

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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

DECEMBER 8, 2005



More Holiday Fun For Kids and Adults

Holiday fun continues with more events hosted by various community organizations.

Santa Claus

Children as old as second grade will enjoy a free phone call from Santa between Tuesday, December 13 and Thursday, December 15 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. To arrange for a call, fill out a form at the Youth Center or online at www.greenbeltmd.gov.

Santa will stop by for lunch with children ages 5 to 8 years participating in the craft room on Saturday, December 17, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the Youth Center. There is a fee and pre-registration is required by Wednesday, December 14.

Children preschool age and up may visit Santa live, for free, on Saturday, December 17 from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Youth Center. Each child will receive a free picture with Santa. Lots of other activities will take place, including songs by the Greenbelt Elementary School fifth grade chorus. Parents who bring a VHS tape may have the event professionally filmed.

Seasonal Music

At the Arts Center this year, the "Chromatics" will present their lively musical program on Saturday, December 10 at 8 p.m. along with guest group "The Lost Cause" and Sunday, December 11 at 2 p.m. with "Tonic & Gin."

The Community Center gym will resound with sounds of the season in two free concerts open to all. "The Fleastompers" perform on Friday, December 16 from 1 to 3 pm. On Sunday, December 18 beginning at 3 p.m., the Greenbelt Concert Band will play.

Also on Sunday at 7:30 p.m., the Greenbelt Community Church presents "A Celebration of Christmas" – a free music program open to the public. For information call Muriel Balzer, 301-345-9064 or see www.musicamongstfriends.com.

Decorations

Ongoing exhibits provide an historical perspective to life in Greenbelt. The Greenbelt Museum is now decorated for the holidays with items from the 1930s and 1940s. Tours are available every Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. The museum at 10-B Crescent Road is open to all ages for a small fee.

The Community Center Art Gallery is exhibiting "The Creation Game: Paintings by Donna Marshall" through December 31.

See **ACTIVITIES**, page 12

Greenbelt Votes to Annex 75.5 Acres of State Land

by Barbara Hopkins

At least since last summer the city council and staff have been discussing the enlargement of the city through annexation of lands included in the South Core of the Greenbelt Station development and some surrounding nearby parcels. An annexation petition from the project developer was accepted by the city at its meeting on August 8. At that time council directed staff to pursue the annexation of other nearby land parcels and additional properties for annexation, which were identified at the council's September 12 meeting. However, four of the parcels thus identified were later removed from consideration for annexation because the Town of Berwyn Heights had already taken steps to annex them.

Resolutions to permit the City of Greenbelt's annexation of additional land were introduced at the October 10 council meeting and were on the agenda for second reading and adoption at the meeting on November 28.

One resolution would annex just under 86.5 acres of the South Core of land owned by the

Greenbelt Metropark, LLC. The other would bring approximately 75.5 acres of land owned by the State of Maryland within Greenbelt city limits. The council meeting was recessed while a public hearing on the two resolutions could be held prior to presenting them for second reading and adoption.

At the meeting, however, City Manager Michael McLaughlin stated that a problem had been identified with the metes and bounds legal description for the South Core Greenbelt Metropark land which had not been resolved prior to the meeting because of the Thanksgiving holiday. McLaughlin said adoption of this resolution needed to be deferred until council's December 12 meeting. He suggested that the public hearing be held on both resolutions to accommodate anyone who had come out that night to speak. When the hearing on the state-owned lands was concluded, the hearing on the Metropark lands was recessed until December 12. As it turned

See **ANNEXATION**, page 6

Reallocation of the Grant For Springhill Lake Center

by Barbara Hopkins

Among city business conducted at the November 28 meeting of the Greenbelt City Council was consideration of priority projects for which to seek support from state and county legislators, applications for funds from county programs and awards of bids to purchase new city vehicles. Added to the agenda, at the request of Councilmember Leta Mach, was an item on election issues.

Legislative Program

Council considered and ultimately voted to accept staff recommendations for a list of priority projects the city would like state and county legislative representatives to pursue in 2006.

Priorities for the county delegation include legislation to enable planning authority for the city, increasing the funding Greenbelt receives from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, support for a new fire station and making permanent the funding for the school resource officer.

As a first priority for state legislators, staff suggested reallocation of the Springhill Lake Recreation Center grant (\$300,000) to provide funds for more window replacements at the Community Center. Both Mach and Davis favored this action since the proposed Springhill Lake redevelopment could make this grant unnecessary. They agreed it is best to

use the money for another important purpose rather than to risk losing it by not using it within the required time frame.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts, on the other hand, considered it premature to surrender to another purpose the funds for a recreation center in the Springhill Lake neighborhood. When the issue was submitted to a vote, it passed three to one, with Roberts dissenting. Councilmember Konrad Herling was absent.

Second on the list for the state legislators was public safety funding, including extending a sign-on bonus to municipal police departments if such a bonus is approved for the county police. Other suggestions were funding for a joint communications center and prohibiting the transfer of liquor licenses to gas stations.

New Vehicles

Council approved the purchase of a new one-and-a-half-ton dump truck for about \$3,300 under the budget allocation.

A two-ton truck chassis was approved for about \$7,000 over the budgeted amount. However, council was assured there are sufficient funds in the Replacement Fund to cover the increased cost. An existing aluminum dump body will be transferred to this new chassis and the truck will replace two older dump trucks the Public

See **COUNCIL**, page 6

Council Hears Consultant On Financing Options

by Thomas X. White

At a worksession scheduled just before the Greenbelt City Council's regular meeting on November 28, members of council and city staff met with Sam Ketterman of Davenport & Company. The city has retained Ketterman as an advisor in expected discussions with developers of Metroland regarding the possibility of city financing of public infrastructure to serve the development.

Attending the worksession were Mayor Judith Davis, Councilmembers Rodney Roberts and Leta Mach, City Manager Michael McLaughlin, City Solicitor Robert Manzi, Planning and Community Development Director Celia Craze and

Greenbelt Community Planner Ethan Bindernagel. Councilmembers Konrad Herling and Ed Putens were not at the meeting.

The meeting with Ketterman had been suggested by the mayor during the November 16 council worksession where city staff gave a briefing on alternatives available to the city if it were to consider financing requests being made by the developer and the Prince George's county government. The meeting's purpose was to allow council to become more familiar with Ketterman's services, as well as more comfortable with issues surrounding the city's possible

See **FINANCING**, page 6

County Adds Conditions, Approves SHL Site Plan

by Mary Lou Williamson

Prince George's County Councilmember Douglas J.J. Peters presented several conditions at the Prince George's District Council meeting on Monday, November 28, at which it reviewed and accepted AIMCO's (Apartment Investment Management Company) conceptual site plan for a redevelopment of Springhill Lake. (The county council sits as the district council when dealing with zoning matters.) Those conditions were approved by the district council and agreed to by the developer.

First, the number of for-sale units will be increased from 25 percent to 35 percent.

Second, the school surcharge fee which developers of residential housing are required to pay will bring in \$20 million.

AIMCO plans to increase the number of housing units by 2,800 above the approximately 3,000 currently there. These funds, which normally go into a general pot, will be earmarked for the new school complex at Springhill Lake to include both the middle and elementary schools. School officials have agreed to that plan.

The site of the present Greenbelt Middle School, together with the adjacent bus lot, will be large enough to accommodate the two-school complex. In addition, Peters told the News Review the county has already planned on \$30 million for construction of the new middle school; thus there now are sufficient funds for the entire

See **SHL SITE PLAN**, page 6

What Goes On

Saturday, December 10

9 a.m. to noon, Donation Drop-off, Parking Lot Between Community Center and Municipal Building

Sunday, December 11

6 p.m., Greenbelt East Tree Lighting, Outside Greenbriar Community Building

Monday, December 12

8 p.m., Greenbelt City Council Meeting, Municipal Building

Wednesday, December 14

7:30 p.m., Greenbelt Advisory Planning Board, Senior Gallery/Conference Room

8 p.m., Council Worksession re: Greenbelt Middle School with School Board, Community Center

Thursday, December 15

7:30 p.m., GHI Board of Directors Meeting, GHI Board Room

Friday, December 16

1 to 3 p.m., Holiday Concert "The Fleastompers," Community Center Gym

Saturday, December 17

10:30 a.m. to noon, Santa Visits the Youth Center, Preschool and Up

Sunday, December 18

3 p.m., Greenbelt Concert Band, Community Center Gym

7:30 p.m., Music Amongst Friends, "A Celebration of Christmas," Community Church

Happy Holiday Season

Our Carriers Bring Holiday Greetings

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 so they are 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, identified with the 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.

Beaverdam Creek Group Holds Its First Meeting

by Doug Love

On Tuesday, December 6 more than 20 interested people met in the large library meeting room to found the Beaverdam Creek Watershed Committee. Representatives from groups such as the Council of Governments, Friends of Sligo Creek and Neighbors of the Northwest Branch shared some of their enthusiasm and projects, such as fighting invasive species and watershed walks. Local activists told of a few things that have already been done, such as water quality studies and stream cleanups. This meeting brought everyone together into a dynamic mentoring relationship, where existing groups in nearby watersheds will help get this one started.

