

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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JANUARY 4, 2007

City Police Department Achieves National CALEA Accreditation

by Thomas X. White

The Greenbelt Police Department's effort to achieve national accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) was successfully culminated during final Commission hearings held November 18 in Reno, Nev. A proud Greenbelt delegation consisting of Mayor Judith Davis, City Manager Michael McLaughlin, Chief of Police James Craze, Police Captains James Craddock and Daniel O'Neil and Sergeant Carl Schinner completed the final hearing in the accreditation process that afternoon. They received the certificate of accreditation during an award ceremony with nearly 100 other law enforcement agencies from across the country.

The arduous process began early this year with planning activities by the city department staff, led by Schinner, a mock on-site evaluation in early May conducted by mock assessors

from the Maryland Police Accreditation Coalition (PAC). The formal on-site assessment of the department's operations by CALEA took place when they visited Greenbelt from August 5 through 9.

During the CALEA on-site assessment in August, the assessment team conducted a public hearing in council chambers to receive citizen and public agency comments on the department's qualifications for accreditation as reported in the August 17 issue of the News Review.

The CALEA on-site assessment team included Team Leader Chief Bradley Brown of the Hinsdale, Ill., Police Department; Lieutenant Sean Kelly of the Durham, N.H., Police Department; and Lieutenant Cheryl Ferreira (Ret.) of Cumberland, R.I. During the team's exit interview with Greenbelt officials, the assessment team noted that they would be recommending the Greenbelt department for accredi-

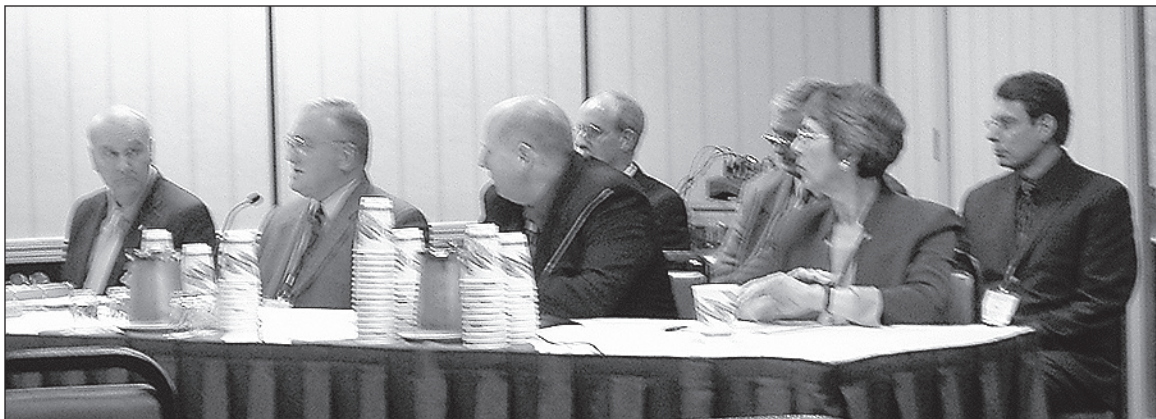
tation but reminded Craze and his staff that the final decision would be made by the CALEA commissioners at their November meeting in Reno.

Following the CALEA on-site assessment, Greenbelt officials received the complete On-Site Assessment Report for the Police Department which provided detailed findings from the assessment visit and their recommendations to the Commission.

The on-site team report noted, "This agency was found to be in compliance with all applicable standards, mandatory standards and 88 other than mandatory standards." The report further cited the overall preparation carried out by the Greenbelt accreditation team.

"This certainly speaks well of the agency's preparation for the on-site evaluation and its overall compliance with the spirit as well

See **POLICE**, page 8



The Greenbelt delegation sits at the table with a CALEA representative at the final CALEA hearing in Reno in November. Front row from left: Jim Brown, assistant executive director of CALEA; Chief James Craze; Sgt. Carl Schinner, accreditation manager; and Mayor Judith Davis. Second row from left: Michael McLaughlin, city manager; Captain Daniel O'Neil; and Captain Michael Craddock, Greenbelt Police.

Greenbelt Department Works Hard To Prepare for CALEA Accreditation

by James Giese

Accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) is no easy task to accomplish. It required years of preparation by all members of the Greenbelt Police Department under the leadership of Chief James Craze and Accreditation Manager Sergeant Carl Schinner. It is not uncommon that police departments undergo multiple reviews before achieving accreditation. Many departments don't bother trying. That the Greenbelt department achieved success on its first try is an accomplishment about which members of the department, the city manager, council and citizens of Greenbelt can be justifiably proud.

Being accredited does not mean the department is perfect

in every way; it does mean that the department has complied with more than 300 required standards for operation set forth by CALEA and 88 other standards not mandated but desired. Further, the assessment team sent out by CALEA to examine the department, facilities and records failed to find non-compliance with any of the commission's standards. Greenbelt was assessed as a "B" type agency with total personnel of 69.

The assessment team was led by Bradley Bloom, the police chief of Hinsdale, Ill., a well-to-do western suburb of Chicago. Other members were Lieutenant Sean F. Kelly of the Durham, N.H., Police Department and Lieutenant Cheryl A. Ferreira, retired from the Brown University

Department of Public Safety in Rhode Island.

The assessment team began its review away from the city beginning the week of June 23. They reviewed 121 mail-out files and found them to be well organized and containing substantial proofs of compliance. Many files contained three years of documentation. The team felt that this was particularly noteworthy since this was an initial accreditation on-site and surpassed what the team usually found on initial on-site reviews. The team found all the files to be compliant and did not return any for repair.

On-Site

On Saturday afternoon, August 6 the team flew in to this area.

See **CALEA**, page 8

Top Stories of 2006

Greenbelt Station

Ongoing negotiations over plans for development of the South Core of the proposed Greenbelt Station complex were a frequent 2006 city council topic. Plan changes favored by city council were enlargement of a common area to be dedicated to the city as a park upon annexation of the South Core and a resulting change in number of residential units.

At a January 18 worksession council reviewed issues and agreed to pay \$8.4 million for a connector road, with Councilmember Rodney Roberts opposing. On January 23 council made recommendations on a much improved conceptual site plan to the county planning board, which approved it, and a preliminary plan subject to 65 conditions on February 2. The conditions addressed most of the concerns of the county planning staff and Greenbelt and College Park.

Detailed site plan for a townhouse and condominium development by Pulte Homes and an apartment complex by Fairfield were approved by council in April. The project will follow New Urban Design principles said to be pedestrian friendly with a mix of commercial and residential units.

Annexation

Greenbelt got a little bigger with the annexation of two land parcels totaling 162 acres. On January 12 a city annexation

See **TOP STORIES**, page 6

Grants Available to Enrich Quality of Life in Greenbelt

by Sylvia Lewis

The Greenbelt Community Foundation has funds available to invest in Greenbelt. Organizations, associations and cooperatives are invited to apply for grants ranging from \$500 to \$2,500 to fund projects that will enhance the experience of living in Greenbelt.

