The documentary focused on several men’s experiences with handicap accessibility across Europe. Filmmaker Reid Davenport created the film after being discouraged from studying abroad in Italy. Davenport, who has cerebral palsy, uses a wheelchair for mobility and was told he would be unable to get around. “Wheelchair Diaries” is poignant and funny at the same time,” Gervasi said.

Davenport hopes to spread awareness about problems the disabled face in the U.S. and abroad, he said.

The film also won the Best Short Documentary Award at the Awareness Festival in Los Angeles. Led Zeppelin Played Here, a documentary film, was by far the most popular film screened, Gervasi said.

About 100 people, a handful of whom wore original Led Zeppelin concert T-shirts, attended the screening.

Director Jeff Krulik’s first feature-length film explored the legend that the iconic rock band, touring then as the New Yardbirds, performed a concert 20 minutes west of Greenbelt to a crowd of slightly over 50 the night of President Richard Nixon’s inauguration. Some of his subjects asserted they were at the concert, while others shook their heads, saying it never happened. “I was really pleased,” said Krulik. “Any time you have a chance to screen your work in a big theater where the audience laughs at all the right places and claps and waves their flags. We provided a gun salute. The ceremony concluded with prayer and the audience singing ‘God Bless America.’”

Audience attendance including Mayor Elect Emmett Jordan.

Wiggins has High Praise For Magnolia Elementary

Maryland film buffs and Greenbelt locals laughed, cried and reminisced about navigating Europe via wheelchair, visiting North Korea and attending rock band concerts during the ninth annual Utopia Film Festival over the October 19 and 20 weekend.

Festival staff estimated that they filled about 950 seats over the course of the two-day, 43-film festival, according to Susan Gervasi, executive director of the Utopia Film Festival.

“This year was our biggest turnout ever,” she said.

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Audience attendance including Mayor Elect Emmett Jordan.
A Review

Kennedy and Stevens Show At New Deal Is First Class

by Elizabeth (Betsy) Barber

On November 10 I went to a first-class art show opening at the New Deal Café featuring the work of Barbara Stevens and Dan Kennedy. Entering the front room of the café, I found Kennedy sitting at a table talking with friends. His paintings reveal his possession of technical skills that he specializes in painting Greenbelt homes in our neighborhood. It is his distinctive ability to capture to perfection the individuality of each house he paints. If you stand in front of one of his works, you can tell exactly where the house is located. If you are a walker, as I am, you are delighted to recognize the roads and pathways, the trees and gardens that make up our Greenbelt community.

Kennedy’s works show his fine gift of perspective, vanishing points, getting the distance right, bringing in the clouds and skies perfectly. Shadows are a big thing with Kennedy. Often they are placed in a dramatic way, leading the eye, by strokes of lovely greys, blues or light purples, to the features of his paintings. In a glass case three sculptures — strong, yet very delicate — are featured structure. On the far wall the new paintings, mostly done as collages on canvass, were two large paintings from 1968. There was an interchange between the new paintings and the older ones. The same vibrant color but the larger, older works were of fragmented images, not as condensed as the newer ones.

Julia Wade, curator of the show, again displayed her fine ability in putting the paintings in the perfect place. The walls were balanced with fine sensitivity and knowledge. “There are 40 artists in Greenbelt,” she told me. What a great community we have!

Thanksgiving Week Deadline Changes

Thursday, November 28 is Thanksgiving. The News Review deadline must change that week so the paper can be printed Wednesday, November 27. All deadlines will back up one day to finish the paper in advance of out-of-state printing before the holiday. Thanksgiving Week the deadline will be Monday, November 25.

Notice to All

All copy – ads, articles, photos, letters – must be received no later than Monday, November 25 for the November 28 issue. Any material received after November 25 will be held for the issue dated December 5.

Heart-healthy Eating Workshop for Women

On Monday, November 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Doctors Community Hospital and the National Coalition for Women and Heart Health will offer a free Women Heart Health nutrition support group program with certified dietician Tanya Johnson on healthy holiday eating. It will be held in the Joslin Diabetes Center in DSE Rooms A and B on the fifth floor of the hospital’s North Building, 8100 Good Luck Road, Lanham.

The program aims to help women who have or support someone who has heart disease and those who may be at risk of heart disease make well-educated, heart-healthy decisions.

To register call 301-224-4968.