Beaverdam Creek

Beaverdam Creek drains Goddard and the north end of Greenbelt. Water travels through interesting branches such as a canyon 10 feet deep in places with several waterfalls. Beaverdam Creek is one of the headwaters of the Anacostia River and provides some comparatively clean water to this burdened urban river. Sixty percent of the watershed is forested and the 10 cubic feet per second water flow of the main channel runs five miles through a 14 square mile drainage area. Beaverdam Creek starts in the ponds at Goddard, travels north under the Goddard interchange with the Parkway, then turns west through a swamp in BARC just south of Powder Mill Road. It joins Indian Creek after flowing under Kenilworth Avenue south of Beaver Dam Road. Many of the creeks in the city's forest preserve flow into Beaverdam Creek, uniting as they flow across the woods at the south end of BARC. Most of Greenbelt East north of Greenbelt Road also drains into a tributary of this creek.

Ideas Shared

Friends of Northwest Branch presented a checklist for incorporation so that grants can be sought. A sample mission statement was distributed and will be discussed at the next meeting to

be held on January 17 at 7 p.m. in the library. Everyone seems eager to take a ride in BARC's biodiesel bus to see the parts of Beaverdam Creek that flow through BARC. Others want to continue the educational walks and trash cleanups. As someone said, "no harm picking up trash while learning!" Researchers such as Harriette Phelps and Eleanor Roosevelt High School students will be invited to participate with their stream quality information and experts in this and other monitoring techniques will be invited to hold workshops. Spring plantings and cleanups will try to involve all of us. A listserv will soon be open for email messages and a website is being considered. It was even suggested that the group join Greenbelt Access Television (GATE) as a corporate member and prepare to make videos.

Since some present are members of other groups, a brief account was given of where these groups succeeded and where they went wrong. The consensus was that they started and solved an immediate problem then became less active. This group is starting without a disaster to prompt them but members expect to keep going and solve the little problems that plague urban watersheds. Restoration goals include reducing pollution loads, enhancing aquatic diversity and encouraging a quality urban fishery, restoring the anadromous fish spawning range, increasing the acreage and quality of wetlands, expanding forest cover and riparian buffers and increasing public awareness, citizen participation and "friends of" groups.

A pamphlet prepared by the Anacostia Watershed Citizens Advisory Committee gives two contacts for the Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group: Mi Ae Kim, 301-441-2770 and Susan Barnett, 301-474-7465. The Council of Governments plans to spend six to 12 months to mentor this group. It can be reached at 202-952-3374.

National Publication Cites City Program

An article by Rachael Holovach in the November 14 issue of *Nation's Cities Weekly* reported on how various cities, including Greenbelt, participated in education. The following is an excerpt of that story.

Among the multiple ways cities participate in education, some provide innovative opportunities for city personnel to directly engage with students in schools. Linking city officials and school programs increases students' knowledge of city government and provides city personnel the opportunity to share their expertise in a meaningful way.

Members of city management and planning departments, police and fire departments personally bring first-hand experiences to students in their own communities.

These descriptions show how city personnel are contributing to educational efforts in schools. All were selected from NLC's [National League of Cities] Examples of Programs For Cities database.

Greenbelt, Maryland

"It's Municipal Government" is a quiz show contest intended to teach elementary school students about their local government. Each year, a representative from the city government visits sixth grade classes to talk about the government and the services it provides. He or she leaves packets of information for the students to study. Several weeks later, their teachers give an exam and the five students with the highest scores from each school represent their school at the quiz show.

Three teams from local schools compete in the quiz show. It has three rounds – a speed round where students buzz in and answer questions from their seats, a relay race round where they run and tag a board to answer a question and a chart round where they draw 10 cards and must place them correctly on a blank organizational chart.

The city and local businesses provide T-shirts and a pizza party to all participants, as well as \$100 to \$20 for each team's school, depending on how it places. The show is videotaped and shown on the local cable station.

(Other communities with educational programs described in the story were Lenexa, Kan.; Columbia, Tenn.; and Collier County, Fla.)

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

WEEK OF DEC. 9 PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG)

No frequent movie goers
coupons or passes.

Friday
*4:45, 7:30, 9:55

Saturday
*2:00, *4:45, 7:30, 9:55

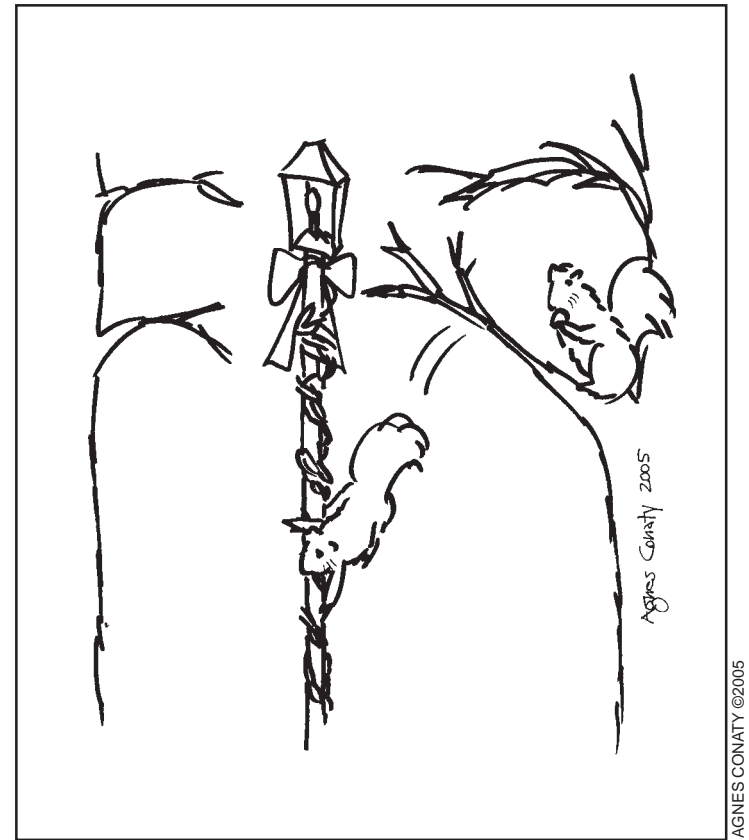
Sunday
*2:00, *4:45, 7:30

Monday – Thursday
*4:45, 7:30

*These shows at \$5.00

301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745
129 Centerway
www.pgtheatres.com

Grin Belt



"I'm practicing my flying stunts just in case Santa needs an extra helper for his sleigh."

AGNES CONATY ©2005



PRELIMINARY AGENDA MEETING OF THE GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS Thursday, December 15, 2005 GHI BOARD ROOM, 7:30 PM

Key Agenda Item:

- Engagement of Auditor

Regular board meetings are open to members.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; James Giese, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Thomas X. White, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Bell 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.

Community Events

"Poison Dust" Is Next Peace & Justice Film

On Sunday, December 11, "Poison Dust: A New Look at U.S. Radioactive Weapons," the next film in the Peace and Justice Coalition Progressive Film Series, will be shown at the Community Center at 5 p.m.

The film dramatizes objections to the occupation of Iraq and military methods from the Cold War period onward. "Poison Dust" begins with the story of three young National Guardsmen, veterans of a 2003 tour of duty in Iraq, who learn that uranium poisoning from U.S. weapons caused their mysterious ailments and those of thousands of other GIs and countless Iraqi citizens. Medical experts document how depleted uranium contamination spreads and activists discuss growing worldwide resistance and Pentagon cover-up efforts. Directed and edited by Sue Harris and the People's Video Network with final edits by Michael J. Sudyn of Flying Dreams, the film is produced by the Depleted Uranium Education Project, 2005.

An audience discussion will follow. Greenbelt Access Television will videotape the event to be shown later on local cable TV. For more information visit www.justpeace-pgmd.org, email justpeacepg@earthlink.net or call 301-577-2350 or 301-474-1353.

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition "Food and Friendship" program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center. Meals need to be reserved by 11 a.m. the day before participants are planning to eat to assure sufficient quantities of food are ordered. Call 301-397-2008, ext. 4125 for information about the program and to make reservations.

Meals are served beginning at noon. All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and one percent milk. Menus for the week of December 12 through 16 include:

Monday - Chicken noodle soup with crackers, beef patty with vegetable gravy, seasoned corn, brussels sprouts, baked apple.

Tuesday - Orange juice, sliced turkey, ham and cheese on croissant with mustard and mayonnaise, potato salad, carrot and raisin salad, green gelatin with pineapple.

Wednesday - Navy bean soup with crackers, beef stew with stew vegetables, brown rice, lettuce and tomato salad, tangerine.

Thursday - Grape juice, baked pork chops with gravy, mashed potatoes, sweet peas, stewed cinnamon apples.

Friday - Cranapple juice, chili con carne, fluffy white rice, mixed greens, orange sherbet.

