

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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

APRIL 30, 2009

Public Works Then and Now – How Times Have Changed

by James Giese

It was a real treat to see the spacious facility newly completed for the Greenbelt Public Works Department. Both the department's personnel and multi-million dollar inventory of equipment will benefit from the headquarters building and the giant new garage building. Director Kenneth Hall told me that this was a real morale booster for the department's employees. They are too often taken for granted unless something goes wrong. Residents can and should expect that the already excellent services provided by the department will become even better.

I think back to the way things were for that department when I came to Greenbelt in 1962 and wonder how today's employees would have fared if nothing had changed. At that time, Public Works was located in two metal sheds off Edmonston Road at the west end of Crescent where the Maryland State Highway

Administration's (SHA) District Engineer's office is now located. Originally these sheds had been erected to house building and construction supplies for building the new town of Greenbelt. After construction neared completion, one was used, I think, to house furniture to be leased or sold to the new residents of Greenbelt.

Originally Greenbelt had its own sanitary sewage system as the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) had no lines in this area. A sewage treatment plant was also located where SHA is now. It operated until the federal government sold Greenbelt and WSSC extended a line to Greenbelt, enabling the city to close the plant. The sheds were behind the treatment plant.

The Sheds

The sheds were roomy enough to house the city's equipment at the time I came, 25 years after the first residents moved into Greenbelt. But, with one small

exception, they were not heated nor were they air conditioned. There was no running water or bathrooms.

Albert S. "Buddy" Attick was director of Public Works. Buddy grew up on a small farm located on what is now the Golden Triangle Office Park. He began his career as a security guard for the federal government during construction. For a time he was a salesman for the Greenbelt furniture sold from one of the metal sheds. He was one of the first employees of the city government, a policeman who also served as a fireman in the city's initial combined police-fire department. However, Buddy decided later to transfer to the city's Public Works, first as assistant director and then when the director left, as director. All told, Buddy worked forty years for the city plus his time as an

See **HISTORY**, page 6

Many Major Issues Are Explored By Council and Planning Staff

by Diane Oberg

For nearly three hours on Wednesday, April 15 the Greenbelt City Council reviewed operations of the city's Department of Planning and Community Development with its director, Celia Craze. The topics discussed at the budget worksession included the state's recently enacted law permitting speed cameras in school zones, updates on Empirian Village, Beltway Plaza, Greenbelt Station and the long-awaited potties in the park.

There was little discussion of

actual budget numbers, perhaps because the vast majority are consumed by employee salaries and benefits.

The meeting began with the councilmembers teasing Craze, who brought no staff and no PowerPoint presentation to the meeting. Initially there was no audience either, except this reporter, although eventually three people joined the assembled councilmembers and city staff.

The department's published budget totals \$1.03 million, ac-

counting for 4.1 percent of City Manager Michael McLaughlin's proposed budget. Craze also oversees another \$175,400 for animal control, which is accounted for in the Public Safety budget.

Of the three budgets all but \$142,700 is for salaries and benefits. Another \$24,800 is for building rental but this money reappears as income in the Recreation budget.

The city's Community Development activities are expected to more than pay for themselves in the coming year with \$763,400 in revenue from licenses, permits, fees and penalties slightly exceeding the \$685,900 in expenses.

Animal control has a higher proportion of non-personnel costs than the rest of Craze's operation (\$36,500 or 21 percent) because of veterinary expenses and costs of operating the animal shelter (including \$4,000 for electricity). McLaughlin noted that he is not recommending changing any of the license and permit fees. While such fees in some local jurisdictions are higher than those in Greenbelt, revenues are currently exceeding expenditures and any such increases would be passed on to the tenants.

The budget proposes eliminating one vacant project manager/construction inspector position.

Development

Craze provided updates on

See **COUNCIL**, page 8



PHOTO BY BEVERLY PALAU

Getting ready for the ribbon cutting at the new Public Works (PW) building one, left to right, Mickey Perone and Brad Buck from Gardiner and Gardiner, the company that designed the building; Carolyn Clemens from PW; Councilmembers Edward Putens and Rodney Roberts; Mayor Judith Davis; City Manager Michael McLaughlin; and Councilmembers Leta Mach and Konrad Herling.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Opens New P.W. Building

by Anke Bettina Irgang

The new City of Greenbelt Public Works building opened its doors with an official ribbon cutting ceremony and open house on Saturday, April 25.

Construction on the \$4.2 million project began in January 2008, with the building financed through bonds approved by Greenbelt residents at a referendum.

City Manager Michael McLaughlin said, "We came in right on budget."

Mayor Judith Davis began the festivities with remarks stressing the environmentally friendly nature of the building. "It's important," she said, "that we are dedicating this building the same day the city celebrates Earth Day and Arbor Day."

Both Davis and Public Works Director Kenneth Hall thanked city staff as well as the citizens of Greenbelt for their help in bringing the project to life. "Thank you," Davis said, "for keeping Greenbelt green."

These remarks were followed by an official ribbon cutting ceremony and the unveiling of plaques. Approximately 60 guests, including Miss Greenbelt, Little Miss Greenbelt and Junior Miss Greenbelt, applauded as city officials and those involved with the building's construction snapped the green ribbon in two with a pair of oversized scissors.

Following the ceremonies,

See **CEREMONY**, page 6

Future Plans for Empirian Village Is Council Topic

by Barbara Hopkins

Since taking over Springhill Lake Apartments last year, Empirian Property Management has renamed the complex Empirian Village and begun an extensive renovation. According to Fred Brinn of the management firm, there were about 1,000 code violations when the company took over the property and these have been addressed. City inspections have found other violations since then, however, so it is an on-going process.

At the Greenbelt City Council's meeting on April 27, Brinn and other members of the company provided an update on improvements to the complex. Brinn told council their goal is to modernize the property and have happy tenants. He said it had taken a while to formulate plans but things are now "moving along nicely."

Council Concerns

Mayor Judith Davis talked about the importance of commu-

nicating plans to tenants. Council also had concerns about the location of the new heating/air conditioning units and changes to the laundry facilities. They were also concerned about the exterior facades.

Davis mentioned that the complex has a number of flag poles. She asked if at least one of them could fly the Greenbelt flag, which Brinn agreed to. Having been present at the meeting during the presentation of a petition to improve the "Welcome to Greenbelt" sign, he said the company would be willing to contribute toward improvements to the sign or possibly sponsor a new sign in the western part of the city.

Interior Improvements

Brinn said a major improvement is the upgrading of the HVAC systems to more energy-efficient units that provide tenants

See **EMPIRIAN**, page 12

What Goes On

Saturday, May 2

9 a.m. to noon, Electronics Recycling, Public Works Yard, 555 Crescent Road

Monday, May 4

7:30 p.m., Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Community Center, Room 114

8 p.m., City Council Budget Worksession re: Public Works, Public Works Facility, 555 Crescent Road

Tuesday, May 5

7:30 p.m., Arts Advisory Board Meeting, Community Center

Wednesday, May 6

7:30 p.m., Advisory Planning Board Meeting, Discussion on the Development of a City-wide Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan, Community Center, Room 114

7:30 p.m., City Council Budget Worksession re: Recreation, Community Center

Thursday, May 7

7 p.m., Voting System Reform Meeting, Windsor Green Community Center

Saturday, May 9

10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Pet Expo, Community Center Lawn

*In Memoriam***Our Silent Partner**

The News Review family is deeply saddened by the loss of Jim Williamson. We extend our deepest sympathy to our editor, Mary Lou Williamson, and to the Williamson family on their loss, a loss that we and many others in the community share.

Jim Williamson was never a member of the News Review staff. He said he did not want to be. But as Mary Lou's husband he tolerated her many hours spent away from home with the newspaper and agreed to adjust his life to meet the newspaper's demanding deadline schedule. More than that, he was always around to help out when the paper needed something special to be done or there was need for a manly task.

As the paper production became more complicated and we needed to computerize, Jim became one of our technical advisors. He helped us to maintain our papers on disk and later to put them online. His contributions were usually at odd hours, unseen to most staff members. But we all benefited from his many contributions and we are thankful for the many years that he was a silent partner of the Greenbelt News Review.

Letters to the Editor**Thanks**

Thank you everyone for all the cards and emails with warm and helpful messages, telephone calls, prayers, visits to the hospital and wonderful meals for my visiting family during the past two months. You have helped sustain me and your concern for his failing health deeply touched Jim.

Mary Lou Williamson

Another View

Generally I am pleased with the ongoing controversy and media coverage of Greenbelt's election process because I think the buzz will enliven our sleepy municipal elections and generate more and broader voter participation city-wide. But I am leery of moving city elections into synch with the federal election calendar as is being considered by council. Although this move would likely succeed in boosting voter turnout, I believe it would pose a great risk to our city's independence. Prior to (and quite separately from) the current examination of voting practices here, I tried when I was on the council to have the city consider various alternative balloting systems. I hoped to awaken new energy among candidates and voters in order to gain a broader range of opinions and representation on council and, frankly, to see incumbents face more vigorous challenge when standing for re-election.

Back then I may even have suggested a move to the federal cycle as one way to reach this goal. But if I did, it was because my role as the new guy in their club made me too eager to shake things up. I still want change on the council but I am wary of unintended consequences – namely, partisanship and loss of independence.

If we start trying to conduct Greenbelt's elections concurrently with federal ones, our healthy tradition of strictly nonpartisan municipal government will be swamped by the influence of high-stakes, high-budget partisan elections at the county, state and federal levels. We will become more partisan in practice, even if we maintain formal nonpartisanship (which is essential, by the way, for letting federal employees like me legally run and serve). Over time, we will see an inexorable increase in political alliances between our city council candidates and the bigger fish further up the political "food chain." Our local candidates will seek legitimacy,

endorsements and cash from outside political and business interests, all of which will be essential to anyone hoping to be noticed amid the din of congressional and presidential advertising.

Meanwhile some of those big-stage candidates for higher office will court Greenbelt candidates as a way to gain credibility here with us. They will be drawn to Greenbelt council candidates, who will be – conveniently – out shaking hands and going door-to-door during a key season that can make them very useful to candidates higher up on the ballot. Our neighbors and friends who merely wish to serve their local community will be irresistible targets for cultivation. Favors, promises, and financing will be sought and offered, far more aggressively than is currently the case.

But with or without this or any other specific change in our election process, clearly the floor is now open for reforms that will improve local government and give a stronger voice to all of Greenbelt's voters. That's why I believe that any efforts to increase voter participation should be coupled with new measures to protect local control of our city council. For example, Greenbelt could permit candidates to be funded exclusively by city residents and prohibit contributions from any other sources. Corporate money of any kind and personal or party money from outside of our city should have no role in Greenbelt's elections.

