

## APB Hears Recommendations On Conceptual Site Plan

by Thomas X. White

Meeting for the first time since November 16, the city's Advisory Planning Board (APB) was able to elect new officers for the board and get up to date on new developments for Greenbelt Station at its meeting on Wednesday, January 18. The last item involved reviewing the city planning staff conditions on the revised Conceptual Site Plan (CSP) for the South Core of the project.

The APB began its meeting by electing George Branyan as its new chair and re-electing Sheldon Goldberg as vice-chair. Branyan takes over the chair position from Bill Wilkerson.

Four earlier scheduled APB meetings had all been canceled because unresolved issues remained in ongoing negotiations between city staff and developers, Greenbelt Metropark, LLC. With the revised CSP scheduled for consideration by council at its January 23 regular meeting

and by the Prince George's County Planning Board on January 26, this was the last opportunity for APB input to council on the CSP.

Greenbelt's Assistant Planner Terri Hruby advised that the revised plan showed much improvement over the plan reviewed last year. She said the proposed conditions that staff is now recommending to council have evolved to reflect changes made during the negotiations.

Hruby then went through the document of 59 conditions, highlighting for board members the areas that had changed since the last APB review.

Caps on development for the South Core remain at 983 housing units and 115,000 square feet of retail office space serving the neighborhood. A minimum of at least 80,000 square feet for retail/office has now been added to assure the mixed-use concept is carried through.

A new condition, number 6, asks that the developer make all reasonable efforts to include a boutique grocery store (such as, but not limited to, Trader Joe's, Balducci's or Whole Foods) in the neighborhood serving the South Core. Representatives of the developer noted that with a reduced-size grocery store to serve the area, the 80,000 square foot minimum for retail/office might be difficult to meet. They would like the minimum set at 40,000 square feet.

### Open Space

A significant improvement is the increase in dedicated open space from 1.5 acres in the original plan to 3.7 acres in the revised CSP. This 2.2-acre addition creates a large "public commons" area measuring approximately 200 feet in width by 700 feet in length and extending from the proposed north-south connector road eastward to the Indian Creek stream valley. (This State of Maryland open space land was recently annexed by the City of Greenbelt.)

Creation of the commons area

See APB, page 6

### Meeting Postponed

M-NCPPC has once again postponed a Conceptual Site Plan meeting on Greenbelt Station. The January 26 date has been changed to February 2 at the request of the developer.

## Council Reviews Conceptual Site Plan for Greenbelt Station

by James Giese

At its January 18 worksession, the Greenbelt City Council reviewed the conceptual site plan for the South Core of Greenbelt Station with city planning staff and representatives of the developer, Greenbelt Metropark, LLC. At the same time in another place, the Advisory Planning Board was reviewing the same plan to prepare recommendations to council for its January 23 meeting. Staff advised council that all issues must be decided at the January 23 regular meeting because the Prince George's County Planning Board will consider approval of the Conceptual Site Plan (CSP) on January 26. (That meeting was later postponed to February 2.)

The South Core is the former A.H. Smith sand and gravel property located to the south of the Greenbelt Metro Station on the east side of the Metro and CSX tracks and west of the state property alongside Indian Creek west of Cherrywood Lane. The station property, for which the developer expects to obtain development rights from the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, will become the North Core of the Greenbelt Station project.

Development in the South

Core is expected to take place first and to consist of residential townhouses, condominiums and some neighborhood-oriented commercial facilities.

Celia Craze, the city's director of Planning and Community Development, informed council of the particular issues on which she and the developer's representatives had not reached full agreement. She said that staff has proposed that CSP approval be based upon a list of 59 conditions. The developer agrees with most of these conditions, she said.

### Common Area

At the city's request, changes to the CSP have resulted in an enlarged open space common area to be dedicated to the city if the property is annexed. This area will be approximately 200 feet wide by 700 feet long and 3.7 acres in area. Because of this change, there also will be changes in the number and layout of residential units.

On the east side of a north-south connector road running through the development, the townhouse layout has been changed so that open space will extend from the connector road to the state stream valley land. This will divide the residences

in that area into two sections. Many of the townhomes will front on this public space. The sale price for a 24-foot wide townhouse is expected to be \$505,000.

This change in green space area will reduce the number of residential units for townhouses and two-units-over-two-units buildings from 383 to 340. Some units on this side of the connector road also may have commercial shops on the first floor with residences above.

### More Apartments

To offset this loss of units, the developers propose increasing the number of condominium apartments across the connector road from 600 to 680 units for a 39-unit total increase in proposed residences from the previously agreed limit of 983. An additional apartment building is proposed for the west side of the road.

