

GREENBELT News Review

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JANUARY 12, 2006

Final ICC Environmental Study Is Now Ready for Public Comment

by Elaine Skolnik

For the first time in decades, the state and federal highway administrations have completed the required Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Intercounty Connector (ICC). The signing by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) of this 2,700 page document marks the beginning of a 45-day process of input from the public.

Upon completion of the FEIS review period on February 27 the FHWA will analyze all comments and issue a "Record of Decision." This will be the final determination among the three study alternatives: Corridor One or the preferred alignment (the southern-most of the two proposed corridors), Corridor Two (the northern corridor) and the "no build" option. The FEIS is a key milestone in the project planning stage of the ICC.

Considered Alternatives

Maryland Governor Robert Ehrlich, Jr., announced on July 11, 2005, that Maryland has selected Corridor One (the southern or Master Plan Alignment) as the preferred alternative for the

proposed Intercounty Connector. The two other alternatives – the Corridor Two (northern) route and the no-build alternative were rejected at the time. However, according to state highway's news release of January 4, the official selection of the ICC route will be made by federal agencies at the time of the "Record of Decision" when all three alternatives will be considered.

The reaction by the Prince George's County Council to Governor Ehrlich's July 11 selection of Corridor One as the preferred ICC route was negative. A press release at the time stated that "despite the County Council's steadfast opposition, the ICC is moving closer to approval."

For decades a succession of Greenbelt City Councils have also opposed the construction of the ICC and expressed their concerns at public hearings and in correspondence. They pointed to the large expenditure of funds for a project that will have significant environmental costs, while doing very little to im-

FEIS Is Online

The comprehensive Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) is now available on the internet for viewing and downloading at www.iccstudy.org.

Interested citizens may request a free computer disk of the FEIS and technical reports by calling toll-free 1-866-462-0020 or by email through the project website www.iccstudy.org. Hard copies are available for a fee. Additionally, the FEIS and the Public Hearing Transcript will be available for review or loan at selected libraries, community centers and government facilities, including the State Highway Administration Building on Kenilworth Avenue across from Crescent Road.

prove the region's traffic problem. The ICC, for example, would have

See **FEIS**, page 6

Audubon Naturalist Society Leads Opposition to ICC Construction

by Elaine Skolnik

The Audubon Naturalist Society (ANS) and the many community and environmental groups under the banner of "Save Our Communities" plan to launch a vigorous campaign to stop construction of the Intercounty Connector (ICC). At this juncture, their battle has become tougher since the state and federal highway administrations have already signed and released the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). (See story above.)

In a January 9 press release, Audubon's ICC organizer Brian Henry called for a 90-day comment period for the public and elected officials on the Final EIS instead of the 45 days scheduled by the State Highway Administration (SHA). "We need to take our time in reviewing the thousands of pages (2,700) of the document to allow consideration of serious questions about the \$3 billion cost of the ICC." Henry explained that while the state and federal highway administrations signed off on the FEIS on January 4, the document was not released to the public until almost a week later.

Henry noted, "When we're talking about a \$3 billion proposal, the state's rush to judgment is irresponsible and unfair to the taxpayer. With rising costs for construction materials and gasoline the cost compared

to the negligible benefits of the ICC needs to be re-evaluated before we move forward."

He observed that "Reductions in funds available for other projects throughout the state are also likely as the ICC takes federal and state funds off the top."

In the January 9 release, Stewart Schwartz of the Coalition for Smarter Growth was also quoted. Schwartz asserted that, "The State Highway Administration has failed to address several key problems with the ICC. According to the state's own analysis, the vast majority of travelers in Maryland's D.C. suburbs would see no congestion relief as a result of the ICC. The region's major arteries – the Beltway, I-270 and I-95 – would see no benefit and major local roads like Georgia Avenue and New Hampshire Avenue would see even more traffic."

According to the release, Schwartz was concerned about tolls. "People in their region don't support an expensive toll highway which speeds development while leaving our roads as congested as ever. At some point elected officials are going to say enough is enough, this highway is just too expensive and doesn't do enough to solve the problem."

See **OPPOSITION**, page 6

USPS Shops For Partners

The U.S. Postal Service is still seeking a business to provide a satellite post office in Roosevelt Center. The current Greenbelt post office, now located in the Center, will soon move to its new facility on Hanover Parkway in Greenbelt East.

Postal officials say business owners who agree to allow their stores to be used for contract postal units benefit in several ways: they get paid for offering the postal services and products and the service draws more customers into their stores. Business owners are paid a negotiated

See **POST OFFICE**, page 5

What Goes On

Saturday, January 14
9 a.m. to noon, Donation Drop-off, Parking Lot between City Offices and Community Center
Monday, January 16 – City and GHI Offices Closed in Observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday
Wednesday, January 18
7:30 p.m., Advisory Planning Board Meeting, Community Center Theater Rehearsal Room
8 p.m., Council Worksession, Pre-budget Briefing/Manager's Quarterly Report, Community Center

CO-OP

Co-op Store Sales Up 8 Percent, Produce Section to Get Face Lift

by Mary Moien

The Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative (GCC), which owns the Co-op grocery store, held its annual meeting on October 29. The co-op is in good financial shape according to the treasurer. The manager reported that after much work, it was decided not to add a post office to the store. A new award was approved. Two new members were elected to the board.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Joe Timer reported that the cooperative ended the fiscal year in the black. Net operating income was almost \$45,000, a 12 percent increase over 2004 income. Other income included \$8,400 in rental fees from the ATM and \$37,000 in patronage refunds from the food wholesaler that is another cooperative. Sales totaled \$10.9 million, up 8.5 percent from 2004. A third of the sales are in the pharmacy department. All departments showed an increase.

The co-op was able to significantly increase the amount of bonus money given to its employees; additions to the employee retirement plan increased 60 percent over the previous year. The patronage refund was \$100,000 up almost two-thirds from 2004.

Manager's Report

Store Manager Bob Davis stated that the co-op had set weekly and annual sales records. The sales increased by more than eight percent compared to the national average supermarket sales

gain of 2.4 percent. Although major remodeling has been delayed while long range occupancy issues are discussed, a small but important change will begin in January.

That change is the remodeling of the produce area of the store. The co-op is purchasing and installing several bigger and brighter refrigerated produce display cases which should improve produce freshness, variety and presentation.

Davis said that a major disappointment was related to exploring the feasibility of locating a post office outlet in the store. Much time was devoted to the effort but it was decided that the required space, staffing and project cost of operating the facility could not be justified.

Members expressed their appreciation for the increase in organic products. Davis promised more in the coming year including more organic meat. In response to a question about specific products, Davis indicated that a member could always make a request to the management or put a note in the suggestion box. It might not be possible to meet every request, however.

Election

The two open positions on the board were filled by Tom Moran and Jill Stevenson.

(Note: The details of this article were taken from the draft annual meeting minutes.)

Jim Cassels Award Is Announced

by Mary Moien

At the fall annual meeting (or should we say Oct. 29 meeting) of the Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative (informally known as the Co-op grocery store), the board announced the formation of the Jim Cassels Award for Community Service.

In announcing this award the board stated: "Throughout his many years in the Greenbelt community, Jim Cassels has been an outstanding cooperater. Whether helping local groups, mentoring new cooperatives, guiding the formation and realization of senior housing or getting up at the crack of dawn to deliver newspapers in Green Ridge House, he has been tireless in making Greenbelt the place we all love to be. Certainly, this cooperative would not exist today if it were not for his dedication and leadership.

"In recognition of his service to our community, Greenbelt

Consumer Cooperative is announcing the formation of a Community Service Award to be given in his name to a local group, cooperative or organization for projects or activities that contribute to the community at large or a Greenbelt-based organization in particular. The award will take the form of a \$1,000 grant that will be given to the group or organization on the basis of an application and subsequent consideration by a panel comprised of members of the cooperative. Details of the application process will be made available soon.

"It is our hope that the spirit of cooperation and commitment, which is evidenced by Jim's steadfast efforts to make this a better place for all, will inspire others to get involved and continue to make Greenbelt the unique community it has been since its beginning."

