

GREENBELT News Review

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DECEMBER 7, 2006

Springhill Lake Plan Moves Ahead with Council Approval

by Thomas X. White

At its regular November 27 meeting the Greenbelt City Council approved the proposed preliminary plan of subdivision (PPS) for the redevelopment project for the Springhill Lake Apartments in Greenbelt West. City approval was contingent on the acceptance by the project developer, Apartment Investment and Management Company (AIMCO), of about 35 conditions. These related to uncertainties concerning school capacity, recreation facilities, environmental variations (for roads), conveyance of public open space, timing of transportation improvements and developer contributions for city services and facilities.

Prior to the meeting, the revised PPS and city conditions had been the subject of a city council worksession on November 1. They also had been on the agenda of the November 13 regular council meeting. At both meetings, the developer indicated that the city's conditions were acceptable to them.

The current list of city conditions are similar to those required by the city last May when the developer's original PPS failed to achieve approval from the Prince George's County Planning Board. Now, however, they are more specific in timing and performance related to the aforementioned uncertainties.

According to the Greenbelt staff report at the meeting, the proposed revised conditions will provide safeguards necessary to ensure that very important pending issues are resolved in a timely fashion within the project review period.

"For example," the report states, "the school capacity issue must be resolved to the city's satisfaction before the detailed site plan (DSP) associated with the [project's] 2,900th unit is approved. The revised conditions also define performance standards for private and public recreation facilities that the applicant will have to meet at the appropriate phases of plan review."

Advisory Board Input

The staff report also noted that the city's Advisory Planning Board (APB) and the Park & Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) had held a joint meeting where PRAB was briefed on the recreation issues and APB reinforced the importance of using green building techniques, of pedestrian connectivity to the proposed high rise towers along the Capital Beltway and of convenient local transit.

Greenbelt Assistant Planner Terri Hruby presented a summary of the revised PPS and the city's revised conditions. Community Planner Tarek Bolden then summarized the city staff's earlier presentation to council on applying "Smart Growth" principles to the proposed redevelopment of the SHL apartment project.

Hruby noted that considering the revised conditions addressing these unresolved issues, as well as AIMCO's acceptance of the conditions, staff recommended that council support the PPS with the revised conditions and communicate their support to the Prince George's County Planning Board and the Board of Education.

The school board is involved because of the city's emphasis on school capacity and its location. Staff indicated that the County Planning Board hearing on the PPS will likely be held in early January 2007.

Following the city staff report, discussion and commentary by members of council and the public focused primarily on issues relating to school location and capacity, the adequacy of ballfield options for competition sports and the impacts on the environment regarding the location and access to the proposed high-rise residential buildings.

A range of housing issues were also a concern, including affordability for current residents, a for-sale versus rental mix, green building concepts and the variety of housing types.

School Issues

First to jump on the school issue was Councilmember Rodney Roberts. He held that the city's approval of the PPS, even with the conditions, would essentially constitute agreement to give up the existing SHL Elementary School site. He was joined in this issue by several members of the audience who felt that school walkability was involved. If the school site was transferred by the Board of Education to the developer for use as a storm water management amenity, they argued, the likely availability of centrally located school sites would be a problem.

Robert Fireovid urged council
See COUNCIL, page 6

American Education Week November 12-18, 2006

In celebration of American education these columns will continue to tell the stories of selected teachers from the five schools that service the Greenbelt community. Over the past several weeks teachers from St. Hugh's, Greenbelt Middle and Eleanor Roosevelt High Schools were featured. This week readers will get a glimpse inside Greenbelt and Springhill Lake Elementary Schools. Photos by David Lange.

Hindalong, Brown Love Teaching at SHL School

by Esther Ngunjiri

Through her 10 years of undergraduate education, shifting through various colleges, majors and jobs and despite being from a family of educators, Stacy Hindalong never considered teaching as a career.

However, after home-schooling her son for three years and substitute-teaching for two years, Hindalong has found her way back into school as a resident teacher with the Prince George's County Resident Teacher Program at Spring-

hill Lake Elementary School. She co-teaches a fourth grade class with a mix of special education and general education students.

"I woke up one morning and I thought to myself, 'You know, I'm looking forward to coming to work,'" she said, a sign that she has found her calling. "I still wake up every morning thankful that I get to come to work." The students

See SHL SCHOOL, page 8



Stacy Hindalong



Zandra Brown

Holinsworth, Hodgson Enjoy Teaching Children

by Aditya Ramanathan

Handling a class of over 20 third grade students is all in a day's work for Lisa Holinsworth.

A teacher at Greenbelt Elementary School, Holinsworth is now teaching third grade children for the fourth straight year.

Holinsworth, who grew up in Bowie, went to Kenilworth Elementary School. She did not enjoy it very much. "I was the one who would go to

the nurse's office or stay home sick," she said.

Her biggest problem with elementary school was the one-size-fits-all approach. "When I was in class, everyone was expected to do the same thing."

Holinsworth said she had decided to become an elementary school teacher around the time she was completing high

See GES, page 8



Lisa Holinsworth



Anne Hodgson

What Goes On

Saturday, December 9

9 a.m. to noon, Donation Drop Off, Parking Lot between the City Office and the Community Center

Sunday, December 10

7 p.m., Greenbelt East Tree Lighting, Greenbriar Community Building

Monday, December 11

7 p.m., Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee (REAC) Meeting, Community Center

8 p.m., Regular City Council Meeting, Municipal Building (Live on Channel 71)

Tuesday, December 12

7:30 p.m., City Council Worksession with school CEO Dr. John Deasy, Municipal Building (live on Channel 71)

Wednesday, December 13

8 p.m., City Council Worksession in Greenway Village Apartments, Community Center.

Letters

THANKS!

I would like to thank all the players, parents/family members and coaches who attended the end of the fall season soccer reception and splash party on Saturday, December 2.

With this being my last event as the soccer commissioner for the Greenbelt Boys & Girls Club, the large turnout and positive remarks I heard made it a special day for me.

I would also like to thank the New Deal Café for allowing us to hold our reception in their back dining room and the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center for the use of the pool. Everyone had a great time!

I was especially touched by the thank you card and gift presented to me from all my coaches. I would like to welcome Richelle Green in as my replacement and wish her all the best in her new position.

Thank you all.

*Kim Paz,
Soccer Commissioner
Greenbelt Boys & Girls Club*

THANKS!

Many thanks to News Review reporters Sandra Lange and James Giese for their recent positive articles about Utopia Film Festival 2006, as well as to all who attended and thereby contributed to Utopia's continuing success.

Warm thanks are also due our generous sponsors, including Annapolitan Bed & Breakfast, API incentives, BWI Florist and Bridal Salon, Chef Lou, the City of Greenbelt, Greenbelt Access Television, Inc., the Greenbelt Arts Center, Christie Digital Systems, Inc., the Prince George's County Memorial Library System, the Prince George's Arts Council, the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission's Arts and Cultural Heritage Division, Cornelius Moore of California Newsreel, COSTCO, Friends of the New Deal Café ARTS, Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket, Greenbelt Marriott, Gina Lamb of Reach LA, Kyma, Maryland State Archives, Modular Home Express, Sarian Bouma "Heart of a Winner," Tom and Helen White, Lynn Holt, Tsunami, Metropolitan and Lemongrass.

*Susan Gervasi
2006 Publicity Chairperson
Utopia Film Festival*

ACE Sponsors Poster Contest

The ACE Reading Club, a free reading incentive program offered by the City of Greenbelt, is hosting a poster contest for students in kindergarten through 2nd grade. Students should create a 14"x22" or 22"x28" size poster with the theme "Reading is Fun!" Posters will be judged on originality, dedication to contest theme and creativity. Winners will be announced on January 8 and will receive an award certificate and book.

Winners will have their posters printed in the Greenbelt Voices Literary Magazine next May. Posters are due no later than 4 p.m. on January 5 in the Greenbelt CARES office. For information and an entry form contact Liz Murray at 301-345-6660 or lmurray@greenbeltmd.gov.

On Screen

"Bobby" on June 6, 1968

"Bobby" gives us a day in the life of the Ambassador Hotel – specifically, June 6, 1968. On that fateful day, Robert Kennedy delivered his victory speech for the California primary in the hotel ballroom and was assassinated on his way into the kitchen to meet some of the service workers. Actor and civil rights activist Harry Belafonte, who befriended Kennedy at the urging of Martin Luther King, called Bobby "the second greatest force in the midst of our struggle, after Dr. King himself." Writer/Director Emilio Estevez is not the first to see parallels between American foreign policy then and now and reflect wistfully on how things might have been different.

The film is something of a family effort; Estevez' brother Charlie Sheen had to encourage him to finish the screenplay and father Martin Sheen appears in the film. Perhaps the sheer number of stars portraying hotel denizens will prove a little distracting, from Anthony Hopkins, Laurence Fishburne, Demi Moore, Sharon Stone and William H. Macy to Harry Belafonte. As the only nonfictional character in the movie, Robert Kennedy appears as himself through archival footage.

Emilio Estevez won the Biografilm award for "Bobby" at the Venice Film Festival. The film runs 120 minutes and is rated R for drug use, language and violence.

– Cathy Jones

Astronomers Offer Star Education for Public Here

by Adrienne Kasper

For almost 15 years now, the Astronomical Society of Greenbelt has reached out to the community, unveiling all that lies within the range of a telescope.

Holding star parties two Saturdays a month at Northway Fields, the society introduces community members to the galaxy that surrounds them by pinpointing double bright stars, planets and any other eye-catching objects they happen to sight.

"We like to observe the sky close to home and everyone knows in Greenbelt the best place to observe is Northway," said Doug Love, one of the founders of the society and current president. "We want to share our findings with everyone."

In 2001 Montgomery College donated a 14-inch telescope to the society and with the help of the City of Greenbelt and Gil and Jaylee Mead, both retired astronomers, Northway will become home to the city's observatory.

Originally known as the Greenbelt Astronomy Club, the society changed its name in 2005 to better represent its desire to spread knowledge about astronomy, a mission that is accomplished through the Saturday star parties and monthly Sunday evening moon parties held outside the New Deal Café.

"The moon parties on Sunday nights at the Roosevelt Center are a way to reach more people with astronomy, to shock them into realizing that they are on a round planet in space with a very large and

close moon," Love said.

The moon parties do not attract a huge crowd but those passing by are often enticed to take a look through the telescopes that society members have set up. Nonetheless, Love says the society gets at least one new member every time they hold a moon party.

"We've been doing this since earlier this year, copying John Dobson, a Vedanta priest in San Francisco, who hauls out his telescope and says, 'Come see the moon,'" Love said.

With Mercury transiting the sun last month, the society was to hold a viewing at Northway Fields but, as nature is neither predictable nor reliable, the event was canceled due to rain.

"That is just one of the risks of dealing with nature," Love said. "Conditions often get in the way. But we try to observe every eclipse, bright comet or special event like this."

And with another 10 years or so before Mercury crosses the sun again, a chance to take a closer look at the universe and all of its mysteries is priceless. And more than 100 years will then pass before Mercury crosses the sun again.

"If you did get to see Mercury transit the sun, it wouldn't be a mind-blowing thing," said Matt Elliot, a former president of the society. "But if you have any interest in astronomy-related things, then you would definitely gain from seeing this rare occurrence."

