

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

VOL. 68, No. 20

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

APRIL 7, 2005

McLaughlin Proposes Largest City Tax Increase in 40 Years

by Diane Oberg

City Manager Michael McLaughlin cannot have been looking forward to presenting his proposed Fiscal Year 2006 budget to the citizenry at the March 28 city council meeting. His proposed 6-cent hike in the city's property tax, if approved by council, would be the largest such increase since at least 1964 and possibly in the city's history. This occurs despite a substantial increase in the city's tax base for real property.

He has concluded, McLaughlin told those present, that the problem is structural. The city's costs, he said, will continue to grow faster than the city's revenues, absent program cuts.

At the end of the presentation, Mayor Judith Davis urged Greenbelters to get involved in the budget process – attend the worksessions and public hearings, phone or email council – let us know what you could do without, she said.

If council approves McLaughlin's proposed budget, the projected \$20.4 million revenues will slightly exceed the \$20.2 million in proposed expenditures. This difference will increase the city's undesignated reserves, essentially the city's cushion for emergencies. These fell to 3.4 percent in the current fiscal year, a sharp drop from the 9.6 percent level they'd reached a year earlier. Even if this slight surplus materializes, however, the reserves will reach just 4.4 percent, well below McLaughlin's recommended level of 10 percent.

Half of the city's expenses are personnel-related, consisting of salaries, benefits and the like. Salaries typically increase 5 to 6 percent per year, McLaughlin said. In the last four years, health insurance costs have increased an average of 16.5 percent per year.

In addition, the city has experienced increasing costs for employee pensions, motor fuel, natural gas and electricity.

Revenues are not growing as rapidly. While the total assessed value of real property increased 10.7 percent in FY05 and is projected to increase 8.6 percent in the coming year, without a tax increase total revenues would increase just 2.6 percent. With the proposed increases in taxes and fees, revenues will increase 7.1 percent. While the city staff is hoping that a proposed reduction in the state property tax will offset most of the increase in the city tax, passage of the state cut is not certain.

McLaughlin said that the increase in assessed value plus the proposed tax increase would increase the taxes on an average single family house worth \$203,500 by \$254. In addition to the tax increase, McLaughlin proposes to increase employees' share of health insurance costs to 20 percent, up from 15 percent. Under his proposals refuse collection fees will also increase by \$6 per year, the cost of a parking ticket by \$15 (to \$40) and the cost of an Aquatic and Fitness Center pass by 5 percent.

On the expenditure side, McLaughlin proposes a 2.5 percent cost of living adjustment for city employees. Those eligible would also receive up to 3 percent of their salaries in performance-related increases. These increases are large enough, he said, that no employee will see a cut in pay due to having to pay a larger share of their health insurance premiums.

The city manager proposes to add two new employees. The first, a recreational coordinator, is needed to fulfill the city's commitments under the proposed

playground agreement with city homeowners and cooperative associations. The other, for the service coordinator program at Green Ridge House, will be fully funded by grants.

Expanding Programs

Although McLaughlin said that this position's grant funding is likely to be maintained for the foreseeable future, the city's pattern of expanding programs using limited time grants is one source of the city's current problems. Most grants phase out over several years, leaving the city either to fully fund the position or program or to eliminate it. Community Oriented Policing grants, the museum curator, the ACE Reading Club and the Assistance in Living Program all had their source in outside grants that have already ended or soon will end.

During the upcoming budget year, county funding for the Strengthening Families Program and the Truancy Program is likely to end, McLaughlin said. Last year, despite a tight budget that necessitated a two cent tax increase, council added a police officer for Springhill Lake, a recreation coordinator, a community development inspector, a half-time crisis intervention counselor and expanded a half-time office associate position to full-time.

The budget also anticipates significant progress on the long planned new facility for the Public Works Department, replacement of half the windows in the Community Center, construction of the city skate park and imple-

See TAXES, page 6

WMATA Derails Metroland Development Agreement

by Thomas X. White

Although the proposed development agreement between the City of Greenbelt and Metroland Developers, LLC, et al., was placed on the agenda of the March 28 regular meeting of the Greenbelt City Council for consideration and final action, it looks like a "Subway" (the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) may be blocking the track.

This news came from Greenbelt's Director of Planning and Community Development Celia Craze who reported that WMATA "has raised objections to the proposed agreement . . . They will not enter into an agreement," she said. There are also "other parties," she added, with either a contract interest or a monetary interest in the project.

In spite of this potential snag, and, with the developers' representatives in attendance at the meeting, Craze suggested that council use the time to go over the several changes that have been made to the draft agreement presented at the March 14 meeting. Since then, city staff, the city attorney and representatives of the developers continued to review and amend the draft to include all necessary changes and to ensure that the document would be in proper and legally

enforceable form for council action.

Regarding the provisions listed in the previous 49-point draft agreement, Craze advised council that nearly all issues identified by council had been addressed in the latest version of a new draft, now dated March 25. A new Section 8 has been added by Metroland Developers, LLC/Greenbelt Metropark (Metro-land) that relates to limited city cooperation with the developers in any initiatives on their part to apply for Tax Increment Financing and/or county-sponsored Special Taxing Districts, with the understanding that only county or state revenues but not city tax revenues, would be involved.

The city attorney, city staff and the developer's legal representatives also worked out additional sections regarding conditions on potential legal challenges, approvals or consents by the city or Metroland and mutual cooperation between the city and Metroland in regard to any future approvals obtained from the Prince George's County Planning Board or the District Council concerning the conceptual and detailed site plans.

See METROLAND, page 6

Reconsideration Approved For Greenbelt Station

On March 17 the county Planning Board approved a hearing to consider the Request for Reconsideration of Greenbelt Station according to a memorandum by City Manager Michael P. McLaughlin. City Attorney Robert Manzi, Norman Rivera, attorney for Greenbelt Station and Lawrence Taub, representing Quantum Companies (Beltway Plaza) each had a chance to speak. Taub argued that reconsideration was not allowed in this situation. There were a number of clarifying questions and there appeared to be some inclination to not grant the hearing. However, in the end, the request for reconsideration was granted. According to the city staff, the matter has been tentatively scheduled for the Planning Board's June 2 meeting. The city did not oppose Greenbelt Station's request. The city is close to reaching agreement with the developers of Greenbelt Station over how the land is developed, the city rights to review plans and annexation into the city of the southern section, currently unincorporated land.

In a February 1 letter, Norman D. Rivera, attorney for the developers, argued that it was possible to reconsider these items if: "In furtherance of substantial public interest the Board finds that an error in reaching the original deci-

sion was caused by fraud, surprise, mistake, inadvertence or other good cause." For this project, to be built on the Greenbelt Metro Station property and adjacent property to the south on the east side of the CSX Railroad tracks, Rivera contended that there is legal authority for such reconsideration in the Planning Board Rules and by a previous court decision which found that a reversal of a prior ruling is possible where there has been a "mistake, inadvertence or some change in fact of law."

Reversal

The approvals by the Planning Board and later by the Prince George's County Council of the conceptual site plan and the preliminary plan of subdivision for Greenbelt Station were reversed upon appeal of the City of Greenbelt by the Maryland Court of Special Appeals. That court reversed a decision of the lower Circuit Court for Prince George's County upholding the county actions. The Court of Special Appeals ruled that under its own law the county is required to make a finding that there are adequate roads to serve the new development either in place or set forth to be built in an officially approved plan.

See STATION, page 6

Budget Schedule

The Greenbelt City Council has set the following schedule for consideration of the budget at worksessions (WS) and regular council meetings.

Mon., April 18 (WS)	Social Services, Miscellaneous and Other
Wed., April 20 (WS)	Public Works (CC)
Mon., April 25	First Public Hearing
Wed., April 27 (WS)	Public Safety (CC)
Mon., May 2 (WS)	Greenbelt FOP
Wed., May 4 (WS)*	Recreation (CC)
Wed., May 11 (WS)*	Contribution Groups (CC)
Mon., May 16 (WS)*	Green Ridge House at Green Ridge House
Wed., May 18 (WS)	Final Budget Review (CC)
Mon., May 23	Second Public Hearing
Mon., June 6	Budget Adoption

All meetings are at 8 p.m. except those marked by an asterisk which are at 7:30 p.m. All are held in the Council Room of the Greenbelt Municipal Building unless otherwise noted (CC indicates Multipurpose Room of the Greenbelt Community Center).

What Goes On

Saturday, April 9

9 a.m. to noon, Rescheduled Potomac Watershed Cleanup, Northway Tributary of Beaver Dam Creek. Meet at Northway Park

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

Monday, April 11

8 p.m., Regular City Council Meeting, Municipal Bldg.

