city government's status to workers. They also mentioned several times that they did not have the option exercised by the city manager of hitching a ride to work on a snow plow. (Davis had little sympathy with this argument "So move back to Greenbelt," she said.)

McLaughlin said that for as long as he has worked for the city, how to handle snow and other emergency situations has been handled on a case-by-case basis. The city government has closed only rarely. McLaughlin thought that the city had closed once in the 1990s and twice in the 1980s. When the city has closed, those employees who had to work received double time.

In the past, he said, most city employees were also city residents and the public works snow plowing gave them little reason to stay home. Now, however, employees are more dispersed, so McLaughlin agreed that it is probably time to consider a more formal policy. However, trying to separate city staff into essential and nonessential employees could be difficult. Obviously, police and the public works staff who work on snow removal are essential. The city tries to keep its recreational facilities open since the schools are closed, and the administrative offices are the first place many citizens call for information, so he also tries to keep

Council also directed McLaughlin to look at better ways to communicate the status of the city government to employees.

The request for compensation for the January storm, however, appeared a harder sell. The FOP worded their request in terms of wanting a liberal leave policy. Davis noted that liberal leave is exactly what the FOP was describing as having happened—staff (including, noted Jeff Wil-

Public Works Employees Seek Competitive Pay

by Betsy Likowski

Employees of the city's Department of Public Works told the city council of their concerns with cost of living adjustments (COLAs), merit pay, performance pay, and retirement plans at a worksession on Tuesday, April 25. This is the first time the public works employees have met with council to discuss their concerns. Mayor Judith Davis suggested they should meet with council on a regular basis, just as the employees of the police department meet with council once a year during budget review time to discuss their concerns.

These issues affect other city employees, too, said Karl Skaggs, crewleader for the Parks Department. Jeff Keifline of the horticultural crew and Joe Doss of the parks crews also spoke on behalf of the public works employees.

The main issue is that the city have a pay scale competitive with other jurisdictions and

liams, city finance officer, some police officers) who did not feel they could make it in safely, stayed home and were charged a day of leave.

Roberts stated that he did not think it appropriate for the FOP to ask for extra pay just because they came to work. White said that he needed to apply a certain logic to his decisions. "Here I'm not seeing any logic," he said. Rogers said that the bottom line was that the city should not have been open.

one that keeps up with the local cost of living, said Skaggs. A chart handed out at the meeting (which was from the budget book for fiscal year 1998) showed the COLA's for Greenbelt employees at 2.75% in FY93, 1.5% in FY94, 1.5% in FY95, 0 in FY96 and FY97. In comparison to other jurisdictions, at the low end employees for Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission received only one COLA of 3% in that period in FY95. At the high end Bowie city employees received COLAs of 3% in FY93, FY94, FY95, FY97 and 2.5% in FY96. After five or six years two and three percent becomes a significant amount to a lot of people, said Skaggs.

Also discussed was merit pay. In FY93 thru FY97 the range of merit pay was 1.33-4%. During the same time period on the high end, College Park employees received 5% every fiscal year, and on the low end, Laurel workers received merit pay in FY93 and FY94 at a range of 1.7-3% and none the other three fiscal years. In Greenbelt, employees who have risen to the top of their grade are only eligible for the 1.33% merit pay.

Councilmembers expressed their empathy for the employees. There is \$125,000 in the
proposed budget set aside so
that council can address salary
inequities if it so chooses, said
City Manager Michael
McLaughlin. Council could
decide to review and work on

these issues when a compensation review report is completed. City staffer Connie Harris is surveying 10-12 local communities to compare how they address issues raised at this worksession. And the report will compare job to job, for example the pay a foreman receives in Greenbelt to one in College Park, explained McLaughlin. And as part of this whole discussion, staff has thought of having a look into deciding where the city's pay and compensation scale should be in comparison to other local cities. For example should the city's pay be in the top 25% of local governments, said McLaughlin.

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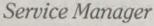
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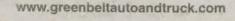
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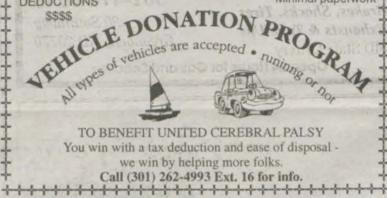
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Museum Budget Increase Asked to Fund Full-Time Curator

by Altoria Bell Ross

The Greenbelt Museum asked for support from the Greenbelt City Council for a \$2,000 budget increase in fiscal year 2001 (FY2001) to help fund a full-time curator and an additional \$500 to cover miscellaneous operating expenses at a May 1 worksession. The museum's FY 2000 budget was

In 1986, the city bought a perpetual use contract for the house at 10-B Crescent Road for use as a museum. The city pays Greenbelt Homes, Inc.'s (GHI) monthly charges, provides insurance, takes care of the building's exterior and its grounds and pays part of the cost of the museum's curator. The Friends of the Greenbelt Museum (FOGM), a private citizens' group, pays the utility bills and operates the museum.