Councilmember Leta Mach, concerned with the number of students that the housing would generate, asked if some could be dedicated senior housing. Norman Rivera, attorney for the developer, replied that developers were not interested in this type

See COUNCIL, page 6

## Council Considers Issues In Annexation Agreement

by James Giese

At its January 18 worksession, the Greenbelt City Council reviewed the issues relating to finalizing an annexation agreement for the South Core of Greenbelt Station. The South Core is the former A. H. Smith sand and gravel operation located to the south of the Greenbelt Metro Station and north of Branchville Road east of the Metro and CSX tracks. This agreement between the city and the Greenbelt Station developers, Greenbelt Metropark, LLC, is needed before January 26 or the land owner could petition in opposition to the annexation proposal and cause it to fail. (However, on January 23 by a 3-to-1 vote the council approved the terms of the annexation agreement with the concurrence of developer representatives and the annexation is expected to become effective today.)

Celia Craze, the city's director of Planning and Community

Development, presented the issues remaining to the council. Representing the developer were Sandra Gallagher, project manager; Norman Rivera, development attorney, and Benton Burroughs and James Brennan, financial legal advisors.

Craze began by noting that the reason for this agreement is for the city to provide financial assistance for the cost of public improvements required of the project. Through the use of tax incremental financing (TIF), Prince George's County already is committed to providing this assistance. The repayment of debt incurred would be made from tax revenues derived from the new development. However, if the city annexes the South Core, county tax revenues will decrease and city revenues will increase. Thus, the county has indicated that if the annexation

See ANNEXATION, page 5

## ACE Discusses Planning For Greenbelt West Schools

by Mary Moien

School planning for Greenbelt West was the major topic of discussion at the January 17 meeting of the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education (ACE). Also discussed were the date and plans for an ACE meeting with all local school principals. This annual meeting will be held next Monday, January 30 at 6 p.m. in the city council chambers. Open to the public, the meeting provides a forum for each school principal to highlight issues pertaining to their school.

Several ACE members expressed their exasperation with the plans, or lack thereof, for schools in Greenbelt West. Currently home to Springhill Lake apartments, the owners have plans for a new community. These plans include moving Springhill Lake Elementary School from its current location to a location on the property next to the middle school. Greenbelt Middle School itself is the subject of intense discussion regarding a new building while

preserving part of the original historic building.

ACE, and others, are concerned that a new elementary school will be overcrowded as soon as it is opened since further new residential building plans have now been reported for Greenbelt Station and Beltway Plaza. Greenbelt Station will be located west of the Springhill Lake property near the Metro station. Children from this new development have not been factored into the student population yet. Additionally, the owners of the Springhill Lake property have increased the number of units since the first student estimates were made.

Councilmember and ACE liaison Leta Mach mentioned that the school system owns another piece of property near the Metro. It is on the west side of the railroad tracks in North College Park and could possibly be used for another elementary school if

See ACE, page 10

### What Goes On

Saturday, January 28

9 a.m. to noon, Electronic Recycling, Public Works Yard

Monday, January 30

6 p.m., ACE Meeting with Principals, Municipal Building

Tuesday, January 31

11 a.m. to noon, "Ask the Experts - Disaster Preparedness for Seniors and People with Disabilities," Green Ridge House

8 p.m., Council Worksession, Pre-Budget Briefing/Manager's Quarterly Report, Municipal Building

Sunday, February 5

1 to 5 p.m., Artful Afternoon, Community Center

## Letters

### Mayor Seeks Help For Postal Facility

The following letter, written by Mayor Judith Davis to Representative Steny Hoyer, asks for his assistance in establishing a Contract Postal Unit in Roosevelt Center.

#### Dear Congressman Hoyer:

As you know, the new Greenbelt Post Office is well under construction and is expected to be opened in a month or two. From the very beginning of the process to find a new post office, the City of Greenbelt has played an instrumental role. The City took the extraordinary step of filing a condemnation lawsuit in an effort to clear up the title for the property on which the post office is being built.

Throughout this entire process over the many years, the City has urged that a postal service presence remain in Roosevelt Center. Roosevelt Center, as you know, is the original shopping center of Greenbelt and there has been a post office there, possibly since its beginnings. Up until about two years ago, the Postal Service indicated that it would be maintaining a presence in Roosevelt Center. However, just in the last couple of years as plans were being finalized and construction begun, the Postal Service has indicated that they cannot provide a presence in Roosevelt Center. To their credit, they have sought to establish a Contract Postal Unit (CPU). A CPU is a commercial establishment, such as a convenience store or supermarket, adding post office-type services and is signed accordingly. Unfortunately, none of the merchants in Roosevelt Center see the benefit of providing this additional service for a number of reasons, primarily the cost and requirements of providing the service.

Your assistance is sought to help determine if there is anything else that can be done to maintain a postal service presence at Roosevelt Center. The City is not expecting it to be a permanent arrangement but believes there is enough demand for the service that a small station with limited staff could likely pay for itself. If it does not, the City understands that the service would be closed within a two- to three-year period. This would show go

od faith on the part of the Postal Service, not require a long term investment and enable the community to determine whether it supports or needs this additional service.

Judith F. Davis, Mayor

### "Justine"

This poem, "Justine," is in reply to the sad article written on January 23 by Rick Calhoun expressing dismay about the missing plaque for Justine Ellen Shoop.

