

GSA Holds 4 Scoping Meetings On FBI HQ Consolidation Sites

by Thomas X. White

The second of four planned public scoping meetings hosted by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) was held on Tuesday, September 23 at the Greenbelt Library. The first session had been held in Springfield, Va., on Monday, September 22 and other sessions have been scheduled for Wednesday, October 1 at the J. Edgar Hoover (JEH) Building in the District of Columbia and in Landover on Thursday, October 2.

Greenbelt, Springfield and Landover are the three potential sites for GSA to locate a new consolidated Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) facility. All three will have three-hour poster sessions intended to allow members of the affected communities, interested agencies and the general public an opportunity to assist the GSA in identifying issues and potential impacts associated with the consolidation.

The GSA scoping effort is focused on the required federal assessments to be carried out for each of the three potential sites, as well as an assessment of the planned action to employ a property exchange with the selected developer of the new FBI headquarters for the current JEH

building at 9th & Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. in Washington.

The required assessments include an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for each of the sites as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); a review based upon Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act to identify historic properties affected by the proposed developments; and a separate review of potential impacts arising from redevelopment of the JEH building site by a selected private developer, assuming such development would have to follow the zoning required by the D.C. Zoning Commission, the 1974 Pennsylvania Avenue Plan and the D.C. Height of Buildings Act.

Meeting in Library

The scoping session at the Greenbelt Library was held in the lower level public meeting room with numerous GSA representatives staffing about a dozen or more posters defining the processes that will be carried out for the assessments and specific posters describing the three potential consolidation sites, including transportation features, access and flood plain/wetland delineations. The attendance for the three hour

session was generally good including members of the public, a smattering of developer representatives and media representatives, including radio, TV and the press. From this reporter's perspective the Greenbelt attendees included a few members of the Greenbelt Council and a fair number of Greenbelt citizens active in local water quality issues. Their interest was directed to the Greenbelt site posters that delineated existing wetlands and flood plain areas and potential new delineations for wetlands and flood plain designations currently under consideration by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) which is responsible for such designations.

Critical Assessments

All three potential sites for the proposed consolidated FBI headquarters will be subject to GSA assessments undertaken relating to environmental (EIS) and historic preservation (Section 106) impacts. It is likely that the major focus will be potential environmental impacts and transportation/access issues.

These scoping sessions are a lead off for the assessments GSA

See **FBI HQ**, page 6

Greenbelt Is "Sustainable;" Staff Diversity Questioned

by Kathleen Gallagher

All members of the city council were present at its September 22 regular meeting, which included several presentations, as well as a request to council regarding a reference in the New York Times to the racial make-up of the city's police force. Decisions were made to purchase six police vehicles, to support a county bill to increase length-of-service award benefits for volunteer fire and rescue personnel and to support an organization called the Utility 2.0 Coalition regarding the conditions of a potential sale of Pepco to Exelon.

Presentations

At the fall conference of the

Maryland Municipal League, the city received its designation as a Sustainable Maryland Certified Community. Through an initiative of the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland, municipalities can obtain certification by forming partnerships to find cost-effective ways to protect their natural assets and revitalize their community. Cities earn points toward sustainability certification by implementing best practices in such areas as water, energy, planning, health, food and economy. Luisa Robles, the city's sustainability coordinator,

See **COUNCIL**, page 6

Council Holds Worksession With Watershed Groups

by Kristin Fletcher

On Wednesday, August 27, the Greenbelt City Council hosted a worksession with three nonprofit local watershed groups: Friends of Still Creek (FoSC), Citizens to Conserve and Restore Indian Creek (CCRIC) and Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group (BCWWG).

Held approximately every two years, the worksession offers an opportunity for each group to update council on its activities and bring important issues to council's attention. Mayor Emmett Jordan, opening the meeting, noted the watershed groups are an important part of Greenbelt. Other councilmembers in attendance were Judith Davis, Konrad Herling, Rodney Roberts and Leta Mach. Silke Pope and

Ed Putens were not present.

Friends of Still Creek

Representing FoSC were Shobha Duncan, secretary, Michele Touchet, vice-chair, Harriette Phelps, board member and Bill Duncan, president and chair of the board. FoSC has seven or eight active members and about twice as many who come out to help with cleanups.

Still Creek flows through the heart of Greenbelt Park. A large part of it is forested and federally owned and managed. Nevertheless, the creek is adversely affected by stormwater runoff and pollutants from surrounding residential and commercial development as well as from

See **WATERSHED**, page 8

At Age 10, Utopia Film Festival Celebrates with Indie Works

by Susan Gervasi

Greenbelt's Utopia Film Festival will celebrate its 10th birthday in style this year, with more than 30 independent documentaries, features, short films, animations and free programs that reflect its mission: seeking a better world through film.

"What I love about Utopia is that the films aren't just entertaining," said festival committee member Kristin Stiver. "These movies have real messages about our world, whether it's the one we live in now or the one we can build together."

The festival – a non-profit project of Greenbelt Access Television – will be held the weekend of October 24 to 26, with films screening at several venues: the Greenbelt Arts Center, the Greenbelt Community Center, the Greenbelt Municipal Building and the Academy Theaters at Beltway Plaza Mall.

Stiver said one of her favorite films this year is Heavy Metal Parking Lot – a 1986 cult classic by Silver Spring director Jeff Krulik, who will be on hand for this short, memorable documen-

tary about a group of Judas Priest fans in the now-vanished Capital Center Parking Lot.

"It's such a vivid glimpse into a very specific time and place," said Stiver. "Watching it felt like going through an old, cherished yearbook."

Utopia social media director Barbara Small added, "I love being able to see documentaries from around the world right in my neighborhood."

As part of a Jeff Krulik Retrospective, Krulik will also screen his latest film, Led Zeppelin Played Here, a huge hit at a number of film festivals across the country. Jeff will answer audience questions about this truly fun film, which depicts his quest to learn whether a long-standing belief that Led Zeppelin played the Wheaton Youth Center in 1969 is really true.

Another of Utopia screeners' favorite films is the quirky Freak Out, which imaginatively tells the true story of a 1900-era commune in Switzerland, where a group of rich kids opposed to their acquisitive society formed a

free-spirited counter-culture akin to the hippie communes of the 1960's – headbands and all.

Several films focused on the gay-lesbian-bisexual-transgender community include the documentaries Families Are Forever, about a straight-laced Mormon family whose mother discovers her son is gay; and Fagbug Nation, directed by lesbian filmmaker Erin Davies. After her Volkswagen bug was vandalized with hateful anti-gay messages, Davies painted it in rainbow colors and set out to drive to all 50 states, provoking a variety of reactions in those she met ranging from fury to delight.

My Toxic Backyard is about how a cancer-ridden North Carolina community sought to clean up its contaminated drinking water – with little help from the EPA or the chemical company which polluted it. Another environmental film, Love Thy Nature, is narrated by actor Liam Neeson, and features a cinematic journey into the human relationship with

See **UTOPIA**, page 6

What Goes On

Saturday, October 11

9 a.m. to noon, Donation Drop-off, Parking Lot between City Offices and Community Center

Monday, October 13

8 p.m., Municipal Building, City Council Meeting, Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and Streaming at greenbeltd.gov/municipality

Wednesday, October 15

7:30 p.m., Advisory Planning Board Meeting, Community Center, Room 114

7:30 p.m., Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting, Community Center

Saturday, October 18

2 to 5 p.m., Fall Fest, Schrom Hills Park

Monday, October 23

7:30 to 9 p.m., District 2 School Board Candidate Debate, Municipal Building, Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and Streaming at greenbeltd.gov/municipality

Letters

"Inspirational"

Absolutely wonderful! Thank you Angella for "Women of a Forgotten War." The show was inspirational and affirming and the impact endures.

Patricia Novinski

Dynamic Governance

A big thank you to CHEARS for sponsoring the exciting and well received Dynamic Governance classes in Greenbelt. On the heels of its success, a Takoma Park class followed. Dynamic Governance, a challenging and effective way to make meetings (of all stripes) fun and inspiring, will be facilitated by John Buck and myself.

CHEARS is now sponsoring another six-week class, beginning October 21 from 7 to 9 p.m., at the Greenbelt Community Church.

Visit chears.org and look for 'Intensive Training: Empowering People & Organizations.'

Aileen Kroll

Obituaries

Cecelia Rose Hanyok

Longtime Greenbelter Cecilia "Cele" Hanyok, 96, died October 1, 2014. She was born August 10, 1918 in Barnesboro, Pa. The family lived for many years on Lakeside Drive. Her husband Joseph died in 2005. She is survived by four children, Joseph Michael (Westminster), Robert Joseph (Laurel), Mary Cecelia (Arlington, Va.), and James Joseph (Yardley, Pa.), nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be at St. Hugh's Catholic Church on Monday, October 13 at 10 a.m., following a viewing starting at 9:30 a.m.



Sympathy to the family and friends of Cecilia Hanyok of Riderwood, who died at the age of 96 on October 1, 2014. She and her late husband Joseph were longtime Lakeside residents and founders of St. Hugh of Grenoble Church.

We were sorry to hear of the death on September 25, 2014, of Michael Martone, 60, the son of the late Greenbelt pioneer John Martone and his wife Patricia Miller Martone Gourley. Condolences to his family and friends.

Congratulations to Erin Bistany, a freshman at Wilmington (Del.) University, who was named volleyball Rookie of the Week of the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) on September 30. Erin is the daughter of Joseph and Janice Bistany of Boxwood.

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

— Kathleen McFarland

Pumpkin Carving and Walk To Focus on Fun, Education

by Allene Abrahamian

The 26th annual Pumpkin Walk will take place on Saturday, October 25, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. on Northway extended. The first hour is reserved for young children and their families. Later in the evening magical creatures may come out.

Open to adults and children, the walk will include music by local bands and a scary walk with Halloween-style performers. The planning committee has been working to engage community groups and handle contracts and permits.

As well as the walk, there will be a Community Carve Off event at Roosevelt Center on October 24, the day before the walk, from 5 to 9 p.m. Pumpkins will be provided.

One of the goals of the event is to "encourage people to think about the woods as part of the community," said Melissa Ehrenreich, one of the committee members. The planning committee's goal is to have at least 50 different community organizations

participate in the event.

It is a "celebration of getting this community forest in place, and it started by people who wanted to stop the development of the woods," said Ehrenreich.

This year the walk will have an educational aspect. The woods in Greenbelt provide a diverse group of plants and animals that can be used for educational purposes.

There also will be a conservation focus on how to preserve and which plants to preserve. The "saving of the woods was a very unifying process in the community," said Susan Barnett, another planning committee member.

More information on conservation efforts can be found at greenbeltforestpreserve.org.

The events are sponsored by CHEARS, Maryland Milestones and the Anacostia Trails Heritage, Inc.

Allene Abrahamian is a University of Maryland journalism student writing for the News Review.

Grin Belt



"What do you mean you don't understand anything?"

Mowatt UMC Holds Spaghetti Dinner

On Saturday, October 18 from 5 to 7 p.m., Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church will hold a spaghetti dinner. Proceeds will go to restoring the steeple, which now leaks rain into the sanctuary. It is hoped that the community will come together, share a meal and fellowship and help fix the roof. The church is located at 40 Ridge Road. Call 301-474-9410 for further information.

VFD Annual Open House on Oct. 18

The Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad will be hosting its annual free open house at the firehouse at 125 Crescent Road from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 18. The purpose of the event is to thank the community for its continuing support over the years. There will be games, food and activities for the entire family.

The Bus

Seniors and Customers with Disabilities RIDE FREE

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Greenbelt News Review 2014 Annual Membership Meeting

Sunday, October 26, 2:00 pm

Greenbelt Youth Center, Multi-purpose Room

Business Meeting and Election of Board Members

NOTICE TO GHI MEMBERS

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS Thursday, October 16, 2014

GHI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 7:30 PM

GHI Key Agenda Items:

- Companion Animal Committee's 2014 Semi-Annual Report
- Yard Line Certification: 6 Court Crescent Road
- Review a "Greening GHI Landscape" Article Request Submitted by the Woodlands Committee
- Finance Committee's Recommendations Re: Unreserved Operating Funds That Might Be Available for the Homes Improvement Program
- Finance Committee's Recommendations Re: Revisions to GHI's Delinquency Procedures
- Schedule a Work Session for the Board of Directors to Deliberate Building Envelope Improvements for the Homes Improvement Program
- CAI's Request for Community Associations to Oppose Bill H.R. 4969 – Standards That Govern the Installation and Use of Amateur Radio Towers and Antennas
- Proposed Charter for a Historic Preservation Task Force
- Proposal for a Partnership With Mortgage Lenders to Dispose Units Facing Foreclosure
- Contract for External Auditing Services for 2015/16, 2nd Reading
- Proposed Acquisition of an Electric Van for the Maintenance Department, 2nd Reading
- Fall Concrete Contract, 2nd Reading

Regular Board meetings are open to Members
For more information, visit our website - www.ghi.coop



To request a sign language interpreter for this meeting, go to <http://www.ghi.coop/content/interpreter-request-form>, or go to the GHI Office (One Hamilton Place) or contact us by phone (301-474-4161) or fax (301-474-4006).