The foundation is a new Greenbelt institution with a mission to maintain, improve and enrich the quality of life throughout the city. It promotes cooperative endeavors and projects that celebrate, respect and build upon the legacy and ideals of Greenbelt.

The foundation is especially

interested in new initiatives and specific projects that will enhance the cultural, artistic, recreational, social or environmental vitality of Greenbelt. Organizations will have two opportunities a year to apply for grants.

The foundation, which has been under discussion for over two years, became an advised fund within the Prince George's Community Foundation in June 2006. The Prince George's Community Foundation is a subsidiary of the Community Foundation of the National Capital Region, Inc.

See **GRANTS**, page 6

SHL Preliminary Plan Hearing

Springhill Lake Associates was granted a request from the Prince George's County Planning Board for reconsideration of Preliminary Plan 4-05082-Springhill Lake. The application is scheduled to

be heard on its merits at the planning board's regular meeting at 10 a.m. on January 11 in the County Administration Building at 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro.

What Goes On

Monday, January 8

8 p.m., Regular City Council Meeting and Public Hearing on Cable Franchise, Municipal Building (Live on Channel 71)

Tuesday, January 9

7 p.m., Town Hall Meeting on the Environment, Greenbelt Elementary School

7:30 p.m., Advisory Committee on Trees, Community Center, Room 202

Wednesday, January 10

8:30 p.m., City Council Worksession re: Homelessness, Community Center

Thursday, January 11

10 a.m., Prince George's County Planning Board Meeting on Preliminary Plan for SHL, County Administration Building, Upper Marlboro
7:30 p.m., GHI Board Meeting, GHI Board Room

Letters

THANKS!

On behalf of the Greenbelt Recreation Department, we would like to thank the many civic organizations and the multitude of citizen volunteers that made the Greenbelt New Year 2007 event a true celebration of community. This year we reaffirmed the mission of the event as a community celebration for all ages, with a special emphasis on showcasing Greenbelt artists and performers and spotlighting the work of Greenbelt's community organizations, as well as the programs of the department itself.

Reflecting this mission, the vast majority of the evening's entertainment was provided by Greenbelt talent, including pianists Jim Olson, Sondra Holland and Chris Fominaya; folksinger Melissa Sites; the young performers of Camp Cabaret; the contestants in the Greenbelt Idol contest; and the Mad Hot Ballroom dance party and the Imrov Asylum, hosted by Recreation Department instructors Frank Solomon and Jesse Folks, respectively. We are grateful for their talent and their cheerful service.

Our commendation and thanks go also to the Greenbelt Girl Scouts, who not only hosted the Community Campfire (and made the s'mores!) but also assisted in the Bling! craft shop; the Greenbelt Nursery School, which hosted "Sit Right Down and Write Yourself A Letter"; the Greenbelt Museum, Joseph P. Harris and Jill St. John, who conducted the Greenbelt Sages video interviews; the Greenbelt Swim Team, which staffed the Wacky Hair Salon; the Greenbelt Golden Age Club, which hosted the Greenbelt Piano Lounge; Greenbelt Mamas & Papas, which hosted the Blue Sky Puppet Theatre and the indefatigable fortunetellers who worked double shifts to accommodate the crowds of partygoers eager to learn what 2007 might have in store for them: Sheilah Crossley-Cox and Penny Martin of the Greenbelt Arts Center and

Gubo the Great (a.k.a. Doug Love of the Astronomical Society of Greenbelt).

Greenbelt chefs contributed their talents, too. GreenBeLT Pride staffed the Rainbow Café at the Youth Center, while a cadre of Greenbelt volunteers helped out in the Scholarship Café at the Community Center, raising money for the Mary Purcell Geiger Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships for arts and senior programs of the Recreation Department. Chefs Deborah Taylor and Marie Gray prepared the delicious selections. Chef Lou, who served coffee and desserts in the Piano Lounge, donated a portion of his proceeds to the ERHS chapter of S.A.D.D.

Community Center Artist-in-residence Elizabeth Morissette designed and assembled Planet U, the magnificent new backdrop on the Community Center stage. The artwork was created in several community workshops involving the Greenbelt Girl Scouts, Greenbelt Elementary School and participants from the November Artful Afternoon, Pre-School Art Drop-In and the Festival of Lights studio open house. Arts intern Kimberly Ottinger designed this year's program cover. Leslie Primack and Nick Gervasi contributed films to the mini-film festival.

Many thanks to Terry Benedick and Julia Kender, who ran the coat check; Mary Fominaya and Joanna Andrus, who coordinated Greenbelt Idol on behalf of the Camp Pine Tree counselors-in-training and Creative Kids Camp interns; Bill Souser, who served as official event photographer; Nick Gervasi, who stepped in to run the mini-film festival; and the following individuals who served as greeters, kitchen volunteers or art room volunteers: Larry Hull, Rena Hull, Gene Krebs, Luis DeMola, Bunny Fitzgerald, Dorthea Leslie, Mary Gunn, Curt Gunn, Cynthia Macy, Bridgette Shea, Lary Hilliard, Lester Whitmer, Bev Whitmer, Gloria Winfrey, John Winfrey, Lydia Goldstein, Marsha Voigt, Pat Bell, Alex Barnes, Mike Stevens, Kristin Winebrenner, Rochelle Commins, Pat Mische and Brian King.

Finally, we want to thank Patti Brothers, Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizen of 2005, whose untiring work the past several years helped Greenbelt New Year grow into a major celebration.

Best wishes for a peaceful and prosperous 2007.

Chris Cherry, Nicole DeWald, Julie McHale, Di Quynn-Reno, Marlena Schweikart and Greg Varda

Black History At Archives

Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday and the 50th anniversary of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference at the National Archives in College Park.

"Freedom Summer" with Marco Williams will be offered on Friday, January 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the William G. McGowan Theater. The Charles Guggenheim Center for the Documentary Film at the National Archives welcomes award-winning film maker Marco Williams ("Two Towns of Jasper," "In Search of Our Fathers"), who will present his 2005 documentary, "Freedom Summer" (44 minutes). The film examines the murder of three students who were sent to Mississippi in the summer of 1964 to register black voters. The crime and its aftermath became a watershed event in the civil rights movement. Nina Gildea Seavey, director of the Documentary Center at George Washington University, will introduce the program and moderate a post-screening discussion with Williams.

At the William G. McGowan Theater, "African American Leadership in the 21st Century," a panel discussion will be held on Saturday, January 13 at 2 p.m. Join Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein as he moderates a panel of experts including National Public Radio senior correspondent and author Juan Williams; journalist and political analyst Clarence Page; attorney, activist Riley Temple; and author and journalist A'Lelia Bundles. The panel will analyze political and social trends and offer insights about the next generation of African American leadership.

