The City of Greenbelt experienced a rate of 70.6 crimes per 1,000 persons population in 2004 according to the recently released 2004 Uniform Crime Report published by the Maryland State Police Central Records Division. This amounted to 1,573 cases, compared to 1,481 reported as committed within the city by all agencies during the year. The largest percent increase of 6.9 percent for the year and the crime rate dropped 7.2 percent due to decreased estimated crimes for the city’s population. All but 61 of the crimes were reported as having been handled by the Greenbelt Police Department and it is possible that 16 of the crimes reported as handled by other police jurisdictions might not actually have been within the city limits but rather within the area.

While total crime was down, the number of robberies committed was up by 33 percent, aggravated assaults by 17 percent and breakings and enterings by 6 percent. Larcenies and thefts – breakings and enterings by 6 percent, elevated assaults by 17 percent and 33 percent, and aggravated assaults more than doubled in the first six months of 2005. Off-setting these increases are significant reductions this year in breakings and enterings (down 37 percent) and motor vehicle thefts (down 46 percent).

**Crime Comments**

In a semi-annual report on police statistics, Greenbelt Police Chief James Crazee viewed the crime statistics as a “mixed bag.” While he was pleased to see the reduction in stolen autos, he expressed disappointment that crimes against persons seem to be increasing at a rate greater than in years past.

Crazee took note of the significant drop in stolen vehicles and gave special credit to the patrol division. “This trend is completely opposite to neighboring jurisdictions where auto theft is rampant and an ever-increasing situation,” he reported. Crazee said that the department had made several key arrests, including the arrest of one resident juvenile who boasted of having stolen an auto prior to his arrest. He also said the department had “given special credit to the patrol division.”

In another crime against persons “troubling,” however, he felt that the idea in Greenbelt was something too much to afford, Davis said. “It’s a big chunk of change.”

Athletic Fields Lighting Seems Remote Prospect

The Greenbelt City Council agreed at its worksession Monday, November 21 to put the lights for McDonald Field and Schrom Hills Park baseball and softball fields on the capital projects list as unfunded projects.

The capital projects list is a cost-listing of improvement or construction projects budgeted or unbudgeted for completion in years to come. Field lighting at both McDonald Field and Schrom Hills Park was placed on an unfunded “wish list.”

To light McDonald Field would cost $134,000 and for Schrom Hills fields $206,000. Mayor Judith Davis said costs of field lighting are also a factor because the fields are infested with Japanese beetles.

“Maybe this is something that’s too much to afford,” Davis said. “It’s a big chunk of change.”

Members of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) who attended the meeting suggested alternative ways of funding the projects. PRAB Chairman Frances Battye’s original idea was to buy deterrent devices, many manufacturers are now doing more.

Crazee called the rising in crimes “troubling.” However, he felt that the idea in Greenbelt was too much to afford, with paid parking to be put into high gear. Other PRAB members suggested using the $2 million dollars allotted for recreational use in Greenbelt. Andrew Bronstein, a current Greenbelt Little League baseball coach and former player, conjectured about use of the money for the fields in order to extend the children’s fun after it gets too dark outside.

Battye said, “$134,000 of $2 million is about 5 percent. Now how many people use Greenbelt recreational services? I’d say more than 5 percent of those kids use McDonald Field.”

Because the $2 million was intended for use to develop the city’s Greenbelt West section, Davis said the only way the project can get underway is if additional funds are found or if money is cut from existing projects and organizations. “It isn’t like we have this $2 million dollars and have extra change out here,” Davis said. “At least two employees we’d have to say ‘bye bye’ to.”

**Objections**

Not everyone was in favor of lighting the fields. PRAB member Barbara Osborn spoke against it.