No matter what other changes may be enacted in our electoral process, we should seize this moment to enact strong, enforceable limits on campaign finance. Happily, campaign finance is one of the few areas in which Greenbelt has true and complete autonomy.

Unfettered by Maryland State law, Greenbelt is free to fashion a campaign finance system that suits our needs and allows our voters to control the process. Confining the campaign game strictly to players who actually live in our city is a reform that will enhance our local democracy and protect Greenbelt's independence.

Alan Turnbull

Rebuttal

In a letter in the April 23 News Review, David Lange disputes my characterization of his remarks at a council meeting about switching years for city council elections. My statement appeared in a letter the week prior (4/16).

Thankfully, council meetings are well-documented events. On January 26 the official minutes report what was said about the fresh proposal to change years: "David Lange . . . commented that the recommendations may be effective at increasing voter turnout but did not make it easier for minority candidates to be elected to council." (Link to original below). The accuracy of my original letter is clear.

I stand by the shared view that moving elections to the even year will not hasten the election of non-white candidates to council – the main goal of the county NAACP and others in this protracted dispute. The switch would have other likely effects, undesirable and unintended.

Improving turnout of intentional voters is a laudable goal, of course. But moving city elections to the same year as county/state/national contests will make our politics less local than before.

More money and media surrounding the bigger ballot battles will ensure it. Tragically, local issues will get drowned out and local candidates will gradually be forced to rely more on cash and assistance to be heard. Do we really want money to have a larger role in Greenbelt politics? Sad to say, much of that money and political "help" is likely to come, over time, from the deeper-pocketed, less noble interests that tend to dominate the back rooms of county politics.

In his letter, Lange dismisses these widely held concerns as distractions. On the contrary, elections are not just about the fairness of the process or the race of our representatives, but the quality of the resulting government over time. That isn't peripheral – it's the crux of the matter. Less local control will diminish our local politics.

In the long run, subordinating our elections to money-fueled, highly-partisan outside contests will impact Greenbelt far more – given the sad state of county

See **LETTERS**, page 7

Correction

In last week's issue there were two errors concerning the article on ACE funding. Only two monthly evening sessions were proposed: one for science and one for reading. The city's staff liaison to ACE is Wendy Wexler, who works for CARES. The comment about her being away in Europe referred to another employee. The News Review regrets the errors.

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE**WEEK OF May 1****Is Anybody There?**

(PG-13)

Friday

*5:30, 7:30, 9:30

Saturday

*3:30, *5:30, 7:30, 9:30

Sunday

*3:30, *5:30, 7:30

Monday-Thursday

*5:30, 7:30

*These shows at \$6.00
301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745
129 Centerway
www.pandgtheatres.com

Grin Belt

"You're not hoarding these because of the swine flu outbreak, are you?"

On Screen**A Masterful Magician**

"Is Anybody There?" opens Friday at the Old Greenbelt Theatre. Michael Caine is a retired magician entering an old-age home run by a family whose young son is obsessed with death. The time is Christmas 1987 and the family is run ragged trying to keep the home going. Caine both befriends and relies on the son as his own health deteriorates.

The script was written by Peter Harness, whose family operated a similar facility. Michael Caine has dedicated his performance to the memory of a friend who died of Alzheimer's.

The show runs 1 hour and 32 minutes and is rated PG-13 for sexual references and disturbing images.

– Cathy Jones

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; James Giese, secretary; Patricia Davis; Diane Oberg; and Helen Sydavar

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.

Obituaries

James M. Williamson

James Marion Williamson, age 77, died on Saturday, April 25, 2009, at Capital Hospice in Arlington, Va., after months of battling lymphoma.



Mr. Williamson was born and grew up in Atlanta and Decatur, Ga. He graduated from Druid Hills High School at 16 and Emory University at 20. He then joined the Army, spending two years at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland. With the GI bill, Mr. Williamson returned to Emory to study nuclear physics, receiving his master's degree in 1958.

He was employed in 1959 by NASA and spent the next few years working on experiments for the Explorer series of satellites studying the Van Allen radiation belts. For much of his career he operated small satellites – ERBE, SAGE, HERBS, LANDSAT and COBE.

With the opening of Goddard Space Flight Center, Mr. Williamson moved to Greenbelt. He married Mary Lou Miller in 1962. They raised their three children in the family home in the 45 Court of Ridge Road. The family enjoyed camping, canoeing and biking and spent many vacations at the country homes of the Williamson and Miller grandparents.

He retired in 1994 when the couple took on the responsibility of raising Mary Lou's great niece Sophia Kean. In 1998 they moved to Lakeside Drive.

In recent years Mr. Williamson drove the city van for senior citizen trips, enjoyed reading and following the stock market. He and Mary Lou traveled to Italy twice with friends and to San Francisco a year ago last fall. He regularly drove to their vacation home in the North Carolina mountains where the family liked to gather.

Mr. Williamson is survived by his wife, Mary Lou; daughters Carolyn (B. Tilman Jolly, Jr.) of McLean, Va., and Margaret (Jose Navarrete) of Atlanta and son Peter (Corinne) of Snellville, Ga.; a great niece Sophia Kean of the home; grandchildren Katie, Meredith, Brant and Alex Jolly, Mary and Max Williamson and Manuel, Nelson and Jorge Navarrete; a niece Evelina Kean and a nephew Kayode Kolade (Foluke).

A memorial service is being planned for early June at Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church in Adelphi.



**Catholic
Community
of Greenbelt
MASS**

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

Our Neighbors

News Review staffers join many others in the city in offering condolences to our editor, Mary Lou Williamson, and her family on the death of her husband Jim, who died April 25, 2009, at Capital Hospice.

The St. Hugh's community suffered two losses the past week through the deaths of former pastor Msgr. William F. O'Donnell on April 23, 2009, and Patricia ("Pat") Cantwell of Greentree Place on April 25, 2009.

Msgr. O'Donnell was pastor of St. Hugh's from 1973 to 1982. In recent years he had been in residence at St. Thomas Apostle church in northwest Washington.

Mrs. Cantwell was an active participant in all aspects of the church and school from the time her family first moved to Lakewood as original residents in 1959 until the present. Just last month, in spite of physical challenges which confined her to a wheelchair the past several years, she welcomed the entire Ladies of Charity group to her home for a potluck luncheon.

Congratulations to:

– Greenbelt resident Mary Beth Bauernschub, a media specialist at Rockledge Elementary School in

Bowie, who was among 20 finalist nominees for Prince George's County 2009-2010 Outstanding Teacher of the Year.

– Barbara Osborne of Boxwood, on her 80th birthday. A large number of family and friends celebrated at a party on Sunday, April 26 at the Knights of Columbus hall in College Park.

– Alice Murphy of Lakeside Drive on receiving the first gold medal of her college ice-skating career and helping her Boston University figure skating team win their first National Championship at the National Intercollegiate Figure Skating Championship held in Colorado Springs April 17-19. This summer, Alice will study Russian at the University of St. Petersburg as part of her work toward a degree in International Relations and Russian.

– Army Spec. Morooof A. Aremu, who graduated from Basic Combat Training at Fort Sill in Lawton, Okla. A 1996 graduate of High Point High School, he is the cousin of Ralph William of Edmonston Road.

To send information for "Our Neighbors" email us at newsreview@greenbelt.com or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

– Kathleen McFarland



Barbara Osborne (center) poses with longtime friends Joanne Kellaher and Joan Lloyd at her 80th birthday party.

Bahá'í Teachings: How does God's eternal covenant work?



According to God's eternal covenant, whenever humanity moves away from Him and forgets His Teachings, a Manifestation of God appears and makes God's will and purpose known to us. The Manifestations of God are those special beings who reveal to humanity the word and the will of God.

"The Holy Manifestations of God, the divine prophets, are the first Teachers of the human race...The divine Manifestations did not reveal themselves for the purpose of founding a nation, sect or faction. Their purpose...is the training of the people."

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918
Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com www.bahai.us



Greenbelt Baptist Church

101 Greenhill Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770 – (301) 474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org

Welcome!

Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School
Sunday 11:00 am Worship Service
Wednesday 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

ALL are Welcome!

"Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family Through Loving Service"

Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings

www.greenbeltucc.org
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..."

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



Sunday, May 3, 10 a.m.

Reverend Diane Teichert, ministerial candidate,
with the Paint Branch Choir,

will speak on "Owning Our Power: Stories of Self, Us and Now."

The great first century rabbi Hillel asked three questions, "If I am not for myself, who am I?" "When I am (only) for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?" From him we learn that leadership is rooted in a sense of self, enacted in relationship with others and realized through actions in the world that meet the world's greatest needs.

Let us ponder the meanings of these things for us this day.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt



Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor



Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 10:00am

Prayer Meeting Sun. 9:45 am

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111



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



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

ST. HUGH OF GRENABLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

301-474-4322



Mass Schedule:

Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

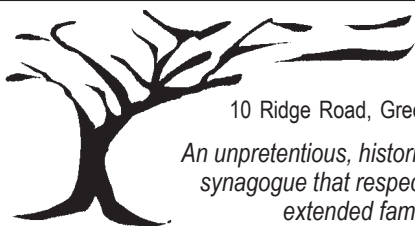
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

Pastoral Associate: Rev. R. Scott Hurd



Congregation Mishkan Torah

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223

*An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian
synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your
extended family in the 21st century.*

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month,
i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM.

Educational programs for children K-12 and for adults.

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Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program.

Opportunity for leadership development.

Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors.

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Interfaith families are welcome.

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



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)

We want you to be a part of our celebration and worship!
301-474-4499

...living life together

Benefit Concert At Mishkan Torah

On May 9 at 8 p.m. Mishkan Torah will pay tribute to a long-time member, the late Alice Pearlman. This event coincides with the launch of a new CD by Nadine Wobus, also a member of Mishkan Torah. The CD, titled *Positively*, is a mix of pop, jazz and Broadway standards. Alice loved animals, particularly dogs, so it is appropriate that the beneficiary of this event will be the Laurel-based organization Fidos for Freedom, which provides service dogs for the disabled. Admission is a non-perishable food item and one half of the proceeds from the sale of the CD will be donated to Fidos for Freedom. Join in for this night of memory and song. Mishkan Torah is located at 10 Ridge Rd. For details call 301-474-4223.

Author Pari Taichert At New Deal Sunday

On Sunday, May 3 at 2 p.m., New Mexico novelist and two-time Agatha Award finalist Pari Noskin Taichert will be at the New Deal Café to meet and greet area mystery enthusiasts and people who love the Southwest. Taichert will address her use of mysteries and humor to broaden people's perceptions and perspectives in issues such as family dysfunction, religiosity vs. spirituality and intolerance.