Greenbelt News Review

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

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—\$45/year.

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

Community Events

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition "Food and Friendship" program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215.

All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for October 13 through 17 are as follows:

Monday – Columbus Day holiday – all sites closed.

Tuesday – Cranberry juice, vegetable soup, turkey sandwich, mixed green salad, fresh fruit.

Wednesday – Apple juice, grilled chicken breast with sweet and sour sauce, brown rice, Japanese vegetables, Mandarin oranges.

Thursday – Apple juice, baked potato with beef chili, shredded cheese and sour cream, mixed green salad, fresh fruit.

Friday – Cranberry juice, encrusted flounder fillet, macaroni and cheese, spinach, diced pears.

At the Library

Tuesday, October 14, 7 p.m. "Pan-Africanism: Origins & Issues" will be the next session in this audio-visual lecture series presented by C.R. Gibbs, historian of the African Diaspora. The series will continue during the fall with other sessions on most Tuesday evenings through November 18.

Storytimes

Monday, October 13, 7 p.m., for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 people, Chinese/English Preschool Storytime. Children's stories, songs, rhymes and other activities in Chinese and English.

Thursday, October 16, 10:30 a.m., for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 people, Preschool Storytime; 11:15 a.m., for ages birth to 12 months, limit 20 people, Baby Laptime Storytime; 12:15 p.m., for ages 12 to 24 months, limit 20 people, Baby Storytime. Encourage children to make reading a positive experience by bringing them to the library's storytime. The program contains a mixture of engaging activities and age-appropriate stories that support early literacy. Stop by the information desk to pick up free tickets.

Read to Rover

Saturday, October 18, 2 p.m. Read to Rover is for children ages 6 to 11 and helps them build reading confidence while reading aloud to specially trained therapy dogs glad to listen. Each child will read for 15 minutes. Registration is required; call the branch at 301-345-5800 for more information.



Greenbelt and Legion Hold Blood Drives

A Red Cross blood drive is scheduled for Friday, October 10 from 12:30 to 6 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center.

Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 will sponsor another Red Cross blood donation drive on Monday, October 13 from 1:30 to 7 p.m. at 6900 Greenbelt Road.

Blood donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds. Bring a donor card, driver's license or two other forms of identification. Appointments are encouraged but not required. For more information on donating or to make an appointment call 1-800-733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org.

GHI Notes

Thursday October 9, 6:15 p.m., Investment Committee Meeting, Board Room

Thursday October 9, 7 p.m., Finance/Board of Directors (Work Session 1st Draft Budget), Board Room

Thursday October 9, 8 p.m., Members Input Session (Draft Budget), Board Room

Friday October 10, OFFICE CLOSED – Emergency Maintenance will be Available.

Monday October 13, 7:30 p.m., Marketing Committee Meeting, GHI Lobby

Wednesday October 15, 7 p.m., Member Outreach Committee Meeting, GHI Lobby

Wednesday October 15, 7 p.m., Woodlands Committee Meeting, Board Room

Thursday October 16, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting (Open Session), Board Room

Sunday October 19, 1 p.m., Annual Member Picnic & Volunteer Appreciation Celebration, GHI Administration Building

Spaghetti Dinner

October 18, 5-7 p.m.
Mowatt United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Rd, Greenbelt



\$10 Adults
\$6 Children 5-12 years
Under 4 free

Baked Goods for Sale

Investment Club Seeks Members

The Goddard Investment Club, a group of amateur investors who discuss and invest in stocks, is seeking new members. The club meets the second Monday of the month from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. The next meeting will be held Monday, October 13.

For more information email jdea@hotmail.com.

Dance Performance At Schrom Hills Park

In conjunction with the City Fall Fest, Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS) and alight dance theater presents the final performance and garden demonstration of Three Sisters: Gardens for All Seasons. Before being shuttered inside for the winter, alight dance theater will close the growing season with a fall harvest dance at Schrom Hills Park on Saturday, October 18 from 2 to 4 p.m. The last of three performances occurring in three different seasons and in three different parts of Greenbelt will show how gardens truly are meant for all seasons. Bring the whole family for some fresh air and free entertainment. The park is located at 6915 Hanover Parkway.

Jim Cassels Award Deadline Nears

The application deadline for the Jim Cassels Community Service Award, given each year since 2007 by the Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative to honor Cassels, is October 15. Applications should describe a new project that can be completed within one year financed primarily by the \$1,200 award. This year's award helped launch the Repair Café at Club125. Last year's award helped school children learn about the environment while planting a garden behind the Greenbelt Elementary School. The 2010 award supported the performances of local high school musicians in Roosevelt Center. Applications can be turned in to the Service Desk at the Co-op or submitted online from the Co-op website: greenbelt.coop. The award will be announced at the Co-op's annual meeting on November 8.

Explorations Hosts Silas Fishburne

Explorations Unlimited welcomes Silas Fishburne on Friday, October 17. Fishburne will talk about and demonstrate many of the circus skills he has learned by attending the Greenbelt circus camps. You will be amazed at the skills he has acquired.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday beginning at 1 p.m. at the Community Center. This presentation will be held in room 114. Everyone is welcome to attend and questions are always encouraged. Please call 301-397-2208 for more information.

Send us your meeting notices or special activities for the Community Events page.

More Community Events can be found throughout the paper.

GOLDEN AGE CLUB YARD SALE – BAKE SALE

OCTOBER 11
9 AM – 2 PM
ROOSEVELT CENTER
RAIN DATE OCTOBER 12



GREENBRIAR AND GLEN OAKS FALL YARD SALE

Saturday, October 11, 2014

Bargain hunters won't want to miss this. All are invited to enjoy and "Shop 'Till You Drop" at our semi-annual yard sale.

Light refreshments will be sold.

Hosted at Greenbriar Community Center

7600 Hanover Parkway

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VENDORS ARE WELCOMED!!!!

Stop by today to reserve your table for ONLY \$10. 00

The event will take place RAIN or SHINE!

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Ticket prices: \$20 General Admission,
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COMING SOON

GAC Annual Meeting – October 22 at 7:30pm
Death By Design – November 7-23 - Directed by Ann Lowe Barrett

For information & reservations, call 301-441-8770 or email: info@greenbeltartscenter.org or BOOK TICKETS ONLINE at www.greenbeltartscenter.org

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



Utopia Film Festival Presents
Sunday, Oct. 12th & Wednesday, October 15th
Beginning at 8 PM

"Operation Bethlehem," and
"Little House of the Big Cry"

On Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATE)
Comcast 77 & Verizon Fios 19 Channels

ACADEMY STADIUM THEATERS
6198 GREENBELT ROAD
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301-220-1155
For directions visit www.academy8theaters.com
Most features are \$5.00
all day on Tuesdays; add \$2.00 for 3-D
R = ID Required
(!) = No passes, (!!)= No passes weekend
* Not part of the morning and Tuesday discount shows

WEEK OF OCT 10

FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Annabelle, R (!!)
11:25, 1:40, 4:50, 7:05, 9:50
The Equalizer, R (!!)
11, 2, 4, 7:05, 9:55
The Boxtrolls, PG (!!)
11:30, 1:45, 4:15, 6:55
No Good Deed, PG-13
9:30
Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible Bad Day, PG (!)*
11:40, 1:50, 4:40, 7, 9:35
Gone Girl, R (!!)
11:15, 1:40, 4, 6:45, 9
Addicted, R (!)*
11:10, 11:50, 1:40, 2:15, 4:10, 4:45, 7, 7:30, 9:30, 10
Dracula Untold, PG-13*
11:25, 2:20, 4:30, 7:25, 9:55

SUNDAY - WEDNESDAY

Annabelle, R (!!)
11:25, 1:40, 4:50, 7:05
The Equalizer, R (!!)
11, 2, 4, 7:05
The Boxtrolls, PG (!!)
11:30, 1:45, 4:15
No Good Deed, PG-13
6:55
Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible Bad Day, PG (!)*
11:40, 1:50, 4:40, 7
Gone Girl, R (!!)
11:15, 1:40, 4, 6:45
Addicted, R (!)*
11:10, 11:50, 1:40, 2:15, 4:10, 4:45, 7, 7:30
Dracula Untold, PG-13*
11:25, 2:20, 4:30, 7:25

THURSDAY

Annabelle, R (!!)
11:25, 1:40, 4:50, 7:05
The Equalizer, R (!!)
11, 2, 4, 7:05
The Boxtrolls, PG (!!)
11:30, 1:45, 4:15
Fury, R (preshow)*
7
Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible Bad Day, PG (!)*
11:40, 1:50, 4:40, 7
Gone Girl, R (!!)
11:15, 1:40, 4, 6:45
Addicted, R (!)*
11:10, 11:50, 1:40, 2:15, 4:10, 4:45, 7:30
The Book of Life, PG (preshow)*
7
Dracula Untold, PG-13*
11:25, 2:20, 4:30, 7:25

Dedication and Love of Nature Bring Volunteers to Greenbelt Park

by Sharadha Kalyanam

Seventy-year-old John Hampton from Washington, D.C., has dedicated his life to nature. He enjoys woods and parks and also has a strong commitment to preserving them.

On Saturday, as the Greenbelt Park, National Capital Park East, hosted Public Lands Day in the park, Hampton, along with a team, was busy repairing a trail that was washed away by the recent rainstorms.

"When I was young man I was a Boy Scout. I enjoy the woods and enjoy the park. It's really an opportunity for me to relax and get back to nature and regroup, re-think, be alone with myself. So, in that context, I feel a need to make some contribution to the park," said Hampton.

According to him, Public Lands Day is the acknowledgment by the park service of all the contributions and all the work that citizens do as they enjoy and take advantage of the public lands.

"It's also an opportunity for citizens to make a contribution by coming out to volunteer. We as volunteers are repairing a section of the trail that was washed away by the last four or five big storms. There is another group of younger people cleaning up and straightening up a campsite. This hard labor is focused on fixing this trail that goes over this culvert and this washed out area," he said, pointing at the trail that had lost significant ground and which was being rebuilt using rocks and mud.

But Hampton feels that there is a communication gap between the need for volunteers and youngsters. "In this part of the Washington Metro region there is a large number of universities like Howard University, Catholic University and University of Maryland at College Park, and we have not yet figured a way to invite those students who I know have a commitment to the environment," said Hampton. He hopes that Public Lands Day will actually become a monthly event.

The theme for this year's National Public Lands Day was Helping Hands for America's Lands.

There were two events held on Saturday. One was the more laborious trail-clearing project and the other was to clear up camping grounds.

Kevin P. Barry, park ranger NCP East, National Park Service said that on Sunday, state, city and federal parks celebrated all the lands to which people have access.

"We have folks that have come in to volunteer to help out part of our trail system. We have nine miles of trail in Greenbelt Park. People come out here and feel like contributing and the park gets something, too. Some folks do not want to do work that is strenuous and for them we have work as well," he said.

Around the corner, Bill Walmsley, a resident of Lanham, who



PHOTO BY SHARADHA KALYANAM

Volunteers John Hampton (far left) and Bill Walmsley (far right) with their group clearing up the trail at Greenbelt Park.

has been a trail volunteer for the park since the 1980s, was busy fixing the culvert along the trail.

He said that on the Public Lands Day and the National Park Day observed in June, it was an extension of the work he normally does at the park.

"I come every week, patrol the trails, and, write up weekly reports for park rangers. This is an extension of that work. John comes on Thursdays and I come on Saturdays. But there is only a limited number of things we can do as individuals in a short period of time that we spend in our normal patrol for the trail," said Bill Walmsley who also walks his dog in the park.

"I have an obligation to pay back even for that use of the property. There is still more that needs to be done because they don't have the staffing," he said.

One family was helping to rebuild the trail. Bill and Jill McKinney had come all the way from Kentucky to meet their daughter but decided to spend the weekend with her volunteering at the park.