See **COUNCIL**, page 6

**Athletic Fields Lighting Seems Remote Prospect**

by Natalie McGill

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Williamson (current editor) and Mary Granofsky. For 16 years . . . it was tough to leave.” “I got to know how the town worked . . . I lived in Greenbelt News Review is the best thing for the town,” Mary observed. Store and the bank all in one stop – always while meetingings she cannot find a vinegar cruet at Ben Franklin, a cross-paper just as she already misses Greenbelt. In her new surround- resigned from the News Review. She knows she will miss the循例, “but we were always being accused of being a mo- claimed, “and they were raising good children and working on that I’ve done two really good things in my life,” Mary ex- plained, “and they were raising good children and working on the News Review suit.” Mary’s love and dedication to the News Review were clearly evidenced during her stewardship. Of recent, she had become discouraged by the criticism aimed at the paper. “We always bent over backwards to be fair,” she pro- claimed, “but we were always being accused of being a mi- nority or of not printing letters or of not printing what every- one said at a meeting.” When her move to New Carrollton in recent months, Mary has resigned from the News Review. She knows she will miss the paper. She is already missing Greenbelt. In her new surround- sans cannot find a vinegar cruet at Ben Franklin, a cross- word puzzle at the tobacco shop, go to the post office, the food store and the bank all in one stop – always while meeting people she knows. ‘Greenbelt was the best place to raise children . . . and the News Review was the best thing for the town.’ “I got to know how the town worked . . . I lived in Greenbelt for 16 years . . . it was tough to leave.” It is tough for the News Review to say goodbye to Mary. We will miss her good work and her London accent. We will miss her . . . Sandi Lange, Thursdays, September 6, 1973.

Dear Mr. Granofsky,

Thank you for your letter of December 1st. We appreciate your comments and will consider them as we make decisions about the future of the News Review.

Sincerely,

John B. Smith

301-474-9744

15 Crescent Road, Suite 100
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-1887

newsreview@greenbelt.com

Thursday, December 1, 2005

Greenbelt News Review
Community Events

Lions, Legion Hold Pancake Breakfast

The Greenbelt Lions Club in conjunction with American Legion Post #136 will hold an annual pancake breakfast on Saturday, December 3 from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Greenbelt American Legion. The breakfast is part of the City of Greenbelt's Festival of Lights and kicks off the holiday season. Santa will make an appearance. There will be pancakes, sausage and more to eat. There is a fee with reduced rates for seniors 60 and older. Bring the kids 6-12; those 5 and under are free. The Greenbelt American Legion is located at 6900 Greenbelt Road across from Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Call Patti Brothers at 301-910-0500 or Lynda Varla at 301-474-8964 for advance sale tickets or more information.

Drug Plan Help Offered by GAIL

For those overwhelmed by the thought of having to choose a Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan, GAIL's Assistance Giving (GAIL) program offers help in making an informed decision. Those who drop by to present documentation of their medications and listen to explanations of options may benefit from a meeting with GAIL staff to help sort out their options for this important benefit. GAIL is offering Greenbelt-resi- dent seniors personalized Medi- care Part D appointments through Friday, December 16. These free sessions are designed to help se- niors and their families make in- formed decisions related to the senior's specific medications and insurance coverage issues. Appointments are offered on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 301-474-8964 or email tumma2002@yahoo.com to schedule an appointment.

Greenbriar News

December 1 to 16: Holiday Toy Drive – Make a child’s holiday brighter this year by bringing new or gently-used toy to the Greenbriar office. Help a child have a great Christmas!

December 11: Share cookies and make a Christmas card at St. Nick at 4 p.m. in the Greenbriar Terrace Room and enjoy face painting. A coloring contest and the chance to make a reindeer craft. The kids will take home a small bag of reindeer food to feed Santa’s mighty team. This event is free but pre-registration is required by December 5.

December 11: Enjoy carols and hot chocolate in the Greenbriar Terrace Room at 6 p.m. as residents celebrate the holidays with a grand opening ceremony. This is a free event for the entire family. Register by December 5.

There are no meetings scheduled for the month of December.

City Notes

E-mail Control has five cats and a dog currently available for adoption. One dog was confined and that one is going to be "in large at call." Public Works horticulture crews planted 500 plants on Southway and continued pruning trees and shrubs on Hanover Parkway.

At the Library

Tuesday, December 6, 10:30 a.m. – Cuddletime for newborns 17 months with caregiver, limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, December 7, 10:30 a.m. – Toddler time for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, limit 15 toddlers.

Tuesday, December 8, 10:30 a.m. – Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 children.

Two Winter Concerts At Roosevelt High

The Winter Concert at Eleanor Roosevelt High School is scheduled for Thursday, December 8 at 7:30 p.m. The concert will feature the Symphony Orchestra, directed by Dr. David Yarborough and the Symphonic Band and Concert Band II, directed by Sally Wagner. On December 14 the annual Conserva Concert will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Six talented ERHS musicians and vocalists will per- form concerts with the Eleanor Roosevelt Chamber Orchestra. The featured performers are Michael Murcison on trombone, Erin Mellott on piccolo, vocalist Paulena Papagianis, vocalist An- drew Estor, Santana Moreno on cello and Kyran Riley on piano. A reception will follow the concert.