Taichert's mysteries have earned her book club selections, Book Sense picks and mentions and readership throughout the country. Review comments for her newest book, *The Socorro Blast*, include this from Alfred Hitchcock's *Mystery Magazine*, "Taichert's first two Sasha Solomon mysteries were both nominated for Agatha Awards. Her third may well generate a win as well as a nomination. Readers will discover plenty about the range of Socorro County's attractions while learning still more about Sasha's grit and sleuthing abilities and how her public relations skills lend themselves to an investigation." *Las Cruces Sun News*, "One of the most entertaining and eccentric sleuths to emerge in the new millennium. Pari's books are beautifully written love letters to New Mexico." From *I Love a Mystery*: "A novel of character and ideas, rather than a typical puzzle mystery... Reading it made me really want to visit and see some of the sights she so enticingly depicts."

She is currently working on a fourth book in which the main theme is an exploration of farming vs. development in rural areas and what that means to the food supply. Taichert's website is <http://www.parinostkintaichert.com>.

TRU Meets Here Thursday, May 7

The next meeting of Transit Riders United (TRU) of Greenbelt will be held at the Greenbelt Community Center in Room 114 on Thursday, May 7 at 7 p.m. Prince George's County Councilmember Ingrid Turner will be the special guest speaker.

TRU-Greenbelt is a grassroots transit advocacy effort mobilizing to prevent cutbacks in Metro and county bus services and to improve and extend public transportation between Greenbelt neighborhoods, transit hubs and business districts.

For more information call Anna Socrates at 301-441-4504 or email annasocl@verizon.net.



City Information

MEETINGS FOR MAY 4-8

Monday, May 4 at 8:00pm, **CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION re: Public Works** at Public Works Facility, 555 Crescent Road.

Monday, May 4 at 7:30pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**, at Community Center, Room 114.

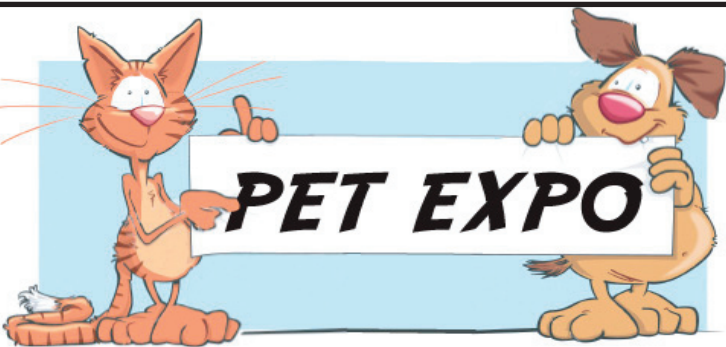
Tuesday, May 5 at 7:30pm, **ARTS ADVISORY BOARD**, at Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. Info: 240-542-2057

Wednesday, May 6 at 7:30pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD**, at the Community Center, Room 114. On the agenda: Presentation by Toole Design Group and Discussion of the Development of a City-wide Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan.

Wednesday, May 6 at 7:30pm, **CITY COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION re: Recreation** at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Thursday, May 7 at 7:00pm **VOTING SYSTEM REFORM**, at Windsor Green Community Center, 7474 Frankfort Drive.

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



**SATURDAY, MAY 9TH FROM 10AM-3PM
GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER
15 CRESCENT ROAD, GREENBELT, MD 20770
RAIN OR SHINE**

Prince George's County Rabies Clinic, Crunchies, Four Positive Paws, Greenbelt K-9 Demo, Beltway Emergency Hospital, GHI Companion Animal Committee, Donna's Herbs for Dogs, Peppers Pet Pantry, Inspired by Angels, Paw, Cara, Brood, Misfit Mutts, Mighty Healthy Pets, All Dogs Club, Terrapin Pet Sitter, P.G. Feral Friends, Noah's Wish, Ferret Rescue, Dalmatian Rescue, HSUS Wildlife Services, Dr. Sherry Siebel.

Children's Activities, Face Painting, Moon Bounce, Book Reading and more! Light Refreshments available.

ALL SOCIAL PETS WELCOME.

City of Greenbelt Department of Planning and Community Development 301-345-5417

GREENBELT AQUATIC AND FITNESS CENTER SPRING MINI-SESSION MAY 11-JUNE 5TH

Open Registration is now going on for this session until the classes fill. Children's swim lessons not offered during this session. Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov. Download the Recreation Brochure for a list of classes.

GREENBELT MUNICIPAL /PUBLIC ACCESS NOW ON COMCAST 71 & VERIZON 21 AND STREAMING LIVE at www.greenbeltmd.gov

MUNICIPAL ACCESS: 301-474-8000: Tuesday and Thursday, May 5 & 7: 6pm "Ask the Expert" 6:30pm: "Spring Circus Camp" 7:30 pm: "Museum Lecture"
PUBLIC ACCESS (GATE): 301-507-6581: Wednesday and Friday 7:00pm Flutar w/Zenas Chang 9:00pm "For the Return of Albion" Balt Playwright Test.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups.

Vacancies exist on the:
Green Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Youth Advisory Committee, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Arts Advisory Board,
For more info call 301-474-8000.

Members of City Advisory Boards and Committees are eligible for half-price annual individual or family memberships at the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center.

Teaching Opportunity Ceramics

Instructor sought for summer youth programs. Weekday availability plus intermediate/advanced wheel skills required.

Contact: April Vega, Arts Education Specialist:
avega@greenbeltmd.gov, 240-542-2060

Open until filled.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

**Saturday, May 2nd
9:00am-12noon**

Public Works Yard, 555 Crescent Road

City residents can recycle old and/or unwanted computers and other electronic items.

Accepted items include: central processing units, monitors, keyboards, printers, laptop computers, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, wires and power cords, computer mice, fax machines, recording equipment, cameras, telephones, radios, DVD players, VCRs, CFLs and fluorescent tubes 4" and under (residential only).

Televisions Accepted

**Special arrangements must be made for drop-off of more than 10 items or items over 50lbs. Call in advance.
For more information call 301-474-8308**

3rd Annual Greenbelt Spring Dance Recital



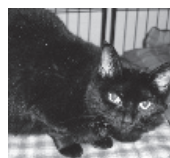
SAFARI SUITES

Directed by: Samantha Fitschen
Saturday, May 16, 7:00pm
Greenbelt Community Center
General admission is free for age 5 and younger, all other tickets: \$5
On sale now at Community Center,
301-397-2208

Greenbelt CityLink: www.greenbeltmd.gov

GREENBELT ANIMAL SHELTER

Pets of the Month Congratulations to Kimmie, Eva, Eddie & Princess on their adoptions!



Bonkers: Friendly and lively young black male;

Jerry: 2 yr old buff male, laid back and friendly;

Max: Super friendly 10 year old male tabby.

Boots: 2Year old Male American Bull Dog/Lab Super friendly. Loves other dogs and people

Rome: (right) Friendly and handsome male cat.

Visit these pets at the shelter on Wednesdays, from 4-7pm and on Saturdays from 9am-12pm.
For more information on any of these pets, call the Greenbelt Animal Shelter at 301.474.6124.



Artists' Studio Space

Greenbelt Community Center
24 hr access. \$162/month and up.
Information and application available at www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts Deadline: May 3

Area Youth Participate in Jr. Olympic Basketball Skills Competition

During the Celebration of Spring on Saturday, April 18, the Greenbelt Recreation Department hosted a local Jr. Olympic Basketball Skills Competition in the Springhill Lake Recreation Center Gym. Over 20 local youngsters between the ages of 8 and 13 participated in the competition. This free grassroots youth participation program allows boys and girls, competing separately, the opportunity to showcase their athletic abilities. The program is designed to encourage youth participation in sports while promoting sportsmanship.

The Champions in each division were as follows:

8-9 Year Old Male: Allen Beauchamp/Jaamir Butler/Rasaun Bent (three-way tie)

10-11 Year Old Male: Kenyon Williams 10-11 Year Old Female: Francesca Vanegas

12-13 Year Old Male: Amrhan Clarke 12-13 Year Old Female: Kennadi Lewis

These Champions have the opportunity to advance to a Regional Competition in the near future. Champions at the Regional Competition can advance to the National Finals.

HISTORY continued from page 1

employee of the Greenbelt construction project.

Buddy's office was a small room in one of the sheds. In the center of the room was a wood-burning stove. It provided the only heat in the building. At one end there was an old wooden desk, probably a federal government issue and other office paraphernalia. The room also had a couple of old chairs and a wooden bench. Here the men would congregate for instructions and first morning coffee heated on the stove. (Lunch was someplace at the center.)

Buddy and the men (no women then) spent little time at the sheds, which were used mainly to park and service equipment. Buddy had a second office, of sorts, at the city offices, then located over the convenience store (at that time a Ben Franklin store). That office housed all the city maps and was little used.

Buddy Attick

In original Greenbelt, everyone knew Buddy and Buddy knew everyone. He probably would have been voted the most popular man in town, if such a vote had been taken. He was gregarious, hearty and well-met. He had sold or leased the residents' furniture. With his farm experience, he became the town's mounted police officer, patrolling throughout the city's extensive woodland. He monitored the wooded trail that Greenbelt kids took from the western end of the town along the lake and through the woods past Indian Springs on the Golden Triangle and under Greenbelt's now forgotten fifth pedestrian underpass to Greenbelt High School (now Greenbelt Middle School), making sure that nothing improper took place at the springs, a favorite spooning ground. The original city community-oriented police officer; Buddy hailed everyone with a hearty greeting and chatted with them about the events of the day.

When I became city manager, Buddy was well entrenched as the Public Works director. He still spent much of his day patrolling the town, but now, instead of looking for crime, he looked for potholes, clogged storm drains and other maintenance needs.

Buddy drove about town in a Jeep with a canvas top. In the summer he went about without the top. He would come into my office after giving a hearty "Howdy, howdy" to the office staff and say, "C'mon, c'mon, let's go for a ride; I want to show you something." Off we would go in the jeep to see some project a Public Works crew was doing or some new building construction going on in Springhill Lake, or Lakeside North or Lakeside.

Then Public Works did much the same jobs the employees do now with some exceptions. Streets were maintained, potholes patched, roadside ditches and storm drains were cleaned, garbage was picked up at the door three times a week, another truck collected special trash daily, leaves were picked up in the fall, the parks and ballfields were maintained, etc. In addition, the city operated its own landfill. One employee spent his whole day riding the city bulldozer (no cockpit, no heat or air conditioning) spreading and burying the trash. At that time the city still maintained the parking courts in GHI, something leftover from

the time when the government owned everything and there were no property boundaries.