SHA Plans Second Left Turn Lane

The State Highway Administration is in the planning stages of adding a second left turn lane from eastbound Greenbelt Road to northbound Hanover Parkway. The work should occur within the next year.

Correction

In last week's story about the departing appointed school board, Abby Crowley was stated to have two teenage daughters. Crowley actually has two teenage sons. The News Review regrets the error.

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

WEEK OF DEC. 8

BOBBY (R)

Friday

*5, 7:30, 9:50

Saturday

*2:30, *5, 7:30, 9:50

Sunday

*2:30, *5, 7:30

Monday – Thursday

*5, 7:30

*These shows at \$5.00

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American Legion Auxiliary Greenbelt Unit #136

Presents

CRAFT BAZAAR & SILENT AUCTION

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Greenbelt American Legion Post 136
6900 Greenbelt Road

For Info Call: Rusty Beeg
301-577-3025

Email: rbeeg@verizon.net

To donate auction items call:
Kathleen

301-474-2249

Refreshments will be available!

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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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.

Concert Band to Play On Sunday, Dec. 17

The Greenbelt Concert Band, under the direction of Tom Cherrix, plays its Holiday Lights Concert Sunday, December 17 in the Greenbelt Community Center. Come early as the special Saxophone Quartet Recital begins at 2:45 p.m. The full concert begins at 3 p.m. with a selection of seasonal favorites including "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas," "The Christmas Song," "A Chanukah Celebration," "Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer" and other holiday songs. The band will also play selections from "My Fair Lady."

Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

The Golden Age Club is well and active but I have missed writing a couple of articles for the News Review. People have asked why. There was a death in the family and I flew to Rochester, New York, to be with family, had a bad cold and then came Thanksgiving. Sometimes we need a break to renew our creativity and energy to keep perking along. It's certainly nice to know that the article is read and enjoyed.

December 20 will be our Christmas pot luck luncheon. Meat platters will be provided. There will be no meeting on December 27.

Thanks to Pat and Cathy Brannan (new members) who were greeters for our November 29 meeting. Many thanks to all who have contributed time, ideas and work to make the club a success this year. We begin our 50th year in 2007 and lots of interesting plans are in the works. Come and join us on Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the Community Center.

ACE Invites Teens To Book Discussion

The Ace Reading Club will have a teen book discussion on December 18 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Greenbelt CARES office featuring the book and movie "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy," written by Douglas Adams. Participants should read the book and watch the movie. There will be a book/movie discussion with refreshments followed by socializing. Pre-registration is required.

Greenbriar Children Breakfast with Santa

Greenbriar's children of all ages are welcome to come have breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 16. For more information and to register call 301-441-1096.

GHI Notes

Upcoming meetings/events:

Saturday, December 9, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. – Last Saturday for leaf bags at garage #24 in the 6 Court of Hillside

Tuesday, December 12, 8:30 a.m. – Ad Hoc Yard Line Committee, GHI Administrative Building

7 p.m. – Sustainable Design & Practices Committee, Board Room

Wednesday, December 13, 7:30 p.m. – Architecture & Environment Committee, Board Room

Thursday, December 21, 7:30 p.m. – Board of Directors, Board Room

GHI members may pick up leaf bags Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the GHI office while supplies last.

Community Events

GIVES Holds Holiday Party and Meeting

GIVES will hold a quarterly meeting and holiday party Saturday, December 9 at 10 a.m. in the Community Center.

The first reading of some by-law changes and a reminder of the GIVES-assisted low income tax preparation program are on the agenda.

Bring a dish to share for the party. For information call the GIVES office at 301-507-6580.

Scouts Seeking Hat, Glove Donations

As a seasonal outreach program, Greenbelt's Junior Troop 4816 is assisting a local nonprofit group that provides services to underprivileged children in the D.C. area. (Besides being poor, the children in this program come from troubled homes and many have been witness to violence.) The junior scouts will be making stockings for the children and stuffing them with small "peace oriented" gifts. They also want to give each child a new hat and glove set. Donations may be left in the "drop off" box in the lobby of the Greenbelt Community Center now through December 15. For more information call 301-441-3557.

Photo Club Open Holiday Meeting

The Greenbelt Photo Club is inviting the community to share holiday cheer and see what is happening at the photo club. The meeting will be held Tuesday, December 12 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in Room 112 at the Community Center. Light refreshments will be served.

Computer Club Will Meet on Thursday

The Greenbelt Computer Club will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, December 14 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Room 202 (Theater Rehearsal room) at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. All are welcome.

Live Music At New Deal

Show times: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 7 to 8:45 p.m./Friday and Saturday 8 to 11 p.m./Sunday 5 to 6:45 p.m.

On Friday and Saturday nights, musician and artist John Guernsey of Takoma Park, known as the "piano man" to patrons of the New Deal Café, plays jazz and blues piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Next week, the following folk musicians perform from 7 to 8:45 p.m.: on Tuesday, December 12, Johnny Bonneville; on Wednesday, December 13, Banjer Dan; on Thursday, December 14, Open Microphone with James.

On Friday, December 15, folk and humor artist Dan Hart (Santa's out to get him) performs from 8 to 11 p.m. On Sunday, December 17, jazz musician Magic Ray will play from 3 to 5 p.m.

Greenbriar Tree Lighting Dec. 10

There will be a tree lighting ceremony on Sunday, December 10, in Greenbriar's Terrace Room. Enjoy caroling and hot chocolate in celebration of the holiday season. For more information call 301-441-1096.

E&FDR Dems Meet On December 15

by Pat Unger, president

The December 15 meeting of Greenbelt's Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club will give varied meanings to the word "party." In celebration of the group's 30th anniversary, the guest of honor will be recently victorious Maryland State Democratic Party chair, Terry Lierman, who is expected to be re-elected at a statewide Central Committee meeting in Silver Spring on Wednesday, December 20. (For particulars call toll free 301-858-8818.)

As it has since the spring of 1976, the club will meet in the Terrace Room of the Greenbriar Community Building, 7600 Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt. This is at the corner of Hanover Parkway and Greenbelt Road (Rt 193). A brief agenda will begin at 7:30 p.m., followed by the Annual Holiday Gala. Officers for 2007, elected at the November 17 meeting, will be sworn in; the anniversary will be marked; and Lierman will speak.

A social hour will round out the evening and members are asked to bring holiday snacks or desserts to share. Friends, former members, prospective members and the public are invited. Interested parties should call outgoing president Pat Unger, 301-474-1052.

The new officers are Ed Terry, Cheverly, president; four vice presidents: Karl Shipps, New Carrollton; Melissa Mackey, Greenbelt; Emmett Jordan, Greenbelt; and Lynne Tucker, Greenbelt; Laura Bonkosky, corresponding secretary; John Riggs and Daryl Pennington, sergeants-at-arms.

Kindergarten Information Night

On Monday, December 11 Greenbelt Nursery School will host a forum on kindergarten options available to families in Greenbelt and nearby communities. Representatives from public and private schools will present information on their programs and will be available for questions and discussion.

The forum will take place on December 11 from 7 to 9 p.m. in room 202 (Theater Rehearsal Room) of the Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Road. Parking is available in the lot behind the Greenbelt Public Library.

Participating schools include Greenbelt Elementary School, Berwyn Baptist School, the Newport School, Friends Community School, Excel Academy Public Charter School, Holy Redeemer School, Acorn Hill Waldorf Nursery & Kindergarten and St. Hugh's School. The forum is open to all, free of charge. This is the sixth year in which Greenbelt Nursery School has sponsored a kindergarten forum as a service to its members and to the broader community.

Greenbelt Nursery School is a not-for-profit parent cooperative nursery school in its 64th year of operation. For more information about the school visit its website at www.greenbelt.com/gnsk. For more information about the kindergarten forum call the school at 301-474-5570 or email questions to gnsk@greenbelt.com.

Holiday Season At the Library

by Karen Seaton, Info. Staff

Visit the library this month to see a rich collection of books about Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, New Years Day and other holidays. Get ideas for celebrating the holidays from displays about cooking, entertaining, decorating and relating to family and friends. There is also a display of fiction with holiday themes.

Coming Events

Children's Book Discussion, "Bookids," Beverly Cleary's "Henry Huggins" December 13 at 6:30 p.m.

(Note: There will be no adult book discussion in December.)

Story Times for Young Children, Tuesday, December 12, 10:30 a.m. – Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months with caregiver, limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, December 13, Toddlertime, at 10:30 and repeated again at 11 a.m. For ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, limit 15 children.

Thursday, December 14, 10:30 a.m. – Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5. Limit 20 children.

Greenbelt Arts Center
Announces Auditions
URINETOWN
The Musical

Dec. 10 & 11 at 7pm
Casting 11 Men & 6 Women
*Prepare short vocal,
A reading (not from script),
Dress for movement.
Performs 3/9 – 3/31*

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www.greenbeltartscenter.org

the **Chromatics** present



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SATURDAY, DEC 9 - 8:00 PM
AND
SUNDAY, DEC 10 - 2:00 PM

featuring guest group
The Suspenders

Greenbelt Arts Center
123 Centerway - Greenbelt, MD
301-441-8770
Tickets: \$12 adults - \$10 seniors/students

Greenfield's 25 Years Feted By Mishkan Torah Synagogue

by Jordan Choper

Members of Mishkan Torah celebrated Cantor Phil Greenfield's 25 years of service to the congregation by holding a gala dinner in his honor. The dinner was catered by Mishkan Torah's Sisterhood. Mishkan Torah's Concert Choir gave a 20-minute concert consisting of various Channukah songs. Before and after the dinner there was a duet composed by Carolyn Sonnen on flute and Linda Stein-Patterson on guitar. This was followed by a vocal selection by Sharon Herschler Walder.

A musical comedy tribute to Cantor Greenfield was composed by David Hershler who played piano to accompany the following on-stage performers, Evelyn Hershler, Dan Lowery, Sarah Rosen, Jeff Rosen and Saul Oresky.


The final pièce de résistance was a short recital by Cantor Phil Greenfield showing those attending what they already knew, i.e., that he is an accomplished singer of cantoral music as well as Renaissance madrigals, Broadway show tunes and an original, humorous composition describing his major profession of teaching high school.

Evening Hours At Botanic Garden

The United States Botanic Garden is a special place in the evenings. For the holiday season it will be open until 8 p.m. on three Thursdays in December. While spending a few hours exploring a holiday exhibit featuring new plant varieties and a garden train exhibit, people will be entertained with holiday music. On Thursday, December 14 the Virginia Ham barber shop quartet will perform.

P.G. Choral Society Presents Concert

The Prince George's Choral Society will present a holiday concert on Sunday, December 10 at 3 p.m. at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 6905 Greenbelt Road. For ticket information call 301-336-8539. Tickets are available in advance or at the door.



Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

Baha'i Faith

"It is incumbent upon them who are in authority to exercise moderation in all things. Whatsoever passeth beyond the limits of moderation will cease to exert a beneficial influence."
- Bahá'u'lláh

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

www.bahai.org www.us.bahai.org

At the celebration, a proclamation by the City of Greenbelt was presented to Phil Greenfield by Mayor Judith Davis, as well as a separate proclamation by County Executive Jack Johnson.