GHI Notes

December 13 - Sustainable Design & Practice Committee, 7:00 p.m., Board Room

December 14 - Woodlands Committee, 7:00 p.m., GHI Lunch Room

December 14 - Architecture & Environment Committee, 7:30 p.m., Board Room

"Project Heat Up" Offers Heating Help

Due to projected heating cost increases the state Office of Home Energy Programs has instituted a new program to help pay heating costs for some people whose income is above the eligibility limits for the low-income Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP, also administered by the Office of Energy Programs). This specially funded program will operate from January 15 through March 31; whether or not the program will be in effect in the future is unknown at this time. Applicants will use the same application form for Project Heat Up used for MEAP and Electric Universal Service Program. Those who want to apply are asked to call Community Resource Advocate Christal Parker Batey at 301-474-8000 ext. 2012.

Maximum monthly income eligibility guidelines for the program are established according to household size: for an individual, gross income may not exceed \$1,395.63. That base amount is adjusted for each additional household member by adding \$475.42. There is no asset test. Additional information can be reviewed online at <http://www.dhr.state.md.us/meap>.

At the Library

Children

Tuesday, December 13, 10:30 a.m. - Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months with caregiver, limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, December 14, 10:30 a.m. - Toddlertime for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, limit 15 toddlers.

4 p.m. - Bookkids Book Discussion, ages 8 to 12, Kate DiCamillo's "Because of Winn-Dixie."

Thursday, December 15, 10:30 a.m. - Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 children.

Adults

Saturday, December 10, 10:30 a.m. to noon - Poetry Plus.

Concerto Concert At Roosevelt HS

On Wednesday, December 14 the annual Concerto Concert will be presented in the auditorium at Eleanor Roosevelt High School. Beginning at 7:30 p.m. six talented musicians and vocalists will perform concertos with the Eleanor Roosevelt Chamber Orchestra. This year the featured performers are Michael Murchison on trombone, Santana Moreno on clarinet and Kynan Rilee on piano.

A reception will follow the concert. All concerts at Roosevelt are free and open to the public.

Greenbriar Hosts Seasonal Events

On Sunday, December 11 Saint Nick will visit the Greenbriar Terrace Room to share juice and cookies with children of all ages. There will also be face painting, a coloring contest and other activities at this free 4 p.m. event.

Then at 6 p.m. all are invited to the Greenbelt East Tree Lighting outside the Greenbriar Community Building. Enjoy free hot chocolate and carol singing as well.

Greenbelt New Year Needs Volunteers

The Greenbelt New Year's Eve Committee needs volunteers to help with this year's Greenbelt New Year's Eve celebration at the Community Center. Volunteers work for one or two hours. The rest of the evening is free to enjoy the food, music and festivities. Volunteers direct traffic, supervise activities and generally ensure everyone is having a good time. All volunteers receive free admission and a free "Event Staff" T-shirt. For more information call volunteer coordinators Patti Brothers (301-910-0050) or Jim Marley (301-552-1288).

Poetry Plus Meets At the Library

Poetry Plus will meet at the Greenbelt Library on Saturday, December 10 at 10:30 a.m. The poet of choice is Maxine Kumin.

Bring poems (five or six copies) by Kumin or any poems with the theme of change for group discussion.

Johnson to Install Dem Club Officers

Greenbelt's Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club will install officers for the 2006 meeting year at its holiday gala meeting on Friday, December 16. The event begins at 7:30 p.m. with a short business agenda followed by the swearing in conducted by Jack Johnson, Prince George's county executive. Johnson will make remarks and respond to questions.

The traditional holiday gala social hour will follow. Members are reminded to bring holiday desserts. Drinks will be furnished by the club.

All meetings are held in the Terrace Room of the Greenbriar Community Building at 7600 Hanover Parkway and Greenbelt Road. Prospective members and the public are invited to attend.

New officers include Patricia Unger, president; Julia Eichhorst, vice president, precinct 21-06; Ed Terry, vice president, precinct 21-08; Bob Doyle, vice president, precinct 21-13. The vice presidency for Greenbelt Center, 21-03, is vacant. Interested members who reside in that precinct should call Pat Unger at 301-474-1052. The treasurer will be Sylvia Lewis; Keith Bare, recording secretary; Lauralee Bruner, corresponding secretary; Marc Amiel, sergeant at arms; and Bill Hunt, immediate past president.

The next meeting, Friday, January 20, will feature two speakers: Rushern Baker, former chair of the Maryland House Delegation, and Allan Lichtman, announced candidate for the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by Senator Paul Sarbanes' retirement.

For additional information call Unger.

Donation Drop-off

On Saturday, December 10 from 9 a.m. to noon, the American Rescue Workers truck will be in the parking lot between the city offices and the Community Center. Donations may be made of usable household goods (clothing, furniture, small appliances, curtains, towels, bedding, books, puzzles and toys).

For further information call the City of Greenbelt Recycling Office at 301-474-8303.

Distinguished Scholar Finalists at ERHS

Five Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) students have been named Maryland Distinguished Scholar finalists from Prince George's County in the Academic Achievement Category.

The Distinguished Scholar Program offers \$3,000 a year for four years as an incentive for winners to go to college in Maryland. Applicants in the achievement category, who must have an unweighted grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.7 on a 4.0 scale, are ranked on the basis of GPA and SAT/PSAT/ACT test scores.

The finalists are Allison S. Bailey, Imogen J. Davidson White, Sudensa Lakshman, Michael J. Murchison and Susannah D. Reed.

Semifinalists from ERHS were Anthony J. Cressman, Alexander H. Fischer, Ann C. Fraistat, Angela M. Gentile, Robert M. Hughes, Alima M. Kamara, David B. Mainzer, Adam I. Mohamed, Elizabeth A. Mongeon, Kevin C.

Nathan, Peter M. Phelps, Thomas A. Schwenn, Deborah Y. Shroder, Payal D. Soni and Robert A. Walker. The semifinalists will be placed on an alternate list and may be offered a scholarship that a finalist does not use.

CRAFT FAIR & SILENT AUCTION

AMERICAN LEGION
6900 GREENBELT RD.

SAT., DEC. 10

9-1

Handmade gift items &
Decorations
Auction includes week-long
Orlando area vacation.

Christmas Vacation Camp

Come and be cowgirls and cowboys at Mowatt UMC, 40 Ridge Rd., Greenbelt.

December 26 through 30 you'll attend campfire sing-alongs, stories at the open door adventure, have fun at the craft corral and open range recreation. Enjoy a snack at the chuck wagon with other "Ranch House Kids."

Remember the date Dec. 26 - 30 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Register by Dec. 15. Walk-ins welcome.

Contact Karen Smith at 301-204-6657.



HOLIDAY GREETINGS

Each year the News Review publishes Holiday Greetings from area residents. To place your own message, contact the Ad Desk at 301-474-4131. Greetings are scheduled to be printed in the December 22 issue of the newspaper. The deadline is Monday, December 19 at 10 p.m.

Music Amongst Friends presents

"A Celebration of Christmas"

Sunday, Dec. 18 7:30 p.m.

Greenbelt Community Church

Muriel Balzer - Piano

Gina Moore - Soprano

James Moore - Baritone



Selections from the "Messiah" woven with traditional carols

FREE

Genocide. Violence. Sudan.

Do NOT just read these words. ACT!
December 10, 2005, Free Benefit concert.

6:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Faith Ministries, Inc.
Mowatt Methodist Church Building
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Maryland.

For more information: call 301-441-4935
All proceeds will go to the Sudan Mercy Project.

Obituaries

Mary A. Geiger

On Saturday, December 3, 2005, Mary Agnes Purcell Geiger died at her home on Lakeside Drive following a three-month battle with cancer.



She was a native of Ann Arbor, Mich., where she was born in 1929. She met her husband Alphonso F. Geiger when he came to Ann Arbor as a student at the University of Michigan. They married on April 12, 1950.

After a short time in South Dakota they moved to Greenbelt in 1956 when he took a position with the Soil Conservation Service at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

The Geigers had six children — Maureen, Patricia, Kathleen, Paul, Thomas and Ellen. After the children were in school, Mrs. Geiger took a part-time position with the Greenbelt Family Practice in Roosevelt Center and later became manager of the OB/GYN Associates of Prince George's Hospital Center. After her retirement in 1991, she continued as a volunteer with the Prince George's Hospital Guild.

In Greenbelt she served for many years as a member of the city's Park and Recreation Advisory Board, where she held the position of recording secretary. She was also a member of the Maryland Recreation and Parks Association for more than 10 years and secretary of PARC (Park and Resource Conservation branch) for the past two years.

Mrs. Geiger was a member of the Greenbelt American Legion Auxiliary, a founding member of the Women's Investment Group of Greenbelt (WIGG) and an active member of the Golden Age Club. For many years she took advantage of the senior classes in the Community Center for literature, coping and exercise.