All concerts at ERHS are free and open to the public. Coffee will be sold to support Greek Night 2006.

Join in Invasive Plant Removal

Help protect Greenbelt Park from harmful invasive plants. Join in a hands-on nature preser- vation activity and learn about native and non-native plants on Saturday, December 3 at 11 a.m. in the Sweetgum Picnic Area.

This program repeats the first Saturday of every month. Come rain or shine and wear appropri- ate clothing, work gloves and bring a lunch/snack. This is a partnership between the Green- belt Park and the University of Maryland. Greenbelt Park’s en- trance is located between Kenil- worth Avenue and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway at 6565 Greenbelt Road.

For more information call Greenbelt Park at 301-344-3944 or visit www.nps.gov/fee.

Angels Dancing At Arts Center

“The Angels Were Dancing: A Celebration of Christmas” will be performed by the Duncan Dancers and guest artist Barbara Hoffman, director of Isadoras’s Legacy in Frederick, at the Greenbelt Arts Center on Saturday, December 3 at 2 and 8 p.m. The fee includes special dis- counts for seniors and children 10 and under.

For tickets visit http://www.duncandancers.com or con- tact the Duncan Dancers by phone at 301-262-2490 or email tickets@duncandancers.com.

At Roosevelt High School tickets are $12 adults - $10 seniors/studentsTickets: 301-441-8770

GIVES Annual Holiday Meeting

GIVES, Greenbelt’s local organi- zation of “neighbor helping neigh- bor” (邻里间自愿者服务团体), will hold its annual Christmas potluck- together, which is also a quarterly meeting, on Saturday, December 10 at 10 a.m. in the Community Cen- ter. A short business meeting will be followed by a potluck fun- dynam. The meeting is open to all interested persons.

Membership in GIVES is free. To join one has only to will- ing to participate by offering a service to someone else in ex- change for a service one has re- ceived. A central record is kept in the GIVES office in the Senior Lounge of services rendered and received. For example, someone may currently need leaf raking and would be willing to do some typing for someone else. Or someone may need a ride to a medical appointment which could be exchanged with telephone messaging on a regular basis with a volunteer. Such ex- changes may be arranged through the GIVES office at 301-344-3944. GIVES members report from 10 a.m. to noon on week- days. Messages may be left at other times.

Two issues will be open for discussion at the business meeting on December 10 – possible changes in policies regarding the provision of transportation and respite service for caregivers.
Obituaries

GRANOFSKY
continued from page 1

homes in the summers, she too was able to spend a lot of time with her mother.

Mrs. Granofsky is survived by her daughter Elizabeth Munz of Annapolis and Florida, sons Judson and Rob-

er of Texas and daughter Kathryn and Jim Redel of Ashburn, Va., 11 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchil-

dren.

The funeral service was held in Leesburg, Va., on Sat-

day, November 26.

Peace/Justice Group
Holds Pilot Meeting

The Prince George's Peace & Justice Coalition (P&J) will hold a pilot meeting and workshop on Saturday, December 3 at 2 p.m. at the Bladensburg Community Center, 4500 57th Avenue in Bladensburg.

Billed as a county-wide cam-

paign to broaden the horizons of young people beyond those pre-

sented by military recruiters, vet-

eran peace activist John Judge will outline alternative career and

scholarship information that P&J

advocates can carry to county

most vulnerable to the re-

ality of the “economic draft.”

The campaign intends to spec-

tify non-military alternatives to

low-income minority young

people and impede the forces

with which military recruiters access

high school students. While the intention is not to prevent young

people who freely choose to

explore military career options, the intent is to broaden their career

horizons. Similar campaigns are

underway in Virginia and

Maryland counties.

UM Dance Program

Enjoy an informal program of

dances on Thursday and Fri-

day, December 8 and 9 at 5 p.m.

in the Dance Theatre of the

Claremont Smith Performing Arts Center. This University of

Maryland (UM) event is free but tick-

ets are required.