County Library Now Has Online Streaming

Hoopla offers titles from major Hollywood studios, record companies and publishers for streaming or temporary access to smartphones, tablets and computers. To access Hoopla through web browsers, Android and IOS, learn more or register to use the service, go to pgcMLS.org.

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Mailed copy 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.

GIVE BLOOD, GIVE LIFE

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

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW Thursday, November 21, 2013

Smell Gas?
(Sulfur or rotten eggs)
Call Washington Gas Light
800-752-7520 or 911

Old Greenbelt Theatre
Week of Nov 22
12 Years A Slave (R)

Friday
7, 7:45

Saturday, Sunday
2:15, 7:45

Monday - Thursday
7, 7:45

*These shows at $5.00
Tuesday is Bargain Day. All Seats Only $5.00.
Now accepting Visa, Discover, MasterCard, American Express, cash, check and coupons and tickies and concessions.
301-476-9744 • 301-476-9745
129 Connerway
www.pandgtheatres.com

Giving thanks for the gift of perspective, vanishing points, getting the distance right, bringing in the clouds and skies perfectly. Shadows are a big thing with Kennedy. Often they are placed in a dramatic way, leading the eye, by strokes of lovely greys, blues or light purples, to the features of his paintings.
Next Week
Friday, November 22
The weekly deaf brunch discussion is 11 p.m. Sunday, December 1
and will feature Frenchy & Café by a steampunk folk cabaret swing and gospel.

Renaud, the monthly Cajun melodies to the café.  Wednesday, November 27, 2013

Ayarheart will combine original semi-acoustic roots rock with 8 p.m. Ayreheart will combine original semi-acoustic roots rock from 8 to 11 p.m.  On

It is recommended that you pre-purchase your ticket for this event.  Visit the box office during business hours to purchase your ticket or call 301-379-2208 ext. 4215 for information on purchasing tickets by phone.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

Community Events
Upcoming Events At New Deal Café

For more information please call 301-474-6964.

Golden Age Club by Bunny Fitzgerald

The Golden Age Club has had two very interesting programs recently. We had two K-9 officers and a K-9 dog visit us. The trainers gave a very informative talk and then the dog demonstrated how well trained it was. To use those overused words-“It was amazing!”

Prince George’s Sheriff Melvin High gave a talk on the duties of the Sheriff’s Department. Then members of the Department told us about scams and how to avoid them.

Many thanks to Program Chair Suzie Marley for these events. There will be no meeting on November 27 due to the holidays.

On Wednesday, December 4 elections of club officers will be held for 2014. Come out to give them your support. The officers will be installed in June. Thanks to the Nominating Committee for the phone calls and finding volunteers to keep the club active.

Have a happy holiday with family and friends and be thankful for all the blessings we enjoy.

Join the Cajun Jam At New Deal Café

On Wednesday, November 27 a free Cajun Jam will be held at the New Deal Café from 7 to 9 p.m. for dancers, musicians and listeners; the usual socializing will begin with food available for purchase at 6 p.m. Beginners are welcome.

For more information visit www.newdealcafe.com.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
Hunger Games: Catching Fire, PG-13 (!) 11, 12:20, 2:10, 4:50, 6, 7:30, 9, 10:10
Best Man Holiday, R (!) 11:15, 12:20, 12:45, 2:05, 3:35, 4:50, 5:45, 6:45, 7:30, 9, 9:30
Thor 2: The Dark World, in 3D, PG-13 (!) 3:20, 9, 10
Thor 2: The Dark World, in 2D, PG-13 (!) 11, 12:20, 2:10, 4:50, 6, 7:30, 9, 9:30
Free Birds, PG 11:20, 3:35, 3:45
Black Nativity, PG (!) 10, 3:20

SUNDAY & MONDAY
Hunger Games: Catching Fire, PG-13 (!) 11, 12:20, 2:10, 4:50, 5:20, 6, 7:30
Best Man Holiday, R (!) 11:15, 12:20, 12:45, 2:05, 3:35, 4:50, 5:45, 6:45, 7:30
Thor 2: The Dark World, in 3D, PG-13 (!) 3:20
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Free Birds, PG 11:20, 3:35, 3:45
Black Nativity, PG (!) 10

Continuing this Week

Hunger Games: Catching Fire, PG-13 (!)
11, 12:20, 2:10, 4:50, 5:20, 6, 7:30
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Free Birds, PG 11:20, 3:35, 3:45
Black Nativity, PG (!) 10