Of course, at that time there was much less of a town to maintain. Nor were the maintenance skills required as sophisticated as those of today. Most residents then lived in GHI, the original government housing project. No one lived outside of the center of Greenbelt until the first families began to move into Springhill Lake in 1963.

New Facility

In the late 60s a new Public Woks facility was built. The city was able to fund its construction and acquire the needed land through a combination of fortuitous circumstances. When the government gave to the city the land for the lake park (now Albert "Buddy" S. Attick Park), it reserved four parcels along Crescent Road for private development. They were eventually acquired by a partnership with Charles Bresler the owner-spokesman for the group. (Another partner was Theodore N. Lerner, now principal owner of the Washington Nationals baseball team.)

When the Maryland-National Park and Planning Commission proposed a developer-oriented master plan for Greenbelt in 1963, it created an uproar among Greenbelt citizens. One of the most objectionable proposals, of which there were many, was to permit high-rise apartment buildings on the four parcels overlooking Greenbelt Lake.

In 1965 city residents voted for a bond issue to buy these parcels and through eminent domain, the city succeeded in doing so. Around the same time, SHA decided to locate a District Engineer's Office off the newly built Capital Beltway in Greenbelt and determined that the old sewage treatment plant and warehouse sheds made an ideal site. Under the threat of eminent domain they took the land from the city and provided sufficient compensation so that the city was able to pay for a new Public Works facility.

When the Beltway was built, Crescent Road was relocated slightly northward. The old roadway is now the park entrance and site of the first Public Works facilities. Two of those four parcels were on either side of old Crescent. While their purchase was substantially paid for by federal and state Open Space Grant funds, the new building was permissible because it was also a parks maintenance facility. However, most of the original facility was located within the 100-foot wide right-of-way for Crescent Road that had been vacated by court action and become additional city property.

The original facility consisted of two buildings a long equip-

ment storage building with mechanic shops and multiple garage door entrances and a small headquarters building with three offices, a men's locker room and a small lunch/meeting room. This facility, with a few small additions, has served Public Works for the last 30 years.

History

During that time, however, the city grew dramatically. Of course, Public Works had to grow as well to continue serving Greenbelt residents. By the 1980s it was obvious that more space was needed to house equipment and to provide office space for the crew supervisors and office personnel. A temporary building was added for offices in the 90's as well as a second small storage building. In 2001 city voters authorized a multi-purpose bond issue to provide funds for an addition to Public Works among other things. Construction began in 2007 and now, at last, is completed.

The original office building and temporary office building have been torn down and a new, much larger building erected in its place with a larger lunch room and locker/lavatory facilities for both men and women and offices for the supervisory staff radiating outward from a curved hallway. One feature of the old building remains the same – the Public Works Director has an office overlooking the compound's entrance where he can see all the comings and goings of equipment.

A new equipment storage building dwarfs in size the original storage building that remains much as it always was with one exception. It houses the mechanical equipment for a new state-of-the-art energy conserving heating and air conditioning system based on using water heated or cooled underground by the earth's natural temperature. Both new buildings include many other energy saving features as well.

Public Works has come a long way since the days of a metal shed and wood stove, adapting many innovative technologies and techniques along the way. With its new facilities it is well set to deal with future needs, at least for a while. As times change and Greenbelt changes, Public Works will continue to need to change as well.

Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday 10 – 4 p.m.

Good, clean clothes for women, men and children!
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111

ATTENTION GHI MEMBERS



Spring Gutter Cleaning (All Buildings)

Uncle Skeeter's Roofs & Gutters is scheduled to clean and inspect your gutters starting May, 18, 2009 weather permitting.

At that time, workers may appear at your building, at doors and windows. Please close your shades to preserve privacy.

Please contact Peter Joseph at 301-474-4161 ext.141 if you have any questions or comments.

CEREMONY continued from page 1



PHOTO BY BEVERLY PALAU

Rosa Maynard from the Public Works Department works with a young visitor.

guests enjoyed cake and hot dogs inside the new facility. Public Works employees offered tours of the building, pointing out its "green" features. These include geothermal heat and air conditioning, automated light sensors and large windows for a maximum amount of natural light. Outside, surface drainage will be partially absorbed by a rain garden.

Councilmember Konrad Herling said that due to its sustainability, the building will save costs and energy in the long run.

He said, "I think this space will be very inviting to the public."

Following the official ceremony the complex was open to the public to tour. Tables with exhibits on measuring energy usage, recycling and neighborhood gardens were located in the new equipment storage building. There, refreshments were served to visitors. Two dedication cakes were cut and served in the new

office building.

The new facility consists of an office building with a lunch room and locker rooms for employees that totally replaces a 1969 building and a temporary building. Also new is an equipment storage building about twice the size of a 1969 building that is still in use. The compound also includes a fuel service area, salt storage sheds and another small storage building.

Early American Thru
Mid-20th Century Pattern,
Elegant & Depression-Era
Glassware, China & Pottery
SHOW & SALE
Sat., May 2, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sun., May 3, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Duval High School
Greenbelt/Good Luck Roads
Lanham, MD; ADM: \$4.00
301-565-2361 410-263-4192
Email: ybrian@juno.com
Del-Mar-VA DG Club



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



St. George's Spring Yard Sale

The yard sale starts at 8 a.m. and runs until 2 p.m. on
Saturday May 9, 2009,
rain or shine.

Please call for more information: 301-262-3285.

An inclusive congregation!

Arthritis Walk

Saturday, May 2nd

9am-reg. - 10am-12n WALK & activities

Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Greenbelt
No pets are allowed to attend this event.

This is a FUN walk with NO distance requirements.
It's a FREE community event – no reg. fees.

Gift sales & fundraising activities will be available at the event.

Help Us Fight America's #1 Cause of Disability!

WALKers are WELCOME

and can register at the event desk.

Pre-reg. on line at www.arthritis.org MD – Greenbelt

Prince George's Arthritis Walk Committee
(301) 335-7689 or PGArthritisComm@aol.com
Arthritis Foundation (202) 537-6800
or www.arthritis.org

A final "dining out to fight arthritis" event is scheduled on May 2nd-all day at Sir Walter Raleigh's (301)474-3420.

LETTERS continued from page 2

politics – than the skin color of city council members ever has. I hope, in this instance, council can look long-term, beyond the racially fraught moment, to protect the integrity of our local elections and the excellent, responsive local government they have produced for over 70 years.

Changes to such a core process must be made with care, considering the foreseeable future, not only last year's unwarranted legal threats. Embrace, as I do, the reforms that will work; reject the one that jeopardizes local control and good governance, despite the best intentions of its proponents.

Inclusion, outreach, early voting, more participation, more seats: yes! Bury municipal elections on the even year: no!

Let's keep our politics colorblind, lively and local – on the odd year, as nearly all Maryland municipalities do for good reason.

Andy Carruthers

Memories of Make-up

Reading Virginia Beauchamp's description of "how it was during the old days in the News Review" brought back the following memories:

I believe that, long ago, I was a proofreader. But whatever I had to do, I had to do it in Bernice Kastner's house on Northway. I believe it had to be done on Wednesday evenings. I would enter her house and she was busy with make-up.

In those days the articles were typed on good old typewriters, as

this was the B.C. (before computers) period. In addition, make-up involved the use of good old scissors. The typed articles were cut out and fitted on blank pieces of paper, spread out on the floor. Each paper was the size of a News Review page and the cut-out articles were neatly put on it. The final results were sent to the printer. Obviously Bernice had to sit or kneel on the floor in order to perform the make-up. It was quite an impressive sight.

This memory may be only partly accurate: additions and corrections surely are welcome.

Leonie Penney

Sad and Angry

Sunday, April 19 was a very tragic day that left our court sad and angry. Sad because we lost a beautiful little dog named Jackie, who was a family's joy, and because another dog on Plateau Place now will undoubtedly have to be euthanized as a killer. Angry because this attack could and should have been prevented.

Any large, aggressive dog needs to be controlled at all times so that it does not become a threat to others. This takes a responsible owner. When it becomes clear that an owner will not take the responsibility, when an owner himself becomes aggressive toward the neighbors, then it is time for the community to take action.

In this case, Greenbelt Homes, Inc. and the City of Greenbelt's animal control unit were notified on several occasions and yet two

rottweilers remained unrestrained behind a low fence or even set loose by their owner. As a result, Jackie and – we trust – a lethal rottweiler are dead.

Sadness and anger remain! The six people who tried their best to separate the dogs could have been harmed themselves. Anyone walking by – especially a child – could easily have been maimed or killed on that day or any other.

Little Jackie's owners, our great neighbors, should not have had to endure this trauma and loss. Greenbelt must ensure that no such senseless attack can happen again.

Bonnie L. Shields

Unnecessary Tragedy

April 19 – a glorious early spring Sunday in Greenbelt and Plateau Place residents were out enjoying the weather. We were

walking our dogs, doing yard work and gladly saying goodbye to winter. Then something terrible began to unfold announced by terrified shrieking and frantic barking. Jackie, a 17-pound bichon frise, was returning home from a lovely walk in the woods with his people and his brother, a spring spaniel. Both dogs were leashed. A large rottweiler, known to be a vicious animal, jumped his fence and attacked Jackie. He inflicted severe wounds to the little dog whose weight was probably a tenth of that of his attackers. It required the strength of four adults to finally get the dog to release his little victim and then to get the dog back into his yard. I know because I witnessed what happened.

Jackie's Mom and Dad immediately took him to an emergency vet. Sadly, his wounds were considered too serious to heal and little Jackie was euthanized that

lovely spring afternoon.

This was an unnecessary tragedy. The dog had caused problems and had previously attacked other dogs. His owner knew that this dog was dangerous and refused to take appropriate steps to minimize the danger he posed. GHI and the city knew about the situation and were in the process of addressing it. However, it was not soon enough for Jackie.

The animal control unit and the police responded very quickly and removed the rottweiler. This, of course, should have been done many weeks ago. I might add that we are blessed on our court to have a beautiful two-year-old little girl residing among us. I give thanks that she is safe.

Eight and 10 courts pulled together to support our shocked and grief-stricken neighbors. Our hope and prayer is that nothing like this can happen to another family.

Angela Miotto



Tickets can be reserved by calling 301-441-8770

Greenbelt Arts Center

is proud to present

THE COMIC GENIUS CONNECTION:



May 1 – May 16:

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS AT 8:00PM

SUNDAY MATINEES: MAY 3RD & MAY 10TH AT 2:00PM

123 Centerway • Greenbelt, MD 20770
<http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org>
 Located underneath the Greenbelt CO-OP



5th Annual

Green Man Festival

Honoring Earth Through Music, Art and Science

May 8, 9 and 10th in Historic Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt

Come join us rain or shine for music, art, vendors, films, craft, environmental awareness, food and fun.