New Manager Named
In Greenbelt East

D. B. Bader Management

Services, Inc., located in Laurel,

has announced the addition of

Jackie Powers who has joined

their firm as Community Asso-

ciation Manager. Powers will

manage Greenbrook Village,

Greenbrook Village and

Greenbrook East.

Bader Management Services

specializes in the management

of homeowners associations,

condominium associations and

office condominiums.

More information about the

company can be found online at


Steny Hoyer to Speak

At NARFE Luncheon

NARFE Chapters 1125 will

hold its Christmas luncheon on

Wednesday, December 14 at

11:30 a.m. at E.J.’s Landing Restau-

rant on U.S. 1 in College

Park. Congressman Steny Hoyer

will be the speaker. Reservations

and payment by December 9 is a

must.

Call 301-345-7437 for informa-

tion and reservations.

Democratic Club Presents
Check for Emergency Funds

Members of the Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club presented the City of Greenbelt with a check for $135 for the city’s Emergency Contributions Fund at the city council meeting on November 28. Pictured are (l. to r.) Councilmember Leta Mach, club member Julia Eichhorst, Mayor Judith Davis, Councilmember Rodney Roberts and club members Bob Doyle and Sylvia Lewis.

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

Mass Schedule: Sunday 8:00 a.m.; 9:15 a.m.; 11:00 a.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m.; 5:00 p.m. Daily Masses: 7:15 a.m. • 10:00 a.m.; 5:00 p.m.; 6:30 p.m. Confessions: Monday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. • 4:00 p.m. Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m. Pastor: Fr. Walter J. Tappe Pastoral Associate: Fr. Scott Hurd

ST. HUGH’S CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 • 301-474-4322

Mass Schedule: Sunday 9:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m. Daily Masses: 7:15 a.m. • 8:00 a.m. • 10:30 a.m. • 5:00 p.m. Confessions: Monday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. • 4:00 p.m. Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m. Pastor: Fr. Walter J. Tappe Pastoral Associate: Fr. Scott Hurd

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

EXTEND YOUR SUBSCRIPTION

To all our friends—

We are writing this to let you know that Pat Hennessey, ourolland editor, passed away last week. Pat was a pillar of the community and will be sorely missed.

We will do our best to continue to bring you the news that you need. Please continue to support us by subscribing to The Greenbelt News Review.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Greenbelt News Review
CHRISTMAS VACATION CAMP
Come and be cowgirls and cowboys at Mowatt UMC, 40 Ridge Rd., Greenbelt.
December 26 through 30 you’ll attend campfire sing-alongs, stories at the open door adventure, have fun at the craft corral and open range recreation. Enjoy a snack at the chuck wagon with other “Ranch House Kids.”
Remember the date Dec. 26 - 30 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Register by Dec. 15.
Contact Karen Smith at 301-204-6657.

SYMPHONY CONCERTS
Hosted by: Greenbelt Symphony
First Concert: Saturday, 12/3, 8pm
Second Concert: Wednesday, 12/7, 8pm
Third Concert: Sunday, 12/11, 7:30pm
Fourth Concert: Tuesday, 12/13, 8pm
Fifth Concert: Saturday, 12/17, 8pm
Sixth Concert: Tuesday, 12/20, 8pm
Seventh Concert: Sunday, 12/25, 8pm
All concerts will be performed in the Youth Center Conference Room.

GREENBELT MUNICIPAL/PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 71
MUNICIPAL ACCESS: 301-474-8000
PUBLIC ACCESS: G-17: 301-907-6856

LEAF COLLECTION
Public Works will collect loose leaves with the leaf vacuum from November 7, 2005-January 31, 2006. Residents should rake leaves to the curb, but not onto the street. Make sure to remove all sticks and stones from the piles as these can damage the machinery. Areas will be posted prior to collection. The schedule for the next few weeks is as follows:
- December 5-9: Lakeside, Greenspring & I
- December 12-16: Boxwood December 19-23: Woodland Hills, Greenbelt Village

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Labukas Receives Employee of Year Award

by Joan Quinn

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Labukas’s work history in the county began in 1976 when she graduated from the Bowie Special Education Center and began working as an aide in summer preschool programs sponsored by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Before long, Labukas was able to supplement her summer job and began working during the school year in her own Greenbelt neighborhood. Labukas walks to her job, rain or shine and has an excellent attendance record. As a program aide she has a variety of “hands on” duties, from telling stories to the children to setting up the room and cleaning the art supplies.