Besides her husband and six children, she is survived by 10 grandchildren and two sisters, Martha Veselenak and Patricia Schneider. A third sister, Nancy Scarr, preceded her in death.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, December 9 at 11 a.m. at the Greenbelt Community Church, Hillside and Crescent Roads. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Mary Purcell Geiger Scholarship Fund, c/o Greenbelt Youth Recreation Department, 99 Centerway, Greenbelt, MD 20770 or Community Hospices, 8200 Professional Place, Suite 104, Landover, MD 20785.



Baha'i Faith

"O Friend!
In the garden of thy heart,
plant naught but the rose of love."
— Baha'u'llah

Greenbelt Baha'i Community
P.O. Box 245
Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-345-2918 301-220-3160
www.bahai.org www.us.bahai.org

In Memoriam — Mary Geiger

The medical staff mourns the loss of a longtime friend, Mary A. Geiger, who died on December 3, 2005. Mary joined the hospital family in 1981 as the manager of the OB/GYN Associates of Prince George's Hospital Center and worked very closely with the physicians who provided staff care in that department. Mary was a perfect example of "service excellence" long before the phrase was coined. She personally visited every OB/GYN staff patient during their stay, was involved in the weekly OB/GYN lecture series and monthly OB/GYN Department meetings as well as often times acting as a liaison between the nurses and physicians.

Following her retirement in 1991, she continued her service to the hospital as a member of the PGHC Guild, serving as president from 1995 to 1997 and as treasurer since that time. She has given 1,685 volunteer hours to the hospital through the Guild.

She was well-known in the hospital hallways for her quick wit and encouraging attitude.

— Medical Staff at
Dimensions Health Group



Our deepest sympathy to News Review staffer Al Geiger and his family on the death of his wife and their mother Mary.

Congratulations to the following teachers at Eleanor Roosevelt High School: Ninette I. Beheler, Kenneth J. Bernstein, Yau-Jong Twu and Maya Yamada. They were among 20 teachers in the county to receive the teaching profession's top honor — National Board Certification (NBC) — bringing the county's total NBC teachers to 54 of 660 in Maryland. NBC is a voluntary one- to three-year rigorous program of performance-based assessment of a teacher's knowledge and capabilities. The county school system singled out Yamada for special recognition because she accomplished the difficult program despite being deaf.

Congratulations to CARES director Liz Park and husband Mike Coale on the birth of their daughter Helen Marie on December 1, 2005. Helen Marie weighed in at 7 lbs., 5 oz. and joins big brother Joe and big sister Mary.

Congratulations also to city employees Nicole DeWald and Greg Varda. DeWald was reclassified from Arts Coordinator to Arts Supervisor and Sports Coordinator. Varda was promoted to Recreation Program Supervisor.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church



40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Dr. Paul C. Kim, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am
Prayer Meeting Wed. 6:45 pm
Crossways Bible Study Tues. 7:30 pm Thurs. 10:30 am
Handicapped Accessible Come As You Are!

Greenbelt Community Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

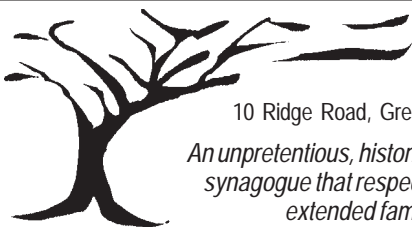
"A church of the open mind, the warm heart,
the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."

ST. HUGH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4322



Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Pastor: Fr. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Fr. R. Scott Hurd

Congregation Mishkan Torah



10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223
An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian
synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your
extended family in the 21st century.

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM. Educational programs for children K-12 and for adults. Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children. Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program. Opportunity for leadership development. Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors. Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities. Interfaith families are welcome.

Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

Help Battle "Blues" At Longest Night

Grace Presbyterian Church will host its first Longest Night Service on Wednesday, December 21 at 7:30 p.m. at 5924 Princess Garden Parkway in Lanham.

This service is for anyone who is finding the holiday season difficult or sad, whether or not they have a regular church home. They may have recently lost a loved one, be lonely, may have lost a job or be suffering from illness or the pain of a broken relationship. They may be devastated by world tragedies and finding it difficult to connect with a loving God.

The service will feature music by violinist Rosanna Louie, scripture readings, time for quiet reflection and a brief message from Rev. Katherine James Klemstine, a chaplain on the staff of the Spiritual and Bereavement Care Center of Hospice of the Chesapeake.

There will also be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one or as a sign of hope.

Casual dress is accepted. There will be no offering. Light refreshments will be available following the service.

For more information contact Rev. David Bower at Grace Presbyterian Church by phone at 301-577-1092 or by email at pastordavid.gpc@verizon.net.

Conversational Hebrew Lessons

Conversational Hebrew class for people who have limited knowledge of Hebrew, is being held at Mishkan Torah every Saturday afternoon, right after morning services and kiddish are over. Call Mishkan Torah's office, 301-474-4223, for details.

Opera Scenes Performed

On Tuesday, December 13 at 12:30 p.m., "Opera Scenes," a program of staged opera scenes, will be performed by the undergraduate students of the UM Opera Workshop at the Gildenhorn Recital of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. The performance is directed by Eugene Galvin and admission is free.



Catholic
Community
of Greenbelt
MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

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

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Sunday School/
Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship Service



Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail myholycross@verizon.net

St. George's Episcopal/ Anglican Church

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

Sundays: 8:00 am Simple, quiet Mass
9:00 am Christian education for all ages
10:00 am Sung Mass with organ and folk music, ASL interpreted
1:30 pm Signed Mass (last Sunday of each month only)
Wednesdays: 7:00 pm Simple, quiet Mass

An inclusive congregation!

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net
Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor



Sunday School: 9:30 am
Worship Service: 10:45 am
Weds. Worship: 7:00 pm
(Adult Bible Study/Prayer & Children's Ministry)

Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family through Loving Service

YIELD

Giving in charity is one of the important teachings of Islam, greatly rewarded by God and an obligation on every individual who has the means to do so.

"And the likeness of those, who spend their substance, seeking to please God and to strengthen their souls, is as a garden, high and fertile; heavy rain falls on it, but makes it yield a double increase in harvest, and if it receives not heavy rain, light moisture sufficeth it. God sees well whatever you do . . . O you who believe, give of the good things which you have earned, and of the fruits of the earth which we have produced for you . . ."

— The Holy Qur'an, 2:265 & 267

To find out more about Islam, call 301-982-9463 or e-mail us at searchislam@mail.com or visit the website www.islamguide.com.

Blood Donations Are Badly Needed Now

The Greater Chesapeake & Potomac (GC&P) Blood Services Region of the American Red Cross is issuing an urgent plea for immediate donations from people with Type O blood. Type O is the universal blood type and is also the blood type most commonly needed by local patients requiring transfusions.

Both local and national inventories of this critically-needed blood type have continued to drop due to cold weather and the approaching holidays. Donors are needed immediately to ensure that patient needs can be met in the days to come. Appointments are available by calling 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.

New Laws Change Teen Driving Rules

Five new driving laws focused on teen driver safety took effect on October 1. The new laws affect provisional drivers and those with learner's permits regardless of when they received their permit or provisional license.

Learner's Permit

The learner's permit must be held for at least six months before the driver is eligible for a provisional license. The learner's permit driver must complete a minimum of 60 hours of driving practice with someone at least age 21 who has held a driver's license for three years. A minimum of 10 of the 60 practice driving hours must occur at night. The nighttime practice can occur no earlier than 30 minutes before sunset and no later than 30 minutes after sunrise. Learner's permit holders under 18 may not use any wireless communication device including a cell phone while driving, with the exception of 911 emergency calls. Violations may result in the suspension of driving privileges for up to 90 days.

Provisional License

During the first five months of the provisional period, drivers under the age of 18 may not carry passengers who are minors (under 18) unless they are accompanied by a qualified supervising driver or are direct family members of the provisional license holder or a relative of the license holder who lives at the same address. Violations may result in a suspension of driving privileges. Drivers under 18 may not use any wireless communication device including a cell phone while driving, with the exception of 911 emergency calls. Violations may result in the suspension of driving privileges for up to 90 days. Drivers must hold the provisional license for 18 consecutive months with no moving violations. Any convictions or Probation Before Judgement (PBJ) rulings will require the 18-month period to be restarted. Provisional drivers are ineligible for a PBJ ruling from the court if the defendant has previously received a PBJ.

Efforts are being made to communicate the changes to young drivers, their parents, driving schools, and high school principals. In addition, MVA has updated driving materials for the new driver with supplemental materials for the additional driving time and certification needed for the Rookie Driver Skills Log. Updated information is also available on the MVA website www.marylandmva.com.

Free Indian Music Concert Monday

On Monday, December 12 at 7 p.m., there will be a free concert of the classical music of India in voice, violin and percussion at the Old Parish House in College Park. The Jayamangala School of Carnatic Music will be performing, led by Nathan Bala. It will feature musicians performing clas-

sical Indian music and demonstrating the Carnatic style of music. The concert is part of the monthly Cultural Connections series.

The Old Parish House is at 4711 Knox Road, at the corner of Knox and Dartmouth. For information call 301-927-3013 or email info@cpae.org.