#### Justine

Golden princess of light  
Shining smile of hope  
Innate laughter and dance –  
Radiant sun beams touching  
Our dear Greenbelt fair.

Sondra Holland



## ERHS Teacher Receives Rare Professional Standards Award

by Enid Y. Grempler

Maya Yamada is handling well all the attention that board certification has brought her. At 37, Yamada has achieved something that thus far only 47,503 out of 3.5 million teachers nationwide have done. She was recognized by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, a Virginia-based organization comprised of Yamada's peers and others in the field of education. Instead of looking at it as a time to rest on her laurels, Yamada is using the subsequent attention as a motivator to "take herself above and beyond" as an educator.

Though it's not as if she truly needs anything else to motivate her. Yamada's life story is one filled with commitment, determination and triumph over odds. By the time she was six, Yamada could no longer hear in her right ear and had only residual hearing in her left.

At 18, the Toronto native left her family behind to study at Gallaudet University, the most well-known institute of higher learning for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals. Her time at the university served her well. Not only did she leave with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's in deaf and special education, Yamada also left with a passion for dance.

This she brought with her when she arrived at Eleanor Roosevelt High School in 1996. Around this time, while teaching Beginning American Sign Language, she also started a dance company for deaf, hard-of-hearing and hearing students.

"My experience with the Gallaudet Dance Company was so rewarding and enriching; I had unlimited opportunities to build my self-confidence, overcome fears and obstacles with my hearing loss. The experiences not only taught me about dance but how to cope as a deaf person," she recollected in an email interview.

Not only is she sharing her awareness and appreciation of dance with her younger deaf and hard-of-hearing contemporaries, she is also instilling in her dance students the importance of camaraderie and eradicating "communication barriers and stereotypes about people with disabilities."



Maya Yamada is pictured on the left with a friend from Toronto.

Yamada freely admits that teaching high school was not first and foremost on her mind after leaving Gallaudet. "When I look back, I realize that all my experiences as a deaf person in life were preparing me to work with high school students. It was meant to happen."

Her arrival at Eleanor Roosevelt is a testament to how fate can sometimes play an integral role in our lives. In the summer of '96, Yamada ran into a recent graduate of Roosevelt, a deaf student, who let her know of an opening at ERHS. She had already applied for other positions at various schools and decided that she should apply at the high school as well.

The significance of that meeting is not lost on Yamada. "I am so blessed to be at ER, I love the energy of the students and the staff and it's a great place to teach. If it weren't for that young man, I would not be here today and for him, I am thankful."

Yamada considers teaching to be one of her real passions. And she has no doubt that for the immediate future it is what she wants to continue to do. She is even willing to expand into other areas of teaching as well. "I would love to share my insights and experiences with students who are training to become teachers. Maybe even one day I would like to teach at the college level."

Yet her dreams of the future aren't just filled with teaching. The single Yamada is also thinking about marriage as well. "Now that I am 37, I am finally ready!" While she's not sure if she wants her own children, Maya Yamada is confident that she will always be there for other children who need her.

## Grin Belt



"Combining two schools into one will not guarantee better food in the cafeteria . . ."

## Correction

The front page box "Annexation Finalized" in last week's paper contained an error that was pointed out to us by Assistant City Manager David Moran almost before the ink was dry. The annexed parcel is now within the corporate boundaries of the city; it will continue to be owned by the State of Maryland. The News Review regrets the error.

## LOVE NOTES

Place your ad for Valentine's Day before it's too late!  
See page 3 for the details.

## Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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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.

## Publick Playhouse



Enter Black History Month with an important look back at the 1960s civil rights movement. A musical everyone should see

### MY SOUL IS A WITNESS

Tuesday, Jan. 31  
7:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$15; \$12/srs, stu & groups

Call 301-277-1710 TTY 301-277-0312

Prince George's Publick Playhouse Parks & Recreation

# Community Events

## Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition "Food and Friendship" program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center. Meals need to be reserved by 11 a.m. the day before participants are planning to eat to assure sufficient quantities of food are ordered. Call 301-397-2008, ext. 4125 for information about the program and to make reservations.

Meals are served beginning at noon. All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and one percent milk. Menus for Monday through Friday, January 30 through February 3 include:

Monday – Vegetable soup with crackers, bar-b-que pork on a bun, baked beans, cole slaw, tangerine.

Tuesday – Orange juice, beef ribbette, sweet potatoes, spinach, stewed apples.

Wednesday – Cream of celery soup with crackers, meatballs with curry gravy, wild rice, okra and tomatoes, applesauce.

Thursday – Grape juice, oven-fried haddock with tartar sauce, home-fried potatoes, chopped spinach, sliced peaches.

Friday – Orange juice, oven-fried chicken, mashed potatoes, mixed greens, strawberry parfait.

## K of C Holds Annual Free Throw Contest

The St. Hugh Knights of Columbus' Free Throw Contest for boys and girls 10 to 14 years old will be held Saturday, January 28 from 3 to 4 p.m. at Springhill Lake Recreation Center.



