

# GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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

DECEMBER 18, 2003

## New Task Force Approved, Council Defers Contract

by Barbara Hopkins

Legislation presented for second reading and adoption was passed by the Greenbelt City Council with little or no discussion at its last meeting of the year on Monday, December 15. Agenda topics on transfer of the liquor license for TGI Friday's and a new contract for red light cameras were more controversial.

### Legislation

An ordinance to amend the city code to make it consistent with the city's recent policy on extending employee health insurance benefits to include qualifying domestic partners was adopted unanimously. Mayor Judith Davis said she had received a letter from a citizen complaining that information about this change had not been adequately disseminated to the public or to churches and other faith-based organizations. However, Davis said, the issue had been covered in the newspapers and made public in the usual venues.

The resolution to establish a Forest Preserve Task Force also passed with ease. This resolution was up for adoption at council's previous meeting but was so modified at that time that the city solicitor advised it could not

be adopted that night but could be considered introduced for first reading.

After the unanimous vote, council discussed the time line for implementing the task force. January 30 was set as a deadline when all applications from unaffiliated citizens who desire to be on the task force should be submitted. By then advisory boards would also have time to meet and select their representatives. Council anticipated making official the composition of the task force by council's first meeting in March.

The resolution to authorize the negotiated purchase of a pre-fabricated animal control facility building also passed its second reading and was adopted by council's unanimous vote.

### Liquor License

At its meeting on November 24 council deferred action on the application for the transfer of TGI Friday's liquor license from corporate ownership to a franchise of Atlanta Restaurant Partners so that a representative from the franchise could address concerns of councilmembers over public safety issues at the restaur-

See **COUNCIL**, page 9

## City Now Owns Sunrise Following Post Office Buy

by Elaine Skolnik

"It's ours!" exclaimed City Manager Michael McLaughlin, referring to the 9.9-acre wooded, undeveloped Sunrise tract in Greenbelt East located next to the Holiday Inn at the end of Hanover Drive. The acquisition of this parcel by the City of Greenbelt became a reality after BJB Associates, a subsidiary of the Peterson Companies, sold a five-acre tract of land near the intersection of Hanover Parkway and Ora Glen Drive to the United States Postal Service.

Earlier Greenbelt councils have long sought a postal facility in Greenbelt East but the history of the land acquisition is complicated. The Peterson Companies bought at auction both the proposed post office land and the Sunrise property from the FDIC (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation) after the previous owners lost the property when the Madison National Bank, their lender, was taken over in 1994 by the FDIC. Peterson was willing to sell the Sunrise property to the city but only after the proposed post office tract sale to the U.S. Postal Service was consummated.

In February 2001 a memorandum of understanding between the city council and the Peterson Company was agreed to by both

parties. The purchase price for the Sunrise property was set at \$624,000.

The city has acquired the Sunrise land using an available fund balance. They had expected to use program open space funds. Gov. Robert Ehrlich and the State Board of Public Works had put a hold on approving land acquisition projects pending review of its land acquisition policy. The city anticipates funding will be available for local acquisition projects in early 2004.

The delay of almost two years for a subsidiary of Peterson, BJB Associates, to sell the other land to the U.S. Postal Service occurred since the land's former owners had unilaterally placed a covenant on the parcel limiting development to an office building. They claimed that the unilateral covenant ran with the land, precluding the building of a post office. The city argued that the unilateral covenant signed only by the developer should be set aside because it violated earlier covenants and amendments signed by the city and the then-developer. The covenant issue ended unsuccessfully for the city in a court suit in 1999 with the

See **SUNRISE**, page 5

## Museum Is Awarded Grant

by Katie Scott-Childress

The Greenbelt Museum has received a challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for \$100,000. The NEH will award the museum the grant over a three year period, provided that the museum matches the grant through contributions. The NEH grant will match donations on a one-to-one basis.

The Greenbelt Museum was among 10 other institutions to receive the Local History Initiative challenge grant from over 50 applicants nationwide. This is the last time this grant will be offered by the NEH and presents a tremendous opportunity for the Greenbelt Museum.

The challenge grant and donations will be used to create an endowment for the Greenbelt Museum. This endowment will fund an education coordinator to manage the museum's many volunteers and to develop and implement education programs for school groups. The Greenbelt Museum has received many demands for tours and programs from schools but is currently unable to accommodate very large groups due to a lack of staffing. The museum has also undergone a transition over the past several years from the all-volunteer staff that began the museum in 1987, to a paid staff that can ensure that the museum will continue to operate into the future. An endowment guarantees that the museum will be staffed permanently.

The Friends of the Greenbelt Museum (FOGM) must raise the first \$40,000 in donations by July 31, 2004 in order to receive the first installment from the NEH. Since applying for the grant in May, they have been quietly fundraising behind the scenes and have raised nearly \$8,000. All donations are tax deductible because FOGM is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) supporting the educational activities of the Greenbelt Museum. They plan to formally launch the fund-raising campaign after the holidays.

Normally, the challenge grants awarded by the NEH require a three-to-one match, which means that most museums must raise three dollars for every dollar the NEH contributes. This exceptional opportunity for a dollar-for-dollar match was created by a Special Initiative for Local History and was available in 2002 and 2003. These grants are designed to build opportuni-

See **MUSEUM**, page 2

### What Goes On

Thursday, December 25 and Friday, December 26

City and GHI Administrative offices closed for the holiday

## Fire Cause Is Undetermined, Rebuilding Could Take Time

by Elaine Skolnik and Dorothy Sucher

Captain Chauncey Bowers of the Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Management Services (EMS) Department told the News Review on December 12 that "we are still looking to identify the exact cause of the fire" in a Greenbriar condominium apartment building. The three-alarm fire, which occurred at 7806 Hanover Parkway on November 21, claimed the life of Mary Alice Carroll of the same address.

Bowers noted that "after the investigative team looked through the building's charred remains, the team was unable to pinpoint any specific cause." Joining county fire department officials on the investigative team were representatives from

the Greenbelt police and the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) agency. Bowers said that the ATF had special expertise to offer the team.

MPO George Mathews of the Greenbelt Police Department observed, "Apparently the intense heat inside the building destroyed possible evidence." He noted that the lead investigator for the Greenbelt police is Sgt. Danny Allwang of the department's criminal investigative unit.

### Burned Out

The 15 condominium owners who resided in building 7806 will probably not be able to return home for a year. The left

See **FIRE DAMAGE**, page 10

## Several Awards Presented At November Meeting

by Barbara Hopkins

At its regular meeting on November 24, the Greenbelt City Council participated in a number of awards and presentations.

### Recycle Right

The Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee (REAC) and the Greenbelt Public Works Department presented this year's Recycle Right Awards. Neal Barnett, REAC chair, and Brian Gibbons, REAC member, joined Cindy Murray from Public Works in making the award presentations. The awards were given to those households with recycle bins that were used correctly during the week of November 17 through 21.

Barnett told council he was appalled at how few recycling bins were used according to directions distributed annually by Public Works. He added that recycling right saved collection time. The crews, he said, are not supposed to have to sort the ma-

terial to be recycled; their job is to place the material in the appropriate bins on their trucks.

Recipients of the "Win with Your Bin" awards were residents of three households: Charles Brown and Judy Wilson, J. Anthony and Ruth Morris and Marisa Young and Anna Graves. Two additional households were winners, but the residents of 54-D and 14-X Ridge Road had not yet contacted the city to make themselves known. The winners received specially marked blue recycling bins from the city. The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments contributed a T-shirt, frisbee and water bottle as prizes.

### Police Presentation

Chief James Craze and MPO Scott Kaiser of the Greenbelt Police Department made a presentation showing council and its au-

See **AWARDS**, page 10



ACE Reading Club wins Savvy award. Front row: Councilmember and former ACE Chair Leta Mach, Beverly Palau, city public information officer, and ACE member Dr. Eva Griffin. Back row: Councilmember Edward Putens, Mayor Judith Davis, Councilmembers Konrad Herling and Rodney Roberts.

PHOTO BY MALIA MURRAY

## Our Carriers Bring Holiday Greetings



This snowman delivers his own greetings to passersby at 228 Lastner Lane.

Around this time of year it has been traditional for the youngsters who deliver the News Review to leave holiday greetings envelopes at the homes they serve. The News Review's financial position is such that we cannot pay our carriers very much. They are therefore dependent on generous holiday donations to supplement their nominal pay.

Most of the carriers range in age from pre-teen to the middle teens. For the younger boys and girls, delivering the News Review is their first job experience. Many of the older carriers started at a young age

and continue to deliver the News Review mainly as a service to their neighborhood. It is a learning process for all these youngsters and, in some cases, the instillation of responsibility takes time and patience.