Saturday, April 16

10 a.m. to noon, Earth Day Celebration

12:15 p.m., Tree Planting, Buddy Attick Park

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Public Works Open House, Public Works Facility adjacent to Buddy Attick Park

Wednesday, April 20

8 p.m., Public Information Meeting on Ballfield Light Request, Youth Center

Letters

THANKS

Thank you to everyone who called or sent a card or flowers after hearing about the death of Pumpkin. I also appreciate hearing how much everyone enjoyed the memorial tribute to her in last week's News Review.

Mr. Stripes is looking after me.

Sue Krofchick

Susie Hall Rescues Stranded Goose

by Pam Lambird

A bird stuck in a tree at the Buddy Attick Lake Park? It is not April Fools Day but it sure sounds like a joke. Little information was provided by the caller. Susie Hall, the city's animal control officer and Pam Lambird, office staff for the Department of Planning and Community Development, hopped into the animal control van and headed toward the lake. As we drove the lake path we looked in trees and asked passersby if they had called about the bird caught in the tree, until we came to the bandstand area and spotted the goose indeed caught on a kite string and dangling about 60 feet up in a tree.

Several public works employees were working in the park and Susie asked one to have a bucket truck brought to the site. When the bucket truck arrived, Susie was strapped into the safety harness then she climbed into the bucket ready to save the goose. The bucket rose toward the sky, slowly moving closer to the injured goose. About 30 feet off the ground, Hall remembered she doesn't like heights. She concentrated on saving the goose and not looking down.

When Hall was within arms reach of the goose, she reached out to support the dangling bird and at the same time cut the kite string that had been holding the goose captive. With the goose free but injured, she gently yet firmly grasped the bird in her arms and sat down in the bucket as it was lowered to the ground.

After the goose was secured in an animal carrier, it was transported to the Prince George's County Animal Shelter for evaluation. Yet another animal saved by Super Susie Hall.

Crazy Quilt Spring Music To Fill Roosevelt Center

by Eileen Peterson and Richard McMullin

Crazy Quilt Spring Musical Festival comes to Roosevelt Center on Saturday, April 16, from noon to 10 p.m. Beginning its fifth year, free outdoor music and art festivals will be presented over the next seven months by Friends of New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA).

Variety

April's concert includes a wide spectrum of music, a veritable "crazy quilt" of sounds. Eight musical acts will be preceded by a drummer's circle and an "open mic;" this means "bring your own drum and join in" and, for the two-hour slot, "undiscovered" musicians can claim stage time to showcase their talents.

At 3 p.m., Greenbelter Melissa Sites uses the Appalachian communication referred to as "the holler," in which songs and stories are shouted out across valleys, to showcase traditional and original folk music.

Neighbors

The Hyattsville duo "The Scrub Pines" follows with folk rock influences of the '70s with traditional folk and contemporary alternative/country music.

At 5 p.m. "iLYAiMY" a modern take on folk music, brings rhythmically-driven guitars and intricate voices echoing high musical energy. This group has been nominated or won regional awards in varied musical areas

("We call ourselves acoustic grunge").

Poetry in Song

Laura Baron and Pat Quinn bring heart-touching poetry in song. Baron has won recognition for five songs on her new CD and is well-known for her children's recordings (which have sold over 80,000 copies). Her recording "Good Morning Sunshine" received the Parents Choice Award. Together the women bring smooth melodies and moving lyrics.

At 7 p.m. "Fire Dean" is scheduled to bring unusual variety in musical styles. "The Washington Post" has described him as "one of the best songwriters in D.C."

"Symbiont" will bring funky blues and acoustic rock. Then "Rainbow" will perform Appalachian folk and old-time country blues at 9 p.m. A new Washington-area group called "XOXO" ("sho-sho") round out the evening with a versatile rhythm section, vocals, guitar, mandolin and flute presenting a sound both delicate and driving.

Rain and Funds

Performances will move inside the New Deal Café if it rains continuously. Supporting funds for the series come from the City of Greenbelt, Prince George's County and the Prince George's Arts Council.

Hoyer Supports Hubble Servicing

Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (D-Md) was the keynote speaker at the 43rd Robert H. Goddard Memorial Symposium luncheon sponsored by the American Astronautical Society. Following the luncheon, Hoyer visited the Goddard Space Flight Center to tour the laboratory being used to build the robotic arm that was designed to service Hubble. Hoyer secured nearly \$300 million in federal funds last year to support a servicing mission to repair and upgrade the Hubble Space Telescope and sent a letter earlier this month to acting NASA Administrator Frederick Gregory to ensure that the full amount is used to support this mission.

Hoyer released a statement in support of Goddard and its work which, in part, stated:

"While the President's Fiscal

Year 2006 budget includes an increase in NASA funding to \$16.4 billion from \$16 billion in Fiscal Year 2005, the administration provides no funds for a servicing mission to repair Hubble and rescinds the \$291 million that I helped secure and that the Congress appropriated for servicing Hubble.

"Since its launch in 1990, the Hubble Telescope's state-of-the-art technology has dramatically changed our understanding of the universe and produced thousands of extraordinary discoveries. Congress must make sure Hubble is adequately funded and supported."

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

Week of April 8

MILLIONS (PG)

Friday
*5:10, 7:30, 9:40

Saturday
*2:45, *5:10, 7:30, 9:40

Sunday
*2:45, *5:10, 7:30

Monday
*5:00, 7:30

Tuesday
*5:00

Free Show at 7:30 pm
"FDR: A Presidency Revealed"
SPONSORED BY
THE GREENBELT MUSEUM, AND
THE HISTORY CHANNEL

Wednesday-Thursday
*5:00, 7:30

*These shows at \$5.00

301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745
129 Centerway
www.pgtheatres.com

Corrections

Last week the readers of the News Review saw Sue Krofchick's touching ad placed as a farewell to her beloved cat, Pumpkin, who died on March 23. To our dismay and Sue's, Pumpkin's name was omitted after "In Loving Memory" by her picture at the top of the three-column ad.



In Loving Memory
Pumpkin
6 Fayette Place
(Formerly 2-C Northway)
Born May 1992
Died March 23, 2005

Oops –

In last week's photo on the front page Barbara Packer became Barbara Parker.

The News Review regrets the errors.

Grin Belt



"You did your part, Jerome. You called the animal warden. Now it's up to Super Susie."

"Festival del Italia"

a Silent/Live Auction to benefit

St. Hugh's School

(air conditioning/heat pump units)

Authentic Italian Dinner

Saturday, April 30

Doors open 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6 p.m., Auction 7 p.m.

For tickets call 301-474-4071 \$20/per person \$35/per couple

(No ticket sales at the door)

To visit auction items: www.sthughs.com

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; James Giese, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Pat Davis, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Bell and Al Geiger.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$35/year.

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

Community Events

Mamas & Papas Hold Potluck

The Greenbelt Mamas & Papas play group will hold a potluck on April 13 at 11 a.m. at the Buddy Attick playground. In case of rain, the location is the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. Meet other local parents for fellowship and support while babies, toddlers or pre-schoolers play. Contact Anne Gardner at annegard@smart.net or 301-220-1721.

Greenbriar Holds Senior Luncheon

On Tuesday, April 12 Greenbriar seniors and a guest are invited to a free luncheon in the Terrace Room at noon. Representatives of the Metropolitan Washington Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation will discuss programs, activities and upcoming events. Guests will play bingo to compete for prizes provided by the Arthritis Foundation.

Greenbriar Clothing Drive Ends April 15

Friday, April 15 will be the last day to make a donation of clean and usable clothing for the Mission of Love, a Capitol Heights charity that benefits low and no income families throughout Prince George's County.

On Saturday, April 16 at 10 a.m. residents are invited to join in Snack & Stack in the Terrace Room, while counting and sorting the collected items for the Mission of Love. Lunch is free for all those who help.

Pre-school Art Drop-in at SHL

The Greenbelt Recreation Department will offer a Pre-school Art Drop-in class at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. The class is designed for 3- to 5-year-old children and their adult caregivers. The class meets on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and runs through April 28. Have fun with paper, paint, collage, beads, sculpture and more. There will be new projects in every class. There is a nominal fee, which includes materials. There is no need to register, just walk in. Call 240-542-2060 for information.

Park Needs Help

Help is needed in greeting diverse visitors from all around the world, answering phones and other administrative duties at Greenbelt Park.

Skills required for this volunteer position are the ability to communicate and the ability to read and write. An outgoing, friendly personality is also required. Help is especially needed for three-hour shifts Friday through Sunday. Student service hours can be earned through this volunteer position.

To schedule an interview call Park Ranger Kevin Barry at 301-344-3944.