The Festival opens Fri. 7:00 pm, May 8th at the Community Center. See a video interview with Rob Hopkins on **TRANSITION TOWNS**. He is the founder of a growing worldwide movement based on the idea that communities that believe in a quality of life with less use of fossil fuels may actually be healthier and happier. This will be followed by an open discussion and visioning process on the question: "Should Greenbelt become a Transition Town and if so, how do we do it."

Kids Activities



Mama's and Papa's Gently Used Children Clothing Swap Sat. 9:00-11:00 am.

Journey with Green Man Sat. 10:30-12:00 pm. Children re-discover nature.

Childrens Nature Beings Parade Sat. 11:45-12:00 pm. Kids using props will parade in opening ceremony.

Fairy Gardens Sat/Sun. 12:30–5:30 pm. Children create their own fairy gardens to take home.

Around the World Energy Game Sat. 2:00-2:30 pm. Children experience the carbon footprint of ten different countries.

Kid's Open Mic Sat. 2:30–3:30 pm.

Through the Looking Glass Sun. 10:30 am-1:00 pm Science & Art Activity

Childrens Music Concert Sun. 10:30-Noon, Mellissa Sites, Mary Shapiro. 12:30-1:30 pm, Nancy Cassidy.

Programs



Crafts Booths, Information Tables Sat 10--5:00 pm, Sun 11-4:00

Drum Circle, Sat. & Sun. 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Opening Ceremony Sat. Noon

Green Man Parade Sat about 1:00 pm

Palm Reading Sat/Sun, 1:00-4:00 pm

Child Development in Nature. Sat. 3:00-4:00 pm. Workshop for parents and educators with Tom Goodridge.

Family Pot Luck, followed by showing of Renewal Film Sat. 6:30-7:15 pm

Greenbelt to Goddard Bike Trail Presentation Sun. Noon-1:00 pm

Green Solutions Bulletin Board Sun. Noon-5:00 pm. Post your ideas.

Solar Cooking Demo Sun. 10:30 and tasting at 1:00 pm

Green Local Business Presentation. With Stacey Mitchell. Sun. 1-2:00 pm

Community Demonstration Gardens Presentation Sun. 3:30-4:30 pm

Environmental Films Scheduled Throughout Sat. & Sun.
 Center Stage Music Performances Sat. & Sun. 1:00-7:00 pm

The Green Man Festival is a project of the Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS), a non-profit organization dedicated to the health of all who share the Chesapeake watershed environment. For a schedule of all Festival events go to www.greenbeltgreenmanfestival.org

Greenbelt Baseball

Major League Standings as of April 19

	W-L		W-L
Indians	6-0	Athletics	1-2
Giants	2-2	Yankees	1-2
Cardinals	3-3	Tigers	1-1
		Orioles	0-4

Major League Schedule May 4 through 9

Date	Time	Games
Monday, May 4	6 p.m.	Tigers vs. Cardinals
Tuesday, May 5	6 p.m.	Giants vs. Orioles
Wednesday, May 6	6 p.m.	Athletics vs. Indians
Thursday, May 7	6 p.m.	Yankees vs. Orioles
Friday, May 8	6 p.m.	Giants vs. Cardinals
Saturday, May 9	10 a.m.	Indians vs. Tigers
Saturday, May 9	1 p.m.	Yankees vs. Athletics

All games are played at McDonald Field off Southway.

Green Man Festival Offers Activities for Green Kids

by Richard McMullin

This year's Greenbelt Green Man Festival on May 9 and 10 will have a lot of fun and interesting things for the kids (and the rest of the family). In the morning come discover with Green Man and Green Woman what grows and lives in the local habitat and listen to what the natural beings living in Greenbelt want to say to humans. Help give them a voice through the creation of puppets and masks, then join in the Children's Parade.



Award-winning children's song writer Nancy Cassidy will perform at the Green Man Festival on Sunday, May 10 at 12:30 p.m.

Kids can make a "creature mask," learn to make sock puppets and build a miniature fairy garden. There will be a chance for the kids to shine as the stage is opened for a kid's open microphone session. In the afternoon the fun continues with Greenbelt's own Melissa Sites, whose songbook includes both serious stories about the earth and silly sing-alongs.

On Sunday family fun continues with more fairy gardens, masks and two special musical guests. Mary Shapiro, a musical force behind the Washington, D.C., Potters House, will start things off with a collection of sing-along and story songs for little ones at 11:30 a.m.

Nancy Cassidy

At 12:30 p.m. on the festival main stage Nancy Cassidy, an award-winning children's song writer, will perform a full set of her award-winning kids songs, accompanied by her musical friends Dayan Kai and Steve Uccello.

Cassidy is on tour from her home in Palo Alto, Calif., where she is a singer, songwriter and mother of two adolescent boys.

She has delighted audiences of all ages over the past 30 years with her warm and engaging voice and wide variety of songs that express her perceptions, feelings and life experiences of being a daughter, wife and mom. She has sold over 2 million CDs worldwide and received many awards.

The Green Man hopes to see many families at this year's event enjoying the day and learning more about the earth's shared special environment.

There will be plenty for adults to enjoy with movies, crafts, music, art, information and presentations on environmental issues. The Green Man and members of the Festival Committee hope everyone will mark their calendars for the weekend of May 9 and 10 as a time for family fun and learning.

Richard McMullin is a CHEARS Representative.

Raiders U12 Win Soccer Opener

The Greenbelt Raiders U12 girls' soccer team celebrated its win of the opening game of the season with Oxon Hill #2 on April 18.

Madison Maragliano scored the lone goal midway through the second half to put Greenbelt ahead 1-0 for the win. The defense, anchored by Julia Pedersoli, Barbara Turnbull and Jancy Samuel, helped goalies Sarah McCarthy and Mairead Alexander secure a shutout. The offense was assisted by Tesi Smith and Jasmine Goggins.

On April 25 Greenbelt won its second game 7-0 over Beltsville with three goals from Jasmine Goggins, two from Julia Pedersoli and one each from Barbara Turnbull and Sofie Dabelko. The defense anchored by Julia Pedersoli, Barbara Turnbull, Jancy Samuel, Katy York and Clare Alexander helped goalies Sarah McCarthy, Alexandra Sherman, and Mairead Alexander secure the shutouts. The offense was assisted by Tesi Smith, Jasmine Goggins, Sophie Bernheisel, Catherine Peterson, Marzieh Branyan, Kathryn Turnbull, Mira Wilson and Yolanda Ford.

— John Pedersoli, Greenbelt U12 girls coach

COUNCIL continued from page 1

several private development projects around the city. She also provided the current list of registered rental properties. Although the numbers are up somewhat, Craze cautioned council against reading too much into that fact. Rental proportions are cyclical, she noted, partly reflecting the level of effort that her staff has put into identifying and pursuing unregistered rentals.

Mayor Judith Davis noted that rentals in Greenbriar are up to 23 percent. She noted that in the past when the proportion of rentals reaches 25 – 28 percent, "it gets to be a problem."

The long-awaited public restrooms to replace the portable potties at Buddy Attick Park are two-thirds complete, Craze said. She expects the foundation will be poured by the end of the month and that the restrooms could be open by the Fourth of July. She noted, however, that this is not the first time she has named a date only to encounter unexpected delays. McLaughlin helpfully pointed out that Craze had not stated to which year she was referring.

The developers of Greenbelt Station have defaulted on their construction loans, Craze noted. Work has stopped. While she recently met with a developer whose units would fit into the footprint of some of the lots, her staff does not believe their proposal is consistent with the site's covenants.

The city is currently working with the bonding companies for them to pay for the promised road improvements. She said that the process is not as simple, however, as saying, "The developer defaulted so give us the money."

Beltway Plaza continues to seek new plans for its property. Redeveloping this property is difficult, she noted, as there are so many leases with so many different parties and the property owner would need to leave alone those areas with viable tenants.

Although her staff has reviewed a draft redevelopment plan, Craze says they have told the developer it is not a good plan. She does not believe, she said, that it warrants public discussion at this time. Craze cautioned council it would be naive to think the property would sit idle for any extended period of time.

Nursing Home

Another problem site is the vacant Greenbelt Nursing Home property. She noted that this is a difficult parcel to enter and exit and that zoning laws limit it to condominiums or apartments. She said that neither use is currently viable and that either a zoning change or a change in the market would be necessary for development there to be feasible.

Craze noted that another issue facing her department is encroachment issues with GHI. She said these encroachments are becoming more critical to members where the city right of way goes into their homes.

Such unresolved issues are making it more difficult for the members affected to sell their homes. More than 100 homes have such encroachment issues, she said, although most encroachments involve only the members' yards. Craze noted that GHI has been forceful about members respecting the city right of way.

The city is working with county park and planning staff, she said, but the task is complicated by the fact that individual units

are not separately platted. She said that since park and planning has no basis to resolve these issues, everything is being figured out on a case-by-case basis.

Davis asked about similar problems along Greenbelt Lake. Craze said the city did a boundary study around the lake, uncovering encroachments by homeowners upon city property and by the city onto private property. She said the city has not attempted to get people to remove improvements made on city land.

Snipe Signs

A continuing issue is "snipe signs," the unauthorized small signs typically put up in the city's right of way. Recently more of these signs are adhesive and posted directly on the back of traffic signs. McLaughlin noted that the Department of Public Works is trying to find a solution but so far has not found an effective way to remove these signs, which apparently have very persistent adhesive.

Craze told council she is planning to begin a program of semiannual city-wide windshield inspections to earlier identify property code violations. While inspectors are currently expected to survey the neighborhoods to which they are assigned, this new program will elevate its priority in their work program and result in properties being examined from both sides to ensure they are being maintained in accordance with city code.

Emperian Village will get additional attention in the coming year, Craze said. A third of the units will be inspected. In response to a question from Councilmember Konrad Herling, Craze said the attitude of the new owners has not changed.

Davis noted that the law recently passed by the Maryland General Assembly prohibits cities from issuing tickets unless the vehicle is moving at least 12 miles per hour over the speed limit in a school or work zone. Councilmember Rodney Roberts and Mayor Davis agreed that this restriction makes a speed camera program pointless – it would require that drivers near St. Hugh's, for example, be traveling almost 50 percent over the speed limit.

Theater

Craze said the city is slowly working its way through the county's tortuous permit process. Roberts asked about a recent newspaper article that said jurisdictions were getting more bids at lower costs as the economy has struggled. He noted that the last estimate for the theater renovations was much higher than expected.