The holiday season affords us all a chance to show appreciation and to provide encouragement for the efforts of these youngsters and at the same time to show understanding for any failings that might have occurred during the year.

Again this year, the carriers will leave envelopes. We hope these envelopes, equipped with each carrier's name and address, will be helpful to our readers who wish to show appreciation. If your carrier's name or address is in doubt, mail your envelope to the News Review, 15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887 for forwarding. Please include your address so we can identify your carrier.

## Notice of Deadlines For the Holidays

Notices for events and services for New Year's Day and New Year's Eve will need to appear in the December 25 issue of the News Review.

Special deadlines apply so that the paper can be completed before the printer's employee holiday begins on Christmas Eve. The deadline for the December 25 issue will be Sunday, December 21. All articles, photos, ads and other copy must be submitted by 10 p.m., earlier if possible. The paper will be complete except for final proofreading on Monday; it will be too late to add content for the



December 25 issue after Sunday, December 21.

The holiday deadline for the January 1, 2004 issue will be Sunday, December 28.

All articles, photos, ads and other copy must be submitted by 10 p.m. Sunday, earlier if possible. The paper will be complete except for final proofreading on Monday. It will be too late to add content for the January 1 issue after Sunday, December 28.

Please keep these holiday deadlines in mind to avoid disappointment and assure that holiday events are included in the paper.

## MUSEUM

continued from page 1

ties for research, education and public programs in local history, especially in communities underserved by humanities activities.

These highly competitive humanities grants are reviewed by scholars and specialists nationwide who recommend only the most qualified applicants for funding. This federal grant represents a tremendous vote of confidence for the Greenbelt Museum. The grant application required the museum to demonstrate the national significance of the history of Greenbelt. In the past the museum has received grant support from state agencies such as the Maryland Historical Trust and the Maryland Humanities Council. The grant application process for federal grants and the normal matching requirements for NEH grants made such national grants out of reach for the small museum. Most of the other institutions who received the Local History Initiative challenge grant will also be raising money for an endowment for a staff position.

## Blood Donors Needed ASAP

The regional office of the American Red Cross needs blood donations immediately as a result of losing 1,200 units of blood during severe winter weather. The Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Blood Services Region needs donations of whole blood and platelets to meet the needs of local patients.

Appointments are available at all American Red Cross blood donor centers and community blood drives.

To give whole blood, call 1-800-GIVELIFE for an appointment. Component donors may call 800-272-2123.

## Correction

The website for the Chronic Pain group was misidentified in last week's newspaper.

The correct website is [www.pain-connection.org](http://www.pain-connection.org). The News Review regrets the error.

# Letters to the Editor

## Congratulations

I want to congratulate you and all the members of your great staff on starting your 67th year of providing news and information to the citizens of Greenbelt and District 4. Your excellent reporting and coverage of events is very important to Prince George's County.

I truly enjoy your paper and reading the good news about Greenbelt and its residents. Please keep up the good work!

My best wishes for a very pleasant holiday season.

Douglas J.J. Peters  
County Council – District 4

## THANKS!

Thank you to all who generously contributed to Greenbriar's clothing and food drives. 2,411 articles of clothing were collected between October 11 and December 5. The clothing was donated to the Mission of Love, a Capitol Heights charity serving low- and no-income families of Prince George's County. Many thanks to the following Greenbriar residents who volunteered their time and energy to sort and count the mountain of clothing. Rolondo Loret and Thelma DeMola, Bunny Fitzgerald, Jeannette Gordy, Joan Hult, Linda Kulle and Gary Thomas.

A truckload of nonperishable food was collected during the month of November. A box of those items was delivered to a Greenbriar family in need. The remaining food was donated to United Communities Against Poverty, Inc. (UCAP), along with 13 frozen turkeys purchased with funds raised through the Greenbriar Community Association's 50-50 raffles of 2003. UCAP is a nonprofit organization serving families in need throughout Prince George's County. Greenbriar's donation was put toward 200 Thanksgiving baskets distributed by UCAP this year.

Much appreciation to all who

made Greenbriar's clothing and food drive a great success. Know that your generosity has brightened the holiday season of many local families in need.

Sarah Phillips  
Community Affairs Director  
Greenbriar Condominiums

## Into the Woods

After the historic Forest Preservation meeting of October 27, I went out to the woods. I went up to the high ridge where I could see the most of her. Has your heart ever felt so much you thought it might explode? Deep into the woods I got off the path and slowly made my way through the quarter moonlight. There is something I want to tell her so badly. At my arrival to the ridge's edge, I stood purposefully inside the swaying trees. I thanked the Great Spirit that our efforts came amidst a people who could hear the call of the wild. Then I gave it my all to open up to the presence of the forest. The creatures bedded down; the land fanning out from underfoot into the mighty Patuxent. I sensed the baby rabbits that had been born this spring huddling in the fresh coming cold. I sensed the young eagle just learning to fly. I sensed the Red-tailed Hawk nearby. I felt the darting minnow in the creek and the streaking red fox and there above is the lumbering

owl. I felt the shaking oak nodding to me. And there is something I want to tell her, the woods, the Great North Woods, so badly.

I jumped up on a log and panned a view across the valley and then said with grateful reverence, "Hello, Great Woods! I just came from the place where they make decisions about what to do with you. It is with utter jubilee that I say we did this thing that in essence consummates in a larger way the love between a people and their land. The Great Chiefs of Council have said that for many, many moons to come we will be able to roam as wee little children in your great, great wooded hills and that for even a longer time to come your wind will lift our hair in every season and freshen the brow only as sweet as your woods can do." I stretched my arms out into the moonlight and sang out, "Sleep tight tonight my brothers and sisters – we have taken you into our hearts; into the family of Greenbelt."

After visiting for a time with the Forest Presence I began to walk back home. It was then that it came to me – the fullness of the relationship. That, in all these decades of finding comfort and solace in her, she could now find it in us.

Paul Downs, President  
Committee to Save  
the Green Belt

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# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Diane Oberg, president; James Giese, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Judy Bell, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Eileen Farnham, Marat Moore and Pat Davis.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$35/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.



## OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

Week of Dec. 19

Love Actually (R)

Friday  
\*4:20, 7:15, 9:55

Saturday  
\*1:30, \*4:20, 7:15, 9:55

Sunday  
\*1:30, \*4:20, 7:15

Monday - Wednesday  
\*4:45, 7:30

Thursday  
7:15, 9:55

Starts Friday – 21 Grams

\*These shows at \$5.00

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# Community Events

## GED Courses Now Available at CARES

Greenbelt CARES is offering its winter 10-week GED course. Registration will be held on Tuesday, January 13, beginning promptly at 10:30 a.m. The first class of instruction will be held on Thursday, January 15. GED class is held every Tuesday and Thursday for 10 weeks in the Municipal Building Conference Room, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

GED I is from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Students taking this course need review of basic math (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, decimals, percentages and word problems) and English grammar skills.

GED II is held from 1 to 3 p.m. Students taking this course have successfully completed GED I and/or are ready to learn algebra and geometry, English literature and writing skills and prepare to take the GED test.

Students are required to show proof of residency (i.e., current lease, phone or electric bill, driver's license or Motor Vehicle I.D. card).

There is no charge for Greenbelt residents in either course. Non-Greenbelt residents are required to pay a \$150 registration fee. All students are required to purchase a copy of the GED textbook and calculator (purchased from Greenbelt CARES).

Students should be 16 years of age in order to enroll in CARES' GED course. Students can take the GED practice test at Greenbelt CARES at no cost. The State of Maryland administers the actual GED test, but Greenbelt CARES can provide the student the application form needed to register for the GED test.

Questions and enrollment information regarding either GED I or GED II should be directed to Judy Hering, course instructor, Greenbelt CARES, by calling 301-345-6660 ext. 2016, or sending an e-mail message to jhering@ci.greenbelt.md.us.

## Babysitting Course Offered by CARES

Greenbelt CARES will offer the winter session of the free babysitting course on Tuesday morning, December 30. The course will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the conference room of the Municipal Building at 25 Crescent Road. The course is free. Each student will receive a packet of materials to bring home. The course is targeted to teach students completing grades 5-8, the safety and responsibility issues of babysitting.

Parents and students wanting additional information and enrollment should call Greenbelt CARES Youth and Family Services Bureau at 301-345-6660, ext. 2016.

## New Year's Help

The Greenbelt New Year's Eve Committee needs help with this year's celebration at the Community Center. Volunteers work for one or two hours and then they're free to enjoy the food, music and festivities. Meet at the Community Center at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 30 to review policies. For information call Dan Hamlin at 301-982-0048 or Jim Marley at 301-552-1288.

## Greenbelt New Year 2004 Something for Everyone

by Patti Brothers

Top entertainers from the Baltimore-Washington area will be sharing their varied talents with all the folks who will be bringing in the New Year at the NY2004 Celebration.

