

# GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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

JANUARY 31, 2013

## Greenbelters Relish Inauguration

by James Giese

Greenbelters were part of the crowd of over 800,000 people that attended festivities relating to the second inauguration of President Barack Obama. Two of them, News Review staffer Altoria Ross and a recent arrival to Greenbelt, Aileen Kroll, have recounted their experiences in separate stories found in this issue. Here are some of the experiences of some of the others made known to us who participated in the January 21 activities.

### Greenbelt Police

Police officers from throughout the country were brought in by the Secret Service and Washington Metropolitan Police to assist with crowd control and protection of officials. For the second time, Greenbelt officers participated. Volunteering for this kind of duty did not get you front row seats to inaugural activities, however. While up front, these officers were standing with their backs to the Inaugural Parade, watching the crowd, making certain that nothing untoward took place.

MPO Kelly Lawson was a member of the five-person Greenbelt contingent that participated; the others being MPO John Rogers, MPO Steven Keller, MPO

Jermaine Gullede and PFC Gerald Potts, III.

On Sunday, the five reported to be deputized as U.S. Marshals, Lawson said. They also received some training in use of force while in the District.

For the officers, their Inauguration Day detail began at 4 a.m. when they rendezvoused with participating officers from places

further away who were staying at the Greenbelt Marriott in order to be bused into the city. The Greenbelt group were to work most closely with officers from Pennsylvania and Louisville, Ky., Lawson said.

They were stationed on the parade route near 14th Street

See **INAUGURATION**, page 12



PHOTO BY MPO KELLY LAWSON

**Greenbelt Police at Inaugural detail, MPO Steven Keller on Pennsylvania Avenue at 14th Street, lined up with Pennsylvania State Police officers, face crowd of observers.**

## January Worksession Focuses On Mid-fiscal Year Outlook

by Thomas X. White

The Greenbelt City Council's worksession on January 23 at the Community Center is a meeting occurring annually, usually in January, where City Manager Michael McLaughlin provides information to council on how the city is faring midway in its budget year. The worksession provided a preliminary view for the coming fiscal year, the status of capital projects underway or planned and details of management objectives as part of the current fiscal year. All councilmembers attended in addition to McLaughlin, Assistant City Manager David Moran and City Treasurer Jeff Williams.

At the outset, there was some confusion among councilmembers as to whether the worksession included opportunities for council input to McLaughlin as he proceeds to develop his proposed Fiscal Year 2014 budget. Although labeled as "City Manager Update," McLaughlin said that while the worksession included his budget preview for FY-14, he is only in the early stage of discussions with city department heads and preparation of the proposed budget for the next fiscal year he must submit to council no later than the

second meeting in March.

After discussion, McLaughlin agreed to schedule another budget update late in February.

### FY13 Budget Midpoint

Preliminary data show city revenues for Fiscal Year 2013 are slightly ahead of historic amounts and property tax abatements are running much lower than last year. If that trend continues, it will be good news, he said.

In addition, projections for corporate property taxes will likely exceed the current year's budget amount. Income taxes are tracking toward its FY13 budget projection and first quarter hotel/motel and admission and amusement taxes are higher than those for Fiscal Year 2012. The dark cloud is a continuing decrease in residential property assessments (down about 6.9 percent based on preliminary state assessment data) for FY13.

### Speed Cameras

Fines and forfeiture revenues are trending down slightly, current records show. Red light camera revenue is on track to exceed that in the adopted FY13 budget by about \$80,000, but early receipts for recently installed speed cameras in city school zones are lower than ex-

pected. Based on these early trends, McLaughlin said it does not appear likely the FY13 adopted revenue estimate of \$400,000 will be reached. Preliminary data for the first two months of operations (November and December 2012), show the camera experiencing the highest number of violations (893) to be located in the 5900 block of Cherrywood Lane facing northbound traffic, while the lowest number of violations (111) was captured by the camera located in the 9100 block of Edmonston Road, also facing northbound.

As experience is tracked for the six cameras deployed near Greenbelt schools, some cameras are being relocated to alternate locations based on their relative effectiveness. Total speed camera violations for November/December 2012 were 1,701.

On the expenditure side, McLaughlin sees some good news with several accounts, including worker's compensation, retirement payments, health insurance and motor vehicle fuel all tracking below their respective budgets.

Overall the trend for expected

See **COUNCIL**, page 7

## Greenbelt Teenager Atop Junior Tennis Rankings

by Kelyn Soong, Capital News Service

Football was Evan Zhu's first obsession. Born in Ann Arbor, Mich., he watched every University of Michigan game on TV with his father, a graduate of the school.

At just 3-years-old, Evan was

able to throw a perfect spiral, emulating the Big Blue quarterbacks he admired on the field.

But his parents – Yongdong Zhu and Xiaohui "Julie" You – feared the contact sport would be too dangerous for their son.

They introduced him to tennis at age 8, which their daughter, Amy, had just started playing.

The decision has paid dividends, as Evan, who lives on South Ora Court, is now ranked No. 1 in the nation for players 14-and-under and No. 2 in the Mid-Atlantic for players 16-and-under.

It did not take long for Evan, now 14, a naturally-gifted athlete who excelled at sports like baseball and basketball at a young age, to embrace tennis.

See **ZHU**, page 6



PHOTO BY KELYN SOONG

**Evan Zhu, 14, hits a backhand during practice at the Tennis Center at College Park.**

## Update on Old Middle School by School Board

by Thomas X. White

The Prince George's County Board of Education at its meeting on Thursday, January 24 supported the Interim Superintendent Dr. Alvin L. Crawley's recommendation that the school system offer to lease five classrooms at the Old Greenbelt Middle School (GMS) to the City of Greenbelt. The school board also affirmed its decision that the Robert Goddard French Immersion program be moved from Robert Goddard to the vacant Greenbelt Middle School. Beyond that, the school board intends to keep other portions of the middle school for "swing space."

According to City Manager Michael McLaughlin, the city had expected some determina-

tion by the school board since late last year, following two to three years of city interest in securing the use of the school building for community use. McLaughlin indicated he has arranged a meeting with school board staff to learn more about the details of the school board's offer and would report back to council.

McLaughlin also expressed appreciation for the efforts of school board member Peggy Higgins and for her keeping Greenbelt officials informed. Although the city's appointed Greenbelt Middle School Task Force is no longer active, Chair David Lange and other members remain interested in following the issue.

### What Goes On

#### Sunday, February 3

1 to 4 p.m., Artful Afternoon, No-Sew Quilt Blocks, Community Center

#### Monday, February 4

7:30 p.m., Council Worksession with Goddard Space Flight Center, Municipal Center, Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov)

#### Wednesday, February 6

8 p.m., Council Worksession with Greenway, at Community Center

#### Thursday, February 7

2:30 p.m., Free Produce Distribution, Springhill Lake Elementary School

# Letters

## Lone Demonstrator?

Perhaps Bill Norwood was the only demonstrator standing outside the New Deal Café on January 6 protesting Same Sex Marriage because he was . . .

Love is so elusive and not every human gets to experience the splendor of this gift. Love is the glue that bonds and gives peace, comfort, security and provides for each of us a sense of being someone important in our universe. It shouldn't matter or be anybody's business between which human beings this glue is placed.

Not one of us gets to choose the narrative that will become our lives upon our arrival on this earth. Our gender, race, sexual orientation and whether we prefer vanilla or chocolate ice cream is already destiny. The greatest love any of us can give to those with whom we share this world is to love and accept who each of us has become.

*Shelva J. Angle,  
former Greenbelter*

## Correction

Due to an error, last week's Greenbelt Baptist Church advertisement for the February 2, 2 p.m. Japanese Christian Fellowship Event ran without the address, phone number and website address for the church. The News Review regrets the error.

Greenbelt Baptist Church is at 101 Greenhill Road and can be reached by calling 301-474-4212 or visiting its website at [www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org).

# LOVE NOTES ARE COMING

See ad on page 11 for details

## Alight Previews New Season At GAC Event this Weekend

On Friday, February 1 and Saturday, February 2 at 8 p.m. Greenbelt's Alight Dance Company will offer a sneak peek at its new season in a preview of Stargazing and The 50s Front in an event at the Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC). Also participating will be Harp 46 with live music, DJ The People's Dance Party and other arts and crafters who donated items for the silent auction after the performance. Besides the auction, which supports arts education programming, there will be a dance party, hors d'oeuvres and cocktails. There is a fee; see ad on page 3.

The newest of the now-works-in-progress will have their formal premiere at Dance Place in Washington, D.C., in late June. Friday and Saturday, Alight is giving the audience a chance to perfect their work,

interact with the choreographers and dancers in a talk-back session and take part in a process of creative decision making.

Stargazing, the fourth feature-length piece by Greenbelter Angella Foster, Alight's artistic director, tells of the spectacular death of a star visible from the backyard on a starry night. Those attending the GAC sneak peek will see the first of what will be a three-section piece blending narration, dance and live music by local trio Harp 46.

