

GREENBELT News Review

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

MAY 16, 2002

BUDGET

Recreation Director Again Proposes Reorganization

by James Giese

The Greenbelt City Council celebrated May Day by spending four hours plodding through the Recreation Department budget in a work session attended by one citizen, two reporters and a lot of recreation staffers. All councilmembers were present. The review engendered little objection to the proposed recreation program or division among the councilmembers. It gave Recreation Director Harry G. Irving and his professional staff an opportunity to set forth their many accomplishments and budget needs — both those included in the budget by City Manager Michael P. McLaughlin and those that were not. Irving once again submitted his proposal to reorganize the department.

In the only action of the night, council, at the urging of Councilmember Edward Putens, rejected a staff proposal to increase the senior daily admission rate at the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center by 25 cents during the non-summer months and 50 cents in the summer. Mayor Judith Davis noted that it was the only resident daily admission rate that staff had proposed to increase. Not mentioned was that when the other rates had been increased in a prior year, council refused to increase the senior rate.

A proposed increase of three percent across the board for all passholders appeared to meet

with no objection from the council. The members also appeared to support the establishment of a new daily admission category, young adult, for ages 14 to 17, with a fee in between that of a youth and an adult.

Aquatic Center Supervisor George Rogala put forth the idea that instead of annual passes expiring all at one time after Labor Day and the cost of passes sold during the year being prorated for the remainder of the pass year, passes sold at anytime be for a one-year term and the full fee charged. He felt that another \$53,000 would have been realized last year if that had happened. Councilmembers appeared skeptical.

Reorganization

Irving had proposed a reorganization of the department last December when former Assistant Director Harry James had retired. Council refused to consider it at that time, requesting it be presented with the budget. Irving reviewed his proposal, which calls for the creation of two assistant directors, but no increase in the number of full-time employees. In addition, the department would be restructured to divide it between programming and operations, each directed by an assistant director. Under programming would be the sub-sections of therapeutic recreation,

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What Goes On

Monday, May 20

7 p.m., Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee, Community Center

8 p.m., Final Budget Work Session, Municipal Building

Wednesday, May 22

8 p.m., Final Budget Work Session (continued only if necessary), followed by executive session, Community Center

Thursday, May 23

7:30 p.m., GHI Board of Directors Meeting, GHI Boardroom

Mayor Proclaims Public Works Week May 19-25

Public Works Week 2002 will be celebrated in Greenbelt the week of May 19 through 25. The theme of the week is "Committed to Our Community." Mayor Judith Davis presented a proclamation to Greenbelt Public Works Director Kenny Hall at the city council meeting on May 13. Davis said the city recognizes that Public Works activities "play a significant role in making Greenbelt a special place to live." She added that citizens appreciate the excellence of the city employees in Public Works and urged citizens to show this by learning more about the issues involved in the role of Public Works and its contribution to our quality of life.

Pet Expo Is Huge Success As Dogs and Owners Dance

by Jim Swensen

Greenbelt's first city-sponsored Pet Expo provided a day of fun for adults, children, and their dogs, while also encouraging responsible pet ownership.

The event, which took

place at the Community Center last Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., included such events as a canine police demonstration, a canine musical freestyle where dogs danced with their owners, and a flyball demonstration involving a competition between humans and dogs to retrieve a tennis ball and cross the finish line first. Jon Walter and his supervisor from Amusements by Pony Express erected an inflatable Moon Bounce that proved popular to many young children.

There were at least two demonstrations of flyball. The one that began at 2:30 p.m. started off with a race between the children and the dogs. The children had a slight advantage because they got to run on flat land, whereas the dogs had to jump over four small hurdles before bumping their noses into a rubber contraption which then fed them the tennis ball they needed to retrieve. The humans simply plucked a tennis ball out of a



I. J. PARKER ©2002

bucket.

In the first race a girl beat the dog by a wide margin. In the second, a young boy was left in the dust by his canine competitor. In

the next race a very fast dog named Cowjazz Little Lena slammed her nose into the machine and returned to the finish mark while her human rival had barely passed the half-way point.

The dogs had different styles and levels of competing. One dog that appeared to be at least part-golden retriever leapt high over the low hurdles, resulting in a prancing motion that slowed her progress. Other dogs demonstrated amusing knowledge of competition rules, such as one dog that dropped the ball immediately upon crossing the finish line, the way a football player might drop a football after a touchdown.

At one point, Peter L. Williams, Lena's owner, thought it was time for humans to even the score. "Someone said I can't beat my own dog so I'm going to have to take that challenge," he boasted. Despite a clear ten-

See PET EXPO, page 2

Cooperators Nationwide Check Out the Local Co-ops

by Altoria Bell Ross

Greenbelt's kinfolk came clean across the country and even crossed the border for the town's recent co-op wing-ding. The reunion, sponsored by the National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA) in Washington, D.C., brought 25 people from brother and sister co-ops and cooperative development organizations in 11 states, the District of Columbia, and Canada to tour and learn about six of Greenbelt's seven co-ops. The reunion was part of NCBA's Future Co-op Leaders program held April 23 to 27 in conjunction with the 2002 Cooperative Conference in Washington, D.C.

On April 26, Leta Mach, Greenbelt resident and NCBA education director, led representatives from credit unions, food, housing, education and recreation, health care workers, and farming co-ops to the Greenbelt City Council chambers to hear Greenbelt co-op board members and employees

explain how their respective co-ops function. Board President Jim Cassells and Manager Bob Davis represented the Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative (Greenbelt supermarket/pharmacy); General Manager Gretchen Overdurff and Contracts Specialist Kathy Linkenhoker, Greenbelt Homes, Inc.; Board President Jim Giese, the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association (Greenbelt News Review); and Board President Jerry Rice, the Greenbelt Federal Credit Union.

After the forum, the cooperators wandered around the community and into the grocery store and credit union. They then ate lunch at the New Deal Café, where manager Terri Rutledge discussed the co-op's operations. The future leaders also sat in pint-size chairs and greeted pupils at the Greenbelt Nursery School as director Pat Schreiber described how parent cooperators take part in their children's education. The day ended with a tour of the GHI home of Jill



Greenbelt resident and National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA) education director Leta Mach (far left) with NCBA's Future Co-op Leaders at the GHI home of Jill Stevenson, also of NCBA, on April 26 after a tour of some of Greenbelt's other co-ops.

Stevenson, NCBA's assistant director of communication.

In addition to the trip to Greenbelt, participants, including Greenbelt resident Altoria Bell Ross, director of publications at the National Association of Housing Cooperatives, attended the annual meetings of NCBA at the

Sphinx Club in Washington, D.C., the National Cooperative Bank at the French Embassy, and the Cooperative Hall of Fame induction ceremony at the National Press Club. They also visited legislators' offices on Capitol Hill on behalf of co-ops.

The Future Co-op Leaders

program is a component of NCBA's education outreach specifically designed for employees and board members of co-ops. NCBA is a national membership association that represents co-ops across all sectors of the economy.

Dancing Dogs Star

by Barbara Young

Life slowed down wonderfully last Saturday, when a large collection of well-behaved dogs and proud owners came together to enjoy one another in sweet and simple ways at the Pet Expo. Held at the Community Center, the event was sponsored by the City of Greenbelt, Greenbelt Dog Park Association and Greenbelt Homes, Inc.