The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is an annual event with winners progressing from local through district and state competitions. All boys and girls 10 to 14 years old are eligible to participate and will compete in their respective age divisions. Last year more than 179,000 sharpshooters participated in over 3,000 local competitions.

All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation in the event. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent.

For rules, entry forms and additional information, call Youth Activities Director Joe Griffith at 301-345-0166 or email griffithfamily4@verizon.net.

## Disaster Preparations Shared by "Experts"

The next "Ask the Experts" cable show will be on disaster preparedness for seniors and people with disabilities. The show will be taped on Tuesday, January 31 from 11 a.m. to noon at Green Ridge House, 22 Ridge Road. The program will later be shown on Channel 71.

The speaker will be Director Joanne Knapp of the Office of Emergency Preparedness Policy for the Maryland Department of Disabilities. The lecture will help attendees develop a plan for dealing with emergencies and disasters. It will discuss evacuation and sheltering-in-place techniques that take into consideration a person's age and disability.

## Explore Ornamental Research at USDA

The next Explorations Unlimited on Friday, February 3 at 1 p.m. will be a presentation by Rob Griesbach, a research geneticist at the U.S. National Arboretum.

It is likely everyone is familiar with the USDA's National Arboretum on New York Avenue in Washington, D.C. People may not know that the USDA's first arboretum was located on the Mall from 1870 to 1930. This presentation will describe research conducted on the Mall and its impact in developing many common ornamental plants, such as hardy chrysanthemums.

Griesbach is stationed at the Henry Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. His area of expertise is the genetics of flower color. One of his hobbies is USDA history.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. This presentation will be held in the Senior Classroom, room 114. Everyone is welcome to attend and questions are encouraged. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

## See "Seussical" The Musical

by Miki Haber

Eleanor Roosevelt High School will perform "Seussical the Musical," a musical based on the writings of Doctor Seuss, on February 2, 3 and 4 at 7:30 pm. The musical was written by Lynn Ahrens, Stephen Flaherty and Eric Idle. The musical weaves together Doctor Seuss' most famous tales and characters in unexpected ways. It incorporates elements from at least 15 of his books.

Greenbelters Dina Goldberg-Strassler and Ethan Cowan are both in the musical, as well as Michaela Haber and James Bonnell on the tech crew and Tom Lee in the pit orchestra.

Hana Cai of Bowie plays the famous Cat in the Hat and sister Emily is in the pit orchestra. Horton the Elephant is played by Gabe Marwell of University Park. Marwell was Prince Dauntless in the ERHS production of "Once Upon a Mattress" last year. Seniors Garyn Clark (sour kangaroo), Annie Folks (Mayzie La Bird), Colin Francis (the Grinch) and Andrew Exner (General Gengus Khan Schmitz) were also seen last year. Sophomore Emma Krupnick plays the lovable Jojo and junior Paulena Papagiannis plays Gertrude McFuzz.

The play is directed by drama teacher Sara Nelson with musical direction by social studies teacher Kenneth Bernstein. The pit orchestra is directed by music teacher Paul Dembowski.

This show is great for everyone – kids and family are welcome! There is a fee. Tickets will be sold at the door.

## "Stranger Danger" For Preschoolers

On Wednesday, February 1 at 11 a.m. there will be a presentation by Officer George Mathews on "Stranger Danger," aimed at preschoolers and their parents. The presentation is sponsored by the Greenbelt Mamas and Papas and will take place during the regular meeting in the Youth Center Multi-Purpose Room. A "stranger" will be present for the children to practice their new skills. All preschoolers and their parents are invited. For more information contact Sue Belisle at 301-474-5861.

## GEAC Meets

The next meeting of the Greenbelt East Advisory Committee (GEAC) will be on Thursday, February 2 at 7:30 p.m. at Windsor Green.

## At the Library

Tuesday, January 31, 10:30 a.m. – Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months with caregiver, limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, February 1, 10:30 a.m. – Toddlertime for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, limit 15 toddlers.

Thursday, February 2, 10:30 a.m. – Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 children.

## Volunteer to Help At Greenbelt Park

The ranger station at Greenbelt Park needs volunteers. Help is especially needed for three-hour shifts Friday through Sunday.

Help is needed in greeting diverse visitors from around the world, answering phones and other administrative duties. Skills required for this volunteer position are the ability to communicate, ability to read and write and an outgoing, friendly personality. Student service hours can be earned through this volunteer position.