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
Black Nativity, PG (!) 11:40, 2:10, 4:50, 6:30, 9:10
Frozen, in 3D, PG (!) 4, 9:45
Frozen 2, PG-13 (!) 11:10, 12, 13:25, 2:45, 5, 7:15
Homeland, R (!) 11:20, 1:30, 4:10
Hunger Games: Catching Fire, PG-13 (!) 11:50, 3:45, 4:10, 7:10
Best Man Holiday, R (!) 11:15, 12:30, 2:45, 4:50, 6, 7:30, 9:10, 10:25
Thor 2: The Dark World, PG-13 (!) 11, 20, 2:10, 4:50, 7, 9, 10:20

ACADEMY STADIUM THEATRE
6198 GREENBELT ROAD
CENTER COURT OF BELTWAY PLAZA
(301) 238-8000
www.academytheaters.com
Most shows are $5.00
all day on Tuesday; add $2.00 for 3-D
8 – 8:30 Reservations

WEEK OF NOV 22

Kernels, the popular folk rockers from New York. Several members will take to the stage with their personal telescopes and binoculars for the enjoyment of all.

Come see a view of Earth’s waxing crescent moon through the 14-inch Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope. Are you available? There is no admission charge.

At the Library
The library will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 27 and remain closed on Thursday, November 28 for the Thanksgiving holiday. Storytime for 2 to 5 years-old will resume on Thursday, December 5 at 10:30 a.m.

For more information call 301-345-5800, visit the Greenbelt branch library or go to the library system website at pgcmls.info to review available materials and/or for other library services. For automated phone renewal call 301-333-0111.

GHI Notes

Friday and Saturday, November 22, Office Closed. For emergency maintenance call 301-474-6011. Monday and Tuesday, 7 p.m., Communications Committee Meeting – GHI Lobby barrel. November 28, Office Closed, Thanksgiving Day. For emergency maintenance, call 301-333-0111.

Friday, November 29, Office Closed – For emergency maintenance, call 301-474-6011.

Saturday, November 30, 11 a.m., Pre-purchase Orientation – Ballroom

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

For more information call 301-441-8770 or info@greenbeltartscenter.org

Located underneath the Greenbelt CO-OP

Holds Blood Drive

At the American Legion Post 136, 6900 Greenbelt Rd, Greenbelt, MD

Next Week
Thursday, November 26 from 7 to 9 p.m.  Tower Green will play Renaissance and fantasy-inspired motown at the café. Wednesday, November 27 the monthly Cajun Music Jam will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. and open audience members bringing instruments and joining in. Thursday, Thanksgiving Day, the café will be closed. On Friday, November 29 Greenberg plays classical and jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. followed by WAMMIE award-winning band The Hall Brothers headlining with a mix of rock, blues, country and swing from 8 to 11 p.m.

On November, Saturday 30 Greg Meyer’s Jazz Jam is 1 to 5 p.m., with all invited to come, join in this community jam session. Guernsey plays up-tempo jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m., then Little Red and the Red River Play play zydeco, R&B, funk and Cajun music from 8 to 11 p.m. Sunday, December 1 the weekly deaf brunch discussion is from 10:30 a.m. to noon. From 5 to 5:30 p.m., Cooking with Gas will play acoustic jazz, blues, swing and gospel.

Frenchy & the Punk

At Café on Friday

Friday, November 22

Frenchy & the Punk will return to the New Deal Café for a steampunk folk cabaret duo from New York. Frenchy & the Punk will bring Bohemian folk rock and French chants to local audiences from 8 to 11 p.m.

Frenchy & the Punk At Café on Friday

Friday, November 22, 2013

Weather permitting, on Saturday, November 23 the Astronomical Society of Greenbelt (ASG) will sponsor a star party at the newly painted roof of Greenbelt Observatory at Northway Field. Observing will begin as soon as it is dark and will continue around 6 p.m. although telescopes may be set up earlier. Several members will have setup their personal telescopes and binoculars for the enjoyment of all.

Meet Santa, Laughter & Merriment

At New Deal Café

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Thursday and Friday – All

Saturday, November 23

Bruce Kritt plays classical and jazz piano from 4 to 6 p.m. Guernsey plays up-tempo jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m., then the Jellly Roll Mortals take the stage with original semi-acoustic roots rock from 8 to 11 p.m. On Sunday, November 24 the weekly deaf brunch discussion is from 10:30 a.m. to noon. From 5 to 5:30 p.m. Ayreheart will combine original semi-acoustic roots rock from 8 to 11 p.m.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

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Evergreen Health Center Co-op to Open in January

by Charis Pannell

The Evergreen Health Co-op will open a health center in Greenbelt in the new year.