The dogs were smiling – if you believe (as some do) that dogs smile – and well they might have, being allowed on the gym stage for dancing to rock music with their owners. Some wore colorful neckerchiefs for the occasion, and it was one jolly sight, the dancing.

Outside on the sunny lawn, the dogs had a chance to try dif-

ferent agility courses and to socialize with other dogs. Booths set up in the breezy shade provided toenail-cutting for ten dollars, dog treats for less, and much useful, free information.

Seeming to know they were stars for a day, the dogs, many of them “rescued” animals, left their anxieties at home and brought their best behavior to the Expo. With his wife, Celia, Police Chief Jim Craze was seen enjoying the occasion with their sweet black dog, Lucy. Daisy, the large (rescued) Rottweiler with the gorgeous coat, taught one and all what a happy, peaceful pet a Rottweiler can be. Even a cute, rare brown Pomeranian made friends with her, as did Jake, a large black Lab, and many other dogs.

PET EXPO continued from page 1

yard advantage, Williams barely managed a dead-tie with Lena.

One six-year-old girl, Samantha Nash, was so proud of her first place against a puppy beagle, she chanted, “I beat the beagle.” (The beagle completed the course after Samantha was done.)

Another popular event was the canine musical freestyle in which dogs danced with their owners to the tune of rock ‘n roll music. One dog, which looked like a husky, did repeated twirls on stage to Dire Straits’ “Twistin’ by the Pool.” It appeared the owner may have trained the dog to make these turns by feeding it a treat because the dog kept avidly watching her hand as it twirled around and around. In other dances, dogs eagerly waltzed between their owners’ legs.

Pam Watson, who hosted the event and who has six years’ experience as a canine choreographer, said there are two organizations that sponsor international events in canine musical freestyle. “The fun of canine sports is building a working relationship with your dog,” she said.

Dog Varieties

Various owners were more than happy to talk about their dogs. Eva Fallon said she brought her sizable Samoyed to the expo because he was afraid of other dogs and she wanted to socialize him. She said that Samoyeds are cold-weather dogs

from the northern mountains of Iran. Bred for 2,000 years, they are the oldest breed of dog, she said. She added that her dog’s metabolism varied from needing four to five cups of food in the winter to barely eating one cup of food in the summer.

Dana Flanders said her 10-pound, long-haired Harvaneese, Maggie, was descended from a breed of dog that was owned mostly by royalty in Cuba. She said the breed has been in decline since Castro came to power, and added that a couple in Colorado was responsible for helping to breed and preserve the dog in the United States.

Pet Organizations

“[Pet ownership] keeps us from being selfish and totally self-absorbed,” Flanders said. Several organizations that teach responsible pet ownership had representatives at the Expo. Margo Johnson of Alley Cat Allies spoke of her organization’s desire to provide a humane living environment for feral cats, which she said were cats that have grown up in the wild and can not be tamed. Lisa Schwartz of Rocky’s Ferret Rescue & Shelter said would-be ferret-owners should know that, while cute as pets, ferrets tend to live for eight to nine years and need constant care. She said her shelter houses anywhere from 20 to 40 ferrets.

Bob and Laurie Wilson, volunteers at Greyhound Pets of

Miniature Pet Zoo In Community Center

Pet Day displays continued inside the Community Center where the more quiet pets were placed. Small children seemed to gravitate to the rabbit room where rabbits, mostly caged, were eyed from all sides with many squeals of pleasure.

In the gym were more cages of pets. Under the windows were cats, who, in typical cat fashion, ignored the crowd around them. One lone ferret was next to them. It seemed difficult to keep inquisitive youngsters from poking fingers at it, encouraging it to move.

On the other side of the gym were the more exotic pets and several varieties of snakes such as boas of different sizes and colors. An albino snake was a peculiar yellowish color with light orange spots.

Tables of give-aways, pet care information, etc. enticed people to stop, look, and take away.

America, which they described as the largest pet adoption agency in the United States, proudly showed off their greyhounds Jasmine, 10, and Petey, 9. Bob Wilson said racing dogs like his historically would be put to sleep once their racing careers ended around age five. “The main thing is that the country is learning how great greyhounds are,” he said, adding that greyhounds take up little space, need little care and are very people-oriented.

Celia Craze, director of planning and community development, credits the Greenbelt Dog Association, the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. pet subcommittee, and above all, new Greenbelt animal control officer Susie Hall for making the Pet Expo event a success. Hall said she was responsible for contacting all the event leaders and organizing the agenda for the day.

Craze explained how she came to adopt her dog Lucy. She saw an advertisement on the Internet for a 10- to 15-pound, half-spaniel dog. When she arrived at the pound to pick up the dog, she was greeted by a 50-pound coonhound beagle. But when that dog sat down in front of her and looked her in the face, she was hooked. She took the dog home, a decision she said she has never regretted. Craze said she would encourage people looking for pets to first visit their local animal shelter.

The Old Curmudgeon



"Everyone else 'Dances with Wolves' . . . in Greenbelt they dance with dogs!"

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Potomac River Flow Much Improved

A report from the Council of Governments dated April 30 indicates that recent precipitation has substantially improved the Potomac River flow. The report states that a “Watch” level will “probably need to stay in effect”

unless above average rainfall occurs for the next 60 to 90 days. The report concludes that it is highly unlikely that drought conditions will get to the “Warning” level.

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Greenbelt News Review

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James Giese, president; Eileen Farnham, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Mary Moien, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Barbara Hopkins, and Judy Bell.

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—\$32/year.

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

Greenbelt Senior Softball

by Irv Salzberg

The Greenbelt Senior Softball team overpowered the Bowie Bronze 17 to 3 at Watkins Regional Park. John Strelkel pitched the entire nine innings for his third win in three outings. John was a little wild in the early innings but settled down to chalk up three strikeouts. The entire Greenbelt team played a strong and steady defensive and offensive game. Eleven players got base hits with Ray Reed going 3 for 4. John Benish 2 for 3, James Roundtree 2 for 2 and Don (Lefty) Smith's triple pushed in two runs. Top batting honors for the first three games to Jerry Jenkins, Luis Rivera and John Benish. It looks like it's going to be an exciting season.

Standings (As of 5/8/02)

Glen Burnie	3-0
Greenbelt	3-0
Harford County	2-1
Carrroll County	2-1
Howard County	1-1
Bowie Silver	1-1
MD Old Liners	1-1
Catonsville	1-1
Parkville	1-1
Bel Air	1-2
Bowie Gold	0-2
Crownsville	0-2
Bowie Bronze	0-3

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

Week of May 17
Monsoon Wedding (R)

Friday

Monsoon Wedding
*5:00, 7:25, 9:45

Saturday

Monsoon Wedding
*2:30, *5:00, 7:25, 9:45

Sunday

Monsoon Wedding
*2:30, *5:00, 7:25

Monday - Thursday

Monsoon Wedding 7:30

*These shows at \$4.00

Starts Friday Monsters Ball

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At the Library

Tuesday, May 21, 7 p.m. Cliffhangers for ages 5 to 8.
 Wednesday, May 22, 10:15 a.m. Cuddletime for ages 12 to 24 months with caregiver.
 Thursday, May 23, 10:15 a.m. Teddy Bears Picnic. Newborns to 5-year-olds and families. Join participants on the front lawn for the annual Teddy Bears Parade, a drawing for a teddy bear, and other activities.