GHI Notes

April 12 – Marketing Committee, 7 p.m. followed by a Seller's Seminar at 7:30 p.m., Board Room

April 13 – Woodlands Committee, 7 p.m., GHI Lunch Room – Architecture & Environment Committee, 7:30 p.m., Board Room

Peace & Justice Film April 17

The next film in the Peace & Justice progressive film series, "The Revolution will not be Televised," will be shown at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 17 at the Community Center.

Though it started out as a documentary about Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, this film wound up capturing inside scenes of the spring 2002 coup against his government and its quick restoration to power. The aim of Chavez to redistribute oil-company wealth among the poor had made him unpopular with the elite in Venezuela and Washington. Some believe the CIA organized the coup. Locked inside with government leaders, the filmmakers present rapidly unfolding events in a way that corrects what the world then learned from mainstream television about how the Venezuelan majority viewed Chavez.

"The Revolution will not be Televised" was filmed and directed by Kim Bartley and Donnacha O'Briain, produced in association with the Irish Film Board and has won prizes at film festivals worldwide. Runtime: 74 minutes.

A panel discussion will follow featuring Eric Wingerter of the Venezuela Information Office; Dr. Rosa Campos-Brito, a Latin American studies professor at Loyola College and native Venezuelan; and Greenbelt resident Bob Snyder, a Latin American solidarity activist.

Greenbelt Access Television will videotape the event to show later on local cable television.

For more information visit www.justpeace-pgmd.org or www.chavezthefilm.com, email justpeacepg@earthlink.net or call 301-577-2350.

Theater Shows FDR Free Sneak Preview

Greenbelt Museum will present a History Channel production, "FDR: A Presidency Revealed" at the Old Greenbelt Theatre on Tuesday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m. The film includes footage of the Greenbelt Museum house at 10-B Crescent Road. This showing is a free sneak preview. The film will air on the History Channel on April 17 and 18. For more information call the Greenbelt Museum office at 301-507-6582 or email museum@greenbeltmd.gov.

At the Library Children

Tuesday, April 12, 10:30 a.m. – Cuddletime for newborn to 17 months with caregiver; limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, April 13, 10:30 a.m. – Toddlertime for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver; limit 15 toddlers.

4 p.m. – Bookids book discussion for ages 8 to 12 years. The book is "Becoming Joe DiMaggio" by Maria Testa.

Thursday, April 14, – Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5 years; limit 20 children.

Adults

Saturday, April 9, 10:30 a.m. to noon – Poetry Plus. All are welcome and invited to bring copies of their own work or favorite poems. This month's topic is politics.

City Writers' Group Creates Anthology

"Hearing writers read inspires us" – Marjorie Gray expressed the sentiments of the Greenbelt Writers' Group (GWG) in this line from her poem on the group's just-released anthology CD entitled "The Sound of Words."

Previous anthologies have been printed on paper but this year, thanks to the labors of the multi-talented members Paul and Marilyn Wassman, the current anthology is on CD for the first time.

The selections, each read by its author, are as varied as the writing styles of members of the group. There are several poems: some are humorous, such as those about last year's cicada swarm; a few are spiritual; and several more present a view of daily life. A children's story, a memoir about returning to Greenbelt after a long absence, reminiscences about a favorite piano teacher and the story of having been a part of American history are a few of the prose pieces. The readings are separated by a flute, piano or guitar selection performed by GWG members.

Inside the cover of the CD is a short biography of each contributor accompanied by a pen-and-ink portrait drawn by Marilyn Wassman.

The CDs are available for purchase from members of the group or at the Co-op. They may be played as any commercial music CD. For information contact thegwg@yahoo.com or visit the website at www.geocities.com/thegwg. The group meets on the third Friday of the month at the Greenbelt Community Center and welcomes anyone interested in writing.

Golden Age Club

The Golden Age Club enjoyed playing bingo and some board games at the March 30 meeting. Prizes were donated by members.

An important date to remember is the Anniversary Luncheon on April 20 at LaFontaine Bleu. April 13 is the deadline to sign up. The speaker for April 13 will be Eleanor Droege, a quilter and storyteller. She will also tell some interesting history of quilts.

There is still time to sign up for the trip to the National Zoo on May 17.

A flea market is planned for later this spring. Volunteers are needed for this event.

A memorial service for Arlene Souser will be held on April 23 at 11 a.m. at the Greenbelt Community Church on Hillside and Crescent Roads. A reception will follow at the church.

Spring has sprung and Greenbelt is truly beautiful so come out, meet a friend and enjoy all the activities that are offered.

Northway Stream Cleanup Postponed

The Potomac Watershed Cleanup at the Northway Tributary of Beaver Dam Creek is rescheduled for this Saturday, April 9 from 9 a.m. to noon. Boots, gloves and sturdy work clothes are strongly recommended. Students who bring their forms can receive service hours.

Call 301-474-8004 for more information.

"Ask the Expert" Is on Aid Applications

The next "Ask the Expert" cable show will be a workshop on Tuesday, April 19 from 10 a.m. to noon covering how to navigate the food stamp and community-based and long-term care Medicaid application process. It will be held at Green Ridge House with presenters Mary Ellen Scalley and Selena Tyer from the county Department of Social Services. The workshop will be filmed for broadcast on Channel 71.

This workshop will give attendees an overview of what is required for eligibility for food

stamps and for medical assistance. Scalley and Tyer will discuss what documentation is necessary as well as where and how to apply. They will discuss asset requirements and will answer questions from the audience.

Green Ridge House residents should sign up in the lobby. Others should call Belicia Swinson at 240-542-2036 to register.

Huge Book Sale
by FOGL
Apr 16 10-4
Apr 18 4-8
Lower Level
Greenbelt Library

Silent Auction and Decadent Desserts
To Benefit the Prince George's Choral Society with Musical Revue
April 17, 2005 – 3 PM
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
6905 Greenbelt Road,
Greenbelt, Maryland
General Admission \$15.00

YARDSALE
GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH
SATURDAY, APRIL 16 – 9AM to 2PM
Lots of Great Treasures, Collectibles and Delicious Baked Goods!
The Church is located at 1 Hillside Road, Greenbelt, MD.
Call 301-474-6171 for more information
(There are no tables available to rent for personal sales.)

Arts & Crafts Show
Vintage Jewelry Sale
April 17, 2005
11 am to 4 pm
Framed Artwork
Local Artists & Craftsmen
Vintage & Costume Jewelry Sale
Mishkan Torah Synagogue
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 301-474-4223
www.mishkantorah.org

Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club
General Members Meeting
with a possible appearance by
Montgomery County Executive Douglas Duncan
Friday, April 15, 2005, 7:30 p.m.
Terrace Room, Greenbriar Community Building
Refreshments and Social after Meeting.
Everyone is welcome. Join us!
For information, call 301-474-2896

Auction and Dance
to benefit Greenbelt Nursery School
Saturday, April 16
2-5 pm, Room 201, Greenbelt Community Center
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra tickets, Baysox tickets, 7-course dinner for 10 and belly-dancing at the Marrakesh Restaurant, National Aquarium membership, art by Greenbelt artists-in-residence, haircuts, museum and theater passes and more.
Admission \$5 includes refreshments.
For information, call Greenbelt Nursery School at 301-474-5570.

Obituaries

Floy L. Boswell



Former Greenbelter Floy Landreth Boswell, 78, died on April 3, 2005, at home in Forest Hill, Md., after battling cancer.

Mrs. Boswell was born in Watson, Ark. She moved to Washington, D.C., during World War II and began working for the Army. She met her husband Bill at work and they were married for 50 years, spending over 30 of those years in Greenbelt. She made many lasting friendships in Greenbelt during those years.

Mrs. Boswell retired from NASA, Goddard Space Flight Center and became active in the Greenbelt Golden Age Club where she served as president of the club for one term. She was also a member of the Greenbelt American Legion Unit 136 Auxiliary for over 25 years.

She loved to entertain and spend time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Bill, her son David and her grandsons David and Zeke.

Survivors are son Robert Boswell of Gatesville, Tex.; daughters Kathy Boswell Clark of Huntsville, Ala., and Floy E. Boswell of Forest Hill, Md.; grandsons Steven Colombo, Jake Boswell, Billy Scott, Michael Clark and great-granddaughters Ashley and Kylie Colombo.

A memorial service will be held Friday, April 8, 2005, at 11 a.m. at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in College Park.



Memorial Service For Arlene Souser

A memorial service for Arlene Souser will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 23, 2005 at the Greenbelt Community Church. The church is on Crescent and Hillside Roads. Pastor Dan Hamlin will conduct the service.

There will be a reception in the church fellowship hall immediately following the service.