Alight Choreographer Wayles Haynes' The 50s Front examines family relations as it delves into the sentimental, funny, sometimes tacky and always curious journey to find self. Originally performed in the 2011-2012 season, Haynes has expanded the piece this year.

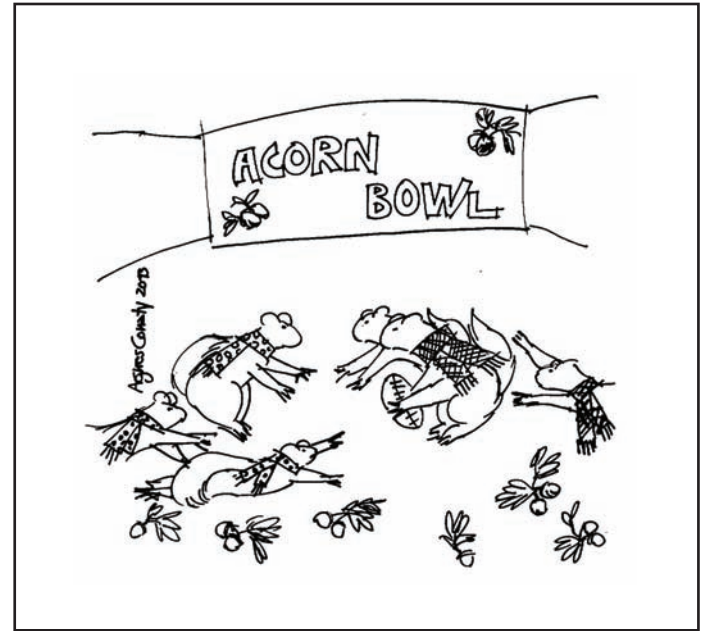


PHOTO BY ENOCH CHAN

Wayles Haynes' *The 50s Front* performed by Greenbelt-based Alight Dance Theater featuring, left to right, Amy Scaringe, Valerie Branch, Sarah Kramer, Angella Foster and Monica Warren.

Send us a line  
newsreview  
@verizon.net

## Grin Belt



"Offsides . . . backyard penalty . . . one squirrel down . . ."

## Montpelier Mansion's Black History Program

On Tuesday, February 5 from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Montpelier Mansion staff will conduct a free black history month program. Participants can make and take shakerrees, which are African percussion instruments used by slaves in colonial America. This program, at the Deerfield Run Community Center, 13000 Laurel-Bowie Road in Laurel, is for all ages.

For more information call 301-953-7882; TTY 301-445-4512.

## Next Peace & Justice Meeting Is Feb. 7

On Thursday, February 7 at 7 p.m. the Prince George's County Peace and Justice Coalition will hold its monthly meeting at the Greenbelt Community Center.

Among other topics to be discussed will be final plans for the February 18 Reel & Meal program focusing on Africa.

Those interested in progressive social change are invited to the meeting. For more information call Donna Hoffmeister at 301-441-9377 or email Lucy Duff at [justpeacepg@earthlink.net](mailto:justpeacepg@earthlink.net).

## OLD GREENBELT THEATRE WEEK OF FEB 1

Lincoln (PG-13)

### FRIDAY

Lincoln \*4:30, 7:30

### SATURDAY

Classic Film Series  
Today at Noon  
All Seats \$5.00  
Audie Murphy in *To Hell and Back*, NR (1955)

Lincoln \*2:10, \*5:05, 8

### SUNDAY

Lincoln \*1:30, \*4:30, 7:30

### MONDAY - THURSDAY

Lincoln \*4:30, 7:30

**Starts Feb 8: Silver Linings Playbook**

\*These shows at \$6.50  
**Tuesday is Bargain Day. All Seats Only \$5.00.**

Now accepting Visa, Discover and MasterCard for ticket sales and concessions.  
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## Greenbelt Soccer Alliance Spring Registration Open!

- Leagues for 1st - 12<sup>th</sup> grades
- Small-sided soccer up to 6<sup>th</sup> grade
  - Team and field size increase with age
- 50% playing time guaranteed
- Players and coaches insured through MSYSA
- All games in same location
- Professional clinic, custom T-shirt and Ice Cream Juggling Challenge included
- \$50 Greenbelt Residents, \$60 non-Residents
  - Discounts for coaches and FARM students



[greenbeltsoccer.org](http://greenbeltsoccer.org)  
MSYSA affiliated

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-1887  
301-474-4131 • FAX 301-474-5880  
email: [newsreview@verizon.net](mailto:newsreview@verizon.net)  
website: [www.greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://www.greenbeltnewsreview.com)

Alfred M. Skolnik, President, 1959-1977  
Elaine Skolnik, President, 1977-1985  
President Emeritus, 1985-

Editor: Mary Lou Williamson 301-441-2662  
Assistant Editor: Barbara Likowski 301-474-8483  
News Editor: Elaine Skolnik 301-598-1805  
Assistant to the Editor: Eileen Farnham 301-513-0482  
Photo Editor: Helen Sydavar

### STAFF

Jackie Bealle, Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Bell, Rebecca Boggs, Judi Bordeaux, Jessi Britton, Arlene Clarke, Lynn Clinedinst, Agnes Conaty, Bill Cornett, Cynthia Cummings, Peter Curtis, Elizabeth Eny, Angie Evans, Joan Falcão, Eli Flam, Kathleen Gallagher, Anne Gardner, Jon Gardner, Bernina McGee Giese, James Giese, Marjorie Gray, Carol Griffith, Pat Hand, Stacy Hardy, Solange Hess, Jeannette Holman, Rebecca Holoher, Barbara Hopkins, Larry Hull, Elizabeth Jay, Ginny Jones, Sharon Kenworthy, Suzanne Krofchik, Sandra Lange, Sylvia Lewis, Jim Link, Catherine Madigan, Lou Ann McCann, Kathleen McFarland, Cathie Meetre, Janet Meetre, Mary Moien, Marat Moore, Diane Oberg, Heba Pennington, Shirl Phelps, Marylee Platt, Carol Ready, Altoria Bell Ross, Cheryl Rudd, Ann-Marie Saucier, Susan Stern, Jonathan Taylor, Linda Tokarz, Nancy Tolzman, Joanne Tucker, Jean Turkiewicz, Thomas X. White and Dea Zugsby.

CIRCULATION Core of Greenbelt: Ian Tuckman 301-459-5624  
Franklin Park: Arlene Clarke 301-474-1526

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Marat Moore, secretary; James Giese; Diane Oberg and Altoria Bell Ross

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—\$40/year.

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

# Community Events

## At the Library

### Adult Programs

Tuesday, February 5, 7 p.m.: African American historian and author/lecturer C.R. Gibbs presents an audio-visual lecture on the African Diaspora for adults and older children on "Father of Negro History" Carter G. Woodson's Washington and his personal battle in his 40-year hometown against ignorance and bigotry.

### Storytimes

On Wednesdays and Thursdays a librarian reads age-appropriate stories to children and parents using imagination and props. Pick up a free ticket from the information desk before the session.

Wednesday, February 6, 10:30 a.m., Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5 years.

Thursday, February 7, 10:30 a.m., Toddler Time for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver.

For more information visit the Greenbelt Library, call 301-345-5800 or visit the library system website at [pgcmls.info](http://pgcmls.info). Patrons are reminded that a wide variety of free digital magazines can be accessed from the county library website at [www.pgcmls.info](http://www.pgcmls.info).

## Explore Hypnosis On Friday, Feb. 8

At 1 p.m. next Friday, February 8 Explorations Unlimited's focus will be on hypnosis, with a presentation by Erick Lundin.

The presentation will cover how the mind works, three myths about hypnosis, how making change is not a matter of will-power and four mental attitudes. Lundin, a nurse for 33 years in emergency rooms, ICUs and recovery rooms, also worked as chief nurse at a federal prison hospital. He discovered after retirement that hypnosis could accomplish remarkable things quickly and without medication. Lundin trained at Omni Hypnosis Training Center to become a certified hypno-therapist and then an instructor certified by the National Guild of Hypnotists. He now practices at College Park Hypnosis Center, established in October 2011.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. The hypnosis presentation will be held in Room 114, the Senior Classroom. All are welcome to attend; questions are encouraged.

For more information call 301-397-2208.

## GHI Notes

Thursday, January 31, 7 p.m., Board of Directors (Rentals Worksession) – Board Room

## Police Talk Scams, Safety for Seniors

On Friday, February 8 at 1 p.m. the Greenbelt Police Financial Crime Unit will give a talk especially geared toward seniors about scams, fraud, financial and personal safety at Greenbelt Baptist Church, 101 Greenhill Road.

Detectives, aware that scammers often target seniors, will discuss the most recent scams and phone frauds they're seeing and how to avoid being victimized.