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE WEEK OF JAN. 5 The Good Shepherd (R)

Friday
*4:20, 7:45

Saturday - Sunday
*1, *4:20, 7:45

Monday - Thursday
*4:20, 7:35

*These shows at \$5.00

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Grin Belt



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PRELIMINARY AGENDA MEETING OF GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS Thursday, January 11, 2007 GHI BOARD ROOM, 7:30 PM

Key Agenda Items:

- Member and Community Relations Request for Expenditure of Funds
- Unpermitted oversize vinyl shed, 15H Laurel Hill
- Unpermitted satellite dish on flat roof, 41A Ridge Road
- Proposed changes to rules for building openings and screened porches
- Schedule Strategic Planning
- Waste Removal Bids - 1st Reading
- Contract for Rehab of 61G Ridge - 1st Reading

Regular board meetings are open to members.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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CIRCULATION: Core of Greenbelt: Ian Tuckman 301-459-5624
Springhill Lake: Karen Zoellner 301-474-1882

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

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

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

Corrections

Oops! In last week's holiday photo on page 8 we incorrectly identified the location of the lighted trees and train. It is actually at 6-P Hillside Road.

Also, we failed to spell Ian Tuckman's name correctly. The News Review regrets the error.

HEY WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?



**TROUBLE WITH NEIGHBORS?
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The City of Greenbelt has a COOL way to help you work things out without hassle, and without courts or lawyers. It's FREE! It's CONVENIENT! It's CONFIDENTIAL!

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City of Greenbelt
COMMUNITY MEDIATION BOARD

Community Events

Dance Demo Class At Youth Center

On Friday, January 12 at 7:30 p.m. there will be a free introductory class for Roland Forbes' International Folk Dance classes at the Youth Center. This is a free open house and offers a chance to have fun and relieve stress while working off extra pounds. There is a fee for the eight-week class sessions which begin at 8 p.m. on January 19.

ACE Youth Writing Contest Begins

by Liz Murray, Coordinator
The ACE Reading Club announces its fifth annual Youth Writing Contest for students in grades 6 through 12 who live in or attend school in Greenbelt. The contest focuses on poetry and short fiction and has two divisions: Junior (grades 6 to 8) and Senior (grades 9 to 12). The deadline for the contest is March 2 in the Greenbelt CARES office at 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt. Students may enter up to two entries in each category.

There is no theme for the contest this year so students are encouraged to be creative in their topics of choice. Students with winning entries will present their pieces at the fifth Annual Greenbelt Youth Literary Showcase. Students will receive award certificates and cash prizes. For full rules and an entry form contact Program Coordinator Liz Murray at 301-345-6660 or email lmurray@greenbeltmd.gov.

An ACE Reading Club meeting will be held on Monday, January 8 at 4:30 p.m. in the Greenbelt CARES office. All club meetings focus on fun reading-related projects, games, shared reading, book discussions, arts and crafts, creative writing and occasionally Book-It Television tapings. This free program is open to students in grades 3 through 6. Pre-registration is required.

Computer Club Meets Jan. 11

The Greenbelt Computer Club will hold its first monthly meeting of the year on Thursday, January 11 at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, Room 202 (Theater Rehearsal room) from 7 to 8:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Free Tutoring Starts Again at SHL Center

School has started again after the holidays. The free Greenbelt Moving Ahead Program also starts again at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center on Saturday, January 6 from 9:30 a.m. to noon for elementary, middle and high school students. Tutoring will emphasize algebra/data for middle and high school students to help in the Maryland State Assessment tests.

All students are reminded to bring their textbooks. Call Janet Goldberg at 301-397-2212 for more information.

Town Meeting Tues. On Global Warming

A Town Hall Meeting will be held to hear experts on how to improve air quality in Maryland and help reduce global warming at Greenbelt Elementary School, 66 Ridge Road on Tuesday, January 9 at 7 p.m. Those attending will have a chance to talk to some of the Maryland state legislators who will be voting on the Maryland Clean Cars bill, one major solution to the problem. The mayor and city staff will talk about what the city is doing to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions.

Live entertainment will be provided by two area musical groups.

For more information call 301-437-8814 or visit the website at <http://townhallmeeting.googlepages.com>.

Dance Registration Plus More on Jan. 12

Dance class registration is going on now for Creative Movement, Ballet, Jazz, Music Theater Dance and Goddess Dance at the Community Center.

Stop by the Community Center office at 15 Crescent Road on Friday, January 12 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. to meet the instructor. Visitors can also take a tour of the studio and order discounted dance shoes before classes begin the following week.

Don't miss this opportunity to ask questions and get acquainted with this dance program sponsored by the Recreation Department and instructed by Samantha Fitschen.

For more info go to www.greenbeltmd.gov/dance/index.php or call 301-397-2208.

New GED Classes Begin Mid-Month

Greenbelt CARES' winter 10-week GED courses begin on Tuesday, January 16 and end on Thursday, March 22. Registration for the courses will be on Tuesday, January 16 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. only. The first class of instruction will be held on Thursday, January 18.

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

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

GED courses are held every Tuesday and Thursday for 10 weeks in the Municipal Building Conference Room, 25 Crescent Road. Students are required to show proof of residency (e.g. current lease, phone or electric bill, driver's license or Motor Vehicle ID card).

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

Students do not have to be 16 years old to take the GED courses. Students are eligible to take a GED pre-test given at Greenbelt CARES at no cost. The actual GED test is given by the State of Maryland. Students who are ready to take the test can obtain the application forms from Greenbelt CARES.

Questions and enrollment information regarding either GED I or GED II should be directed to Judy Hering, course instructor, at Greenbelt CARES at 301-345-6660, ext. 2016 or email jhering@ci.greenbeltmd.gov.

GAIL Is Seeking Brown Bag Helpers

The City of Greenbelt's GAIL Program is seeking volunteers to work with the Brown Bag Program. The program is a partnership with the Capital Area Community Food Bank, which supplements seniors on a fixed income with nutritious non-perishable food items and toiletries. Distribution is on the third Tuesday of each month, starting at approximately 1 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to deliver groceries to disabled and homebound residents. Delivery time will be about two hours once a month.

Qualifications needed are a pleasant personality, one's own transportation and pleasure in serving others.

For additional information call Volunteer Maryland Coordinator Valerie Wright at 240-542-2031.

Greenbriar Board Meetings on Jan. 9

The Greenbriar community boards of directors meet Tuesday, January 9. The Greenbriar Condominiums Phase III board meeting will be held at 6 p.m. The Phase I & II board meeting will follow at 7:30 p.m. in the Greenbriar Commons Room.

At the Library

Wednesday, January 10, 6:30 p.m., Bookids Book Discussion for 8 to 12 year olds, a librarian leads a discussion of Daniel Manus Pinkwater's "Mush's Jazz Adventure."

7 p.m., Friends of the Greenbelt Library Meeting.

Storytimes

Tuesday, January 9, 10:30 a.m., Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months with caregiver. Limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, January 10, 10:30 and 11 a.m., Toddlertime for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, 15 children.

Thursday, January 11, 10:30 a.m., Drop-In Storytime for ages 3 to 5. Limit 20 children.

GAC Offers Marigolds Starting January 12

Starting on Friday, January 12 the Greenbelt Arts Center will present "The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds" by Paul Zindel, directed by Sheilah Crossley-Cox. This critically acclaimed drama is a realistic portrayal of the struggles of a family and life's ability to sustain itself against great odds. Often compared to Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie," it earned the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, an Obie Award and the New York Drama Critics Award. The play was produced Off Broadway and adapted into a film in 1972 starring Joanne Woodward, directed by Paul Newman.