"We moved all over the country and took the kids to a lot of national parks. We discovered a new park in the D.C. area and came to visit our daughter who said she has a service project for us and now we are here," said Bill McKinney who retired from the Air Force. His wife Jill McK-

inney said that if people came forward and supported these parks, the parks would be there for their children. "If we don't do our part then it won't be there for the next generation. This trailway has been washed out and we are trying to reinforce it with river rock and build it again," she said.

Apart from Boy Scout troops, work organizations and church groups, the park also benefits from the service offered by high school students who volunteer for their student service or community service hours.

Kimberly Barber, who works for a private company in D.C., said that she recently moved to Largo with her family. Public Lands Day was the impetus for the beginning of her volunteer efforts at the park.

Barber had been active in several national parks in the country. She was volunteering at the park along with her sons Quentin, 6, and Orion, 7.

Together, they were raking leaves and making piles and cleaning up the ground for campers.

"I grew up around the forest, around nature. We are Native American Navaho from Arizona.

This is everyday life and it means a lot. I am passionate about nature. It is in our daily prayers, traditionally. Everything has a living element to it," Barber said.

She believes that everything is alive. "We are supposed to take care of it, trees, animals," and in the background, her son Quentin added, "The deer, the bears and owls and skunks."

"This feeling we have right now is contagious and addictive; whoever comes out to help will get addicted to it," said Barber, who volunteered on Public Lands Day and plans to do it on a regular basis.

"I like being in the forest because it is so quiet," said Quentin, a first grader. His brother Orion said, "I like camping. It is so quiet. I want to keep coming back."

Chara Fennell, a senior at Eleanor Roosevelt High School along with her friend Renad Alhabashi were at the park to earn required service hours. They spent the day cleaning up the campsites and raking leaves from around grills and tables.

Sharadha Kalyanam is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.



"Every man of discernment, while walking upon the earth, feeleth indeed abashed, inasmuch as he is fully aware that the thing which is the source of his prosperity, his wealth, his might, his exaltation, his advancement and power is, as ordained by God, the very earth which is trodden beneath the feet of all men."
- Baha'i Writings

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918
Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com www.greenbeltbahais.org

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
Worship Service 10 a.m.
Save the Date: Oct. 18 Spaghetti Dinner, 5 to 7pm

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH
Come worship God with us!
Sunday School 9:45AM
Worship Service 11:00AM
101 Greenhill Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
(301) 474-4212 www.greenbeltbaptist.org

Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1 Hillside (at Crescent Road)
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org
Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.
Glennycie Grindstaff, Pastor

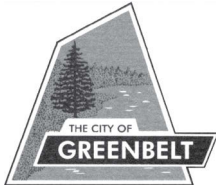
Mishkan Torah Congregation
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield
Friday evening services 8:00 PM except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:30 PM
Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM
Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.
For further information call 301 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Conservative and Reconstructionist

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 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. Mary Pullen - Pastor
301-474-7573
6301 Greenbelt Road
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740
Worship Sun 11:00 am - 12:00 pm (Child Care Available)
Office Hours Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
"A hospitable, multicultural community of faith"

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org
Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community
October 12, 10 a.m.
Rev. Russ Savage;
with Bettie Young and Van Summers, Worship Associates
We see it all around us; maybe we even experience it.
People with no job, or with a low-level temp job which pays little and offers no benefits and no security; and people with plenty, far more than enough, building houses like castles behind closed gates. This past June at the General Assembly, the UUA adopted a Congregational Study Action Issue entitled Escalating Inequality.
Let us examine how our faith interacts with the social and economic reality in which we presently live.

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



City Information

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL MEETING Monday, October 13, 2014- 8:00 p.m. Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

- Cooperative Month Proclamation

Petitions and Requests (Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)

Minutes of Council Meetings

Administrative Reports

Committee Reports

LEGISLATION

OTHER BUSINESS

- NASA Demolition and New Projects Review
- Update on Scoping Issues Related to Possible Relocation of FBI Headquarters to Greenbelt
- Maryland Department of Transportation Consolidated Transportation Program FY 2015-2020
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application for Program Year 41 (FY 2016)
- Letter to Prince George's County Public Schools regarding children residing at Greenbelt Station attending Greenbelt Schools
- Council Reports
- * - County Legislation – CB 86-2014
- * - Appointment to Advisory Group
- * - Reappointments to Advisory Groups
- * - Designation of Voting Delegate and Alternate for the National League of Cities Congress of Cities

MEETINGS

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public, and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10am on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.

MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF October 13-17

Monday, October 13 at 8:00pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING** at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and Streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Wednesday, October 15 at 7:30pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD MEETING** at the Greenbelt Community Center, Room 114. On the Agenda: Approval of Meeting Minutes: October 1, 2014, Low Impact Development Center Presentation – Cherrywood Lane Complete and Green Street Redesign, Update on Various Planning Projects

Wednesday, October 15 at 7:30pm, **PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD** at Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. Open to the public.

Wednesday, October 15 at 8:00pm, **WORK SESSION/EXECUTIVE SESSION (TBA)**. at Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

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

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25 from 9 a.m. - 12 noon Public Works Yard-555 Crescent Road

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

Accepted items include: TVs, CPUs, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, laptop computers, recording equipment, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, wires and power cords, fax machines, cameras, telephones, radios, DVD players, VCRs, batteries taped on one end, expanded polystyrene (block "Styrofoam" #6) – NO cups, egg-cartons, nor food trays.

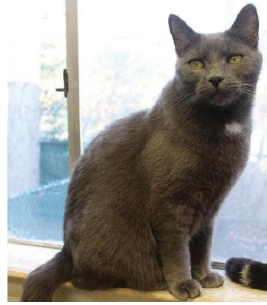
PLEASE CALL IN ADVANCE IF YOU WANT TO DROP-OFF MORE THAN 10 ITEMS, IF YOU HAVE MULTIPLE STYROFOAM PIECES, OR ITEMS OVER 50 LBS.

For further information, contact the Greenbelt Recycling Office at 240-542-2153.

Fall In Love at the Greenbelt Animal Shelter 550-A Crescent Road (behind Police Station) 301-474-6124



Asemi is the kind of cat that even non-cat lovers would fall in love with. Named for her asymmetrical-patterned black and white coat, 1-year-old Asemi is an absolute sweetheart. She is attentive and interested, but quiet and low-key. She gets along with other cats and would do well with children. Spend a few minutes with Asemi and you will fall in love!



Max is a handsome boy with a gray and white coat and gorgeous green eyes who LOVES to be petted and sits in your lap to be adored! Max likes to be involved in whatever you are doing and enjoys playing with feather toys or just hanging out. Max gets along with other cats and is ready to fall in love with you!

For the 'Fall in Love' adoption campaign, the shelter is waiving adoption fees (for approved adopters) for all adult cats.

The shelter is open on Wednesdays 4-7pm and on Saturdays 9am-12pm

ATTENTION LOCAL BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

The ninth annual Gobble Wobble 5K Family Fun Run & Walk is rapidly approaching. The Gobble Wobble has become a Thanksgiving morning tradition for many, as families join both novice and experienced runners for this great community event. The Greenbelt Recreation Department is seeking local businesses and organizations that would be interested in supporting the Gobble Wobble and continuing the growing success of the event. Businesses and organizations have three options (listed below) in sponsoring the 2014 Gobble Wobble 5K Family Fun Run & Walk.

• Bronze Sponsor (\$100)

-Logo on all print and electronic advertisements (includes event flyer/registration form, Greenbelt News Review, social media, and city website).

• Silver Sponsor (\$200)

-Logo on all print and electronic advertisements (see above).
-Logo on back of race shirt given to all registrants.

• Gold Sponsor (\$300)

-Logo on all print and electronic advertisements (see above).
-Logo on back of race shirt given to all registrants.
-Sign (provided by business/organization) at start/finish line.
-Promotion materials (provided by business/organization) will be placed in race packets given to all registrants.

The City of Greenbelt has traditionally received great support from local businesses and organizations. If your business/organization is interested in sponsoring this year's Gobble Wobble, please contact the Greenbelt Recreation Department at 301-397-2200 or e-mail aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov. All sponsorships must be received by Friday, October 31.



Fall Fest, Saturday, October 18 from 2-5pm at Schrom Hills Park Hanover Parkway

The Greenbelt Recreation Department will be joining forces with the Public Works, Police and Fire Departments to host our annual Fall Fest. Stroll on over to Schrom Hills Park and join us for hay rides, games, amusements, pumpkin patch, live music and art activities. Refreshments sold at a nominal cost by community groups.

For more information contact the Greenbelt Recreation Department at 2301-397-2200.

DONATION DROP-OFF

American Rescue Workers

Saturday, October 11th,
from 9:00 a.m.-12:00
noon

Parking lot between
City Office and
Community Ctr.

Info: 301-474-8308

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Advisory Committee on Education, Arts Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability and Youth Advisory Committee
For information call 301-474-8000.

School Board Candidates Debate

Thursday, October
23

7:30pm to 9:00pm
Municipal Building,
25 Crescent Road

Hosted by the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) will host a debate between the two candidates for School Board in District 2. There will be a reception hosted by ACE members starting at 7:00pm.

Candidates:

**Peggy Higgins
and Lupi Grady**

The debate is open to the public and will be carried live on Greenbelt Municipal Access Channel 71, Verizon 21, and streamed live at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Free Flu Shot Clinic

October 23,
1:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Springhill Lake
Recreation Center
6101 Cherryhill Road

Drop In For A FREE Flu Shot. Limited Parking Available. No Appointment Needed. Both intranasal (FluMist®) and injectable (shot) vaccine will be offered. Children under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. This community event is a great opportunity for all family members, 6 months and older to get their FREE flu shots!

Like us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt

COUNCIL continued from page 1

and members of the city's Green Team and Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability were on hand to receive the plaque from Mayor Emmett Jordan.

Horticultural Supervisor Brian Townsend accepted a proclamation from the mayor marking Saturday, September 27 as Public Lands Day. Townsend described the activities planned in Schrom Hills Park for the day.

Mayor Emmett Jordan also read a proclamation declaring September to be National Preparedness Month that culminated in an event held on September 28. Laura Kressler, chair of the Public Safety Advisory Committee, and Kenneth Theodos and Bhameney Fishbeck, representing the city's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), accepted the proclamation.

Petitions and Requests

Although several announcements and questions were entertained by council under the Petitions and Request section of the meeting, only one actual request was received. Belle Point resident Darrin Washington observed that since the shooting in Ferguson, Mo., of a young black man by a white police officer in August, the issue of the diversity of police forces, especially relative to that of the communities they serve, has been a major topic of conversation. Washington continued that as a longtime resident of Greenbelt, he had felt confident in assuring his neighbors that the Greenbelt Police Department was quite diverse, with the result that he was shocked to see an article in the September 4 issue of the New York Times, "The Race Gap in America's Police Departments," cite Greenbelt as one of the Washington, D.C. area forces having a white percentage that is more than 50 percentage points higher than that of the community it serves.

Washington said he understood that there is often a lag time in changing the face of a work force when a community changes without much attrition in the work force. In light of that, he said all he was requesting of the city council was that it look into the causes of the imbalance in Greenbelt and see if the city's hiring practices are sufficiently emphasizing diversity.

City Manager Michael McLaughlin said the city would be very happy to do that. He said the problem with the Times article was that the article relied upon 2007 data and that the city is doing better in this area than it was seven years ago.

Jordan said that he and McLaughlin had been talking about ways in which to diversify not only the police force but the entire Greenbelt workforce. He said Washington's explanation of the lag time between community change and work force change was on the mark. He noted that while Greenbelt is fortunate to have employees that are very experienced, longevity can also be "a mixed bag." He added that in upcoming years the city should see a great deal of change because it will be faced with what will likely be a "silver tsunami" of retirements.

Regarding the police force, Councilmember Judith Davis commented that new officers are sworn in at council meetings and that council has been very aware

of the diversity of the new officers being sworn, not only in terms of race and ethnicity but also gender.

Washington said he was relieved to hear that the Times information was not current. He said he would like to see data on the current situation. He suggested that rather than being in a reactive position, the city should get ahead of the question by making the information public. He and several councilmembers suggested publishing it in the Greenbelt News Review and possibly responding to the Times.

In closing, Washington stressed that he was not suggesting there had been any problems with the police in Greenbelt. He said as far as he was aware, that is not the case. Jordan said improvement is still very much "a work in progress" but that he believed contemporary data would show positive change.