She gives an excellent impression to any child or adult who has never met someone with a developmental disability. With the help and loyalty of her sister Kathy Labukas, also of Greenbelt, church members, employers, recreation leaders, and other professionals and neighbors, Liz has made great contributions to the many lives she has touched. Liz Labukas is another outstanding Greenbelt.

CHAMBER SINGERS PRESENT CONCERT

At 7 p.m. Saturday, December 10 the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music presents the Catholic University of America Chamber Singers in a concert conducted by Leo Nusinow. Concert selections will include Christmas-related pieces. The free concert will be held at the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center in Washington, D.C. For information call 302-319-5414 or visit music.cua.edu.

Guarneri Quartet holds Free Rehearsal

The Guarneri String Quartet will hold an open rehearsal on Wednesday, December 7 at 5 p.m. Now in its 23rd year in residence, the world-renowned quartet continues a tradition of on-campus performances, open rehearsals at the Glenelg Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at the University of Maryland, College Park.

This event is free.

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against the project. She said there is no need for lighting during the spring and summer playing months and the temporary lighting used in past seasons would only detract from her living room window.

Osborne also expressed concern about how late children should play into the night.

Those [are] kids during school nights that don’t need to be out that late,” Osborne said. A recent survey, said Osborne, showed children Hills fields allows them to serve a larger population but had concerns similar to Osborne’s about late games.

If [the fields] are enabled by lights, those 10- to 12-year-olds are staying up on school nights,” Hillman said. “We have to keep those things in the back of our mind.

Despite the funding issue, Davis does not view the importance of helping out a much-studied program such as Greenbelt Little League, especially in a historic hot spot like McDonald Field. “It’s really an integral part of that whole neighborhood,” Davis said. “It’s a neat field.

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This event is free.
Greenbelt Consumer Co-op Ad
The Greater Chesapeake & Potomac (GC & P) Region of the American Red Cross is issuing an urgent plea for immediate donations from people with Type O blood. Type O is the universal blood type and is also the blood type most commonly needed by local patients requiring transfusions. Both local and national inpatient hospitals rely on donations of Type O blood, which can be kept refrigerated and stored for up to four weeks. These donations are needed to ensure that patient needs can be met in the event of an emergency.

Blood donations are available by calling 1-800-CALL-4-RX, or visit www.myredcross.org.

The Greater Chesa-

7.0.5 p.m., 9300 block Kenilworth Avenue, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with driving while impaired and failure to reduce speed on a curved road after a collision with a motor vehicle accident. He was released on citations pending trial.

November 21, 7:35 p.m., 3900 block Edmonston Terrace, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with driving while impaired, driving under the influence and leaving the scene of an accident as a result of the investigation of a hit and run accident. He was released on citations pending trial.

Fraud

November 22, 9:04 a.m., Roosevelt Center, a resident woman was arrested and charged with uttering a forged prescription after she attempted to pass a forged prescription to the Comp-Pharmacy. She was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

November 21, 3:47 p.m., Beltway Plaza, two suspects were arrested for shoplifting. The store identified the two suspects as individuals they knew and issued them an Ivan.

Vandalism

November 21, 7:11 p.m., 9100 block Edmonston Terrace, a nonresident student youth was arrested for malicious destruction after he allegedly broke out an apartment window. He was released to a guaran- gion pending action by the juve- nile justice system.

On November 15 Greenbelt joined in the ninth national celebration of America Re- cycles Day. This day recognizes the importance of recycling and of buying and using recycled products. As part of Greenbelt’s celebration the Recycling and Environmental Advisory Committee (REAC) and the Public Works Department sponsored their annual “Recycle Right!” contest in which REAC mem- bers and Public Works staff inspect the recycling bins in each of the city’s four residential recycling routes and its one commercial route for compliance with recycling guidelines. REAC Chair Neal Barnett announced the win- ners at the November 28 mee- ting of the Greenbelt City Coun- cil. Prizes include a personal- ized recycling bin and America Recycles T-shirts, drink con- tainers and Frisbees.

Barrett explained to coun- cil that this year instead of continuing the time-consuming process used in past years of reviewing all of the bins set out along each route, winners were selected from among those recommended by the collection crews.