The Community Center will host Trinidad and Tobago, a steel band that has been in existence since 1961. Through music the band has been exposing its audience to the first non-European instrument of the 21st century and to the Caribbean culture. The band has performed for past Presidents of the United States, with many Hollywood entertainers, at various national and local events, as well as conducting workshops at various festivals and numerous school systems. DC Motors will be bringing in the New Year immediately after Trinidad and Tobago in the gym and will ring in the New Year at midnight. DC Motors is a Washington, D.C. based band and the members have been performing together for over 20 years. The band plays an unusually wide variety of styles with lots of energy and non-stop fun for all ages.

Blue Sky Puppets has been touring the Washington D.C. metropolitan area for many years with a variety of wonderful puppet shows. Each performance is especially designed to create a "now" approach to the fantasy world of fairy tales - which will be enjoyed not only by children, but by their parents and grandparents as well.

Don Bridges will perform following the conclusion of the puppet shows. Don has appeared at past New Year's celebrations in the trio, Bridges to Bliss, and also at prior Labor Day Festivals as both Mr. Don and Bridges to Bliss. This year Don will be performing "family" music for people of all ages.

John Hill will be performing in the cabaret all evening long. He has performed at past New Years Eve celebrations and has always filled the room all evening with his beautiful voice and great talent on the acoustic guitar. He comes from Havre De Grace, Md. and has performed all over Maryland and Delaware in clubs, Legion halls, community festivals and private parties.

Magic Mike will be perform-

ing his many "how did he do that" illusions for two shows. He will keep the audience mesmerized with his feats of magic and when he's not performing those, he will be designing balloon sculptures for the kids.

These performers will be just a part of the Greenbelt NY2004 Celebration. In addition, the Goddard Storytellers will be telling wonderful, let-your-imagination-take-you-away tales for people of all ages. They will have two shows - one toward the early part of the evening and the other toward the later part of the evening. There will be Scottish Country Dancing (lessons will be taught) in the dance studio for partygoers to kick up their heels - and get a new "do" (i.e., hairdo) in the Rehearsal Room. There will be "get involved" arts and crafts for kids of all ages all night long.

The Youth Center will be the center of lots of activities for young people of all ages - a big Twister game, a brand new, very challenging obstacle course appropriately called the Adrenalin Wall and a karaoke DJ.

The Arts Center will be filled with music all night long. Adrenaline will start off the evening with their great sounds. The band "Something Completely Different" will finish out the evening with their rockin' sounds. The movie theater will have two shows of animated short movies.

The New Deal will host the John Guernsey Jazz Group, beginning at 9 p.m. This group will provide patrons with wonderful jazz tunes - a nice quiet "getaway" from the other venues for party-goers.

And there will be lots of food - delicious desserts by Chef Lou and fill-your-tummy treats by the Greenbelt Swim Team in the Community Center, delicious pizza at the Youth Center and of course the great edibles at the New Deal Café.

Reduced rate tickets can be purchased at the Greenbelt Co-op Office and the Community Center. Tickets at the door are slightly higher. Children under five are free. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

Don't miss Greenbelt 2004 - the best one ever.

## Art Sale Extended At New Deal Café

Artists can hang their art work at the New Deal Café this month - and the show is being held over through January. OK, so it may not be the Smithsonian, but people do buy art work here and the New Deal is Greenbelt's neighborhood café. Last week the café received 19 pieces of art, but there must be more than 19 artists living in Greenbelt. So bring one piece of art work, no larger than 16" by 20", to the café this Sunday from 3 to 6 p.m. The goal of the show is to give Greenbelt artists an opportunity to make a holiday sale. This is a good time of year to find a home for that masterpiece that's being saved for the perfect owner. Call Barbara Simon at 301-474-2192.

## Mamas and Papas Take Holiday Hiatus

Local parents are invited to meet and mingle at the Greenbelt Mamas and Papas Playgroup. Meetings are from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Wednesday at the Greenbelt Community Center. Bring lunch and enjoy grown-up conversation while the children play. All are welcome.

There will be no meetings on December 24 or 31. Meetings will resume in the new year on January 7. Call Anne Gardner at 301-220-1721 for information.

## Post Office Offers Holiday Hours

The Greenbelt Post Office will be open on Saturday, December 20 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. All regular services will be available.



PHOTO BY AGNES CONATY

Runners of the Greenbelt Wright Stuff 5K Fun Run and Walk carefully tread the snowy, icy path at the starting line by the Braden Field for two loops around Greenbelt Lake.

## Wright Stuff Runners Tread Icy Pathways

by Austin and Agnes Conaty

Runners and walkers take your mark! Go! The temperature was in the 20s at 8 a.m. Sunday, December 7 when Prince George's Running



Club started the Greenbelt Wright Stuff 5K Fun Run & Walk. The recent snow made the course a little tricky, but the runners and walkers maneuvered their way around Greenbelt Lake with care. The runners and walkers were treated to the snow-covered landscape of Greenbelt Lake. Kudos to the Greenbelt Youth Center for opening the doors early for registration and packet pick up. Approximately 15 percent of the finishers live in Greenbelt. Greenbelt resident Joe Broderick assisted in the early stages of planning for the race and also participated, finishing first in his age group.

The overall fastest women were Lorna Dorland of College Park, Melissa Lott of College Park and Judy Rupp of Bethesda. The overall fastest

men were Mike Miehl of College Park, Dave Heintzelman of New Carrollton and Mark Tripputi of Alexandria. Results from the race can be found at the pgrc.org website.

After the run and walk participants were treated to hot and cold drinks and a bevy of baked goods supplied by Atlanta Bread Company. Mark Tripputi of Alexandria, Va., received a gift certificate to 94th Aero Squadron, while Robert Mallet of Rockville, Md., received a souvenir mug from the College Park Aviation Museum. Gift certificates for Atlanta Bread Company and Generous Joe's were also given out at random. Brochures, posters, stickers and commemorative pins about the Wright Brothers were provided by the Centennial of Flight Commission to all runners along with discount coupons to Atlanta Bread Company and the College Park Aviation Museum.

## Old Greenbelt Citgo

301-474-0046



## Holiday OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, December 20  
4 to 7 p.m.

### He's Back!

*Come visit with Dave Meadows  
Our long-time service manager  
And also help us welcome  
our new mechanic Dave Wenk*

20 Southway, Greenbelt, MD 20770

• Open 24 Hours for Gas and Snacks •

Light refreshments provided by  
"The Riverdale Pizza Pub"

Commentary

# What a Wonderful World And Thanksgiving Service

by Rick Ransom



Each year, the Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association (GILA) sponsors a Thanksgiving Service the night before the holiday. This year's was held at Mowatt Memorial Methodist Church. The service brings Christians and Jews, those of the Baha'i Community, Unitarians, the Faith Ministries and others to give thanks for all that we have. One of the highlights is always the performance by the Combined Choir, led by the incomparable Jean Cook. She always manages in two short practices to blend singers from disparate choirs into a full and lustrous melodic group.

John Sisson of the Berwyn Presbyterian Church related how the pilgrims who initiated our annual rituals back in the 1600s did not really have much to be thankful for - except their lives. Their numbers had been decimated by disease and lack of adequate supplies and crops. He stated that history says there were only four women in the group to put the whole feast together. The thirty or so Englishmen were outnumbered nearly three to one by the native Americans who joined them. Yet there they were, cut off from any world that they knew, noting how grateful they were for the little they had.

The focus message was given by Reverend DaeHwa Park of the host church. He talked of hearing the song "What a Wonderful World" by Louis Armstrong on his car radio one recent day. He quoted the words and said at one point he pulled over to the side of the road to experience better what "Satchmo" was describing, beautiful trees, birds singing and rainbows in the sky. He noted that life in his native country, Korea, is often harsh with little time or place to appreciate its beauty. Looking around from

his position at the podium, I imagine he could see African Americans, Korean Americans, European Americans, people of all sizes, colors and faiths, together. The positive energy became a glow in and of itself.

He might also have seen a descendant of Dutch and English pirates sitting in the midst of the crowd. How did he get in? I don't often think of myself by those labels, but I guess it makes me more tolerant of others who are different. Insight is a far better basis for knowing folks than eyesight. I hear a lot about freedom these days, but I saw real freedom that night in the faces of people who accepted each other with Thanksgiving. Someone remarked how unusual it is to have a rabbi and a Baptist minister seated on the same dais, celebrating a united service. It wouldn't happen in most communities. Just another of the hundreds of reasons Greenbelt is Great and truly unique.