Volunteer Benefits

The audience turnout was large to back up Chief Tommy Ray and former President Jay Remenick of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad to ask that the city council approve a request from Mayor Craig Moe of the City of Laurel to support a bill to be introduced in the Prince George's County Council to increase payments under the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP), which provides a modest benefit in retirement to fire, rescue and EMS personnel. Also present in aid of the cause were County Fire Commissioner William King and Chuck Walker, the newly elected president of the county Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association.

The LOSAP benefit has been in effect since 1974 but has not been increased for 14 years. Volunteers who have served 25 certified years and who are at least 55 years of age are currently eligible for a monthly benefit of only \$225. The family of members who have served at least 25 years are eligible for burial benefit of \$5,000. Under the proposed bill, the monthly benefit will increase to \$350 in FY 2016, with a rise to \$450 by FY 2019. The monthly payment will increase by \$8 rather than \$4 per month for each year of service past 25 years by FY 2019. The burial benefit will increase in FY 2015 to \$10,000.

The Prince George's County Council Committee on Public Safety and Fiscal Management approved the draft legislation and agreed to forward it to the county council. The Greenbelt council agreed that these changes are long overdue and voted to support the bill. The increases would be funded by the county.

Police Cars

Council approved the purchase of two Ford Interceptor Utility vehicles (\$25,567 each) for the Police Department's patrol unit and four Ford Fusion hybrid sedans (\$24,577 each) for its administrative and criminal investigations division. Both vehicles are available for purchase by the city using state bids: the Interceptors from Hertrich Fleet Services in Milford, Del. and the Fusions from Lindsay Ford of Wheaton.

The department has been satisfied with the Ford Interceptor vehicles currently in use. They have a large cargo area and are equipped with all-wheel

drive. The hybrid vehicles can be equipped with emergency gear and used for priority response but are not rated to function as pursuit vehicles. The city's budget for the current fiscal year includes \$171,000 for the purchase of these six vehicles, which will total \$149,443.

Utility 2.0 Coalition

Montgomery County Councilmember Roger Berliner requested council to support an initiative called Utility 2.0, which is a national movement the New York Public Service Commission is advancing to bring about a more reliable and consumer-focused system of electricity distribution. There was no discussion of this item as it was approved on the consent agenda. Council had discussed it at a worksession on September 10.

The Utility 2.0 initiative has been raised in Maryland with the goal of using the current proceedings before the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) on the sale of Pepco Holdings, Inc. to Exelon to "bring about a significant reform of the electric distribution system serving our communities." In the event that the PSC does decide the sale is in the public interest and should go forward, conditions would kick in that would require performance-based ratemaking based upon the utility's ability to meet a series of measurable objectives.

Greenbelt officials, including Mayor Emmett Jordan and former Mayor Judith Davis, accepted the award at the annual ceremony marking the achievements of Maryland communities striving to become more sustainable.

Joanne Throwe, director of the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland at College Park, congratulated the recipients: "These newly certified Sustainable Maryland municipalities have demonstrated, each in their own unique ways, their commitment to strengthening the social, economic and environmental pillars of sustainability in their towns and cities. I commend their elected officials, municipal staff and, of course, the passionate volunteers of their Green Teams for their efforts to shine a guiding light on the path forward for all of Maryland's communities to a brighter, more sustainable future."

Toastmasters Meet

The next meeting of the Greenbelt Toastmasters Club will be on Wednesday, October 15 at 7:30 p.m., in the Social hall of Greenbelt Community Church at Hillside and Crescent Roads.

The group offers professionals, students, stay-at-home parents and retirees a supportive environment to improve skills in communication and leadership.

Free Bach Cantata Offered at UM

The Grand Pavilion of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center will be the site of a performance of the Bach Cantata, Wir danken dir, Gott wir danken dir (BWV 29) on Thursday, October 16 at 1:30 p.m. The Bach Cantata Series is dedicated to exploring the more than 200 extant cantatas by the great master through informal performances by students and friends of the UMD Choral Activities.

FBI HQ continued from page 1



PHOTO BY HELEN SYDAVAR

Bill Orleans, Greenbelt resident, asks a question about the Greenbelt site.

will undertake for the next year or more. The scoping sessions will be followed by a 45-day public comment period, following which GSA will analyze existing conditions at the sites, identify needed studies and begin preparation of a draft EIS while continuing site analysis and examining the environmental impacts of alternative approaches.

The next step would be release of a draft EIS to the public for a 45-day comment period. GSA would then review all comments received on the draft EIS and develop responses. They would then begin preparation of a final EIS to address the public/agency comments. The final EIS would have a 30-day public re-

view period and following that, GSA would prepare and publish a Record of Decision.

The GSA projects that the draft EIS would be completed sometime in spring 2015 and the final EIS a year later in spring 2016.

Following the Project

Anyone with an interest in the project wishing to provide input can comment or follow the project at GSA's website at gsa.gov/fbihqconsolidation. NEPA Scoping Comments can be emailed to fbi-hq-consolidation@gsa.gov.

Written comments can be mailed to U.S. General Services Administration, ATTN: Nia Francis, OPDQ Project Manager, 301 7th Street, SW, Room 4004, Washington, DC 20407.

UTOPIA continued from page 1



PHOTO BY SUSAN GERVASI

Chris Haley, co-director of the Utopia Film Festival is interviewed by a TV reporter outside last year's marquee.

the natural world and threats to that relationship.

Free programs include "Mini Home Movie Day," a talk about home movies by film scholar and University of Maryland adjunct professor Dr. Caitlin McGrath, an exploration of experimental films with filmmaker Chris Lynn and a screening at the Academy 8 Theaters of the remarkable documentary King: A Filmed Record... Montgomery to Memphis. Using newsreel footage, this stunning 1970 documentary focuses on Dr. Martin Luther King's 1955-1968 struggle for civil rights. A number of film stars, including Harry Belafonte, Paul Newman and Ruby Dee, appear in this poignant and compelling film about King's unflinching fight for racial equality.

Whether your tastes run to fantasy or reality, you'll find some-

thing entertaining at Utopia 2014.

"If you're a cinemophile, you'll love Utopia," said Dea Zugby, manager of Utopia's annual filmmaker reception.

"Achieving 10 years in any endeavor, especially a predominantly volunteer and community effort, is monumental," added Utopia co-director Chris Haley. "As always, our accomplishment is all the more important because we have been blessed with the ability and energy to honor film makers at all levels for 10 unbelievable years!"

A full schedule, along with ticket, time and venue information, can be found on the Utopia website, utopiafilmfestival.org/. For more information, call 301-466-9524.

Susan Gervasi serves, along with Chris Haley, as Utopia co-director.

Greenbelt Receives Sustainable Award

The Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland announced that the City of Greenbelt was honored at the Sustainable Maryland Certified awards ceremony at the Maryland Municipal League's annual Fall Conference held in Annapolis on Friday, September 12.

Greenbelt officials, including Mayor Emmett Jordan and former Mayor Judith Davis, accepted the award at the annual ceremony marking the achievements of Maryland communities striving to become more sustainable.

Joanne Throwe, director of the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland at College Park, congratulated the recipients: "These newly certified Sustainable Maryland municipalities have demonstrated, each in their own unique ways, their commitment to strengthening the social, economic and environmental pillars of sustainability in their towns and cities. I commend their elected officials, municipal staff and, of course, the passionate volunteers of their Green Teams for their efforts to shine a guiding light on the path forward for all of Maryland's communities to a brighter, more sustainable future."

To achieve Sustainable Maryland Certified status, municipalities are required to form a Green Team comprised of local residents, community leaders, municipal staff and officials; complete a variety of sustainability-related actions worth a total of

at least 150 points (including two mandatory actions and two of six priority actions); and submit the appropriate documentation as evidence that the Sustainable Maryland Certified requirements have been satisfied.

Achievements

Sustainability is embedded in the history of Greenbelt, a planned community designed during the Great Depression. Its unique cooperative structure, mixed-use town center, variety of housing types and extensive grade-separated pedestrian pathways all contribute to a strong network of civic engagement and progressive endeavors.

The Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (GreenACES) provides leadership for the community's efforts to go green. The Greenbelt Forest Preserve has protected 225 acres of woodlands for the enjoyment of residents and the preservation of habitat and water quality within the city.

In addition, the Greenbelt Community Garden Club manages three community gardens, which foster healthy food and social interaction. Fresh food is also available at the city's farmers market and a recently adopted Sustainability Plan offers a roadmap for local efforts to save energy, promote alternative transportation, reduce waste and protect natural resources.

The new Public Works building incorporates a variety of green features, including ener-

gy-efficient lighting, water conservation measures and a high-efficiency geothermal heating system. And a variety of events and programs, including composting workshops, tree plantings, solar home tours and the annual Green Man Festival, also serve to promote sustainability to Greenbelt residents on a regular basis.

"Greenbelt is proud to receive the Sustainable Maryland Certification," said Greenbelt Mayor Emmett Jordan. "There is a legacy of balance between the environmental, economic and social objectives that have shaped this community over time. This certification reinforces the partnerships between residents, local civic and business organizations and the city administration to improve our current practices and to strive for a more sustainable future."

Pro Bono Legal Workshop, Oct. 18

On Saturday, October 18, lawyers will lead a pro bono information workshop for county residents at Greenbelt Library from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring all relevant documents, advises the sponsoring county branches of NAACP (301-535-0993) and Community Legal Services (240-391-6532).

Topics may include mortgage foreclosure prevention, loan modification, employment law, consumer credit claims, wage and labor disputes and police accountability.



Receiving the Sustainable Maryland award during the Maryland Municipal League Fall Conference are, from left, Lori Rosenthal, green team; David Moran, assistant city manager; Judith Davis, councilmember; Jim Sterling, assistant director for public works; Leta Mach, councilmember; Emmett Jordan, mayor; Michael Hartman, green team; Matt Dirksen, green team; and Jeannie Iacovazzi, green team.

Greek Dancing

On October 12, Syrτος, the Greek dance group of Greenbelt, will be resuming its Greek dance session on Sundays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Dance Studio at the Community Center. The first hour of each session will be devoted primarily to the introduction of new students to the most basic Greek dances done at local festivals, while the second hour will focus on teaching new dances and open dancing. The first session will be a free open house. No partner is needed.

Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday
10am – 4pm

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

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

Detect breast cancer early—when it is most treatable.

Schedule your yearly mammogram today!

Though early-stage breast cancer does not always have symptoms, some may develop as the tumor grows. Recognize the symptoms:

- + A painless lump in or near the breast
- + A change in breast size or firmness
- + Nipple itching, burning, rash, turning inward or discharge
- + A warm area in the breast
- + Breast skin changes such as dimpling, a sore or a rash
- + Swelling in the armpit

Schedule your annual screening mammogram at Doctors Community Hospital's Center for Comprehensive Breast Care. **As the first such program in Prince George's County, we welcome appointments Monday through Saturday.** Also, we provide an experienced team of healthcare professionals, all digital mammograms and personalized treatment options.



Center for Comprehensive Breast Care

8116 Good Luck Road
Professional Office Building, Suite 110
Lanham, Maryland 20706

DCHweb.org/breast

To schedule an appointment or request a free breast care educational brochure, call 301-DCH-4YOU (301-324-4968).

ASK US ABOUT OUR FREE MAMMOGRAM AND BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP PROGRAMS

WATERSHED continued from page 1

the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, which bisects the watershed. One of the main issues has been accelerated erosion of the creek bed.

FoSC has been engaged primarily in cleanups outside the park, in community outreach to increase membership, and in developing a five-year plan focusing on the most degraded sections of the creek. Chief among these is the Sunrise property, an area of woodland owned by the city.

According to Duncan, stormwater from the adjacent Greenway Center and Maryland Trade Center office park, and overflow from a large retention lake on Hanover Parkway and another smaller retention lake near Schrom Hills Park all drain through underground pipes into the creek from the Sunrise property.

Touchet noted that in some sections of the creek, the embankment is 10-15 feet above the water line, making it dangerously inaccessible.

A construction site near Kenilworth Avenue and Good Luck Road is another area of concern.

Support Groups

Jordan confirmed that FoSC maintains an ongoing partnership with the Boy Scouts for clean-up projects. Davis suggested the National Park Service as a possibility for increased funding and Touchet commented that more funding for environmental assessments is needed. Although FoSC maintains a relationship with Greenbelt Park Ranger Kevin Berry, conducting some of its meetings within the Park, most problems are related to areas outside actual park boundaries. Davis suggested reaching out to local homeowners associations and Touchet agreed.