For more information call the church at 301-474-4212.

## Greenbelt Park Seeks To Curb Invasives

To help protect Greenbelt Park from harmful invasive plants, Saturday, February 2 at 11 a.m. a hands-on nature preservation activity will be held at the Sweetgum Picnic Area. It is a chance to learn about native and non-native plants. This invasives containment program is held the first Saturday of every month, rain or shine.

Participants should wear appropriate clothing, work gloves and tick repellent and bring lunch or a snack.

The Greenbelt Park entrance is between Kenilworth Avenue and the Baltimore- Washington Parkway at 6565 Greenbelt Road. For more information call the park at 301-344-3944 or visit the website at <http://www.nps.gov/gree/>.

## First Movie Review Contest Winners

Two weeks ago the News Review announced a contest for the best short review of any movie playing at Old Greenbelt Theatre. With a drumroll, the first winners are Colette Zanin and Ron Roundy.

Zanin reviewed Les Miserables: Steal bread in France. Go to prison. Sing. Make enemy. Run from law. Sing. Repent. Build new life. Sing. Find love too late. Adopt a kid. Sing. Run from law some more. Get old. Sing. Lose daughter to cute rebel? Go back to the joint? Sing.

Roundy, Lincoln: "Lincoln," good. 'Jaws,' great. Tommy Lee Jones, excellent. Also with Barbara Bush as Hal Holbrook.

Send reviews of 50 words or less of either movie or the upcoming Silver Linings Playbook to [gnrfunmail@gmail.com](mailto:gnrfunmail@gmail.com). The most striking will be printed in the paper. Include name, address and phone number with submissions – brevity, wit and clarity impress the judges most. Write on!

## Camp Fire Programs Resume on Feb. 4

On Monday, February 4 the Camp Fire Middle School Discovery Program based at the Camp Fire Office in Franklin Park will resume from 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. on Mondays. The program, led by Youth Development Specialist Mike Walker and students from local universities, provides middle school youngsters opportunities to build skills, earn credit for Service Learning Projects and develop other assets. There is a small registration fee, with additional fees for field trips, special programs or activities, with scholarships available for youth who qualify.

In addition to leadership development the program provides increased understanding of self, family, other relationships, community, creative expression, the environment and the future in technology and business growth, as well as leisure activities.

For more information call Mike Walker at 240-391-6246 or email [CampFireInfo@gmail.com](mailto:CampFireInfo@gmail.com).

### Volunteers Sought

The Camp Fire Middle School Discovery Program is looking for a few adult volunteers to help with the program. Parental engagement is a key component of the Camp Fire programs, as adult mentors make a big difference to the youth in the program.

More Community Events are on pages 2, 4, 8 and 9

## Local KofC Free Throw Championship

Boys and girls ages 10 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2013 Knights of Columbus (KofC) Free Throw Championship to be held on Saturday, February 2 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the St. Hugh's School Gymnasium, 145 Crescent Road.

Organized by St. Hugh Council #10885 of the Knights of Columbus, all contestants on the local level are recognized for participating. Competitors must furnish proof of age and written parental consent. Entry forms and details are available by contacting Austin Conaty at 240-568-3059 or [austin.conaty@gmail.com](mailto:austin.conaty@gmail.com).

## Artful Reminder Sunday Afternoon

As noted last week, this Sunday, February 3 will be an Artful Afternoon at the Community Center from 1 to 4 p.m. A quilt block workshop, Greenbelt's 75th anniversary exhibit, artists' open houses and sale and a drawing for prizes are all on tap.

For details visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts) or call 240-542-2060.

### Own a Piece of Greenbelt History

Padded seat, metal folding chairs. You sat on them for Mowatt's spaghetti dinners, pancake suppers, Scouts and other events. \$5 each, \$45 for 10, \$200 for 50 or \$350 for 100 chairs. You must take away. To arrange pick-up call Betty, 301-577-4673.

## Meeting to Discuss Soccer Expansion

On Saturday, February 9 at 6 p.m. there will be a meeting in the Youth Center conference room to discuss introduction of selected soccer teams to Greenbelt.

Board members and coaches from the Greenbelt Soccer Alliance, U-12 and older teams will discuss details of sponsoring teams to play in the Baltimore Beltway Soccer Travel League and the Select Recreational League at the Soccer Association of Columbia. Interested families and coaches are invited to attend.

## LISTEN to the NEWS REVIEW

Visually impaired may listen for free Call Metropolitan Washington Ear 301-681-6636

No special equipment needed



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R = ID Required

(!) = No pass, (!!) No pass weekend

## WEEK OF FRIDAY, FEB. 1

### FRI. – SAT. – TUE.

Bullet to the Head, R (!)  
11, 1:10, 3:20, 5:35, 7:50, 10:05  
Movie 43, R (!)  
11:45, 2:20, 4:50, 7:15, 9:55  
Hansel and Gretel, in 2D, R (!)  
11:05, 7:45  
Hansel and Gretel, in 3D, R (!)  
1:20, 3:25, 5:35, 10  
Warm Bodies, R (!)  
11:45, 2:20, 4:50, 7:15, 9:35  
Broken City, R  
11:20, 4:25, 7, 9:40  
Mama, PG-13  
11:30, 2, 4:40, 7:10, 9:45  
Haunted House, R  
11:10, 1:10, 3:20, 5:25, 7:35, 10  
Django, R  
11:50, 3:55, 7:25  
Rise of the Guardians, PG  
1:50

### SUN. – MON. – WED. – THUR.

Bullet to the Head, R (!)  
11, 1:10, 3:20, 5:35, 7:50  
Movie 43, R (!)  
11:45, 2:20, 4:50, 7:15  
Hansel and Gretel, in 2D, R (!)  
11:05, 7:45  
Hansel and Gretel, in 3D, R (!)  
1:20, 3:25, 5:35  
Warm Bodies, R (!)  
11:45, 2:20, 4:50, 7:15  
Broken City, R  
11:20, 4:25, 7  
Mama, PG-13  
11:30, 2, 4:40, 7:10  
Haunted House, R  
11:10, 1:10, 3:20, 5:25, 7:35  
Django, R  
11:50, 3:55, 7:25  
Rise of the Guardians, PG  
1:50

For directions, visit us at:  
[Academy8theaters.com](http://Academy8theaters.com)  
Or call: 301.220.1155

Dance, Live Music, Tasty Eats, Local Arts and Crafts!

alight dance theater presents

"Sneak Peak" Season Preview Performance and Dance Party with Live Music by Harp 46

Friday, February 1, 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, February 2, 8:00 p.m.

at Greenbelt Arts Center  
123 Centerway Drive  
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Tickets: \$14 - \$17

For tickets and directions, visit [www.greenbeltartscenter.org](http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org)



Greenbelt Arts Center

**THIS WEEKEND ONLY STARGAZING**

Presented by alight dance theater

February 1 and 2 at 8:00

Ticket prices: \$17 General Admission; \$14 Students/Seniors/Military



For information & reservations, call 301-441-8770 or email: [info@greenbeltartscenter.org](mailto:info@greenbeltartscenter.org) or BOOK TICKETS ONLINE at [www.greenbeltartscenter.org](http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org)

Coming Soon to the Greenbelt Arts Center:  
February 22 - March 16 -Superior Donuts

Greenbelt Arts Center  
123 Centerway • Greenbelt, MD 20770 • Located underneath the Greenbelt CO-OP

**Greenbelt Baseball**

2013 Registration Dates

(Bring a copy of Child's Birth Certificate & Photo ID)

**Saturday, February 2, 9, 16, 23**

Registration will be held at the following locations and times

10 a.m. – noon @ Greenbelt Youth Center  
10 a.m. – noon @ Springhill Lake Recreation Center

**DRAFT DAY**  
**Saturday, March 2, 2013**

10 a.m., First Year Players Draft (McDonald Field)  
(Bad Weather Date Saturday, March 9, 2013 same time and location)  
\*Major League Players Only\*

(Registration will also be available before the draft)

For more information please contact:  
Commissioner Jim Inzeo at 301-832-6631 or at [greenbeltbaseball@aol.com](mailto:greenbeltbaseball@aol.com)



# Obituaries

## Nicole S. Brown

Nicole Suzanne Brown, 21, died Saturday, January 26, 2013. A lifelong Greenbelt resident, most recently of Boxwood Village, she played baseball and softball in the Greenbelt Little League (with the Giants) and in high school. She attended Eleanor Roosevelt High School (Class of 2009) pursuing her passion in art and illustration and subsequently at the Art Institute of Washington, where she completed a program in graphic design and visual arts. She began work as a graphic designer at Good360, a charitable nonprofit in Alexandria, Va.



She was an avid baker and crafter, entering her artwork and pastries, etc. in craft fairs, 4-H fairs and as original gifts to friends and family. She will always be remembered for her kindness, creativity and thoughtfulness.