The center, to open January 2, will be located at 750 Greenway Center Drive, Suite 600 and will add to the various cooperatives and health care services already in the city.

According to the Evergreen Health website, the cooperative will provide health care using approaches similar to Greenbelt’s original health care cooperative, the Greenbelt Health Association, which was created in 1938 when residents voted for cooperative medicine. The association, which is no longer active, worked to provide low-cost health care to its Greenbelt members for a monthly fee.

According to Matt Jablow, public relations director for Evergreen Health, the new health center will work to reach a similar goal. “Our mission is to provide high quality affordable health care,” Jablow said. “We are especially interested in providing affordable health care to the working class.”

The Greenbelt City Manager Michael McLaughlin said that although Greenbelt is home to several health care services, like the new Community Clinic at Franklin Park, and although “the health care system is in the air,” new services like the Evergreen Health Co-op center could offer service that is “more comprehensive.”

The cooperative promises its members more time with doctors, better customer service and a team approach to health care.


Guiding Principles

Inspire of our struggles, blessings abound.

Greenbelters are asked to ponder about the many things for which they are thankful and share them with their neighbors.

Gratitude will be published in the Thanksgiving paper.

O ye that dwell on earth! The religion of God is for love and unity; make it not the cause of enmity or dissension. (Baha’u’llah)
After the war the new focus the black man had the ballot. "War was won. However, after the Civil War "Black Reconstruction" lecture Tuesday nights from September lecture presentations are held on efforts to secure citizenship and "This is the role that the black vote," concluded Gordon. WIGGINS continued from page 1 a school. "I had so much fun," said Wiggins, "I think I just said, 'Okay, I want to do this.'" Wiggins said her favorite part of her job is the relationships created between her and her students. They said she are all different and unique. "My personal goal is to continue to grow and do more creative things in her career and with her students and ultimately to leave a "lasting impact on their academic experiences."

Well-rounded "I would like my students to be able to become well-rounded and be able to compete academically and socially globally with any of their peers," said Wiggins. "I want them to be able to go to Hungary and be at the top of their class." She said there can be frustrating parts of teaching too specifically time constraints. She said that sometimes she would like to get more into a lesson but she is unable to due to timing. But Wiggins also said she likes to try and keep her classroom fun and exciting. "I probably sing some sort of throw-back song to my students every day in my lessons," she said. She laughed and said she was impressed when a student recently even joined in with her to sing Kris Kross "Jump." In her free time, Wiggins said she likes to read, shop and exercise. Wiggins said she was excited to be recognized for Education Week. She said she thought it was important that outstanding teachers and school staff members be honored somehow. "We put so much time, effort and energy into our jobs and our children," said Wiggins. "Even a simple ‘thank you’ is always appreciated." Gordon discussed the role of African American soldiers during the Civil War, emphasizing that, ultimately, the Union generals realized they could not win without the United States Colored Troops. Gordon said the struggle of African American veterans did not end, however, after the Civil War was over.

Wood said that currently she is working on various student intervention techniques and different learning strategies that teachers can use in the classroom to help students who may be struggling. She said these kinds of things are important to special education but can also help teachers in other classroom settings to deal with student issues on a daily basis.

When she is not teaching, Wood said she is usually spending time with her family. Wood, who has been married for 15 years, met her husband in high school. They have been together for 23 years in total, she said. Her two sons play football, basketball and they are on the track team and she said she is usually doing things for them as a team mom.

"Either that or I am with my daughter at the gym," said Wood. "I spend a lot of my time is spent with my kids and their sports."

Wood said she has always had a passion for teaching and plans to continue doing it for quite some time. She said she is grateful for the recognition she has received for Education Week and thinks it is important, especially for schools like Magnolia Elementary.

The lecture series, founded by historian and author C.R. Gibbs of the organizations like the American Anti-Slavery Society of the organizations like the American Anti-Slavery Society...
The Saga of the Beaver Wars: Throw ‘em Out, Let ‘em Stay

by Kelsey Sutton

Coexisting may be hard for married couples, siblings and archivals, but apparently it is just as hard for tree-lovers in Greenbelt and tree-eating beavers at Buddy Attick Park to live in harmony.