The show portrays an eccentric widow who is raising two daughters in an atmosphere of bitterness and over-protection that threatens their very growth and development. The title of the play comes from the mother's anger at her daughter's science project that encourages the exposure of marigolds to gamma rays. Her experiment shows how radiation sometimes kills growing marigolds but sometimes it causes them to grow even more beautiful.

This experiment becomes a metaphor for her own life as she struggles to bloom in a household wrought with a troubled past. The cast includes Amitiyah Elayne Hyman as Beatrice, Mary Miller as Ruth, Danielle Dernoga as Tillie, Judy Holland as Nanny and Heather Martin as Janice. All performances will be held at the Greenbelt Arts Center, 123 Centerway. Show dates are Friday and Saturday evenings, January 12 through February 3 at 8 p.m. with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. on January 21 and January 28.

For more information or to reserve tickets call 301-441-8770 or visit the website at www.greenbeltartscenter.org or send email to info@greenbeltartscenter.org.

Postal Unit Open

Limited postal services are now available in the Municipal Building Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Enjoy Swimming?! The Greenbelt Swim Team Needs You!

The Greenbelt Swim Team's Winter - Spring training season for summer swimmers* runs from Jan. 16 to May 6


Walk-in registration will be held on January 9 & 10, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Aquatic Center. Fees are discounted for registrations received by January 16!

Swimmers practice Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:55 to 5:55 p.m. and Sunday mornings. Developmental Swimmers meet Sunday mornings.

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

Registration questions? Call Joan Dunham, 301-474-4722

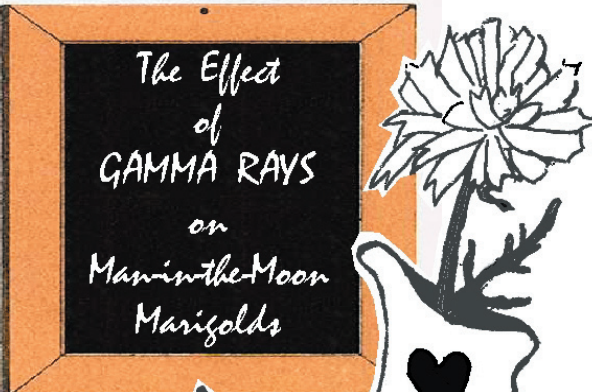
*Note the training season session is open to swimmers who plan to swim with the team for the 2007 Summer season.



Greenbelt Arts Center
123 Centerway • Greenbelt MD • (301) 441-8770 • <http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org>

DIRECTED BY
Sheilah Crossley-Cox

PRESENTS



by **Paul Zindel**

PRODUCED BY
Stephen Cox

*Produced by special arrangement with the Dramatists Play Service.

PERFORMANCES
Friday & Saturday
January 12 & 13, 19 & 20, 26 & 27; February 2 & 3 @ 8 pm
Sunday January 21 & 28 @ 2 pm

2007

"Deuterogenesis" Opens Sunday at Café


"Deuterogenesis – A Photography Exhibition by Brian Trout" will run through January with an opening reception on Sunday, January 7 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the New Deal Café. This exhibit, co-sponsored by the Friends of New Deal Café Arts, was made possible in part by support from the Prince George's Arts Council and Prince George's County.

Trout currently lives in the Baltimore-Washington area and works at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. He grew up in the foothills of the Allegheny Mountains in Southwestern Pennsylvania where his views were shaped by the post-punk and hardcore music community. After graduating, he moved to Pittsburgh and as an outlet for his creativity he worked on a series of projects culminating with manateeBound.com, an independent entertainment webzine. As principal writer and photographer, he honed his skills over the next three and a half years working with the likes of "Rocket From The Crypt," Dave Grohl, "Cannibal Corpse," "Firewater," "Melt-Banana" and others. This history shaped Trout and his works, several of his photographs being originally published in manateeBound.

"Deuterogenesis" encompasses an array of photographs, spanning a five-year period, from spontaneous reflections capturing the tension and release of live music to amplified details at precarious angles highlighting the unconventional beauty of everyday life.

Alan Binstock, sculptor, says of Trout's work, "Brian has a great eye for composition. This is evident in this collection of photographs of everyday objects bathed in natural light and shadow. His photograph of the stacked fish with rich patterns of repeated objects and textures offers a glimpse into this young artist's emerging talent."

Brian Ferrell, furniture artist, comments, "I think a lot of people might look at the whole body of work as separate series – one being live music photographer and the other being more personal or observational. I think that the complete body of work revolves around a central theme of rhythm in both an actual and a metaphorical sense. I was looking through the images and it was almost like reading visual music, like following the bouncing ball."



Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

Baha'i Faith

"The world of humanity has two wings – one is woman and the other man. Not until both wings are equally developed can the bird fly. Should one wing remain weak, flight is impossible."
– Abdu'l-Bahá

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

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

Youth Choir Performs Tuesday

The College Park Youth Choir, under the direction of Greenbelter Christopher Fominaya, will give its Winter Community Concert on Tuesday, January 9 at 8 p.m. at Berwyn Presbyterian Church at 6301 Greenbelt Road. This concert is free and open to the public. A reception will follow.



NARFE Meets On Wednesday

The next meeting of NARFE Chapter 1122 will be held on Wednesday, January 10 at 1:30 p.m. at the New Carrollton Municipal Center, 6016 Princess Garden Parkway. Members are urged to attend. Call 301-345-7437 for information.

Doctor's Hospital Hosts Blood Drive

Doctor's Community Hospital and the Greenbelt Lions Club, in partnership with the American Red Cross, will hold a blood drive on Thursday, January 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the hospital campus at 8118 Good Luck Road in the DSE room on the fifth floor of the Medical Office Building.


Blood is a resource for which there is no substitute. To be eligible to donate blood, the donor must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good general health. Donors can safely give blood every 56 days. Bring positive identification such as a driver's license, blood donor card or work or school ID photo.

It only takes 20 minutes to donate; it is a simple, safe, life-saving gift that millions of Americans can give. Call 301-552-8060 to make an appointment.

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

January 7, 10 a.m. – "I'm Not a Buddhist, But..."
by Jaco ten Hove, co-minister
with Jim Flaherty, worship associate
– Barbara W. and Jaco B. ten Hove, co-ministers



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..."

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH
Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net

Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor

Sundays:
Traditional Service 8:30 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
Contemporary Service 11:00 am

Weds. Worship: 7:00 pm
(Adult Bible Study/Prayer & Children's Ministry)

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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

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Susie's Snowflake Is Planetarium Program

The Howard B. Owens Science Center will present a planetarium program on Friday, January 12 entitled "Susie's Snowflake," an introduction to the easily recognized constellations in the winter sky. Susie is a young girl learning to study science using her five senses. A tour of the current night sky will follow the presentation. Doors open at 7:15 p.m.; the program begins at 7:30.

There is a small fee. For information call 301-918-8750.

Memorial Service For Joe Rimar

A memorial service will be held for Joe Rimar, who died on December 23, 2006.


The service will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday, January 6 at Borgwardt Funeral Home, 4400 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville.