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

**OLD GREENBELT THEATRE**  
**WEEK OF JAN. 27**

**BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R)**  
 No frequent movie goers coupons or passes.

Friday  
 \*4:40, 7:30, 10:10

Saturday  
 \*1:45, \*4:40, 7:30, 10:10

Sunday  
 \*1:45, \*4:40, 7:30

Monday – Thursday  
 \*4:40, 7:30

\*These shows at \$5.00

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

## Genealogical Society Meets Wednesday

Prince George's County Genealogical Society meets on Wednesday, February 1 at 7 p.m. in the Greenbelt Library lower level. Andy Fleshman will present: "The Town They Left Behind" – 24th Virginia Infantry, Company G – Civil War Genealogy Research on Bluford Washington Bird. Visitors are welcome. Check <http://www.rootsweb.com/~mdpgcgs> for information. The society meets the first Wednesday of each month, except for January, July and August in the Greenbelt Library and all meetings feature a free genealogy-related presentation.

## Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

The birthday pot luck luncheon was enjoyed on January 18. We were pleased to welcome Gil and Micki Weidenfeld and Irene Hensel. Winners of the birthday raffle were Tom Moran and Ruth Huggins. Bill Souser read the birthday poem "One Day Older" by our own Joe Rimar.

The club is planning a trip to Blair Mansion for comedy and murder at their dinner theater. We'll go by bus. This trip is open to everyone. The fee covers everything. The audience is invited to help solve the murder. It should be a "killer" trip. For information call 301-397-2208.

Remember to pay dues at the next meeting and plan to come to the business meeting on February 1 to learn about upcoming activities. Your vote is important.

## Enjoy World Music At New Deal Café

Izolda Trakhtenberg will host a singing student recital at the New Deal Café on Wednesday, February 1 at 7 p.m. Come hear solo performances by students as well as a mini-set from the new a cappella group "The Philosopher's Tones." They will perform songs from around the world as well as some jazz, swing and original music. This event is free. For information call 301-441-3005.

Eleanor Roosevelt High School  
 Presents  
**Seussical  
 the Musical!**

February 2, 3, 4 at 7:30 pm  
 Tickets \$8.00 at the door

## Girls' Lacrosse Team Offers Free Clinics

The Lewisdale-University Park Boys and Girls Club (LUPBGC) girls' lacrosse club is sponsoring three free clinics for area girls during February. Girls from 4th through 8th grade are welcome to come out to try throwing, catching, shooting and playing defense. Experienced coaches will demonstrate the proper techniques and loaner sticks will be available. No prior experience is necessary or expected.

The clinics will be held on Saturday, February 4 at Calvert Park's Drexel Field in College Park; Saturday, February 11 at Greenbelt Middle School; and Sunday, February 19 at Magruder Park in Hyattsville. Each clinic starts at 3:15 p.m. and lasts until 4:30 p.m. Interested girls can also register to play on one of two teams: 5th/6th grade or 7th/8th grade. The teams' game season is from early April through May with practices starting in late February.

The LUPBGC teams generally practice at Greenbelt Middle School and the team rosters include players from several area communities including Greenbelt, University Park, College Park, Hyattsville and Cheverly. The teams play in the Metro Girls Lacrosse League which stresses fun and full participation. Team commissioner Kit Mendelson said, "We'd love to see lots of Greenbelt kids come to our clinic. Our coaches will teach the girls the proper ways to throw and catch, to shoot and to play defense. It will be a great introduction to lacrosse and should be a lot of fun." For more information visit the team's website [http://www.lupsports.com/Girls\\_Lacrosse.htm](http://www.lupsports.com/Girls_Lacrosse.htm), call Kit Mendelson at 301-699-9183 or email [kit@mkso.net](mailto:kit@mkso.net).

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**LOVE NOTES**  
**HALF PRICE SALE**

*Oh, My Darling I love you.*  
*Read all about it in the*  
*News Review.*

Valentine's Day Ads  
 (now 1/2 price!)  
 \$1.50¢ per line of poetry  
 Regular classified rates  
 for message  
 \$2 \$1 for Row of Hearts

*Deadline is Feb. 7 for*  
*placement in the Feb. 9 issue.*

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**St. Hugh's Catholic School Grades K-8th**  
**OPEN HOUSE** Tuesday, January 31  
 9 to 11 a.m.  
 145 Crescent Road, Greenbelt  
 301-474-4071  
[www.sthughs.com](http://www.sthughs.com)  
 Open Registration begins Feb. 21 for the 2006-07 school year.

**All You Can Eat Spaghetti Dinner**  
 (Desserts for Sale)  
**Saturday, January 28, 5 to 7 p.m.**  
 \$8 Adults \$6 Children 5 - 12  
 Children 4 and under FREE  
**Mowatt Methodist Church, 40 Ridge Road**

**Free Lacrosse Clinic**  
 at Greenbelt Middle School  
**Sat., Feb. 11, 3:15 to 4:30 p.m.**  
 For Girls, 4th - 8th grade

Coaches will demonstrate techniques  
 Practices start late Feb., games in April, May  
[www.lupsports.com/Girls\\_Lacrosse.htm](http://www.lupsports.com/Girls_Lacrosse.htm)  
 or call Kit Mendelson 301-699-9183 or  
 email [kit@mkso.net](mailto:kit@mkso.net).