Cantor Greenfield has a life full of different activities. He is mainly a high school teacher in Annapolis. A number of years ago, he had a exchange teaching position in England for one semester. In addition to teaching and being a cantor for Mishkan Torah, he used to be a music critic for the Baltimore Sun Newspaper. Every once in a while he has appeared on WBJC in a similar role of a music critic for radio. He is widely read and highly respected by all who know him.


K of C Holds Senior Citizen Essay Contest

The State of Maryland Knights of Columbus invites all seniors to participate in an essay contest titled "What living our faith means to you." Greenbelt Knight Guillermo Olivos encourages local seniors, either on their own or with the help of their families or youth from the local schools, to participate.

In describing the project, Olivos stated, "Seniors have the advantage of having lived longer and witnessed the sweetness and sour that life offers and the hope and consolation that faith brings to us."

For information on the essay contest contact Olivos at 301-982-0834 or at golivos@aol.com.

Send us the details of your religious activities to share with your neighbors on the Church Page.




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 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. 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



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!



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

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community
December 10, 10 a.m.
"Sing We a Holiday Noel" - Annual Seasonal Music and Arts Service
Led by David Chapman, music director and pianist
with Jaco B. ten Hove, co-minister and Tosha O'Neal, worship associate
- Barbara W. and Jaco B. ten Hove, co-ministers

Jesus is the Reason for the Season.

Come join us for Christmas Service at
Berwyn Presbyterian Church, 6301 Greenbelt Road,
Berwyn Heights, 301-474-7573

Sunday School, 9:30am
Worship Services, Sunday, 11:00am
Christmas Concert, Saturday, Dec. 16, 7:30pm
Christmas Eve Service, Sunday, Dec. 24, 7:30pm



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..."



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

Sunday 8 am Worship Service
9:15 am Sunday School/Bible Study
10:30 am Worship Service


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



GIVE THANKS

Every breath that we breathe is a blessing from God and we learn from the Prophet Solomon (peace be upon him) to recognize these blessings each day. The Holy Qur'an tells us how he never forgot to be thankful to God. He is quoted to have said, "This is by the grace of my Lord, to test me whether I am grateful or ungrateful! And if any is grateful, it is (a gain) for his own soul; but if any is ungrateful, truly my Lord is free of all needs, supreme in honor."
- The Holy Qur'an, 27:40

Remember to count your blessings. For more information about gratefulness from an Islamic perspective, call 301-982-9463 or email info@searchislam.org or visit www.searchislam.org.



Bible Study & Worship

9:30 "Good Morning!!" Coffee and Snacks
10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Worship
Greenbelt Youth Center
99 Centerway (Behind the Community Center)

December 10 Sermon:
The Incarnation: The Fullness of God
Pastor Lou Redd
301-474-4499 410-340-8242 (cell)
...living life together



Jane Love is still happy to hear from old friends and neighbors. Her 91st birthday will be December 28. Write to her at Crescent City Health Center, the old Leland Memorial Hospital, 4409 East-West Hwy, Riverdale, MD 20737. Her son Doug visits daily.

Best wishes to Rudy Horton on the occasion of his retirement from Springhill Lake maintenance department.

Congratulations to Greenbelter Brian Choper of the Kol Haruach Klezmer Band, which has been asked to perform at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on Monday, December 18 at 6 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. The band will feature Klezmer, Israeli and Jazz tunes from their new live CD release in addition to new music recently composed and arranged for the band.

Get well wishes to Mat Amberg who is recuperating from surgery.

Bay Trust Grant Awarded to GHI

Since it began in 1985, the Chesapeake Bay Trust, a private, nonprofit organization, has awarded more than 7,000 grants focused on funding on-the-ground restoration and hands-on education programs to help raise awareness and restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers. In 2006, the Trust involved more than 40,000 students and 10,000 adult volunteers in grant projects.

This year a Trust grant was awarded to Greenbelt Homes, Inc., which received \$3,163 for plants, brochures and signage for two demonstration rain gardens on common areas in the housing cooperative.

More information on the Chesapeake Bay Trust and its grant programs is available at www.cbtrust.org.

Academy 8 Theatres

Beltway Plaza Mall
Center Court
301-220-1155

All shows starting before 6 p.m.

Are ONLY \$5.00

R = ID Required

(!) = No pass, No Discount Ticket

Week of December 8

FRI. – SAT.

Happy Feet, PG (!)

12:15, 2:35, 5, 7:30, 10

Turistas, R (!)

12:30, 2:45, 5:10, 7:20, 10:20

Casino Royale, PG-13 (!)

12, 3:10, 6:30, 9:45

Deja Vu, PG-13 (!)

1, 4, 7:10, 10

SUN.

Happy Feet, PG (!)

12:15, 2:35, 5, 7:30

Turistas, R (!)

12:30, 2:45, 5:10, 7:20

Casino Royale, PG-13 (!)

1, 4, 7:15

Deja Vu, PG-13 (!)

1, 4, 7:10

MON. – THUR.

Happy Feet, PG (!)

5, 7:30

Turistas, R (!)

5:20, 7:30

Casino Royale, PG-13 (!)

4:45, 7:45

Deja Vu, PG-13 (!)

5, 7:45



City Information

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL

**December 11, 2006 - 8:00 p.m., Municipal Building
Regular Meeting**

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

- Recognition of Outgoing School Board Members – Abby Crowley and José Morales
- LGIT – Safety Team Award

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

Advisory Committee on Trees, Memo, 11/21/2006 (Chesapeake Bay Program Urban Tree Canopy Goals)

LEGISLATION

An Ordinance Granting a Non-Exclusive Cable Television Franchise to Verizon Maryland, Inc. (“Franchisee”) to Operate a Cable System Within the City of Greenbelt, Maryland; Approving a Franchise Agreement and Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the Franchise Agreement on Behalf of the City

- 1st Reading

A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of Conservation Services for the Bas Relief Friezes and Mother and Child Statue with Conservation Solutions, Inc. of Washington, DC at a Cost Not to Exceed \$29,064

- 1st Reading

OTHER BUSINESS

- Contribution Group FY 2007 Funding Request – Double Dutch
- Update on Greenbelt Skate Park
- Beltway Plaza Admissions & Amusement Tax Issue
- * Application to Merchants Revolving Loan Fund

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.

Meetings for December 11-15

Monday, December 11, 7:00pm, Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee (REAC), Greenbelt Community Center

Monday, December 11, 8:00pm, Regular City Council Meeting, Municipal Building (live on Channel 71).

Tuesday, December 12, 7:30pm, City Council Work Session w Schools CEO Dr. John Deasy, Municipal Building (live on Channel 71).

Wednesday, December 13, 8:00pm, City Council Work Session w/Greenway Village Apartments, Community Center

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call the number listed above, or contact the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 or kgallagher@greenbeltmd.gov.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups. Vacancies exist on the: Arts Advisory Board, Advisory Committee on Education, Advisory Planning Board, Employee Relations Board, Public Safety Advisory Committee, Recycling & Environment Advisory Committee, Youth Advisory Committee (youth and adult positions)

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

GREENBELT MUNICIPAL/PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 71

MUNICIPAL ACCESS: 301-474-8000: Monday, December 11 at 8pm: Regular City Council Meeting “live” Tuesday, December 13 at 7:30pm: Council Work Session w/ Schools CEO Dr. John Deasy “live” Thursday, December 14: 10am & 6pm “Ask the Expert-Food Guide Pyramid” 6:30pm “ACE Reading Club” 7:00pm: “Replay of Council Work Session” 8pm “Replay of City Council Meeting of 12/11”

PUBLIC ACCESS (GATE): 301-507-6581: Wednesday and Friday, December 13 & 15: 7pm Charles Dickens “A Christmas Carol” 8:30pm “Women’s 2-A Field Hockey Championship”

Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov for information on City Government, Services and Events. Now posted: Festival of Lights Schedule, NEW... Winter 2007 Greenbelt Recreation Brochure, Available Pets and more!

GREENBELT NEW YEAR 2007: LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD

Join your friends and neighbors for a hometown New Year’s Eve celebration featuring entertainment for all ages. The party begins at 7:00 pm on Sunday, December 31, and lasts till after midnight. Your wristband admits you to all of these events at adjoining venues in historic Greenbelt:

In the Community Center: Visions of Jazz, DC Motors, Magic Mike the Magician, Blue Sky Puppet Theater, Greenbelt Piano Lounge, Mad Hot Ballroom Dance Party and Mini-Lessons with Frank Solomon, Sit Right Down and Write Yourself A Letter, The Great Big Greenbelt Home Movie, Greenbelt Sages Video Interviews, Janus Fortune Tellers and Memory Card Game, New Year Craft Workshop, Countdown to Midnight

In Roosevelt Center: Greenbelt Girl Scouts Campfire in the Plaza with Song Leader Melissa Sites, Tim the Storyteller, and genuine Girl Scout S’mores, Elegant, featuring Vasili, at the New Deal Café, Camp Cabaret at the Greenbelt Arts Center, The Alex Martin Trio at the New Deal Café, GAVA/ GATE Animation Festival at the Greenbelt Movie Theatre

In the Youth Center: Greenbelt Idol Contest, Giant Action Games, Improv Asylum, Wacky Hair Salon

Admission wristbands now on sale now at the Community Center and the Co-op Supermarket.

Cost: \$5 in advance; \$7 at the door.

Children 5 and under admitted free.

For more information, call the Community Center at 301-397-2208.

Hosted by the Greenbelt Greenbelt Recreation Department and Greenbelt Community Organizations.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR GREENBELT NEW YEAR! CALLING ALL GREENBELT ARTS CENTER DIVAS AND DIVOS!

Fun is in the cards for Greenbelt New Year partygoers, courtesy of the fabulous fortune telling performers of the Greenbelt Arts Center! Sign up for a shift of prognostication, and attend the entire celebration for free!

Call Chris Cherry at 240-542-2055 to sign up.

CALLING ALL GREENBELT SENIOR CITIZENS!

The Greenbelt Museum will film Greenbelt Sages, a series of brief video interviews, during Greenbelt New Year 2007 on December 31. Is there a particular memory you would like to share with current and future Greenbelters? We want to include it in the video archive! Participants will receive a DVD of the interviews.

Call the Community Center business office at 301-397-2208 to book a 20-minute interview slot.

CALLING ALL MEMBERS AND ALUMNI OF ALONIZ!

ALONIZ! members past and present are welcome to join alumnus Jesse Folks in the Improv Asylum at Greenbelt New Year on December 31. You can also put your improvisation skills to work as a fortune teller! An hour of improv gets you free admission to the event!

Call Chris Cherry at 240-542-2055 to sign up.

CALLING ALL FRIENDS OF THE MARY PURCELL GEIGER SCHOLARSHIP FUND!

Concession sales at the Community Center during Greenbelt New Year will benefit the Mary Purcell Geiger Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships for arts and senior programs of the Greenbelt Recreation Department.

Volunteer for a shift in the kitchen, and receive free admission to the celebration!

Call Chris Cherry at 240-542-2055 to sign up.

DONATION DROP-OFF

American Rescue Workers

Saturday, December 9th

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Parking lot between the City Office and the Community Center

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

COUNCIL continued from page 1

to keep SHL Elementary School in the center of the community. Rather than take a chance with what might happen after approval of the PPS, he said, council should ask the developer to come to some agreement on the SHL school site before approving the PPS.