Silent Auction/Dinner To Benefit St. Hugh's

Festival del Italia is this year's theme for the St. Hugh's Silent/Live auction on April 30 in Grenoble Hall, which is beneath the church. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. with an authentic Italian dinner served at 6 p.m. The auction will begin at 7 p.m.

Childcare is being provided for a donation. Proceeds for this event will go toward purchasing air conditioning/heat pump units. For tickets or other information contact the school at 301-474-4071. There will be no sales at the door. To view a list of auction items visit the website at www.sthughs.com.

Catholic High School Fair Offered Here

Parents and students, who want to learn about Catholic high schools in the Washington, D.C., and suburban areas, are invited to a regional fair to be held at the Greenbelt Marriott, 6400 Ivy Lane, on Thursday, April 14 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The fair will provide parents and students, grades 6 and up, with opportunities to meet high school representatives from most of the 17 schools. They may pick up informational materials and learn about the admissions process and tuition assistance.

Information can be obtained at www.catholicschoolswork.org.

Footloose: The Lake Lifts All Boats

by Eli Flam

Okay, the Tidal Basin in D.C. has its rim of cherry trees a-blossoming these days and waterside in Wheaton's Brookside Gardens an array of spring flowers emerges. As for Greenbelt Lake, sure, last week a few patches of daffodils opened up lakeside while a swatch of red-stemmed bushes prinked up a corner of shoreline. And over time some flowering trees and plants closer to the ground – even blackberry bushes, and mushrooms in season – will be kicking in.

But let's face it: the big draw for walkers (dogged or not), joggers, fishermen and the occasional biker or artist is breathing space.

Breathing space via views of the woods-bordered lake itself. Breathing space via the hard-packed, just-over-a-mile path around the lake. Breathing space via this reminder that nature – with a small n – can give us a welcome break from daily cares and chores. (Birds have their say, too.)

Too bad you can see and hear vehicles speeding by on Kenilworth Avenue and the ever-rushing Beltway – but when trees leaf out this green shield will at least block the sight and mute the variable thrum of traffic.

Now, there are year-rounders (especially dog-walkers) who take to the path whatever the circumstances but spring brings out fair-

weather friends anew. The more sociable sort (people and dogs) greet passers-by while others can't spare a hello or even a nod. Whatever your mood, though, the lake setting should provide a pick-me-up. (As the saying goes, a rising tide lifts all boats – though water-craft are exceedingly rare here and the lake's level changes only fractionally.) Enough talk. Time to make the rounds again. Pull on sneakers, boots or walking shoes and hit the path – the path of least resistance.

NARFE Takes a Look At Theft Protection

The next meeting of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Chapter 1122 will be on April 13 at 1:30 p.m. at the New Carrollton Municipal Center, 6016 Princess Garden Parkway.

Stanley Prouser, an authority on identity theft, will talk on ID theft protection. Members are encouraged to attend and the public is invited.

For more information call 301-937-7987.



Greenbelters were saddened to learn of the death of longtime former resident Floy Landreth Boswell who died April 3, 2005, in Forest Hill, Md.

Leanna Powell, a student in the College of Arts and Sciences at Suffolk University in Boston has been named to the Dean's High Honor List for the fall semester of the 2004-2005 academic year.

William Tchakirides, also a student at Suffolk University, has been named to the Dean's Honor List for the fall as well.

PRAY
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Condolences to Our
Catholic Friends
of Greenbelt
Upon the Death of
Pope John Paul II

Mishkan Torah Synagogue

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
301-474-9410 www.gbmg-umc.org/mowatt

Rev. DaeHwa Park, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am

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

Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Pastor: Fr. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Fr. R. Scott Hurd

St. George's Episcopal/Anglican Church
7010 Glenn Dale Road
(Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org

Sundays: 8:00 am Simple, quiet Mass
9:00 am Christian education for all ages
10:00 am Sung Mass with organ and folk music, ASL interpreted
1:30 pm Signed Mass (last Sunday of each month only)
Wednesdays: 7:00 pm Simple, quiet Mass

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
3215 Powder Mill Road,
Beltsville/Adelphi (301-937-3666)
Welcomes you to our open,
nurturing community
April 10, 10 a.m.
Youth Group Service "Nature"
Paint Branch Youth Group with
Ben Farrow, worship associate
Together Time (children)
begin the service, then go to R.E.
Barbara Wells ten Hove,
Jaco B. ten Hove,
co-ministers

Baha'i Faith
"This period of time is the Promised Age, the assembling of the human race to the "Resurrection Day" and now is the great "Day of Judgment." Soon the whole world, as in springtime, will change its garb. The turning and falling of the autumn leaves is past; the bleakness of the winter time is over. The new year hath appeared and the spiritual springtime is at hand."
– Baha'i Sacred Writings

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

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

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Worship Service
8:45 a.m. Fellowship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
9:15 a.m. Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship
Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Evening Worship

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

Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbelt.com/gccucc/
Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.
Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

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

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH
Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net
Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor

Sun. Worship 8:35 am, 11:00 am

Helping People Connect with His Family through Loving Service

STOP, LOOK and LISTEN
to the beauty of the world around you.

STOP

"Verily, in the creation of the heavens and the earth, and in the alternation of night and day, and the ships which sail through the sea with that which is of use to mankind, and the water (rain) which God sends down from the sky and makes the earth alive therewith after its death, and the living creatures of all kinds that He has scattered therein, and in the veering of winds and clouds which are held between the sky and the earth, are indeed signs for people of understanding."
– The Holy Qur'an, 2:164

That was the timeless message sent down to the Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) nearly 1400 years ago. For more information about Islam, call 301-982-9463 or e-mail searchislam@mail.com or visit www.islam-guide.com.

An inclusive congregation!

Celebrate Earth Day With Public Works

The Greenbelt Department of Public Works is hosting three events on April 16 to celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day.

At the Wetland Education Center on the north shore of Greenbelt Lake from 10 a.m. to noon, the city invites citizens to help plant trees, shrubs and water lilies.

At 12:15 p.m. there will be more tree-planting on the hill above the bandstand of Buddy Attick Park. As part of the Livable Communities Initiative Peace Tree Project, the city has requested five willow oaks, five red maples, five river birches, five sycamores and five sweetbay magnolias to be planted on the hill in celebration of Arbor Day.

The department is having an open house from 10 a.m. through 2 p.m. at the Public Works yard. Kids will have the opportunity to climb into heavy equipment such as earthmovers and fire a high-pressured water gun while parents can tour the facility and the new greenhouse.

Call the department at 301-474-8004 for more information.

Nursery School Auction April 16

Greenbelt Nursery School will hold its annual auction on Saturday, April 16 from 2 to 5 p.m. in the Greenbelt Community Center gymnasium.

Up for bids are a wide variety of intriguing bargains including an overnight get-away at the Greenbelt Marriott, restaurant gift certificates, original art work and crafts items. Donors include the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, the Marrakesh Restaurant and the National Aquarium in Washington, D.C.

Greenbelt Nursery School is a nonprofit parent cooperative in its 64th year of operation. The school is certified by the Maryland State Department of Education and accredited by NAEYC's National Academy of Early Childhood Programs. The auction is the school's major fundraiser. The proceeds enable the school to offer quality preschool education to families in Greenbelt and nearby communities. For more information, please visit the school's website at www.greenbelt.com/gnsk.

This year's auction is a family event, so plan to bring the children. The band "Flashlight" will play and light refreshments will be served. There is a fee. For auction information, call the school at 301-474-5570.

Auction to Benefit P.G. Choral Society

The Prince George's Choral Society is holding a benefit auction (with decadent desserts) on April 17 at 3 p.m. There will also be a musical revue. The site is the Holy Cross Lutheran Church. There is a fee.

Democratic Club Meets at Greenbriar

The Eleanor & Franklin Democratic Club will hold a general membership meeting on Friday, April 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the Terrace Room of the Greenbriar Community Building, 7600 Hanover Parkway at Greenbelt Road.

There is a chance that Montgomery County Executive Douglas Duncan will make an appearance. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. The public is welcome. For information call 301-474-2896.



City Information

REGULAR MEETING CITY COUNCIL

Municipal Building – Council Room – 8pm

April 11, 2005

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

- Proclamations for: Arbor Day, Maryland Chiefs' Challenge, National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, Municipal Government Month, and International Astronomy Day

- Presentation on Upcoming CDC Health Survey

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

***Committee Reports** (Items on the Consent Agenda marked by * will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)

LEGISLATION

(none)

OTHER BUSINESS

- Greenbelt Station – Draft Development Agreement – Metroland Developers, LLC
- Award of Contract for Design Services for Preparation of the Northway Fields Master Plan
- Award of Purchase – Refuse Truck

MEETINGS

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

POTOMAC WATERSHED CLEANUP

Saturday, April 9th: 9am-12pm

Rescheduled from the April 2nd rain out.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Come and join members of the Greenbelt Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee remove litter and other debris from the

NORTHWAY TRIBUTARY OF BEAVER DAM CREEK

Meet at Northway Park and follow the signs.