# Reporter Visits Greenhills

by Mary Moien

Two stories about Greenbelt's sister city, Greenhills, Ohio, were in the December 15 issue of the News Review. One story from summer 2005 documented how the village is redeveloping itself. The other was a reprint of excerpts from a 1985 story written by some Greenbelt visitors. They both spoke of change but provided no pictures of Greenhills.

The original housing stock in Greenhills, unlike our city, became a mostly rental village when the federal government pulled out. Some housing has fallen into disrepair. The recent story described some limited development that followed the razing of some of the older apartments with replacement by single family homes. Other multifamily units were rehabbed.

Last summer this reporter also visited Greenhills, while in Cincinnati. When asked how to get to Greenhills, several Ohio friends said, "Why would you want to go there?" They were not aware of the significance of the area and, once informed, still had no interest in visiting that "side of town" with its small older houses.

Greenhills is built along a busier corridor than Old Greenbelt. It is more like being on two sides of University Boulevard. The shopping area, although probably once looking somewhat like the architecture in Greenbelt, has had substantial add-ons, but piecemeal.

But, if you could narrow your vision and look at specific sections of the town, you would do a double take. As the accompanying pictures show, much of the original towns look similar. The large white building that was a middle school now houses a community center and a school. Could that be Greenbelt Middle School?

What about those garage doors? Couldn't they be in a court in GHI? Even the swimming pool was built the same as Greenbelt's; although here, the pool is only familiar to the older Greenbelters. Most younger Greenbelt residents won't recognize that the twin of the pool in this picture is hidden somewhere behind the façade of the new Greenbelt Aquatic Center.

In Greenhills there is a large open park in front of the community center. There people were sitting eating ice cream, instead of on the benches at our Roosevelt Center. But a parent there commented on the beautiful walking trails in the Winton Woods that surround their city. With a sly look, she commented that many senior citizens (was she looking at us?) loved walking in those woods.

Limited current information on Greenhills can be found at <http://www.greenhillsohio.org/>

Of course, there is a third sister city, Greendale, Wisconsin. Has anyone visited there lately and taken any pictures? Some information can be found at <http://www.greendale.org>.



This Greenhills housing could double for Greenbelt's GHI units.



The Community Center, originally just a school at Greenhills, is a cousin to the original portion of the old Greenbelt High School, now a Middle School.



Portholes festoon the bathhouse of Greenhills' swimming pool – much like those on Greenbelt's original pool.

## Black History Concert At Berwyn Church

On Sunday, February 5 Berwyn Presbyterian Church will celebrate Black History Month with a concert titled "Word-Beat," featuring baritone Charles Williams and percussionist Tom Teasley. The concert will be held at 3 p.m. A freewill offering will be taken.

Berwyn Presbyterian Church is at 6301 Greenbelt Road. For more information call the church office at 301- 474-7573.

## Postal Museum Holds Black History Event

The National Postal Museum will hold a family event celebrating Black History Month on Saturday, February 4 from 1 to 3 p.m. The program will focus on postage stamps that honor poet Langston Hughes and jazz and blues musicians. Participants will listen to recordings and create poetry in Hughes' musical style.

## Our Neighbors

Congratulations to Navy Airman Apprentice Bryon K. Underwood, son of Bridget R. and Kevin M. Underwood of Greenbelt, who recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. Underwood is a 2005 graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

## City Notes

The planning staff worked on getting final details for skate-board park permit drawings. Superintendent of Herman Stewart Construction, Bill Sapp, stated that the Hilton Garden Inn on the Golden Triangle is scheduled to open June 2006.

## In Memoriam Neil T. Prendable

A poem for my brother

"No farewell words were spoken, no time to say goodbye. You were gone before we knew it and only God knows why."



I can't believe a year has already gone by without you. We miss you so much and hope that you're at peace.  
Love, Patti (Prendable) Henderson

## Baha'i Faith

"O Friend!  
In the garden of thy heart,  
plant naught but the rose of love."  
—Baha'u'llah

Greenbelt Baha'i Community  
P.O. Box 245  
Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-345-2918 301-220-3160  
[www.bahai.org](http://www.bahai.org) [www.us.bahai.org](http://www.us.bahai.org)

## Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt  
[www.greenbeltumc.org](http://www.greenbeltumc.org) 301-474-9410  
Rev. Dr. Paul C. Kim, Pastor  
Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am  
Prayer Meeting Wed. 6:45 pm  
Crossways Bible Study Tues. 7:30 pm Thurs. 10:30 am  
Handicapped Accessible Come As You Are!



## Greenbelt Community Church UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hillside & Crescent Roads  
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings  
[www.greenbelt.com/gccucc/](http://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..."*



## ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-474-4322  
Mass Schedule:  
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.  
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.  
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.  
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.  
Pastor: Fr. Walter J. Tappe  
Pastoral Associate: Fr. R. Scott Hurd



## HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111  
Sunday 8:00 a.m. Worship Service  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School/  
Bible Study  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail [myholycross@verizon.net](mailto:myholycross@verizon.net)

## GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org) [greenbelt\\_baptist@verizon.net](mailto:greenbelt_baptist@verizon.net)  
Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor  
Sunday School: 9:30 am  
Worship Service: 10:45 am  
Weds. Worship: 7:00 pm  
(Adult Bible Study/Prayer & Children's Ministry)  
*Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family through Loving Service*



## St. George's Episcopal/Anglican Church

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

An inclusive congregation!