Craze told him the department is planning to go for a competitive bid. Davis worried that any

price cuts would be on the backs of the workers but Craze said her understanding was that companies are forgoing some of their profit in order to win contracts to stay in business.

Animal Control

Craze reported that the city has made significant improvements in its animal control operations. The department is now fully staffed and operating seven days a week. The shelter has regular hours every Wednesday and Saturday, which is making it easier for residents to adopt the animals. Available animals are also listed on Petfinder and one of the shelter's puppies even participated in Animal Planets "Puppy Bowl."

While Craze told Davis she has not seen any uptick in people giving up their animals because of the economy, people are continuing to leave pets behind when they move. The shelter staff now performs the neutering operation on male cats, she said, reducing veterinary costs. They are trying to raise funds to get the equipment to do all spaying and neutering in-house.

She said she is not recommending any change to the adoption fee, which she felt could discourage people from adopting cats.

Empirian Village

After the budget discussion, council turned its attention to Empirian Village (formerly known as Springhill Lake). Craze said there is no law prohibiting the removal of the glass fronts but that management must get county and city permits before doing so.

In order to get such permits, the owners must resolve several building code issues including making the floors non-slip, replacing the water-based fire extinguishers with chemical-based extinguishers and replacing lighting that currently is located on the glass front. The steps at the storefronts must also be eliminated, as grade changes are prohibited without a door. Laundry room sprinklers must also be certified against freezing.

Craze also noted that the owners still have not obtained a use and occupancy permit despite owning the property for nearly a year. County law requires a new use and occupancy permit whenever a change in ownership occurs. This issue, however, is between the owners and the county, not the city, she said.

Craze added that, in her opinion, the new owners are not making progress in complying with code requirements and that they are not having a useful productive dialog with her department. McLaughlin noted that the owners have not paid the fines assessed by the code enforcement staff.

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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robbery

April 23, 5:07 p.m., 7800 block Mandan Road, a man was approached by two youths who began walking with him. After a short distance one of the youths went into the victim's pocket and attempted to remove his wallet. The youth obtained the wallet after a short struggle and removed cash. Both youths then fled the scene on foot. The suspects are described as a black male, 16 to 20 years of age, 5'10" to 6', 150 pounds with black hair in dreadlocks, wearing a dark colored hooded sweatshirt; and a black male, 16 to 20 years of age, 5'7" to 5'10", 150 pounds with close cropped black hair, wearing a dark hooded sweatshirt.

Assault

April 19, 6:49 p.m., T.G.I.Friday's Restaurant, a man and a woman fled the restaurant without paying their tab. When an employee attempted to flag down the two as they were driving away, the driver attempted to strike him with the vehicle. The victim was able to get out of the way. The suspects are described as a white male, approximately 34 years of age, 5'8", 190 to 200 pounds with brown hair, wearing a blue polo type shirt and blue warm-up pants; and a white female, approximately 34 years of age, 5'2", 125 to 130 pounds with black hair, wearing a black dress. The suspect vehicle is described as a white 2007 Chrysler, possible Pennsylvania tag HCT5692.

Drug Arrest

April 16, 4:03 p.m., Ridge and Gardenway, a nonresident youth was arrested for possession of marijuana and released to a parent pending action by the juvenile justice system.

Disorderly Conduct

April 18, 1:13 a.m., Willy K's Bar and Restaurant, a nonresident woman and man were arrested for disorderly conduct. The man was released on citation pending trial. The woman was released on citation to the Prince George's County Sheriff's Department for service of an open arrest warrant.

April 21, 1:23 a.m., 6100 block Springhill Terrace, a resident man was arrested for disorderly conduct. He was released on citation pending trial.

April 22, 4:19 a.m., 500 block Crescent Road, a nonresident man was arrested for disorderly conduct and released on citation pending trial.

Trespass

April 17, 1:49 p.m., Greenbelt Youth Center, a resident youth was arrested for trespass and released to a parent pending action by the juvenile justice system.

April 18, 2:14 p.m., Holiday Inn, a resident person was ar-

rested for trespass and released on citation pending trial.

April 21, 2:14 a.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane, a nonresident man was arrested for trespass and released on citation pending trial.

Vandalism

April 18, 8:53 a.m., 9300 block Edmonston Road, unknown person(s) used spray paint to vandalize playground equipment.

April 18, 9:40 a.m., 7800 block Vanity Fair Drive, unknown person(s) used unknown means to break out the glass patio door of a residence.

April 18, 11:17 p.m., 6200 block Breezewood Court, unknown person(s) threw a rock through the bedroom window of a residence.

April 21, 5:10 p.m., 9100 block Edmonston Court, unknown person(s) used unknown means to break out the glass patio door of a residence.

April 22, 7:42 a.m., 9300 block Edmonston Road, unknown person(s) used unknown means to break out the den window of a residence.

Burglary

April 21, 3:07 p.m., 6000 block Springhill Drive, an attempted burglary was reported.

Vehicle Crimes

Three vehicles were stolen: a 1999 Honda Accord 4-door from the 6000 block Springhill Drive (later recovered); a 1999 Ford F-150 truck from the 6200 block Breezewood Court (later recovered); and a green 1998 Dodge Caravan, Maryland tags 968M680 from the 7300 block Morrison Drive.

Three vehicles were recovered (including the two above) by outside departments with no arrests made.

Theft from vehicles was reported in the following areas: 7800 block Mandan Road (both tags); Beltway Plaza (sneakers, CDs, mail) 100 block Westway (GPS); 7500 block Mandan Road (GPS); and 9500 block Cherrywood Lane (both tags). Attempted theft from vehicles occurred at the 7500 and 7600 blocks Mandan Road.

A theft from an auto occurred April 22 at 5800 block Cherrywood Lane. A GPS unit was taken from a cab by a woman during a fare dispute. The suspect is described as a black female, 24 to 26 years of age, 5' to 5'2", 200 to 250 pounds with black hair and brown eyes.

Vandalism to vehicles was reported at: 9300 block Edmonston Road (two incidents, broken rear window and broken driver's side mirror), 7600 block Mandan Road (broken rear window), 100 block Westway (flattened tires) and 7900 block Winterwood Place (flattened tire).

Click It or Ticket Is May Public Safety Campaign

by Barbara Hopkins

Mayor Judith Davis has proclaimed the month of May to be Click It or Ticket Month in Greenbelt to increase public awareness, education and enforcement of passenger safety laws. The campaign is part of the Maryland Law Enforcement Challenge, formerly known as the Maryland Chiefs' Challenge, supported by the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association. MPO Scott Kaiser received the proclamation on behalf of the police department at the regular city council meeting on April 27.

Kaiser said the department has received a grant from the State Highway Administration for \$3,000 for overtime pay to be used in May as part of increased compliance checks and enforcement of seat belt and child safety seat laws. He said that during last year's campaign Greenbelt was found to have a 96 percent rate of compliance for seat belt use.

The campaign this year will include emphasis on impaired and aggressive driving, Kaiser told council. He said that there had

been 169 drunk driving arrests in Greenbelt last year, up from 35 to 40 such arrests in earlier years of the campaign. There have been no fatalities in Greenbelt involving drunken or otherwise impaired driving for the past three years, Kaiser added.

Officers will also focus on pedestrian safety and distribute warning cards to pedestrians who cross outside of crosswalks. The warning cards give pedestrian safety information and Kaiser explained that pedestrians who are struck when crossing outside a designated crosswalk will probably receive a citation. Kaiser said 90 percent of pedestrian accidents with motor vehicles occurred when pedestrians were not using a crosswalk. He added that the bollards added at some crosswalks in the city have helped in crosswalk compliance.

Kaiser encouraged citizens with questions on child safety seat installation to call for an appointment to have an officer check that their seat has been correctly installed.



MPO Scott Kaiser, accompanied by Lt. David Buerger, accepts the city's proclamation of May as Click It or Ticket Month from Mayor Judith Davis at the city council meeting on April 27.

According to the city's Click It or Ticket Month Proclamation:

- Every 13 minutes someone in the U.S. is killed in a traffic accident;
- Motor vehicle crashes are the current leading cause of death for young people from ages two through 34;
- Regular seat belt use is the single most effective way to protect people and reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes;
- When correctly used, seat belts reduce the risk of fatal injury by 45 percent for front-seat passengers in cars and by 60 percent for occupants of pickup trucks, SUVs and minivans;
- Safety belts and air bags are among the best defenses for adults against impaired or aggressive drivers; properly installed safety and booster seats provide similar defenses for children;
- Properly installed and used child safety seats are 70 percent effective in reducing fatalities in children ages five and younger.

Fire House Hosts Diabetes Fundraiser

Mr. Pancreas Day, sponsored by the American Diabetes Association, will be held on Saturday, May 2 from noon to 6 p.m. at the Greenbelt Fire Department, 125 Crescent Road. There will be food, games, raffles, arts and crafts, face painting and a cake walk. The Good Guys band will perform during the event. Free admission. All profits will be donated to the Tour de Cure. (See ad on page 3.)



G R E E N B E L T
Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.

125 CRESCENT ROAD, GREENBELT, MARYLAND 20770

April 2009

Dear Citizens and Business Owners of Greenbelt:

It is time again to ask for your donations to help the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc. in our Annual General Fund Drive for 2009. We truly appreciate your generous contributions during the previous fund drives, and hope for your continued support.

You should be receiving your donation package in the mail during April or early May. You may choose to either mail your donation back to us, or to bring it to the station and hand it to one of our volunteers. We are located at 125 Crescent Rd., Greenbelt, MD. If you should misplace your donation package, you can still mail your contribution to us. Please note the mailing address for the station:

Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc.
125 Crescent Rd.
Greenbelt, MD 20770

As in the past, I strongly emphasize that you do not accept any solicitations over the telephone or at your door from persons identifying themselves as members or representatives of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc. For this Annual General Fund Drive during the months of April/May, we only ask for donations through the mail.

May I encourage you to come and enjoy an evening of bingo (sponsored by the GVFD&RS, Inc.) held at the Elks Lodge #1778, located at 6700 Kenilworth Ave. in Riverdale, MD, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings? Doors open at 6 p.m. and we offer complimentary food and drink. All of our bingos are smoke-free.

Again, I would like to thank you for your very important past, as well as your continued support during our Annual General Fund Drive.

Regards,

Kenneth L. Stair, President

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. People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.

Rottweiler Jumps Fence and Attacks Dog

by James Giese

On Sunday, April 19 a small dog being walked by its owner was attacked by a male rottweiler and badly maimed before the owner and nearby residents were able to separate the two dogs, according to a report prepared by Celia Craze, director of the Greenbelt Department of Planning and Community Development. Greenbelt Animal Control is a part of this department. The rottweiler was in a yard in 10 Court Plateau Place and jumped the yard fence in order to attack the other dog. The victim was rushed to a veterinarian but was euthanized due to the extent of its injuries.