Winners of this year’s con- test were: Jeffrey Owens of Barkhurst Court, Tom and Lynn Lubay of Greenbelt Road, Irene Pavlish of Luster Lane, Chris Hoerr of Vanny Fair Drive and Anne and Fred Hutchinson of Plateau Place.

“Recycling Right” Winners Recognized by Council

by Barbara Hopkins

Blood Donations Are Badly Needed Now

The Greater Chesapeake & Potomac (GC & P) Region of the American Red Cross is issuing an urgent appeal for immediate donations from people with Type O blood. Type O is the universal blood type and is also the blood type most commonly needed by local patients requiring transfusions. Both local and national inpatient hospitals rely on donations of Type O blood, which can be kept refrigerated and stored for up to four weeks. These donations are needed to ensure that patient needs can be met in the event of an emergency. Donations are available by calling 1-800-OVB-4LIFE.

Blood is a special token of a con- ciliation, the GC & P Region is of- fering participators a limited-edi- tion “Authentic Lifesaver” T-shirt. Further information about donating blood and a listing of all American Red Cross Blood Donor Centers and community blood drives are available at www.my- redcross.org.

Donors must be: in generally good health, at least 18 years of age (or in Maryland 16 years of age with parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds, not have re- ceived a tattoo within the past year, and not have donated blood or plasma within the past 56 days. In addition to asking individual members of the community to do- nate blood, the American Red Cross strongly encourages busi- nesses and community groups to schedule and organize blood drives. Any group interested in scheduling a drive or obtaining further information is asked to call 1-800-787-8292, ext. 4925.
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Toy Drive Kicks Off Holiday Season

New Wits & Wagers Game At New Deal Trivia Night

by Mary Halbe

Starting December 5 from 6 to 9 p.m., the first Monday of every month will be Trivia Game Night at the New Deal Café. This free event for friends and families will feature prizes for trivia game winners. The New Deal Café and North Star Games are teaming up to sponsor Trivia Game Nights in the city. Games buff will remember the local buzz when North Star previously introduced their Cluzzle game here. Now North Star will introduce its new game, Wits & Wagers, to Greenbelt players.

Trivia Game Night prizes will be awarded to several winning teams in a chance to unplug from the digital world and have fun interacting with friends, family members and neighbors from the Greenbelt community.

Wits & Wagers

Unlike trivia game nights found at many D.C. bars, custom- ers at the New Deal Café will participate in a huge game of Wits & Wagers, the latest release from Greenbelt board game company North Star Games. The best part about Wits & Wagers is that a player can take the game without correctly answering a trivia question. This makes the game will be fun even if there are no trivia buffs on a particular team.

In Wits & Wagers every team answers every question, so all teams are constantly involved. Teams will be asked to come up with educated guesses to numerical questions, so players do not need to provide exact trivia facts. The teams’ answers will then be placed on a big green betting mat. Each team will wager points on the answer they think is closest to the correct answer. Teams that successfully bet on this winning answer will get paid out by the house. To make things more interesting, some answers will pay out at higher odds than others, depending on how different the answer is from that given by the other teams. Go to http://www.northstargames.com to get more information about the game.

The key to Wits & Wagers is partly in what the team knows and partly in how well a player knows the other team members. As the evening progresses, participants will get a better idea of which teams are good in the various subjects, which will sway opinions about what answers to bet on.

While the point of the evening is to have a good time with friends, there will also be a few prizes to heighten the fun and excitement, including gift certificates for the New Deal Café and copies of Wits & Wagers. Normally Greenbelt’s North Star Games and its founder Dominic Crapuchettes hope local players will become a part of history as Wits & Wagers becomes the next blockbuster board game to sweep the nation.

Filipino Christmas Concert Offered

On Saturday, December 3 a free Christmas concert will be offered by Filipino-American choral groups and a native string band at the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Admission to the concert is by voluntary donation; parking is free. The center is located at 3900 Harewood Rd., NE, Washing-ton, D.C.

The Paskong Pinoy concert, sponsored by the Embassy of the Philippines, will include the Filipino Choir of St. Columba, Cho- sen Few, Buklod Kuibigan, El Shaddai Choir and the Northern Virginia Rondalla. Written plantations of the songs performed will be available for the audience.