Roberts suggested using the city's available "green space funds", which might be more appropriately used for watershed mitigation projects. He cited Greenway Center as an obvious location to put in place environmental biomonitoring systems.

When Mach raised a question about public funding in relation to private property, City Manager Michael McLaughlin said he would need to research these funds and how they might be used.

Cary Coppock (CCRIC) said forest recovery is in process around the Sunrise property and that care should be taken that it not be further damaged. She suggested the use of regenerative stormwater falls, which raise the creek bed and the water table.

Vickie Hageman (CCRIC) asked about replacing some of the parking spaces in the adjacent apartment complex with a stormwater pond, to which Davis responded that the complex was required to have a certain number of parking spaces.

Stormwater Funding

Coppock noted that state legislation has created a fund for financing public/private partnerships to better manage stormwater. According to the county website, this legislation, the Watershed Protection and Restoration Program (WPRP), also known as the Clean Water Act Fee, was required by a federal government mandate in 2010 as part of new standards under the Clean Water Act. These standards address stormwater runoff pollution (trash, sediment, oil, and other

chemicals) from impervious areas that do not absorb water, such as parking lots, roads and roofs.

In response Prince George's County and Maryland's eight other largest counties, as well as the City of Baltimore, had to establish funding plans by 2013 to pay for stormwater management improvements in order to meet the mandate by 2025. These funds will be used to treat 8,000 acres of uncontrolled impervious surfaces by retrofitting parking lots, roads and roofs with treatment devices to filter out pollutants.

In that regard Jordan shared the good news that funding had been obtained from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to modify the Springhill Lake parking lot from impervious asphalt to a pervious surface.

Hageman mentioned the WPRP Rain Check Rebate Program, which allows property owners to receive rebates for installing approved stormwater management practices, such as cisterns, green roofs, pavement removal, permeable pavement, rain barrels, rain gardens, and urban tree canopy. (See inset.)

Citizens to Conserve and Restore Indian Creek

Representing CCRIC were Hageman, chair of the board, and Coppock, secretary and press/outreach coordinator.

CCRIC, which has been around for 15 years, is actively soliciting members from all of its communities: Greenbelt, College Park, Berwyn Heights, Laurel and Beltsville. The current seven or eight active members plan to conduct upcoming rain barrel workshops and to take part in the College Park farmers market.

The group also looks into partnering opportunities with other groups. For example, CCRIC was invited to participate in the Inter County Connector mitigation project with the Anacostia Watershed Society and other watershed groups, although their input had been limited.

Hageman commented that stormwater ponds were constructed too shallow and that there are bacteria problems with nearby farms. Roberts pointed out that using the money to buy land would have been better spent.

Coppock suggested that stormwater management mitigation projects in Washington, D.C. could serve as a model for Greenbelt projects located on federal land. She stressed the importance of involving people who are familiar with the land.

Davis mentioned the stream restoration off Hillside Road as a successful watershed project, but Roberts disagreed. He noted there was no longer any water. Coppock remarked that the result was better than before, however, when there was an eight-foot ditch that was badly eroded.

Toxins Research

Harriet Phelps reported on her ongoing research of toxins in the creeks. A retired biology professor from the University of the District of Columbia, Phelps conducted her own biomonitoring research at 45 sites in the Anacostia River watershed from 2000-2011.

Using translocated Asiatic clams (*Corbicula fluminea*), she analyzed their body tissue-data for contaminants found in the water, charting the results on a

large map to show many active "toxic hot spots" in the Anacostia watershed. Her research is published on the following website: <http://www.his.com/~hphelps/download.htm>.

Phelps noted that while the upper portion of Beaverdam Creek was clean, three major types of toxins continue to be found in Indian Creek: PCPs (polychlorinated biphenyls), PAHs (polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons, known to cause cancerous fish tumors) and chlordane, a pesticide that has been banned in the U.S. since 1988.

Possible solutions may include trap ponds and charcoal. There is an upcoming meeting with Adam Ortiz, head of Prince George's County Department of the Environment.

Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group

BCWWG were Mark Christal, president, and Shirley Christal. The group's many activities have included tree plantings in Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC), an Earth Day cleanup with Mishkan Torah in the Goddard Branch, a booth at the Greenman Festival, bird walks in BARC and continuing sponsorship of events for the Reel and Meal program at New Deal Café. BCWWG has four or five active members.

BCWWG is currently seeking a second opinion for a stormwater restoration project in Briar Woods, as the first contractor recommended what the group has felt to be too many trees to be cut down. Christal also reported that the hill behind the observatory in Northway Fields has become a dumping ground.

A potential stormwater mitigation site is Canyon Creek, located below Ridge Road in the forest preserve, where a lot of erosion has occurred. Roberts noted that this area is actually located within the 30 acres of GHI land that borders the forest preserve. When Jordan asked about the cause of this erosion, Roberts said that it is not recent, having taken place over the past 75 years. He said he would prefer to see stream restoration, not bulldozers. GHI has not been heavily focused on rainwater mitigation, although some rain gardens have been constructed.

BCWWG continues to conduct quarterly samplings of macro invertebrates to assess the health of the stream. The creek, which benefits from being largely wooded, is one of the cleanest creeks in the watershed. A BCWWG member reported that recent repaving on Research Road has led to more stormwater runoff into the woods.

Partnerships

Duncan reported on an FoSC collaboration with Greenbelt's Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (GreenACES) involving two types of watershed mitigation projects: wetlands and stream restoration, and stormwater management. The group hopes to do more of these in the future, as well as to create an inventory of projects. It is also working with the Anacostia Watershed Citizens Advisory Committee.

Roberts asked about resident nesting eagles, which he had not seen recently, but others said they have been sighted.

CCRIC is working with the

For more information on Greenbelt Watershed Watch Groups:

FoSC: www.stillcreekwatershed.org
 Email: Bill Duncan, SduncanRN@aol.com
 CCRIC: www.ccric.org
 Email: Vicky Hageman, Vicky.H@ccric.org
 BCWWG: Website: <http://www.beaverdamcreek.org/>
 Email: Mark Christal, mark@teachnet.edb.utexas.edu

For more information on the Prince George's County Department of the Environment Rain Check Rebate Program:

www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/sites/StormwaterManagement
 Email: DERRebatesandCredits@co.pg.md.us
 Or call 311

Interstate Potomac Workshop on creating stormwater management models for teachers to use in the classroom. Hageman demonstrated one of the models for council, in which water is poured over a changing miniature landscape to show the importance of vegetation in both reducing and purifying stormwater runoff.

Jordan asked about outreach to schools, such as the French Immersion School in the old Greenbelt Middle School. Hageman agreed that school outreach was important and noted there has been outreach to children in the Farmers Market.

Not Successful

Partnering with the Anacostia Watershed Society on recent cleanups has not been successful, so CCRIC is currently shifting its focus. October 16 is Clean-up Green-Up day.

Hageman also brought forth the following concerns:

- When council meetings are viewed over the internet, the viewer is unable to see paper maps or other documents used in presentations. It was suggested that there be camera close-ups of these documents or that digital documents be used instead.

- Repaving on Greenbelt Road resulted in a heavy equipment staging site right next to Indian Creek, resulting in petrochemical contaminants going directly into

the creek. It was determined that this area was actually in Berwyn Heights and thus outside city jurisdiction.

Funding and Recruitment Strategies

Davis suggested the watershed groups work with the city's Green Team as Greenbelt was approved as a sustainable community in September. Coppock suggested that some of the city directors should also be on the team. Public Service Announcements (PSAs) on Greenbelt Access TV were suggested as another way for the groups to boost membership.

Bill Orleans commented that if what occurs on private property is a public detriment, the city could enact an ordinance and council could correct this situation. Jordan responded that creating a fee could be more effective in enforcing state laws, and that such a fee may already exist.

Richard Klein, a former biologist for the DNR, was recommended as a knowledgeable source on pollution issues who might conduct workshop sessions teaching people on how to assess a site. Mach suggested the Jim Cassel grant as another option for watershed groups to obtain funding.

Davis reinforced that the groups did not have to wait two years for major issues that needed addressing. The meeting concluded at approximately 10:15 pm.



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Go Beyond the Battle of Bladensburg

by Aaron Marcavitch

October is a chance to learn more about the War of 1812 and the Bicentennial with unique chances to go beyond the battle. Local organizations have developed great programs to keep interest alive in the War of 1812. Maryland Milestones/ATHA Inc., Star Spangled 200 Inc. and other partners provide matching support for these programs.

Friday, October 10: Learn about the ghosts of Dueling Creek at the Bladensburg Waterfront Park, 4601 Annapolis Road, starting at 6:30 p.m. Get some hot cocoa, warm over a campfire and hear tales about the Dueling Grounds. Then take a night hike with a guide along the Anacostia River Trail. Free, but advanced reservations are required and space is limited. Ages 7 and up. Call Prince George's Parks and Recreation at 301-927-8819 for more details.

Saturday, October 11: Beyond the Battle Symposium: Bladensburg's History in Context brings scholars and community researchers together to discuss their work on the era around the War of 1812 at the Hornbake Library on the University of Maryland, College Park campus. The program runs from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Scheduled presenters include Maya Davis, Mark Leone Ph.D., Dennis Pogue Ph.D., Richard Ervin, Donald Creveling, Noel Broadbent, Peter Brice, Joanna Blake, Mark Hildebrand, John Peter Thompson, Susan Pearl, Douglas McElrath and

keynote speaker Alan Virta. Lunch is included with the registration. Details for registration and costs can be found at bladensburgrediscovered.wordpress.com/events/.

Saturday, October 11: The Prince George's Philharmonic will perform a special concert at 8 p.m. commemorating the era of the War of 1812 at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts, 15200 Annapolis Road. Charles Ellis conducts with Mariam Adam on clarinet. Pieces include Rossini's Overture to Tancredi; Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A Major, K. 622; Wagner's Siegfried's Rhine Journey from Götterdämmerung; Rodgers' Victory at Sea: Symphonic Scenario for Orchestra; and Beethoven's Wellington's Victory. There is a fee. Tickets go on sale the night of the concert beginning at 7 p.m., cash or check only. All seating is unreserved.

Sunday, October 12: A Tri-National Folk Dance Exhibition presents BicentennialALE at Bladensburg Waterfront Park between noon and 3 p.m. Morris dance teams from England, Canada and the United States commemorate the 1814 Battle of Bladensburg and the burning of Washington. Special guest teams are the Winchester Morris Men from England and the Toronto Morris Men from Canada. Local teams include Arlington Northwest Morris Women, Foggy Bottom Morris Men, Rock Creek Morris Men, and maybe more! Morris dancing is a lively English folk dance with roots as far back as the 16th century. Stick dances, "hanky" dances and dances used

in processions and parades will be performed. The high-energy music is performed live on accordions, concertinas, fiddles and other acoustic instruments. Program is free, parking on site.

Friday, October 24: Learn about the pirates of the Chesapeake with a campfire and boat tour at Bladensburg Waterfront Park (4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg) starting at 6:30 p.m. The campfire and cocoa are warming, but the scary tales of ghosts and pirates are chilling! Bundle up and take an exciting boat tour down the Anacostia River but beware of ghostly pirates on shore and on river waiting to come aboard! Free, but advanced reservations are required and space is limited. Ages 7 and up. Call Prince George's Parks and Recreation at 301-927-8819 for more details.

Saturday, October 25: The Crop Hop is a bike tour designed to highlight the connection between farms, fresh food and good health and to help provide fresh farm foods to low-income families in Southern Maryland. Prince George's County, as 2014 host, includes farms where riders can snack and learn about local food production. Riders can enjoy food grown and raised locally during the after-ride picnic.

The event features four spectacular routes through the scenic southern Maryland countryside – a metric century, a 35-mile loop, a 17-mile loop, and a family friendly route. Registered riders will receive a free commemorative T-shirt and lunch while supplies last.

Rides start and end at historic Nottingham (Nottingham Road, Upper Marlboro), where additional events will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Non-bikers can participate in canoeing and kayaking throughout the day. During the War of 1812, armies marched and fought on farms along the Patuxent River, and families will also be able to enjoy educational and entertaining period re-enactments. For more details see crophop.com or call 301-274-1922.

Maryland Milestones/ATHA Inc., the management organization for the Anacostia Trails Certified Maryland Heritage Area, seeks to preserve and promote the history, culture, nature and arts of the area. Working with a variety of partners, the organization has been commemorating the bicentennial of the War of 1812 around Prince George's County. Details about the organization and more information about the War of 1812 can be found at maryland-milestones.org and www.prince-georges1812.org.