## City Receives \$85K via Grant

Greenbelt has been awarded a grant of \$85,000 by the Prince George's County Liveable Communities program. A letter to Mayor Judith Davis from County Executive Jack B. Johnson noted that, "the grant represents the maximum funding available" under the current rules of the program. City management has not yet decided specifically how the grant money will be spent.

## Obituaries

### Dorothy McGee



Dorothy McGee died December 11, 2003, in her sleep at home, 7 Hillside Road. An artist born in New York, she majored in art at Syracuse University and at the National Academy. She lived in Greenwich Village in the 1920s and '30s where she was part of the art scene. Her career as an illustrator was cut short by the Depression, when with the WPA she taught art to schoolchildren in Harlem.

She came to Greenbelt as a bride in 1942 with her husband Johnny, who was stationed in Washington. For 20 years Mrs. McGee was secretary at Berwyn Elementary School. She worked on the News Review and designed the "Our Neighbors" logo in the days when Greenbelt had telephone party lines. She and Johnny enjoyed several trips to Europe. In later years she took courses at the University of Maryland.

Mrs. McGee is survived by her daughters Barbara Simon and Kathleen Treat; sons-in-law Tom Simon and Martin Treat; and two granddaughters, Julia and Nora.

A celebration of her life will be held in the spring.

### Kate Connolly

Kate Connolly, 35 court of Ridge Road, died on Tuesday, December 16, 2003, at Doctor's Hospital following surgery. Services will take place on Saturday, December 20, at the Collins Funeral Home, 500 University Boulevard West. Members of the family will be present to greet friends at a visitation from 10 to 11 a.m. At 11 a.m. there will be a funeral service. Interment is private.



Our sympathy to Barbara Simon and family on the death of her mother Dorothy McGee.

Condolences to Eileen Connolly of 18 court Ridge Road and Michael and Jane Connolly of North Carolina on the death of their mother Kate Connolly.

Congratulations to Officer Barry Byers and K-9 partner Rex of the Greenbelt Police Department for walking away with top honors at the 2003 U.S. Police Canine Association Region 3 Tracking Trials in Nokesville, Va.

We all join in welcoming Dave Meadows back to Old Greenbelt Citgo after his illness. The station will hold a "welcome back" open house Saturday, December 20 from 4 to 7 p.m.



PHOTOS BY MARAT MOORE

Haley Hilliard, 6, spent December 6 sledding down the path near her home on Lakeside.

## Christmas Eve At Mowatt

Mowatt Memorial Methodist Church will celebrate Christmas Eve with a service on Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. Christmas carols will be sung at the beginning of the service. The Chime Choir will ring bells and the story of the Nativity read. Candles will be lit from the Christ candle by each person while Silent Night is sung. A Christmas gift exchange program will be held immediately after the service. For information call 301-474-9410.

## Maryland Boy Choir Holiday Concert

The Maryland Boy Choir, directed by Greenbelter Joan McFarland, will present its 21st annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 21 at 6:30 p.m. The concert will be held in the Elsie and Marvin Dekelboun Concert Hall at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center on the campus of the University of Maryland in College Park. Tickets can be reserved by calling the Smith Center at 301-405-ARTS. There is a fee. The concert will feature beloved Christmas works performed by the treble and alumni choirs and include an audience sing-along.

### GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org) [greenbelt\\_baptist@verizon.net](mailto:greenbelt_baptist@verizon.net)  
 Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor



Sun. Worship 8:35 am, 11:00 am  
 Wed. Praise and Prayer 7:00 pm  
 Wed. Living Proof, Youth Event 7:00 pm

"Building Bridges to the Family of God thru the Love of Christ"

### HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Worship  
 8:45 a.m. Fellowship  
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
 9:15 a.m. Bible Class  
 10:30 a.m. Worship  
 Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Evening Worship



Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail myholycross@erols.com

"Open Door, Open Heart, Open Mind!"

### UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church  
 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt  
 301-474-9410



SUNDAY  
 Sunday School 9:45 am  
 Talk & Listen (Coffee Hr.) 10:15 am  
 Worship Service 11:00 am  
 Tues. Lectionary Study 7:00 am  
 Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm  
 Third Friday, Games Night 7:30 pm

Rev. DaeHwa Park, Pastor  
 Dec. 21, 4th Sunday in Advent Sermon: Divine Promise of A Son  
 Christmas Eve, December 24, 7:30 p.m.  
 Feast of the Holy Nativity & "Holy Communion"

### MASS SCHEDULE:

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

Daily Mass: As announced  
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.  
 Rev. Thomas F. Crowley, Pastor  
 Rev. R. Scott Hurd, Pastoral Associate  
 Part Time Ministry

### ST. HUGH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Md.

### Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hillside & Crescent Roads  
 Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings  
[www.greenbelt.com/gccucc/](http://www.greenbelt.com/gccucc/)  
 Sunday Worship  
 10:15 a.m.  
 Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."



We invite you to celebrate the birth of Jesus at St. George's Episcopal/Anglican Church!

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

Christmas Eve Christmas  
 5 pm: Children's Service 10 am: Mass of  
 10 pm: Midnight Mass Christmas Day  
 (ASL Interpreted)



A welcoming, inclusive congregation!



Islam is the fastest growing religion in the world.

What attracts so many people to this faith? Is the only thing you know about Islam what you've heard in the media? Why not find out for yourself?

For more information about Islam, e-mail us at muslimguide@hotmail.com or call 301-982-9463 or visit www.islam-guide.com.

### Baha'i Faith

Greenbelt Baha'i Community  
 P.O. Box 245  
 Greenbelt, MD 20770  
 301-345-2918 301-220-3160  
[www.bahai.org/](http://www.bahai.org/)



Catholic Community of Greenbelt

MASS  
 Sundays 10 A.M.  
 Municipal Building

### Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

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

December 21, 10 a.m.  
 "Celebrate with Joy This Day"  
 by Barbara Wells, co-minister with Jennifer Grant, worship associate  
 Annual holiday celebration followed by Holiday Community Meal



# SUNRISE continued from page 1

judge ruling that the 1991 unilateral covenant was valid.

The city, BJB Associates and the U.S. Postal Service did not appeal the court's ruling. Instead the city opted to institute condemnations proceedings. A resolution to authorize condemnation of the proposed post office site was introduced on September 25, 2000; a public hearing followed and on February 12, 2001 council moved to condemn the land. Although the suit was filed in the Circuit Court in May 2001, trial dates were canceled several times. During this period negotiations among the defendants were proceeding.

On December 16, 2001 the city council officially withdrew the condemnation suit, satisfied that a settlement had been reached among the parties. BJB (Peterson) in mid-2003 then sold the land to the U.S. Postal Service. In November 2003 the Sunrise tract was sold to the city.

Unknown at this time is when federal funding will be available for construction of the new post office facility. The existing post office under the Co-op supermarket in Roosevelt Center is expected to remain as a retail center.

### Sunrise

There have been many development proposals for the Sunrise property over the years. The city raised objections to each of them because of the impact, such as increased traffic, on the surrounding neighborhoods.

In the late 1980s a six-building complex containing 470 apartment units was proposed. Then a two-tower, 11-story high-rise complex (R-10 - 48 units an acre) was first proposed. Then commercial office park development was on the drawing boards. The zoning of the land was changed in 1990 during the mas-

ter plan process to a less dense development on the site. In 1995 two four-story apartment buildings were proposed consisting of 118 units for seniors and 116 two-bedroom units. Prior to the zoning change the land was cleared of trees and the owners attempted unsuccessfully to initiate construction.

### Post Office History

The Greenbelt Post Office opened at the end of September 1937 in the Center. Since there was no delivery of mail in those early days, children would rush down after school and stand in line to get their family's mail. This was the custom until the summer of 1942 when the city's population had increased and residents campaigned for home delivery.

Throughout most of the 1970s the future of the post office was uncertain. It was still located in an original building in the Center. But with the volume of mail increasing, especially with NASA using the Greenbelt facility, postal officials sought a larger

site.

Several locations were considered, such as Candy Cane City across from the existing post office, but all were deemed inadequate. Much interest was also expressed in land owned by Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) at the corner of Parkway and Crescent Rd. At the time GHI members reluctantly voted to sell 1.35 acres of land at that corner. City officials and residents however were anxious to keep the post office in Roosevelt Center. In 1980 the Greenbelt Co-op offered the post office space in the basement of its supermarket building and in 1982 the facility moved. By 1986 the Greenbelt service area had grown so much that the postal service again considered moving.

The newly acquired five-acre site at the corner of Hanover Parkway and Ora Glen Drive property was favored by both the postal service and the city. The U.S. Postal Service expects to build a new Greenbelt Post Office as soon as plans are complete and funding is available.