According to the report, the rottweiler was put inside the home of a neighbor of the owner. Animal Control was called and responded. Animal Control Officer Susie Root ordered the dog to be taken into custody and it was transported to the Prince George's County Animal Control Facility for placement in the dangerous animal section. No decision has been made regarding disposition of the dog.

Craze, Assistant Director for Community Development James Sterling and Animal Control Officers Root and Kim DeAngelis returned to the scene and interviewed witnesses. They attempted to contact the owner but received no response. The Animal Control people were aware that at this home there were a female rottweiler and nine puppies. The dogs could be heard through the

door and appeared to be left unattended. Animal Control personnel became concerned about the dogs' welfare. When on Monday the owner failed to contact the city in response to a note left on premise, a member of the owner's family was contacted. She was able to contact the dog's owner, according to the report. Animal Control officers then returned to the home and impounded the female dog and the puppies pending a scheduled hearing before the county Animal Control Commission.

Earlier Complaints

For several months, Craze said, the city has received calls and complaints from residents of 10 Court Plateau Place regarding the behavior of the two rottweilers. The complaints generally involved one or both dogs being allowed to run at large and to act aggressively towards people and animals. The complaints also describe the dogs' ability to jump over fences and allege that the dogs' owner encouraged the aggressive behavior. Residents described an atmosphere of fear and intimidation where many feared to go out of their units.

In response to these complaints, Craze reports that both Animal Control and police officers responded to those who had made complaints and the dogs' reported owner, Dean Jenkins. Jenkins denied to the city any misbehavior, according to Craze. Both Animal Control and Greenbelt police were ordered to increase random patrols of the area as well as other city personnel but the dogs were never observed to be either at large or

outside their unit.

The complainants were advised that in order for any action to be taken it would be necessary for one or more individuals to submit written statements describing the behavior of the dogs and the owner's alleged actions of encouraging the dogs to behave aggressively. Three residents of the 8 and 10 courts of Plateau agreed to provide such testimony, according to Craze, and the city filed a petition for a hearing before the Animal Control Commission, which is scheduled for May 13.

The city is continuing to take written statements concerning the dogs and the April 19 attack. Craze advises that the city expects to revise its charges before the hearing to include a vicious dog charge. The city has also issued municipal infraction citations against Jenkins and the neighbor who had custody of the male rottweiler at the time of the attack.

GHI

Greenbelt Homes, Inc. also has a pending action against Dean Jenkins to remove him from the Plateau Place residence. According to General Manager Gretchen Overdurf, at a hearing held on April 27 in the District Court of Maryland, Judge Joel D. Worshtil recognized the cooperative's right to reclaim the unit, since a member of the cooperative no longer occupied it. (The former member-occupant, a relative of Jenkins, is deceased, according to Overdurf.) However, there is no set date for vacating the premises. GHI must first obtain a writ of restitution, she said.

Md. Opens Swine Flu Center in Baltimore

The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene opened a state Swine Flu Operation Center in Baltimore on Monday, April 27. The department's Office of Preparedness and Response has begun monitoring and assisting health care partners across Maryland to prepare and respond should the swine flu present a health emergency for state residents.

Wednesday, the state reported six probable swine flu cases, three in Anne Arundel and three in Baltimore County, that are now being verified by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The samples were tested by state public health labs but require further confirmation by the CDC. None of the six were hospitalized and all are recovering from their illness.

A probable swine flu case is someone with flu-like symptoms who has a recent history of travel to an area affected by swine flu or contact with another person who has.

All Maryland hospitals, health centers, clinics, doctors and other health care providers are now on alert with specific instructions to identify and manage accordingly, anyone who calls or visits their facilities while experiencing flu-like symptoms.

As with any other seasonal flu, Marylanders are being advised to exercise precautionary measures to avoid becoming ill or spreading an illness to others. More state information on swine flu is at <http://www.dhmh.state.md.us> or <http://www.maryland.gov>.

Those who have a flu-like illness including: fever greater than

or equal to 100°F and cough or sore throat and a history of travel to an affected area within seven days of illness onset or have had contact with an ill person fitting this travel description within seven days of illness onset should stay home and call their doctor.

If there is no link to affected areas or travelers from affected areas but one is mildly sick with flu-like symptoms stay home and recover unless the following worrisome warning signs are present:

Children's Symptoms

For children, emergency warning signs that need urgent medical attention include fast breathing or trouble breathing, bluish skin color, not drinking enough fluids, not waking up or not interacting, being so irritable that the child does not want to be held, flu-like symptoms that improve but then return with fever and worse cough and/or fever with a rash.

For adults, emergency warning signs that need urgent medical attention include difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen, sudden dizziness, confusion and/or severe or persistent vomiting.

Wash hands often, especially after coughing, sneezing and wiping or blowing the nose. Cover mouth when coughing or sneezing. Use paper tissues when wiping or blowing nose; throw tissues away after each use. Stay away from crowded living and sleeping spaces, if possible.

Stay home and avoid contact with other people to protect them from catching the illness.

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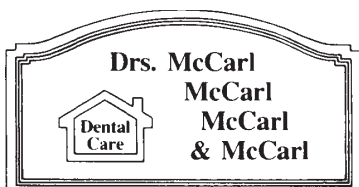


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EMPIRIAN

continued from page 1

more control over their environment. Addressing the concern of councilmembers that the units would be located on the balconies, Brinn and other members of the management team said there really was no alternative location for the units. He said having the units on the balconies where parents could supervise children near them made for a safer situation than having the units grouped together at ground level.

Davis remained skeptical. She said there needs to be some type of barrier to keep children safe.

Plans are also in the works for a large activity center with a party room, play area, wifi bar and laundry facilities with some large-capacity machines. The existing plumbing will not permit installation of washers and dryers in individual units, Brinn said. Laundry facilities will still be available in each building, he said, but the number of machines may be reduced.

Exterior Improvements

The facades of the buildings will be changed. The new design calls for dormer windows, repainting the trim and removing the glass doors to each building. Some councilmembers had issues about removing the doors but Sharon Thames of Empirian Village Management told them the expense of replacing glass broken through accidents or vandalism amounts to \$250,000 a year.

She said the broken glass also presents a safety concern. She added that having the entranceways open to the elements would discourage people from loitering in them. Officer Jonathan Lowndes, who is assigned to the complex, agreed with her assessment.

Brinn told council that the group had obtained county permits for the proposed changes and are working with Greenbelt's planning department to obtain city permits. He also said they are currently operating on temporary occupancy permits but are scheduling inspections with the city to obtain permits.

Communications

While it is difficult to provide information individually to over 3,000 units, Brinn said, management has made efforts to keep residents informed. Thames introduced the editor of the new monthly newsletter, who said she hopes to expand it in the months to come. Meeting space for the whole community will be difficult to find, according to the management team but they are trying to let people know what's going on during the renovation process.

Tenant Response

Che Sayles, president of the Greenbelt West Residents Association and a resident of Empirian Village, told the assembly that the projected amenities sound great but people still require to have their basic needs, such as water and heat, satisfied. He complained that his requests for service to plumbing in his unit took too long to achieve a response.

He had concerns as well about the reduction of washers and dryers in apartment buildings, saying people preferred to do laundry locally instead of going to a more distant building. He invited management to come to the association's meetings, held on the first Tuesday of the month at the elementary school.



The Greenbelt Tennis Association (GTA) presents a \$200 check to City Manager Mike McLaughlin and Recycling Coordinator Luisa Robles for recycling bins to be installed this week on the Braden Field Tennis Courts to collect empty tennis ball canisters and metal lids, beverage bottles and other recyclable materials. The bins will arrive just in time for the GTA's Season Opening Membership Social on Saturday, May 3 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. From left to right are Mike McLaughlin, Cam MacQueen, Emmett Jordan, Luisa Robles and Ellen Carter.

— photo by Beverly Palau

The dragon (inflated) was one of the main attractions at Greenbelt's Celebration of Spring on Saturday, April 18 at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Other activities included moon bounces, carnival games, music, basketball and free food and drink.

— photo by Beverly Palau



Greenbelt residents, young and old, turned out to assist with the Arbor Day tree planting that took place at the Greenbelt Youth Center on April 25. The planting activity was part of the city's annual Earth Day celebration.

— photo by Beverly Palau

The Knights of Columbus/St. Hugh's Annual Fishing Tournament was held last Saturday at Greenbelt Lake. Knights and fisher kids are shown at right: back row (left to right) Larry Hilliard, Grand Knight Rob Hobbie, Chuck Hatcher, Cheniya Sharpe, Edward Brennan, Damien Brennan, DGK Chris Emelife, Brendan Bailey, Sean Bailey. Front row (left to right) Natalia Rincon, Miles Pierce, Matthew Baraveccia, Danny Ontiveros and Juan Rincon. The undisputed winner was Alec Casey.

— photos by Larry Hilliard



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OPEN HOUSE – Saturday, May 2, 12 - 3 p.m. One bedroom, end unit, gorgeous inside & out, \$121,000. 52A Ridge Road. 301-313-0567

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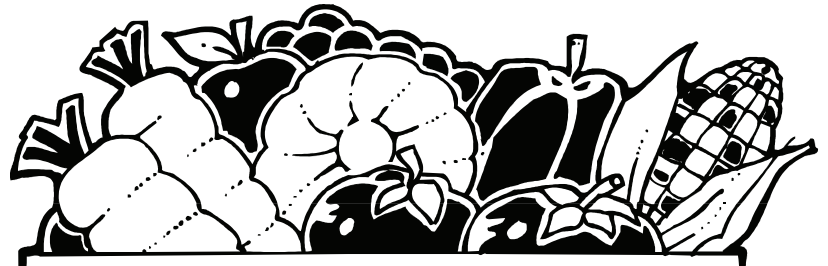
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Tennis Membership Social Is Saturday

To kick-off the 2009 Greenbelt Tennis Association (GTA) tennis season, a GTA membership social will be held this Saturday, May 2 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Braden Field Tennis Courts in Greenbelt. The rain date is Sunday, May 3.

Enjoy a day of doubles tennis; a partner is not needed, players will be matched with a compatible player. Light refreshments will be served.

The social is free for those who join or renew GTA membership. There is an equivalent fee for nonmembers. GTA hopes those attending will decide to join and support tennis in the community. RSVPs are requested by email to gta@greenbelt.com or just show up.

Got a Green Idea?