Nursery School Run To Be Annual Event

Greenbelt Nursery School will hold its first annual 5K Run on Saturday, May 18 at 8 a.m., rain or shine, at Lake Artemesia. The course begins at the 94th Aero Squadron Restaurant in College Park. It is a measured loop course, a mostly flat paved bike path from College Park Airport around the lake.

The school is sponsoring this run to mark its 60th anniversary as a parent co-op. Awards will go to the top three male and female runners overall, and also to the top three men and women in the following age groups: 19 and under; 20 to 29; 30 to 39; 40 to 49; 50 to 59; and 60 and over. Refreshments will be served after the run, near the finish line.

The public is invited to participate in this event. Participants may walk or run as they choose. There is a registration fee. To get the official entry form plus rules and directions, contact Greenbelt Nursery School at 301-474-5570. To register online, visit the school's website at www.greenbelt.com/gnsk

Greenbelt Nursery School is a nonprofit, parent co-op pre-school licensed by the Maryland State Department of Education. It offers programs for children ages 2 through 4. The child-to-staff ratio is 6:1. The school is now accepting applications for September 2002.

For more information, call Elaine at 301-474-5570.

Make a Difference At Greenbelt Park

Come enjoy the outdoors with several projects including painting picnic tables, park clean-up, and other opportunities to help Greenbelt Park. Volunteers make a difference.

Meet at the ranger station near the campground on Saturday, May 18, at 10 a.m. For directions or more information, call Greenbelt Park at 301-344-3944.

Hike the Green Belt

The Committee to Save the Green Belt will be leading a one-hour hike through the original 184-acres of the Green Belt. Long pants are suggested. The hike begins Saturday, May 18 at noon.

For information call Paul at 301-474-6708.

Greenbelt School Has Family Fun Day

Come join the fun at Greenbelt Elementary School on Saturday, May 18. There will be games for the children, the school's famous cake walk, food, silent auction with Redskin and Bowie Baysox tickets and a yard sale. The fun starts at 10 a.m. and ends at 2 p.m.

For information call 301-345-7569.

Community Events

Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald
 The Golden Age Club enjoyed an interesting meeting on May 8 after the traditional opening by President Ima Davis.

Joe Rimar answered questions from the members about writing and publishing his book of poetry "Sands of Time." Rimar started writing as a young boy but kept it a secret because he didn't want to be called a "sissy." As a student, he filled in a book report with a poem and got a good grade. He continued writing the rest of his life and always wanted to have a book published. With the help and encouragement of his wife, Ellie, he has accomplished his dream. Bill Souser has worked with Joe and produced a collection with beautiful, computerized backgrounds. Bill read the poems "Sunrise-Sunset" and "Beeche's Mountain." Joe then signed books for the members and accepted their congratulations.

Bill Sanders of Six Flags gave out discount tickets and fliers. There are jobs available at Six Flags, both part-time and full-time, for the summer.

Ernie Varda, activities chair, has been working on suggestions for meetings. There will be Bingo at the May 22 meeting and other activities planned for the future. There are openings on the May 30 trip to the Botanic Gardens. Lori Moran announced a trip to the Kennedy Center on July 21 to see "Shear Madness." The 50/50 winners were Rose Haber and Tom Moran.

Sunshine co-chairs Ken and Pearl Keeney sent cards to Helen Starnes, Betty Down and Rose Remenick. Good to see Betty Down back at the meetings.

President Ima Davis thanked everyone for participating in the activities that make the Golden Age Club great. A special thank you to Vice-President Florence Holly for her dedication to the club.

Software Questions Will Be Answered

Greenbelt Internet Access Cooperative (GIAC) will hold a free information exchange session with experts in such software areas as Excel, Word, WordPerfect, and Outlook Express. It will be on Thursday, May 23 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Community Center in the Senior Classroom. Send software questions to giac@greenbelt.com, or call GIAC's voice mail at 301-419-8044, by Monday, May 20. To request further information call GIAC's voice mail.

GIAC Nominations Are Now Open

The annual meeting of Greenbelt Internet Access Cooperative (GIAC) will be held Wednesday, June 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the dining room of the Community Center.

Five positions will be voted on at the meeting, and refreshments will be served. Nominations for the positions are being accepted. The positions and persons running at press time are: vice-president, Mary Camp (seeking re-election); treasurer, Peggy Bates (seeking re-election); secretary, Leonie Pennie (seeking re-election); director Anne Anderson (seeking re-election); and director, open.

Anyone who would like to nominate someone for these positions should e-mail the nomination to GIAC at GIAC@greenbelt.com by Friday, May 24.

Jump Rope Classes

Free drop-in classes in Double Dutch and single-rope jump rope instruction are available for Greenbelt residents on Mondays, 6 to 8 p.m., at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center and Saturdays, 1 to 3 p.m., at the Greenbelt Youth Center. Classes designed for ages 6 to 18 will be held on May 20, May 25, June 3, June 8, June 10 and June 17. Non-residents may also enroll for a small fee. Instructors will be the Greenbelt City Stars, a competitive team for 11 years.

Jump rope is an exciting and effective workout. It takes a little practice at first, but if the participants are patient, they will discover a fitness tool that takes them to a whole new level of physical ability and confidence. Jump rope will help participants in all sports by improving timing, hand/eye/foot coordination, balance, speed, strength, flexibility, focus and endurance.

Double Dutch is a jump rope sport which involves two rope turners turning two ropes in an eggbeater motion around one or two jumpers. It requires an intricate display of skill, agility and strength; encourages creativity, teamwork and sportsmanship; and develops physical fitness and mental discipline.

Students can register in person before the class or on the Web at www.greenbeltsitystars.com. For more information, contact Kim Bradshaw at 301-503-6962.

GHI Notes

There will be a community wide Open House on May 19 from 12:30 to 4 p.m.

The Member & Community Relations Committee will meet May 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the GHI Conference Room.

The GHI Board of Directors will meet May 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room.

The next informational seminar for prospective GHI members is scheduled for Saturday, May 18 at 11 a.m. in the GHI Board Room.

Members are welcome to attend committee and board meetings.

Nature Walk Goes To Hollywood Swamp

A plant nature walk through the Hollywood swamp will take place on Saturday, May 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sponsored by CCRIC (Citizens to Conserve and Restore Indian Creek) and the Maryland Native Plant Society, the walk will take note of the variety of plant communities and uncommon species such as the basket oak, swamp white oak and bog chickweed, which has not been found elsewhere in Maryland. This swamp along Indian Creek is a significant breeding area for salamanders and five turtle species.


Persons interested in this walk, to be led by Lou Aronica, Meghan Tice and Rod Simons, should meet at the Beltway Plaza parking lot near PetsMart. Bring watertight footwear, drinking water and a snack.

CCRIC also has planned bird walks to the site on June 2, August 11 and October 13.

GREENBELT SWIM TEAM
 Summer Registration will be held
Wed., May 22 and Thurs., May 23
5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
at the Indoor Pool.
 We have space available for swimmers ages 5 - 18.
 Please come to registration prepared to show the coaches your swimming skills!

GIGANTIC YARD SALE!
 The residents of Windsor Green will be participating in a **HUGE YARD SALE** on:
SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2002
9a.m. - 2p.m.
 Look for: Clothing & accessories, household merchandise & furnishings, children's toys, games, books, etc. Directions: Greenbelt Rd., turn right on Frankfort Dr. (across from E.R.H.S.). Sale located in the parking lot at Community Center. **RAIN DATE: Saturday, May 25th**

PRELIMINARY AGENDA
MEETING OF GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

 Thursday, May 23, 2002
 7:30 p.m.
 GHI Board Room

GDC Meeting

- Set date for Annual Stockholders Meeting Action
- 1st Quarter Statement

GHI Key Agenda Items (Immediately following GDC Meeting)

- Set Summer Meeting Schedule
- Designation of GDC Stockholders
- Request for Exception - 45H Ridge Road
- Surplus Distribution

Regular board meetings are open to members.