Joan Falcao also opposed approval of the PPS before school capacity and locations issues are resolved.

Mayor Judith Davis and Hruby argued that the school condition as stated and linked to the 2,900th unit is critical for the city. The staff-recommended condition is based on the premise that any resolution of school issues in Greenbelt West would require the city's approval.

Ballfields

Roberts also led off a lengthy discussion on the city's requirement for "competition-size ballfields." He believed that condition 11 in the revised conditions is counter to the city's official position that the developer be required to provide three competition-size ballfields. He argued that council had taken no official action to lessen that requirement and that the staff-recommended language in condition 11 does not reflect the city position.

Condition 11 relates to Parcel R in the south central portion of the SHL project to be designated for use as a public open play area. If this parcel were leased, dedicated or defined by some other means of agreement approved by the city, it would satisfy the requirement to provide one (of the three) athletic fields referenced in condition 10.

Craze Responds

Celia Craze, director of the city's Planning Department, took issue with Robert's assertion. She noted that the language in condition 11 was part of the May 22, 2006, conditions that had been included in the council action directing the city staff to oppose the original SHL PPS before the Planning Board. It was part of the official city letter transmitted to the Planning Board at that time, she said.

When Roberts moved to have condition 11 removed from the revised conditions, the motion failed for lack of a second.

As discussion on the ballfields issue continued, Davis said she would not mind Parcel R being a free play area rather than a competition ballfield "because not every one wishes to participate in regulated sports."

Craze and Hruby also sought clarification from the AIMCO team about their understanding of condition 11. Andre Gingles, the AIMCO attorney, noted that with the requirement for city approval of the transfer for Parcel R, if the city chooses to take Parcel R as a play area in a city managed recreation program, AIMCO will consider it a field.

If, however, the city decides not to take it, it would not be one of the three fields required. The city staff was comfortable with that interpretation and also comfortable that the city would make the choice.

Roberts continued his objections that the city would be accepting a reduction in acreage that effectively reduces the city's options. Gingles responded that the issue should be considered in the context of the total recreation package included

in the conditions being required by the city.

Based upon the discussion, council and AIMCO seemed to agree with some modifications in the language of condition 11 suggested by Roberts in order to strengthen the intended meaning.

Tower Access Road

AIMCO's decision to place the high-rise residential towers close to the Capital Beltway has always generated concerns, mainly with the engineering of access to the towers. The original plan (May 2006) had two roads accessing the high rises from the south intersecting with Springhill Drive.

APB had provided support for the concept but was looking for more pedestrian access in the same area. City staff, however, felt that the environmental impact of two crossings of floodplain and wetland areas was too great. They sought to reduce the environmental variations the developer was seeking.

The new AIMCO plan now shows only one road to the high-rise site from Springhill Drive. According to Gingles, AIMCO has spent a considerable amount of time evaluating the best alignment for the road to assure its approval from the several environmental agencies that would have to sign off on the proposed route.

The alignment shown in the current PPS now has the approval of the city and AIMCO. APB also supports this new alignment but continues to press for more bicycle and pedestrian access to the site.

A Different Access

Roberts surprised everyone at this stage by offering a different access to the towers, one that had not been raised or considered before. He proposed to avoid the sensitive wetland and flood plain areas south of the towers altogether and to access the towers from the east by means of an extension of Edmonston Lane and from the west by a new road from the towers to the vicinity of Cherrywood Lane and Metro Access Drive.

Hruby stated that she could not comment on the potential impact of such a proposal. Craze noted that, if she understood Roberts' proposal, it would likely require a significant roadway structure to connect to Cherrywood Lane from a much lower elevation. Such a connection would be a difficult one to make, she pointed out, with the already troublesome intersection with Metro Access Drive.

Gingles went through the rigorous process necessary to obtain approvals for the roadway. But he said he would be willing to "explore the feasibility" of an alternate connector road.

Craze advised council that it would take time for such an evaluation and that she did not see it as a practical solution. Roberts offered a motion to support an evaluation of his suggested alternative. It was seconded by Councilmember Konrad Herling but failed on a three to two vote.

Other Issues

Lowell Owens addressed council reiterating his concern that the condition be strengthened calling for consideration of affordable housing in the plan. City staff noted that a fairly

high percentage of affordable housing is already available in Greenbelt and that they would be looking for a range of housing not available elsewhere in the city.

It was also noted that a mix of available housing types is already required in the Conceptual Site Plan approved last year and would be best evaluated at the time of Detailed Site Plan approval during the next stage of plan approvals. Herling suggested that the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Housing Partnership be asked to join the discussion at the time of the DSP.

Councilmember Leta Mach also asked the AIMCO representatives about their publicized program for assisting residents in obtaining mortgages. AIMCO Vice President Patty Schwayder indicated that the program may not be current but "we could think about it."

Cooperatives

Mach also pressed AIMCO on the opportunity to consider housing cooperatives as part of the mix. This issue was also tied to the owner-occupied theme that had been raised several times in past meetings.

The most drastic proposal of the evening was presented by Doug Love when he labeled the existing SHL development as both a health hazard for its residents and a social hazard for the Greenbelt community. He suggested that it should be treated like a disaster area compared to Katrina-damaged New Orleans and the city should request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to take over the project and rebuild it to Greenbelt standards.

Considering the remarks during the "Petitions and Requests" portion of the agenda earlier in the evening of a Greenbelt resident who resides in SHL, this suggestion had some resonance. Jett Brett spoke to council about her recent experiences with AIMCO management in dealing with habitability and sanitation issues with her rented SHL town-home, describing the aftermath of what she described as a sewage back-up.

Brett noted that the SHL response had been very poor and that they were claiming no responsibility. In early October she abruptly learned that she was being evicted from her residence. When she was able to get that issue resolved, her problems with "dilapidated conditions" continued with the next unit that SHL put her in. She described the conditions vividly: "luxury pricing, ghetto conditions and slum-lord practices."

Craze, asked to comment on Brett's complaint, advised council that the department currently has two open cases and are continuing to pursue corrective actions. She noted that a meeting with AIMCO on-site management was scheduled for Monday, December 4 and that she had had an opportunity to meet earlier with AIMCO representatives attending the meeting to discuss the specific cases and other infractions.

Council took note of these reports following their action on the PPS, registering their concern and urging AIMCO representatives present to address the concerns raised.

Annapolis Dancers Perform Christmas Carols at GAC

by Carol Griffith

In the Christmas story, angels visited earth on the night Christ was born. In "The Angels Were Dancing: A Celebration of Christmas," Annapolis' Duncan Dancers explore the idea that the angels not only sang but danced. A performance of choreography to classic Christmas carols designed to spread the true message of Christmas, the show will be held at the Greenbelt Arts Center on December 17 at 6 p.m. The Duncan Dancers' artistic director and soloist is Valerie Duncan.

Several dances to be performed were created by Isadore Duncan, regarded as the mother of modern dance. Favorite themes of Duncan's were angels, sacrifice and redemption and hope and joy. Other dances were

choreographed in the style of Duncan and include the music of Schubert's "Ave Maria," "Carol of the Bells," "O Holy Night," "Greensleeves," "I Saw Three Ships" and the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah.

Actor Bryan Richard Deehring will also read Christmas poetry to complement some of the dances.

Tickets to the performance may be obtained by phone at 410-570-0535, by e-mail at tickets@duncandancers.com or on the troupe's website, www.duncandancers.com. Tickets include an invitation to a coffee and chocolate reception following the show to meet the artists.

The Greenbelt Arts Center is located at 123 Centerway, beneath the Co-op supermarket.

Pajama Night Skate And Light Show

Do something different and attend the Xtreme Teen Pajama Night Skate and Light Show on Friday, December 15 from 7 to 10 p.m. at Wells Ice Rink, 5211 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park. Wear pajamas and skate to DJ music during this special session just for teens. Those ages 12 to 17 years are especially encouraged to come but all ages are welcome. There is a fee for admission and skate rental. For information call 301-277-3717, TTY 301-445-4512.

Music at Riverdale For Kids of All Ages

On Saturday, December 9 at 4 p.m. enjoy "Christmas for Kids (Of All Ages)." Choirs will sing featuring the Hyattsville Middle School Chamber Choir and the Riverdale Presbyterian Church Chancel and Youth Choirs. Bells will ring featuring the Riverdale Presbyterian Bell Choir. A story will be presented - "Santa Mouse, Where Are You?" The event takes place at Riverdale Presbyterian Church, 6513 Queens Chapel Road. There is no fee but a free will offering will be accepted.

GREENBELT MUSEUM

Co-op Sales

December 9th 10am-3pm
December 16th 10am-3pm



Holiday Cards
Oil Cloth Aprons
Ornaments
Molly Doll Raffle
Cat's Meow's
History Books



Publick Playhouse

Holidays are Hot at the Playhouse



Saturday, Dec. 16, 8 pm
Martha Reeves

This Motown star brings a December "Heat Wave" that will have you "Dancin' in the Street!" \$25; \$20/srs & stu

301-277-1710 TTY 301-277-3012

Prince George's Publick Playhouse Parks & Recreation M-N-C-P-C

SCHOOLS continued from page 1

ments will be demolished and replaced mostly by new apartments. A community that has been called the largest garden apartment complex east of the Mississippi River would be transformed under the plan into a community with a variety of rented and owned housing options and a neighborhood commercial area.

Combined School

In exchange for the land to build the lake, AIMCO offered to build a new elementary school elsewhere in the community. However, in the last year, talk has shifted in favor of a plan to build a combined middle and elementary school on the property of Greenbelt Middle School. Though this option would provide a school for almost 2,000 students, it does not account for the additional number of students resulting from a redevelopment that doubles the number of housing units.

The student population of Springhill Lake Elementary is currently 674. About 60 are bused to the school from other communities.

Wichtendahl said she is not concerned with there being too many students in the new school but with problems that can occur when students of varying ages in a middle school and an elementary school are combined into one building. Her biggest concern was with the state of the current elementary school building, which is 40 years old.

"I think if we get a new school out of the deal then we're all pretty excited," Wichtendahl said, describing problems with

the school's wiring and communications. "If the telephones go down, it affects everybody," she said.

Similar Problems

Greenbelt Middle School, which educates about 850 students, also has aging problems. A renovated or new Greenbelt Middle School has been on the school board's agenda since 1988.

"We're definitely in need of a school. It's an old building, and they have said it's going to be renovated for the longest time and it hasn't happened yet," said Judy Austin, principal of Greenbelt Middle.

"Will [the developers] renovate or will they build a new school? Either way something has to be done and quickly – that's the million dollar question," she said.

She said the original building was built in the late 1930s and that electricity, heating, plumbing and piping problems abound. Bad wiring prevents students from accessing the Internet from the classrooms, she said.

Tarek Bolden, Greenbelt community planner, said one of the current issues on Greenbelt West development in the eyes of his department is school adequacy.