“I get emails complaining about the beavers,” said Brian Townsend, horticultural supervisor at Greenbelt’s Public Works. A clipboard posted to the fence near one of the more attractive trees in the park had pages filled will comments of residents who support relocating the beavers and those who wanted them to stay. All comments were anonymous.

“The cute beaver family is here to bring down as many trees as possible. It’s their job. Our job is to save the trees . . . Beavers bring down young and old trees alike: please stop the carnage,” one resident wrote.

“Beavers were here way before you. How would you like it if you were removed from your home? I say leave the damn beavers alone,” wrote another resident. Townsend noted that “beavers are kind of territorial.” “You can only have so many beavers per square mile of waterways,” he said.

The beavers were once relocated to a nearby wildlife facility but due to overcrowding relocated to a nearby wildlife facility. “We have budget restraints . . . we can’t do all the trees go and I do not want to see the trees go. So it will take creative thinking. I think Greenbelt can solve this problem,” said resident Jean Newcomb.

Another solution being implemented is fencing off certain trees with a fine-screened durable wire that keeps beavers out. “We have budget restraints . . . we can’t do all the trees we want so we try to do as many as we can. As we see more beaver activity we will fence some of those areas too,” Townsend said.

He cautioned, however, that if all the trees are fenced the beavers will find someone’s nearby property to damage.

Tree destruction is the biggest concern for those residents who would rather see beavers relocated than to suffer the loss of trees at the lake. “Live long in a forest. Not here,” wrote one resident.

“Leave the beavers alone . . . put protective screens on the trees to save them,” penned another.

“This year the beavers have been extremely active” compared to last year, Townsend said. He said the beavers will remove more trees. And ‘they’ll have litters. Their babies will stay in the area for a year before they move downstream to another area.

Despite criticism, the beavers are beneficial to the community because they create areas for water saturation and prevent water erosion with the creation of their dams. A solution Townsend came up with might sit well with both groups is to limit the beaver population with animal birth control.

“I think there’s a way to manage this whole problem . . . I do not want to see the beavers go and I do not want to see the trees go. So it will take creative thinking. I think Greenbelt can solve this problem,” said resident Jean Newcomb.

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Robbery
November 13, 1:43 a.m., 6000 block BreezeWood Drive. A pizza delivery person walking back to his car after making a delivery saw a man near his car. A second person approached the driver from behind and placed what the driver believed to be a gun to his back and demanded his coat. The delivery driver gave him his coat and both men fled on foot towards Cherywood Terrace.

November 13, 2:04 a.m., 6100 block BreezeWood Drive. A cab driver said the man he picked up in Langley Park and took to the 6000 block of BreezeWood Drive produced a handgun upon arrival and announced a robbery. He took the cab driver’s cell phone, money and a GPS unit and fled the scene on foot.

Reckless Endangerment
November 13, 6:23 p.m., 6800 block Landon Court. Unknown person(s) fired an unknown type of gun at two homes. No one was injured. A witness saw a vehicle described as a red Impala driving from the general area at approximately the same time. It is not known if he or the persons in the Impala are connected to the incident. An investigation is continuing.

Arrest
November 9, 11:26 p.m., Beltway Plaza. A 57-year-old Greenbelt woman was arrested and charged with second degree assault after allegedly striking a man in the face with a cane during an argument. The man refused medical treatment for his injuries. The woman was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

November 13, 6:12 p.m., 7900 block Mbandan Road. A 36-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with second degree assault after he allegedly punched another person several times during a verbal altercation. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner. The other person refused treatment for minor injuries.

Unattended Child
November 8, 3:23 p.m., Beltway Plaza. A 43-year-old Greenbelt woman was arrested and charged with leaving a child unattended after three children were observed alone in a car. The children, ages nine, two and one, were not injured. The woman was released on citation pending trial.

November 9, 4:16 p.m., Beltway Plaza. A 37-year-old nonresident woman was arrested and charged with leaving a child unattended after a four-year-old child was found wandering inside the Target store. The woman was released on citation pending trial.

Theft
November 11, 5:08 a.m., BreezeWood Drive and Edmonton Road. A 27-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with multiple alcohol-related offenses, among other charges, after a traffic stop.

November 11, 6:26 p.m., 7000 block Mathew Street. Jewelry was taken. Entry was gained by forcing open the basement door.