*Celebrate Christmas with us!*

**"FEAR NOT" A Musical Drama**  
Sunday, Dec. 21 8:30 am and 11:00 am

**CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE**  
Wednesday, Dec. 24 7:00 pm



**Greenbelt Baptist Church**

Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads

301-474-4212 x3

## Patuxent Refuge Monthly Programs

The Patuxent Research Refuge programs for December are free but require advance registrations. Reservations are taken by calling 301-497-5887. Advise of any special needs so that they may be accommodated. Visit the website at patuxent.fws.gov.

Refuge Walking Tours at the National Wildlife Visitor Center: Sat., Dec. 20 and 27, 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. and Sun., Dec. 21 and 28 at 1:30 p.m. Discover the way Patuxent provides habitat and manages wildlife on this 45-minute guided hike. Ages 12 and over. No registration required.

## Holiday Pet Tips

Common Yuletide plants such as poinsettias, mistletoe, ivy and holly berries are poisonous and fatal. Dispose of all bows, yarn and curling ribbon to prevent choking. When entertaining, be sure a pet has access to a safe haven. Any disruption such as the rearrangement of furniture may cause a feline to stop using the litter box.

Pets are not garbage disposals for holiday leftovers. Poultry bones can splinter and cause blockages. Beware of aluminum foil ingestion. It may cause vomiting or intestinal blockage.

Beware of decorations on the tree - tinsel and popcorn strands can be deadly to pets. Changes in activity over the holidays can cause an animal stress and anxiety. Visit the web at <http://www.pets-unleashed.com>.



Come celebrate **Christmas Day** with us.

Open for dinner from 4-9 p.m.

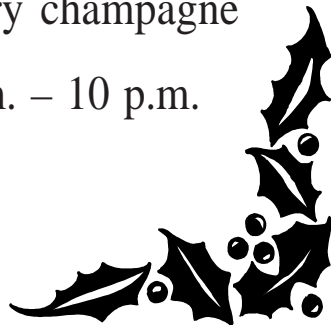


And don't forget **New Year's Eve**  
We offer a special menu and complimentary champagne

Open 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.

5810 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Tel: (301) 345-6101  
Fax: (301) 345-6102



# City Information

## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City Offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, for the Christmas Holiday and Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, for the New Year's Holiday. The Greenbelt Connection will not be operating.

## REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE

### Week of December 22<sup>nd</sup>

Monday Route-Regular Schedule  
Tuesday Route-Regular Schedule  
Wednesday Route-Regular Schedule  
Thursday Route-Refuse collected Wednesday,  
NO Recycling Collection  
Recycling can be taken to the Recycling Drop-Off Center @ Buddy Attick Park.

### Week of December 29<sup>th</sup>

Monday Route-Regular Schedule  
Tuesday Route-Regular Schedule  
Wednesday Route-Regular Schedule  
Thursday Route-Refuse and Recycling collected Friday

There will be no appliance or yard waste collections on Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## OPENINGS ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups. Vacancies exist on the:  
**Advisory Committee on Education**

**Park and Recreation Advisory Board**

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

## GREENBELT MUNICIPAL/PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 71

**MUNICIPAL ACCESS 301-474-8000: Tuesday & Thursday, December 23 & 25: 6:00pm "Santa in Greenbelt" 6:15pm "Holiday Tree Lighting" 7:00pm "Beltway Plaza Toy Parade"**

**PUBLIC ACCESS 301-507-6581 Wednesday & Friday, December 24 & 26: 7:00pm Greenbelt Arts Center presents "Bridgette L. Cooper" 8:00pm "Alexandria Klezmet"**

## Greenbelt New Year

GREENBELT NEW YEAR: Tickets are now available at the Co-op, Greenbelt Community Center and the Youth Center. Ring in the New Year Greenbelt Style with this fun, multi-venue family event.

Please visit [www.ci.greenbelt.md.us](http://www.ci.greenbelt.md.us) or call 301-397-2200 for more information.

## GREENBELT CARES BABYSITTING COURSE

Tuesday, December 30th from 10am-1pm  
Municipal Building-1st Floor Conference Room



This free course is targeted toward students completing grades 5-8. Students will learn responsibility and health and safety issues of taking care of children, as well as learning about poison control and fire prevention. Students completing the course will receive a certificate and be eligible to participate in the Greenbelt CARES ODD JOBS/JOB BANK program.

Info/Enrollment: 301-345-6660, ext 144  
Jhering@ci.greenbelt.md.us

## Greenbelt Youth Writing Contest

Students in grades 6 -12 who live in or attend school in Greenbelt are eligible to enter. **Deadline:** February 23, 2004 in the Greenbelt CARES office. For more details or to request an entry form 301-345-6660.

[acereadingclub@ci.greenbelt.md.us](mailto:acereadingclub@ci.greenbelt.md.us)

***Greenbelt Consumer Co-op Ad***

***Greenbelt Consumer Co-op Ad***

## POLICE BLOTTER

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

### Shooting

7600 block Hanover Parkway, December 6, 12:35 a.m., police responding to an unrelated call heard what they believed to be the sound of gunshots. They checked the area with negative results. A short time later a call was received that a man had been admitted for treatment of a gunshot wound at Doctor's Hospital. The victim reported that he and several friends had left a party and were leaving in a vehicle when a man standing in the parking lot fired several shots into the vehicle, one striking him in the back. He was then driven to the hospital. The suspect is described as a black male 15 to 20 years of age, with black hair and brown eyes, wearing a black jacket.

### Drugs

6000 block Springhill Drive, December 5, 4:43 p.m., a non-resident youth was arrested for possession of marijuana. The youth ran when approached by officers and was observed throwing away a sandwich bag as he ran. He was apprehended and found to be in possession of a quantity of suspected marijuana. He was released to a parent pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

6200 block Springhill Court, December 11, 5:20 p.m., a resident youth was arrested for possession of marijuana. A nonresident youth was arrested for trespass. Police approached a group of youths loitering. The resident youth attempted to flee the scene on foot while trying to swallow a quantity of suspected marijuana. He was apprehended and the suspected marijuana recovered. The nonresident youth was found to have been previously banned from the complex by agents of the property. Both were released to a parent pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

### Unattended Child

7800 block Lakecrest Drive, December 11, 8:24 p.m., a resident woman was arrested and charged with leaving a child in a motor vehicle unattended after she allegedly left a two-year-old in her vehicle alone. She was released on citation pending trial.

### Burglary

Eleanor Roosevelt High School, December 7, 9:20 a.m., unknown person(s) attempted to force open the window of a temporary classroom.

7100 block Mathew Street, December 10, 9:02 a.m., unknown person(s) entered the residence by way of an unsecured window. A floor safe and jewelry were taken.

### Trespass

Eleanor Roosevelt High School, December 4, 12:37 p.m., two nonresident youths were arrested for trespass after they were located inside the school and were determined not to be students there. Both were released back to their school pending action by the School Board and the Juvenile Justice System.

### Vehicle Crimes

## Gangs of Thugs Commit Robberies During Week

The Greenbelt Police Department reported three incidents in the Greenbelt west area in which victims were robbed by groups of young men. In one incident two people, an 18 year old and a 17 year old were arrested. One incident took place at the Beltway Plaza Mall parking lot, the other two in Springhill Lake. One robbery was in daylight. The number of robbers reportedly involved ranged from about four to 10. Police described the three incidents as follows:

Beltway Plaza Mall, December 10, 8:50 p.m., four persons reported they were in their vehicle in the parking lot of the shopping center when they were approached by approximately seven people. One of them told the driver to get out of the vehicle. When the driver refused, the suspects pulled him out. The other suspects then pulled the other three people out of the car. They went through the victims' pockets, taking money, clothing and a cellular telephone. Then they fled the scene on foot. Two of the suspects are described as a black male, 17 to 20 years of age, 6', 200 pounds, wearing dark clothing and black gloves and a black male, 17 to 20 years of age, 5'9", 150 pounds, wearing a black and white coat with a hood.

9100 block Springhill Lane, December 11, 11:18 a.m., a resident man, Shariff Belltone Battle, 18, of 9119 Springhill Lane was

arrested and charged with strong arm robbery, assault and theft and a resident youth was arrested for strong arm robbery. A man reported that he was walking to a bus stop when he was approached by approximately 10 people. Four of them chased the victim into an apartment building, where he was knocked to the floor and assaulted. They then took the victim's tennis shoes and fled the scene. Two of the suspects fleeing the scene were observed by officers, were detained, were positively identified by the victim and were arrested. The youth was released to a parent pending action by the Juvenile Justice System and was transported to Doctor's Hospital for treatment. Battle was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner.

5900 block Cherrywood Lane, December 11, 11:36 p.m., a man reported that he was walking home when he was approached by a person who struck him in the head with a frying pan and took the beer he had just purchased. When the victim attempted to fight back, the suspect yelled out for others to help him. Several other persons began to kick and punch the victim and removed money from his pocket. The suspects fled the scene on foot. The victim was transported to Doctor's Hospital for treatment.