Her passing leaves her mother, Ginger M. Brown, also of Boxwood Village, and her father, Charles L. Brown, most recently a resident of Berwyn Heights, her family from Greenbelt and elsewhere in Maryland – the Browns and the McKinneys – as well as friends and classmates from high school and the Art Institute.

A viewing was held on Tuesday, January 29. Her memory can be honored with donations to Greenbelt Animal Shelter.

## In Memoriam

### Phyllis Pearl (Birtman) Bickerton

The definition of friend is someone who is giving and fond of others. Phyllis was that and much more.



She was the beloved daughter of Libby and Paul Birtman, pioneers who came to Greenbelt in 1938 when Phyllis was five and her sister Eunice was four. She attended Greenbelt Schools. We met when we were in the 7th grade.

Phyllis was a great dancer. She taught me all the latest steps. She was always so much fun. What a sense of humor! Phyllis was very athletic – first string on the varsity basketball team, where she excelled. After high school she started a government career with the Department of Agriculture which was to last over 40 years.

During those years she became a talented cook and great homemaker. She raised a wonderful family – two daughters and a son which produced four grandchildren. Her family is well-educated and they had been an addition to her life that had made

her proud and provided her with wonderful memories.

Phyllis acquired and maintained many friendships during her life, at school, work, while raising her family and during her retirement.

She was a good daughter, sister, homemaker, mother and perfect friend.

– Gloria (Shelton) Drake

### Dorothy L. Stair

Dorothy L. Stair, "Dottie," 91, formerly of Greenbelt, died on January 25, 2013, at the Brethren Home Community in New Oxford, Pa.

Born April 26, 1921, in Confluence, Pa., she was the daughter of the late Clarence P. and Ruth (Peck) Lohr. She was also predeceased by her husband Kenneth L. Stair and siblings Eugene and Margaret.

Mrs. Stair retired from the city Finance Department after a lengthy service as an accounts clerk.

She was active at the Westminster Church of the Brethren, the University Park Church of the Brethren and most recently a member of the Faith Community at the Brethren Home.

Mrs. Stair deeply loved and enjoyed spending time with her family. At the Brethren Home Community she served the church

with volunteer work including use of her sewing talents.

Surviving are her son Kenneth L. Stair and wife Linda, of Centreville, Md.; daughters Debra L. Shawaryn and husband Gene, of Lancaster, Pa., and Melanie C. Trombatore and husband John, of New Market, Md.; 13 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; her sister Mary Ellen Myers and husband David of Ellicott City, Md.

The funeral was held Wednesday, January 30 at Nicarry Meeting House of The Brethren Home Community, 2990 Carlisle Pike, New Oxford, with interment at the Pleasant Valley Cemetery in Pleasant Valley with her grandsons as pallbearers.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the Good Samaritan Fund of The Brethren Home Community, New Oxford, PA 17350. Online condolences may be made at [www.feiserfuneral-home.com](http://www.feiserfuneral-home.com).

In Memory Of  
Dirce "Dee" Ronchi of 13  
Court Ridge, 03/24/1921 to  
02/02/2012.  
Dee was my friend and next-  
door neighbor for many years.  
I will miss her always.  
Elizabeth Jay

The art of music is divine and effective. It is the food of the soul and spirit. Through the power and charm of music the spirit of man is uplifted. It has wonderful sway and effect in the hearts of children, for their hearts are pure. (Abdu'l-Baha)

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community  
1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918  
[Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com](mailto:Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com) [www.bahai.us](http://www.bahai.us)

**BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Rev. James Lawton - Pastor  
301-474-7573  
6301 Greenbelt Road  
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740  
[berwynpresbyterian.net](http://berwynpresbyterian.net)

Worship : Sundays at 11:00 am -- Child Care Available  
Sunday School: Sundays at 9:30 am  
Office Hours : M-F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

*"A hospitable, multicultural community of faith"*

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111  
[www.myholycross.org](http://www.myholycross.org) • [myholycross@verizon.net](mailto:myholycross@verizon.net)

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School, Bible Study 8:30 a.m.  
Informal Evening Worship 6 p.m.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church is a traditional Bible-believing, Christ-centered congregation! Join Us!  
Join us on Facebook at Holy Cross Lutheran Greenbelt

**Mishkan Torah Congregation**  
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield

Friday evening services 8:00 PM except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:30 PM

Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM  
Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.

For further information call 301 474-4223 [www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)  
Conservative and Reconstructionist

  
**Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS**  
Sundays 10 A.M.  
Municipal Building  
ALL ARE WELCOME.

## Star Party Planned at City Observatory

On Saturday, February 2 the Astronomical Society of Greenbelt (ASG) will sponsor a star party at the City of Greenbelt Observatory at Northway Field. In addition to the observatory telescope, several members will set up their personal telescopes and binoculars for the enjoyment of all.



Observing will begin as soon as it is dark enough, probably around 6:30 p.m., although telescopes may be set up earlier.

In addition to the planet Jupiter with its four Galilean moons, objects to be observed include several nice star clusters and nebulae. In particular the great nebula in Orion is a spectacular sight, as well as an important star-forming region.

The star party will be canceled without notice if it is hopelessly cloudy. Attendees are asked to park in the ball field lot, not up on the hill unless bringing a telescope. All are welcome. There is no admission charge.

**Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church**  
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt  
Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors  
[www.greenbeltumc.org](http://www.greenbeltumc.org) 301-474-9410  
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor  
Worship Service 10 a.m.

**Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church**  
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi  
Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

Sunday at 10 a.m.  
Rev. Diane Teichert  
See our website: [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)

**ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-474-4322

Mass Schedule:  
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.  
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.  
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.  
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

**St. George's Episcopal Church**  
Join us around a table where all are welcome!

Services

- Sundays  
8 a.m. simple, quiet service (no music)  
10 a.m. main service  
(music includes a mixture of acoustic guitar, piano and organ music)
- Wednesdays  
7 p.m. service with healing prayers (no music)

7010 Glenn Dale Road (Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)  
301-262-3285 | [rector@stgeo.org](mailto:rector@stgeo.org) | [www.stgeo.org](http://www.stgeo.org)

**Greenbelt Community Church**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hillside & Crescent Roads  
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings  
[www.greenbeltucc.org](http://www.greenbeltucc.org)  
Sunday Worship  
10:15 a.m.  
Clara Young, Interim Pastor

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

 **Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH**  
101 Greenhill Road Greenbelt, MD 20770  
(301)474-4212 [www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)

**Japanese Christian Fellowship Event**  
With Pastor Megumi Enomoto  
Sat. February 2  
2:00 pm  
At Greenbelt Baptist Church  
English Translation Provided  
Contact: Kyoko Hillman  
[kyokokh@gmail.com](mailto:kyokokh@gmail.com)  
(301)741-2736

Worship Service 11:00am  
All Welcome  
February 3<sup>rd</sup>  
"A Man after God's Own Heart"  
February 10<sup>th</sup>  
"How Quiet Trust Results in Bold Action"  
February 17<sup>th</sup>  
"The Former Beauty Restored"



Many Greenbelt families are mourning the death of Nicole S. ("Nikky") Brown, 21, on January 27, 2013. She was the daughter of native Greenbelters Ginger McKinney Brown and Charles L. Brown. We extend heartfelt sympathy to the McKinney and Brown families and their friends.

**Congratulations to:**

- Dylan Kristy of Fayette Place, who received B.A. degrees in both philosophy and history from St. Mary's College of Maryland in December.

- the "It's Academic" team from Eleanor Roosevelt High School, who were victorious in the January 26 contest.

- Anne Healey, one of Greenbelt's Maryland State Delegates, who has been named chair of the house Rules and Executive Nominations Committee, which reviews all gubernatorial appointments requiring house confirmation, as well as reviewing bills introduced after introduction deadline for assignment to the appropriate standing committees for consideration and all Joint House Resolutions introduced during the legislative session. She succeeds Delegate Hattie N. Harrison as the committee chair.

- Kelley Jo Wallace, daughter of Leonard Wallace and Holley Trittipoe of Burtonsville, now 16, who will perform with the Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras at the Kennedy Center Concert Hall on February 7 along with Ensembles of the Afghanistan National Institute of Music. Kelley Jo also played at the Kennedy Center January 27 with members of The Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University; she is a junior at Sherwood High School in Olney. The free performance, also to be simulcast live at the Kennedy Center website, requires tickets, which can be picked up at 5 p.m. Thursday, February 7 before the performance.



- Kenneth Silverman, who graduated from Civil Air Patrol Squadron Leadership School on January 27.

- Eleanor Roosevelt High School teachers Clarelisa Rivera and Lisa Yearwood, who both earned National Board Certification as teachers, now numbering 329 in Prince George's County, putting the county third in the state and 20th in the nation in teacher certification. The prestigious certification is a one-to-three year process achieved by rigorous, performance-based assessment of the teacher's skills and knowledge.