Bring your work gloves, and wear comfortable clothing and boots or old shoes.

Community Service hours will be given to students

APRIL IS MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT MONTH

See your local government at these upcoming events on

SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH

10-12PM AT BUDDY ATTICK PARK

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Celebrate Earth Day with the Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee and help plant native wetland plants at the Wetland Education Center. Arbor Day will be celebrated with a tree planting at 12:15pm.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH

10am-2pm AT PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY

ADJACENT TO BUDDY ATTICK PARK

PUBLIC WORKS OPEN HOUSE

Public Works Facility, next to Buddy Attick Park. Enjoy demonstrations and displays, hot dogs, balloons and more!

DONATION DROP-OFF

Saturday, April 9th

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Parking lot between the City Office and the Community Center

The American Rescue Workers accepts donations of usable household goods (clothing, furniture, small appliances, curtains, towels, bedding, books, puzzles and toys.)

For further information contact the City of Greenbelt Recycling Office at 301-474-8303.



Temporary Skate Park Opened for the Season!

The Spring hours of operation for the temporary skate park located on one of the Lakecrest tennis courts are:

Monday thru Friday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday from 12 noon to 5 p.m.

The hours are subject to change depending on weather conditions and the availability of staff. New skate park equipment is scheduled to arrive this weekend.

NOTICE: PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Ballfield Light Request

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2005, 8:00PM

Greenbelt Youth Center

99 Centerway, Greenbelt, MD

The Greenbelt Park and Recreation Board (PRAB) has scheduled a meeting to review a request from the Greenbelt Youth Baseball League for lights at McDonald Baseball Field located at 7 Court of Southway Road. Interested residents are invited to attend to hear the proposal and make comments. PRAB will forward a report to the Greenbelt City Council for future consideration.

For additional information contact the Greenbelt Recreation Department weekdays from 9:00am to 4:30pm at 301-397-2200

OPENINGS ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups. Vacancies exist on the: Park and Recreation Advisory Board

For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

COMMUNITY CENTER CONSTRUCTION

The Greenbelt Community Center handicap ramp on the east entrance will be closed due to facility construction until approximately April 22, 2005.

The rear entrance, next to playground, is handicap accessible. Please call 301-397-2208 for more information. We apologize for the inconvenience.

GREENBELT RECREATION DEPARTMENT EGG HUNT GOLDEN EGG WINNERS!

18 months to 3 years
4 and 5 year olds
1st and 2nd grade
3rd and 4th grade
5th and 6th grade

Sachi Pawar
Daisy Yu
Matthias Early
Dana Holland
Okey Enwerem

Thank you to the Greenbelt American Legion and Generous Joes for their support of this event.

We hope all that participated had a good time!

GREENBELT MUNICIPAL/PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 71

MUNICIPAL ACCESS: 301-474-8000: Monday, April 11th at 8:00pm: City Council Meeting "live," Tuesday & Thursday, April 12 & 14: 10am & 6pm "Ask the Expert-Veterans' Benefits," 7:00pm "A Book Discussion on Master and Commander," 7:30pm Replay of City Council Meeting.

PUBLIC ACCESS (GATE): 301-507-6581: Wednesday & Friday, April 13 & 15: Call GATE for schedule.

TAXES continued from page 1

mentation of the playground agreement with Greenbelt Homes, Inc., Windsor Green and Greenwood Village. Renovation of the Old Greenbelt Theatre is also expected to start during the budget year.

With some pride, McLaughlin noted that "Greenbelt has long been known for providing a high level and quality of service to the community." In his written comments in the budget book, McLaughlin notes that "Greenbelt provides a number of services that no other area community provides and the community seems willing to continually consider additional ideas for services." In his presentation, he said that "the key policy question that should drive budget and resource allocation decisions has to be what services are necessary and at what level are they to be provided."

Over the next two months, citizens will have numerous opportunities in worksessions, public hearings and less formal contact to let council know their answer to this question.

Beltway Plaza

During his budget presentation, McLaughlin noted that the AMC 6 Theaters at Beltway Plaza had closed in January and that the Sports Authority had vacated its space even before its lease expires in June. Council asked about rumors that the AMC 8 Theaters would also be closing. Later in the meeting, Kap Kapistan of Quantum Management, owners of Beltway Plaza, said that the AMC 8's lease runs out later this year. The theater has not yet revealed its plans. He said that Quantum believes the 20-year-old theaters need to be enhanced with theater seating and other amenities in order to be competitive and that more than eight screens are needed.

In case AMC does not renew the lease, Quantum is exploring other options for an expanded theater operation in the same location.

In addition, in April a new tenant, a junior department store, will move into the space previously occupied by PetSmart.

METROLAND continued from page 1

WMATA's Objections

The developer's representatives indicated agreement with all of the provisions and said they would sign it. It was clear however that the objections to the agreement by WMATA stood in the way. In the view of the developers, WMATA is strongly opposed to the "reductions in density" it feels are inherent in the draft agreement and also objects to the site plan approval provided to the city in the agreement.

Also noted as a concern of WMATA was the potential for the city to be involved with "signage" on the Metro station itself. At the developers' request, the city agreed to postpone action on the agreement until they have an opportunity to discuss the agreement with WMATA during the next few weeks.

Recreation Facilities

Councilmember Rodney Roberts reiterated his concerns with the lack of specific language in the agreement regarding provision of active recreation facilities, including ballfields. In response to Roberts, Craze indicated that staff was continuing to look for opportunities in that area and will be trying to leverage the combined resources of Metroland and Springhill Lake owners in achieving the goals he was striving for.

Roberts said he was "looking for the developer to step up to the plate and, unless the recreational facilities were addressed, he will not approve the agreement."

Also weighing in on the discussion of the draft agreement, the Citizens to Conserve and Restore Indian Creek (CCRIC) ex-

pressed their preliminary support for the draft agreement (March 14 version) and were particularly pleased with the provision for the annexation of the South Core by the city and the provision of developer contributions for additional police officers. CCRIC reiterated its preference for a Metro station platform at Greenbelt Road to serve the South Core development even though this was not part of the draft agreement and would depend on a decision by WMATA.

Although CCRIC was pleased that its concept for an interpretive nature center on or near the preservation areas was included, its members discourage the building of paths, trails or other recreational uses along the undisturbed areas of Indian Creek and called for more dedication of open spaces in the South Core for recreation facilities. CCRIC representatives also asked that they be involved in planning of low impact development practices and the selection of plantings for the development.

Quantum Concerns

Kap Kapistan of Quantum Companies, owner/managers of the Beltway Plaza shopping mall, noted that the outline of development contained in the draft agreement is much improved. But Beltway Plaza remains concerned with the reliance upon a deficient market study for the development. Mayor Judith Davis reminded Kapistan that those concerns should be worked out between his organization and the developers.

STATION continued from page 1

However, the approval for Metroland was contingent on such roads being in place at a later date. Most significantly needed to serve the property and not yet officially included within any plan are ramps to be built from the Capital Beltway I-95 to the property for traffic coming from and going to the east.

Instead of restarting from scratch, as city officials expected, Rivera proposed recon-

sidering the previous approvals and amending them to correct the deficiency about building roads. He has proposed on behalf of the applicant to covenant the real estate of both the North Core (the property upon which the Greenbelt Metro Station and its parking facilities are built) and South Core (former A. H. Smith tract) to assure the construction of required off-site improvements.

Craig Scholarship For ERHS Senior

The David Craig Memorial Scholarship Fund was incorporated in February 1986 to perpetuate the memory and spirit of David R.S. Craig and the values he cherished. Craig died in a truck/train accident while he was in high school. He lived on Maplewood Court and was an outstanding tennis player. Each year an Eleanor Roosevelt High School senior is awarded a Craig scholarship for tuition assistance in continuing higher education. The award recipient is recognized for his/her average to above average academic standing with greater emphasis given to those qualities that Craig possessed: active involvement in the religious community, leadership in the civic community and participation in individual and team sports.

Applicants must be Prince George's County residents enrolled at Eleanor Roosevelt High School who have applied for admission to an accredited college. The recipient will be a well-rounded student who plays an active role in their place of worship, community, school and sports activities. To be the recipient, the student does not have to be outstanding in all areas but must demonstrate an effort to be well rounded and do the best he/she can.

The value of the scholarship awarded will be \$8,000 (\$2,000 yearly for four years).