The following vehicles were stolen: a 1996 Honda Accord, December 4 from the 9200 block of Edmonston Road, recovered the same day by the Prince George's County Police, a 1996 Honda Civic, December 4 from the 100 block of Westway was recovered December by the Prince George's County Police, a 2004 Cadillac Deville 4-door, December 5, from the 6500 block Capitol Drive, recovered the same day by the Cheverly Police, no arrests; a black 1990 Nissan Maxima 4-door, Maryland tags 908BMB, December 5, from the 6900 block Hanover Parkway; a 1997 Chrysler Cirrus 4-door, December 6, from the 7700 block Hanover Parkway, recovered the same day by the Prince George's County Police, no arrests; a 2000 Jeep Cherokee, December 7, from the 6200 block Springhill Drive, recovered the same day by the Prince George's County Police; and a green 2003 Dodge Caravan, Maryland tags M813415, December 10, from the 9000 block Breezewood Terrace.

Greenbelt Police recovered: two 1989 Chevrolet Caprice 4-door sedans on December 6. No arrests were made.

Six vehicles were recovered by other police departments. No arrests were made.

## IRS Urges Caution When Donating Cars

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has issued a consumer alert to help taxpayers avoid potential pitfalls when they donate their automobiles to charities.

"A few simple steps can help avoid headaches for taxpayers," according to IRS Commissioner Mark W. Everson. Check that the organization is qualified, speak directly to the charity and examine state filings for more information.

Many taxpayers can't take a deduction for car donations because they don't itemize deductions on their personal tax return. For taxpayers the decision to itemize is determined by whether their total itemized deductions are greater than the standard deduction (for 2003, the standard deduction will be \$4,750 for single; \$9,500 for married filing jointly).

Some car donation program operators have mistakenly claimed that donors can take the full "Blue Book" value of their car for a deduction. The IRS, however, will only allow a deduction for the fair market value of the car. Fair market value takes into account many factors including the vehicle's condition. The fair market value of the taxpayer's car may be substantially different from the "Blue Book" value.

For vehicle donations, taxpayers must document the car donation and its fair market value. Recordkeeping requirements are comprehensive and vary depending on the amount of the contribution and the total amount of the charitable deduction. See IRS Publication 526 for details.

## Happy Holiday Season



### BELTWAY PLAZA

#### Toy Drive until December 24 –

Help a needy family in your community by donating a new, unwrapped toy

Gift Wrapping available until December 24 by the Greenbelt Lions

#### American Red Cross Blood Drive

December 26, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### HAPPY HOLIDAYS from BELTWAY PLAZA MALL

Target • Value City • Burlington Coat Factory • Giant Food  
The Sports Authority • Marshall's • AMC Theatres • Jeepers' PetSmart • Gold's Gym • Jo-Ann Fabrics • CVS

6000 Greenbelt Rd., Greenbelt, MD 20770

## AMERICAN REALTY

### 3-F Ridge Road

Two bedroom block unit with two bathrooms (one full bath located on first floor) with new refrigerator, new blinds, fenced yard, freshly painted and on the Library side of town. **\$114,900**

NEW LISTING

### 14-Y Ridge Road

Three bedroom **BRICK** located close to the Center. A remodeled kitchen with extra cabinets, remodeled bathroom, extra shelving in the separate dining room, new storm doors and a fenced yard are just the beginning. Call for an appointment! **\$149,9000**

NEW LISTING

### 54-D Ridge Road

SOLD IN 1 DAY!

Three bedroom frame backs to the woods and has a remodeled kitchen, wall-to-wall carpeting, remodeled bathroom, extra cabinets in the storage closet, washer and dryer, ceiling fans and two air conditioners. The yard is fenced and landscaped.

NEW LISTING

### 35-G Ridge Road

This three bedroom **BRICK END UNIT** has a large **ADDITION** and a **1/2 bath** on the first floor. The unit has been freshly painted. Call today for an appointment!

## OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, December 20

Noon to 4:00 p.m.

### 25-D Ridge Road

2 Bedroom/Block

Separate Dining Area

Addition/Air conditioner

Price Reduced!

## COMING SOON

3 Bedroom/2 Baths

BRICK

with Addition

Commission Only - No Extra Fees

Jeannie Smith, GRI

Quality and Personal Service

301-345-1091



The Department is offering a reward of up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Citizens may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.



# COUNCIL continued from page 1

rant. Daniel Halpern, president of Atlanta Restaurant Partners, who appeared before council on December 15, said his company is interested in being "a good partner" in the community. With the transfer of ownership of the restaurant, community involvement should increase, he said. He vowed to talk with the owner of a nearby business that has complained about trash left behind and damage to property in its parking lot by Friday's customers. Halpern had not been aware of this problem until Councilmember Edward Putens asked him about it.

Lieutenant Thomas Kemp from the city's police department told council that offenses at Friday's have decreased, but not as much as he might like. He said police incidents there are disproportional to the number of customers at what he described as "the place to go," one of the top-grossing Friday's on the East Coast. He said Friday's management had worked with the department to improve the restaurant's public safety record. Some suggestions that had not previously made it through the national corporate structure might be more feasible under the new ownership, Kemp said.

Off-duty Greenbelt police officers are providing security there every night of the week, he said, with increased coverage on weekends. This seems to have helped, he added.

Halpern assured council the new ownership would continue to work with the city to improve public peace and safety at the restaurant. He offered to come back to council in three to six months for an update on how things are going.

Putens made a motion for

council to take a position of "no position" on the transfer of the liquor license to the new ownership. The motion passed unanimously. The city's approval was not necessary for the transfer to occur and Davis explained to Halpern that council's action did not mean it was disapproving the change.

In closing this item, several councilmembers told Halpern they would hold him to his promise to be actively involved in the community and several councilmembers mentioned some of their pet projects that could use corporate support. On a final note, Davis suggested that if the pole sign should ever need replacement, she hoped Halpern's company would simply take it down. She called it a pet peeve of hers and said people generally look for Friday's familiar awning, not the pole sign.

### Red Light Cameras

Council was poised to authorize an agreement to have Lasercraft of Norcross, Georgia, take over Greenbelt's red light camera program. Since the program's inception, the city has been in partnership with Howard County, where the contract with the provider will expire at the end of this month. Howard County issued a Request for Proposal for the service after learning that the vendor that provides processing, EDS, is going out of this business. Lasercraft was one of five companies to respond, but the current vendor, Trafficpax, failed to respond by the deadline.

Council learned that Lasercraft has a technologically advanced program, but it would be more expensive for the city. Estimates are that it would cost the city \$50,000 more annually but not exceed revenue generated by the program.

Council's choices are to continue the program through Howard County using Lasercraft despite the higher cost, eliminate the program or establish the city's own program. Staff did not recommend the last option, saying it would take considerable effort to undergo the bid process and generate costs in creating a monitoring and processing operation. The staff recommendation was to authorize City Manager Michael McLaughlin to sign the agreement with Lasercraft and a memorandum of understanding with Howard County.

Present to speak to council was Alan Shutt from Trafficpax, Inc., the company currently contracted through Howard County. Shutt said his company was interested in providing continued service to Greenbelt and he was prepared to offer the city a contract that would save the city money. Trafficpax is the largest provider of red light programs worldwide, he told council, and the German-based company has been in business longer than Lasercraft. He said Trafficpax would replace the current cameras with digital ones in the spring and that the technology used by Lasercraft does not work as well in bad weather. Trafficpax has already entered an agreement with Forestville, he said, and he would be talking about providing a program to officials from several other municipalities in the coming days.

Davis said she had problems with this last-minute offer, including the fact that the company had missed the bid deadline set by Howard County. Shutt attributed the missed deadline to his predecessor, but Davis said the responsibility for this failure had to be shared by the company. She was also concerned, she said, that Trafficpax was proposing to un-

dertake the processing now done by EDS, an area where it had no track record. She and several other councilmembers were concerned about taking any action based on an unwritten agreement. Davis cited December 31 as a deadline to be met for a new agreement to be in force.

Shutt addressed the deadline by saying his company will be providing an interim contract for services while Lasercraft got its own cameras and system in place. He said within two days he could provide the city with a written contract for up to five years. This time frame was offered to alleviate fears expressed by Davis that the initial price might go up after the first year.

Greenbelt Police Chief James Craze said he also was not comfortable with a last-minute proposal and felt the offering from Lasercraft was a good one, citing its endorsement from several other municipalities. Councilmember Rodney Roberts agreed with Craze, but said he is not happy having only one choice with a higher cost to the city than currently. Roberts said he would like to postpone a decision until a written contract from Trafficpax could be reviewed. Putens suggested that the program could be discontinued since it is becoming more expensive and, according to a report provided to council by staff, the program has not proven to be a deterrent to red-light running by motorists. He suggested a worksession so council could "rethink" the issue.