- News Review desktop contractor Lynn Eppard and family on the birth of her third granddaughter Riley Bryne who was born on January 30 (in the middle of work on this issue) to proud parents Jarrett and Allison Eppard-Wilcots. Riley joins big sisters Zoey, 9, and Jordyn, 5.

Send us your reports of new babies, awards, honors, etc. to share with our readers. To send information for "Our Neighbors" email [newsreview@verizon.net](mailto:newsreview@verizon.net) or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

- Kathleen McFarland

**Morning Bird Walk Held at Uhler Area**

The Prince George's Audubon Society will host a free morning bird walk at the Fran Uhler Natural Area on Saturday, February 2. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the end of Lemon Bridge Road, just north of Bowie State University, to see migrant and resident woodland and field birds, waterfowl and possibly raptor flyovers in this Patuxent River forested floodplain.

Beginners to experts are welcome. Waterproof footwear and binoculars are suggested.

Call 410-765-6482 for details.

**Mid-Week Bird Walk Planned at Artemesia**

The Prince George's Audubon Society will host a free guided bird walk at Lake Artemesia on Thursday, February 7 starting at 3 p.m. The Luther Goldman Birding Trail loops around the 38-acre lake and along Indian Creek. Meet at the parking lot at Berwyn Road and Balew Avenue in Berwyn Heights. Beginners, experts and everyone in between are welcome. Binoculars are suggested.

Call 301-459-3375 for more information.



**PROBLEM WITH VERIZON.NET EMAILS**

In December, GHI started having trouble with out-bound email to Verizon.net addresses. We are able to receive emails from Verizon.net addresses, but cannot send emails to Verizon.net account holders because Verizon has blacklisted (blocked) GHI's IP address.

Our Internet Service Provider has been working with Verizon to unblock the IP address. It is our understanding that it takes Verizon several weeks to clear up such issues. In the meantime, if your email address ends with @verizon.net, if you have a request or need information from GHI staff, please give us a call. We are working diligently to resolve this situation as quickly as possible.



**Valentine's Day at the New Deal Cafe!**

Special Valentine's Buffet (\$30) from 6-9  
(or order from the regular menu)

*Pianist David Gardner from 6-6:45!*  
*Transatlantic Crossing plays fiddle tunes from 7-9!*

[www.newdealcafe.com](http://www.newdealcafe.com)  
Reservations recommended @ 301.474.5642



# City Information

**MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4-8**

Monday February 4 at 7:30 pm **COUNCIL WORK SESSION WITH GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER** at the Municipal Center, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71, and streaming at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov).

Wednesday, February 6 at 8:00 pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION WITH GREENWAY** at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

*This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.*

**VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES**

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on:  
Advisory Planning Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability & Youth Advisory Committee

**For information call 301-474-8000.**

**AN ARTFUL AFTERNOON**

Sunday, February 3 from 1-4pm  
Greenbelt Community Center  
15 Crescent Road

**NO-SEW QUILT BLOCKS**



1-3pm: Free no-sew block workshop with Karen Arrington. Create your own block wall art from fabric scraps. Supplies provided. All ages.

Free drawing for tickets to a Greenbelt Arts Center show.

1-4pm Artist in Residence Open House Museum exhibit, and Museum house tour for a nominal fee.

**What's new at Greenbelt CityLink?**

**City Events, Meetings, the New Camp Brochure, contribution/recognition group information and much more!**

**Visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov) and stay informed.**



**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**  
[www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt](http://www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO ASSIST IN EVALUATING CITY BUS STOPS**

The City, through a grant from the Council of Governments, is working with a consulting firm to evaluate the safety and accessibility of the City's bus stops. The City is looking for interested persons to assist in conducting the surveys. All volunteers will be required to attend a mandatory training session, and given the tools and knowledge necessary to complete the surveys. The number and location of bus stops assigned will be determined based on the volunteer's availability and interest. If you are interested in volunteering and/or have questions please email Terri Hruby, Assistant Planning Director at [thruby@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:thruby@greenbeltmd.gov) or by phone at 301-474-0569.

**CHRONIC ILLNESS EDUCATION AND SUPPORT**

Tips and Tricks for Taking the Lead in Managing Your Chronic Illness. This education and support group will meet for 6 sessions between February 28 and April 11. The group will meet in Green Ridge House's community room on Thursdays from 3:30-4:30. Participation is free but space is limited, participants must call Greenbelt CARES (301) 345- 6660 to register by February 25.

**GREENBELT ANIMAL SHELTER**

550-A Crescent Road (behind Police Station)



**I AM STILL WAITING!**

**Alexis is still with us! She was found as a stray in Greenbelt Park. She is a gentle giant but would do best as an only dog.**

Give us a call  
301-474-6124

Come out and visit all of the available pets!

The shelter is open on Wednesdays from 4-7pm and on Saturdays from 9am-12pm or by appointment. See all our pets on Facebook!

**FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION**

Springhill Lake Elementary School  
6060 Springhill Drive  
Thursday, February 7

Residents will be allowed to enter the school at 2:30 p.m. Please bring a cart to carry produce.

For more information contact Victoria Barry at 301-474-8000 ext 3002



# Impression of Two Obama Parades

by Aileen Kroll

It was September 2008 and I was living in always sunny Southern California. Itching for a change, and with Obama fever in the air, I determined to find a job in D.C. and catch a whiff of it, up close and personal.

Late October and the job is landed in Arlington. Moving to the D.C. area felt (and still does) like living in a candy store filled with your favorite treats; there is simply no end to the wondrous sights to behold.

Moving with haste across the country provided me with the coveted opportunity to attend the "We Are One" inaugural concert (with the incomparable Pete Seeger) and the inaugural ceremony itself. I even convinced my out-of-state children (who weren't quite sure that freezing for hours was all it was cracked up to be) to witness this history-making event with me.

I have many glorious memories of that auspicious inaugural day. The most compelling, however, occurred before the laudatory speeches and ceremonies. It took place on a jam-packed Metro train, long before the light of day, as total strangers hugged and embraced each other, acknowledging the wonderment of it all – that we were witnessing the dawn of a new chapter in American history, one where presidential ascendancy was not determined by the color of one's skin. But the real story was told through the eyes of the elderly black women, crying, weeping and gripping onto whoever was close to make sure that this reality was truly happening . . . and in their lifetime – people who had lived through so much pain and suffering because of their skin color and now, the highest office in the world would be inhabited by a man of color. Inconceivable and yet gloriously true and here we were, strangers, lovin' on each other and so thrilled to be alive to witness and mark this extraordinary occasion.

This was my true Kumbaya moment, a time to cherish always, where people of all colors, stripes and life experiences were the best we could be, united in hope, strengthened by community and committed to camaraderie.

I knew this time was fleeting. But knowing that this could happen, that people could be joined together in goodness, even if for a brief instant, provided me with the hope, inspiration and belief that we can move beyond our bigotries and can create the space to come together as one.

## 2013 Inauguration

Now four years later, I once



**Vice President Joe Biden and his wife Jill in the Parade.**

again embraced the inaugural day. This time I chose to experience it through the lens of the inaugural parade. So this year, at a more leisurely hour, I hopped on my bike, riding past the Greenbelt Metro (where the parking lot was full by 9 a.m.) and where throngs of people were lining up around the Metro card vending machines. I took to the streets for a beautiful, brisk almost silent ride down Rhode Island Avenue to the National Mall. It seemed as though no one was outside.

Then I turned down 6th and O Streets and life appeared to emerge from the woodworks. Hawkers were everywhere selling everything. People in all manner of Obama attire were trying to find their way to somewhere. Houses were decorated, some dramatically, to honor the special day.

Unable to ride further, I locked up my bike and set out to take in the sounds and sensations of the day. Though the streets were less frenzied than four years ago, the atmosphere remained electric and people were exuberant.

Once I figured out where to go for the parade checkpoint (10th Street), I fell in line with the masses and, just as before, goodness amongst strangers was the norm. Noticing that I had on a backpack, someone left their place in line to let me know that her backpack had not been allowed through the checkpoint.

Someone else overheard this comment and alerted me to the fact that backpacks inside another bag were posing no security issues. Now I've been through enough checkpoints to know that logic rarely prevails in such situations, so while I couldn't fathom why making my bag impossible to inspect made it more likely to clear security, I merely accepted this admonition.

While I was pondering my (limited) options, another woman offered to put my pack in her newly-acquired Obama tote bag. In so doing, she tore the handles off her bag but continued to stuff my bag. True enough, because my bag couldn't be



**Three women show off their Obama attire.**



**Aileen Kroll in cold weather garb and back pack rode her bike from Greenbelt most of the way to the mall.**

checked, I handily cleared security! Once again, total strangers supporting each other became the highlight of my inaugural experience.