Letters to the Editor

Old Greenbelt Needs Satellite Post Office

I was just informed that, contrary to their first promise, there is not going to be a satellite post office in Greenbelt. They are closing down completely in four weeks. Greenbelt has supported the post office since the beginning and now they want us to travel all the way over to Hanover Parkway for service.

This town is filled with senior citizens who enjoyed having to only walk down to the post office – they have no means of transportation over to the new one. Doesn't Greenbelt have a voice in this move? Aren't the mayor and council going to speak up or are they afraid of the U.S. government?

Somebody better stop this before they have moved because afterward it will be too late.

Burt Kerr

Legitimate Criticism

I find it sad, but typical, that the News Review answers a newcomer's legitimate criticism (Robert Fireovid's letter, Jan. 5) with snide remarks. I don't know Mr. Fireovid but have begun seeing his name in the paper, indicating to me that he is a newcomer with valuable energy and talents to help Greenbelt become even greater.

In his letter, Mr. Fireovid voiced criticisms that many of us share.

This prompts me to suggest that the News Review have a charette or seminar where we could discuss the paper's journalism standards with an expert mediating.

I think Greenbelt is great and plan to live here all my life. But it can be made greater in many ways. Here is one: Get rid of the parochialism that causes Greenbelters to treat dissenting newcomers shabbily. Having lived here since 1987, I think I've earned the right at last to say that while "Greenbelt purist" may not be a pejorative term in Greenbelt, I'm not sure anyone wants to be called that in a news article. I'm certain that no one likes to have their serious criticisms referred to as "angst," even in Greenbelt. At least you did that on the editorial pages.

Don Comis

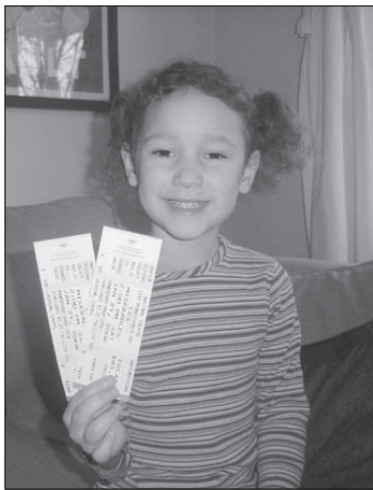
Editor's Note: The News Review welcomes all newcomers to the city including the two newcomers to our staff who wrote the articles in question. We seek the help and support of all those interested in providing the community with a quality newspaper each week. We can always use more help.

GNS Announces Raffle Winner

Last week Greenbelt Nursery School held the drawing in its raffle for two matinee tickets to "Les Miserables" at the National Theater on Saturday, January 21. The winner is Cathy Miller, whose granddaughter Maddie Grant attends the school. "I'm delighted," said Miller. "I always wanted to see this show and I always missed it. Now thanks to Maddie and Greenbelt I finally get to see it."

Greenbelt Nursery School thanks all the school families and Greenbelt friends who participated in this fundraiser by buying raffle tickets. A not-for-profit parent cooperative, the school has been providing quality early childhood education since 1941.

Sieglinde Peterson
President, Board of Directors



Maddie Grant, Greenbelt Nursery scholar, holds up winning tickets.

Decries Vandalism

On or about December 28 a plaque was installed on a bench in the Center for Justine Ellen Shoop (deceased November 9, 2005). On January 1, it was stolen, removed – not by the city but by a very shallow person.

This person not only hurt me and the Shoop family but every person in Greenbelt. The act of this person or persons is against the grain of the people of Greenbelt.

I pray the culprit will have the heart to return the plaque to the city, no questions asked. I hope they know that Justine Ellen Shoop will always be in our hearts and she will never be forgotten, never!

Rick Calhoun

Meeting Postponed

The Advisory Planning Board meeting to review the revised Greenbelt Station conceptual site plan is now scheduled for January 18.

Art and Music Classes Offered to Children

Homeschoolers

Families with homeschooled students are being offered two arts educational opportunities in Greenbelt beginning this month. A combined music and art class for children ages 6 to 12 begins Tuesday, January 31 from 1:15 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Mowatt Methodist Church and runs for 10 weeks. The music portion is taught by Greenbelt musician/songwriter Melissa Sites and stresses chorus. The art portion is taught by Greenbelt artist/arts educator Barbara Simon and will concentrate on printmaking: children 6 to 8 will work with styrofoam blocks and the 9 to 12 age group will learn linoleum block printing.

Classes are sponsored by Greenbelt Home Learning Co-op.

Animation classes for homeschooled kids ages 10 to 16 take place on Mondays from 1 to 3 p.m. beginning January 23 at the GATE studios in the Community Center. The 12-week session taught by George Kochell teaches all aspects of animation, including computer animation. Call 301-474-2192 or 301-345-2485 contact simongava@yahoo.com for more information about this GATE program produced in cooperation with GAVA (Greenbelt Association for the Visual Arts).

School Children

A duplicate program will be provided later in the day for children who attend school. A printmaking class takes place on Tuesdays from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Greenbelt Mowatt Methodist Church beginning January 21 and running for 10 weeks. Children are taught by Barbara Simon, Greenbelt artist/arts educator, with 5 to 8 year olds working with styrofoam blocks and 9 to 12 year olds learning linoleum block printing.

Classes are sponsored by Greenbelt Home Learners Co-op.

The animation program for children at GATE studios in the Greenbelt Community Center is offering an after school 12-week session of classes for ages 10 to 16 on Tuesdays, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. beginning January 24. Students are taught by George Kochell and learn all aspects of animation, including computer animation.

For information call 301-474-2192 or 301-345-2485 or email simongava@yahoo.com. Classes are produced by GAVA (Greenbelt Association for the Visual Arts) and GATE (Greenbelt Access Television) as a cooperative venture.

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

WEEK OF JAN. 13

MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13)

No frequent movie goers coupons or passes.

Friday

*4:30, 7:30, 10:15

Saturday

*1:30, *4:30, 7:30, 10:15

Sunday

*1:30, *4:30, 7:30

Monday – Thursday

*4:30, 7:30

*These shows at \$5.00

Starts 1/20 – Brokeback Mountain

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

Grin Belt



"With higher prices for stamps I'm sending my mail by air."

AGNES CONATY ©2006

City Notes

Public Works horticulture crew pruned young street trees along Landon Court, Greenbury Drive, Spring Manor Drive, Springshire Way, Green Walk Court, Springcrest Drive and Green Crescent Court.

In Recreation Department news, Diana Guillermo was hired as the new art studio manager at the Greenbelt Community Center. She will replace John Norden, who resigned to attend Alfred University in New York. The staff hopes he will return as

an instructor for summer programs.

A new exhibition opened this week at the Greenbelt Community Center Art Gallery. "Beauty and the Beast" features elaborate collages by Greenbelt artist Sherill Anne Gross. A reception for the exhibition will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, February 5, in conjunction with the next Artful Afternoon. Gross will also lead children's workshops in conjunction with the exhibition.

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.

Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

featuring

PROFESSOR ALLAN LICHTMAN

Candidate for the United States Senate
in the Democratic Preferential Primary

Friday, January 20, 2006, 7:30 p.m.

Terrace Room, Greenbriar Community Building
7600 Hanover Parkway at Greenbelt Road (Rte. 193)

Refreshments and Social after the meeting.

Everyone is welcome! For information, call 301-474-2896

Community Events

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. "Food and Friendship" will be closed on Monday, January 16 for the Dr. Martin Luther King holiday. Menus for Tuesday through Friday, January 17 through 20 include:

Tuesday - Orange juice, baked chicken leg with gravy, black eyed peas, chopped collards, fresh banana.

Wednesday - Tomato-vegetable soup, Italian sausage with onions and peppers on a roll, potato salad, cole slaw, yellow Jello with mixed fruit.

Thursday - Orange juice, beef stew with vegetables, brown rice, lettuce and tomato salad with dressing, two almond cookies.

Friday - Cranapple juice, vegetable lasagna, sliced carrots, broccoli, pineapple tidbits.

GHI Notes

Monday, January 16 GHI offices will be closed for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Day. Emergency maintenance will be available by calling 301-474-6011.

Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, January 17, 7 p.m. - Member and Community Relations Committee meeting, Board Room

Thursday, January 19, 7 p.m. - Finance Committee meeting, Board Room

Saturday, January 21, 11 a.m. - Pre-purchase Orientation, Board Room

Wednesday, January 25, 7:30 p.m. - Companion Animal Committee meeting, GHI Lunch Room

Wednesday, January 25, 7:30 p.m. - Architecture and Environment Committee meeting, Board Room

Thursday, January 26, 7:30 p.m. - Board of Directors meeting, Board Room

Tuesday, January 31, 7 p.m. - Marketing Committee, Board Room, followed by coffee social.

Explore Behaviors And the Brain

Explorations Unlimited will host a presentation by Dr. Leo Walder, a local psychologist, on Friday, January 20 from 1 to 3 p.m. Walder will discuss how the brain works and how it affects an individual's behaviors.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. This presentation will be held in the Senior Classroom, room 114.

Everyone is welcome to attend and questions are encouraged. Call 301-397-2208 for information.

GFCU Has Bonus Year

The Greenbelt Federal Credit Union (GFCU) has posted Bonus Dividends to its members for 2005. Members will find this posted to their membership account on the December statements which have already been mailed.

At the Library

Children

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

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

Thursday, January 19, 10:30 a.m. - Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 children.

Adults

Saturday, January 14, 10:30 a.m. - Poetry Plus. Poet of choice is Anne Sexton. Those coming should bring five to six copies of any Sexton poems to share.

Tuesday, January 17, 4:30 p.m. - Teen Book Discussion, ages 13 to 18.

Wednesday, January 18, 7 p.m. - Adult Book Discussion, Rohinton Mistry's "A Fine Balance."

Saturday, January 21, 1:30 p.m. - The Unified Jazz Ensemble: Learning about Jazz.

Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

The officers for 2006 were presented by President Bill Souser at the January 4 meeting. They are: President - Bill Souser, 1st Vice President - Ellie Rimar, 2nd Vice President - Frank Corson, Recording Secretary - Bunny Fitzgerald, Treasurer - Robert Terrell and Corresponding Secretary - Rachel Algaze. The officers received red, white and blue torch pins from the president.

The Golden Age Club meets every Wednesday at 11 a.m. in the Community Center. Visitors are always welcome and any resident of Greenbelt, 60 years or older, is eligible to become a member.

The goals of the club are to enjoy social gatherings, cultural and entertaining programs and some great potluck luncheons. Join us to make new friends, greet old friends and try some of the trips that are offered.

Lynn S. Skerpon, Register of Wills in Prince George's County, spoke on January 11. The birthday lunch will be January 18.

On January 25 we'll have "Show and Tell."

Congratulations to the officers and let's all support them for a great year. The club will celebrate its 50th anniversary next year. So here's to a happy productive year with lots of new members.

CARES

Christal Parker Batey has been appointed to the Maryland Department of Aging Advisory Board for the Maryland Access Point (MAP) Program. This is a three-year grant to develop a "one stop shop" Aging and Disabilities Resource Center. The grant was funded by the Administration on Aging and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The MAP Programs are intended to provide individualized information and referral services as well as entry into long-term care systems, programs and related benefits. This program is being piloted in Howard and Worcester Counties.

Girl Scout Cookie Sales Have Begun

The 2006 Girl Scout cookie sale has begun and will run through April 1 with a goal of selling 4.3 million boxes. Enthusiastic Girl Scouts will soon be enticing cookie lovers throughout the Greater Washington region and in Greenbelt to select their favorite cookies and by doing so support the many activities of the Girl Scouts all year.

Girls representing the local Girl Scout council will be taking orders for eight varieties of cookies.

All proceeds from the annual cookie sale remain within the local Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital, made up of more than 4,200 troops in Washington, five counties in Maryland and five counties in Virginia. A portion of each sale goes to the local troop.

Homework and Tutoring Clubs Resume

At the completion of the winter break, the Homework and Tutoring Clubs resumed on Tuesday, January 10 at Springhill Lake Recreation Center from 2:45 to 5 p.m. and on Wednesday, January 11 at Schrom Hills Park Center from 3:45 to 6 p.m.

The Greenbelt Moving Ahead Program will resume on Saturday, January 14 at Springhill Lake Recreation Center from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

For more information call Janet Goldberg at 301-397-2212. All programs are free.

St. Hugh's Catholic School Grades K-8th OPEN HOUSE Tuesday, January 31

9 to 11 a.m.

145 Crescent Road, Greenbelt

301-474-4071

www.sthughs.com

Open Registration begins Feb. 21 for the 2006-07 school year.

Enjoy Swimming?!

The Greenbelt Swim Team Needs You!

The Greenbelt Swim Team's Winter-Spring season runs from Jan. 17 to May 21.

Registration may be dropped in the Swim Team mailbox at the Aquatic and Fitness Center. Fees are discounted for registrations received by January 17!

Swimmers practice Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and Sunday mornings. Developmental Swimmers meet Sunday mornings.

Information and applications can be found at www.greenbelt.com/swimteam or at the GMST bulletin board in the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center, 101 Centerway in Old Greenbelt.

For any questions, contact Deborah Taylor at DeborahTay@aol.com or 301-345-2485 or Leslie Hilliard at 301-474-7504.

Greenbelt Arts Center Presents



Music by John Kander, Lyrics by Fred Ebb & Book by Joe Masteroff

January 6 - 28

Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm

Sundays, January 15 & 22 at 2pm

Greenbelt Arts Center

123 Centerway, Greenbelt, MD 20770, next to the Post Office

301-441-8770

www.greenbeltartscenter.org

Obituaries

Encarnasion Serrato

Encarnasion Navarosa Serrato, age 77, of Hillside Road, died on December 25, 2005. She had had pulmonary and heart ailments for five years.

Mrs. Serrato was born on February 7, 1928, in the municipality of Hindang in the province of Leyte in the Republic of the Philippines. She attended the college of education in Leyte until she married Leoncio Serrato, Sr. at age 25. They had two children, Maria Lucita Serrato and Leoncio Navarosa Serrato. Her husband died in 1953 of malaria. She did not remarry.

In June 1988 Mrs. Serrato's daughter married Clay Harman, son of Emory Harman of Greenbelt. In 1994 Mrs. Serrato came to Greenbelt to be a nanny to her two grandchildren in their home on Hillside Road. She continued to live there until she died. She was an at-home grandmother to Clay Harman, Jr. and Maria Harman.

Mrs. Serrato is survived by her daughter Maria Lucita Harman (Lucy) and her husband Clay Harman, Sr., her son Leoncio Navarosa Serrato and his family who have a farm in the Philippines and grandchildren Clay and Maria Harman.

A funeral service was held in Washington, D.C., on January 7, 2006. Another service was held in Hindang on January 10, 2006.

Local Dems to Visit Annapolis, Hear Candidates for Senate

by Pat Unger, President, Greenbelt Democratic Club

On Monday, January 16 members of the Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club of Greenbelt, as well as other residents of the 22nd Legislative District, will travel to Annapolis at the invitation of State Senator Paul Pinsky and Delegates Anne Healey, Tawanna Gaines and Justin Ross. All four of Greenbelt's voting precincts are in the 22nd.

For a modest round-trip charge, a chartered bus will leave the parking lot of the Greenbelt library at 5 p.m. and return at 10 p.m. From 6 to 8 a reception will be held in room W-1 of the President's Conference Center, Miller Senate Office Building. This will feature a light supper and an observance of the national Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Participants will have a choice of attending about one hour of either the Senate or House session at 8 p.m. in the State House before returning to the library lot. Call Pat Unger, 301-474-1052, for reservations or further information.

The club's regular monthly membership meeting will be held on Friday, January 20 at 7:30 p.m., in the Terrace Room of the Greenbriar Community Building, 7600 Hanover Parkway. This is at the corner of Hanover and Greenbelt Road, Rt. 193, on the

same side of Greenbelt Road as Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

After a brief business agenda, American University Professor Allan Lichtman, a candidate in the Democratic Primary for the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by Paul Sarbanes, will speak and answer questions as time permits. Lichtman, a resident of Montgomery County, has been active over the years in the landmark case which established voting rights for African Americans in Worcester County, has worked for the U.S. Civil Rights Commission to review Florida ballots in the presidential election of 2000 and has offered both written and spoken comments on politics and political history for major media outlets.