Council reluctantly and briefly considered holding an emergency meeting after Shutt provided councilmembers and staff with a written offer. McLaughlin said he also is concerned about the additional cost of the program. He also expressed concern about be-

ing alone in the program and not under the aegis of Howard County, a concern shared previously by Davis. But, he said, the issue could come before council in early January, despite the December expiration of the current contract. Council agreed to postpone action on the red light program until that time.

## Holiday Open House At Riversdale

The winter holidays were the height of the social season in 19th century Washington. Six miles from the White House, Federal-era Riversdale welcomes visitors on Sunday, December 21, from noon to 4 p.m. In the mansion festooned with greens there will be merry caroling and conviviality around the punch bowl, open hearth cooking, refreshments and special children's activities. Costumed interpreters will greet patrons as they tour the house at their own pace. There is a fee. Children 12 years and younger are admitted free.

## Tropical Holidays At Botanic Garden

The U.S. Botanic Garden's annual winter holiday display will be open through January 4. Entitled "Rites of Enchantment - When the Creatures Come Out to Celebrate," the display will stay open until 8 p.m. on Friday evenings throughout the course of the holiday display.

The conservatory is open to the public free of charge every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is located at 100 Maryland Avenue, SW at the foot of the U.S. Capitol. For information call 202-225-8333 or visit the web at [www.usbg.gov](http://www.usbg.gov).

# Fall Bleaching Special

## The Most Effective Tooth Whitening Process Available

**\$200.00**  
Regularly **\$400.00**

Treat yourself to a cosmetic tooth whitening. You may be a candidate for this simple and safe at home bleaching treatment.

**Call today to make an appointment**

### DISTINCTIONS AND AWARDS:

**DR. CLAYTON S. MCCARL, JR.**

Fellow in Academy of General Dentistry.  
Member of the Pierre Fauchard Academy.

**DR. JAY MCCARL**

Dental Implant Symposium, Boston University.  
Fellow in Academy of General Dentistry.

**DR. DAVID J. MCCARL**

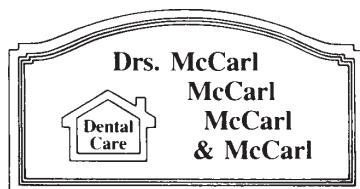
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## AWARDS

continued from page 1

dience the initiatives of the department over the past year to improve traffic and pedestrian safety. Kaiser summarized a number of activities of the department including DUI checkpoints, the Smooth Operator program to curb aggressive driving, participation in the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival, child safety seat checks, pedestrian crosswalk monitoring, seat belt checks and Walk to School Day. He said the department had been involved in educating children about the importance of wearing seat belts.

Kaiser also talked about his participation in a drug recognition conference, which led to his national certification as a drug recognition expert. He is one of only four officers in Prince George's County to achieve this certification.

Craze told council the department had received number one placement in this year's Chief's Challenge for similarly sized departments in recognition of the programs initiated by Kaiser. This is the fourth consecutive year the department has received this placement. The award, recently granted by the governor, reads, "To the Greenbelt Police Department in recognition of outstanding contributions to injury prevention and life-saving efforts to increase safety belt use in Maryland."

### ACE Reading Club

The city submitted its ACE (Advisory Committee on Education) Reading Club program, administered through Greenbelt CARES, for a SAVVY award, given by the City-County Communications and Marketing Association to recognize outstanding local government communications programs. The club was entered under the category of Citizen Participation programs. The SAVVY award is the top award for this category.

The goal of the club is to help children realize that "Reading Is Fun." Book reviews, stories and art work for children are featured weekly on Greenbelt Municipal Access TV, the city's website and at an annual reception with participation by local dignitaries, citizens and school officials.

### Donation

Bill Hunt, next president of the Eleanor and Franklin D. Roosevelt Democratic Club, presented council with a check for \$150 as a donation to the city for its emergency fund. The money was contributed by club members through the club's wish box.

### Nativity Exhibit

A nativity the size of a walnut and almost 200 others dazzle visitors to the extraordinary Third Annual International Nativity Exhibit at the museums at the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center, 3900 Harewood Road, N.E., Washington, D.C. Nativities representing every inhabited continent are on view now. The exhibit runs through January 25.

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## FIRE DAMAGE continued from page 1

half of the building was damaged so badly that it will be torn down to the foundation, according to an agreement reached last week with the insurer, W. R. Berkley/Fireman's Fund of D.C.

The right half of the building is structurally sound and the major damage is the result of water damage, according to Steve Bupp, president of Condominium Venture, the management company for the Greenbriar Condominium Association. The insurer is now in the process of trying to determine whether it will be more cost effective to repair this part of the structure or tear down and rebuild the whole thing. A decision is anticipated around the first of the year. Originally the building was constructed with block and brick exterior walls and wood-framed floors.

About half the occupants of the building had their own homeowner insurance and these policies will cover lost personal property and the cost of a place to stay. Those without their own insurance have been making other arrangements to stay with family and friends. The condominium's insurance will pay for repair of the building but will not reimburse residents for their furnishings. The previous residents of 7806 own the rights to their building, since it is a condominium and will eventually be able to return.

Bupp stated that all the owners who chose to do so have been allowed to go back into the

apartments under supervision to retrieve some of their belongings. Due to structural problems, some residents had to climb in through bedroom windows. Bupp noted that everyone had been "very patient and cooperative, allowing us to secure the building."

### Adjacent Building

Four condominium homes in the adjacent unit, 7804, suffered significant water damage as firefighters sought to keep the fire from spreading. As a result, four people have been unable to occupy their homes since November 21. Restoration is well underway and it is hoped that early in January these residents will move back in.

Meanwhile, Greenbelters who would like to assist those who were affected by the fire may bring monetary donations to the Greenbriar management office in the Greenbriar Community Building. Bupp stressed that the present need is for monetary donations. Many were left with nothing but their clothes and could use money to buy Christmas presents for their children. At present, he said, there is nowhere to put donations of items like clothing and furniture. Checks should be made out to Greenbriar Condominiums Phase II with Fire Relief written on the memo line. Contributions may also be mailed to Greenbriar Condominiums Phase II, 7600 Hanover Parkway, Suite 101, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

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## MUSEUM GIFT SHOP

Last chance before the holidays to purchase unique Greenbelt items. These include: new afghan design featuring historic Greenbelt locations; new Cat's Meow and Ornament of the Greenbelt Theatre and many items such as books and magnets and raffle tickets for "Kit," an American Girl Doll. Items available for purchase at the following locations: Co-op Grocery Store, December 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and at the Greenbelt Museum Gift Shop on December 21 from 1 to 5 p.m.

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## RATES

**CLASSIFIED:** \$3.00 minimum for ten words. 15¢ for each additional word. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 10 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 7 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

**BOXED:** \$8.10 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$12.15). Deadline 10 p.m. Monday.

**NEEDED:** Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.



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**FAMILY SEEKING HOUSEHOLD HELP.** General cleaning, laundry, etc., 6 - 10 hrs. a week. Call 240-463-2005.

**LOST AND FOUND**

**FOUND** - Palm Pilot in Greenbelt Center in front of convenience store. Call 301-477-1147.

**FOUND** - Gold loop earring in ladies locker room at Aquatic Center. Please leave message at 301-412-3649.

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**ALL OCCASION GREETING CARDS,** watercolor paintings, hand painted ornaments, original stationery. 301-552-6763

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**NOTICE**

**ATTENTION** - GHI members and tenants of GDC Parkway apartments! Having guests during 2004? Need a place to house them close by? Contact GHI @ 301-474-4161.

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**GUTTERS** - Most gutters \$25, includes downspouts. Leaves raked and taken away, \$40. 301-213-3273.

**CARPETS CLEANED** - GHI homes, \$50, includes deep clean and deodorizing. 10% off for seniors. Pat, 301-213-3273.

**DECK-SIDING** - Decks powerwashed and sealed. Small \$60; large elevated, \$90. Pat, 301-213-3273.

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**FOR RENT** - Seek quiet, non-smoking female to share nicely furnished 2 bdrm/1 bath townhome in Old Greenbelt on UMD shuttle bus line with mature female professional and one cat for spring semester. Complete kitchen privileges, W/D, DW, own cable TV. Excellent references required. Avail. immediately. \$2,400 includ. util. through May '04 with \$500 damage deposit, all paid in full in advance. Can be extended through June-July @\$500/mo. Contact S. Nielsen, 301-982-3477 or email smnielsen.smn2@verizon.net.