## The Parade

The parade, scheduled to roll at 2:30, started at 3:30 p.m. Though the day was cold, the warmth of good cheer was all around me. Myself being somewhat vertically challenged, the people in front of me made space for me to get to the front of the viewing area along Pennsylvania Avenue. We shared mittens, hand warmers and Twitter updates.

And when the President and Michelle Obama and the Vice President and Dr. Jill Biden walked a few feet in front of us, the crowd roared in appreciation. People were genuinely touched and affected by the moment. Again, hugs, embraces to one and all.

I will likely never see these folks again, which makes the contacts even more wondrous. It gives me hope. If people can see past their own vested interests for a moment in time, it opens the door for more such moments.

The inaugural parade, my first, went on for hours. By 5:30 p.m. I decided to walk back to my bike and ride home. As darkness descended, I saw the usual disheartening sights of the city: the homeless huddled on cold sidewalk grates, the chattering children without adequate winter wear, the people begging for change.

The dichotomies and inequities of life do not disappear with an election cycle. But the unscripted moments of goodness I witnessed at both Obama inaugural ceremonies give rise to hope and, even as I write this, bring a smile to my face.

May we all find joy in our hearts and souls to share this year and all to come.

# ZHU continued from page 1

"When I started playing, I knew I wanted to be a competitive tennis player," he said. "I liked it right away. I just had fun doing it."

The desire stemmed from sharing the passion with his sister, four years his senior and now a nationally-ranked player on the University of Michigan tennis team.

But the age difference has never been a factor on the court, as Evan often got the upper hand against his elder sibling.

"She gets mad when we play," he said, laughing. "She stops playing when I start winning."

## Talented Children

It became evident to Evan's father, Yongdong Zhu, who emigrated from China in 1993 to earn his doctorate in analytical chemistry from the University of Michigan, that his children had talent for the game.

"Our original coach said [Evan] would be very good. He was already doing pretty well, but maybe he [could] do something more," his father said. "The coaches thought [both Amy and Evan] could be really good."

After their taking lessons and training at DuPont Country Club in Newark, Del., for a few years, Evan's parents felt the children needed to play matches against better competition.

In 2010, they enrolled both Amy and Evan in the Junior Tennis Champions Center at the Tennis Center at College Park, a prestigious tennis and education program for elite junior players.

"The cool thing about Evan is that when he came to us he was top 10 in his section; within two years' time he has become a national champion and No. 1 in the country," his coach, Kyle Bailey, said. "He is probably the most improved player in our program."

The move, however, has not come without sacrifices.

In order to defray the program's cost, which can run as high as \$40,000 annually, his mother quit her job and moved to Greenbelt to volunteer as a study hall monitor at the center.

Evan's father, a director at a pharmaceutical company, has remained in Newark and travels once a week to visit his family.

## Difficult Separation

You said the separation has been difficult for her.

"My husband visits every Wednesday and occasionally on weekends, but before Amy went to college we had to travel all the time. We didn't have time to celebrate Christmas or Thanksgiving," You said. "But it's worth it for us."

The family's devotion to his tennis career has not been lost on Evan.

"My parents support me a lot. They back me up in everything I do," he said.

Moving to Greenbelt also meant leaving his home, where he had lived since he was one year old.

"I moved from Delaware to Greenbelt because I wanted to train here and become a better tennis player," he said.

Tennis has given Evan, an introvert, an outlet to express him-

self. The soft-spoken 14-year-old has an unassuming presence both on and off the tennis court.

"He's always been pretty shy," Amy said. "But with tennis he's made new friends and it's really helped him a lot socially."

Evan, a thin and lanky 5-foot-9-inches, doesn't command the presence of a top ranked player in the nation. But his work ethic and determination have made him a national champion.

## No. 1 Win

Evan won the National Clay Court Championship in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., last July, a win that propelled his ranking to No. 1. He followed up the breakthrough victory with a finals appearance at the renowned Eddie Herr International Junior Championships in Bradenton, Fla., in November and a Mid-Atlantic Boys 16 and Under title earlier this year.

"What separates Evan is his mentality – the fact that he's taken no shortcuts," said Bailey, a former University of Maryland men's tennis assistant coach. "Every day he is consistent . . . he always responds well to the pressure. He never makes any excuses of why he wasn't able to do anything."

Evan, who idolizes 17-time Grand Slam winner Roger Federer, wants eventually to be a top professional player.

"He is really smooth on the court and it seems like he can do anything," Evan said of the Swiss legend.

Neither of his parents played competitive tennis. His father played table tennis, basketball and soccer in his native China.

"I want him to be a professional tennis player," Yongdong Zhu said when asked what he wants Evan to get out of his tennis training.

Evan's mother, however, is more cautious about her son's future career.

"My first choice is for him to go to college and play," she said. "But if he has that passion and potential and if he really wants to turn pro, I will support him. Right now, I still want him to go to college."

## Grinding Life Style

Visit the Tennis Center between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. and you will likely find a group of junior players practicing on the courts or lifting weights in the fitness room.

Despite the grueling schedule, which includes class time and study breaks, Evan certainly appears ready for the grinding lifestyle of a professional athlete.

After finishing a group practice that included several coaches from the center monitoring the players' every move, Evan showed few signs of frustration or fatigue, frequently flashing his youthful smile – one that reveals braces – while listening intently to the coaches' advice.

Bailey predicted a bright future for his star student.

"He's got all the tools. If he believes in [becoming a professional player] and keeps working hard, I think he can do it."

*Kelyn Soong is a Journalism student at the University of Maryland.*

VISIT [www.greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://www.greenbeltnewsreview.com)

# COUNCIL continued from page 1

revenues and expenditures in FY13 is favorable when compared to the adopted budget.

### FY14 Outlook

At this stage the outlook for the city's FY14 budget is mixed. McLaughlin reminded council that real property in Greenbelt was reassessed or revalued during calendar year 2012. While there has been some recent evidence that property values are starting to increase in the Washington region, there does not appear to be evidence that such increases are occurring in Prince George's County or in Greenbelt.

Preliminary assessment totals obtained from the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation show a decline in Greenbelt of 25 percent for residential property and a 17 percent increase for commercial property (including rental apartments). This decline would result in a potential 4.5 percent drop in total assessments for Greenbelt from \$2.02 billion to \$1.93 billion. McLaughlin cautions that these estimates are preliminary and could change over the remaining five months of the fiscal year ending June 30.

While the decline in residential values is in line with what has been experienced in Greenbelt and the larger community, McLaughlin characterizes the increase in commercial values as "puzzling." If accurate, he says this would be good news.

He attributes some of the increase to a growing demand for apartments, in general, and to re-investments in existing Greenbelt properties at Park Crescent in Old

Greenbelt and Franklin Park in Greenbelt West.

### More Vacancies

Somewhat offsetting this trend would be increased vacancies in several of Greenbelt's office parks. Another factor helping the situation, however, is the currently estimated drop in abatements and credits. While \$1.33 million was set aside for abatements in FY2013, he is projecting the city may be able to lower the amount set aside for abatements to just \$340,000.

Another bit of good news on the revenue side for Greenbelt's FY14 budget is the possibility that after several years of the state withholding from municipalities formerly shared highway user revenue and police aid, Governor Martin O'Malley has included increases for both in his proposed FY14 budget. McLaughlin has estimated that Greenbelt's share of those revenues could increase by \$300,000.

Mayor Judith Davis cautioned that while the governor's budget includes those increases, the general assembly could tinker with the allocations going to the jurisdictions; therefore, Greenbelt needs to watch the process in Annapolis carefully.

Finally, McLaughlin noted that the new real property values established for FY14 will continue to be a factor for Fiscal Years 2015 and 2016. City annual revenues and expenses have been around \$25 million for the past four years (since Fiscal Year 2009). They may stay in that range for four more years (FY13-

16), he said.

While the city has managed over the past four years through a difficult financial climate, McLaughlin expressed concern that continuing so for another four years may not be possible without additional revenue or budget cuts.

### Capital Projects

The manager's update included the status of proposed capital projects approved for this year as well as the status of some previously approved projects. The older ones included renovations taking place at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, the Safe Routes to School project underway on Springhill Drive, the Youth Center Gym Floor replacement and what has literally "been in the wings" for several years, the renovation of the Old Greenbelt Theatre.

Much of the work being done to improve the Springhill Lake Recreation Center is being funded through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. As of mid-January, Phase 1 is complete. The city is currently awaiting receipt of \$114,400 from the county for Phase 2 for roof repairs and new windows. Depending on the county process, he said, funds should be available for work to occur this spring.

In addition, the city has applied for additional CDBG funding for phase 3 which, if awarded by the county, would be applied to construction of a water pervious parking lot at the SHL center.

Bid documents are being finalized for the Springhill Drive Safe Routes to School project and proposals have been solicited from

contractors for the Youth Center floor project. Stay tuned for more on the Old Greenbelt Theatre.