Celebrate Spring!

Greenbelt Nursery School 5K Run
Saturday, May 18
8 am at Lake Artemesia

Advance registration \$20; \$25 on May 18.

To register on line www.greenbelt.com/gnsk
 To pick up entry forms, call 301-474-5570.
 Packet pickup Friday May 17, 4 to 7 pm at School,
 15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt;
 or Saturday, May 18, 6:30 am at 94th
 Aero Squadron parking lot, College Park.

For information, call Ditte at 301-474-0988.

Greenbelt Baseball


Major League Schedule

Monday, May 20	6 p.m.	O's @ Lions
Tuesday, May 21	6 p.m.	Indians @ A's
Wednesday, May 22	6 p.m.	Giants @ Cubs
Thursday, May 23	6 p.m.	Tigers @ Cards
Friday, May 24	6 p.m.	Lions @ Indians
Friday, May 24	7 p.m.	Cubs @ A's
Saturday, May 25	10 a.m.	Giants @ O's
Saturday, May 25	1 p.m.	Team Tryouts

Standings
 (As of Tuesday, May 14)

American League	National League
<u>W - L</u>	<u>W - L</u>
Athletics 6 - 3	Lions 7 - 0
Orioles 4 - 3	Cards 7 - 2
Giants 3 - 6	Cubs 2 - 5
Tigers 2 - 4	Indians 1 - 9

All games will be played at McDonald Field this week.



A Review "Romeo and Juliet" Bombs In Production as Farce

by Sabine Hentrich

"Romeo and Juliet" is one of William Shakespeare's best-known tragedies and needs no summary — most theater lovers have seen a production of it somewhere and sometime. However, the Rude Mechanicals' production of the famous love story, which played on Mother's Day weekend at the Greenbelt Arts Center, was barely recognizable. Had they titled it "Mercutio the Offensive," few people would have known they were seeing a Shakespearean play.

This production had many contemporary undertones: hard rock music, biker clothing, skateboards, channel surfing, and an abundance of body piercing. The feuding parties' weapons of choice, however, had not been changed from those of the original productions. It looked ridiculous to see a biker-style Capulet or Montague with a sword and dagger on a skateboard.

Director Jaki Demarest, who also played Mercutio, changed and cut Shakespeare's dialogue and characters. New love affairs between supporting actors blossomed, for instance. Demarest also changed the gender of two of the characters — Mercutio (Romeo's friend) and Capulet (Juliet's father) were women.

A different setting, changed lines and gender roles may sound interesting and promising. Unfortunately, this production did not benefit from any of them. The desire to have a unique "Romeo and Juliet" distracted the audience so much from the play that they felt unsure about what they came to see. The loud and over-the-top Mercutio (Demarest), in particular, extinguished all pleasure out of the first acts (the character dies during the course of the play). Demarest played "her" like a vampire on Ecstasy. She overpowered other characters not only by the sheer volume of her voice and laughter, but also by the vulgarity she attached to Mercutio. At times it was noisy and graphic. It became nauseating.

Another of Demarest's new touches involved Capulet (Kelley Slagle), who also over-acted (although she was not as confident about her sexuality as Mercutio), having an affair with her nephew Tybalt (Peter Eichman). Capulet, "mother" to the heroine, generally seemed drunk, high, and easy. Slagle had limited ways of showing her character's emotions. The only way she conveyed anger, for example, was by yelling loudly. In fact, there was an abundance of screaming in this play. My ears rang afterward.

The play's hero, Romeo (Kevin Elder), was a pathetic boy. One wondered why Juliet (Elise Berg) fell in love with him. Berg was one of two actors who did a

marvelous job. She was naive at times, confident at others. She was scared and brave. She was weak and strong — everything one expects from a great Juliet.

Nurse (Rachel Zirkin), played by the only other actor who did admirable work, was the only one in the play who managed to find its subtle humor.

The costume design (no one actually receives credit in the program notes) did not always flow with the production. Many characters' costumes did not make sense — the swords and daggers combined with the bikers' outfits, for example. The set design by Demarest and lighting design by Jay Henri were beautiful and flattering to the production. The set was kept mostly in black, white, and shades of gray — except for Juliet's bed, which was partially draped in blood red. The lighting was right on cue each time and foreshadowed the character's bitter end.

Overall, this was a disappointing production of a generally rewarding play. The ensemble never acted as one, instead acting after the motto "Everyone for themselves." They ignored their own potential and limitations to play roles they must have chosen themselves, rather than being cast by someone overseeing the production. Shakespeare would surely have been offended.

June 10 Is Deadline In Call for Artists

The Greenbelt Arts Center has issued a call for artists to participate in the 2002-2003 season. The application deadline is June 10 and selections will be announced June 30.

Exhibitions will take place between August 2002 and July 2003; each show will run for seven or eight weeks; exact dates will be coordinated with individual artists.

Artists from throughout the metro area are invited to submit entries for exhibition in the Arts Center's lobby gallery. Works in all two-dimensional media will be considered, as well as three-dimensional work that can be hung from a picture rail. Other three-dimensional works cannot be accommodated.

For more detailed information, call Mary Seng, Gallery Committee chair, 301-441-8770, or email maryseng@juno.com.

Jurors making art selections will be: Kimberly Gladfelter, director, Hemphill Fine Arts, advisor to corporate and private collectors and former assistant director, The Art Gallery at the University of Maryland; Michael O'Sullivan, art and film critic, The Washington Post, and former free-lance illustrator and actor; and Stacey Schmidt, assistant curator of contemporary art, The Corcoran Gallery of Art and former Senior Curatorial Assistant for Prints and Drawings, The Whitney Museum of American Art.

Nature Programs At Patuxent

Free early June programs at the Patuxent Research Refuge include:

"A Wildflower Wander" on Sunday, June 2 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. for ages 16 and above. Field guides, water, and a hat are recommended.

"Making Sense of Nature" on Thursday, June 6 from 4 to 5 p.m. for ages 5 to 7. Children will use senses of smell, touch, sight and hearing on this guided walk.

"A Stream Search" on Tuesday, June 11 from 4 to 5 p.m. for ages 13 to 15. Plan to monitor the health of a stream by identifying aquatic insects. Expect to get wet and wear boots.

Register by calling 301-497-5887, as well as advise of any special needs.

Patuxent Research Refuge is located on Rt. 198 between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 32 in Laurel.



Congratulations to Greenbelt resident Ana Preger, who will transfer to the University of Baltimore after graduating from Prince George's Community College later this month. The 21-year-old honor student recently received the Wilson Scholarship, which will cover full in-state tuition and provide her with an additional \$1,500 per year.

Congratulations to Assistant to City Manager David Moran, who received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Maryland Municipal League (MML). Moran was honored for his dedicated service on MML's 2002 Legislative Committee.

Baha'i Faith

"O Brethren! Be forbearing one with another and set not your affection on things below. Pride not yourselves in your glory, and be not ashamed of abasement. By My beauty! I have created all things from dust, and to dust will I return them again."