**MOVING SALE**

**MOVING OUT SALE** - 3 green office chairs, 3 burgundy office chairs, 3 blue office chairs, 3 wicker chairs, 1 pine wood table (round top with glass), 5 bookshelves (four shelves), 2 brown metal two-drawer file cabinets, 1 wood coffee table with two side tables, 20 reams white copy/printer paper, miscellaneous office supplies. All items are in excellent condition. Make offer to buy all together or separately. 301-474-9677

**Potpourri**  
 Anonymous Christian support for hurting people. Questioning personal significance? Come and meet with other Christians who combine prayer, scripture, praise and *real relationships*.  
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**Brick Townhome**

Just a few steps from Roosevelt Center. This brick townhome has modern appliances, cabinets, countertops and more. Call to See!

**2 Bedroom Townhome**

This home with deck and fenced yard backs to protected woodlands. Hardwood floors and new appliances. Coming Soon!

**Lakeside**

Custom-built brick split foyer being sold by the original owners. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, screened porch and large yard. \$309,900 SOLD

**Townhome With Large Screened Porch**

Modern European-styled kitchen with new cabinets and countertops. Large 11'x17' master bedroom. Backs to common area. \$141,900

**Brick Townhome**

Unique GHI townhome on the library end of town. Many modifications and improvements. Large yard and close to Center. Coming Soon!

**2 Bedrooms With Remodeled Kitchen**

New cabinets, countertop, appliances and more. Wide floor plan with stacking w/d under stairs. Large fenced yard w/ deck & shed. \$94,900

**End Unit GHI Home With GARAGE!**

This duplex townhome has an attached garage, large corner lot and more. Walking distance to Roosevelt Center. Nice! \$152,500 SOLD

**Backs to Woods**

Two bedroom townhome with wood deck that backs to protected woodlands. Hardwood floors and many improvements. Just \$94,900

**Fort Washington**

Nearly 1/2 acre lot is adjacent to parkland. 4-car garage with gravel parking area. 3br, 2.5 ba. and separate living area. Just \$249,900

**Large Corner Lot**

This home was completely renovated just 2 years ago. New kitchen, bath, windows, refinished floors, new siding and more! \$94,900 SOLD

**End Unit With Large Corner Lot**

This home was originally a 3 bedroom townhome that was converted to a 2 bedroom. Fantastic yard that back to woods. \$92,900 SOLD

**2 Bedroom End Unit**

Large, fenced yard that backs to garden area and woodlands. Wide floorplan with newer appliances. Close to Roosevelt Center. SOLD

**Greenbriar**

This 3 bedroom condominium has a balcony that overlooks flowers and other beautiful plantings. Ceramic tile floors. \$119,900 SOLD

**Townhome with Screened Porch**

This 2 bedroom block GHI home is just steps from Roosevelt Center. Large floorplan with 11x17 MBR. Fenced yard & shed. \$134,900 SOLD

**Townhome Near USDA**

Enjoy quiet walks and scenic bike rides out the back door of this renovated 3 bedroom townhouse. Modern kitchen and bath \$99,900

**Great Home - Great Price**

Don't miss your chance to buy a great home in Greenbelt! This 2-bedroom townhome has a modern kitchen & bath. Just \$84,900 SOLD

U.C. = Under contract; seller may consider back-up offers





Bucky Fitzgerald (center) celebrates a touchdown.



St. Hugh's CYO ran the grill.



Andrew Kennedy and Armani Dixon practice their "Hail Marys."

# 2003 Tootsie Roll Bowl Flag Football Game



Kathy and Liz Labukas and the whole Tootsie Roll team take the traditional group photo. The November 11 game which was played at Braden Field marked the 4th year of the game which has become an annual parish event.



Photos by Agnes and Austin Conaty



Above, 7th grade girls discuss strategy.

Left, Grand Knight Sean Bailey presents the 2003 TRB game ball to Nick Pergola at the November 26 Knights of Columbus meeting. Pergola was recognized for his years of dedicated service to the council, St. Hugh's Parish and the community in general in programs such as So Others Might Eat.

## Raking Leaves for GIVES

by Virginia Beauchamp

Three or four Brownies from troop #4816 and three fathers, plus 18 students from Eleanor Roosevelt High School – all members of the Civitan Club – turned out on the beautiful sunny Saturday morning of November 22 to rake leaves for elderly GHI residents. ERHS faculty member Kate Derry supervised the Civitan group and scout leader Monica Mische worked with the Brownie team. John Taylor, president of GIVES, made arrangements for the team enterprise.

Working from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., the rakers were able to clean up eight yards of those who had requested assistance. This, however,

made only a small dent in the leaf accumulations, since about 30 people had requested help with raking. GHI provided leaf bags for the enterprise and Joan Krob of the GHI staff made available a room in the administration building on Hamilton Place for a lunch of pizza, cookies and drinks. Fall leaf raking has become a tradition with GIVES,

the Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service. Most members of the organization are senior citizens who offer services to others in exchange for similar or different services for other members. The most frequent request is for transportation, usually to a physician's office; however, the organization also has a great need for persons willing to handle phone calls, either in the GIVES office in the Community Center or from their personal phones. All services are provided free and membership is also free. For further information call 301-507-6580.



Leaf-rakers from Eleanor Roosevelt High School enjoy a pizza lunch in the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. staff lunchroom. The students, all members of the Civitan Club, spent the morning of November 22 raking leaves for members of GIVES who had sought assistance.

PHOTO BY JOAN KROB

## Co-op Vouchers

Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative, Inc. mailed out the annual patronage refund vouchers this week to all members of record. The vouchers represent 25% of the patronage refund approved by the Co-op's Board of Directors. The remaining 75% of the patronage refund will be deposited in the member's capital account.

Vouchers can be used to make purchases at the Co-op or exchanged for a check. Members who do not have \$100 in their member capital account and thus are not yet voting members of the cooperative may credit their voucher to their account. For more information, contact the Co-op office located in the store.

## See Model Trains

Just in time for Christmas, the National Capital Trackers will be displaying detailed model railroad trains and equipment at the College Park Aviation Museum. The model trains will be on display from Saturday, December 20 through Sunday, December 28.

In 1909, the proximity of the airfield to the railroad was one of the features which brought the Wright brothers here to instruct the first military officers to fly.

The museum is located at 1985 Corporal Frank Scott Dr. in College Park. For more information call 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544.

## St. Hugh's Academic Awards

by Leslie Hilliard

On November 9, 50 students at St. Hugh's School were recognized for their academic achievement. The school assembly for the "Honors Award" presentation was also attended by the friends and families of the honorees.

Students in grades five through eight, who maintain grades of "A" or "B" are eligible for the award. In addition to academic achievement, the "Honor Award" also encompasses attributes of respect, spirituality and responsibility.

Students achieving "First Honors" must maintain an "A" in every subject except one, where a "B" is permissible. Twenty-nine students received the distinction of "First Honors." They are: Fifth Grade: Rachel Bacarella, Robert Bailey, Stephen Cox, Eleanor Grammas, Gabriella Gunawan, Nicholas Hardy, Julia Risik and Mia Simon; Sixth Grade: John Culhane, Ramesh Katta, Scott Kincaid, Rachael Rogers and Andy Li; Seventh Grade: Erin Cocchiaro, Wesley Hilliard, Sarah Layton, Jonathan Nguyen, Patience Nwachukwu, Fiona O'Bierne, James Riordan, Megan Shaffer, Kyra Simon and Nolan Soter; Eighth Grade: Nicholas Gunawan, Jeffrey Han, Edward Kim, Eleanor Lomax, Gregory Meyer and Nicholas

Vikor.

Students earning "Second Honors" must receive either "A" or "B" in every core subject. Twenty-one students received the distinction of "Second Honors." They are: Fifth Grade: Kellie Achstetter, Paolo Cocchiaro, Lauren Kincaid, Peter Lomax, Chelsea Ofili, Daniel Parisi, Emilia Pedersoli, Gabrielle Smalls and Juanita Warren; Sixth Grade: Matthew Elsasser, Marcella Fidelis, Vercella Fidelis, Robert Lewey, Scott McGee, Ryan Nguyen, Madhvi Shukla and Zachary Viola; Seventh Grade: Nydia Bryan-Green; Eighth Grade: Subhasis Ghosh, Thomas Rogers and Eric Walter.

## Blooming Amaryllis

December through January 4, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. delight in a free extensive holiday exhibit at the National Arboretum featuring hundreds of "Hippeastrum" in full bloom. More widely known as amaryllis, the "Hippeastrum" has become a very popular, easy-to-grow holiday plant. Return often to enjoy this constantly changing exhibit of unusual species and dazzling new hybrids. Visit [www.usna.usda.gov](http://www.usna.usda.gov) or call 202-245-5898.