Workshop on Biblical Storytelling Oct. 25

Reverend Fay Lundin will be performing "So There We Were - Faith in the Storm," a collection of biblical stories of storms at sea on Friday, October 24 from 7-8 pm. Then on Saturday morning, Oct. 25 at 10 am, she will offer a 90-minute workshop on biblical storytelling. Both are free and will be held at Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church, 40 Ridge Road. Long before the narratives of the Bible became "scripture" ("writing") they existed in oral form as stories shared in the faith community and passed down from generation to generation. Rev. Lundin, Mowatt's pastor, is a biblical storyteller who tells scripture in the Network of Biblical Storytellers' tradition, nearly verbatim.

The Saturday morning workshop introduces the art and spiritual discipline of telling the sacred stories of the Bible. Participants will learn to prepare, learn, and tell a biblical text by heart (not "memory") using the methods of the Network of Biblical Storytellers International.

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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. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robbery

September 25, 4:30 p.m., Breezewood Drive near Springhill Lane. A man was walking down the street when four men walked by him. Three continued past him, but the fourth man approached him and asked to use his cell phone. When he refused and tried to walk away, the man demanded his phone, punched him in the face and attempted unsuccessfully to take it. He then fled on foot. He is described as a dark complexioned black, 18 to 23 years old, 5'8" to 5'11", 150 pounds, wearing a black shirt, black sneakers and blue jeans. The other man was transported for treatment of minor injuries.

September 26, 4:49 p.m., Gardenway near Spellman Overpass. Two students walking home from school were approached from behind by three older youths. One of them displayed a knife and demanded their cell phones and other property. One of the other two implied he had a gun. They then fled across the Spellman Overpass in the general direction of Hanover Parkway. All three are described as black, with one wearing a blue-hooded sweatshirt and dark colored pants; another wearing a colored jacket, dark pants and a shirt with yellow writing on the front; and the third wearing a white T-shirt, blue pants and white shoes.

September 27, 8:29 p.m., 6000 block Greenbelt Road. The manager at Party City was in the office when two men entered, produced a handgun and announced a robbery. They took money and the manager's cell phone and fled. Both men are described as black, wearing skeleton-type masks and sunglasses. One man was described as being 5'8", 140 pounds, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt, khaki pants and black shoes. The other man was described as wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt, black pants and black shoes.

October 1, 2:44 p.m., 6000 block Greenbelt Road. A man entered the Sports Zone store and set merchandise on the counter to purchase it. He then attempted to take it without paying for it. When the cashier tried to grab the merchandise, the man implied he had a weapon. When another employee approached the man, he displayed a handgun in his waistband and then fled. He is described as black, 5'9", 190 pounds, with a full beard and glasses, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and a black hat.

Arrest

September 29, 11:50 p.m.,

Police Issue Burglary Advisory

The Greenbelt Police Department has issued a citizen advisory in the wake of a residential burglary that occurred in the 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace on September 30 at approximately 5:40 a.m.

A woman in bed heard two men talking about removing her clothing. She then saw one of them in her bedroom. She grabbed her cell phone and ran from the apartment. The men fled.

It was later discovered that a white Schwinn Solara mountain bike and a cell phone had been taken.

One man is described as black, 6' tall, 160 pounds, with short black hair, wearing blue jeans, blue undershorts showing above the jeans and no shirt. No description is available for the second man.

Entry was probably gained by way of an unsecured sliding glass door.

6000 block Springhill Drive. A 20-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with multiple drug-related charges, including possession of marijuana with intent to distribute in a school zone, after he was stopped as a suspicious person. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

DWI/DUI

September 27, 3:59 a.m., Greenbelt Road near Lakecrest Drive. A 33-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with alcohol and traffic-related violations after a traffic stop. He was released on citations pending trial.

Vandalism

September 24, 9:10 block Springhill Lane. A man inside his residence heard the sound of glass breaking and discovered someone had thrown a rock through the bedroom window. He looked out and saw several people fleeing the area.

Theft

September 25, 8:55 p.m., 6000 block Greenbelt Road. An unattended purse was taken at the Beltway Plaza Laundromat.

September 27, 8 a.m., 9200 block Edmonston Road. A black Manga brand mountain bike was taken after the lock was cut.

September 27, 3 p.m., 6000 block Greenbelt Road. A wallet was taken from an unattended backpack at Marshall's department store.

September 27, 11:54 p.m.,

9200 block Springhill Lane. Clothing was taken from a dryer in the Beltway Plaza Laundromat. The suspect is described as a black man, 6' to 6'2", 210 to 240 pounds with a goatee, wearing a black T-shirt, black cargo-type pants and black sneakers.

September 30, 1:35 p.m., 8300 block Canning Terrace. Three unattended leaf blowers were taken.

Burglary

September 26, 1 a.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Lane. A laptop computer and a notebook-type computer were taken from a locked residence.

September 27, 8 a.m., 6200 block Springhill Court. A man reported that someone entered his residence and took his car keys, and then his 2005 Ford Explorer SUV. The vehicle was recovered September 29 by Prince George's County police in the 8900 block Rhode Island Avenue, College Park. No arrests were made.

September 28, 3:50 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Lane. Luggage, jewelry and a video game player were taken. Entry to the home was by way of the unsecured sliding glass door.

September 29, 3 p.m., 9100 block Springhill Court. A television, money and iPhone were taken.

September 29, 10:40 p.m., 6000 block Cherrywood Court. A woman in her bedroom heard a noise coming from the living room area. She went there and discovered a man unlocking her front door from the inside and fleeing. Nothing was taken and entry was probably gained by way of an unlocked sliding glass door.

Vehicle Crime

A green 2005 Kawasaki Ninja series motorcycle with Md. tag D53955 was taken from the 7900 block Mandan Road.

License tags were stolen from cars in 13 Court Hillside and 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace.

Tires and rims were removed from a vehicle on Lakecrest Circle. A man heard a noise about 3:15 a.m. and when he looked outside he saw an SUV outside his driveway. It sped off. Later he discovered that tires and rims had been removed from his vehicle.

Vandalism occurred in the 6000 block Springhill Drive (paint was scratched) and 8000 block Mandan Road (four tires on the same vehicle were flattened).

In the 7800 block Mandan Road three vehicles were vandalized by a person scratching the paint. That person is known to the owners of the vehicles and the investigation is continuing.

It's Easy to Vote Early

by Kathleen Gallagher

The old expression "Vote early and vote often" has taken on entirely new meaning with the availability in Prince George's County of eight early voting locations on eight days in the 2014 Gubernatorial General Election. Early voting for the November 4 election will be available to all qualified voters from Thursday, October 23 through Thursday, October 30 from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. daily.

Maryland voters may vote at any of the early voting centers within the county where they live. The polling locations for early voting closest to Greenbelt are College Park Community Center, 5051 Pierce Avenue; Wayne K. Curry Sports

& Learning Center, Landover Room A, 8001 Sheriff Road; Laurel-Beltsville Senior Activity Center, 7120 Contee Road and Bowie Community Center, 3209 Stonybrook Drive. Other centers are located in Forestville, Upper Marlboro, Ft. Washington and Brandywine.

All early voting centers are accessible to voters with disabilities. The voting process is the same at early voting centers as on election day. The same voting machines are used, and election judges are available to direct and assist voters.

For further information call the Prince George's County Board of Elections at 301-341-7300.

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Oct. 13 8pm

Co-op Month Proclamation in City Council Chambers

Oct. 13-17

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October 15 7-8pm

Healthy Horizons Greenbelt Consumer Co-op

Oct. 16 9am-2pm

Credit Union Day- Refreshments will be served Greenbelt
Federal Credit Union 112 Centerway

Oct. 17 4-7pm

Wine Tasting Greenbelt Consumer Co-op

Oct. 18 9-12 noon

Shredding Event, Greenbelt Credit Union,
Municipal Bldg Parking Lot.

Oct. 19 1-3pm

GHI Picnic, Hamilton Place

Oct. 19 3-5pm

Greenbelt News Review & Museum "Remembering Izzy
Reception and Cartoon Contest Awards",
Community Center.

Oct. 21 10am-2pm

Evergreen Health Co-op at City Health Fair,
Community Center

Oct. 26

News Review Annual Meeting

Oct. 29 5-7

Seasonal & Savory/Wine Tasting Greenbelt Consumer Co-op

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PHOTO BY JOEY TRULL

Members of the Roosevelt Democratic Club pose with speaker Chuck Cook, political director of the Maryland Democratic Party (standing to the right of Mayor Emmett Jordan).

Roosevelt Democratic Club Urged to Turn Out the Vote

by Joey Trull

The Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club welcomed Political Director of the Maryland Democratic Party Chuck Cook to speak at the group's monthly meeting at the Greenbriar Community Building on Friday, September 19.

At the first club meeting since May, the dozens of attendees fondly remembered the Labor Day festival which serves as the club's main fundraiser. President Emmett Jordan opened the meeting with a reminder of the key issues in the upcoming election including the environment, education and health-care. Jordan said that the club is the most active Democratic one in the area. "We definitely have opinions and we act on them," said Jordan. "People in this club actually go out and work."

Due to high population, he added, a significant voter turnout in Prince George's County could have a substantial impact on the election.

Cook spoke about support in reaching local voters in the final six weeks before the election. Cook said that he is a firm believer in local elections given that people can see the results of voting on changes in their towns more so than in sweeping national issues.

A graduate of Salisbury University with a degree in computer science, Cook uses his data-driven skills, activism and experience in elections to turn out voters.

In January 2008 after Barack Obama won the presidency, Cook became passionate for elections and driving voter contact. President Obama also used data to drive both of his elections.

"I got involved in this because of President Obama," said Cook. "I plugged myself in to my Democratic Club to do anything I could."

Cook explained, based on num-

ber-crunching, that if all registered Democrat voters in Maryland showed up every two years to vote and not just on presidential election years, then a campaign for governor and many other seats would not be necessary for the party to win.

Cook's election data shows a 29 percent decrease in voting from the historic 2008 voting turnout compared to the 2010 voting numbers for areas of Maryland. "We want to turn out a million Democrats statewide to vote," said Cook. "We need to turn out as many Democrats as possible."

By doing so Maryland Democrats would be able to pick up seats to place more progressive candidates and secure the ones they already have."

Cook repeated Jordan's earlier statement about Prince George's County having a lot of weight in the election due to the large number of voters.

Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club will hold the next meeting on October 17.

Joey Trull is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.

Plan to Vote on Tuesday, November 4

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National Arboretum Free Flower Show

On Saturday, October 18 from 1 to 4 p.m. and Sunday, October 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. the U.S. National Arboretum will hold the free National Capital Area Flower Show. Educational talks and creative horticulture exhibits on photography, art and design will be presented by members of District garden clubs and National Arboretum staff. See judged entries of annuals, perennials, woody plants, grasses and floral arrangements. Sponsored by National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc.

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GREENBELT SENIORS ARE AN ACTIVE BUNCH!



PHOTO BY ANA MULERO

Racks of garments from Taylor Marie gave plenty of choice at the Fashion Show.

Seniors Model Clothing At Active Aging Event

by Ana Mulero

Taylor Marie's Fashion Show and Boutique successfully contributed to Greenbelt's Active Aging Week 2014 on Wed., Sept. 24 by delivering style to seniors.

The International Council in Active Aging designs Active Aging Week. Events are programmed for those who are 50 and over but they are not limited to that age group. The goal is to get people involved in the community, and the fashion show allows people to interact in a fun and friendly environment and gives volunteers a chance to show off their runway walk, says Karen Haseley, who has been working as Greenbelt's therapeutic recreation supervisor for 27 years.

"Actively aging is not just about exercising. It's about exercising your brain and your social skills...and what better event to do that than at a fashion show that brings everybody together, and has wonderful models who get to have a great time?" Haseley said.

All Haseley had to do was ask who wanted to participate in this year's fashion show and she quickly found all 10 models that were needed for the event and their escorts, many of whom had also volunteered in last year's show.

Maryann Priddy, one of the owners and operators of Taylor Marie's apparel, travels to venues like senior residential communities, assisted living centers and church events throughout the state of Maryland to provide a complete boutique free of cost to the facility.

Heidi Welbig came up with the idea of a traveling clothing franchise for senior citizens about 12 years ago, Priddy said. "She used to shop with her grandmother in Minnesota, that was their girl time."



PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG

Suze Marley (right), escorted by her husband Jim Marley, participates in the Fashion Show.