Council now has conditionally approved the preliminary plan of subdivision for the construction of no more than the current number of housing units, 2,899, until the school board resolves the issue of school adequacy – both capacity and location – for the entire development. The city anticipates a task force led by the school board that includes all

interested parties – developers of Springhill Lake, the North and South Cores of Greenbelt Station, Beltway Plaza. The city and citizens will evaluate the issues and make recommendations for actions that would assure adequate school capacity and best location for the expected developments in Greenbelt West.

Also, based on the conditions required by the City of Greenbelt for its approval of the preliminary plan of subdivision for the SHL redevelopment project, any recommendations addressing the school adequacy issue for Greenbelt West would have to meet the satisfaction of the City of Greenbelt – otherwise the SHL project would be capped at its current size.

Friday Night Is Rudolf Flu Show

Friday, December 8 at 7:30 p.m. the next planetarium program at the Howard B. Owens Science Center will offer "Rudolf Flu." Doors open at 7:15 p.m. preceding the program.

In this holiday favorite, something is wrong at the reindeer stable. Santa's reindeer will be unable to fly on Christmas Eve! Come share in the lessons Santa's dog, Sirius, learns from his friends in the sky in order to help save the day. A tour of the current night sky will follow the presentation.

The Owens Science Center is located at 9601 Greenbelt Road. There is a fee. Park at the Catherine T. Reed Elementary School.

Greenbelt Marriott Launches Toys for Tots Collection

by Rivéa Ruff

The Greenbelt Marriott is hosting a citywide Toys for Tots holiday collection. Starting last Monday, toy donations are being accepted in the lobby of the hotel.

Donations are being taken on behalf of the local Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots campaign, for the benefit of needy children in Maryland.

The Marriott is enacting a three-pronged plan of charity on behalf of Toys for Tots. They are first, of course, accepting toy donations from guests and the surrounding community in the hotel lobby.

However, the Marriott is offering a unique service: on site collection. This year, the Marriott is also assisting in the pickup and transportation of toys to the collection site. Those interested in donating can simply call the hotel and a crew will come by to pick up the toy donation.

And finally, the Marriott is taking extra measures to advertise the collection to ensure that as many donations as possible can be made.

"This is the best time of year to be giving," said Evan Minor, front desk manager at the Greenbelt



PHOTO BY BILL SOUSER

Marriott. "We're just trying to make every difference that we can for our local children."

Founded in 1947, Toys for Tots is a nonprofit organization that seeks to ensure that all children, no matter their means, can receive gifts at Christmas time. The toys are collected at various locations, then passed out by Marines to needy local children.

The Greenbelt Marriott is accepting toys for children ages from toddler to 17 through the holiday season until Christmas. The hotel only requests that gifts be new, unwrapped and worth a minimum of \$10.

The Greenbelt Marriott is located at 6400 Ivy Lane and can be reached at 301-441-3700.

Some People Don't Smile in Pictures . . .

Ask yourself if any of these areas may be affecting the beauty of your smile:



- The color or shape of your teeth
- Spaces or missing teeth
- Noticeable cavities or old dental work
- Uneven or unhealthy gums

If so, come into the offices of the McCarl Dental Group for a complete and comprehensive evaluation.

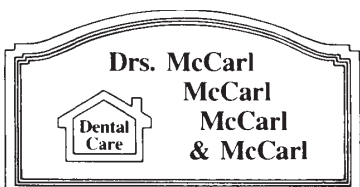


Nicole Burgess of Severna Park had severely discolored teeth from a very early age. Throughout her life, Nicole had been self-conscious of her smile. In just three short weeks, the McCarl Dental Group gave Nicole a beautiful smile and a new start in life! Call the McCarl Dental Group to see if a smile makeover could change *your* life.



It's never too late to give yourself a beautiful smile. For over three generations the McCarl family has provided a full range of dental services to Greenbelt and the surrounding communities. In the past, cosmetic dentistry was only for the wealthy. Today, however, cosmetic dentistry is affordable and available to everyone. Give someone you love the gift of a smile!

Call us today for an appointment!
301-474-4144



<p>Polishing and Cleaning</p> <p>\$40⁰⁰</p> <p>After Complimentary Initial Dental Exam (Value up to \$192) Includes necessary X-rays on day of examination. New patients only. Expires 12/31/06</p>	<p>Teeth Bleaching Special Only</p> <p>\$200⁰⁰</p> <p>Reg. \$500.00 Expires 12/31/06</p>
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Office Hours:
Monday 8-5
Tuesday 9-8:30
Wednesday 9-8
Thursday 8-4
Friday 8-3
Saturday 8-12

McCarl Dental Group
301-474-4144

28 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-0717

SHL SCHOOL continued from page 1

make her laugh, she said.

"Sometimes I go, 'God, I can't believe they pay me to do this,' and then I get my paycheck and then I go, 'God, I can't believe this is all they pay me to do this!'" she said.

After finishing her Resident Teacher Program, Hindalong plans eventually to pursue a certification for special education teaching. One of the attractions, she said, is being able to actually work with the kids individually.

"It's a little bit like my homeschooling experiences. The idea behind special education is to teach the kids in a way that they can be taught," she described. "All children learn. It's about how they learn, how quickly they learn and how they learn best."

Identifying with her students and the way they learn has helped her in her teaching. "If I slap the IRS tax code in front of you and say, 'Okay, you've got three hours to do your taxes,' that would be an extremely intimidating task," Hindalong offered, as an example of what she tries to remember when she gets frustrated with her students.

"I see myself in them all the time," she said. "I have fairly clear memories of being on the other side of those eyes . . . I was not the best student. I remember that lost feeling when something is introduced to you that you just don't – that it's just not happening. I hope what that does for me is make me more sympathetic toward what they're going through."

Hindalong received a bachelor's degree in government and politics and began her masters in public policy management at the University of Maryland, College Park before she became pregnant and left the program.

"It took me a very long time to get through college," Hindalong said, after going through various majors in journalism, human nutrition, international relations, linguistics and others.

"Because I have had all of those many varied, sundry experiences, I do know that if it ever changes, if I ever wake up hating going to school, I will do something else," she said. "I am a capable human being; I can do something else if I want to. So that security in and of itself is truly liberating. And I'm hoping that it's that freedom that keeps me here."

The resources from Title 1 funding and support from the staff are valuable to her as a teacher.

"We have an administrative staff that is not like too many others – they're here for the kids. And they want what's best for the kids and therefore they allow the teachers to do what's good for the kids as much as they can. We, of course, have to comply with every rule and regulation but when they're allowed discretion, they always make it in favor of the kids," Hindalong said.

Hindalong wishes she could take off all the erasers from the pencils that her students use so they could simply cross out their mistakes and she could see what they were thinking, identify individual strengths or recurring challenges and apply these to other problems.

"I try to tell them it's not about making mistakes, it's about learning," she said. "[They think] the consequences for being wrong

are so great. I try to make sure that the children think that the consequences for being wrong are none."

Hindalong believes that encouraging students to learn from their mistakes is one of the most valuable lessons.

"We all want the same things – we all want our children to love learning. We want them to love reading. I want them to get curious and stay curious . . . It's like having your own children and having somebody ask, 'What do you hope for your son or daughter?' Well, the sky!"

Zandra Brown

Even though her mother tried to talk her out of it, Zandra Brown became a teacher.

She doesn't teach a classroom anymore. Rather, as math specialist and science coordinator, she teaches students who comprise the entirety of Springhill Lake Elementary.

Brown, who grew up in a family of educators (including her mother, a teacher for over 30 years) and was educated as a child in Prince George's County Public Schools, didn't intend to find herself back.

Brown received bachelors degrees in business administration and accounting with a minor in music from High Point University in High Point, N.C., and a masters from American University in performing arts with an emphasis on arts management.

After her masters, Brown took a position as head secretary bookkeeper at Rogers Heights Elementary School and then, as a part of the Prince George's County Resident Teacher Program, co-taught third grade at Springhill Lake. She then taught 6th grade science and health before moving into her current position.

"My degrees are in business and accounting. And the kids look at me and they just laugh and they're like, 'Then why are you here?' and I say 'Because you all make me laugh,'" Brown said.

Serving each grade from kindergarten through 5th grade, Brown supplements the math and science education of her students by creating extension activities to challenge critical thinking, modeling lessons for teachers for particular focus areas, observing class sessions, having individual conferences with students and teachers about progress and maintaining data sheets documenting student performance on exams.

"I like to interact with the kids. I like to see how they're doing, how they're functioning, how things are happening with the teacher," said Brown, "and much of the time, it's that middle role that I wind up taking on."

Based on her assessments, she analyzes problems or subject areas of improvement according to the child or the item, identifying particular skills or students that need extra attention or concern.

Brown says she tries to bring technology into her lessons because it is something that many of the kids have around them daily.

Although her hours are long in the office, 10 or 11 hours daily, she finds her work rewarding.

"It's that love of the acquisition of knowledge, of learning," that Brown appreciates about her job and hopes her students learn. "Of getting children to understand that just because you're out

of my classroom doesn't mean you're not learning It is okay to make mistakes and it is okay to learn from those mistakes. But it is not okay to lie. It's not okay to cheat because you're afraid of failure."

Aside from her work at the school, Brown has remained an employee of Bank of America as their head teller on Saturday mornings. She also manages her own accounting practice during the main tax season from January to April 15.

Although her work keeps her extremely busy, Brown says, "It's part of my personality . . . if I'm not doing one thing, I'm doing another."

Brown used to start the first day of 6th grade by introducing a poster of Albert Einstein. While many of the kids knew he was a scientist and a genius, Brown pointed out that he dropped out of high school and did struggle educationally at one point.

"Everyone has challenges," Brown explained. "Sometimes me walking through the door in the morning is a challenge and I say, 'Sometimes you getting out of bed and coming to school is a challenge.' They all laughed but they identified."

"They like to think that people who are geniuses and are on top are infallible. And that's not the case. That's not reality. For a 6th grader to realize that they have strengths and weaknesses and acknowledge both and how to make that work for them geared them for success later," Brown said.

At times, Brown says, she has thought, "I am not coming back anymore, I'm done, I'm through." However, she continues to be energized and positively surprised by her students, like those who show up in her office late in the evening knowing she'll be there.

"I love when students come back and they tell me the good things that've been going on but also things that have gone wrong and how they turn their life around, how they fix it," she said.

Tips and Techniques To Grow Amaryllis

Come to the U.S. Botanic Garden (USBG) on Friday, December 15 from noon to 1 p.m. to gain a general introduction to plants of the genus "Hippeastrum," commonly called the amaryllis. Bill McLaughlin, USBG horticulture curator, will share images of the array of varieties available today. He will also review basic growing requirements and how to care for the plant after it blooms. The lecture is free but pre-registration is required. To register call the USBG at 202-225-1116 or visit the online event registration at www.usbg.gov/education/events.

The USBG Conservatory is open to the public free of charge every day of the year from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Conservatory is located at 100 Maryland Avenue, SW, at the base of the U.S. Capitol. Visitors are encouraged to take Metrobus and Metrorail. Further information is available by calling 202-225-8333 or visiting the website at www.usbg.gov. Electronic recording for rebroadcast purposes is not permitted during USBG programs.

GES continued from page 1

school. "I started doing summer camps and a lot of babysitting at that time," she said, adding that she also taught swimming.

But her own experience of elementary school influenced her decision as well. "I wanted to do something to make other kids want to come to school, kind of be the teacher that I didn't have," she said.