Bring it to the Green Man! Those who have a solution to global warming, for energy efficiency, for a better way to heat a GHI home, to clean up Greenbelt Lake, to help pet care become more sustainable or to improve water quality are asked to bring it to the Green Solutions tent at the Green Man Festival on Sunday, May 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. One person's concept can be a way to solve a local or global problem. It can be an idea, an invention or something else. Space will be limited, so the governing principle will be first come first served. For questions call Susan Barnett at 301-474 7465 or email susnbarn@earthlink.net.

Owens Planetarium Program Is May 8

On Friday, May 8 there will be a planetarium program at the Howard B. Owens Science Center, 9601 Greenbelt Road in Lanham.

The program, called "More than Meets the Eye" is designed to allow the audience to compare celestial objects such as planets, globular clusters and galaxies as seen by the unaided eye, through binoculars or telescopes and through multiple wavelength imagery.

Doors open at 7:15, with the program starting at 7:30 p.m. There is a nominal fee. Call 301-918-8750 during school hours to confirm the program topic.

Greenbelters Open Season with Victory

The Greenbelters of the Baltimore Beltway Senior Softball League opened the season on Monday, April 26 with a win at home over the Carroll County Grays, 13-11.



The visitors won the first game of a double-header, 15-4, but then were upended in a see-saw contest. The Grays led in the early innings before Greenbelt scrapped to a 13-9 lead heading into the 7th. With two runs in for the Grays and two men on base, newcomer Joe Battle grabbed a fly ball in centerfield for the final out.

Contributing to the Greenbelt win were manager-winning pitcher Ray Reed, Burt Kerr, Mike Schultz, Carl Reed, Paul Williams, Harlan Park, Larry Dandridge, George Harrison, Eli Flam, Jim Dugan, Irv Salzberg, player-coaches Luis Rivera and John Mack and Battle.

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Great windows!
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73 S RIDGE ROAD

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37 C RIDGE ROAD

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31A RIDGE ROAD

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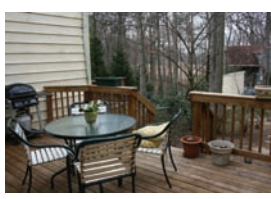
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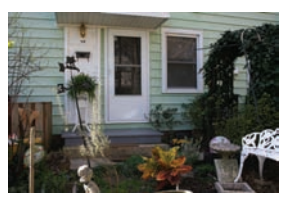
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Cub Scouts receiving the Arrow of Light Award, left to right: Jakob Trangsrud, Nelson Chen, Scott Candey, Evan Divers and Matthew Sanderson by Order of the Arrow Chief Greg Rozanski.

Cub Scouts Have Arrow of Light Ceremony

by Gary Sanderson

Greenbelt's Cub Scout Pack 202 held its Arrow of Light Ceremony and bridging to Boy Scouts meeting on April 23. This year the pack celebrated the achievement of five fifth graders in the Webelos Den earning the highest rank of Cub Scouts the Arrow of Light: Scott Candey, Nelson Chen, Evan Divers, Matthew Sanderson and Jakob Trangsrud.

The boys had to work on many activity badges from a variety of categories including physical skills, mental skills, community, technology and the outdoor groups. They also needed to visit a boy scout troop and participate in an outdoor boy scout activity. Matthew Sanderson earned the Heavy Shoulder Award for earning all 20 Webelos activity badges.

The boys were welcomed by Scoutmaster Lenny Wertz of Boy Scout Troop 746 in Greenbelt and Scoutmaster Shawn Scoles of Boy Scout Troop 214 of University Park along with other members of each troop. The boys were wished onward with best wishes for their trail to Eagle in the Boy Scouts.

Other Awards

Rafael Martins and Shayne Wimbush were presented the Bobcat that every new cub needs to earn. Matthew Dickerson completed the Bear Rank.

The following cubs were recognized for their help with the Potomac Watershed Clean Up this month: Cody Balot and Tyler Clarke (Tiger Den); Thomas Bailey, Declan Berard and Nathan Hawks (Wolf Den); Evan Candey, John Commins, Charlie Dawson, Matthew Dickerson, Jaden Dirksen and Joshua Sanderson (Bear

Den); and Nicolas Cala, Scott Candey, Evan Divers and Matthew Sanderson (Webelos).

The dens and packs have taken a tour of Cakes & Confections Bakery in Annapolis, the movie theater at Beltway Plaza and swimming at the Greenbelt Pool. In May they will be getting outdoors working on their "Leave No Trace" award and preparing for their Graduation/Campout.

Joining

Cub Scouting is open to boys in first through fifth grades doing age-appropriate activities to prepare for becoming a Boy Scout. More information about the pack is available at the website www.pack202.org or by email to cubinfol@pack202.org. Meetings are typically Thursday nights at 7 p.m. at Greenbelt Community Church.

Gary Sanderson is scout cubmaster.

PHOTO BY RICHARD SANDERSON

A Review

"Comic Genius Connection" Now Playing at Arts Center

by Anne Gardner

The current production at the Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC), dubbed "The Comic Genius Connection" and directed by the husband-and-wife team of Sheilah Crossley-Cox and Stephen Cox, consists of not one but two plays, each one act long. The first play is British and the second American and the intellectual humor of Tom Stoppard's "The Real Inspector Hound" contrasts well with the crackpot comedy of Christopher Durang's "For Whom the Southern Bell Tolls." Both are extremely well cast, with a talented group of actors and actresses.

"The Real Inspector Hound" pokes fun at Agatha Christie-type murder mysteries, theater critics and even the theater itself. The play begins with two critics, excellently portrayed by Sergio Cassanego and Neil Twohig, attending a performance of a 1930s whodunit. Their pompous reviews, along with reflections on their current obsessions, are a counterpoint to the melodramatic action occurring on stage. Gradually the boundaries between the critics and the actors blur, until they inadvertently become part of the action themselves.

The other actors are obviously enjoying playing their parts in an over-the-top manner, especially Rose Martin (Felicity Cunningham) and Melissa Robinson (Lady Cynthia Muldoon). Special mention must also be made of Trix Whitehall as the deadpan Mrs. Drudge and Zachary Brewster-Geisz (The Body), who is convincingly dead throughout the

whole play.

The brief second play, "For Whom the Southern Bell Tolls," is a parody of Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie," although it can be enjoyed on its own for those not familiar with the Williams play. It explores the tensions between the aging Southern belle, Amanda Wingvalley, ably portrayed by Shirley Greenwald, and her two sons, Tom (Peter Eichman) and Lawrence (Bob Kleinberg.) At his mother's urging, Tom brings home Ginny, a girl he knows from work, in the hopes that she will marry Lawrence and take him off his mother's hands. The butch, slightly deaf Ginny, well played by Melainie Eifert, provides comic relief from the psychological drama of the other characters.

Kleinberg and Eichman, who appear in both plays, are newcomers to the Greenbelt Arts Center stage. Kleinberg does a particularly good job of revealing the mentally challenged Lawrence's idiosyncrasies and Eichman shows his versatility in playing two very different characters. I hope we will see both these actors again at GAC.

"The Comic Genius Connection" runs through May 16 with performances at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. There is some strong language and the plays are not suitable for children.

For more information call the Greenbelt Arts Center at 301-441-8770 or visit the website at www.greenbeltartscenter.org.

New Museum Staffer Grew Up in Greenbelt

by Sandra A. Lange

The Greenbelt Museum welcomes its new volunteer/education coordinator, Sheila Maffay-Tuthill. No stranger to Greenbelt, Maffay-Tuthill's own historical roots are intrinsically linked to the city. Her father, John "Jack" Maffay, is a Greenbelt pioneer. Her mother, Elizabeth "Betty" Maffay, served on the Greenbelt City Council from 1969 to 1975, only the third woman at that time to serve on council.

Maffay-Tuthill is the youngest of five siblings. She grew up in the family home on Northway. As a child, she loved listening to her father tell stories of his early years in Greenbelt during the 1940s and 1950s. She also had a keen interest in learning about her mother's childhood in Germany. After high school it seemed natural for her to select history as her major at the University of Maryland.

Following her graduation Maffay-Tuthill spent several years working for museums in Frederick, St. Mary's County and Akron, Ohio. She and her family returned to Greenbelt three years ago, since she wanted to be closer to her parents. She and her husband David also wanted to provide their own three children - Jake, 15; Jeremy, 12; and Jackson, 4 - with some of the opportunities she had enjoyed growing up in Greenbelt.

When Megan Searing-Young



Sheila Maffay-Tuthill

PHOTO BY SANDRA LANGE

was appointed museum curator/director of historic programs, the volunteer/education coordinator's job became open. This position is funded by the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum in part through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The part-time position fits with Maffay-Tuthill's family responsibilities. Moreover, it allows her to combine her interest in history and museum training with an insider's knowledge of Greenbelt. She also brings enthusiasm and community pride to her job.

As an education coordinator for the museum, she wants to initiate a Family Day at the historic house at 10-B Crescent Road, teaching crafts popular in the 1930s and 1940s. She is seeking ways to reach out to young people through new media presentations, Facebook entries, lectures and tours. Currently she is working on a kids' walking tour project as part of a grant application being de-

veloped by a parent at Greenbelt Elementary School.

Living in Greenbelt and working at the Greenbelt Museum offers exciting opportunities for Maffay-Tuthill to develop her skills and interests. She invites people to stop by the Greenbelt Museum on any Sunday afternoon from 1 to 5 p.m. to shop at the museum store or go on a docent-led tour. If she is there, she will gladly talk about growing up in Greenbelt and Greenbelt's place in the history of the New Deal.



Lawrence (Bob Kleinberg) shows Ginny (Melainie Eifert) his swizzle-stick collection in "For Whom the Southern Bell Tolls" by Christopher Durang.

PHOTO BY RACHEL DUDA



Call for Candidates

Board of Directors
Audit Committee
Nominations & Elections Committee

Are you still thinking about running for GHI office? Just do it! Time is running out!

Five Board members will be elected at the May 21 election, as will all three members of the Audit Committee and all five members of the Nominations & Elections Committee. The deadline for filing to run at the GHI office or with an N&E member is **Monday, May 11.**

A candidate packet, including the necessary information and forms, is available at the GHI offices or can be downloaded from the GHI web site. Go to <http://ghi.coop> and click on "Elections." If you prefer, GHI will mail the packet to you, or you can request personal delivery from an N&E Committee member if you call Marjorie Gray at 301-474-6224.

All members are encouraged to come to a Candidate Forum to be held Friday, May 15, at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building to hear the candidates' ideas and qualifications. Come prepared to ask the tough questions!

Don't forget to mark your calendar to attend the May 21 GHI Annual Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. Voting will take place following the meeting and from 7-10 a.m. and 5-8 p.m. on Friday, May 22, at the GHI offices.