The evening will end with a social hour. Members are asked to bring a dessert or snack to share. Coffee and soft drinks will be provided.

As a community effort, the club will participate in Greenbriar's annual Help-Keep-Someone-Warm Project by bringing hats, mittens and scarves to be distributed to needy families. In the spring the Democratic Club will celebrate 30 years of meeting at Greenbriar. Call Unger with any questions concerning these events.



Our sympathy to Maria Lucita (Lucy) and Clay Harmon, Sr., and children Clay, Jr., and Maria on the death of Encarnasion Navarosa Serrato, Mrs. Harman's mother and the children's grandmother.

Condolences to Sandra Roberts, Northway and Halley Ahearn, Ridge Road and their families on the death of their father Kenneth Lee of Riderwood Village.

Our sympathy to News Review staffer Linda Paul on the death of her sister.

John Norden, life-long Greenbelter, Eagle Scout and arts studio manager for Greenbelt Community Center, will depart this week for Alfred University in

western New York state. John is pursuing a degree in ceramic art at the university's internationally acclaimed School of Art and Design. A 2002 graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School, John has been attending Prince George's Community College while working for Greenbelt's Department of Recreation. Congratulations to John on being awarded the university's Jonathan Allen Leadership Scholarship and also a ceramic grant through the art school. He is the son of Beth and Butch Norden of Greenhill and brother of Heather Norden of 2 Court Northway. Good luck John - see you at summer camp.



John Norden helps with a ceramic project.

Educational Seminar For Women on Health

The Doctors Community Hospital Women's Health Center will offer on Wednesday, January 18 at 6:30 p.m. a free educational seminar for women on gastrointestinal health, "The Ins and Outs of It All!" Dr. Alpha Banks will present common G.I. health issues, risk factors and what one can do to prevent gastrointestinal illness.

The seminars will be held at Doctors Community Hospital, 8118 Good Luck Road in the Medical Office Building, DSE Conference Room on the fifth floor.

Light refreshments will be served. Seating is limited so registration is required.

For more information or to register call the Community Relations Department at 301-552-8060.

Botanic Garden Displays Orchids

The 2006 Orchid Exhibit will be on display from January 21 through April 2 in the U.S. Botanic Garden Conservatory. This exhibit, co-sponsored with the Smithsonian Institution's Horticulture Division, will focus on the beauty of orchids. Check the website, www.usbg.gov, for more information.

Plant Exhibit Botanic Garden

Roger Hangarter, associate professor of plant physiology at Indiana University, will lead a tour exhibit at the U.S. Botanic Garden on Friday, January 20 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. This exciting exhibit uses science, art and technology to present the unusual and sometimes unnerving perspectives. Pre-registration is required. Call 202-225-8333 to register.

Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

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

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

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

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

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

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!

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 OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322

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

What is Islam?

The Hajj (pilgrimage) is designed to develop God Consciousness and a sense of spiritual upliftment.

The Hajj consists of several ceremonies, meant to symbolize the essential concepts of the Islamic faith and to commemorate the trials of prophet Abraham and his family. The pilgrimage to Mecca enables Muslims from all around the world - of all races, languages, ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds - to come together in a spirit of universal brotherhood and sisterhood to worship One God.

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

POST OFFICE
continued from page 1

fee. Contract Postal Unit packages are being mailed this week to the businesses in Roosevelt Center. The postal service would like to find several businesses interested in providing counter space for postal customers. The store that signs up to partner with USPS would sell stamps and other postal products and services such as priority or express mail. Parking for the disabled and ramp accessibility would be required. Arrangements for partnerships are being handled by the USPS Capital District Retail/Marketing team.

Partnerships with businesses appear to be the only remaining way to keep retail postal services in the original part of the city for Greenbelt's walking community.

Greens to Meet

The Greenbelt Greens will hold their monthly meeting on Monday, January 16, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, at 7:30 p.m. in the new back room of the New Deal Café in Roosevelt Center.

The meeting will open with a short commemoration of King's life and work and discussion of the relevance of King's vision to the Green values of nonviolence, democracy, social justice and environmental wisdom and focus on King's 1967 statement, "My government is the world's leading purveyor of violence."

The agenda will include a report from this month's meeting of the statewide Maryland Green Party Coordinating Council and planning for the Greenbelt Greens to host the February 12 monthly statewide Green meeting in Greenbelt and for the June annual statewide Green Assembly. Also up for discussion: the November 2005 election results and their implications, especially the overwhelming victory for ranked voting - IRV - in Takoma Park. Bob Auerbach will report on his trip to India, including his research at the Gandhi Museum Library in New Delhi. The Greens will be recruiting candidates for all levels of public office in Maryland in 2006. Green literature will be available.

For further information call Anja at 301-486-0744 or Bob at 202-722-4303.

Historians Speak At Aviation Museum

Local historians and authors Stephanie Stulich and Katharine D. Bryant will give a presentation on Sunday, January 22 at 2 p.m. at the College Park Aviation Museum. The presentation about the history of College Park includes early images and focuses on the pivotal role the legendary airport has played in shaping aviation worldwide. Following the presentation both authors will be available to sign copies of their book "Images of America: College Park."

There is an admission fee to the museum. The lecture is included at no additional cost. Reservations for the lecture are recommended. An adult must accompany all children. The museum is located at 1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive, College Park.

For information call 301-864-6092, TTY 301-864-4765.



City Information

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups.

Vacancies exist on the:

- Arts Advisory Board,
- Employee Relations Board,
- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee,
- Youth Advisory Committee

(Openings for adult & youth positions.)

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

Meetings for January 16-20

Wednesday, January 18, 7:30pm, Advisory Planning Board, Greenbelt Community Center, Theater Rehearsal Room 202, **AGENDA:** I. Call to Order, II. Approval of Agenda, III. Approval of Minutes, IV. Election of Officers, V. Revision to Conceptual Site Plan - Greenbelt Station

Wednesday, January 18, 8:00pm, Council Work Session Work Session - Pre-Budget Briefing/Manager's Quarterly Rpt. Community Center.

INVITATION TO BID

The City of Greenbelt, Maryland, invites sealed bids for furnishing the following:

BID 2006-1: 2 Ton Truck Chassis

This equipment is to be delivered to the Department of Public Works, 555 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770. Interested bidders may pick up a bid specifications package for Bid 2006-1 at:

City of Greenbelt Finance Office
25 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Please call the Department of Public Works at (301) 474-8004 regarding bid submission questions. Bids must be **RECEIVED** no later than 2/6/06 at 10 a.m. Bids will be opened publicly at 10:10 a.m. on 2/6/06.

CITY JOB OPENING

Recreation Coordinator: \$32,531.20/A (\$15.64/hr). Develop, implement & supervise various recreation programs/activities. Ability to work varying schedule. Bachelor's degree in recreation or related field w/one year recreation experience; combination of education/experience may be accepted. City Application Required. Apply: City of Greenbelt Personnel, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, download application at www.greenbeltmd.gov, or call 301-474-1872 to request application. EOE.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City Offices will be closed Monday, January 16th, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

The Greenbelt Connection will not be operating.

REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Week of January 16th

- Monday Route - Collected Tuesday
- Tuesday Route - Collected Wednesday
- Wednesday Route - Collected Thursday
- Thursday Route - Collected Friday

There will be no appliance or yard waste collections on Friday, January 20th.

**DONATION DROP-OFF
American Rescue Workers**

Saturday, January 14th

9:00 a.m. to noon

Parking lot between the City Office and the Community Center

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

Greenbelt CARES presents:

WINTER 10-WEEK GED COURSE

Beginning Tuesday, January 17th

Course is free for Greenbelt Residents and \$150.00 for Non-Residents. Students will be required to purchase calculators and textbooks as well. Classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday at the Municipal Building at 25 Crescent Road. GED I is from 10:30am-12:30pm and GED II is from 1:00pm-3:00pm. For enrollment information call Greenbelt CARES at 301-345-6660, ext. 2016 or e-mail jhering@greenbeltmd.gov.

GREENBELT MUNICIPAL/PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 71

MUNICIPAL ACCESS: 301-474-8000)

Tuesday&Thursday, January 17 & 19 6pm "Ask the Expert," **6:30** "Springhill Lake Elementary Interviews Officer Mathews," **7pm** "Greenbelt Labor Day Festival presents The Nighthawks."