Interested students may pick up application forms from the guidance department or front office. School transcripts and letters of recommendation, to include religious, civic and recreational involvement must be submitted along with the application. Completed application and supporting documentation must be addressed to: David Craig Memorial Scholarship Fund, Ltd., P.O. Box 761, Greenbelt, MD 20768. Applications can also be picked up at the Greenbelt Youth Center business office or by calling Doug Mangum at 301-474-7874. Applications must be postmarked by April 30, 2005.

Skateboard Park Has Reopened

The temporary skateboard park located on one of the Lakecrest tennis courts reopened this week and is open on Monday, Thursday and Friday. Depending on staff availability, the park will remain open this weekend. In any case, the Recreation Department expects the park to be open seven days a week for the summer season. The hours will be Monday through Friday from 4 to 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. depending on weather conditions and staffing. The skateboard park had been closed for the winter.

Extra State Tax Help on April 9

The Comptroller's taxpayer service offices will offer free assistance in person or over the phone to last-minute filers on Saturday, April 9 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring the completed federal return; the state return will be filed electronically free.

Taxpayers can file their state return online free of charge, download forms, find directions to the service offices or check on their refund status from the website at www.marylandtaxes.com.

Council Tackles a Number Of Items on March 28

by Diane Oberg

At its March 28 regular meeting, the Greenbelt City Council:

- Received a petition from Germaine Timmermans of Belle Point asking for the city's assistance in obtaining an organic recycling program (yard waste composting) for the residents of Belle Point. Council referred the issue to city staff for consideration.

- Passed a resolution under suspension of the rules (permitting introduction and passage at the same meeting) that would allow the city manager to purchase electricity through the Baltimore-Washington Chamber of Commerce Electricity Cooperative Purchasing Program, which the city staff hopes will stabilize the city's electricity costs.

- Accepted the resignation of Laura Cain from the Park and Recreation Advisory Board and appointed Shawn Burke-Storer to the Arts Advisory Board and David West to the Senior Citizens Advisory Board.

- Received an update from Assistant City Manager David Moran, who reported that a bill

that would give additional planning and zoning authority to municipalities had passed the Maryland House of Delegates 125 to 1. Although the Senate had yet to act on the bill, Moran noted that in past years the bill has not even made it out of committee. Mayor Judith Davis pointed out that this bill would not give Greenbelt the full planning and zoning authority it wants but would rather provide cities with some jurisdiction over issues such as landscaping and detailed site plans. According to the General Assembly website, a Senate hearing was scheduled for April 7.

- Received a reminder from Councilmember Konrad Herling that Greenbelt will celebrate Earth Day on April 16 from 10 a.m. to noon at Buddy Attick Park.

- Unanimously approved a contract with NZI Construction Corporation for resurfacing Lakecrest Drive, Prince James Way and a portion of Springhill Drive for a cost not to exceed \$196,000.

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apr=annual percentage rate
Rate can change without notice.

CrAZy QUILT

Spring Music Festival

Sat. April 16th Noon to 10 pm

*Outdoors * at the Roosevelt Center * FREE *

Come celebrate the warming weather and the
Birthday of the New Deal Café. The
performances will be like a quilt of talents stitched
together before your eyes.

Laura Baron and Pat Quinn
Fire Dean, The Scrub Pines, iLYAiMY, Raincrow,
Symbiont, Melissa Sites
and XOXO

This event is sponsored by
Friends of New Deal Café Arts, with funding support from
the City of Greenbelt, Prince George's County and
the Prince George's Arts Council.

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

March 23, 1:28 p.m., 8100 block Ryan Way, residents reported they were inside their residence when two Asian men forced their way into the home, one armed with a handgun. They tied up the occupants, ransacked the residence and then fled the scene. It is unknown at this time if anything was taken.

March 25, 9:45 p.m., 7700 block Hanover Parkway, a woman reported she was walking from her vehicle to a residence when she was approached by a man, who displayed a handgun and announced a robbery. After obtaining her wallet the man got into the passenger side of a vehicle, described as a dark-colored Toyota Camry or Corolla with unknown Maryland tags, and fled the scene. The suspect is described as a black male, 20 to 25 years of age, 5'8", 160 pounds with brown eyes.

March 26, 2:53 a.m., Beltway Plaza Mall, a man reported that he had been at the movie theaters when he became involved in a verbal argument with three other patrons. The three men then assaulted him, punching and kicking him. One of the three took the victim's cell phone and all three fled the scene on foot. The man suffered a small cut to his face. The suspects are described as three black males, two in their teens and all 5'11". One had a heavy build, black hair and brown eyes, wearing a brown jacket and blue jeans. Another had a thin build, black hair and brown eyes, wearing a black muscle shirt and blue jeans. The third had a thin build, black hair and brown eyes, wearing a black shirt and black jeans.

Assault

March 25, 10:30 p.m., Beltway Plaza Mall, a non-resident youth was arrested for assault and trespass when police responded to a report of a pending fight inside Beltway Plaza. The participants were located and told to leave the property. They began to leave but one youth attempted to reenter the mall, pushing past the police. The officer placed the youth under arrest, at which time the youth began kicking and pushing the officer in an attempt to get away. The youth was released to a parent pending action by the juvenile justice system.

March 28, 7:46 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Lane, a resident man was arrested and charged with two counts of first degree assault. The victims advised that they had gone to the man's residence to repossess property. He allegedly threatened the victims with a knife and demanded that they leave. The victims left the area and called police. The suspect was located, arrested and released to the department of corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Underage Drinking

March 24, 8:59 p.m., T.G.I.Friday's Restaurant, a non-resident man was arrested and charged with possession of an alcoholic beverage under the legal age of 21 after he used another person's identification card

to purchase a drink at the restaurant. He was released on citation pending trial.

Drugs

March 24, 4:36 p.m., Beltway Plaza Mall, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with possession of paraphernalia. He was observed walking in the roadway, disrupting traffic. The man was stopped and was found to be in possession of paraphernalia commonly used to ingest crack cocaine. He was released on citation pending trial.

Identity Theft

March 30, 11:35 a.m., Greenway Center, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with forgery, fraud, identity theft, theft over \$500, theft under \$500 and four counts of possession of false government IDs after he attempted to cash a stolen U.S. Treasury check at Greenway Liquors using forged identity cards in the name of another person. He was released to the department of corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Theft

March 25, 6:00 block Greenbelt Road, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with motor vehicle theft, theft over \$500, theft under \$500 and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. Police observed a suspicious occupied vehicle parked on a basketball court. A computer check revealed that the vehicle, a 1998 Infiniti I30 4-door, had been reported stolen. As the man attempted to drive the vehicle away, it was stopped and the man was arrested. He was also found to be in possession of stolen credit cards. The suspect was released to the department of corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

March 27, 6:20 block Breezewood Drive, two nonresident men were arrested and charged with attempted auto theft, attempted theft and malicious destruction. One of the men was also charged with fourth degree burglary/possession of burglary tools and rogue and vagabond. Police on patrol observed one of the two men sitting in a vehicle and the second man standing just outside the vehicle. Both men began to walk away from the scene as the police appeared. They were stopped and further investigation revealed that the vehicle in question had a window broken out and that one of the men had cuts on his arm and hand. He also had in his possession tools commonly used to break into vehicles. Located in a nearby vehicle belonging to one of the men were suspected stolen car radios. Both were released to the department of corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

March 31, Roosevelt Center, a resident youth was arrested for attempted theft and possession of paraphernalia after he was observed in the victim's vehicle. He was located nearby and was positively identified by the victim. He was arrested and found to be in possession of paraphernalia commonly used to ingest marijuana.

Vehicle Crimes

Four vehicles were stolen: a green 1996 Dodge Neon 4-door,

unknown tags and a 1996 Honda Accord 2-door from the 6000 block Springhill Drive; a silver 2002 Toyota Sienna van, Virginia tags JCX2974 from the 7900 block Mandan Road; and a 1997 Plymouth van from Greenway Center.

Three vehicles were recovered, one by Greenbelt police and two by other police departments. No arrests were made in any of the recoveries.

Vandalism to, thefts from and attempted thefts of vehicles were reported in the following areas: Beltway Plaza Mall, 9000 block Breezewood Terrace, 6000 block Springhill Drive, Greenway Center, 7700 block Hanover Parkway and 7800 block Hanover Parkway.

Support Scofflaw Caught by Sheriff

Sheriff's deputies for the Prince George's County Office of Child Support Enforcement arrested a man at an office on Bellepoint Road on Monday for \$55,000 in unpaid child support. The man, who lives in D.C., was arrested on a warrant from Montgomery County based on child support originally ordered in September 1984. Payments for two children were involved, with the mother indicating he had never made a payment, while a friend of the man reported that he was unable to afford the \$1,600 monthly support ordered. The man was turned over to Montgomery County, where bond was set at \$80,000.