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
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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



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



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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.

Hope Fellowship
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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)
January 7 Sermon: The Significance of The Supper

Pastor Lou Redd
301-474-4499 410-340-8242 (cell)

...living life together

TOP STORIES continued from page 1

resolution added the 75-acre state-owned environmentally sensitive woodland area along Indian Creek west of Springhill Lake. The city now expects to have a stronger voice on future use of the land. On January 26 the 86-acre South Core of Greenbelt Station was added after agreement with the developers on city financing assistance for public road improvements. The annexed land is to be developed with about 1,000 condominium apartment and townhouse units.

Springhill Lake

After a hiatus of nearly six months, consideration of the next critical step in the planning process for the redevelopment of Springhill Lake apartments did not resume until January. At that time AIMCO's plans for the project called for 5,800 housing units, with 35 percent to be for-sale units.

In the spring city planning staff and the Advisory Planning Board (APB) made divergent recommendations to council on the preliminary plan of subdivision. APB recommended approval with conditions, while city staff urged strong opposition because AIMCO failed to adequately address city concerns about school location and capacity issues, parkland dedication, environmental issues and transportation and public safety impacts. On May 22 council unanimously opposed the preliminary plan and on May 25 the Prince George's County Planning Board denied its approval based on inadequate public safety accommodation.

After licking its wounds over summer AIMCO requested reconsideration and renegotiated with the city. On November 27 the city council approved a modified preliminary plan contingent on AIMCO accepting 35 conditions addressing city's concerns to which AIMCO representatives agreed. The preliminary plan is now to be considered by the County Planning Board on January 11.

Education Issues

Much focus on education in Greenbelt in 2006 involved Greenbelt West. When Springhill Lake is redeveloped, the owners want to relocate the elementary school. At the same time, discussions are underway for rebuilding or renovating Greenbelt Middle School (GMS). Some suggest a new elementary and middle school on the GMS lot. Council believes new development at Greenbelt Station may require another elementary school.

For the first time in years an elected county school board was sworn in in December, ending the service of two previous Greenbelt board members, Jose Morales and Abby Crowley.

In December John Deasy, the new CEO, met with council and the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education. He listened to issues about Greenbelt West and the previous board agreement not to transfer Greenbelt students out of Eleanor Roosevelt High School to alleviate crowding but made no commitments.

New Post Office

Greenbelt's long-awaited new post office on Ora Glen Drive in Greenbelt East was introduced to residents in a grand opening ceremony on a hot August 27. Its groundbreaking ceremony, by contrast, had taken place in a blizzard. The new structure offers 1,700 post office boxes

and a variety of automated facilities. Acceding to the city's request for continued service in the Roosevelt Center area, the postal service sponsored a mobile postal van three days a week, adjacent to the Municipal Building. But starting on October 10, after every effort had failed to find a Center merchant willing to host a postal substation, the city itself opened such a service in its finance office.

Skateboard Park

After lengthy and frustrating delays, the city held a groundbreaking ceremony for the long-awaited skateboard park next to the Greenbelt Youth Center. To cost \$250,000 with \$200,000 to come from a county grant and \$50,000 from a state Open Space grant, construction was undertaken by California Landscape Design of Upland, Calif. Almost completed by year's end, the park has two in-ground skating bowls and ramps and angles to provide skateboarders of all skill levels with a myriad of opportunities and experiences. The park is to open early in 2007 with formal dedication to be held later.

Two Votes

On February 27, with two members absent, the Greenbelt City Council approved with conditions a detailed site plan by a 2 to 1 vote. Subsequent questions challenged the validity of the act as the city charter requires ordinances, resolutions, orders or votes to pass by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members elected (three votes). After the city solicitor found the charter confusing, council decided on March 13 to prepare a clarifying charter amendment to permit 2 to 1 votes in some cases.

After staff research and proposals on alternative solutions to the problem, council on August 14 instructed staff to prepare a charter amendment permitting 2 to 1 votes on "administrative matters." A charter amendment resolution was introduced on September 11 but after opposition and concern as to what were unimportant administrative matters it was tabled and then indefinitely postponed, leaving the matter in limbo.

Clayton McCarl, Sr. Dies

Dr. Clayton S. McCarl, Sr., 77, dentist and Greenbelt pioneer, died October 3, 2006, of complications brought on by Alzheimer's Disease.

The family moved to Greenbelt in the late 1930s when Clayton's father, James W., became the town's sole dentist, beginning a Greenbelt institution which has lasted 70 years. Clayton and his brother James (deceased) became dentists, and now three of Clayton's four children continue the tradition in their practice of dentistry and dental hygiene at the same location where their grandfather hung his shingle.

Forest Preserve

The Forest Preserve Task Force, created in 2004 along with the forest preserve, fulfilled its mission in 2006. First meeting with council in a February work-session to review the progress of the task force, the final report was presented to council on September 11 along with a draft of maintenance and management guidelines. The report suggested four additional parcels for inclusion into the preserve. Five other parcels were suggested for preservation through other means. The task force also recommended the

formation of a Forest Preserve Advisory Committee to provide stewardship of the preserve.

GAIL

The Greenbelt Assistance in Living program (GAIL) broadly expanded services in 2006 to city residents. On February 22 Christal Batey, community resource advocate, announced three new services: the Pediatric Wellness program, designed to educate families on health topics; the Preferred Provider program, offering residents the services of RNs, LPNs, nursing assistants and aides at a discounted rate; and the Adaptable Equipment program, providing equipment for people with long-term and temporary disabilities to help them adjust their homes to their needs. In May, residents at least 60 years old were offered counseling services on developing a budget and dealing with debt problems. The Preferred Provider program was offered on June 1.

Intercounty Connector

Optimism in January that release of a 2,700-page environmental study would help to end the decades-long delay of construction of the proposed 18-mile long, six-lane Intercounty Connector (ICC) linking the I-270 corridor with U.S. 1 was drained away as one delay followed another when public response times were continuously extended. Although the southern of the two proposed routes through Montgomery County was approved by the Federal Highway Administration on May 27, the Audubon Naturalist Society, the Environmental Defense Fund and the Sierra Club filed their intention to sue the federal government, using the Clean Air Act to challenge the air quality analysis in the ICC study. The deadline for filing was December 20. The City of Greenbelt and the Prince George's County Council consistently opposed the ICC. But both Governor Robert Ehrlich and his newly elected successor, Martin O'Malley, supported it.

Birding Clubs Offer 50 Years of Birding

The Patuxent Bird Club and Prince George's Audubon Society invite people to a free slide-talk by Hank Kaestner at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 9 at the College Park Airport Annex, 1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive.

Kaestner began his worldwide birding under the tutelage of Patuxent Bird Club founder, field guide author and recently retired renowned wildlife biologist Chan Robbins. Back by popular demand with illustrated slides.

For information call Maureen Blades at 301-262-5148.

Call for Dancers To World Showcase

Auditions for the Fifth Annual World Dance Showcase will be held January 20 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Publick Playhouse, 5445 Landover Road in Hyattsville. The deadline for submission is January 11. There is no fee to audition. The showcase is scheduled for March 24 at the same location.