PUBLIC ACCESS (GATE): 301-507-6581:Wednesday & Friday, January 18 & 20: 7pm "Stuart's Chinese Kitchen," **7:30pm** "The Marshall Legacy," **8:30pm** "The Democratic Club-The Wal-Mart Movie Discussion."

Notice of Amendment to the City Charter Addition of Power to Engage in Collective Bargaining

At its December 12, 2005, meeting, the City Council adopted a resolution to add a new paragraph to the City Charter to empower the City to develop a labor code for the purpose of engaging in collective bargaining with representatives of the non-managerial sworn officers of the Police Department. This action was taken in response to a binding referendum question that the Council placed on the ballot of the November 8, 2005, City election, which permitted the voters to decide whether this change should be made. There were 1,105 (58%) votes in favor of the amendment and 797 (42%) votes against it.

The charter amendment resolution will become effective on January 31, 2006, unless a proper petition to submit the amendment to the voters on a referendum is filed as permitted by law.

Charter Amendment Resolution 2005-4

A Resolution of the City of Greenbelt Adopted Pursuant to the Authority of Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and Section 13 of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, (1957 Edition as Amended), Title, "Corporation-Municipal," Subtitle "Home Rule" to Amend the Charter of the City of Greenbelt Found, in Whole or in Part, in the Compilation of Municipal Charters of Maryland (1983 Edition as Amended), as Prepared by the Department of Legislative Reference Pursuant to Chapter 77 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1983, 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

The resolution will add the following paragraph to the Section of the City Charter titled "General Powers":

22. To recognize and engage in collective bargaining with one or more designated bargaining representatives of non-managerial, sworn police officers of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, Police Department; to enter into a binding collective bargaining agreement with said representatives; and to enact by ordinance or amendment a system of rules and regulations to govern this process. The City Council shall approve all collective bargaining agreements entered into by the City with a collective bargaining representative prior to their becoming effective. In the event the parties negotiating a collective bargaining agreement are unable to reach agreement on one or more terms of a collective bargaining agreement, the City Council shall have the authority to set those terms and conditions of employment that remain in dispute upon a majority vote.

As required by state law, this resolution will be posted in its entirety for 40 days, until January 21, 2006, at the Municipal Building at 25 Crescent Road. It can also be found on the Greenbelt CityLink Web site at <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov> under "Code Revisions." A copy may also be requested from the City Clerk. For additional information, call or e-mail Kathleen Gallagher, at 301-474-8000 or kgallagher@greenbeltmd.gov.

FEIS continued from page 1

no impact on congestion levels on the capital Beltway. It also has been observed that the high cost of the ICC would drain funds from other more worthwhile projects.

According to the SHA, the preferred \$2.4 billion (plus financing costs) ICC is a six-lane, state-of-the-art, multi-modal, 18-mile highway connecting existing and planned development areas between I-270 in central Montgomery County and the I-95/U.S. 1 Corridor in northwestern Prince George's County. Both the Draft and FEIS have included toll estimates for ICC commuters.

Pros and Cons

In commenting on the completion of the FEIS, Transportation Secretary Robert Flanagan said: "Marylanders are starting off the New Year with a brighter outlook for commuting and travel in the Washington region. Governor Ehrlich promised to break ground on the ICC before the end of 2006 and we are on track to fulfill that promise. The ICC will enhance mobility, safety, quality of life and economic development while successfully including environmental stewardship and enhancements."

The SHA's release points out that the federal and state highway administrations produced the FEIS study under President George W. Bush's Environmental Streamlining Executive Order. This enabled the ICC project study to be fast-tracked and for the first time permitted many state and federal agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), to review and make recommendations as the study moved along, thus accelerating the process.

The SHA release also noted that since the publication of the Draft EIS in November 2004, the ICC Study Team has received and reviewed more than 3,000 pieces of correspondence and testimonies from citizens, community and environmental organizations, elected officials and state and federal agencies. The study team also responded to community requests for more intensive studies. At the end of the report they highlighted some eight changes or areas needing further study.

At the top of the list was need for a pedestrian crossing in the Longwood development in Montgomery County, which the chosen route will cut into two parts. The study team also recommends removing plans for access ramps from Old Columbia Pike to the ICC near the Avonshire community. They believe such ramps would lead to commercial development on vacant land along Old Columbia Pike, thus attracting more traffic to the ICC.

The team also recommends replacing every acre of parkland that is impacted with eight acres of parkland rather than the current legal requirement of a one-to-one replacement. Additionally they propose project changes that would require less land for the highway.

Control of storm water management is also a major concern for the study team. They recommended systems designed to cool and filter rain water in medians and along roadsides. In addition, the amount of collected water should be regulated to reduce the size and amount of traditional ponds.

Where possible they hope that underground storm water manage-

ment systems could be developed.

By designing steeper slopes and using retaining walls, they would also hope to reduce impacts on streams, wetlands, floodplains and forest habitat.

Finally, the team stressed the need to complete studies of potential impacts to the Patuxent River Reservoir which supplies drinking water to more than a half million residents in the area. As they note this impact was a major consideration in choosing the Corridor One (southern route/Master Plan alignment) as the preferred alternative.

History

The ICC has been planned for approximately five decades. In 1950 the National Capital Planning Commission proposed an outer circumferential freeway (Outer Beltway). However, in 1968 Montgomery County dropped the Outer Beltway Alignment and retained the current ICC Master Plan

Alignment.

Then in a joint decision in 1975, Montgomery County and Prince George's County dropped the Outer Beltway concept but kept the portion between I-270 and I-95 as the ICC.

Between 1979 and 1999 the SHA conducted two project planning studies for the ICC. Draft Environment Impact Statements during this period were submitted in 1983 and in 1987 when the EPA expressed concern about the project, especially the Master Plan alignment. Also the first study did not adequately identify alternatives to the preferred alignment.

A 1997 study, which analyzed five alternatives, was halted in 1999 by then-Maryland Governor Parris Glendening, "due to detrimental environmental impacts."

The SHA initiated the current project planning study in 2003. The comment period for the Draft EIS ICC was officially over on

OPPOSITION continued from page 1

Another release from Henry (January 4) introduced the ANS' 30-second TV spot "highlighting the high tolls travelers would pay to use the ICC, while the SHA's finds that the ICC wouldn't reduce congestion on the Beltway or on most local roads and that developers have the most to gain from the highway."

According to the ANS release, the TV ad furthers a grassroots education effort that is far from over. With respect to tolls, the release states that "every ICC

user would pay some of the highest tolls in the state - up to \$1,500 a year for daily round trips. This especially hurts low and middle income drivers who would be pushed onto local roads because of high toll costs."

Henry points out that, "We have time to change course and call on decision makers to select sensible transportation solutions that provide everyone with more choices for how to get around."

Neal Fitzpatrick, executive director of ANS, stated that it was critical that we decrease congestion and increase mobility in our region and support a greater range of transportation alternatives that effectively and permanently reduce drive time.

Groups in opposition to the ICC hope that Maryland's state legislators will reject the high cost of the ICC and, if all options fail, that legal action could be taken to try to stop construction.

February 25, 2005. The FEIS and public review of the document is to be completed on February 27, 2006. After further study of the public's comments via cards, letters and email, a "Record of Decision" will be issued. No public hearings have been scheduled.

A GREENBELT DOCTOR'S STORY

When I was 15 years old, I went for a ride with my 16-year-old friend who just got his driver's license. We were both very excited to cruise the town. Shortly into our drive, we were stopped at a red light, wearing our shades, slouched back in our seats and listening to some music, when we were suddenly struck from behind by another car.

I felt fine after the collision: I was just a little shaken. After a few days, I started to experience some neck and upper back pain that I never had before. So I did what I believe most other people would do and went to my medical doctor. My medical doctor gave me some medications and told me that it would get better with time. Unfortunately, I was not feeling any relief after two to three weeks. I just felt a little "out of it" from the medication. I wanted to get rid of the pain so I started exploring other options.