When her grandmother got sick and was placed in nursing care, Heidi had the ingenious idea to go the stores, bring the clothes to her and spend their quality time together that way.

Today this popular mobile clothing store, named after Priddy's daughter, continues to flourish among seniors in Minnesota, along with Florida, Illinois and Texas.

The store carries multiple brands at regular retail prices but the most popular one at the fashion show and boutique seemed to be Alfred Dunner. "We all like Alfred Dunner," said Suze Marley, one of the models who volunteered for the fashion show. "My husband bought me an entire outfit, plus a sweater, before I even got out of the changing room. And I wear it."

The fashion show concluded with a chance to purchase clothing articles and accessories while socializing with other fashion enthusiasts.

Ana Mulero is a University of Maryland graduate student writing for the News Review.

Mathews Speaks To City's Seniors

by Justin Meyer

Director of Public Information George Mathews explained methods of fraud safety and cyber security at the senior open forum at the Greenbelt Community Center on September 27.

According to the 2012 Norton Cybercrime Report, there are 556 million international victims of cybercrimes every year. Two out of every three online adults have been victims of cybercrime in their lifetime, according to the report.

Mathews stressed that the new crime in today's world is cyber.

"The crime of this millennium is going to be cyber," he said. "Crime has gone down dramatically in this area in the last several years, but you're going to see this is the new crime. This is going to be how people take advantage of you financially. It's not a gun or a knife anymore, it's the computer."

Mathews recommended that residents get Greenbelt Alert, the city's alert system.

"One of the most important things we can arm our citizens with is information," he explained. "It's all about information and getting things out to people so they can best protect themselves and their loved ones. With Greenbelt Alerts, you will be able to get info that may be relevant to you in a timely fashion, whether it be crime related, weather or festivals. You can use it for everything."

You can filter information within the alert system by going down a menu and deciding which alerts you would or would not like to receive, Mathews said. You can choose to have it come over several different media, he said, such as cell phone, landline and email. You can sign up for the alert system on the city's website or by coming to city hall and asking for it, he added.

Mathews gave a few tips on how to avoid being a cybercrime victim.

"If you didn't make the phone call, why are you giving them personal information?" he said. "Don't make friends on the internet when it comes to finances."

He added the importance of getting help from loved ones.

"If you have a friend who is good with computers, talk to them," Mathews said. "If you have a concern that something might be a scam or fraudulent, talk to them. Having a trusted advocate is one of the best things you can do. Have someone who has your best interests at heart, whether it's a friend or family, someone who you can trust with difficult decisions to make sure you aren't getting taken advantage of."

Mathews also mentioned shedding all financial papers before throwing them out and being sure to get all of your free credit reports that you have a right to by law.

Greenbelt resident Sylvia Lewis asked Mathews what sorts of scams she should call the police department about. Mathews said to report anything you find suspicious no matter what.

"If it's something you think is

Tai Chi: For Seniors A Highway to Health

by Brittany Britto

Senior citizens had the chance to shake up their routines last week in Greenbelt's fourth annual Active Aging Week.

The weeklong series of free fitness classes and workshops intended to impact the health and fitness of all ages, introduced students to Zumba sessions at Jillian Michael's gym, Curves and a beginner's demonstration of tai chi.

Active Aging Week "gives people a choice to see if they like something or if something strikes their fancy," said Karen Haseley, the therapeutic recreation supervisor, who is also in charge of scheduling senior trips. "What better way to get people out than to introduce them to things we offer to see if they like them."

New to many Active Aging Week participants was the featured tai chi demonstration, taught by Linda Uphoff.

"As people get older, health is everything," said Uphoff, who has been teaching tai chi for over 15 years at the Greenbelt Youth Center. "tai chi is a combination of health, spirituality and martial arts. It starts dialogue about body alignment. It raises awareness. It's about taking care of yourself."

Uphoff, a former art teacher for Prince George's County public schools, began her 21-year journey in the martial art when she found her health declining, requiring her to walk with a cane.

"I was worried about my health," said Uphoff. "I was in a lot of pain. I couldn't walk down to the mailbox. I had to make myself walk. I had to do something."

Uphoff recalled stumbling upon a poster of Tom Bartlett, a moment that would transform her health as she knew it.

A Greenbelt resident and a tai chi master, Bartlett had traveled to China during his training in tai chi to deliver both the Greenbelt and USA flag to his personal tai chi master, Uphoff said. Although diagnosed with cancer, Bartlett lived 20 years past his estimated life expectancy after his diagnosis, a fact that Uphoff credits to his practice in tai chi.

Inspired by Bartlett and with the goal to improve her health, Uphoff took on tai chi with Bartlett as her trainer at the Greenbelt Youth Center over a decade ago.

obvious and small, you can contact me so I can get the information out to other people," he said. "If you have something bigger, call the non-emergency number and file a report."

Mathews spoke about scams and fraud aimed at seniors to the Greenbelt Golden Age Club and offered to come and do it again. Brenda R. Cooley praised Mathews's presentation.

"What it did when he came was not just give us a wonderful presentation, but help calm us down a little bit," she said. "So many of us were very, very frightened about what might oc-



PHOTO BY BRITTANY BRITTO

Linda Uphoff led Active Aging Week participants through an introductory demonstration.

"I started here, in this very place, with that teacher," said Uphoff, who became a teacher in her early 50s; an accomplishment she says is rare for people of that age. "And I can tell you I don't have a cane [anymore]."

Uphoff attributes her improved health to her tai chi practice, a practice that has not always been easy, she said.

"There are learning steps, and it is better learned the second go-round," said Uphoff. "But the understanding that comes affects you internally. You look at the world in a more calming way. It changes everything."

As a personal practice, the benefits of tai chi are many, according to Uphoff.

The slow and steady movements aid in opening up the joints and the spine, often a center focus of health in Chinese culture. The practice, however, transcends the physical she stated.

"Tai chi is more about what happens to you internally. It's a spiritual, meditative thing – the unity of mind, body and spirit," said Uphoff.

Uphoff's tai chi classes are held every week at Greenbelt Youth Center on Wednesdays, 6 to 7:30 p.m. for beginners and 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. for the intermediate to advanced.

Brittany Britto is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.

cur as a result of everything that's happening."

Another key talking point from the meeting included smoke detectors. Director of Planning and Community Development Celia Craze said her department will make sure that every home has the smoke detectors it needs.

"If you need help with your smoke detectors, call our office at 301-345-5417," she said. "We will bring you a smoke detector and a battery. It's crucial you have this."

Justin Meyer is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.

For a list of upcoming events for seniors and the entire community, visit the city's website at www.greenbeltmd.gov.

GREENBELT SENIORS ARE AN ACTIVE BUNCH!

Creative Journeys Features Center Artists Expressions

by Joey Trull

Explorations Unlimited held an artists' discussion and reception for Creative Journeys: A Special Exhibition for Active Aging Week 2014 on Friday, September 26, at the Greenbelt Community Center.

Exhibit showcased the artistic accomplishments of people ages 50 and over participating in the various continuing art programs being offered at the Greenbelt Community Center. The exhibit was on display all week in the Art Gallery. There were pieces of artwork in multiple forms including: ceramics, drawings, paintings and sewn and knitted articles.

Teachers of the art programs as well as students talked about the classes and what they learned at the artists' discussion and how others could sign up.

Susan Crane, teacher of drawing and art history classes at Prince George's Community College SAGE (Seasoned Adults Growing Educationally), spoke about her students' achievements on display. Crane shows her students how to create artwork using pencil, charcoal, ink and watercolor pencils.

"I love teaching," Crane said. "It thrills me to see their progress. Part of what I do is help people see, and drawing is all about seeing. Because if you can see, you can draw—anybody can."

Crane said she also teaches two legally blind artists.

"I've learned from them that if you have the desire, you can do it," Crane said. "If it's important to them, it's important to me."

"I appreciate Mrs. Crane's gentle advice and critiques," said Randi Anderson.

His colored pencil and ink pieces of art were displayed in the exhibit, explained in the discussion group how Crane gives individualized care to students in her classes.

"Her gentle input is very helpful because you can synthesize it in your brain and improve your work without feeling unnerved," Anderson said. "And when she does this, she does it with a degree of encouragement so that you can feel

that you can come back and you can do a little better because you had the encouragement to do it."

Lynne Gessner, a student of Crane as well, had a portrait of a friend in her preferred medium of charcoal on display. Gessner said she enjoyed the large 3-D eye activity Crane uses in her class to teach students how to use depth in their artwork.

Members of the Sew for Charity group were in attendance to discuss their group's activities and artwork on display as part of the exhibit.

Kay Martin spoke on behalf of the non-instructional group and explained that they make and donate everything to cancer patients, underprivileged children and others in need.

"Come try your skills with us," Martin said. "The babies don't care what it looks like."

Martin explained that nothing goes to waste in the group and if for nothing else, they use scraps for stuffing in pet beds to take to local shelters.

Sew for Charity has made and donated 5940 quilts, baby clothing, blankets, chemotherapy hats, scarves, pet beds and many other articles since 2008 as recorded on September 14, 2014, averaging about 1,000 per year said Martin.

Liz Cockerham spoke for the non-instructional quilting group Gifts from the Heart that also had pieces of artwork on display as part of the exhibit. Cockerham explained that they are a social group that knits, crochets, shares patterns and dialogues.

Gifts from the Heart creates blankets, shawls, hats, scarves and baby sweaters to be donated to mothers in need and local elementary schools.

For more information on how to get involved in classes and groups visit the Greenbelt Community Center or www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts.

Joey Trull is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.

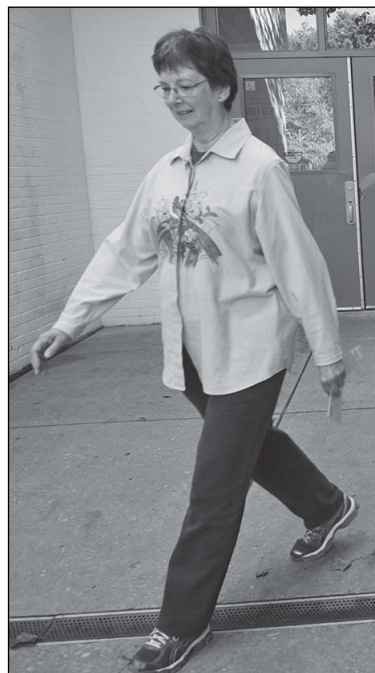


PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG

Judy Cocchiario (left) leads the Fit 'N' Fun Cardio class.



Steve Skolnik joins in the fitness class sponsored by Holy Cross Hospital.



Betty Timer takes part in Walk with Aegis.



PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG

As part of Senior Nutrition Program, Rita Booe (left) of the Recreation Department serves lunch to Ken Mahen.

Senior Open Forum Confers With City Council, Others

by Dylan Reffe

Nearly 50 Greenbelt seniors met with members of the city council to both give praise and express concerns about the community at the Annual Senior Open Forum on Saturday, September 27. In addition to Councilmembers Konrad Herling, Leta Mach, Ed Putens and Rodney Roberts, Mayor Emmett Jordan and Chief of Police James Craze were also in attendance.

The forum began with Golden Age Club President Brenda Cooley thanking city council members for their attendance and continued support. Cooley praised the city for increasing the number of handicapped parking spaces, increasing the number of handrails and increasing the number of park benches around the city. All of these actions have followed concerns raised in past senior forums.

Cooley also lauded Karen Haseley, the therapeutic recreation director. Haseley puts on numerous events for senior citizens and led the efforts of Active Aging Week, which concluded with the Annual Open Forum. "She does everything around here," said Cooley. "She keeps us young."

The first major issue discussed was how to get rid of the extra telephone poles in the community. New poles had been put up recently, but the majority of the old poles still remain. According to Jordan, Pepco, Comcast and Verizon have an agreement to remove old wires and poles within 90 days. Although council has tried to expedite the process, they had found Verizon to be the main offender. Greenbelt citizens are urged to continue filing complaints to their phone and television providers in hopes of a speedier removal of the excess poles.

French Immersion

The next issue discussed was the naming of the newly reconfigured French Immersion School. So far, possible names include the Rexford Tugwell French Immersion School, the Lafayette French Immersion School and even the Greenbelt French Immersion School.

One of the most talked about issues at the forum centered on

protecting seniors from fraud. Police Department Community Liaison George Mathews gave a short talk on a new type of fraud. "Electronic fraud is up and coming," said Mathews. "People will try to take advantage of your good intentions."