## GIVE THANKS

Every breath that we breathe is a blessing from God and we learn from the Prophet Solomon (peace be upon him) to recognize these blessings each day. The Holy Qur'an tells us how he never forgot to be thankful to God. He is quoted to have said, "This is by the grace of my Lord, to test me whether I am grateful or ungrateful! And if any is grateful, it is (a gain) for his own soul; but if any is ungrateful, truly my Lord is free of all needs, supreme in honor."  
— The Holy Qur'an, 27:40

Remember to count your blessings. For more information about gratefulness from an Islamic perspective, call 301-982-9463 or email [searchislam@mail.com](mailto:searchislam@mail.com) or visit [www.islamguide.com](http://www.islamguide.com).



## Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.  
Municipal Building

# ANNEXATION continued from page 1

succeeds, its commitment for financing will be reduced by \$10,000,000. In order to agree to being annexed, the Greenbelt Station developer seeks a commitment from the city for tax incremental financing to replace the lost commitment from the county. It was understood at the time the developers and city first entered agreement over Greenbelt Station that city financing would be a condition of annexation.

### How Much?

How much of the developer costs the city should agree to finance was a major issue upon which city staff and the developer's representatives have reached agreement. Negotiations ranged between \$7 million and over \$10 million. Agreement was reached on \$8.4 million, the cost of building a north-south connector road through the development. Craze said this road would be built in phases, easing the burden of financing for the city.

The connector road begins at Greenbelt Road to the south and extends northward, crossing over Branchville Road into the property. Because this part of the road is outside the city limits, the city will not finance its costs. It is an expensive part of the road, Craze said, some 20 percent of the total cost.

The first phase that the city would finance would be in conjunction with the development of the South Core and would run from Branchville road north to the Naragansett Run, a small stream flowing from College Park into Indian Creek. The second phase would be extending the road to the north to connect to the existing Metro station parking lot circulation road. The last phase would be in conjunction with the development of the North Core and would extend the road to its intersection with the ramps on and off the Capital Beltway. The time schedule for financing the second and third phases would be dependent on when the North Core is approved and development takes place.

Craze noted that the \$8.4 million is the cost for building the road, only. There will also be financing and administrative costs relating to the issuance of bonds. These will be about 30 percent of the construction costs, she said. Craze noted that if the financing proposals fall through for any reason not the result of city action, there will be no cost obligation to the city. Costs incurred will either be borne by the developer or the city's bond counsel.

Two issues remain unresolved. The developer wants to limit its

obligation to tax incremental financing. Debt would be repaid out of increased tax revenue generated by Greenbelt Station. City staff, on advice of its bond counsel, insists that the city have the right to impose special assessments upon the property to assure the realization of sufficient funds to repay the debt in case increased tax revenues are not enough. A special assessment would be an added tax levied by the city above ordinary taxes with the monies to be used solely to pay off the debt incurred by the city. Both city staff and developer representatives felt that it would be unlikely that a special assessment would be needed, but the city would prefer to have the right to do so as a backup and the developer would prefer the city didn't have authority to impose extra taxes.

Mayor Judith Davis asked if the possibility of costs increasing due to inflation had been taken into consideration. Craze said that the city's commitment is to a maximum of \$8.4 million. The developer will have to bear any other construction costs.

The other issue is the developer's request for the city to also finance its costs to reclaim old settlement beds made by the sand and gravel operation in the area of the connector road, a cost of \$170,000. Gallagher indicated that this expense had already been incurred and that the developer seeks reimbursement from city financing.

Councilmember Leta Mach said that this was a small amount. "Why is it an issue?"

Davis responded that the reclamation, undertaken without permit, was a sore point to the city. Councilmember Edward Putens expressed opposition to the city financing this, noting that the county could do so if it wants.

### Assurance

Davis asked for an explanation of the financing arrangement. "I want to be sure that I fully understand that this will not take anything away from the rest of Greenbelt," she said. "Is there enough money to cover this and that we won't lose money? That we have enough money to do other things?"

City Manager Michael McLaughlin explained that the obligation for the repayment of debt would apply only to property at Greenbelt Station. He said that repayment would come only out of taxes raised from the increased value of the property resulting from its being developed. Up to half of the added taxes realized would be allocated to the repay-

ment of debt during the term of the debt. The remaining taxes would be used for providing city services. If the tax yield in the early stages of development was insufficient, then the city could levy a special assessment upon the property if council accepted staff recommendation.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts disagreed. "The bottom line is that we are giving \$8.4 million away that would have been available for use by the rest of the city. That's what citizens will look at. This is a situation where the developer will make plenty of money on this."