-Baha'i Sacred Writings

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

Information about the Baha'i Faith is on the World Wide Web at <http://www.bahai.org/>

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

Greenbelt Community Church
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Sun. Worship 8:35 & 11:00 am, 6 pm
Wed. Praise and Prayer 7 pm
Wed. Living Proof for Youth 7 pm

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Family, 7:30 first Friday of the month

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301-474-9410

SUNDAY
Children and Adults Bible Study 9:30 am
Worship Service 11:00 am
Tues. Lectionary Study 8:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:45 p.m.
Thurs. Disciple Bible Study 6:45 p.m.
Rev. DaeHwa Park, Pastor
SERMON: "Spirit Upon All"
Contemporary Service and Friendship Dinner

www.gb-gm-UMC.org/mowatt

MASS SCHEDULE:
Sunday 8, 9:30, 11 a.m.
Saturday 5 p.m.
Daily Mass: As announced
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Rev. Thomas F. Crowley, Pastor
Rev. R. Scott Hurd, Pastoral Associate
Part Time Ministry
ST. HUGH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Md.

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Sundays
Worship: 8:30 a.m.
Education Hour: 10:00 a.m.
Worship: 11:15 a.m.
Wednesdays
Worship: 7:30 p.m.

6905 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail myholycross@erols.com
www.erols.com/myholycross
Rev. Stephen H. Mentz, Pastor (301) 345-5111

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi (301-937-3666)
Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

May 19, 10 a.m.
"Coming of Age Service"
Natlíe Fenimore, director of Religious Education with co-ministers and COA class

Barbara Wells and Jacob B. ten Hove, co-ministers

St. George's Episcopal/Anglican Church

7010 Glenn Dale Road (Lanham-Severn Road and Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | stgeogd@aol.com | www.stgeo.org

Sundays: 8:00 am A Simple, Quiet Mass
9:00 am Christian Education for All Ages
10:00 am Sung Mass with Organ and Folk Music, ASL Interpreted

Nursery Provided 9:00-11:30 am

An inclusive congregation!

Hubbard Throws Hat In Ring

Delegate James W. Hubbard has filed for re-election to the House of Delegates and plans to kick off his campaign in Glenn Dale on Sunday. Hubbard, who was first appointed to his seat in 1992, has stood for election twice since then and won. This year redistricting will eliminate one of the three 23rd legislative district delegation seats now occupied by Hubbard, Mary Conroy and Joan



Pitkin.

A member of the House's Environmental Matters Committee, which deals with environmental, health care and public utilities issues and laws, Hubbard also serves on the Administrative Executive and Legislative Review, and the Joint Committee on Investigation.

For more information on his candidacy, call 301-262-7426.

Bergemann Memorial Lecture to Be Held

On Wednesday, May 29 there will be a lecture on medical ethics at Prince George's Hospital Center in Cheverly. It is the second in the annual Till Bergemann Memorial Lecture Series at the hospital. The speaker is Joseph Braun, MD, assistant professor of emergency medicine at George Washington University, where he teaches in the medical school and the School of Public Policy. The topic of the lecture is "To Err Is Human - Using Process Improvement to Eliminate Medical Mistakes."

Funding for the series comes from the Till Bergemann Memorial Fund of the Prince George's Hospital Foundation. Dr. Bergemann was a family physician who practiced in Greenbelt for 44 years. He died June 4, 2000.

The lecture will be held in the hospital auditorium from noon to 2 p.m. Reservations may be made for the lecture and a box lunch by calling Prince George's Hospital at 301-618-2636. There is a fee.

Contributions to the Till Bergemann Memorial Lecture Series may be sent to: Till Bergemann Memorial Lecture Fund, Prince George's Hospital Foundation, c/o Prince George's Hospital, 3001 Hospital Drive, Cheverly, MD 20785.

Marine Band Plays At U. of Maryland

"The President's Own" U.S. Marine Band will celebrate Marine Corps composers and arrangers past and present on Sunday, May 19 at 2 p.m. at the University of Maryland's Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

The concert, while featuring marches throughout, will highlight a range of musical styles from light-hearted to patriotic.

Selections will include marches by 17th Director John Philip Sousa and 19th Director William H. Santelmann, as well as Annapolis resident Ollie Zinsmeister, who served as principal percussionist and xylophone soloist from 1935-55. Zinsmeister, 90, the band's oldest living retiree, will conduct his new march, "Hail to the Chief."

The performance is free and open to the public. No reservations or tickets are required. For information, visit the website www.marineband.usmc.mil or call the Marine Band 24-hour Concert Information Line at 202-433-4011. For directions or parking information for the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, call 301-405-2787.



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City Information

MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 20-24 CITY COUNCIL

Monday, May 20, 8pm, City Council Room, **FINAL BUDGET WORK SESSION**, live on Channel 71.

Wednesday, May 22, 8pm, Greenbelt Community Center, **FINAL BUDGET WORKSESSION (continued only if necessary) followed by EXECUTIVE SESSION.** If the extra time is not needed for the work session, Executive Session will be held at 8pm.

ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Monday, May 20, 7:00pm, Greenbelt Community Center **RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

GREENBELT ACCESS CHANNEL 71

Municipal Access 301-474-8000: Monday, 5/20 at 8pm- Final Budget Work Session "Live" Tuesday and Thursday, 5/21 & 5/23 5pm ACE Student Awards 5:30pm-Final Budget Work Session -Replay, 9:00pm "Crazy Quilt Music Festival"

Public Access 301-507-6581: Wednesday & Friday, 5/22 & 5/24: 7pm "I Remember Mama 9:00pm "GATE Annual Meeting 2002 w/ Producer, Terry Irving"

Ten Rules for Making Every Day a Great Day!

1. Think that good things will happen.
2. Express gratitude to a loved one.
3. Put your gripes in a box.
4. Be patient with an annoying person.
5. Do something special for yourself.
6. Reach out to someone who needs comfort.
7. Focus deeply on each moment.
8. Learn from a mistake.
9. Look closely at a flower or tree you haven't noticed before.
10. SMILE!

The above list was published in an article by Dr. Joyce Brothers in the October 15, 2000 issue of Parade Magazine

CITY JOB OPENINGS-Greenbelt Recreation

WE ARE THE PLACE YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR!

SUMMER CAMPS

- After Care Staff
- Creative Movement Assistant
- Arts & Crafts Instructors
- Sports & Games Instructors

AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTER

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- Lifeguards & Pool Managers

CALL 301-397-2200 FOR MORE DETAILS, OR TO APPLY!

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The City of Greenbelt is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Apply in person at: City of Greenbelt Personnel Office, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt; download the Employment Application from our website or call our job-line at 301-474-1872 to request *required* application be mailed to you.

FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM

The Food and Friendship program serves hot lunches Monday through Friday in the Commercial Kitchen at the Community Center. Senior citizens must reserve a hot lunch at least a day in advance to ensure that enough meals are delivered. Meals are \$2.25. Please call 301-397-2208 x2236 to make reservations.

Greenbelt Consumer Co-op Ad

Greenbelt Consumer Co-op Ad

POLICE BLOTTER

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

Robbery

Two incidents that had occurred on earlier dates were reported to police on May 7 at 1:28 a.m. They are:

Area of Breezewood Drive and Springhill Lane, April 28, 11:45 p.m., a man was walking to his home when two men approached. They offered to sell him marijuana. He refused and later told police he feared for his life. He gave the suspects money and they fled. The suspects are described as a black male, 20, 5'11", wearing dark army-type pants and a dark sweater, and a black male, 20, 5'11", wearing all dark clothing.