Paskong Pinoy is the 22-day Filipino Christmas season celebration, lasting from mid-Decem-ber through the first Sunday in January with the celebration of Tres Reyes, the Feast of the Three Kings.

Planetarium Presents Holiday Program

Something is wrong at the rein- deer stable! Santa’s render may be unable to fly on Christmas Eve. On Friday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m., the Howard B. Owens Science Center Planetarium, 9601 Greenbelt Road, Lanham, presents “Rudolf Flies.” Come find out the lessons Santa’s dog Sirius learns from his friends in the sky. A tour of the current night sky will follow the presentation. There is a fee.

For more information call 301-918-8750 during school hours.

Spanish Holiday Program

Three Kings. Of Tres Reyes, the Feast of the Filipino Christmas season cele- bration is at the Howard B. Owens Science Center Planetarium.

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For more information call 301-918-8750 during school hours.
Advocates Needed
Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteers are workers who advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children who are placed in foster care. The CASA program, Court Appointed Special Advocate, Prince George’s County, Inc., is seeking volunteers to meet with the children and collaborate with teachers, social workers and attorneys to provide recommendations to the courts. CASA volunteer training will be conducted in January and February 2006. Bilingual volunteers are especially encouraged to apply.

To volunteer or for information call 301-209-0491.

Mars Rocks! Is
At the NASA Goddard Visitor Center Auditorium. Dr. Laurie Leshin, director of Sciences and Exploration will present “Mars Rocks!” offering the latest Mars update, including a discussion of Martian meteorites, future exploration of Mars, including instruments and mission concepts being pursued at Goddard. Dr. Leshin is one of the few scientists who study rocks from Mars in labs here on Earth. She will also discuss her experiences from childhood to becoming a leading planetary scientist who now heads the largest science organization within NASA.

Driving directions are available at http://www.nasa.gov/cen ters/goddard/visitor/directions/index.html. For questions or further details contact Natalie Simms in the Office of Public Affairs at 301-286-8955 or email natalie.l.simms@nasa.gov.

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MERCHANDISE

LES MISERABLES at the National Theatre - 2 tickets January 21, 2:00 p.m., 5th row center orchestra – $200 value. Available by call at the Festi- val of Lights December 3 and 4 at the Community Center. I chance for $5 sponsored by Greenbelt Nursery School.

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GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW
More Labor Day Festival Contest Winners

With priorities given to harder news items, many of the highlights of this year’s Labor Day Festival have not yet made it to print. Here are a few facts and photos that seemed worth sharing even at this late date.

ADULT GAMES
Softball Tournament
1st – Island Metal Works
2nd – Chris’s
3rd – Cropp Metalffe
Home Run Derby
1st – Joel Birmer
Table Tennis
Singles:
1st – John Anderson
2nd – Sam Grammar
Doubles:
John Anderson and Brian York
APPRAISALS
INSPECTION
TERMITE INSPECTION
OPEN HOUSE
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LOAN APPLICATION
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KIDS GAMES
Diaper Derby, 6 mos. to 1 year
Melva Jackson, Mariska Re, Solithan Nejad
Bucket Fill, 2 to 4 years
Chloe Crotts, Megan Rudy, Cyrus Felts, Kelli Price, Madison Rudy
Foot Race, 2 to 4 years
Adi Taya, Abriam Krishnan, Paige Tinsley, Madison Rudy, Megan Rudy, Cyrus Felts
Peanut Race, 2 to 4 years
Sofie Kujawski, Ezra Pitts, Viola Pitts, Bren Barnes
Hula Hoop, 5 to 8 years
David Naparella
Biggest Bubble
Corene Cantwell
Water Balloon
Vanessa Phillips, Mia Tooley

These games were sponsored by the Greenbelt Recreation Department

At right, Clark Reese, age 7, and Lee Reese of Greenbelt show “Peanut,” who won for “Biggest Dog.”
At left, Darius Butler, age 5, of College Park, and “Little” who won a ribbon for “softest and cuddliest.”
At right, Gavin Butler, age 2, of College Park, won Best in Show for his rabbit “Terri.”
Photos by Jon Gardner

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David Naparella, age 8, demonstrates the style that won the Hula Hoop contest.

Many children and animals enjoyed the pet show.

Evan Caneay, age 5, and Caitlin Chasles, age 5, both of Greenbelt, assist Magic Mike in his show.

Photos by Jon Gardner.