### Other Projects

For projects included in the FY13 budget, most are in various stages of design, finalization of bid documents, identification of vendors and awaiting final approvals. All are likely to be underway this spring.

These include a police station gas tank, various traffic calming projects, bus shelters, new gateway entrance signage, street resurfacing and playground improvements.

Other projects are either on hold or in early design with additional application requirements or there has been no progress. These include a proposed \$500,000 for land acquisition. For the Greenbelt Lake dam and dredging project, the city is in negotiations for a state loan. Other possible projects are improvements for the Community Center, a long term project, and a trails project in Greenbrook that needs additional adjudication between adjacent homeowner associations to determine property lines.

### Policy Objectives

Also in the city's adopted budget are numerous policy objectives for the various specific budget accounts. These objectives are in effect negotiated between city management, department heads and council and become milestones during the fiscal year.

The city manager and the departments can be evaluated on how well these objectives are being met. At this stage of the update, most entries might just say "ongoing." Some will show either completion or relative progress.

For example, a council objective for FY13 was to "Hold a stakeholder meeting with Greenbelt hotels." The update entry for this objective was "Not scheduled yet." Whereupon, Mayor Judith Davis said to McLaughlin: "Before the end of the fiscal year."

An administrative objective is to "Negotiate new Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Greenbelt Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge 32." Here the entry was "Negotiations with FOP have begun."

In the Public Information Office budget is an entry to "Participate in the joint negotiations for the Comcast cable franchise." The update was that Communications Coordinator Beverly Palau and IT Director Dale Worley are part of the negotiating team which meets monthly.

The Planning Department has an objective to manage development review of Greenbelt Station South Core. There appears to be some potential activity occurring.

In addition to "implement speed cameras," the Police Department has the objective of reviewing and updating the city's Emergency Operations Plan. The update entry indicates the review is in progress. Councilmember Emmett Jordan noted the relevance to the Newtown, Conn., experience. McLaughlin said there is more activity relating to the objective currently.

Finally, the Greenbelt Museum, in conjunction with the city's 75th Anniversary Committee and the Recreation Department, had the objective to "execute Greenbelt's 75th Anniversary Celebration." Well done for all involved.

These are just a few of the great buys you will find at Co-op this week!

Prices Effective: FEBRUARY

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Check out our **best buy \$avings** on thousands of items throughout the store. Look for the green **best buy** shelf tags in all departments. We reserve the right to limit quantities. No sales to dealers please. Co-op is not responsible for typographical errors. Other great weekly specials are featured in our 6-page full color ad filer inserted in your News Review.

# Police Blotter

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

### Robbery

January 18, 6:00 p.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane. As a man was walking with two other men he had just met, one of the two men took the person's cellphone from his jacket pocket. The robber and the man with him fled on foot. They are described as black males approximately 17 years old. One is 6'0" tall with a thin build, wearing a brown North Face jacket. The other is 5'11" tall with a thin build, wearing a black and gray jacket and camouflage pants.

January 18, 6:27 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace. Two men approached a person and forcibly removed and took the person's jacket and then fled on foot. They are described as black males, 17 to 19 years old with thin builds, wearing black jackets.

### Arrests

January 20, 1:51 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court. A 21-year-old nonresident man was arrested and charged with second degree assault on a law enforcement officer, resisting arrest and disorderly conduct, among other charges, after officers responded to reports of a large party with people fighting. The man was transferred to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner. The officers involved were not seriously injured.

January 20, 7:53 p.m., Roosevelt Center. A 28-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana, possession with intent to distribute marijuana, and disorderly conduct, among other charges. He was transferred to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

### Burglary

January 18, 7:59 a.m., 6000 block Breezewood Drive. Electronics were taken.

January 18, 5:45 p.m., 6000 block Springhill Drive. An attempted burglary occurred.

January 18, 8:59 p.m., 6000 block Cherrywood Court. Electronics were taken.

January 18, 9:19 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace. Electronics were taken.

January 19, 11:57 p.m., 6000 block Cherrywood Court. A cellphone and floor safe were taken.

January 20, 1:17 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace. Electronics were taken.

January 21, 3:32 a.m., 200

block Lakeside Drive. Electronics were taken.

January 22, 9:52 a.m., Crescent Road, apartments. Several storage units were broken into. Electronics and clothing were taken from one of the units.

January 22, 5:36 p.m., 7800 block Mandan Road. Electronics were taken.

January 22, 7:14 p.m., 7800 block Mandan Road. Electronics and currency were taken.

January 23, 12:01 a.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Lane. Electronics were taken.

### Vandalism

January 19, 5:45 p.m., 6900 block Hanover Parkway. Graffiti was found on an interior door.

January 19, 10:11 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive. A door lock was damaged.

January 22, 7:46 p.m., 7800 block Mandan Road. A sliding glass door was broken.

### Trespassing

January 19, 8:40 p.m., 7700 block Hanover Parkway. A 27-year-old nonresident man was arrested and charged with trespassing on posted property. He was released on citation pending trial.

January 22, 11:16 a.m., 7700 block Hanover Parkway. A nonresident youth was petitioned for trespassing on posted property. He was released to a guardian pending action by the Department of Juvenile Services.

### Automotive Crime

A 2006 Honda Accord stolen from the 6800 block Megan Lane was recovered by Prince George's County police on Marlboro Pike at Brooks Drive, with two arrests made. No further information is available at this time.

### Utility Worker-posing Crooks Hit Greenbelt

Greenbelt Police warn that burglars posing successfully as gas utility workers gained admittance to a Maplewood Court home, ransacking it before fleeing.

Wednesday, January 23 at about noon police received a call of a burglary in progress. Responding officers were told by the resident that a Hispanic male in neon-yellow jumpsuit and hardhat had knocked, saying he was a gas company employee and needed to check the stove. The resident permitted the suspect to enter – once inside, he distracted the resident and let in two other men, who ransacked the home. When the resident confronted them, the three fled without taking anything.

The other two men are described as males of unknown race, possibly Hispanic. All three fled in a vehicle witnesses describe as a white or silver extended cab pick-up truck, possibly a late model Ford.

Police remind residents to be wary of such scams and not to open the door for strangers or solicitors. All utility workers should be clearly identified and will not mind a call to the utility to confirm the legitimacy of the visit. The public is asked to report suspicious individuals or vehicles to the police by calling 301-474-7200.

Anyone with information regarding this incident or who believes they may have been involved in a similar one are asked to contact the Greenbelt Police Department Criminal Investigations Unit at 240-542-2133.

*The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.*

*Call 1-866-411-TIPS.*

*People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.*

### Upcoming Events at New Deal Café

Thursday, January 31 pianist Amy C. Kraft plays midday melodies from noon to 2 p.m. with an open microphone session with Tom Gleason from 7 to 9 p.m.

Friday, February 1 pianist John Guernsey plays classical and jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m., followed by Buck & the Bucktones with bluegrass, honky-tonk and originals from 8 to 11 p.m.

The Saturday, February 2 schedule begins with Bruce Kritt playing classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m., then John Guernsey with up-tempo jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and the Sligo Creek Stompers playing a raucous but refined blend of traditional roots music from 8 to 11 p.m.

On Sunday, February 3 from 5 to 8 p.m. acoustic string band Silver City will perform Americana music.

### Next Week

Tuesday, February 5 from 7 to 9 p.m. the New Old Jamboree with Ruthie & the Wranglers will feature special guest Dede Wyland playing bluegrass. Wednesday, February 6 Pocket Vinyl, is a one-man-piano-band show coupled with a live, on-

stage painter creating a work of art during the show from 7 to 9 p.m., with the art auctioned off to the highest bidder at the end of the night.

Thursday, February 7 pianist Amy C. Kraft plays midday melodies from noon to 2 p.m., with an open microphone session with Paige Powell in the evening from 7 to 9 p.m.

Friday, February 8 pianist John Guernsey plays classical and jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m., then the Wharf Rats and special guest Tom Constanten, play Grateful Dead music from 8 to 11 p.m.

Saturday, February 9 John Guernsey plays up-tempo jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m., followed by headliners Little Red and the Renegades headline with zydeco, R&B, funk, blues and Cajun from 8 to 11 p.m.

Sunday, February 10 is a reception for current exhibitors Ana Gasper and Clara Major's "Color Movement Latin Art" and Kristin Stensen's photography exhibit "Near and Far" from 7 to 9 p.m. Acoustic rock group Ventura Highway will perform during the reception.

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Guest Speaker  
**Thomas P. Downs, Esq.**  
Estate Planning Attorney

Light refreshments will be served.  
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# This Greenbelter Is Just Happy to be There

by Altoria Bell Ross

Although I have lived in the Washington metropolitan area for 23 years, I attended my first presidential inauguration this year and it was exhilarating. I left Old Greenbelt at 9 a.m. and got to the Greenbelt Metro Station before the lot filled up. Chief James Craze with Captain Thomas Kemp at his side reported that Capital Office Park had offered its parking lot as overflow. The train, however, wasn't overflowing.