Area of Breezewood Drive and Breezewood Terrace, May 5, 10 p.m., a man was riding his bicycle to his residence when two men approached, threatened him and demanded his mountain bike. After obtaining the bicycle, the suspects fled.

Assault

8900 block Edmonston Road, May 8, 9:30 a.m., a 12-year-old girl was walking through a wooded area to Greenbelt Middle School when three men walked past. One of them bumped into her, pushing her into a tree. One of them then stated, "Let's go get her," then they followed the girl a short distance before leaving the area. The suspects are described as three Hispanic males in their thirties, 5'5", 150 lbs, one of whom wore a colored plaid shirt and blue jeans.

Theft

Beltway Plaza, May 7, 11:30 a.m., a woman was walking in the mall when two men bumped her. A short time later, she discovered her wallet missing from her purse. No description is available.

Aquatic and Fitness Center, May 4, 5:09 p.m., an unattended wallet was taken from a gym bag at the center. It was recovered in the restroom, with the money gone.

6 Court Hillside, May 6, 10:26 a.m., a blue Schwinn bicycle was taken from the front patio of a

residence.

5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, May 6, 11:21 p.m., an orange-with-black flames X-Games boy's bicycle was stolen.

5900 block Springhill Drive, May 7, 9:01 p.m., a black Mon-goose brand bicycle was taken from the balcony of a residence.

7400 Greenway Center Drive, May 6, 11:02 a.m., an unattended laptop computer was taken from an office suite.

Concerning a theft which occurred May 3 at Capitol Cadillac, police have obtained a warrant charging a 21-year-old Laurel resident with theft and malicious destruction.

Trespassing

5800 block Cherrywood Terrace, May 6, 10:56 p.m., a 23-year-old resident of Southeast Washington was arrested after he was seen on the property of Springhill Lake apartments, from which he had earlier been banned. He was released on citation pending trial.

Vehicle Crimes

The following vehicles were reported stolen: a 2001 Toyota Camry four-door, May 6 from the 6100 block of Springhill Terrace (recovered the next day by Metropolitan Police in Northwest Washington and involving one juvenile arrest); a green 1992 Dodge Caravan, Md. tags M590604, May 7 from the 5800 block of Cherrywood Terrace.

Six vehicles stolen prior to the period of this report were recovered. Two juvenile arrests were involved.

Vandalism to, theft from, and attempted theft of vehicles were reported in the following areas: 9100 block of Edmonston Road (two incidents); 7300 block Golden Triangle Drive; 7700 block Hanover Parkway; 100 block Ridge Road; 7700 block Ora Court; 6500 block Capitol Drive (two incidents).

A tag was stolen May 9 from the 7200 block Morrison Drive, but recovered the next day by Metropolitan Police in Southwest Washington. One arrest was made.

Police Seek Information

Police report that on May 5 at 10:24 p.m., a cab driver went to the 5 Court of Gardenway to pick up a fare. He was flagged down by a man, then approached by two men, one armed with a metal pipe. The man wielding the pipe reached in the driver's window and tried to hit the cab driver. He pulled money from the driver's shirt pocket, and both men then fled the scene on foot. The cab driver was not injured. The suspects are described as two black males, 18 to 22, each 5'7" with a heavy build, wearing a black T-shirt and a black skull cap.

Anyone with information should call police at 301-474-7200.

Police Participate In National Events

by Barbara Hopkins

The week of May 12 through May 18 has been designated National Police Week by Congress and the President. At the city council meeting on May 13, Greenbelt Mayor Judith Davis designated the week Police Week 2002 in Greenbelt. The proclamation Davis read encouraged citizens to show their appreciation of police officers by obeying laws, showing officers respect and support as they perform their duties.

Lt. Thomas Kemp accepted the proclamation on behalf of Police Chief James Craze and the Greenbelt Police Department. He told council that Greenbelt police officers were participating in the national observance by standing vigil as honor guard that very night at the site where fallen police officers were being remembered for National Peace Officers Memorial Day on Wednesday, May 15. That day was set aside to honor and remember officers who lost their lives or were disabled in the course of duty. Greenbelt officers also acted as escorts to visiting families of fallen officers, accompanying them from their arrival at Reagan National Airport to their hotel in Washington.

Davis acknowledged the extra efforts that police made this past year as they supported several nearby localities in times of disaster.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Citizens may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522. Victims of the theft of lawn ornaments, tools, lawn mowers, etc., should contact Criminal Investigations at 301-507-6530. Some items have been recovered and police would like to return them to owners.

Garden Club to Hear Its Origins, History

Robert Stewart will be the speaker for the May 22 meeting of the Beltsville Garden Club. His topic will be "memories of the Founding of the Beltsville Garden Club." Dr. Stewart, with eight other founders, started the Beltsville Garden Club in March of 1952. His presentation will include the early history of the club and the background of the other founders. Stewart is a retired USDA Research horticulturist. He specialized in the study of the inheritance of flower color.

The Beltsville Garden Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Duckworth School at 11201 Evans Trail in Beltsville. Refreshments and door prizes will follow the meeting. Admission is free and the public is invited. For more information call 301-384-2415.

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SUNDAY, MAY 19th
12:30 - 4:30

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18-B Ridge Road
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2-U Laurel Hill
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**** New Listing ****
14-B Laurel Hill
2 Bedroom Frame

FREE TICKETS!
No Obligation!

Stop by Jeannie's table, which will be set up at the Center, to sign up for 2 FREE TICKETS to the USO Benefit Dinner and Dance to be held on Friday, June 14th at the Greenbelt Marriott. (Jeannie's former and present Clients will be automatically entered!)

Commission Only - No Extra Fees

Jeannie Smith, GRI

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City Notes

The week of May 6, the horticulture crew weeded beds and planted annuals in the Co-op parking lot and the medians in Roosevelt Center; planted annuals on Hanover Parkway, Mandan Road, and circles in Greenbelt East; planted and mulched the center of Schrom Hills Park; removed a dead tree which had fallen on a power line near the Youth Center; and fertilized plants at Springhill Lake Recreation Center and the city cemetery.

The parks crew continued work on the Wetlands Center, constructing the stone walls and benches, and spread chips in the new playground area at Buddy Attick Park, built a handicapped ramp to the large climber and covered the ramp with rubberized material.

The facilities maintenance crew repaired the water fountain at Springhill Lake Recreation Center, prepared a proposal for the renovation of the darkroom at the Community Center, and worked with a contractor to patch and repair drywall at the Aquatic and Fitness Center.

The special operations crew assisted with street repair on Ora Glen Drive, removed graffiti in the Lake Park, and substituted for the Greenbelt Connection driver.

SPCA Needs Volunteers

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA)/Humane Society of Prince George's County needs volunteers to help with administrative work at dog and cat adoption shows; transporting animals to and from the shows; exercising and feeding boarded dogs at the spay-neuter clinic; providing short or long term foster care in one's home; and writing, assembling and distributing the SPCA newsletter. Call 301-262-5625.

City's Public Works Crew Aids La Plata

Greenbelt City Council received a letter of thanks recently from Scott Hancock, executive director of the Maryland Municipal League, for assistance provided by Greenbelt city workers in the cleanup of La Plata after the devastating tornado on April 28. Greenbelt was one of 21 municipalities to contribute personnel and/or equipment to the cleanup effort.