Dance Drama at Smith Center

"Underground Passage," a site specific work by Master of Fine Arts candidate Malcolm Shute, will be presented on Tuesday, December 13 at 10 p.m. Shute's work transforms the lobby into a sunken, flooded, hardened landscape. Through dance the audi-

ence will experience one woman's struggle through this passage. This free performance will take place in the University of Maryland Grand Pavilion of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.



City Information

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting – Municipal Building

Public Hearing on Proposed South Core Annexation Resolution
(cont'd)

December 12, 2005 - 8:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

Holiday DWI Checkpoint – State's Attorney's Office & Greenbelt Police Department

Public Hearing on Proposed South Core Annexation Resolution (cont'd)

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

- * **Committee Reports** (Items on the Consent Agenda marked by * will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)
 - Advisory Planning Board, Report #05-07 (Greenbelt Station – Conceptual Site Plan)
 - * Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Open Forum Report (2005)
 - Forest Preserve Task Force – Presentation of the Draft Management and Maintenance Policy Guidelines for the Forest Preserve

LEGISLATION

- Two Resolutions to Amend Section 2 of the Charter of the City of Greenbelt by Annexing Properties in Greenbelt West (2nd Reading, Adoption)
- A Resolution to Amend the Charter of the City of Greenbelt by Amending Section 3, Titled "General Powers" to Add a New Paragraph 22 to Empower the City to Provide a Labor Code to Recognize the Right of Certain City Employees to Organize and Bargain Collectively (2nd Reading, Adoption)
- A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of Information Technology Services (1st Reading)
- A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of Repairs to the Kalwall Roof Panels and Motorized Roof Mechanisms over the Indoor Pool Section of the Aquatic and Fitness Center from Structures Unlimited, Inc. of Manchester, New Hampshire in the Sum of \$34,260 (1st Reading)
- A Resolution to Approve the Municipal Livable Communities Initiative Grant Application in the Amount of \$85,300 (1st Reading)
- A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of a Skid Steer Loader (1st Reading)

OTHER BUSINESS

- Greenbelt Crossing – Detailed Site Plan
- Greenbelt Station – Conceptual Site Plan
- Donation to TPB Spring 2006 Street Smart Campaign
- *Approval of National Capital Region Mutual Aid Agreement
- *Reappointments to Advisory Groups

MEETINGS

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

LEAF COLLECTION

Public Works will collect loose leaves with the leaf vacuum from November 7, 2005 – January 20, 2006. Residents should rake leaves to the curb, but not onto the street. Make sure to remove all sticks and stones from the piles as these can damage the machinery. Areas will be posted prior to collection. The schedule for the next few weeks is as follows:

- December 12-16:** Boxwood
- December 19-23:** Woodland Hills, Greenbrook Village
- December 26-30:** Lakewood, Greenspring I & II

Greenbelt Advisory Planning Board December 14, 2005

7:30 PM

**Greenbelt Community Center
Room 115, Senior Gallery/Conference
AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Approval of Minutes
- IV. Detailed Site Plan – South Core of Greenbelt Station, Fairfield Development
- V. Adjourn

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Join your family, friends and neighbors in celebrating the holiday season through the many events that make up Greenbelt's "Festival of Lights." See the full schedule at www.greenbeltmd.gov
SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!



North Pole Calling

Tuesday 12/13 through Thursday 12/15,

6:00pm to 7:30pm

Preschool through Grade 2 / FREE

Santa and his helpers will make a special phone-call to your home to chat with your child! To be contacted by Santa, complete and return the registration flier available at the Youth Center and online at www.greenbeltmd.gov

Santa's Visit

Saturday 12/17, 10:30am to 12:00pm, Youth Center

Preschool and up / FREE

Santa has fit a visit to Greenbelt into his busy holiday schedule! All children will receive a picture with Santa. Plenty of activities to take part in while you wait. Bring a VHS tape and have your visit professionally taped. The Greenbelt Elementary School 5th Grade Chorus will entertain you as you wait.

Lunch with Santa

Saturday 12/17, 12:30pm to 2:30pm, Youth Center Multi Purpose Room

Ages 5 to 8 / \$10.00 per child

Creative kids will enjoy this craft room, offering a variety of holiday activities, lunch and a quick visit with Santa. Pre-registration is required by Wednesday December 14.

Meetings for December 12-16

Monday, December 12, 8:00pm, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING, Municipal Building (live on Channel 71)

Wednesday, December 14, 8:00pm, COUNCIL WORK SESSION, re: Greenbelt Middle School – School Board, Community Center

ANNEXATION continued from page 1

out, no one in the audience wished to speak on the topic.

Conservation Easement

McLaughlin also entered into the record two letters from state officials relevant to the annexation of state land. A letter from the director of Local Planning Assistance in the Department of Planning addressed some issues regarding water and sewer amendments that may be needed. In addition the letter suggested that if the city wants the parcel to remain undeveloped as protection for Indian Creek, it should strive to establish a permanent protection instrument, such as a conservation easement.

A letter from the assistant secretary of the Department of General Services pointed out that the state has no agreement with the city about protecting this parcel from development.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts read the resolution concerning the annexation of the public lands; it passed by a vote of 3 to 0, with Councilmember Konrad Herling absent and Councilmember Edward Putens scheduled to arrive later. Herling had sent an email in support of the resolution.

After the resolution was passed to annex the state-owned lands, Roberts submitted a motion that council request state legislators to initiate the process of permanently protecting the land from development. This motion also passed by unanimous vote of the three councilmembers present.

The approved resolution will remain open for challenge for 45 days, during which time a petition for referendum may be submitted. If not challenged in that time period, the resolution will take effect on January 12, 2006.

COUNCIL continued from page 1

Works Department will eliminate.

County Funding

Council agreed to apply for money from the county's Livable Communities program to continue the Strengthening Families Program in Springhill Lake. Staff considers the program very successful.

Other grants from the Livable Communities program will be sought for the joint purchase of a replacement street sweeper with the cities of College Park, Berwyn Heights and New Carrollton; funds to continue the volunteer coordinator position established this year through the Volunteer Maryland program; and \$24,000 to purchase and install two emergency call boxes to improve public safety.

The city will also apply to the county's Community Development Block Grant for funding of traffic-calming and pedestrian-safety improvements along Cherrywood Lane where it intersects with Metro Access Drive to complement a proposed roundabout at this location.

Elections

Mach said in light of the limited competition in the recent city council election she had envisioned a scenario in which city taxpayers might be required to finance a run-off election even though the only candidates were the five incumbents. She said without any additional candidates, voters might concentrate their votes on one or two individuals, in effect voting for mayor

and mayor pro tem instead of a full list of councilmembers.

Such an occurrence, she said, could lead to the failure of some candidates to receive the required 40 percent of the votes, thus forcing a run-off election under the city's current election law.

Mayor Judith Davis had another election concern. While candidates for office are required to submit a financial report, she said, there is no procedure for the public to be made aware of the financial backing of any group that works in support of or opposition to any ballot question.

Council agreed to have the Board of Elections look into both issues.

SHL SITE PLAN continued from page 1

complex. The county, he added, is helping the school system to identify a new location for the bus lot.

Third, the public safety fees required of AIMCO, based also on the new housing units, will bring in about \$4 million, according to Peters, enough to build a new Greenbelt fire house. The county last year had earmarked \$100,000 for the land, he noted.

Fourth, AIMCO will be required to have a plan in place to assist current residents who will not be able to afford to stay in the new Springhill Lake complex.

FINANCING continued from page 1

use of its bonding authority to support the Metroland development.

Manzi introduced Ketterman to council by noting that he had done previous bond-related work for the city as an employee of Alex Brown & Sons. Now with Davenport & Company, Ketterman has become an expert in municipal financing.

Ketterman noted that development interests, mostly out of state, began looking for new options to enable local, county and state governments to participate in the financing of public infrastructure made necessary by modern development projects. The options of choice have been Tax Incremental Financing Districts (TIFs) and Special Taxing Districts (STDs) - approaches initially pioneered in the western states and Florida.

During the past several years Maryland developers have begun using TIFs and STDs including projects in Anne Arundel, Frederick, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties and the cities of Frederick and Laurel.

Davis began council discussion by raising concerns Herling had expressed at the November 16 worksession regarding the exposure to risk that Greenbelt would face with these financing mechanisms. She asked Ketterman how the city would be able to protect its interests when participating in such financing approaches.

In reply Ketterman advised council to "scrub the project, perform [all] due diligence, assure itself of the merit [of the project], make sure that the legal documentation is [in place] to assure that the city is not left holding the bag if the developer, for whatever

reason, walks away." Council "should be very judicious when passing resolutions or ordinances during the steps of the process," Ketterman said.

He cautioned council that "developers" are famous for promising, not delivering. Craze reminded council that what is in the draft annexation agreement that would be made part of the public record at that night's meeting is primarily "moral comment," essentially spelling out what the city expects in the way of assuring that all of its rights are protected.