A USAA Educational Foundation booklet was made available to attendees entitled Protecting the Elderly from Fraud and Abuse. Citizens are asked to report any suspicious fraud activity to the Greenbelt Police Department's non-emergency number. Mathews also encouraged seniors to have a "trusted advocate" when it comes to technology, so that they might better fend off would-be scammers.

One issue raised by an attendee was the Greenbelt Alert System. Mathews fielded the questions and also spoke about the new, soon-to-be implemented, alert system. The new system will allow citizens to get alerts via their cell phone, home phone, email or even text message. It will also allow citizens to choose what types of alerts they wish to receive and the timeframe in which they would like to receive them. "The goal is to arm our citizens with information," Mathews said.

One of the forum's final speakers was Celia Craze, director of of Planning and Community Development. She first spoke on behalf of fire safety. In order to enforce housing maintenance codes and prevent tragedy, Craze and her department will help in determining the functionality of a smoke detector and if necessary help to install a new, working smoke detector into senior households. Any questions about checking and installing smoke detectors can be made to 301-345-5417.

The Open Forum concluded with Haseley discussing future events, including Oktoberfest, the Contra Dance on Saturday, October 4 and the Mystery Trip on Wednesday, October 8.

Dylan Reffe is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.

Golden Age Club

Active Aging Week was a busy time in Greenbelt. Many of the activities were enjoyed by the Golden Age Club members. The Fashion Show was very special and enjoyed by many: the audience and the members as models and escorts.

Many thanks to Karen Haseley for planning and making this an interesting week.

The speaker on October 8 will be Ranger Dillon from the Recreation Department.

The Club will be having our annual Yard Sale/Bake Sale on October 11. Bring articles for the sale to the Senior Lounge in the Community Center to be sorted and priced. This is our big fundraiser for the year, so let's make it a huge success.

It really takes a village to make this happen, and the Golden Age Club is "awesome" in all the many things in which it takes part.

Keep up the good work and keep coming out to meetings.

— Bunny Fitzgerald



Bunny Fitzgerald in the fashion show.

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ANNUAL UMW APPLE FESTIVAL & CRAFT SHOW — Oct. 18, 10-2, Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Ln., Beltsville 20705, 301-937-7114. Beautifully designed handmade crafts make great presents. Apple pies, BBQ sandwiches, bake sale, attic treasures, gently used books, housewares, jewelry, toys and ladies accessories and more. Bargains galore. Pecan orders taken if they haven't arrived yet. Proceeds benefit women & children through approved UMW mission projects.

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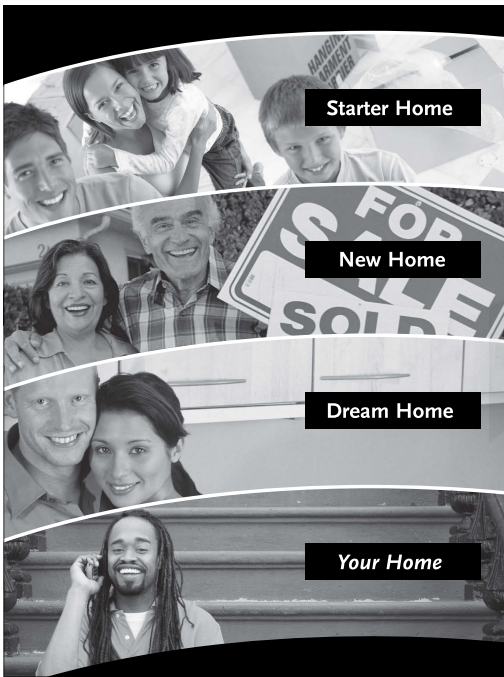
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Upcoming Events at New Deal Café

Thursday, October 9 Mid-Day Melodies with Amy C. Kraft will be from noon to 2 p.m. Open Mic, hosted by James and Martha, runs from 7 to 9 p.m.

Friday, October 10 begins with John Guernsey playing piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

The GoodFellas, a fantastic Beatles tribute band, will follow from 8 to 11 p.m.

Saturday, October 11 Bruce Kritt will play classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m. followed by Guernsey playing jazz standards on the piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Little Red and the Renegades will offer up Zydeco and New Orleans R&B music from 8 to 11 p.m.

Sunday, October 12 join the Deaf Brunch from 10:30 a.m. till noon. The Not2Cool Jazz Trio will play from 11:30 a.m. till 2:30 p.m. Geff King and the Brave Engineers will perform full-throttle country and bluegrass with a touch of western swing to get your toes a tappin' from 5 to 8 p.m..

Tuesday, October 14 Tower Green will play Renaissance and British folk rock offering up traditional songs and originals. from 7 to 9 p.m.

Wednesday, October 15 the monthly Pub Quiz will be held from 7 to 9 p.m.

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Block Townhome With Addition - Rear addition and office space. Close to Roosevelt Center.

2 Bedroom Townhome - Corner lot tucked away. New appliances. Priced to sell at \$112,000

Your Greenbelt Specialists
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Minecraft for Education Workshop

by Allene Abrahamian

Community members attended the Minecraft for Education workshop at the Greenbelt Community MakerSpace on Saturday, September 20 from 1 to 3 p.m. In attendance were parents, children and teachers.

The organization offers workshops for both children and adults in technical and science fields, but this was the first workshop focused on the popular computer game Minecraft. Co-founders George Boyce and Eva Fallon ran the workshop.

The idea for the workshop came from feedback within the community when multiple children who attended summer camps became “obsessed with Minecraft” and their parents “were less comfortable with it,” said Fallon. They researched opportunities in playing the game and found educational value. The game does not have any specific goals other than to stay alive, and the player has the freedom to choose among various paths forward.

“Never dig straight down,” Boyce said as he emphasized the number-one rule of the game. The workshop started with a brief technical explanation of servers and modes of Minecraft before having the attendees actually try the program. The software used was MinecraftEdu, a teaching version of the game available for students and teachers in educational settings and classrooms.

Boyce led the workshop and set up a virtual environment to which every attendee could con-



PHOTO BY ALLENE ABRAHAMIAN

The Minecraft Workshop at MarkerSpace was designed to help parents understand the educational value of the computer game.

nect with provided laptops. All players were in the same cyberspace as avatars of themselves while they learned the basics of the game. Throughout the workshop, attendees learned how to collect, build, eat and survive in the game. Different time periods were also covered in the game, including sunny days and rainy nights. Every mode of the game was briefly touched on, including creative, survival, adventure and hardcore.

Kim Pham from Rockville attended the workshop with her husband and two children. The family heard about the event through the Maker Faire in Silver Spring on September 14. Pham discussed how her family values engineering and is looking for

programs to advance her children in technical fields. “We feel the school is so far behind this,” and “the 21st century needs people who can build,” said Pham. The “future of jobs” is going in a certain direction and “robots are taking over people’s skills,” she said.

Pham and other parents stayed afterward to speak with the co-founders on what else the organization offers and obtain information about more opportunities for their children. MakerSpace offers other activities, such as robotics, microelectronics and website design and development.

Allene Abrahamian is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.

French Immersion School Moves to Vacated GMS

by Ana Mulero

Classes started this fall at 8950 Edmonston Road, in the old Greenbelt Middle School building, the new location for the Robert Goddard French Immersion School. On September 30, it was named an Exemplary High Performing National Blue Ribbon School and had also achieved Blue Ribbon status in 2013. The school, with classes from kindergarten through eighth grade, for many years shared a building in Lanham with the Robert Goddard Montessori School.

School Principal Nasser Abi says the need to share quarters was a large reason for the move. Sharing a building with another school was awkward, Abi said, as his students speak their immersion languages in and out of all classes.

When Greenbelt Middle School moved into its new building two years ago, their old building became available. “We had been asking to have our own building and this opportunity came and we took it,” Abi said. The school no longer has to share the cafeteria, the basketball courts and school supplies with classes not in the program. But one of the biggest advantages, he said, is that they now have room to grow

and flourish in their language immersion programs. The school also teaches Russian and, starting this year, Spanish.

The Robert Goddard French Immersion School is using more technology to teach language. In fact, Abi says, when he knew that every new classroom would have a SMART board, staff training on their use began immediately.

The students’ parents are supporting the new arrangements. PTA President Katrina Dodro says the school was “top choice” for her child. “We all should be multilingual,” she said.

“I think it is very valuable for anyone to learn a second language of any kind and to become culturally aware,” Dodro said. “It opens up a world of opportunities ... when it comes to business; when it comes to jobs.”

The school is also in the process of changing its name and the new school name is in the works. A special committee is being formed to select the name. There will be proposals from which the name will be selected, Abi said.

Ana Mulero is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.



Springhill Lake Elementary School Adds Nine Teachers

by Karen Tang

Principal Natasha Jenkins is taking on a new school year at Springhill Lake Elementary. Nine new faculty members have been added in grades K to 5 due to increased enrollment. “We are considered one of the schools that are over-capacitated she said, but the school has found various outlets to help with the increase. Since Springhill Lake Elementary is considered a Title One school, additional funding for the teachers is provided. Prince George’s County also offers Springhill Lake with temporary buildings where teachers have their classrooms.

Jenkins plans to put more emphasis on instruction in the classroom to enhance student achievement. The county has a great emphasis on literacy instruction across the content for students.

“A quality education teaches literate learners how to be pro-

Innovation Leads the Way At Greenbelt Middle School

by Naomi Eide

Technology and innovation are at the forefront of Greenbelt Middle School’s (GMS) educational initiatives, with the hope that classroom technology will evolve standard brick and mortar learning.

Principal George Covington joined the three-year-old middle school this August and said that he is happy to be there as Greenbelt has such a good reputation. Covington has a background in educational administration and recognizes the close ties and support the school has from the community.

“Everything is in place and running well” and there is a lot of potential for continued growth, said Covington. He also said that great things have been offered in the past and the school wants to continue to build on that potential.

One of the promising innovations at the middle school comes from the use of technology in the classroom. This year, William Simpson was brought on as the technology integration coordinator. Simpson started in August and is currently assessing how technology is used in the classroom at Greenbelt and will hold professional development workshops for faculty to promote confidence in technology promoting learning. The hope is to “get teachers and students using technology more effectively and efficiently in the classroom,” Simpson said.

21st Century Environment

The school has made many efforts to create a “21st century digital learning environment”, Simpson said. The school is moving toward having more technology present in the classroom on a permanent basis. Seven Dell laptop carts and 15 iPad carts are shared among faculty with hopes to add additional carts

in the future, he said. Every classroom has SMART board technologies, including digital camera projectors and interactive SMART boards.

Simpson said one of the main goals is to “increase authenticity of learning in the building.” GMS teachers want to create a connection between the school and the outside world. Real world application of classroom skills will assist students in retaining information, particularly in areas like math and science.

With the emphasis on technology, GMS has a creative arts elective in graphic design. The course uses classroom study and the application of learned computer skills for the coursework, a new medium for the arts.

In fall of 2013, GMS was able to bring back its sports program, initially cut because of budget constraints. The school offers basketball, soccer and softball or baseball for both girls and boys. There is potential expansion of after-school programs in collaboration with the Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club.

TAG Program

GMS also hosts a TAG program for 370 talented and gifted students. According to the GMS website, the program features an accelerated educational environment to “meet the unique and specialized instructional, social, and emotional needs of gifted learners.”

The curriculum emphasizes analytical skills in the students from their start in 6th grade. While the required courses follow the formula of other GMS students, the TAG program features accelerated math courses and three years of foreign language.

Naomi Eide is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism, writing for the News Review.

ductive citizens in the world,” Jenkins said.

At Springhill Lake, counselor Linda Lucie wants the students to learn respect for one another and says a quality education is important for college and their future.

Lucie meets with each classroom once every three weeks and talks to the students about such topics such as social skills, anger management and college and leads field trips to local universities. “Even though they may seem very young, what happens is if we start exposing them to different things now that have to do with college, by the time they get to middle school and high school, it won’t be a new concept,” Lucie said.

Prince George’s County Public School sponsors a before and after program for Springhill Lake students. With a nominal fee, parents can bring their children

to school as early as 7 a.m. and pick them up as late as 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. The enlisted students follow a structured program geared to instruction and creativity. They are able to socialize, engage in activities and finish their school assignments.

Starting in October, the school will offer extracurricular activities after school for students. Students will have the opportunity to join programs such as art, cooking and chorus. The school will also provide tutoring session for students who need help.

With every new beginning year there are always expectations from students and teachers. All Lucie wants is for the students “to try as hard as they can and do their best,” she said.

Karen Tang is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.