Public Works Director Kenny Hall told council at its meeting on May 13 that he had sent a three-person crew, two dump trucks, a chipper and an aerial lift to La Plata. The lift was used to cut away trees and the dump trucks were used to haul away debris. Hall said the residents of La Plata were very gracious and appreciative, stopping on the street to thank the workers for their help.

Hall also told council that the cleanup is about two weeks ahead of schedule. Mayor Judith Davis noted that La Plata officials had been very efficient in organizing volunteer efforts.

Senior Fishing Derby At Lake Artemesia

The National Senior All American Fishing Derby is scheduled for Friday, June 7 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lake Artemesia in College Park. This event is free, but participants need to bring their own supplies and lunch.

Pre-registration is required by Tuesday, May 28.

For more information or to register call 301-386-5525; TTY 301-218-6768; pgparks.com.

This program is sponsored by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation. The Department of Parks and Recreation encourages and supports the participation of individuals with disabilities. Contact the facility at least two weeks in advance of the program start date to request accommodations (i.e., sign language interpreter or support staff).



Passageways Studios Hold Open House

The artists of Passageways Studios announce their annual Spring Open Studios on Sunday, May 19 from 2 to 5 p.m. and Monday, May 20 from 6 to 8 p.m. The studios are located at 6601 66th Avenue, East Pines Center, Riverdale. The center is located one block east of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway on East-West Highway.

Passageways is a working artists' cooperative whose members are drawn from Prince George's, Howard and Montgomery counties. Artwork including printmaking, painting, sculpture, tapestry and mixed media will be exhibited, with most work for sale. The public is invited to meet the artists in their studios. Light refreshments will be served.

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- Leaf Clean Up
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The Till Bergemann, M.D. Medical Ethics Lecture Series Presents:

To Err Is Human – Using Process Improvement to Eliminate Medical Mistakes

**Prince George's Hospital Center Auditorium
Wednesday, May 29, 2002 12 noon to 2 p.m.**

This year's speaker is Joseph Braun, MD, JD, MPH, MBA, MA. He is an assistant professor of Emergency Medicine at George Washington University, where he teaches in the medical school and the School of Public Policy.

Funding for the series comes from the Till Bergemann Memorial Fund of the Prince George's Hospital Foundation. The memorial fund was established in Dr. Bergemann's name. He died June 4, 2000. Dr. Bergemann was a family physician who practiced in Greenbelt for 44 years.

The lecture will be held in the hospital's auditorium from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Reservations may be made for the lecture and a box lunch by calling Prince George's Hospital at 301-618-2636.

Contributions to the Till Bergemann Memorial Lecture Series may be sent to: Till Bergemann Memorial Lecture Fund, Prince George's Hospital Foundation, c/o Prince George's Hospital, 3001 Hospital Drive, Cheverly, MD 20785.

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Dr. Kimberly Burroughs joined our dental team in Fall 2001. Even though she doesn't share the McCarl name, she shares our goal to give you the best care possible. Dr. Burroughs is available Tuesday through Saturday with extended hours Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

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DR. JAY MCCARL

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DR. DAVID J. MCCARL

Quintessence Award for Excellence in Clinical Restorative Dentistry.

DR. KIMBERLY BURROUGHS

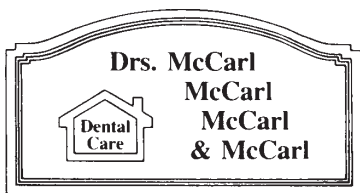
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Tuesday	9-8:30
Wednesday	9-8
Thursday	8-5
Friday	8-3
Saturday	8-12

Senior Health Day At Watkins Park

On Wednesday, May 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Watkins Regional Park, 301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, is hosting the Ninth Annual National Senior Health and Fitness Day.

Seniors are invited to come out for a day of fun and fitness in the park and enjoy tennis, line dancing, Tai Chi, miniature golf, health screenings, and more.

Admission is free. Registration is required; the deadline to register is Wednesday, May 22.

For more information or to register, call 301-386-5525; TTY 301-218-6768; pgparks.com

The Department of Parks and Recreation, M-NCPPC, encourages and supports the participation of individuals with disabilities.

Services Offered To Cancer Patients

The Reach to Recovery Program of the American Cancer Society Mid-Atlantic Division is working to help breast cancer patients in Montgomery and Prince George's counties. The Reach to Recovery Program offers free services for women who have been diagnosed with breast cancer and have undergone recent surgery.

A trained volunteer breast cancer survivor is available to talk confidentially with breast cancer patients, provide helpful information and offer emotional support. A Reach "kit" is also given to each patient, and includes a leisure bra, a soft prosthesis for mastectomy patients, exercise items and literature. For more information, call 301-933-9350.

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NURSERY SCHOOL ASSISTANT - Nursery school seeks warm, friendly assistant teacher for 2002-2003 school year, M-F mornings. Judaic background a plus. Send resume to Mishkan Torah Nursery School, 10 Ridge Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770. 301-474-4223, fax: 301-474-7210.

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 This 2 bedroom townhome has the wide floorplan. Fresh paint, new kitchen flooring, upgraded kitchen and a HUGE yard! \$69,900

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 Lots of renovations being completed on the frame unit that backs to woods. Call now to arrange your tour of this home. \$69,900

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 A great deal on this 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath townhome near Greenbelt. Owner has made many improvements & new furnace. \$125,900 U.C.

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 This home will look brand new when work is complete! Refinished hardwood floors, fresh paint, new kitchen and more. \$67,500 U.C.

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 This 3 bedroom townhome has a large corner lot with lots of plantings. Lots of renovations and improvements throughout. \$115,000 U.C.

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 This 2 bedroom end unit townhome has an addition with extra half-bath and wood stove! Large fenced yard in back. \$67,900 U.C.

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BUDGET continued from page 1

Greenbelt kids, adult and leisure fitness, arts and special events. However, aquatic and fitness center programming would still be in that center's budget. The operations side of the department would deal with the city's recreational facilities, the community center, recreation centers, aquatics and fitness center and recreation's responsibilities for city parks. Presently the departmental budgets relate to the various facilities and programs are budgeted separately for each facility even though one program may be located in more than one facility. Council made little comment nor raised significant objection to Irving's proposal at the meeting.

Overview

The proposed budget is "barely two percent more" than for the current year, according to Irving. The total proposal of the city manager for recreation and parks is \$3,764,200 as compared to the current year's adopted budget of \$3,632,600 (before salary adjustments). While the number of full-time positions has not been increased, there is an increase in part-time employees equal to a full-time equivalent (in hours) of 1.7 employees.

Irving reviewed the many programs offered by the department and the many accomplishments achieved during the past year. In particular, he cited Recreation Supervisor Julianna McHale's selection for a strategic planning committee of the Maryland Recreation and Parks Association, and Recreation Coordinator Greg Varda's service on a code of conduct committee for implementation in all sports programs and leagues throughout the metropolitan region. Recreation Coordinator Brian Butler's mentoring program for male teenagers, B.U.I.L.D.I.N.G. (Boys United in Learning Development and Igniting the Next Generation) was also highlighted. Recreation Coordinator Janet Goldberg's work with Red Cross blood drives, and her work with her father, volunteer Larry Goldberg, on the Tutoring and Homework Club and the Greenbelt Moving Ahead Program were recognized. Butler displayed a football trophy received when the Springhill Lake Recreation Center received the fourth place award in the Washington Redskins All Star Community Project.