She received a full scholarship from Bowie State University and pursued a degree in elementary education.

"They had a really nice education program and the teachers that came from there had a really nice reputation," she said.

She joined the Greenbelt Elementary School after she graduated.

Holinsworth's teaching methods are far removed from those she experienced as a child. "I do a lot of active learning and hands-on activities."

For example, when she's teaching reading language arts, she asks the children to relate the experiences of the characters in the stories they're reading to their own. Holinsworth said the children think for themselves, inferring deeper meanings that may not be part of the text of the story.

She also makes it a point to address the needs of each individual child. "I try to recognize that each student is an individual and that they have different strengths and different weaknesses," she said. "I do differentiate a lot of my instruction."

Indeed, some of Holinsworth's students attend fourth grade math classes. "They love going there," she said.

According to her the other students have no problem with this arrangement. "We talk a lot about acceptance," she said. "Everyone has different needs and what meets those needs is fair to them."

Holinsworth wants to continue teaching for now. She said she loves the job and the children.

However, sometime in the future, she would like to work with smaller groups of children and perhaps become a reading or math specialist.

And though her job can be demanding, she enjoys watching the children develop. "Seeing their growth from the beginning of the year to the end of the year is worth it."

Anne Hodgson

It's now Anne Hodgson's third year teaching first graders at Greenbelt Elementary School and it's a job she enjoys immensely.

One of her biggest challenges, she said, is to devote some of her time to other things in her life. "It's hard to turn it off, because it is so involving."

Hodgson grew up in a suburb of Chicago. She went to Boston College where she majored in elementary education and Spanish. She considered finding a job in the Boston area but decided on the Washington area instead.

"My sister lived here right after she graduated from college. And I've always been interested in the capital and enjoy getting to know new cities, so it seemed like a good time to move," she said.

Hodgson always enjoyed being around young children, even as a child. Though the youngest child in her family, she would play with the younger siblings of her friends whenever she got the opportunity.

Hodgson said she started giving serious thought to becoming a teacher when she was in high school. She knew she wanted to learn about elementary education soon after she entered Boston College.

Hodgson found learning about classrooms and schools exciting and inspiring. She also enjoyed the energy of young children, making elementary education an obvious choice for her.

Hodgson recalls that she was herself a very well behaved child in elementary school. She remembers a rare occasion when a teacher reprimanded her. At that time, "It was the worst thing that happened to me," she said.

She said that though she had wonderful teachers in elementary school, the teachers taught in a much more traditional way. Things have changed for the better now, according to Hodgson.

Today the emphasis is on fulfilling the unique needs of each child, she said. Hodgson designs her lessons to be relevant to children at different levels.

Besides the regular formal assessments of the level of her young pupils, Hodgson does her own informal assessment by interacting with the children and getting to know their interests better.

Hodgson also remembers how her own elementary school teachers were kind and looked happy to see her in class. "That made me want to come to school," she said.

She therefore makes it a point to greet her students every morning and show them kindness.

Having been educated entirely in public schools, Hodgson firmly believes in them. She thinks every child in the United States, regardless of background, deserves a high-quality education.

As for her plans for the future, Hodgson said she wants to continue teaching for now.

"I've not gone back to school for my masters yet because I feel I'm learning so much here everyday."

However, Hodgson said she may feel differently 10 or 15 years hence. She feels that when she eventually goes back to school, she'll probably focus on her passions: teaching kids reading and writing or science.

Hodgson, who was involved in a literary magazine all through high school and is a member of a book club today, said she also dreams of writing a book for children someday.

Another possibility she would like to explore is teaching at a bilingual school in South America for a year. Hodgson studied in Ecuador for a semester during her junior year and went to Chile for two months as part of an exchange program in high school.

Renaissance Dance Evening on Monday

College Park Arts Exchange invites the public to a free Evening of Renaissance Dance Monday, December 11 at 7 p.m. at the Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road (Corner of Knox Road and Dartmouth Avenue). Come learn dances from Shakespeare's time. Wear comfortable clothes and non-rubber soled shoes (no sneakers). No partner is required and the music is beautiful. Ideal for teens and adults. For more information call 301-927-3013 or email info@cpae.org.

Police Blotter

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

Assault

November 23, 12:36 a.m., 6100 block Springhill Terrace, a man reported that one of his roommates began arguing with his other roommate. The argument became physical, with the roommate grabbing a kitchen knife and attempting to stab the other several times. The third roommate left the apartment to call police. The suspected knife wielder, Hibo Luis Garia-Siquiense, 30, of 6156 Springhill Terrace, apt. 105, was arrested on the scene and charged with first degree assault. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

November 27, 8:45 a.m., 7600 block Mandan Road, a resident youth was arrested for assault when police responded to a report of dispute between a mother and child. Upon arriving on the scene, the mother reported that her son refused to go to school. Upon speaking with the youth, police asked him to remove his hand from his pocket for officer safety reasons and he refused. The officer and the youth's mother again asked him to take his hand out of his pocket. The youth again refused, at which time the officer approached him and attempted to remove his hand from his pocket. The youth became combative and assaulted the officer, attempting to punch him in the face. He had to be forcibly placed into custody and was later released to his mother pending action by the juvenile justice system.

Drug Arrests

November 26, 2:28 a.m., Greenway Center, a resident woman was arrested and charged with driving while impaired and driving under the influence. Police responded to a report of a person passed out behind the wheel of a vehicle stopped in the roadway. The officer observed the vehicle in the roadway and followed it as it pulled off into the parking lot of the shopping center. The woman was released on citations pending trial.

Burglaries

November 22, 6:48 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court, unknown person(s) possibly used a key to open the front door of a residence. The chain was on the door and entry was not gained.

November 25, 8:44 a.m., 18 Court Ridge Road, unknown person(s) used unknown means to enter a shed. Several tools, including a miter saw and a nail gun, were taken.

November 26, 4:26 p.m., 9 Court Ridge Road, unknown person(s) entered the open garage of a residence and removed two ladders.

November 26, 9:35 a.m., 18 Court Ridge Road, unknown person(s) used unknown means to enter a shed. Bungee cords were taken.

November 30, 9:12 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court, un-

Two SHL Residents Arrested For Separate Local Robberies

Two Springhill Lake residents were arrested by the Greenbelt police and charged with robbery and other crimes as a result of separate crime incidents, one on November 27 and the other November 30.

In the first incident, William Darryl McKnight, 28, of 6122 Breezewood Ct., was charged with carjacking, three counts of armed robbery, two counts of use of a handgun in the commission of a felony, three counts of first degree assault and one count of auto theft.

In the other, Gary Ricardo Scott, 20, of 5805 Cherrywood Lane, was charged with robbery, second degree assault and theft. Both men were transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner. In both incidents, persons accompanying those charged remain at large.

On November 27 at 1:57 a.m. at Edmonston Terrace and Breezewood Court a couple reported that they were exiting their vehicle in a parking lot when they were approached by two men, one armed with a handgun. A robbery was announced and they were directed to give up their wallet, purse, cell phone and car keys. The robbers then fled in the victims' vehicle, described as a 2006 Toyota Camry 4-door. They were described as two black males, both 18 to 28 years of age. One was wearing a black coat and the other was wearing a camouflage jacket.

The vehicle was located a short time later, abandoned in the 6100 block of Springhill Terrace.

At 2:39 a.m. the same night

in the 6100 block of Springhill Terrace an officer investigating the recovery of the vehicle taken during the above carjacking, was approached by a citizen reporting another robbery that had just taken place nearby. Police located the victim who said that he was approached by a man, who displayed a handgun and demanded money. After getting money the robber fled on foot.

Police squads still in the area looking for the suspect in the reported carjacking were given the description for the new robbery suspect. A man matching the description was found and identified as the man who robbed the victim. The alleged robber, McKnight, was found to be in possession of evidence connecting him to the previous carjacking as well and was arrested.

Second Arrest

On November 30 at 12:50 a.m. in the 9100 block Edmonston Road, a woman reported that she was getting out of her vehicle when she was approached by two men wearing ski masks. The woman was pushed to the ground and the men demanded and took her purse. They then fled toward Springhill Court. A short time later a man matching the description of one of the suspects was stopped in the 9100 block of Springhill Lane. As police approached him on foot, he dropped items to the ground, including money and a ski mask. The suspect, Scott, was captured and arrested.

The second robber in this incident is described as a black male, 15 to 20 years of age with a thin build, wearing blue jeans,

known person(s) used unknown means to enter the residence. A video game player, a DVD player and a cell phone were taken.

Vehicle Crimes

The following vehicles were reported stolen: a green 1996 Dodge Caravan, Virginia tags JYU5490 from the 6100 block Springhill Terrace; a 1995 Honda Civic 2-door from the 7800 block Mandan Road; a 1997 Dodge Stratus 4-door from the 6200 block Springhill Drive; and a green 1997 Honda Accord 4-door, Virginia temporary tags X745518 from Beltway Plaza.

Four vehicles were recovered, all by outside police departments with no arrests made.

Vandalism to and theft from vehicles were reported in the following areas: 7900 and 8000 blocks Mandan Road, Ora Glen and Burkhart Court, Jacobs and Frankfort Drives, 6900 block Hanoover Parkway, 1 Court Plateau Place, 6400 Block Ivy Lane, 9200 block Edmonston Road and Beltway Plaza.

Garden Design Exhibit At Botanic Gardens

The U.S. Botanic Garden presents an exhibit, "Lines on Paper: How Fantasy Becomes a Garden," in the West Gallery through January 15.

The act of entering a garden is actually the acceptance of an unvoiced invitation. The garden visitor enters a world envisioned by the designer, a carefully wrought choreography of memorable experiences based on plants, space and structure. The process is particularly challenging for designers of children's gardens because they are trying to bridge generations as well as ideas about learning, imagination and child development.

The beautiful and dramatic drawings of Tres Frommé, lead designer of the upcoming Children's Garden at Longwood Gardens and his team are informative of the link between vision and process in garden design.

Festival of Lights At Watkins Park

Here's an event that's sure to put a twinkle in anyone's eyes this holiday season. Everyone is cordially invited to attend the 20th Annual Winter Festival of Lights, a beautiful, holiday light display to drive through. Celebrate the season at this spectacular light display. Drive through the festive, 2.5-mile exhibit featuring animated displays made up of more than a million twinkling lights. The Festival runs through Monday, January 1 from 5 to 9:30 p.m. nightly at Watkins Regional Park, 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro.

Canned goods are accepted nightly for donation to local food banks and there is a per car fee for entrance. Entry is free on December 25. For information call 301-699-2456, TTY 301-217-6768, or visit www.pgparcs.com.

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NOTICE OF BOAT LOT CLEAN-UP

This notice is an attempt to locate the owners of unclaimed recreational vehicles stored in the GHI Boat Lot on Hamilton Place. If you received notice to contact the management office to identify your RV and sign a new lease but have not done so, please contact Christine Gyemfi at 301-474-4161 by no later than December 29, 2006.

ANY UNCLAIMED VEHICLES AFTER JANUARY 1, 2007 WILL BE DISPOSED OF AT THE DISCRETION OF GHI MANAGEMENT.