For information or to schedule an audition call 301-454-1450, TTY 301-454-1472.

GRANTS continued from page 1

which manages assets worth over \$329 million.

The foundation's advisory board is chaired by Sylvia Lewis with Tom White as treasurer. Other board members include Bill Duncan, Dan Hamlin, Kap Kapastin, Leta Mach, Carol Shaw, Barbara Simon and Alan Turnbull. Startup funds include a \$25,000 grant from Prince George's County through former councilmember Douglas J.J. Peters. Early fundraising through the advisory board has brought in another \$10,000.

The foundation is primarily interested in funding projects that can be completed in one year. Unless directly related to a project, organizational operating support usually will not be considered for funding. Organizations that can apply for funding include nonprofit corporations and not-for-profit cooperative organizations.

The foundation wishes to encourage associations or working groups that may not meet these categories but are organized to pursue projects consistent with the mission of the foundation to collaborate with an organization that does qualify. Completed applications are due no later than March 15. Successful proposals will be funded July 1.

To request an application form or to receive more information, email the foundation at info@greenbeltfoundation.net.

Free Afro-Caribbean Dance on Monday

On Monday, January 8 at 7 p.m. the College Park Arts Exchange will hold an evening of Afro-Caribbean dance to celebrate the new year. This will be a free evening of learning Afro-Caribbean dance, led by Olu Yemisi. The dance is for adults and teens; no partner is required but everyone is invited to bring along a friend.

The dance will be held at the Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road, College Park (at the corner of Knox Road and Dartmouth Avenue).

For more information or to RSVP email info@cpae.org or call 301-927-3013.

Science Center Egg Drop Starts Jan. 6

The Maryland Science Center's "Egg Drop, Price Drop" returns Saturday for a third year of physics and fun and runs through March 31. Can an egg withstand a fall from a third-story balcony? Visitors who "drop" by the Maryland Science Center in Baltimore on Saturday mornings beginning January 6 can find out and receive an admission discount that also includes an egg.

Science Center staff will provide materials and "egg-spert" advice to help visitors create their original protective device for the egg, which will be dropped from the balcony of the third floor of the Maryland Science Center's atrium to see if it can survive the impact of the fall. Special egg drop admission pricing is only available Saturdays before noon through March.

The Maryland Science Center is located at 601 Light Street at Baltimore's Inner Harbor. For information and tickets visit www.marylandsciencecenter.org or call the 24-Hour Information Line at 410-685-5225, TDD: 410-962-0223.

Other available exhibits include "Dinosaur Mysteries," with more than a dozen full-size dinosaurs and interactive paleontology activities; an exploration of the day in the life of the human body in "Your Body: The Inside Story" and many interactive experiments in Newton's Alley. Also in the museum are the Kids Room, a five-story IMAX theater and Davis Planetarium.

People, Nature Talk At Botanic Gardens

The vast majority of Americans are remote from the sources of their food and supporting ecosystems. Dr. Christine Flanagan will present "Ecological Poverty and the People-Plant Connection," an historical context of the trend toward human isolation, both individual and social and will lead a discussion of the potential consequences for the future.

The lecture takes place on Friday, January 19 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Conservatory Classroom at the U.S. Botanic Garden in Washington, D.C. The event is free but pre-registration is required. Call 202-225-1116 for information and to register.

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Prince George's Publick Playhouse 

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**Aviation Museum
Has Tours in Spanish**

The College Park Aviation Museum, 1985 Corporal Frank Scott Drive in College Park, offers Spanish language tours on the second Saturday of every month at 11 a.m.

Police Blotter

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

Robbery

December 27, 5:54 p.m., Spellman Overpass, a man reported that he was approached from behind by two males and forced to the ground. They removed money from his pocket and attempted to take his jacket. The man began yelling for help, at which time the suspects fled the scene on foot toward Hanover Parkway.

Suspicious Person

December 23, 7:50 p.m., Hillside near Crescent Road, two children, ages 12 and 5, reported that they were standing near a roadway when a vehicle pulled up alongside them. A passenger in the vehicle attempted to strike up a conversation with the 5-year-old and asked the child if she wanted a ride. The 12-year-old pulled the younger child away from the vehicle as the passenger asked the youth to get in the car. Both children ran home and police were called. The passenger is described as a white male, 40 to 50 years of age, with gray hair and a heavy build and a long nose. The vehicle is described as a black vehicle with tinted windows and what was described as "bubble lights" on the rear of the vehicle.

Theft

December 25, Ora Glen Drive and Frankfort Drive, a resident man was arrested and charged with theft, driving an uninsured vehicle and other traffic violations after police observed a suspicious occupied vehicle. A computer check revealed that the tag on the vehicle had been reported stolen. The man was released on citations pending trial.

Burglary

December 27, 10:28 p.m., 7100 block Megan Lane, unknown person(s) attempted to enter the front door of a residence by tampering with the door lock. The tampering device was found still inside the lock. Entry was not gained.

Vehicle Crimes

A dark green 1997 Honda Accord 4-door, Maryland tags 5AXP69 was stolen from Greenbrook and Lake Drives.

One vehicle was recovered by Greenbelt police with no arrests.

Vandalism to and theft from vehicles were reported in the following areas: 7200 block Morrison Drive, 7800 block Emily's Way, 7800 block Hanover Parkway, 2 Court Gardenway, 16 Court Crescent Road, 9300 block Edmonston Road, 6200 block Springhill Drive and Beltway Plaza.

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.

POLICE continued from page 1

[as] its adherence to the philosophy of the accreditation standards and process." Additionally the assessment team concluded that the agency greatly benefited from a well-trained accreditation manager (Schinner) and the support of neighboring accredited agencies as well as the Maryland PAC.

"The assessment team was impressed with the professional demeanor and standards displayed by the men and women of this agency," noted the report.

SRO Program

One section of the assessment report called out the city's School Resource Officer (SRO) program for its unique features and its positive impact on the community. The team noted that the Greenbelt department has expanded the duties of the SRO by including the teaching of Criminal Justice classes at Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Since Greenbelt was a pioneer in offering such a program, beginning in 2002, and compared with other agencies the Greenbelt SRO program goes far beyond what other SRO programs do, the assessment team agreed to recommend the SRO program as exemplary.

Schinner noted that CALEA has decided to include a feature story in its quarterly magazine on the Greenbelt SRO program. The issue is due out in February and the Greenbelt program is the only exemplary program from the

CALEA 2006 assessments that will be featured.

As part of the Greenbelt panel appearing before the CALEA judges at the hearing in Reno, Davis was asked by the judges, "How would the CALEA accreditation affect your city?" Her response was reflective of the Greenbelt Police Department's own assessment that accreditation, based on national standards, would increase the efficiency of the department and make a "good" department a "better" department.

She also noted that the Greenbelt force has the strong support of the council and residents of Greenbelt. McLaughlin agreed. He added that the city provides strong budgetary support for the department by way of an open budgetary process that has always enjoyed strong citizen support for the public safety portion of the city budget.