Berwyn Heights Gets Firefighter Grant

The Berwyn Heights Fire Department has been awarded \$47,838 in federal funds to purchase new rescue tools. In this case the funds will help with the new rescue vehicle recently purchased. Senators Barbara Mikulski and Paul Sarbanes announced a total grant of over \$500,000 for three local fire departments in Prince George's County through the Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.

Berwyn Heights is the company called first for Springhill Lake and Beltway Plaza as it is the closest fire department to that area of Greenbelt.

Fire & Rescue Log

The Fire Department Log is a bi-weekly report of the activities and news from the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department (GVFD) and Rescue Squad, Inc. The report includes recent incidents, news and upcoming events, fire safety and other fire department related information.

Incident Report

From March 19 to April 1 the GVFD responded to a total of 74 engine and 65 ambulance calls. Among those calls were 22 reports of smoke or fire, six car fires, three gas leaks, 26 motor vehicle accidents and 50 medical calls.

Daylight Saving

What do Daylight Saving Time and smoke detectors have in common? Change the clock, change smoke detector batteries. It is recommended that people change batteries in smoke detectors twice a year. As clocks change twice a year, it is a good reminder to also service smoke detectors at this time. This is also a good time to make sure there are an adequate number of smoke detectors in the home. There should be one on every level of the house (including the basement) as well as inside and outside each sleeping area. Install them in the best location by following the directions on the package. Visit www.nfpa.org for further information.

Smoke detectors are now available with the option of an included carbon monoxide (CO) monitor. This provides addi-

tional protection to home and family from a deadly gas by giving warning before the CO levels in the home become too high. CO usually comes from faulty heating appliances but may also come from fireplaces or cars running in attached garages. It cannot be seen, tasted or smelled, so the only way to detect a CO problem is to have a CO alarm.

If a smoke or CO alarm sounds, get everyone outside, then call 911.

Don't forget: change the batteries in smoke/CO detectors this week and test them regularly.

Volunteers Sought

The GVFD is looking for volunteers age 16 and up. Become a firefighter, EMT or work in an administrative role. All training is provided and the time commitment is flexible. To find out more call the station at 301-345-7000, visit the website at www.engine35.com or stop by the station and ask to speak to an officer.

Questions and comments regarding this report or any fire department issues can be directed to public-info@engine35.com or to 301-345-7000.

Police to Step Up DUI Enforcement

"If you choose to drink and drive, you will be stopped and you will be arrested," is the message that the Greenbelt police are telling motorists. The police department is working under a program entitled "100 in 2005," a proactive approach to DUI enforcement in the city of Greenbelt.

The purpose of the "100 in 2005" campaign is to encourage officers to step up DUI enforcement with the goal of making at least 100 arrests of motorists who choose to drink and drive in the year 2005. The program is supported by the Maryland Highway Safety Office, which is providing funding for enforcement

as well as training. Police are working overtime saturation patrols as well as sobriety checkpoints. They are also being given the opportunity to expand on their training in DUI enforcement by taking advanced courses such as "DUI In-Service" and "Catch'em if you Can" training. Two Greenbelt officers recently attended a three-day DUI summit in Virginia Beach.

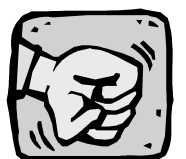
The program started in October 2004 and runs to October 2005 to reflect Maryland's fiscal year. So far this year the Greenbelt Police Department has made 48 arrests compared to 33 arrests during the same time period last year.

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City of Greenbelt
COMMUNITY MEDIATION BOARD

Representatives of Park Meet with City Council

by Al Geiger

At a worksession on March 30, the Greenbelt City Council met with representatives of Greenbelt Park to discuss relations and interactions between the city and the park. Greenbelt Park lies within the city limits of Greenbelt.

The park was represented by Gayle Hazelwood, superintendent of National Capital Parks-East; Frederick Cunningham, park manager and Major Horsey, acting supervisory park ranger.

Greenbelt Mayor Judith Davis asked about a rumor that the park was closing down. Hazelwood said emphatically that there was absolutely no basis for the rumor. She said one of her jobs is to inform the public about national parks in the Washington area and also to get park staff into schools to tell about the parks and their activities.

Cunningham said there are 174 camp sites in the park and that a reservation system starts on Memorial Day. There are no electrical hookups, however, for campers. Camp sites cost \$14 per day (with a maximum of 14 days).

The park takes in about \$68,000 per year, he said. Of this, 80 percent stays in the park for upkeep, repairs and bathroom care and maintenance. No direct bus service is available at the park but one can walk about a half mile through the woods to a bus stop on Good Luck Road,

though he emphasized there is no lighting for the path.

Cunningham said there were a lot of bridges on the trails that are out but the park has neither funds nor personnel to keep up with this problem.

He said volunteers are badly needed for the work, especially people with engineering and construction experience.

Davis asked about reports that homeless people were living in the deeper parts of the park. Cunningham said this appears to be true and while this seems to be a "problem" in many public areas, he has no authority to deal with it other than policing.

Horsey said they have a new program that entails adopting local schools and the Adult Day Care Center and visiting them on a regular basis. Only four rangers are available for such visits, however, he said.

Area students come to the park for their community service requirements. Youth offenders for nonviolent crimes also come to work on the trails. The city can and should refer youth offenders to the park.

Davis said the city welcomes the park's continuing participation in the parade and folk demonstrations at the fall festival. Greenbelt Access Television and the theater are available for publicizing programs and the News Review publishes information of park activities on the Community Events page.

Wildlife Programs At Patuxent

Four programs are offered in the coming week by the Patuxent Refuge. At the North Tract on Route 198 between the Baltimore Washington Parkway and Route 32 the "Wildflower Wander" for anyone over 15 will be held on Sunday, April 17 from 9 to 11 a.m.

For ages 8 through 12 a "Spring Discovery Hike" will take place on Monday, April 11 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Dress to get dirty. On Saturday, April 16 from 9 to 11:30 a.m., anyone 10 years or older is invited to "Butterflies: Nature's Festival of Colors." This is a 2.5 mile hike; field guides are recommended.

Finally, the Visitor Center on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore Washington Parkway and Route 197 welcomes children ages 5 to 7 years old to "Slimy and Scaly," an introduction to snakes, frogs and their kin on Saturday, April 16 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. All programs are free, but advance reservations must be made by calling 301-497-5887.

Native Plant Tour At Arboretum

On April 15 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. join an informal tour of the Fern Valley Native Plant Collection at the U.S. National Arboretum. Curator Joan Feely will present an opportunity to learn more about the natural history of native plants and how to grow them. This program is free and no registration is required. Visit <http://www.usna.usda.gov> or call 202-245-4523 for information.

Summer Youth Programs Available

Every year, hundreds of children and teens meet at summer playgrounds or summer X-treme teen centers, located and open to residents of Prince George's County only. Registration for these programs is currently open.

These Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) programs are available at more than 100 participating elementary schools and M-NCPPC facilities throughout Prince George's County. Greenbelt Elementary School and Schrom Hills Park are among these sites. These supervised drop-in programs operate from Monday, June 20 through Friday, July 29.

Playgrounds are for children ages 6-12 and teen centers are for teens ages 13-17. Playground operating hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and teen center hours are Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Visit the website <http://www.pgparcs.com> to find out more about playgrounds, teen centers and summer day camps, or call 301-699-2407, TTY 301-699-2544.

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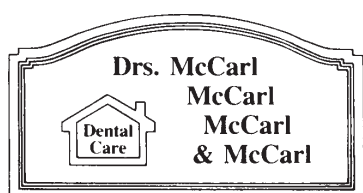


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urday, April 16. See boxed ad on p. 6
and story on p. 2.

ATTENTION GHI MEMBERS – If
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Get into the Arts

Greenbelt Museum Hosts Sneak Preview on FDR

by Katie Scott-Childress

On Tuesday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m., the Greenbelt Museum, The History Channel and Comcast will host a free preview screening of the History Channel documentary "FDR: A Presidency Revealed" at the Greenbelt Theater. This 85-minute sneak preview will feature rare footage, photographs and oral histories from private collections that reveal the private side of



President Franklin and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt pose in their open car in front of the White House.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt's presidency. The film draws upon oral histories from Eleanor Roosevelt and the recently released diary and voice recordings of FDR's cousin Daisy Suckley who cared for him before his death.

The Greenbelt Museum became involved with this production last fall when the film's producers sought an authentic 1930s location to shoot some footage. The museum's historic house provided the ideal backdrop for scenes illustrating FDR's "Fireside Chats." During the 1930s American families gathered in their homes to listen to President Roosevelt on the radio. In these informal speeches he regularly addressed issues of concern to Americans during the unstable times of the Great Depression.