McLaughlin reminded council that the draft annexation agreement would not be up for consideration at that night's meeting. Reiterating Ketterman's advice, Craze said that all council needs to do at this stage is to agree in principle and approve the annexation. When satisfied with the annexation negotiations, council can then approve the annexation agreement and subsequently work with Ketterman to perform the due diligence. When council is satisfied, it would then consider needed legislation.

As a further safeguard, Ketterman suggested that if (for some reason) TIF revenues were insufficient in any given year, a special tax assessment could be used to make up any shortfall.

Holiday Greetings

Each year the News Review publishes Holiday Greetings from area residents. To place your own message, contact the Ad Desk at 301-474-4131. Greetings are scheduled to be printed in the December 22 issue of the newspaper. The deadline is Monday, December 19 at 10 p.m.

County Animal Shelter Needs Cloth Bedding

GHI's Companion Animal Committee is seeking old blankets, towels and comforters for homeless animals housed at the county Animal Management Division's shelter. The committee has learned the facility is very low on bedding. Donations will help keep animals warm and off the concrete floor while they await adoption.

Items can be dropped off at the shelter, located at 8311 D'Arcy Road in Forestville, on Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. The shelter is closed Thursday and Sunday. Donations may also be left at the GHI office and will be delivered to the shelter by members of the Companion Animal Committee.

Little Theatre Holds Auditions

Prince George's Little Theatre will hold auditions for its March 2006 production, "Noises Off." The comedy follows the on-and-off stage antics of an inept acting troupe as they stumble from dress rehearsal to the disastrous closing night of the sex comedy "Nothing On."

Director Jeffery Lesniak is casting four women and five men, ages 21 to 55. British accents are required. Be prepared for cold readings from the script. All roles are open. Auditions will be held December 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the New Carrollton Municipal Center, 6016 Princess Garden Parkway, New Carrollton.


Performance dates are in March at the Prince George's Publick Playhouse in Cheverly. For audition information contact jeff@jefflesniak.com or call Roy Peterson at 301-614-2954.

GREENBELT MUSEUM

Co-op Sales

December 10th 10am-4pm

December 17th 10am-2pm



2005 Cat's Meow


Izzy Holiday Cards

Oil Cloth Aprons

Ornaments

Kit Raffle

Much More!



WE THE PEOPLE



7577 Greenbelt Rd., Greenbelt, MD 20770 (In Greenway Center next to Pier 1)

Phone: 240-473-0035 email blushbty@yahoo.com

Paul Mitchell • Abba • Affirm • Alterna • American Crew • Bain de Terre • Bed Head • Bed Head Cosmetics
Big Sexy Hair • Bio-Silk • BurtsBee • Dudley • Essie • Framesi • GoldWell • Graham Webb
Grund • HYLEXIN • ISO • Joico • Kera Care • KMS • Lanza • Loreal • M.O.P • Matrix • Mizani
Murad • Nexxus • Nioxin • Orly • Paharmagel • Pureology • Redken • Sebastian
Sorme Cosmetics • Spornette • StriVectin-SD • Styli-Style • Tigi • Tressa • TweezerMan

Above prices reflect use of the coupon below.

\$5 OFF

Any Purchase
or Salon
Service
over

\$15

Limit 1 coupon per customer per day.
Cannot be combined with any other promotions
Expires 12-31-05
must present coupon

\$10 OFF

Any Purchase
or Salon
Service
over

\$30

Limit 1 coupon per customer per day.
Cannot be combined with any other promotions
Expires 12-31-05
must present coupon

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.

Robberies

November 23, 6:58 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane, a man reported that he was standing in front of an apartment building when he was approached from behind by three people, two of whom displayed handguns and announced a robbery. After taking the man's cell phone and wallet, the suspects fled the area on foot toward Cherrywood Lane. Two are described as black males, both had brown eyes and brown hair and were wearing black jackets and blue jeans. One was 5'10" and the other was 5'11".

November 24, 12:20 a.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, a man reported that he was in the stairway of an apartment building when he was approached by two men, both armed with handguns. A robbery was announced and after obtaining the man's wallet and cell phone, both suspects fled the scene on foot. There is no definitive description of the suspects.

November 25, 9:54 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace, a man reported that he was exiting his vehicle when he was approached by two men. One was armed with a rifle and announced a robbery. After obtaining the man's wallet and cell phone, the second suspect struck the victim in the face with a blunt object. Both suspects fled the scene in a silver SUV. They are described as two black males, both 5'11" with brown eyes, wearing black jackets and blue jeans. One also wore a black ski hat and a black scarf covering his face. The victim was not injured.

November 30, 9:07 p.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane, the victims reported that they had exited a vehicle and were walking to an apartment building when they were approached by three men. One of the men displayed a handgun and announced a robbery. After obtaining a wallet and jewelry from the victims, they fled the scene on foot. The suspects are described as a black male, 16 to 19 years of age, 5'5" with a thin build, black hair, brown eyes and a thin mustache, wearing black clothing and a black hooded parka; a black male, 16 to 19 years of age, with black hair and brown eyes, wearing a black hooded parka; and a black male, 16 to 18 years of age, with black hair and brown eyes, wearing black clothing.

Assault

November 4, in reference to an assault, which occurred November 1 in the 9100 block of Edmonston Road, a warrant has been obtained charging a resident woman with first-degree assault.

November 19, in reference to an assault, which occurred in the 6400 block of Capitol Drive, a warrant has been obtained charging a nonresident female with malicious destruction, three

counts of second-degree assault and resisting arrest.

Drug Arrests

November 28, 6:31 p.m., Breezewood Drive and Edmonston Terrace, a resident woman was arrested and charged with possession of paraphernalia after police stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. Upon approaching the vehicle the officer detected the odor of what he believed to be marijuana. Further investigation revealed that the driver was in possession of paraphernalia commonly used to smoke marijuana. She was released on citation pending trial.

Identity Theft

November 14, in reference to an identity theft, reported June 22 in Greenway Center, a criminal summons has been obtained charging a nonresident woman with six counts of identity theft.

Counterfeit Currency

November 29, 12:51 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a nonresident youth was arrested for uttering a false document, possession of forged currency and a concealed deadly weapon after he allegedly attempted to pay for merchandise with a counterfeit \$20 bill at the Gourmet Popcorn kiosk. The youth was also found to be in possession of a forged military identification card and a pair of brass knuckles. He was released to a parent pending action by the juvenile justice system.

Burglaries

November 25, 10:49 a.m., 6905 Greenbelt Road, it was reported that unknown person(s) broke into Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Money was taken and some vandalism occurred.

November 25, 6:10 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane, it was reported that unknown person(s) entered a residence by breaking through the apartment ceiling. A video game player, a digital camera, two televisions and clothing were taken.

November 27, 2:58 a.m., 7500 block Mandan Road, it was reported that unknown person(s) used unknown means to enter a residence. Nothing appears to have been taken, but some items were vandalized.

November 27, 10:52 p.m., 6100 block Springhill Terrace, it was reported that unknown person(s) entered a residence by forcing out a window pane. Nothing appears to have been taken.

Vehicle Crimes

November 25, 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, a 1995 Toyota Camry 4-door was stolen. Later the same evening police observed the stolen vehicle on Breezewood Drive near Edmonston Road. Upon seeing the officer, the driver fled the scene at a high rate of speed. Police followed the vehicle from a distance and observed it collided with two parked vehicles in the area of Edmonston Court and Edmonston Terrace. The two occupants fled on foot. A K-9 track for the sus-

pects was initiated, with negative results.

Six other vehicles were also stolen: a 1995 Honda Accord 2-door from the 7900 block Good Luck Road; a red 1996 Mercury Sable 4-door, Maryland tags 9AES75 from the 9100 Springhill Lane; a 2004 Dodge Intrepid 4-door from the 5800 block Cherrywood Lane; a 1998 Plymouth Voyager van from Springhill Court and Breezewood Drive; a 1996 Dodge van from the 9000 block Breezewood Terrace; and a 1997 Dodge Caravan from the 6100 block Breezewood Court.

Ten stolen vehicles were recovered, three by Greenbelt police and seven by other police departments. No arrests were made in any of the recoveries.

Vandalism to, theft from, attempted theft of and from vehicles were reported in the following areas: Beltway Plaza (two incidents), 9000 block Breezewood Terrace, 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace, 9300 block Edmonston Road (three incidents), 6200 block Springhill Drive, 9100 block Springhill Lane, 6400 block Capitol Drive, Roosevelt Center, Parkway, 500 block Crescent Road, 5 Court Gardenway, 6900 block Hanover Parkway and 7600 block Mandan Road.

Giant Recalls Chewy Bars

ConAgra Store Brands of Lakeville, Minn., is voluntarily recalling 10-oz. cartons of Giant brand Chocolate Chip Chewy Granola Bars with a manufacturing code of May 20, 06 G1, 2151523200 on the top flap. The cartons are being recalled because they may contain individually-packaged Peanut Butter Chocolate Chunk Chewy Granola Bars. People who are allergic to peanuts run the risk of serious or life-threatening allergic reactions if they consume these granola bars.