Vehicle Crime
A 4-door 2004 Ford Explorer stolen from the 7900 block Mbandan Road (rear Md. tag 5E5C28) and in the 6100 block BreezeWood Drive (stereo equipment). Vandalism was reported in the 7400 block Greenway Center Drive where unknown person(s) spray painted a vehicle.


Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robbery
November 9, 11:26 p.m., Beltway Plaza. A 57-year-old Greenbelt woman was arrested and charged with second degree assault after allegedly striking a man in the face with a cane during an argument. The man refused medical treatment for his injuries. The woman was released on citation pending trial.

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Happy Thanksgiving from Chef Lou's Desserts

Dont't Forget to Place Your Holiday Orders
Pies: Sweet Potato, Pumpkin, Apple, French Coconut...
Cakes: Cheese Cakes (variety of flavors), Cannoli Cake, Strawberry Shortcake, Obama Cake, Sweet Potato Cake, Mini Christmas Cakes, Buche de Noel, Carrot and others. Cookies, Brownies, Eccles, Banana Pudding and Lou's Homemade Rolls. Vegan and sugar-free desserts can be ordered!

Cheese Cakes (variety of flavors), Cannoli Cake, Strawberry Shortcake, Obama Cake, Sweet Potato Cake, Mini Christmas Cakes, Buche de Noel, Carrot and others. Cookies, Brownies, Eccles, Banana Pudding and Lou's Homemade Rolls. Vegan and sugar-free desserts can be ordered!

$5.00 off any order over $25.00
NEW Pumpkin Roll Places orders in advance with Chef Lou at 301-441-9560

You must present coupon at time of purchase. One coupon per transaction.

Don’t Miss a Step Because of Joint Pain.
Our Comprehensive Joint Replacement Program Can Help.

Doctors Community Hospital’s orthopedic program provides hope for people who suffer from arthritis and other joint pain in their hips, knees or shoulders. With a wide range of services that include accurate diagnoses, advanced surgical treatments and effective rehabilitation options, our experienced team has helped many people reduce or eliminate their joint pain.

In fact, our program has:

- Board-certified surgeons
- Fellowship-trained surgeons
- Highly skilled and compassionate physical therapists
- Surgical options that may result in shorter hospital stays, smaller incisions and faster recovery
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In addition to three physical therapy offices, we provide diagnostic, treatment and rehabilitation services at convenient locations in Bowie, Clinton and Lanham.

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Cakes: Cheese Cakes (variety of flavors), Cannoli Cake, Strawberry Shortcake, Obama Cake, Sweet Potato Cake, Mini Christmas Cakes, Buche de Noel, Carrot and others. Cookies, Brownies, Eccles, Banana Pudding and Lou's Homemade Rolls. Vegan and sugar-free desserts can be ordered!

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8118 Good Luck Road
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Community Offers Ideas at News Review Forum

by Marat Moore

More than 50 Greenbelters filled the back room of the New Deal Café on November 10 for a community forum organized by the board of directors of the Greenbelt News Review (GNR). The purpose of the forum, moderated by Assistant Editor Altoria Bell Ross, was to update the community on the newspaper’s financial challenges, recent efforts to expand the GNR’s base of income and get ideas for the future from readers who care about the long-term sustainability of the paper.

News Review staff reminded those attending that the paper is at a crossroads. Community newspapers across the country – and even major papers like The Washington Post – are threatened by the loss of advertising and have had to make some drastic decisions.

The GNR staff chose to go to members of the community directly to talk about how to move forward and to solicit their help in approaching area businesses where they shop to promote the benefits of advertising in the News Review.

The ideas generated at the forum will be considered by the board at a January meeting for possible follow-up action.

History

The Greenbelt News Review has a unique history and, as a cooperative enterprise, a structure unlike other newspapers in the country. The publishing cooperative was organized in 1937, the year of Greenbelt’s birth, and has been distributed free each week to all residents of the city for 76 years.

Mary Lou Williamson, long-time editor of the GNR, recalled the most dramatic event in the newspaper’s history, the long legal battle against a $2 million lawsuit brought by a developer against the newspaper in 1966. The battle ultimately involved the entire community and ended in a landmark First Amendment victory in the U.S. Supreme Court in 1970. The case expanded the right of newspapers to comment on public figures.

A Freedom of the Press Committee was formed and sought contributions with a statement saying that “seldom in our lifetimes are we privileged to make a direct contribution to protect one of our basic freedoms.” In one night $14,000 was pledged by Greenbelters who had little money to spare.