The film crew managed to stage three separate scenes in the house at 10-B Crescent Road, making it appear to be three different homes. Museum curators Katie Scott-Childress and Jill St. John dressed in period costumes, along with the Scott-Childress family and the family of one of the producers and pretended to listen to FDR on the radio. The resulting footage appears in the first hour of the broadcast version of the FDR film and in an abbreviated form in the sneak preview. The full version of the film

will air nationally on the History Channel as a two-part, four-hour special on Sunday-Monday, April 17-18 at 9 p.m. The History Channel is offering a national FDR Scholarship Challenge for high school students to compete for \$9,500 in scholarship prizes by writing an essay based on this documentary special.

The History Channel has joined with Comcast locally to contribute \$500 toward a local scholarship for an Eleanor Roosevelt High School student. Information on the FDR Scholarship Challenge can be found in www.thehistorychannel.com/classroom.

"Comcast is proud to partner with The History Channel and the Greenbelt Museum as we honor the legacy of FDR and celebrate the historical significance of Greenbelt," said Lelia True, vice president and general manager for Comcast's Prince George's County system. "It is exciting to be able to offer local students at Roosevelt High School a chance to compete for a \$500 scholarship by writing an essay based on this special documentary," added True.

Greenbelt Theater owner Paul Sanchez generously agreed to postpone the regularly scheduled feature film in order to open the theater for this historic Greenbelt event.

Octava Piano Duo Spring Concert

The Octava Piano Duo will perform in concert on Sunday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary of Greenbelt Community Church, Hillside and Crescent Roads. The duo features Wei-Der Huang, music director of Community Church and Hsien-Ann Meng. The group will play six pieces by Rachmaninov, Sonata in D major by Beethoven, Gazebo Dances by Coregliano and the Sonata Inamorata by P. D.Q. Bach.

Since its formation in October 2001, the Octava Piano Duo has been praised for their "as-one" collaboration, heart-felt performance and diversified programs. One of their accolades came from the News Review's Judy Bell. Bell described Octava's performance of a Beethoven Variations as "executed with masterful precision," Bizet's Children's Games "Every tempo and tone was in evidence . . . all beautifully interpreted by Octava" and Chen's "Once Upon a Spider" "played with vigor and alacrity."

Friends since their graduate studies days, Huang and Meng both obtained their musical arts doctorates from the University of Maryland at College Park. They are currently on the music faculty at Howard Community College and Washington Conservatory of Music. Since forming the Octava Piano Duo, they have performed in well-known venues in the Washington metropolitan area such as Strathmore Hall, Levine School of Music, Washington Conservatory of Music, Charles Sumner School Museum and Smith Theatre at Howard Community College.

In 2003 they reached a wider audience through invitations to perform on the West Coast and in Taiwan. When they are not performing Wei-Der Huang and Hsien-Ann Meng teach piano.

For more information contact octavapianoduo@yahoo.com.

Aviation Museum Hosts Kite Making

The public is invited to join Wings Over Washington at the College Park Aviation Museum for a kite-making workshop on April 16 from noon to 4 p.m. While the workshop is ideal for kite enthusiasts ages 6 and up, participants of all ages and skill levels are welcome. An adult must accompany all children. No advance registration is required. A supplies fee will be charged in addition to regular museum admission. The museum is located at 1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive, College Park. For more information call 301-583-6029.

Wind Ensemble Performs at UM

The UM Symphonic Wind Ensemble, John E. Wakefield conductor, will present a concert on Sunday, April 10 at 3 p.m. It will feature faculty and student soloists from the division of winds and percussion. Works by Schumann, Jacob, Gershwin and Hummel will be performed. The concert will be held in the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. This performance is free.

Community Center Arts Space Available

The Greenbelt Recreation Department is now accepting applications from visual artists interested in holding studio space at the Greenbelt Community Center. The department's artist-in-residence program provides 24-hour facility access for a monthly fee. The program is open to residents of Maryland, ages 18 and up. Applicants may work in any medium, including fine crafts. New residencies will begin in July. One summer sublet may be available in addition to year-round studios. Applications must be received by April 22.

The artist-in-residence program is designed to provide subsidized workspace in a stimulating environment for artists who wish to embrace a creative leadership role in the community. Twelve artists are currently participating. Artists are selected based on the merit of their completed work and on the artist's capacity to engage the public during his or her residency. Ideal candidates for this program will welcome opportunities to share information, techniques and encouragement with fellow artists



Pam Hagerhorst, Greenbelt Pottery, Inc., demonstrates throwing a pot on the wheel in the ceramics studio.

and will enjoy leading and assisting with community art activities.

The Greenbelt Community Center is located at 15 Crescent Road. To request a studio brochure, application or tour contact Nicole DeWald at 240-542-2057 or ndewald@ci.greenbelt.md.us.

Review

"View from Ridge Road" Leads Way in New Book

by Eli Flam

Christina O'Boyle's column, "The View from Ridge Road," ran in the Greenbelt News Review in the 1990s. After she moved with husband John and their two young children to Severna Park, the local weekly there has carried her byline. Now she's published "looking for lightheartedness," available at the Cop grocery store, the Greenbelt Museum gift shop, Barnes and Noble.com and Amazon.com.

The paperback, with family photos in color on the cover, "is a collection of favorite columns in which I share the stories spilling from my life."

"Stories that were written with the hope I could somehow lift up others who felt frazzled and might be questioning their efforts to just get through the day, wishing they could feel lighthearted." O'Boyle takes on this challenge in almost four dozen brief selections, tucked into a dozen sections. A ready sprinkling of black and white photographs, most by the author, add more down-hominess.

This is a thoughtful, caring look at life – and beyond. A grandmother died last year at 103: "I can't put this book in her hands but I can dwell in the memory of reading these stories to her. And when I do, I sense her at my elbow, enthusiastically happy for me. Those I've lost and those I've been given, make me squeeze the ones I have."

Twenty-five years ago newly-married Christina and John O'Boyle bought a townhouse between Plateau Place and what is now Greenbelt Elementary School, "tore down walls, put up glass and let the woods in." (Most Greenbelters, she avers, live closely with trees.) A signature turret became Christina's writing retreat.

"When Michael and Kahly were babies and needed me constantly," she writes, "I thought they would never grow up." Then Michael – the older one – solos on his two-wheeler. "An unforgettable feeling: being on a bike. A body slicing through air quickly. Heart soaring way up there. A mother left standing on a cracked sidewalk, proudly watching her child grow."

Frustrations surface. At one year's end Christina feels a migraine coming on: the season "magic is nowhere to be seen." Stuck in line at the grocery store, she is thrown off by "the overplayed Christmas music, the crying babies and the impatient customers." But "the cookie in-



redients sitting in the cart remind me of how effortlessly my mother seemed to produce magic from the same ingredients."

Another "little taste of lightheartedness" comes when she looks up "while putting out the trash on a cold starlit night. The

stars twinkle, reminding me of mysteries I felt as a child."

Meanwhile, dare she ask for "intangible gifts," like praise for her husband at work, "good health for a sick cousin, love returning to a friend's marriage"? Christina concludes, "Go after the attainable. Enjoy what can be put in your hands. I let my longings fly away on the wings of prayers and well-fed birds and watch the woods fill up with snow."

Even a tribute to the former Ben Franklin store in Roosevelt Center (and disappeared five-and-dime stores elsewhere) ends on a heartfelt note: "I bought my first kitchen curtains there. What began as an innocent shopping experience ended up as a love affair. One that I carry in my heart, long after it's over."

She reacts to a first GI meeting: "What participation! Such convictions! The turnout! It reminded me of the town meetings I'd been to [in] Vermont . . ." After a walk in the snow with dog Chessie: "I know these woods are designated 'Parcel 3' and are owned by the city. They're everyone's belt of green. But when I'm in them, they're mine." And in a mini-essay on neighborliness: "That's the thing about living in a row of townhouses. We are connected."

Husband John's pull toward the water lands the family in Severna Park. They get busy redoing their split-level rambler even as Christina finds herself in "the thick of it, the rich buttercream benefits of life in a close-knit community."

The joys, and pitfalls, of camping, cooking and computers get raked over. At the end – surprise – we learn that with and without children, Christina and John O'Boyle have visited New York City annually for more than 20 years: "We find the skyscrapers, people and noise invigorating." Then comes 9/11. "And yet it's now, after the devastation that I especially want to be there – to share in what New Yorkers are going through. . . . What I have discovered from my own modest experience is that death offers the living a new understanding of life – or the potential to understand."

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