The following are unclaimed RV's:

Camper MD206327G EXP. 4/94

Boat MD663652G EXP. 4/05

Boat MD030787G EXP. 4/89

Boat/Trailer Marquis MD585458AE

Jayco Popup MD708334G

Volvo Penta Yacht 280

Boat-Venture/Trailer MD656002G EXP. 3/03



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City of Greenbelt
COMMUNITY MEDIATION BOARD

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.

Bledzinski, Putnam, Voigt Honored at Legion Awards Event

by Carol Griffith

Honoring Greenbelt's "hometown heroes," American Legion Post 136 held its 18th annual Public Safety Officer of the Year Award ceremony and dinner on November 3 at the Legion hall on Greenbelt Road. Sergeant Carl Schinner received the Greenbelt Police Chief's Award, Christopher Bledzinski was named Greenbelt's Officer of the Year, Heather Putnam was designated Officer of the Year of the U.S. Park Police - Greenbelt Station and Jeremiah Voigt received the Firefighter of the Year Award from the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department.

Held each autumn, the event is sponsored and organized as part of the "Americanism" promotion of the American Legion. It was initiated several years ago by Ric Santos, a past national commander of the American Legion and current member of Post 136.

The awards ceremony began with presentation of the colors and Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer by the Post chaplain and a short ceremony in remembrance of the nation's POWs and MIAs. Attendees included several officials of the American Legion, including Commander Kathleen Linkenhoker; President of the Auxiliary Silke Pope, and Commander of the Sons of the American Legion Tommy Bryant. Public officials attending included District 22 State Senator Paul Pinsky and District 22 Representatives Tawanna Gaines and Anne Healey.

Mayor Judith Davis and the members of the city council, Chief James Craze of the Greenbelt Police Department and City Manager Michael McLaughlin represented the City of Greenbelt.

Chief Craze began the awards presentation with his Special Chief's Award, for which he had chosen Schinner. Last year the Greenbelt Police Department responded to Hurricane Katrina by sending the Emergency Response Team. This year, Chief Craze said, the department responded instead to a "paper hurricane" - the national certification process the department has proudly achieved. In the four-year process, a "whirlwind of change," the department wrote and rewrote hundreds of standards and procedures, passed inspections and held public hearings. Throughout the process, Schinner was a "coach, team leader and team builder and catalyst," he "put his heart and soul into the endeavor."

Selecting one Officer of the Year was difficult, Craze said, because all 54 officers are "very dedicated," but he chose Officer Bledzinski because of his outstanding patrol and detective work for which he has received nine commendations as well as a high rate of case disposition. Bledzinski was instrumental in the arrest of suspects wanted for first degree murder, possession of PCP and handguns.

In a particularly notable incident, Bledzinski persuaded a suspect to turn himself in after a carjacking in which the suspect held a gun to the head of a baby. Bledzinski received a letter of appreciation from the United States Capitol Police for volunteering for a security detail with that department. Craze praised his "enthusiasm for his job," noting that Bledzinski is "always upbeat."

Bledzinski, a native of New Jersey came to this area for another job after a stint in the Navy and then decided to become a police officer. He thanked his wife, Reiko, who attended the ceremony with their young daughter, for her support and thanked his coworkers: "The guys I work with are everything to me."

Ric Santos, legislative assistant to County Councilmember Douglas J. J. Peters, presented Bledzinski with a proclamation naming him an outstanding public safety officer. Mayor Davis, after thanking the Greenbelt Police Department and the families of all officers, read the city proclamation honoring Bledzinski's "dedicated service to the citizens of Greenbelt." Pinsky presented Bledzinski with an official citation from the Maryland General Assembly and Linkenhoker congratulated Bledzinski on behalf of the American Legion.

Putnam Honored

Lt. John Dewey of the United States Park Police, Greenbelt Sta-

tion, thanked Post 136 and praised the "wonderful relationship" his officers have had with the Greenbelt Police Department and Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department. He then named Officer Heather Putnam as Officer of the Year.

Putnam, a native of New Jersey, spent the first three years of her police career in New York and has been with the U.S. Park Police since 2003. Her sergeant nominated her for the honor because of her dedication to duty and gave an example of her work: after a car chase ended in a crash, Putnam pursued the suspect on foot, even though he appeared to have a gun, and arrested him. Later she returned to the scene and recovered for evidence the handgun he'd thrown away.

Putnam thanked the City of Greenbelt, the American Legion and her squadmates for the honor. Healey presented Putnam with an official citation from the General Assembly, calling Putnam a "hometown hero." Linkenhoker congratulated Putnam and presented her with a plaque on behalf of the American Legion.

Jay Remenick, vice president of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, named Sgt. Jeremiah Voigt the Firefighter of the Year for 2006,



Christopher Bledzinski, Greenbelt's Police Officer of the Year for 2006, is shown with his wife Reiko and daughter.

praising him for his "motivation, ability to complete projects without assistance, willingness to change his plans to cover the needs of the department and assistance with community activities."

Voigt thanked all who had helped train him, his father and Remenick. He said he "really appreciated" the award. Gaines presented Voigt with an official citation from the Maryland General Assembly, thanking him for his "motivation and dedication" and Linkenhoker congratulated him on behalf of the American Legion.

Davis read the city proclamation issued to honor Voigt. She thanked all firefighters for their dangerous work, especially in light of the recent deaths of five firefighters in California.

Tony Sanchez, on behalf of the Legion Safety Committee, presented each honoree with an engraved knife.

Teens Have a Say On New Council

Teenagers who are 14 to 17 who want to make a difference and have a say in recreation planning in Prince George's County, read on. The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's (M-NCPPC) Department of Parks and Recreation for Prince George's County, is forming a Teen Leadership Council (TLC) to represent the youth voice of M-NCPPC's Xtreme Teens programs and activities.

The TLC will assist the M-NCPPC Teen Task Force staff by generating new ideas for youth programs. TLC members will also attend developmental workshops to improve leadership and social skills and develop a service-learning project for which they will receive service-learning hours.

To be considered for TLC membership, complete a TLC application (pick one up at any M-NCPPC community center) and go through an interview. Applications are due on or before Wednesday, January 10 and interviews will be held on Tuesday, January 16 and Wednesday, January 17.

For more information, call 301-454-1492, TTY 301-454-1493 or go to www.pgxtremeteens.com to download an application.

Klezmer Band At Kennedy Center

The Kol Haruach Klezmer Band, including Brian Choper of Greenbelt, will perform on Monday, December 18 at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts at 6 p.m. on the Millennium Stage. This event is free and open to the public. The band will feature Klezmer, Israeli and Jazz tunes from their new live CD release, in addition to new music. For information contact info@kolharuach.com.



Sgt. Carl Schinner receives the Greenbelt Police Chief's Award from Chief James Craze.



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Plan Puts Children First Says School CEO Deasy

by Rivéa Ruff

Prince George's County School Board CEO John Deasy met with parents and faculty at Eleanor Roosevelt High School last Thursday to go over his plan to improve county schools.

Deasy's plan, titled "The Children Come First," holds at its core the notion that all children possess the potential to show their intelligence and the right to equal resources.

"Smart is not something you are. It is something you become," he said. "Intelligence isn't a fixed endowment of birth."

"I consider myself to be very democratic but not so much on some issues," said Deasy. "This is an issue on which I am unbending."

Deasy told the audience that it is up to the school system to provide an environment where all children can do their best.

"It's about providing conditions of teaching and learning that produce opportunities for students to show their intelligence," he said. "That children get different experiences based on our perception of their intelligence and not on their actual intelligence is unfair."

Deasy revealed a 4-phased plan to improve conditions of educating and learning in Prince George's County that he hopes to enact over the next four years.

Phase 1 of Deasy's plan was improving school buildings. Construction of new school facilities, renovations where needed, systemic improvements and planning for future construction are all part of the school board's latest goals. This includes building smaller new schools for children who need an alternative environment in which to learn. Also, the complete replacement of Tall Oaks and Croom with state-of-the-art facilities is needed.

Phase 2 focused on the High School Assessment exams, or HSA's. Deasy wants to provide intensive HSA support and intervention to ensure that all students pass them to move on to the next grade and graduate. However, he noted the responsibility of parents to ensure that students receive the help they need.

"Only 1 in 6 students who need HSA academy courses are going," he said. "Parents have to make sure students go to these classes and get the help they need."

In addition to this aspect, Deasy told the audience he would like further Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate programs implemented in more schools. He has already announced that IB programs will be extended to middle schools throughout the county.

The plan of Phase 3 is to build accountability and capacity within the school system. This includes the implementation of a recruitment and retention task force for county educators. Deasy feels that it is important to retain good teachers within the county to ensure the best quality of education for students.

"We really struggle to recruit teachers and administrators in this county," he said. "We only want to replace those ready to face retirement, not those who feel unhappy or who don't feel like they

can work there anymore."

"The thrill is about stealing employees to Prince George's County, not saying goodbye to employees and sending them to other counties," he said. Deasy said he wants to keep good teachers in their positions, which helps kids.

The fourth phase of Deasy's plan focuses on establishing a cycle of continuous improvement. He wants a uniform performance management system across the county and more teamwork between educators. "A pilot doesn't sneak a 747 on a runway. A case isn't tried minus a judge and jury," he said, noting the need for cooperation and sharing of skills between teachers and administrators.

During the question and answer session, one person asked about the unequal treatment of young black boys within the county system. Deasy addressed the matter with no hesitation, noting the importance of open, honest discussions about race and ethnicity within the county.

"There is a disproportionate number of our youngest black males being referred to special education," he said, citing one racial issue. "It's very important to talk about that."

Deasy noted that everyone is not comfortable speaking about issues of race but that it needs to be addressed.

"It's not just reserved to blacks but for students for whom English is not their first language and other ethnicities as well," he said.

The meeting was a hit with present educators and parents, like Joyce Jones, who has twins attending Eleanor Roosevelt.

"I was extremely impressed," she said. "I like his passion and energy. The fact that he could answer questions off the cuff like that was really impressive."

Jones particularly liked the openness of the forum and the approachability of the CEO.

"In the past, you couldn't talk to the CEO," she said, noting that the former superintendent used to enter such meetings with an entire entourage and would not answer questions. "[Deasy] was very warm and approachable and very interested in what you had to say."

Nature Center Aids Scouts

Clearwater Nature Center staff will assist scout troops (boys and girls) on Saturday, December 9 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in fulfilling some requirements needed for nature related scout badges. Groups of 10 or more may call to reserve private programs. Reservations are required. There is a fee.

Clearwater Nature Center is located at 11000 Thrift Road, Clinton. For information call 301-297-4575, TTY 301-699-2544.



Marietta Offers Holiday Tours

Group holiday candlelight tours of Marietta House Museum are available by appointment only through December 22, for groups of 10 or more. Marietta House Museum is located at 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale; there is a fee.

Marietta was the home of Gabriel Duvall, an associate justice on the U.S. Supreme Court for 23 years. Capture the holiday spirit with a visit to this Federal period house and enjoy traditional holiday decorations and customs from the Federal, Civil War and Victorian eras. The tour includes light refreshments. Call for information about daytime school group tours.

For information call 301-464-5291, TTY 301-699-2544.



Gingerbread House Contest at Museum

Like gingerbread? These aren't cookies to eat but everyone can marvel at the creative works at the 7th Annual Gingerbread House Contest and Show at Darnall's Chance House Museum through December 10.