The individually packaged bar wrappers correctly state Peanut Butter Chocolate Chunk Chewy Granola Bars and are safe to be consumed by anyone other than those allergic to peanuts. The product was only distributed in Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia.

There have been no reported illnesses associated with this product. The company has notified the Food and Drug Administration and is working with them to assure the quality and safety of the food supply.

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City Council Discusses Flat Recreation Revenues

by Matt Johnson

Members of the City Council and Greenbelt Department of Recreation staff met in the Community Center on November 30 to discuss fixes to the department's perceived "flat" revenues problem.

The proposed Fiscal Year 2006 budget suggested that the department's revenues have been "flat" for the past five years. Council requested that the department staff have a worksession to review its revenue sources. The results of this session were presented to council by Assistant Director of Recreation Programs Joe McNeal.

His presentation began with a pie graph showing Fiscal Year 2004 revenues. Of \$1,330,321 total revenues, the Aquatic and Fitness Center contributes 46 percent, Greenbelt Kids (children's camp programs) contributes 28 percent and the Greenbelt Community Center contributes 15 percent. These are the three largest revenue producers.

The question as to whether revenues have really been flat for the past five years was then answered with the report of an average increase in revenues of approximately 1 percent annually since fiscal year 1999, countered with the additional revelation that expenditures have increased at an even faster pace.

In fiscal year 1999, revenues covered 49 percent of departmental costs but they covered only 39 percent of departmental costs for the current fiscal year. McNeal reported that this was because of increases in facility maintenance, utilities, employee benefits and insurance.

When the presentation focused on the Community Center, Davis proposed opening up more rooms for rental in the building in order to increase revenues. Recreation Director Hank Irving said there are rooms that would generate thousands more in revenues if they were rented out to the public because there is demand for rooms of any size.

Much of the rest of the presentation and discussion was about how the recreation department could better program for Greenbelt residents.

While the Greenbelt Kids programs account for 28 percent of revenues, generating revenues from these programs has proven difficult. Assistant Director of Recreation Programs Julie McHale attributed this to parents' "going back to latchkey" as opposed to investing money in "safe programs."

Irving said that teens were the hardest age group for devising successful programs.

McNeal's presentation suggested the programming problem could also be attributed to decreases in disposable income, competing programs throughout the city, issues of transportation and changing demographics, among other things.

Basketball was said to be a solution to handle the issue of changing demographics because of its broad popularity. However, other sports are important revenue producers as well.

"The drop in softball, elimination of football, elimination of soccer has taken its toll," McHale said.

When the discussion turned to the arts, Recreation Arts Supervisor Nicole DeWald reported that there are "art classes all the way down to pre-school" and that attendance is climbing everywhere despite sliding revenues.

"We need to broaden the base [in order] to maximize use of the facilities," she said. "Ceramics has its own studio, other things don't."

The staff presentation closed with general recommendations to increase revenues, including focusing on enhanced marketing strategies, charging competitive and appropriate fees, working to reduce costs and pursuing corporate sponsorship.

Informal discussion followed the presentation.

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Local Orchestra Conductor Shawn Burke-Storer Is International Competitor

by Nicole DeWald

You never know where a career in the arts might lead you. Ukraine, for example. Kharkov, Ukraine was the setting of the 2005 Vakhtang Jordania International Conducting Competition. Greenbelt resident Shawn Burke-Storer was one of 24 conductors from around the world selected to participate in the event, which took place August 25 through September 4.

Burke-Storer is currently pursuing a doctorate in instrumental conducting from Catholic University. He is conductor of the Chesapeake Youth Concert Orchestra which in April this year performed the world premiere of his original score, "Dolores Abyss: Reflections on Dante's Inferno." He also serves as a member of the Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board.

Burke-Storer and his wife Michelle moved to Greenbelt as newlyweds in February 2004. Michelle, who works in criminal justice research, currently serves on the Public Safety Advisory Committee.

"We are thrilled to be residents of Greenbelt," Burke-Storer says. "With such a great history of community collaboration and a genuine love and appreciation for the arts, it is a wonderful place to call home."

When Burke-Storer mentioned his trip to me, I was immediately intrigued. Competitive conducting? Yes! Competitions are rare, he explained, but they afford the participants international network-

ing opportunities.

Visiting Ukraine

Prizes of the Vakhtang Jordania included guest conductorships on several continents. Although no American competitor came away with top honors, Burke-Storer comments that it was "an incredible trip" to share with Michelle.

The two arrived in Ukraine via a nine hour flight to Vienna followed by a three hour flight to Kharkov. There the couple were whisked away into the heart of the city on a "terrifying" car ride with a driver who turned out to be the tympani player in the orchestra that Shawn was soon to conduct. Their hotel was situated in the second largest square in Europe. Remnants of communism lingered, such as a giant statue of Lenin.

Among the sights they took in on a tour of Kharkov was some "amazing architecture" – including the first building constructed of concrete and glass. They also saw a history museum, a local artists' market, a monastery, beautiful churches and "about 20 wedding parties."

Burke-Storer remarks, "Saturday is the day to get married and it is the tradition to go to the statue of the Motherland in Gorky Park . . . and leave your bouquet at the statue's feet. We were there on a Saturday and saw several dozen wedding bouquets. I can easily imagine this idea catching on in Greenbelt, at the foot of the Mother and Child in Roosevelt Center."

The Burke-Storers' adventure also included a tour of Ukrainian



Shawn Burke-Storer

farmland. In a town of 300 people an artist admitted them to a church he was restoring after its use for storage during Soviet times. "He was hand painting all the icons to fill all the walls in the church," Burke-Storer notes. "Amazing."

Next to the church was an art museum that made an impression on the travelers. "In the middle of nowhere, with people who have quite literally almost nothing, art is important. We could learn a great lesson here. The outside of the museum looked like an old converted school and I honestly didn't expect much. I am glad to say I was wrong!" As it turns out, the museum's collection included works by Cezanne and Manet as well as the only known ceramic piece by Picasso.

The Competition

Arriving at the concert hall on the first day of competition, Burke-Storer waited in the "belly" of the building and received word as to which sections of two previously selected works he would be conducting – in 20 minutes! Following that brief time for preparation, he was led into the hall to conduct the third movement and the exposition of the fourth movement of Beethoven's Symphony No. 2 along with the third movement of Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5. At that moment he was conducting an orchestra that Tchaikovsky himself had conducted.

The panel of judges from Russia, Ukraine, Republic of Georgia, South Korea and the United States used a variety of criteria to evaluate and critique the competitors' performances. There was much discussion of technique as well as gesture and posture. "Interestingly enough," Burke-Storer says, "none of the jurors ever once addressed how the orchestra sounded, and honestly, isn't that ultimately the point of what we do?"

"Even though I did not win the competition," he continues, "it was an invaluable experience. The opportunity to go to Kharkov, Ukraine does not come up that often. The travel, the people, the sights, the food, the experience of it all was absolutely worth it. I also learned about the way these competitions work and had the opportunity to conduct an orchestra I

otherwise would not have had. I also have a more global network of colleagues now and as we all know it is a small world. The conducting world is even smaller."

Path to Conducting

Burke-Storer's path into the world of conducting began with piano and voice lessons as a child and later with trombone. Music was an important part of the family's household in Texas. His mother played piano. His brother played clarinet and has since become a band director in Fort Worth.

"Band programs in Texas are life," Burke-Storer explains "and if you are a pretty good musician in that system you become a band director. That was my plan as well." The plan changed, however, as he discovered orchestral music in high school and pursued his interest in college. After receiving his bachelor's degree from Southern Methodist University, he attended the Conductor's Institute of South Carolina and the Aspen Music Festival, then earned a master's degree in orchestral conducting from the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. He then served as the assistant conductor of the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra prior to beginning his doctoral program.

While pursuing his studies, Burke-Storer continues to maintain a busy work schedule. He is affiliated with a regional orchestra, a college orchestra, an ama-

See **BURKE-STORER**, page 10

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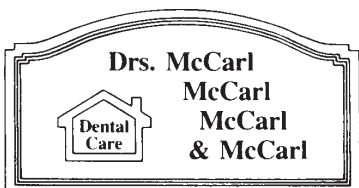


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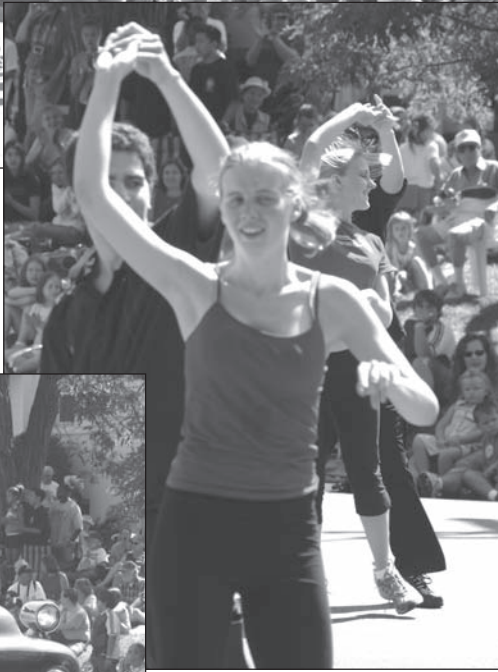
Labor Day Parade Winners



Throng of Greenbelt Nursery Schoolers walk the parade route behind their banner showing their enthusiasm for participation in Greenbelt's annual Labor Day Parade.