I talked with my mother about this problem and she recommended that I go to the Chiropractor. I was very surprised when she said this. What could a Chiropractor do for me? Are Chiropractors even real doctors? My mother then told me how she used to have terrible problems with her sciatic nerve and that the Chiropractor helped her tremendously. If the Chiropractor was good enough for my mother, then I figured that I would give it a try.

Upon my first visit to the Chiropractor, I learned that I had a mild case of whiplash, or a sprain/strain injury, to my neck and upper back and that it is a very common injury sustained in an automobile accident. He also told me that my condition would improve with Chiropractic treatment. During my visit, I asked why there was a delay in the onset in my symptoms. I explained to him that I felt fine right after the accident. He informed me that often times after an automobile accident, or other types of sprain/strain injuries such as heavy lifting or falls, it is very common for there to be a delay in the onset of symptoms due to different stages in the healing process. He recommended that any person involved in an automobile accident should get a Chiropractic evaluation as soon as possible regardless of symptoms. Addressing a sprain/strain injury in its earliest stage will greatly help to reduce the possibility of permanent symptoms.

During my treatment, I learned that Chiropractic is utilized by most professional athletes and sports teams. I also learned that Chiropractors treat a wide variety of muscle and joint problems and actually address the cause of the problem without the use of medications.

Anyway, I began care and after just two weeks, my symptoms completely resolved. I was shocked! I could not believe that Chiropractic helped me! I never even thought about Chiropractic until this experience. I was so enthusiastic to be pain free and so excited about what I had learned about the profession. I decided that I wanted to help people like my Chiropractor had helped me so I became a Doctor of Chiropractic, and here I am today.

I am Dr. Brian Bezak and that is my story. I earned my Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Northwestern Health Sciences University and have a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Biology. I am also an American College of Sports Medicine Certified Health and Fitness Instructor. I will be joining my brother, Dr. Shaun Bezak, and my sister-in-law, Dr. Kelly Krol, in Bezak Chiropractic and Rehabilitation at 7415 Greenbelt Road located inside the Greenbelt Bally Total Fitness in the Greenway Shopping Center.

Bezak Chiropractic and Rehabilitation would like to celebrate the addition of Dr. Brian Bezak with a special offer. When you bring in this article you are entitled to receive a new patient exam for \$19. This includes a full orthopedic exam, neurological exam and a Chiropractic Consultation. If you are suffering from any of the following conditions, please take advantage of this offer and see how Chiropractic may be able to help you:

Headaches	Shoulder Pain	Knee Pain	Tension	Sports Injury
Neck Pain	Elbow Pain	Hip Pain	Dizziness	Work Injury
Upper Back Pain	Wrist Pain	Foot Pain	Tingling	Auto Injury
Middle Back Pain	Hand Pain	Leg/Foot Numbness	Fatigue	Slip/Fall Injury
Low Back Pain	Arm Pain	Leg Pain	Stress	Sprain/Strain

CHIROPRACTIC EXAM

Includes Consultation, Exam, X-Rays

FOR ONLY

\$19 Over \$165 Value

Call and Schedule Today 301-220-0496

Valid through February 24, 2006 with this coupon. Redeemable at Bezak Chiropractic and Rehabilitation located inside the Greenbelt Bally Total Fitness. X-rays included if necessary. This offer does not apply to injuries subject to recovery under liability or workers compensation claims. Limit one per person.



Dr. Shaun Bezak Dr. Kelly Krol Dr. Brian Bezak

BEZAK CHIROPRACTIC AND REHABILITATION

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.

Assault

December 31, 9:19 p.m., 7900 block Mandan Road, a man reported that he was standing on his balcony when he observed four persons walking toward a nearby building. All but one of the persons walked into the building, the fourth turned and fired two shots toward the man. One of the shots shattered his balcony window. The suspect then ran into the building. The man was not injured and it is not known what kind of gun was used.

Robberies

December 29, 8:34 p.m., 6100 block Springhill Terrace, a food delivery person reported that he attempted to deliver a pizza to an apartment but the occupant stated they did not place an order. As the delivery person attempted to call the customer's number on his cell phone, two men entered the apartment building, one armed with a knife. A robbery was announced and after taking money and a cell phone from the delivery person, the suspects ordered the victim to go into the laundry room and then fled the scene. The suspects are described as two black males, both 16 to 18 years of age, 5'8" to 5'9" and weighing 150 to 160 pounds. One had a medium complexion and was wearing a blue winter parka with a hood and the other was wearing a black winter parka and a wool cap.

December 31, 5:16 p.m., 6200 block Springhill Court, a man reported that he was in the common area of an apartment building when he was approached by another man, who displayed a handgun and ordered him to the ground, taking money, keys and a cell phone. The suspect then struck the victim in the face with the gun and fled the scene. The suspect is described as a black male, 5'8" to 5'10", 150 pounds, wearing black clothing and a ski mask.

December 31, 10:38 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, a man reported that he was walking to his vehicle when he was approached by two youths while two other youths stood nearby. One of the youths produced a knife and announced a robbery and a second youth sprayed a chemical into the man's face and eyes. They went through the man's pockets, taking money and car keys and then took the man's burgundy 1990 Honda Accord 2-door, Maryland tags MHH652. There is no definitive description of the suspects.

January 1, 12:21 p.m., Greenway Center, a manager at the Casual Male clothing store reported that a man entered the store and approached the sales counter. He had his hand inside his pocket as though he had a gun and announced a robbery. After obtaining an undisclosed amount of money the man fled the scene on foot. He is described as a black male, 36 years of age, 5'9", 180 pounds with black hair and brown eyes, wearing a dark gray fleece coat, khakis and a dark skullcap.

January 2, 12:03 a.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane, a cab driver reported that he responded to an address to pick up a fare. Two men and a woman standing outside approached the cab and asked for a ride to New Carrollton. One of them sprayed the cab driver in the face with some sort of chemical, possibly pepper spray. He was then threatened with a knife and robbed of an undisclosed amount of money. All three suspects fled the scene on foot. The suspects are described as a black female, 20 to 25 years of age with black hair in short, spiked braids and a pierced lower lip, wearing black clothing. There is no definitive description of the men.

January 3, 10:40 a.m., 6000 block Breezewood Drive, a woman reported that she was walking to a bus stop when she was approached from behind by the suspect, who placed an object to her back and announced a robbery. After obtaining money from the woman, the suspect told the victim not to turn around and then fled the area on foot. No description was given for the suspect.

January 5, 2:11 a.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane, a cab driver responded to an address in the 7900 block of 15th Avenue, Langley Park to pick up two men. The men were driven to the 5800 block of Cherrywood Lane, where one of them held a knife to the cab driver and demanded money. After obtaining money from him, the men fled the scene on foot. The suspects are described as two black males, both 18 to 20 years of age and 5'8" to 5'10". One weighed 180 to 190 pounds with black hair and brown eyes, wearing a camouflage winter jacket, baggy blue jeans and a black skull cap. The other weighed 175 to 185 pounds with black hair and brown eyes, wearing a black puffy winter jacket and baggy blue jeans.

January 5, 5:50 p.m., 6000 block Springhill Drive, a man reported that he was walking to an apartment building when he noticed three men following him. The victim ran into the building and fell onto the landing. The three men entered the building, one armed with a handgun and another armed with a baseball bat. They demanded money as they struck the victim two times in the head with the bat. A neighbor opened her front door, at which time the men fled the scene on foot. The victim declined treatment from ambulance personnel for swelling and a cut lip. The suspects are described as three black males, one tall and thin, wearing a black jacket and blue jeans; a second, tall and thin, wearing a black jacket and a black hat. There is no description for the third.

Weapons

January 5, 7:39 p.m., 6100 block Cherrywood Lane, a resident youth was arrested for concealed deadly weapon. An officer patrolling the area in search of suspects in an earlier attempted robbery observed the youth and a second person, who both matched

a description given for the robbery suspects. The youth was found to be in possession of a combination knife and brass knuckles. The youth was released to his mother pending action by the juvenile justice system.

Drug Arrests

December 31, 3:18 a.m., 6400 block Greenbelt Road, a nonresident youth was arrested for possession of cocaine with intent to distribute, possession of cocaine and theft. A nonresident man and woman were arrested and charged with theft. Police stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation and a computer check revealed that the tags on the vehicle had been reported stolen. The youth was asked to step out of the vehicle, at which time police observed a quantity of suspected cocaine packaged as though for sale on the floorboard where the youth was sitting. The youth was released to Boy's Village in Cheltenham pending action by the juvenile justice system. Both adults were released on citation pending trial.