The ridership was more like a weekend crowd – light. I transferred at Fort Totten and exited the system at Judiciary Square. Police officers and military personnel of all stripes greeted travelers at the top of the escalator, setting the tone of vigilance while vendors hawked inauguration wares of T-shirts, programs and souvenir lanyards.

Posted signs indicated the entrance for colored tickets. Mine was gold, so I squeezed through the C street tunnel, littered with abandoned Starbucks cups and water bottles along with other spectators. As the pathway narrowed to two openings, I held up my ticket for entrance.

At this juncture, several lines wound into a white tent. Women dressed in minks, people sitting in wheelchairs and animated children patiently waited their turn to relinquish coats, cameras and purses at the security check point while walking through the metal detectors. Those who had brought backpacks had to leave them.

Outside the tent we poured out into the mall, gawking at the police lining Constitution Avenue in formation and the people-filled scaffolds constructed against the Capitol.

As I crossed into the gold section, I waved my ticket. The band played patriotic tunes while the Jumbotron screens flashed the arrival of people of note. The crowd booed Speaker of the House of Representatives John Boehner, cheered the Clintons and reached near hysteria at a glimpse of Beyonce.

The gold section began at the top of the reflecting pool. My seat was actually my feet, so when the dignitaries asked me and others in the section to sit or stand, we tittered.

During segments of the program, I looked back to view waves of rippling flags held by those in other sections all the way to the Lincoln Memorial. At times such as when President Obama gave his inaugural address, the masses were silent, reverent even.

Near me, Channel 4 interviewed a young white couple about the reason they came to the inauguration, an African American family of a mother, father, a daughter of about 6 and son around 8 took pictures and a white couple with a toddler followed him as he wandered the crowd exploring. An African American father, shifting his weight from one foot to another to keep warm and his teenage son stood witness to history.

I'm glad I did, too.



At left, a very happy Altoria Bell Ross holds her "gold" inauguration ticket.



PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG

Below, an exuberant crowd waves flags to celebrate the occasion.

# Three Artists Shown at Café

Currently on display at the New Deal Café through March 4 are an exhibit called Color Movement Latin Art of works by Ana Gasper and Clara Majors in the back room and, in the front

room, the travel photography of Kristin Stenson. women of the 21st century who keep their values and culture, as well as respecting those of other cultures and values.

### Near and Far

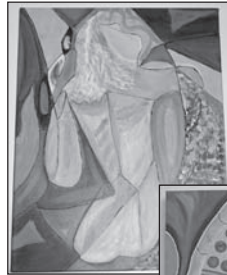
Greenbelter Stenson's photography shows travel as a way of challenging one's perspective. Traveling to some place as far away as Paris or as nearby as Great Falls, the possibility of coming home with a new-found appreciation for the world is the context in which the photographs are assembled.

Each photograph in the exhibit marks a place and moment in time that challenged Stenson's perspective on her environment, culture or herself. Her interests have allowed her to pursue painting, drawing, photography and fabric arts. Her undergraduate work in art history was completed at the University of Maryland and she studied fine arts at Prince George's County Community College.

### Artists' Reception

On Sunday, February 10 from 7 to 9 p.m. there will be a public reception for the three artists' exhibits featuring live music by "Ventura Highway."

The New Deal Café art program is sponsored by Friends of the New Deal Café Arts.



In Color Movement Latin Art, a tribute to hard working mothers, entrepreneurs and positive women – all the brave women who are mothers, lovers, workers, sisters and friends – the artists ask, "Why us?" They freely express their ideals and emotions throughout their arts, the Latin



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INAUGURATION continued from page 1

and Pennsylvania Avenue. While their eyes and attention were focused on the crowds, Lawson said that they were able to see the Presidential motorcade and the parade out of the corners of their eyes. The officers did not return to Greenbelt until nine that evening.

Although some 10 degrees warmer than four years ago, "It was cold," Lawson said, particularly when it was dark.

Lawson noted that other Greenbelt Police Officers were on duty at the Greenbelt Metro Station. With fewer attending the inaugural events this year, boarding Metro trains went "pretty smoothly" this time, Lawson reported.

**Sonya Lowery**

Greenbelter Sonya Lowery, who is host of [www.WorldNextDoorTV.com](http://www.WorldNextDoorTV.com) and takes people on adventuresome activities such as hang gliding and white water rafting, is involved in a lot of Washington social events and was able to get tickets to an Inauguration Day brunch and two inaugural balls.

The brunch was held by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Foundation on the top floor of the Hay Adams Hotel. From the small terrace "right behind the man serving mimosas," Lowery was able to watch the Presidential Motorcade leave the White House across the street. Standing nearby on the terrace were armed officers with sniper rifles, on the lookout for any troublesome activity.

Lowery took the Metro from Greenbelt to the brunch and returned back home on it. While the parade took place, she rested, driving back to the District that evening. She had to park some six or seven blocks away on New York Avenue and walk to the Convention Center, with a detour due to blocked streets, in order to attend her first ball, then walk another four blocks to the second ball and eventually back to the car. That was not doable in the five inch heels that she wore at the balls, so she brought along a pair of slippers for the long walks.

The first ball she attended was the Commander-in-Chief's Inaugural Ball held at the Washington Convention Center. "There were like a half-a-million people

there," she said. Still she was able to see the President and his wife, Michelle, dance and took photos as Jennifer Hudson sang to them. "It was just exciting to be there and be a part of the celebration," Lowery exclaimed. However, otherwise the ball was just a sea of people with drinks that had to be bought and a few nuts and pretzels, she summarized.

While it did not feature the president and first lady the BET Networks' Inaugural Ball, hosted by Grammy-nominated recording artist Wayne Brady, held at the Smithsonian American Art Museum and National Portrait Gallery, was more fun, Lowery reported. There were a lot of celebrities there, including actress Lynn Whitfield and various hip hop artists, for Lowery to see and take pictures with. And drinks and snacks were included with the ticket.

A long day, a busy day, an eventful day, it will be a day Lowery long remembers.

Greenbelter Cindy Cummings also went to the inauguration, as an ordinary citizen. Here is her accounting of her adventure:

"I took Metro from Greenbelt about 8:30 a.m. and followed the considerable pedestrian traffic onto the National Mall, where unticketed spectators could stand near the Jumbotron to watch the ceremony.

"Based on experience gained during Obama's first inauguration, I did not try to exit the Mall immediately following the ceremony, but instead hung around taking photographs of all the interesting people. Between the cold-weather gear and the commemorative hats, there were a lot of photo ops.

"As I wandered, whom should I meet - also taking photos - but another Greenbelter, photographer Eric Zhang.

"I first met Eric last year as he was photographing one of the 300 or so events he covered for Greenbelt's 75th anniversary. We had a chance to chat about our experiences that morning and, of course, take each other's picture. While he then continued on to the parade, I headed back to Metro. After six to seven hours on my feet and some 200 photographs, I was ready to go home!"



At left, the President and First Lady dance to the music of Jennifer Hudson at the Commander-in-Chief's Inaugural Ball at the Convention Center.

PHOTO BY SONYA LOWERY

**Emmett Jordan**

Inaugural ceremony tickets were available to city councilmembers through Congressman Steny Hoyer's office. Mayor Judith Davis went last year, but decided to have a comfortable front row seat at her home this year by watching on television.

Emmett Jordan did get tickets for the VIP section. As with the mayor last time, the section was far from the podium at which the ceremony took place and the ceremony was mostly observed on a giant Jumbotron screen.

"I grew up in Cincinnati," he said, "and I was hesitant about being among such a crowd of people - but it really wasn't that bad." He took the Metro from Greenbelt. When he found the number of riders not to be overwhelming, he decided to go the best way and transferred at Ft. Totten to go to Judiciary Square. Getting off at the D.C. Courthouse, he then had to go through security at C Street. That took about 45 minutes, he said.

After the ceremony, Jordan didn't stay for the parade. Instead he walked back to the Verizon Center. It was less crowded there for getting through security, he observed.

"Just being there was a really great experience," he said. It is a better way to get a feel for and be a part of the celebratory crowd, he noted. But watching TV is a much better way to see and hear the ceremony.

Jordan also noted that he did have a special advantage over most of the others in the crowd. At six foot six inches, he could see a lot better. His big mistake, however, was to wear dress shoes. "My feet got cold."



President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama walk down Pennsylvania Avenue during the inaugural parade.

PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG



Alexander Barnes, Sr. with David Barnes on the National Mall.



PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG



Cindy Cummings (at left) finds fellow photographer Eric Zhang on the mall as the crowd thins.

PHOTO BY CINDY CUMMINGS



PHOTO BY SONYA LOWERY

Greenbelter Sonya Lowery poses with actress Lynn Whitfield at the Portrait Gallery Ball.