Above, Hillside's Engine #6, the original, rode in the parade ahead of the new Engine #6. They took second place among the fire/emergency units.



Above, Maryland students show off their dancing skills while having fun. Ballroom at Maryland won second prize for a performing group.

Photos by Frank Kayser

Below, the Mamas and Papas with their baby wagon took first place in the float category.



American Originals Fife & Drum Corps was singled out for Special Recognition by the judges of the Labor Day Parade.

Parade Winners

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ERHS AFJROTC
Ballroom At Maryland
Red Hat Society/Capital City
Dixie Jazz Group

BURKE-STORER continued from page 9

teur community orchestra and a youth orchestra, all with different needs and expectations. As one can imagine, he logs a lot of time at rehearsals. That notwithstanding, he notes: "Most of what the conductor does happens off the podium, before the concert, before the rehearsal. Studying the score and knowing the music is of utmost importance." That is the foundation for the conductor's interpretation of the score. "Unlike picking up the violin or the oboe," he notes, "it's not an easy skill to practice."

As to the rewards of his profession, Burke-Storer remarks, "The greatest experiences are those where everything comes together, the orchestra is great, pouring everything into the performance. It is during those performances when I am transcended and that only happens to me when I am on the podium and then it is still rare. After those performances, I am not hungry or thirsty or tired and I can't even remember everything that happened on stage; I only know that was it. I literally feel I've been moved by the music."

For information or to contact the artist, visit his website <http://burke-storer.home.comcast.net>.

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Electrical Safety Tips for the Holidays

Check indoor and outdoor lights before using them. To check, place them on a non-flammable surface and plug them in for at least 15 minutes to ensure they don't smoke or melt. Check lights, new and old, for broken bulbs, cracked sockets and loose connections. Also check the wiring insulation to ensure it has not been frayed or cut.

When purchasing holiday lights, select those that use low-wattage bulbs. Be sure that the lights are UL safety approved. Be sure that circuits, outlets and extension cords are not overloaded. Follow the manufacturer's guidelines on how many strings of lights can be safely connected together.

When stringing outdoor lights, use a dry wooden or fiberglass ladder and stay clear of overhead power lines. Don't use nails, tacks or staples to hang lights. Use insulated clip hangers instead. Don't use indoor lights outdoors. They are not waterproof. Don't use outdoor lights indoors. They burn hotter than indoor lights.

Make sure live trees are watered every day to avoid the risk of fire. Artificial trees should be flame resistant. Look for the safety label when purchasing an artificial tree. Illuminate a metal tree with a spotlight. Never use regular tree lights.

Unplug the lights when changing a bulb and don't connect lights while adjusting them on the tree. Don't run extension cords underneath rugs or carpet. Install smoke detectors throughout the house and check the batteries annually. Don't leave holiday lights on while residents are sleeping or away from home. Placing lights on a timer is an easy way to ensure lights are turned off at night.

ACTIVITIES continued from page 1

While at the Community Center stop by the Museum Exhibit room to see the ongoing exhibit "Living the Healthy Life: Sports, Health and Fitness in the New Deal Era."

Both of these exhibits are free, suitable for all ages and open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 9:45 p.m. and on Sundays 9 a.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Gingerbread House Contest and Show

Darnall's Chance House Museum is hosting its sixth annual Gingerbread House Contest and Show through Sunday, December 11. Visitors have the opportunity to vote for the Viewers Choice Awards (given to one child and one adult entry). The show is open daily from noon to 5 p.m. Darnall's Chance is located at 14800 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro. There is a small admission fee.

For more information call 301-952-8010; TTY 301-699-2544.

Berwyn Presbyterian To Hold Holiday Fair

Berwyn Presbyterian Church will hold a Holiday Craft & Gift Fair on Saturday, December 17 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be handmade crafts and other gift items available for sale including jewelry, scarves, bookmarks and gift cards, custom books, charcoal portraits, afghans and ponchos and beauty products.

Items, made by church members, have been donated for the sale. There will also be a silent auction of some special items.

Eleanor Geiger will discuss and bring fair trade items from Peru and Jo Heger will sell woven wood textiles from Chile.

One may enjoy lunch and refreshments at the church or take home baked goods.

Following the fair, there will be a "Christmas Around the World" concert at 7 p.m.

Berwyn Presbyterian Church is at 6301 Greenbelt Road. Contact Natalie Bailey by email at nataliedell@gmail.com or call 301-351-5647 for further information.

Carolers Perform At Botanic Garden

The United States Botanic Garden Conservatory is a special place in the evenings. For the holiday season it will be open until 8 p.m. on the three remaining Thursdays in December. Spend a few hours exploring the holiday exhibit featuring new plant varieties and a garden train exhibit. On December 15 the Strolling Carolers will perform.

Holiday Kids Party To Be Held in Laurel

The South Laurel Recreation Council volunteers invite children of all ages to enjoy the annual free children's holiday program being held on Sunday, December 18 at 7 p.m. in the multi-purpose room of the Deerfield Run Elementary School and Community Center at 13000 Laurel-Bowie Road in Laurel.

Bob Brown Puppets will present the "Nutcracker Fantasy," followed by a visit with Santa and his friends (teddy bear, snowman, panda bear, chipmunk, etc.). Each child will receive a gift. Admission and parking are free. No reservations are needed.

The annual free children's holiday program is provided by the South Laurel Recreation Council volunteers who are celebrating 36 years of service for the community. Call 301-776-2805 for more information.

AHA! Kids Fete Dark Season

"Celebrating the Winter with Light," a free program for children ages 3 to 8, will be held on Sunday, December 11 at 3 p.m. at the Old Parish House in College Park. The College Park Arts Exchange monthly AHA! Kids series is hosted by Joan Almon, a former kindergarten teacher and director of the Alliance for Childhood. Almon will lead the children in an ancient European ritual, celebrating the winter with light. Children will participate in a spiral of winter greenery, carrying candles to the center of the spiral. A puppet show will also be held based on a European folktale. Space is limited; registration is requested. Call 301-927-3013 or email info@cpae.org to register.

Area Artists Enjoy Art and Craft Fair

by Natalie McGill

The Greenbelt Community Center gymnasium was an explosion of jewelry, stuffed toys, knit scarves and even birdhouses at the annual Juried Art and Craft Fair on December 3 and 4.

The fair, hosted by the Greenbelt Recreation Department, was part of Greenbelt's month-long Festival of Lights celebration honoring the holiday season. Each artisan represented had to submit photos of their work to a panel of judges who decided if it was appropriate for the fair. Greenbelt Pottery, Inc. artist Mary Gawlik said booth space in the gymnasium sold out a month ago.

"[With] the quality of the products here, you get a good deal for your money and a good variety," Gawlik said. "We end up spending more money on our friends. There's a lot of swapping going on."

This is the second year for artisan Denise Bentley to participate in the fair. A fabric artist, Bentley has sewn and created dolls and jewelry for the past 12 years. She enjoys the atmosphere of arts and crafts fairs like Greenbelt's and the chance to meet up with familiar artisans and patrons.

"It's very well intended," Bentley said. "I like Greenbelt people and the people who run the fair are really organized. They really push for [the product] to be handmade."

A member of the band "The Bob Whites" recommended that Baltimore native Toby Rivkin enter the fair after seeing her work at the Lauraville Fair in Baltimore this September. Rivkin makes her own drums, rattles, whistles and copper wire drawings.

"Word of mouth is important, especially if you are a self-propelled artist," Rivkin said.

Judges were so pleased with the photos of Rivkin's work that they used them as promotional pictures for the fair in the arts section of Greenbelt's City Link website. Rivkin said she enjoys the Greenbelt community and cannot get enough of fairs like this one.

"It's people meeting people, it's not a store experience," Rivkin said. "You're buying something someone made and there's a lot of love there."

Candlelight Group Tours at Marietta

Group holiday candlelight tours of Marietta House Museum located at 5626 Bell Station Road in Glenn Dale are available by appointment only through December 22 for groups of 10 or more. Enjoy traditional holiday decorations and customs from the Federal, Civil War and Victorian eras. There is a fee. For more information call 301-464-5291, TTY 301-699-2544 or visit www.pgparcs.com.



This handmade bag from Debbie's Delights was made by Debbie Martin. She and Lisa Harrison make quilted hand bags.



These are handmade necklaces from The Glass Bee. The glass jewelry and ornaments are hand stained by Terry Bouchillon.



This large stuffed teddy bear was made by Loretta Waldron whose business is Creative Expressions.

PHOTOS BY NATALIE MCGILL

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