DWI Arrests

December 29, 7:03 p.m., Greenbelt Road and Lakecrest Drive, a nonresident woman was arrested and charged with driving under the influence and driving while suspended after being stopped for a traffic violation. She was released on citations pending trial.

January 1, 12:53 a.m., Greenbelt Road and Walker Drive, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with driving while impaired, driving under the influence and failure to reduce speed to avoid a collision during the investigation of a motor vehicle accident. He was released on citations pending trial.

Unattended Child

December 30, 7:38 p.m., 9100 block Edmonston Court, a resident woman was arrested and charged with leaving children unattended. Police responded to a report of several unattended children in an apartment and located three children, ages 1, 4 and 6 in the company of an 8-year-old. The woman returned home and was released on citation pending trial.

False Statement

January 4, 4:35 p.m., 5707 Cherrywood Lane, a resident youth was arrested for false statement and trespass. Police responded to the Shell Food Mart for a report of a person harassing patrons and refusing management's requests to leave the property. The youth gave a false name when located by police. The youth was released on citation pending action by the juvenile justice system.

Vandalism

December 29, 8:23 p.m., Greenbelt Community Center, it was reported that unknown person(s) spray painted graffiti on the outside walls of the building.

December 31, 11:02 a.m., McDonald Field, it was reported that unknown person(s) spray painted graffiti at the ballfield.

January 1, 8:51 p.m., 6200 block Breezewood Court, it was

Fire & Rescue Log

The Fire Department Log is a monthly report of the activities and news from the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc. (GVFD&RS). The report includes recent incidents, news and upcoming events, fire safety and other fire department related information.

Incident Report

For December the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department responded to a total of 142 engine and 135 ambulance calls. Among the calls there were 39 reports of smoke or fire, 15 automatic fire alarms, 10 gas leaks, 50 motor vehicle accidents and 111 medical calls.

For 2005, the GVFD ran a total of 1,587 engine and 1,816 ambulance calls. The total of 3,403 calls is about average for the last two years and up significantly from 2003 when the GVFD ran 3,151 calls.

New Engine

Greenbelt's new fire engine, Engine 353, was put into service in December. The new engine is a 2005 Seagrave with seating capacity for seven firefighters. In addition to the water and hose, the new engine has a high-powered light tower for nighttime operations. The new engine is now the front-line engine and Engine 351 is now the second engine. Engine 352 has been taken out of service and is in the process of being sold.

Branchville Fire

On December 14 Greenbelt's new engine 353 went out on its first working fire. Just before 11 a.m., the engine along with the

ambulance and the deputy chief (Chief 35B) from Greenbelt responded to a report of a strip mall fire on Niagara Road. Upon arrival units found heavy fire through the roof and a second alarm was put out for additional units to respond. Chief 35B was given command of the units operating to the rear of the building, while the engine crew assisted with the interior efforts. Ultimately, due to conditions inside, the building had to be evacuated and the suppression efforts continued from the outside. The fire was brought under control while the units from Greenbelt were on scene for over two hours.

Volunteers Sought

The GVFD is looking for volunteers age 16 and up to become firefighters, EMTs or to work in an administrative role. All training is provided and the time commitment is flexible. To find out more call the station at 301-345-7000, visit the website at www.engine35.com or stop by the station and ask to speak to an officer.

Questions and comments regarding this report or any fire department issues can be directed to public-info@engine35.com or to 301-345-7000.

reported that unknown person(s) fired a gun into an unoccupied apartment, breaking a window and a mirror.

Theft

December 25, in reference to a stolen van reported December 21 from the 5800 block of Cherrywood Lane, two resident youths were each petitioned for two counts of theft, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and driving without a license.

January 1, 1:54 p.m., Roosevelt Center, it was reported that unknown person(s) removed a memorial plaque from the center.

Trespass

January 1, 4:05 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a resident youth was arrested for trespass after he was observed on the property of the mall after having been banned by agents of the property. The youth was released on citation pending action by the juvenile justice system.

Burglary

January 2, 4:24 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive, a resident man was arrested and charged with burglary, intoxicated endangerment of property and malicious destruction. Police responded to a report of a burglary in progress. The victim reported

that he came home to find a man sitting in the living room of his apartment. The man appeared to be intoxicated and several items inside the dwelling had been vandalized. The suspect was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Vehicle Crimes

Three vehicles were reported stolen: a 2000 Dodge Intrepid 4-door and a light blue Dodge Intrepid 4-door, Maryland tags GEE955 both from the 400 block Rhee Road; and a 1996 Dodge Neon 2-door from the 9100 block Edmonston Road.

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

Vandalism to, thefts from and attempted thefts of vehicles were reported in the following areas: 8200 block Canning Terrace, 7700 block Hanover Parkway, Greenbrook and Lake Drives, 6500 block Capitol Drive, 6100 block Breezewood Court, 9300 block Edmonston Road, 6000 block Springhill Drive (two incidents) and 6200 block Springhill Court.

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.

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GMS Principal Meets GES PTA

by Mary Moien

Judy Austin, principal of Greenbelt Middle School (GMS), addressed Greenbelt Elementary School (GES) parents at the January 3 PTA meeting. She described the move from grade school to a large middle school and the special need for parents and the PTA to continue to be involved at this level.

Amy Hansen, Greenbelt Elementary School PTA president, described some of the issues to the News Review. She indicated that parents have a lot of concerns about sending their children off to middle school, all middle schools, not just Greenbelt Middle School. However, Greenbelt Elementary feeds into Greenbelt Middle, so inviting Austin to speak was the natural choice.

There has been some discussion that Greenbelt Elementary's fifth grade students might be sent to sixth grade at Greenbelt Middle as are Springhill Lake's current sixth graders. Principal Austin replied that as far as she was aware, there were no plans at this time to move Greenbelt Elementary fifth graders into sixth grade at the middle school.

Austin pointed out that there are many changes when the students get to middle school.

Greenbelt Middle School is almost 1,000 students spread out over four floors. Children will be changing rooms for every class but classes are usually clustered in one corridor, so that children do not move throughout the school during the day.

Each class is 90 minutes long in middle school. Current class size is 32-35 students. Eight elementary schools feed into Greenbelt Middle.

Some parents indicated that they had heard bad things about the school. Austin responded that people who say the school is not good often have never visited the school. She stated that all children in the school can excel if their parents help them excel. She even told the parents that if they show an ongoing interest in their children, it will also rub off on their children's friends and classmates, helping all to excel.

The middle school principal encouraged parents to visit the school and to get involved. Austin indicated that the PTA is not as active as it often is in elementary school but is just as needed. Hansen had indicated that she thinks it will be difficult to have an active PTA when parents and students are just at a school for two years. One of the PTA's goals, Hansen commented, is to get parents to know the school earlier, even while "our kids are in 3rd, 4th and 5th grades, so they can be involved immediately when their kids walk through the doors."

Later in the year the Greenbelt Elementary PTA hopes to host a meeting with parents of new Greenbelt Middle School students, co-sponsored with ACE (Advisory Committee on Education). The goal of that night would be to introduce parents across schools so they could start working together faster and become a community faster.

Pinsky Senatorial Scholarships Open

Students who reside in the 22nd Legislative District and are planning to attend an in-state Maryland university or trade school are encouraged to apply for a senatorial scholarship from the office of state Senator Paul G. Pinsky.

The scholarships are awarded annually to deserving undergraduate and graduate students. A volunteer committee of community members makes selections after reviewing academic achievement, financial need and commitment to higher education.

Most scholarships are awarded for four years or until the recipient completes his or her degree, whichever comes first. The senator also offers grants for one single academic year in addition to the automatically renewable awards.

Applications are available from Senator Pinsky's office at 301-858-3155 or online at: <http://www.senatorpinsky.org/scholarship.htm>. All applicants must submit a free application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Completed applications must be submitted to Senator Pinsky's office no later than Friday, April 7.