These thoughts were also captured in the CALEA on-site team report under the heading, Agency History and Description: "The agency has emerged from humble beginnings in 1938 to a modern, progressive, award-winning, full service agency of 54 (sworn) officers and 15 support personnel with an annual budget of over eight (8) million dollars. Agency personnel indicate that the accreditation process has resulted in a rigorous retooling of policies and procedures which will make the agency even better."

Black History Events At Family Celebration

A Family Day Celebration is planned on Saturday, January 13 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the William G. McGowan Theater and Lobby at the National Archives in College Park. Meet "Frederick Douglass," "Ida B. Wells," "Rosa Parks" and "Martin Luther King, Jr.," portrayed by re-enactors. Through a variety of hands-on activities, learn about the lives of these famous figures and the characteristics that made them leaders in the fight for civil rights.

In "The Passion of an Activist" one can meet Frederick Douglass and find out why he was passionate about recruiting black soldiers for the Union Army to "end in a day the bondage of centuries." One can sign enlistment documents to join the Massachusetts 54th Regiment.

"The Power of the Pen" tells how Ida B. Wells courageously advocated civil rights and fought against lynching. Compose a poem about Wells' legacy to show how powerful words are in the struggle for civil rights.

In "The Road to Justice" Rosa Parks stood up for her right to be treated justly by refusing to stand up on a bus in Alabama. On a bus cutout participants can write something that they would stand up for and then place the cutout on the Road to Justice.

The "Quilt of Dreams" examines how Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream for America is just as important today as it was when he composed it. Here, the activity is to draw one's own dream for America and place it on the quilt of famous black leaders to help show how important dreams are to the civil rights movement.

See the film "The March" at 11:15 a.m., noon or 12:45 p.m. Produced by the U.S. Information Agency, the film highlights the August 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, revealing the wide participation and the sense of responsibility felt by both black and white citizens. The film includes scenes of preliminary planning in various cities, details of Washington activities and climactic events at the Lincoln Memorial, including Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. This 1964 film, directed by James Blue, is 30 minutes long.

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CALEA continued from page 1

Craze met Bloom and Ferreira at the Marshall Baltimore-Washington Airport. Schinner met Kelly at Washington/Dulles. The team was housed at the Marriott Courtyard in Greenbelt and a rental vehicle was provided for the team's use. That night the team met to organize their review process.

On Sunday Craze and the department's command staff joined the team for breakfast at the hotel. Afterward the team was escorted to the police facility where it was met with "an impressive static display of equipment and highly motivated and professional-appearing staff," the assessment team's report said. Included were both marked and unmarked patrol vehicles, traffic units, K-9 units, evidence collection units and an armored personnel carrier. Many of the city's vehicles were found to be equipped with mobile computers.

There followed a tour of the facility by Sergeant James Parker and Master Police Officer George Mathew including the communications room, short-term and long-term evidence storage facilities, records section and the booking and lock-up facilities. Thirteen department personnel presented the team with information concerning different aspects of the department's operation.

For the next three days until 7 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8, the team reviewed the department's files, using the training room next to the department's administrative offices.

On Monday afternoon the team underwent its panel review process for five hours. In that time 20 members of the department and several members of the city's administrative staff including City Manager Michael McLaughlin and Mayor Pro Tem Rodney Roberts made presentations to the assessment team who followed up with their questions. "Each presenter was well prepared, organized and very knowledgeable . . ." the assessment team's report said. Special commendations were given to Human Resources Director Connie Harris and Corporal Marie Parker for their informative and complimentary presentation on the department's hiring process.

On Tuesday Bloom accompanied Greenbelt Officer Kelly Lawson and Corporal Marie Triesky on their patrol assignments. Lawson is a relatively new officer having begun with the department as a dispatcher. Triesky was recently promoted and transferred from investigation to assist in the supervision of a patrol shift. "Both officers represented the community and the agency quite well," the report concluded.

That evening the team heard favorable testimony from interested citizens, business representatives and representatives of neighboring police jurisdictions about the department.

Exit Interview

On Wednesday, August 9 the assessment team met for the last time with Craze, Schinner, McLaughlin and members of the department's command staff. The team members summarized their observations and findings regarding the specific areas each one reviewed. "All assessors complimented the agency on its strengths and explained areas of concern the team had with compliance with particular standards," according to the team's report. The team's preliminary findings were that the Greenbelt department was in compliance with 313 mandatory standards and 88 other than mandatory standards. It found that 33 standards were not applicable to the department because of its size and/or function. While the team did not find the department noncompliant on any standards, it did return eight standards for applied discretion requiring repair or additional documentation and three files for additional file maintenance.

At approximately 11:30 a.m. Craze and Schinner escorted the team back to the airport.

While optimistic, based on the verbal statements of the assessors, the department was kept in suspense until final judgment was made in Reno on November 18. There the Greenbelt delegation received the happy news that the Greenbelt Police Department had, indeed, received accreditation from CALEA for meeting that agency's high standards for law enforcement agencies.

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Board of Education To Hear from AIMCO

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Committee of the Board of Education will meet in open session on Tuesday, January 9 at the Sasscer Administration Building in Upper Marlboro. The meeting will convene at 6 p.m. in the Board Executive Conference Room.

The committee will hear a presentation from the AIMCO Corporation regarding the Springhill Lake redevelopment proposal. The meeting will be open to the public; however, there will be no public participation.

Attending the meeting will be Board of Education Co-Chairs Donna Hathaway Beck and Dr. Ron Watson; board committee members R. Owen Johnson (Board Chair), Linda Thomas and Nathaniel Thomas; Dr. John E. Deasy, superintendent of schools; Regional Assistant Superintendent (Region 4) Kathy Kurtz; Chief Financial Officer James Beall; Chief Administrator for Supporting Services, Roosevelt Brown; Chief Accountability Officer, Dr. Donna Muncey; General Counsel Roger Thomas; Communications Officer John White; Director of Purchasing & Supply Keith Miles; CIP Program Officer Rupert McCave; Planning, Design and Construction Manager Dan Keiser; Director, Pupil Accounting and School Boundaries, William Greene, Jr.; Director, Budget Office, Terry Charles; and Director of Financial Services Bill Blum.

Deasy Asks \$1.67 Billion for FY08 Budget

On December 14 Superintendent of Schools John Deasy proposed a \$1.67 billion operating budget for Fiscal Year 2008 – an 11.58 percent increase over the Fiscal Year 2007 budget (or almost \$173 million) – to accelerate the recent academic gains made by Prince George’s County public school students.

Over the last three years Prince George’s County schools achieved the fastest rate of improvement on state assessment exams of any jurisdiction in Maryland. Proposed program improvements in the amount of \$160.4 million would be focused on implementing the Children Come First initiatives to accelerate academic gains and support other critical areas like technology for elementary schools and special education K-12 services.

“Providing funding for these initiatives is critical to our efforts to achieve school system goals, fulfill our mission to provide opportunities for every child to obtain a quality education and eliminate gaps in student achievement,” Deasy said.

Additional resources would allow the system to continue effective programs and services, including maintaining or decreasing current class sizes and offering full-day kindergarten programs.