Irving noted that the Old Greenbelt Theatre moviehouse acquisition by the city this year is progressing. There still have not been any decisions made on how the city will operate the facility. However, he noted that council indicated that it wanted some recreation programming at the facility. Councilmember Thomas White asked the council to add the theater to its list of work sessions to be scheduled.

Irving also noted that the Springhill Lake Recreation Center addition project was being delayed because of a slow-down in state funding.

He also reported that the department and management were preparing rules for limiting the use of its 15-passenger vans used to transport children and seniors to programs in Greenbelt and elsewhere. There have been recent alerts that fully loaded vans become top heavy and pose a safety problem. He noted that the Maryland-National Capital Parks and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) was limiting its vans to carrying only 12 passengers.

Election survey results for the past four city elections are included in the budget. Davis noted that at each election the city results generally decline over the previous election survey's results. Irving noted that even so recreational programming and activities rated the highest of all city services except for the fire department. McLaughlin advised that the complete results from the last election should be available in another month. Putens noted that the election-day questionnaire does not constitute a statistically valid form of opinion sampling and wondered if a random survey could be done utilizing the same or similar questions. It was suggested that this might be done as part of the economic study of Roosevelt Center that is to be undertaken with grant monies.

Aquatic and Fitness Center

Rogala noted that the center had already completed 10 years of operation. Getting qualified lifeguards has improved, but the city still has difficulty finding guards in the winter time. A new recreation building on the Maryland University campus has "sucked up all the lifeguards we used to get," Rogala said. Also, MNCPPC has increased its pay rates. Employing a full-time guard may be necessary, he advised. He is also considering recommending a pay increase for the center's cashiers.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts told Rogala that he had received complaints by regular class users of having to fill out new forms each time. Rogala said that it was necessary because of the screening of registrants required for some of the classes.

Davis and Putens expressed concern as to problems with theft at the facility and suggested that a file of names of persons attending the pool be kept. Rogala said he had considered that and that the problems of signing users in at busy times could cause waiting lines and complaints. He said the problem was not "that great." Councilmembers disagreed, and Rogala advised that he would go "back to the drawing board." Councilmember Alan Turnbull said that he was not convinced that it was necessary to maintain a record of attendees, but "in this day, more security is required." Rogala noted that a surveillance camera is being used and that the resolution of the pictures is being improved.

Community Center

Community Center Supervisor Joe McNeal told council that the "Community Center rocks and keeps on rocking." He claimed the center offers the "broadest spectrum of services and leisure opportunities available under one roof in Prince George's County," and possibly the state, he added. He said that a virtual reality tour of the building on the internet was in the works. It is patterned after one in Rockville, but "we will leave them in the dust," he said.

Report on establishing a long anticipated dark room is due to be presented by May 12. He is working with the police department on establishing a digital dark room as well.

He proposed doing a demonstration project for replacement windows on the historic building. He thought that by doing one, the unforeseen problems that cause contractors to be reluctant to take on the job can be determined. It is more than just re-

placing the window frames, he said. The lintels and masonry need to be looked at. "We haven't cracked them open to see what they are like." McNeal is working with the Maryland Historic Trust and hopes to get a demonstration grant in three months.

A contractor is working on a proposal for the design of signage shortly. McNeal wants council to review it before a meeting at the center.

There is concern that the Food and Friendship Site Manager will be difficult to fill if a vacancy should occur. It was suggested that the position be upgraded to a full-time classified position in order to compete with the county on hiring persons. Council will consider this matter further at a future work session.

Arts Programs

Arts Coordinator Nicole DeWald presented a State of the Arts report that was well received by the council. She noted that an estimated 44,000 participants are expected to take part in arts programs sponsored or supported by the city. A site evaluator for the Maryland State Arts Council, Jim Chance, described the Greenbelt Community Center as "a model community arts center."

Beautification Efforts Gain Honors

The Prince George's County Beautification Committee honors those who, by their landscape activities, are contributing to the beauty of the county. Every year the committee identifies and shows appreciation to some of these citizens. Whether a property is residential, commercial, public, or private, efforts for beautification are appreciated.

Any person or group maintaining property in Prince George's County is invited to submit an application for the 31st Annual Beautification Awards. People may nominate themselves.

All projects will be judged by nationally accredited members of the Landscape Design Consultant Council of the National Capital Area Federation of Garden Clubs. Professionally-designed and installed projects will be judged separately from owner-designed projects. Awards will be presented at a special ceremony and reception in September. Contact Charmane Truesdell at 301-336-2600 or fax 301-776-4589.

Bethesda Bus Service Initiated

Come aboard and get a taste of Metrobus Route J4, a new rush-hour only, weekday route now taking riders from College Park to Bethesda. This new bus service is the only direct transit connection from College Park to Bethesda.

The Maryland Transit Administration and Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority hosted the official dedication ride on April 23. The bus trip starts at the College Park Metrorail Station and terminates at the Bethesda Metrorail station taking just over 40 minutes to complete its route. Intermediate stops include University Boulevard, Piney Branch Road, the Silver Spring Metrorail Station and East-West Highway. Contact Metrobus information at 202-637-7000 or at www.metroopensdoors.com.

Teacher Workshops At Wildlife Center

The Patuxent Research Refuge is offering a number of teacher workshops from June 21 through June 28 at the National Wildlife Visitor Center, Laurel. The workshops provide interdisciplinary curricula and activities for teachers of grades K to 12. Subjects include wildlife art, hands-on habitat assessment, ecological concepts, Project WILD, Project Learning Tree, and trip planning workshops to the National Wildlife Visitor Center.

Teachers will learn a variety of engaging hands-on activities they can use to teach environmental concepts. Teachers should dress for both indoor and outdoor activities. MSDE credit may be earned by attending some workshop combinations. Call 301-497-5763 for workshop dates, times and registration information.

There will be a fee per workshop charged by the Friends of Patuxent to cover the cost of materials. The National Wildlife Visitor Center, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Facility, is located off of Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore/Washington Parkway and Rt. 197, between Bowie and Laurel. Space is limited, and early registration is accepted.

Diabetes Education May Be Lifesaver

For people who are diabetic, attending classes at Doctors Community Hospital could save their lives and help minimize complications of diabetes. The hospital's Diabetes Care Center offers an education program for diabetic individuals and their family members.

The program covers the basics of living with diabetes, including how to monitor blood sugar, the role of exercise, how to stay healthy, and proper nutrition.

A one and one half hour "Nutrition for Diabetics" class is offered for all persons completing the four-and-one-half-hour diabetes course.

After the classes attendees will receive individual consultations to help manage their diabetes and an opportunity to participate in support groups covering a variety of informative topics.

Classes are held Mondays at 7 p.m. and Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Ambulatory Surgery Building, 5th floor classroom. Pre-registration is required. There is a fee.

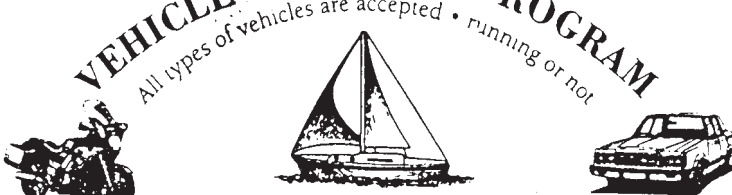
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