P.G. Board of Ed Meets January 19

The Prince George's County Board of Education will meet Thursday, January 19 at 7:05 p.m. in the Sasser Administration Building Board Meeting Room, 14201 School Lane, Upper Marlboro. The meeting is open to the public. Interested persons may speak for two minutes by registering with the board office by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting.

Schools Offer Help to Foreign Students

Sometimes a simple story about the origins of apple pie removes barriers and allows Prince George's County Public Schools' international guidance counselors to help thousands of newcomers find their own unique way to learn and grow at school and in their new communities. More than 4,000 international students have enrolled in Prince George's County Public Schools since the school year began last fall and the international student guidance office (ISGO) has played a critical role in helping newcomers adjust to their new surroundings.

"In a school system as large and diverse as ours, there is a need to provide international families with assistance when navigating a system that may be totally foreign to them," said Howard A. Burnett, interim chief executive officer. "Our international student guidance counselors play many roles and coordinate efforts involving school, home and the community to support new students and their families."

All foreign-born students eligible for kindergarten through grade 12 and evening high school are required to enroll through the ISGO before being admitted to their local schools. In addition to enrollment information available in English and Spanish, the ISGO provides many other specialized services to U.S. citizen English language learners, U.S. students who studied abroad and international newcomers.

Once enrolled and attending school, the ISGO follows up with students and their families by conducting "Newcomer Groups."

Counselors explain that just as Europeans and immigrants from other countries brought to America the apples and the spices that flavor the favorite pie, new students have an opportunity to share their native cultures and recognize others they encounter here that are similar.

Support Structure

The ISGO offers a support structure that includes 50 bilingual international parent liaisons, 39 trained interpreters recruited from surrounding communities and workshops on many relevant topics including school attendance, helping a child if people do not speak English.

ISGO personnel work closely with staff in the school system's English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program to facilitate cross-cultural communications. School-based counselors provide crisis intervention if needed to international students and English language learners and their families. ISGO staff also serve as liaisons between the school system and community organizations including the county health department, social services, protective services and refugee services.

To obtain information on enrollment and other services, call the ISGO at 301-445-8460 to schedule an appointment. This procedure will ensure that the family has all the necessary documents to register and that a counselor will be available to complete the registration.

Students in pre-K register directly at their boundary school if a program is available.

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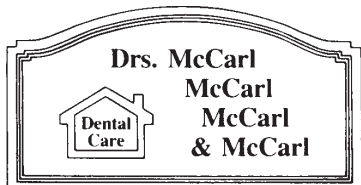


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Changes in Parking Laws for Disabled

Several changes to Maryland parking laws for the disabled took effect on January 1. It is estimated that approximately 89,000 vehicles currently display disabled parking license plates in Maryland and the new law will reduce that number to about 60,000. The changes were approved during the 2005 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly and were introduced on the recommendation of a Governor's Task Force that included disabled advocates, government and commercial retail representatives.

One of the notable changes is the requirement that only an individual with disabilities can apply for parking privileges. The new law does not affect nursing homes and other facilities that currently use the plates to transport their patrons. In addition disabled individuals have always been able to obtain a disabled parking placard, which hangs from the rear view mirror of the vehicle.

To further strengthen the law, several new options for those who qualify for disabled parking privileges also went into effect on January 1. They include the selection of only one of the following four options: one disability placard, one set of disability plates, two disability placards or one disability placard and one set of disability plates.

Anyone with extra placards or plates will be required to return them to the MVA for cancellation. This means that individuals may no longer have two sets of disability plates. If they have more than one set now, they must select a vehicle to keep the disability plates and apply for regular plates for use on other vehicles.

The Governor's Disability Parking Task Force also realized the importance of public awareness in the effort to curb abuses of the disabled parking privilege. The MVA implemented a comprehensive outreach effort, including public service announcements. All registration renewal mailings carry disabled parking information and posters on parking for the disabled have been distributed.

MVA Closed Jan. 16 For King Holiday

The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration will close all full-service and express offices and all Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program stations on Monday, January 16 in observance of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday.

Online registration renewals and other time saving eMVA options will continue to be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at www.marylandmva.com. For additional information log onto the website or call the MVA Customer Service Center at 1-800-950-1MVA(1682).

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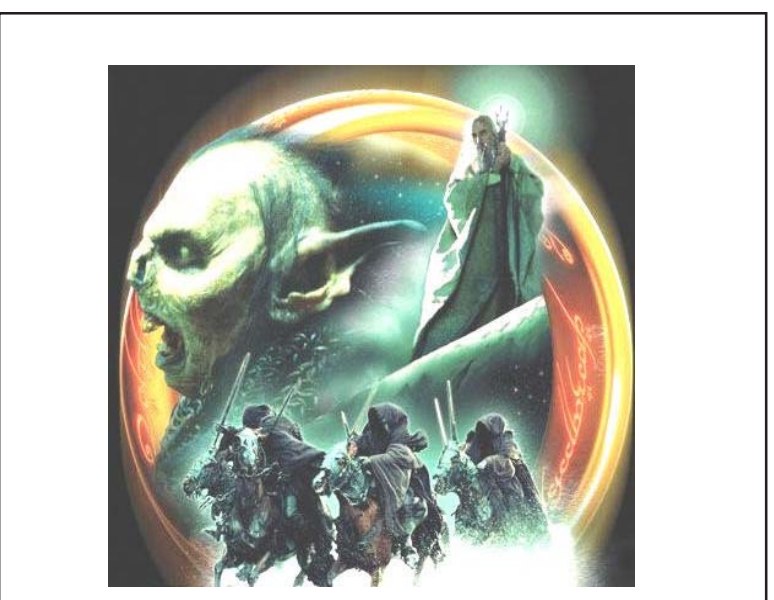
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Berwyn Heights

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Pageant Displays Talents of City's Girls, Young Women



PHOTO BY BILL GUPTILL

Contestants get ready before the judging.

Miss Greenbelt Pageant Winners

Queen	<u>Miss</u> Emily Ivy	<u>Jr. Miss</u> Devin Fendlay	<u>Little Miss</u> Alexis Thompson
1st Runner Up	Katerina Herder	Jazmin Kienas	Sarah Larkin
2nd Runner Up	Kimberly Wynkoop	Nathalie Denham	Samantha Houchens
3rd Runner Up	Amanda Winfrey	Mandy Dorsey	Allison Thompson
4th Runner Up	Ashley Gibbs	N/A	Celine Mendoza
Miss Photogenic	Corinne Tull	Jazmin Kienas	Sarah Larkin
Most Spirited	Amanda Winfrey	Nathalie Denham	Allison Thompson
Miss Congeniality	Ashley Gibbs	Devin Fendlay	Kayleen Yermal
Fundraising	Kimberly Wynkoop	Gloria Cherone	Kayleen Yermal



The 2005 Labor Day Parade Miss Greenbelt float.



PHOTO BY BILL GUPTILL

Present and past directors of the Miss Greenbelt Pageant, from left Natasha Chavrid Jewell, 1999 to present; Christine Patsas; Cheri Gainer 1986-90; Martha P. Guptill, co-director and Alice Plaster, 1977-78 director; Leslie and Stephen Kreimer, 1979-81; and Johanna Smith, co-director.



PHOTO BY BILL GUPTILL

Past Miss Greenbelts help celebrate the pageant's 50th anniversary. Front row from left: 1979 Cathy Clark, 2000 Joanna Andrus, 1997 Genette Don Bullian, 1972 Martha Plaster Guptill and 1974 Alice Plaster. Middle row from left: 1981 Carolyn Boone Schalumo, 1993 Christine Patsas, 1985 Paula Clinedinst, 1983 Natasha Chavrid Jewell and 1960 Karen Klem Smith. Back row from left: 1987 Michelle Lee, 1984 Angela Schreiber Querry, 1995 Rachel Petty, 2001 Kateri Hull, 2004 Joanna Murray and 1998 Joi Loretz.

At right, an early Miss Greenbelt pageant, perhaps in the 60s. Anyone recognize the young women or their escorts or even the location or know the photographer?



At right, past Miss Greenbelts sport their years and wear the T-shirts, from left Martha Plaster Guptill, 1972; Cathy Clark, 1979; Alice Plaster, 1974; and Joanna Andrus, 2000.



PHOTO BY BILL GUPTILL

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