Finances

Advertising dollars cover the paper’s publishing-related expenses and have been steadily falling since the recession. Assistant Advertising Manager Mary Halford. In 2012 the paper’s losses totaled $23,000. "Voluntary subscription" donations from readers have brought in approximately $10,000 but expanded advertising is necessary for long-term survival.

This year’s ideal length for a diversity of stories, current advertising revenue doesn’t cover the cost of a 12-page paper.

That’s where you come in,” she told the crowd, pointing to the list of current advertisers. “If you do business with these advertisers, stop in and thank them for advertising in the News Review.

If your favorite places to shop or your doctor or other professionals you see regularly are not on the list, let them know they’re missing a terrific promotional opportunity.”

Greenbelt Barbara Havekost had success with this strategy. Lewis said. She went to a Beltsville business that hadn’t advertised and urged the owner to advertise to let residents know that the business existed. She went back with a copy of the newspaper, and a News Review volunteer followed up and made the sale.

Ross praised the contributions of 13 current interns, three of whom were present and participated in the forum.

“Young people are the future of the paper,” she said. The interns have been writing articles this fall and the program will continue until next summer. The program is funded by a grant from the Greenbelt Community Foundation.

Advertising

A new advertising committee was formed this year, chaired by News Review member Sylvia Lewis, who told the group that although a 16-page issue is the ideal length for a diversity of stories, current advertising revenue doesn’t cover the cost of a 12-page paper.

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She added that advertisers have praised the positive impact on their businesses from their ads in the News Review.

Testimonials will be gathered from these advertisers for future outreach efforts.

Braintorming

A broad-based discussion was held, facilitated by this reporter, to gather ideas to create a strong future for the paper. Among the ideas were the following:

• Form a nonprofit “Friends of the Greenbelt News Review.”
• Create a web-based community calendar.
• Publish a community calendar in the print issue with upcoming events for two to four weeks out, supported by ads sold at a premium.
• Create specialized advertising inserts.
• Recruit writers and publish stories from Greenbelt East and Greenbelt West.
• Launch a planned giving program. Donors could give through their wills or make the GNR the beneficiary of life insurance policies.
• Expand the GNR’s online presence. Consider creating a blog, LinkedIn and Facebook pages, with digitized stories that could be posted individually online.
• Knowledgeable students from the University of Maryland could be recruited to help upgrade the website and digitize online content. Students in multimedia classes in the journalism department could be contacted for this project.

The last segment of the forum brought attendees to a flipchart with colorful sticky notes, listing their favorite local businesses and services in the area including College Park, Hyattsville, Beltsville, Laurel and, of course, Greenbelt.

Readers wishing to add their ideas for the future (or potential advertisers) to the list being considered by the GNR board of directors can email maratmoore@gmail.com. Put “GNR Ideas” in the subject line.

Looking for some place to have a delicious Thanksgiving Dinner?

Enjoy a FREE Thanksgiving Dinner with all the fixings!

A Thanksgiving message will also be presented. Berwyn Baptist Church

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Nature and Music For Tiny Tots

On Tuesday, November 26 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. a nature and music program for children from 18 to 42 months old will be offered at the Patuxent National Wildlife Visitors Center. Bring a toddler to learn about wildlife at the refuge through songs and rhymes.

Public programs at Patuxent Research Refuge, www.paxtcent.fws.gov, are free although advance registration is required; call 301-497-5887. The Visitor Center is on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197.
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know with a display or classified ad
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**Greenbelt News Review**
Thursday, November 21, 2013

Page 10
Stories in Films Present Compelling Human Drama

by Sandra A. Lange

Serious, sad, light-hearted and often funny, one thing the films presented at this year’s Utopia Film Festival, Flying Pigeon Productions in Greenbelt, the subject of the film, Out of the Fire brought about.

On Saturday afternoon, October 19, with the Greenbelt Theatre, the Utopia Film Festival screened an intense, locally-made film, Out of the Fire. The story centers on a contest where doves are hung in cages taking part in a large field where doves are hung in cages from large poles and sing in a particular way. At the end of the 65-minute film, there is a winner of the singing contest. One loses, however, complains bitterly that his bird quit singing, spooked by the camera which the man claims looks like a cat. The film ends on this strange note.

All in all, the films were provocative and, in most cases, well-attended. We look forward to next year’s presentations.

Utopia Film Festival Links Two Far-Ranging Films

by Eli Flam

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A Review

Utopia Film Festival Focuses on Kashmir

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