To maximize resources available for instruction in Fiscal Year 2008 (FY08), \$73.9 million of existing budgeted resources will be redirected to help fund mandatory cost of doing business changes totaling \$86.4 million and needed improvements of \$160.4 million.

Other Funding

State funding is estimated to increase by \$128.4 million in FY08, including \$29.7 million in Geographic Cost of Education Index (GCEI) funding in accordance with the provisions of the Maryland Education Articles. In order to ensure full funding of this budget and to provide full Bridge to Excellence Act funding, the governor would have to include, and the General Assembly would have to approve, funding for the GCEI component in the FY08 state budget.

If funding is not provided in the governor’s budget at the phase-in level indicated in the Maryland Education Articles, then the school board will have to adopt up to \$29.7 million in spending reductions or identify other revenue sources.

County contributions fund most of remaining amounts required to support the proposed budget, reflecting an increase of \$25.2 million in FY08. Federal and board source revenues are projected to increase by a combined total of \$700,000 next year and \$18.6 million of the existing prior year fund balance is included to support programs and services.

The proposed budget reflects public input and includes additional funds for music and the French Immersion program.

The Board of Education will hold three public budget hearings in January, as well as public worksessions in January and February, as it considers, adopts and submits its budget request to the county executive by March 1.

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JANUARY OPEN HOUSES

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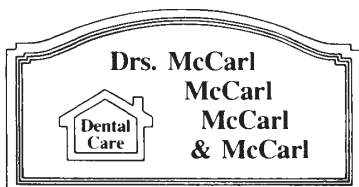
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This two bedroom home has an addition in the front with w/d hookup and a rear addition & two rooms. Half-bath on main level. \$209,900 **SOLD**

Your Greenbelt Specialists



2007 Comes in Joyfully As Greenbelters Cheer

by James Giese

At the stroke of midnight the gym at the Greenbelt Community Center rocked in bedlam as the crowd of Greenbelters gathered there shouted, clanged, tooted, sang, jumped, danced, hugged and kissed in the New Year of 2007 while the D.C. Motors played "Auld Lang Syne" and confetti streamed down from the ceiling. While the gathering perhaps was not as large as in some prior years, Greenbelt's New Year 2007 was once again a rousing success.

Many of the evening's numerous events repeated those from past years. The children's favorite, Magic Mike, performed once again to the delight of the kids and the adults watching the interaction between them. This time, however, there were fewer performances and more time allotted to balloon making, a change that made grandmother Elaine Jones happy as her grandchild in previous years had failed to get in line soon enough after Magic Mike's performance to get a fancy balloon. This year Elaine showed off not only a fanciful balloon hat but a balloon penguin her descendent had acquired.

The Wacky Hair Salon was also going full blast. In our travels about the Community Center, we encountered many products of that enterprise – spiky hair, odd colors and hair styles featuring all kinds of objects interwoven in the hair.

Fighting colds, we scaled back our perambulations to various venues this year. We did the trek to the Greenbelt Arts Center to hear the Camp Cabaret performance. With a drizzling rain outdoors, we took the low road, expecting the Community Campfire to have moved to its bad weather location at the Arts Center. Apparently the Girl Scouts stayed in Roosevelt Center, so Bernie missed out on her New Year's Eve s'mores.

Cece Bell, Emma Bloksberg-Fireovid, Christine Bogart, Ian Gorrell, Alex Butcher and the two Evans, Campbell and Reynolds, put on an enthusiastic performance of songs and show tunes accompanied by Chris Fominaya at the piano.

Repeat performers showed improvement in their stage skills



Greenbelters cheer as the clock reaches midnight.

over the previous year, plus greater maturity. While a little more practice wouldn't have hurt, the group still pleased the nearly full house of parents, grandparents, family and friends. Those sitting near the piano, however, wished that it could have been further off as it unfortunately drowned out the performers' voices.

Downsized

The scale of Greenbelt New Year was toned down somewhat from previous years but not enough to ruin a good party. More work seemed to have been done by Recreation Department personnel and less by volunteers. Some of the latter were still apparent, however, at the entrance doors and as greeters in the Piano Lounge. As usual our friends Rena and Larry Hull were stationed at the front doors.

Instead of John Hill in the multipurpose room, an act Bernie and I have particularly enjoyed, this year the room became the Piano Lounge featuring three entertainers – Chris Fominaya, Sondra Holland and Jim Olson. We got to hear only a bit of Olson, whose combination of American standards, Broadway show tunes and jazz provided a soothing background to our table conversation.

As usual, Chef Lou offered a



Teens had their own entertainment at the Youth Center.

wide variety of delicious dessert treats. I tried his scrumptious Yule Log cake (Buche de Noel) which was sinfully and chocolatey rich.

In the gym the steel drum band was missing as the opening act. Its replacement, Visions of Jazz, filled the void with excellence. Flautist Arch "AT" Thompson, a great artist, led the combo in a wide variety of cool jazz much appreciated by those in attendance.

D.C. Motors consisted this year of only three members, a downsize from prior years, I think. However, their sound was as full and rocking as ever and the crowd enjoyed them just as much.

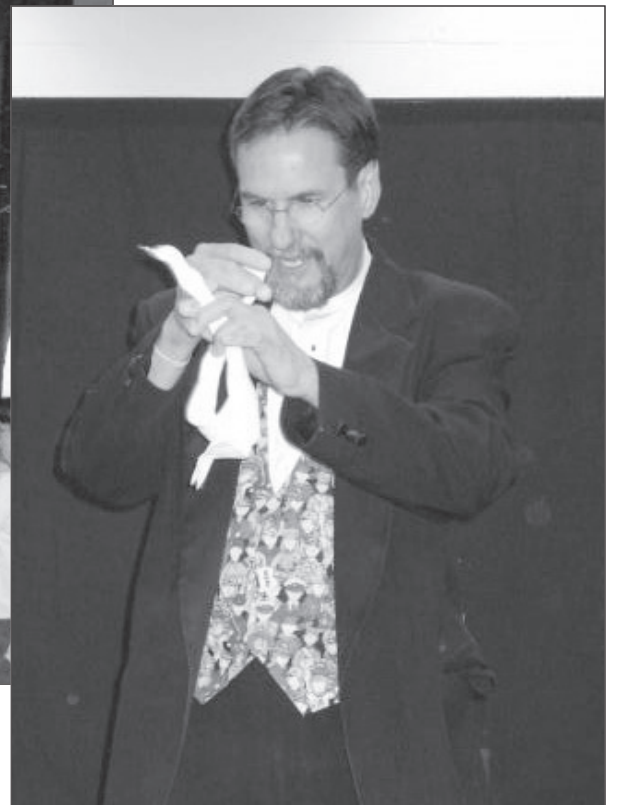
Also scaled back was the ringing in of the New Year. Instead of balloons falling from the ceiling, confetti was blown from the stage. But the horns and rattles were still given out in plentiful numbers, the score clock did its usual countdown and the partygoers seemed as happy and fun-filled as ever.

Happy New Year to all!



The Wacky Hair Salon was very busy on New Year's Eve. The creations included lots of colors, glitter and spikes.

Magic Mike performs to the amazement of children and adults alike.



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