This show is guaranteed to delight children and adults of all ages as they study the creativity and talent of local bakers. 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 fee.

For information call 301-952-8010, TTY 301-699-2544.

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Sunday, December 10th Noon - 3:00pm

Ages: 3 - 12 years

Santa will be making a special trip to the ice rink.

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14C Laurel Hill Road, GHI, Greenbelt
37C Ridge, GHI, Greenbelt
1 Orange Court, Lakewood, Greenbelt
4F Southway, GHI, Greenbelt
19G Hillside, GHI, Greenbelt
7746 Emerson Road, Hyattsville
3P Research Road, GHI, Greenbelt
17E Ridge Road, GHI, Greenbelt
2G Eastway, GHI, Greenbelt
8M Laurel Hill, GHI, Greenbelt
4F Southway, GHI, Greenbelt
7845 Jacobs Drive, Glen Ora, Greenbelt
1 Lakeside Drive, Lakeside, Greenbelt
20C Hillside, GHI, Greenbelt
73B Ridge Road, GHI, Greenbelt
3A Gardenway, GHI, Greenbelt
21H Ridge Road, GHI, Greenbelt
7826 Vanity Fair, Belle Point, Greenbelt
9919 Boise Road, Laurel
9K Southway, GHI, Greenbelt
6823 Damsel Court, Belle Point, Greenbelt
2503 Crest Ave, Cheverly
7207 Sunset Place, Greenbrook, Greenbelt
3B Laurel Hill, GHI, Greenbelt
9A Southway, GHI, Greenbelt
14003 Justin Way #C, Laurel
707 Meadow Branch Drive, Westminster
4F Southway, GHI, Greenbelt
7800 Cross Street, Lanham
56D Ridge Road, GHI, Greenbelt
13C Laurel Hill Road, GHI, Greenbelt
56B Crescent Road, GHI, Greenbelt
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Current Listings:

17F Ridge Road, GHI, Greenbelt
2K Plateau Place, GHI, Greenbelt
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NOTICES

BENEFIT CONCERT – Mowatt Methodist Church and Faith Ministries, 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD. Sat., Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. Talent galore, choirs, quartets, solos, etc. An unforgettable evening. 301-474-9410, 301-441-4935

SHARE OUR JOY as we sing in the Christmas season! Prince George's Choral Society. Sunday, Dec. 10, 3 p.m., at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Greenbelt.

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BARB'S PET SITTING – Reliable, experienced and professional. GHI residents get special discounts. Mid-day walks, weekend and holiday appointments, call Barb, 301-982-2935. References available.

COLLEGE STUDENT desires work during semester break December 17 – January 21: babysitting, cleaning, etc. CNA certified. Call Mercy, 1-302-750-4438.

RATES

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

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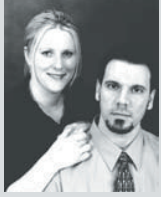


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Artists Open House At Montpelier

On Sunday, December 10 from noon to 5 p.m., the Montpelier Arts Center hosts the Fourth Annual Artists Open House. Resident artists' studios will be open for a special holiday sale and an opportunity to visit, meet the artists and shop for art especially made for giving at this holiday time. From 2 to 4 p.m., there will be an awards ceremony and opening reception.


Current exhibitions at the Center continue through December 31: The Patuxent Art League Open Juried Exhibition is showing in the Main Gallery. The competition was open to all Maryland artists over the age of 18. The prospectus is available online at www.pgparcs.com/places/artsfac/mac.html. The Montpelier Resident Artists Exhibition is in the Resident Artist Gallery.

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Mowatt United Methodist Church & Faith Ministries, Inc.
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Date: Saturday, December 9, 2006
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Telephone: 301-474-9410 (Mowatt)
Telephone: 301-441-4935 (Faith Ministries)
TIME: 7 to 9:30 P.M. **2005 Concert was sizzling!**

Om for the Holidays!

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IMPORTANT: Currently we can only accept payment by check payable to Greenbelt Om or by cash. Greenbelt Om's credit card processing will be up and running shortly. But don't wait to get your holiday gift cards! Thanks for your understanding.

 **Send Your Holiday Greetings Far and Wide!**
 Each year the News Review publishes Holiday Greetings from area residents. Greetings are scheduled to be printed in the December 21 issue of the newspaper. The deadline is Monday, December 18 at 10 p.m.
 To place your own message, contact the Ad Desk at 301-474-4131 for more details.

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6 Pinecrest Court (Single Family)
 This single family home, situated on a cul-de-sac in the Lakeside development, has four bedrooms, three full bathrooms, living room dining room, eat-in kitchen with fireplace, family room with a view, plenty of new cabinets and Corian counter tops, large bedroom with built-in cabinets, walk-out basement, landscaped yard, privacy fence, new storage shed, new roof, newer central air conditioning, hot water baseboard heat, landscaped yards and much more. You're only a few steps away from Greenbelt Lake and you can watch the Fourth of July fireworks from your front yard. **\$499,900 Agent Owned**

11-H Southway
 Two bedroom END unit, renovated kitchen with new vinyl floor, new refrigerator, new stove, stacked washer/dryer, air conditioner, new wall-to-wall carpeting, pull-down attic steps, brick patio, storage shed and fenced yard.

121 Lakeside Drive (Single Family)
PRICE REDUCED! \$439,900
 This charming five bedroom, three full bath split foyer is in move-in condition and just in time for the Holidays. Preparing dinner is convenient in the spacious kitchen. You can entertain in your L-shaped living room/dining room or relax in your family room in front of your brick fireplace. Sliding glass doors lead to a private back yard with a tiered deck. Many upgrades have already been taken care of for you.

11303 Daisy Lane, Glenn Dale (Single Family)
 This split level single family home sits back off the roadway, has four bedrooms, two full baths, living room with fireplace, family room with fireplace, hardwood floors in the living room and kitchen, remodeled kitchen with extra cabinets and counter space, central air conditioning, laundry room, large two level deck and plenty of parking spaces. There is also a huge 2,100 square foot garage with central heat, central air conditioning, office area, phone lines and 1/2 bath. All of this sits on approximately 1/2+ acre! Call for an appointment! Exclusive Listing. Agent related to Owner.

11301 Daisy Lane, Glenn Dale (Single Family)
 Three bedroom single family with over-sized garage has plenty of space for a workshop, extra parking, two full bathrooms, family/recreation room and privacy fence. **\$375,000**

4-C Plateau Place
 Three bedroom frame unit with a side-by-side refrigerator, new vinyl floor in the kitchen, washer, dryer, open staircase, built-in microwave, two built-in air conditioners, and much more. **\$200,000 Exclusive Listing.**

5719 Euclid Street
 Three bedroom single family home located in sought-after Cheverly. An open kitchen with breakfast bar opens into a dining area with cathedral ceiling and skylight, the Florida sunroom with cathedral ceiling, ceiling fans, hardwood floors and atrium door leading to a deck overlooks a treed back yard. **Price Reduced \$374,500**

11-J Laurel Hill 
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Lakeside
 Brick Cape Cod Home with Garage; a rarity in Greenbelt! 3 levels and lots of space. This home won't last; call for details! \$454,900 **SOLD**

Brick Townhome on Corner Lot
 Modern kitchen with hardwood cabinets, modern appliances and countertop. Roomy shed in large yard. Laundry room upstairs! \$234,900 **U.C.**

Suitland
 Single Family Home near the DC line. Sunroom, 4 bedrooms and 2 baths. Large yard with shade trees. Great condition! \$329,900

Glen Ora
 This 3 level townhome has 4 bedrooms and 3 1/2 baths. Fireplace, modern appliances, deck and patio. Steps away from pool! \$367,000 **SOLD**

1 Bedroom Upper Level
 This home has an updated kitchen and bathroom & fresh paint. There's also a separate laundry room with full-sized washer and dryer. \$116,000

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 This 2 bedroom townhome has a large yard with rail fencing and storage shed. Wide floorplan with remodeled kitchen & bath. Value! \$189,900

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 This two bedroom home has an addition in the front with w/d hookup and a rear addition with two rooms. Half-bath on the main level. \$209,900
*Sales data via MRIS 9/10-11/20 - deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

REALTOR **Your Greenbelt Specialists** 

Festival Is Our Tradition

by Michael Fratto

Greenbelt kicked off its 35th annual Festival of Lights with its Holiday Tree Lighting last Friday. Residents gathered on the front lawn of the Community Center, eating cookies and drinking hot chocolate, to celebrate the start of the month-long festival.

Music was provided by "The Suspenders," an a capella group of Eleanor Roosevelt High School and by the Greenbelt Concert Band Brass Choir.

Several members of the Greenbelt City Council were in attendance, including Mayor Judith Davis. "[The festival] brings everybody together, young and old, some folks who have been to the festival for many years and some kids for the first time," she said. "It's a way for letting everyone have a good time and meet their neighbors."

The gathering lasted for about an hour; halfway through Santa Claus arrived on a fire truck. He made his way to the stage to give out candy canes and allow pictures with children.

Shortly after Santa Claus arrived the tree was lit. Topped with a red bow, it features handmade decorations provided by the Greenbelt Nursery School, according to Andrew Phelan, Greenbelt's sports coordinator.

"[The festival is] a tradition," Davis said. "Now we're ready to start the holidays."



The lighted tree is located on the Community Center lawn.



Tom Cherrix conducted the Greenbelt Concert Band. For Greenbelt residents, the holiday season had officially begun!



Above, Santa and his helpers were welcomed with screams from the crowd. Below, "The Suspenders," an a capella group from Eleanor Roosevelt High School, were part of the musical entertainment.



PHOTOS BY HANK IRVING

Santa Claus Came to Town

by Mary Moien

The evening seemed surreal. The day had been a record high of 75 degrees. Children in shirt sleeves and light sweaters were frolicking on the Community Center lawn in the dark. Parents and grandparents were gathered around listening to the Greenbelt Concert Band. What was the band playing? Christmas music!!!

On December 1, Greenbelters listened to holiday music and awaited the arrival of that special person in the warm night air. Suddenly the breeze picked up, band members had to hold on to Santa hats and band director Tom Cherrix had to clasp his music tightly in one hand and direct with the other.

The bandstand was in front of the friezes at the front of the Community Center. A large evergreen was covered in white lights. (Long-time Greenbelt resident Joanne Kellaher, attending with her grandchildren,

remembered that her son Danny, who works for the city, planted that tree a number of years ago.) The flying buttress-like shapes on the building were also covered in strands of white lights.

The band completed their set with "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town." Everyone looked around. No Santa. Even two teen-age elves were searching. Suddenly, the sound of a fire engine could be heard coming down Crescent Road and turning into the Center's drive. Children started screaming – Santa was on top of the fire engine calling and waving.

Santa climbed down and led the children back to the bandstand where they lighted the smaller multicolor tree in the center of the lawn. Then Santa talked with the children and posed for pictures with children and parents. It was truly a magical night.



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Registration Fee: \$129.00 per person
Limited Seating/Pre-registratin Required

Mail this registration form with your check or money order payable to:

Bowie Counseling Center, 6915 Laurel Bowie Road, Suite 201, Bowie MD 20715