In running the museum, FOGM has applied for a matching grant from the Maryland Historical Trust to expand to full-time the part-time curator's position currently held by Katie Scott-Childress. If approved, the city would contribute \$12,000; FOGM, \$10,000; and the Trust, \$21,000, totaling \$33,000 for the curator's salary and \$10,000 for benefits, according to Sandra Lange, president of FOGM. For the next three fiscal years, the additional funds, between \$10,000 and \$15,000, will have to be appro-

"We are a growing organization," Lange said. "We are increasing our attendance and the hours professional staff are involved in the museum and working on activities." An estimated 1,687 people visited the museum in 1999. They included groups from the Philippines and Japan, as well as locals from the Girl Scouts to the University of Maryland School of Architecture, according to the city's proposed budget report for FY01.

Mayor Judith Davis asked if the museum would be open on Saturdays if it had a full-time curator. At present, 35 volunteer docents give tours from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays and during the week by appointment. "We certainly would want to make that a goal," Lange said.

"Why do you need a fulltime person since you have so volunteers?" Councilmember Rodney Roberts

"They (the volunteers) don't do programming and they are not involved in the day-to-day activities. They don't do research," said Mary Linstrom, FOGM board member.

"I'm just having a problem with increasing the staff," Roberts said.

"A curator is not a warm person, sitting there all day," Davis said. "They take care of materials." According to the budget report, the curator is responsible for preserving and cataloging furnishings, textiles,

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and other items used in the 1930s and 1940s that are displayed at the museum.

"I need to be convinced," Roberts said.

"I think tourism would increase if you have a full-time person," said Jill Parsons St. John, assistant curator. "Tourism would increase revenue to the town."

"Can you show me in the next three years we can cover the cost?" Roberts asked. "The proof's in the pudding, right?"

"We have sold a lot of houses," said Lange, who mentioned that St. John moved here from Arlington, VA.

"Do we get a cut from GHI for that?" he asked.

"I support this 100%," said Councilmember Edward Putens, who explained Roberts' stance. Putens said the city council has received many requests for more staffing, and the council is under a great deal of pressure to decide on who gets extra personnel. Putens gave an example of whether to grant a request for more staff to aid senior citizens or for additional help at the museum.

"The commitment you make is a commitment of good faith," Lange said. "For now, this is a good opportunity when we have a major matching grant, and it sort of eases the burden.'

"If a couple councilmembers would renew their memberships, that would help with the fundraising," Davis quipped.

Councilmember Thomas White suggested the museum staff contact the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission for funding,

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Make-up and Modeling Sessions

but Lange did not think the organization would be interested in assisting them. After an extended discussion on other budget issues, Davis upheld the museum's existence.

"The museum's a good place for people to learn about the history of the city of Greenbelt," she said.

"It seems like I'm made out as a scrooge. I'm just being a devil's advocate," Roberts said. "We can't continue to raise taxes every year. I think we have to be prudent for the longterm. You can't go on forever like that. If we get to the point where we have more income, we can spend more."

CARES Budget

Following the museum budget review, Greenbelt CARES Director Carol Leventhal briefed council on the organization's accomplishments. She reported that the parenting skills workshops that convened in February at Springhill Lake Elementary School and led by psychologist Shane Perrault are doing well.

"He's doing an excellent job and has gotten the same people to come every week," Leventhal said. "I've been told they won't go home."

She said that participants who come either on Wednesday evenings or Saturday mornings are parents of the children who attend the elementary school. The school's principal had referred many of them.

These workshops, along with anger management sessions at Greenbelt Elementary and Eleanor Roosevelt High schools, have resulted from a \$40,075 grant CARES received

in January from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. However, the sessions at Roosevelt are not going as well as the parenting workshops, Leventhal said.

"The high school has an attendance problem. They (the students) are either on suspension or in jail," she said. Leventhal added that these sessions are involuntary, and the students are often sent by guidance counselors.

Another CARES service that Leventhal highlighted was the Crisis Intervention Counselors program, whose staff fielded 154 calls last year for help with sexual assaults, domestic violence, and other family issues. Despite the telephone calls for assistance, Leventhal said the domestic violence program that started in May is having difficulty getting off the ground because of low atten-

"All the stuff you do over there is unbelievable," said Putens to Leventhal.

"We are trying to fill the gaps," said Davis, referring to the various social services the organization via the city offers the community. CARES, too. is seeking to fill in the gaps -

in pay for FY01. It is proposing a \$5 an hour increase for the CARES consulting psychologist, whose last raise was in FY98, and increased salaries and benefits to staff (totaling \$20,100). CARES FY00 budget is \$280,400; the agency is requesting \$300,300 for FY01.

Council and staff also discussed some of the special revenue funds, including one for the city cemetery on Ivy Lane that no longer has available lots. Davis suggested designating a place for those who have been cremated. In reference to the debt service fund, Michael McLaughlin, city manager, said the city is on schedule to be debt-free in six years.

During discussion of the replacement fund, he explained that vehicles are replaced based on the operating record rather than solely on age and that the city does its own service maintenance. He added that smaller crews are assigned to vehicles. and when this happens, the driver tends to take good care

Vehicles listed to be purchased in FY01 include a \$115,000 refuse truck, a \$20,000 passenger van, and a \$25,000 4 x 4 truck.



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