Davis felt that the annexation would be a "cash cow" for the rest of the city. Roberts disagreed. Davis asked Roberts if he felt that Greenbelt East had paid for itself. Roberts responded, "I guess not since taxes have gone up ever since it was annexed."

This upset Putens, a resident of the annexed area of Greenbelt East. He took strong exception, expressing the belief, shared by Davis, that Greenbelt East was helping to support services in Greenbelt Center. He called for an updated financial study.

Burroughs explained on behalf of his clients that they were opposed to being subject to a special assessment because it might add more taxes on the property. Davis said that it was needed as a backup. She didn't want to cut out any possible way of ensuring that the financing would not be a burden to the city. Mach said that although everyone agreed that 50 percent of tax revenue would be adequate to pay off the debt, the city needed that extra assurance. Putens agreed noting the city has done this type of financing before and is willing to do it here, but wanted to be sure is done right.

Craze said the TIF financing would not pledge the full faith and credit of the city as general obligation bonds do, but only revenue derived from Greenbelt Station. Also, city charter limitations on borrowing of debt would not be affected.

Davis polled the council and all but Roberts supported the two staff recommendations. Roberts, who is opposed to providing any city financing, expressed no opinion on the particular issues.

Davis commented to the developer representatives that the points of disagreement between them had been greatly narrowed from what they were three months and a year ago. Rivera agreed. Gallagher said that the language could be tweaked a little to resolve most remaining issues.



## City Information

### Meetings for January 30-February 3

**Tuesday, January 31, 8:00pm, Council Work Session – Pre-Budget Briefing/Manager's Quarterly Report, Municipal Building.**

*This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held, contact the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 or kgallagher@greenbeltmd.gov.*

### VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

**Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups.**

**Vacancies exist on the:**

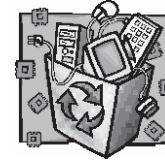
**Arts Advisory Board,**

**Senior Citizens Advisory Committee,**

**Youth Advisory Committee (Openings for adult positions.)**

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

### ELECTRONICS RECYCLING



**Saturday, January 28, 2006  
9am-12noon  
Public Works Yard**

**City residents, businesses and organizations can recycle old and/or unwanted computers and other electronic items.**

**Bring your items to the collection bins located at**

**Greenbelt Public Works, 555 Crescent Rd.**

**Accepted Items Include:** central processing units, hard drives, monitors, keyboards, printers and copiers, laptop computers, computer speakers, scanners, surge protectors, video cards, wires and power cords, computer mice, software, recording equipment, cameras, telephones, radios, & other small electronic equipment

**TELEVISIONS AND LARGE STEREO UNITS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.**

**For further information, contact the City of Greenbelt Recycling Office at 301-474-8308.**

### "Ask the Experts" Cable Show Presents "Disaster Preparedness for Seniors and People with Disabilities"

**Tuesday, January 31, 2006 from 11:00 am- 12:00 noon  
Green Ridge House – 22 Ridge Road**

**Featuring: Joanne Knapp, Director of Emergency**

**Preparedness Policy, Maryland Department of Disabilities**

This lecture will help attendees develop a plan for dealing with emergencies and disasters. It will discuss evacuation and sheltering in place techniques that will take into consideration a person's age and disability.

### Fit n' Fun Babysitters Wanted

M/W/F 9:15am-11am, \$7.25/hour

Greenbelt Community Center

Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

### GREENBELT MUNICIPAL/PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 71

**MUNICIPALACCESS: 301-474-8000**

**Tuesday & Thursday, January 31 & February 2 6pm** "Ask the Expert," **7pm** Greenbelt Museum presents "How Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel Built Greenbelt," **8:30pm** Greenbelt Labor Day Festival presents "Wayne Brown and 2nd Conspiracy."

**PUBLICACCESS (GATE): 301-507-6581**

**Wednesday & Friday, February 1 & 3: 7pm** "Pleasant Touch Renovation," **7:30pm** "Democratic Club w/Allan Lichtman," **9pm** The Wal-Mart Movie & Discussion.

### An Artful Afternoon

**Sunday, February 5 ~1-5pm**

**Greenbelt Community Center**

*Enjoy this free mini-arts festival featuring a studio open house, art exhibits, projects, Greenbelt Museum tours, etc*

### "Look Past Your Horizons"

**3pm FREE PERFORMANCE:** Music and dance by the Jayamangala school

**2-4pm ART EXHIBIT RECEPTION:** Meet artist

**Sherrill Ann Gross** exhibiting "Beauty and the Beast: Collages by Sherill Ann Gross" at the Greenbelt Community

Center Art Gallery. Join the artist for an informal reception.

**For additional information contact Barbara Dickey Davis at 240-542-2062. Visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts)**

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center in Beltsville, MD

IS RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE:

**1) OVERWEIGHT 2) NONSMOKING 3) NOT DIABETIC 4) AGE 25 - 65 YEARS**

**FOR NUTRITION RESEARCH**

If you meet all the above criteria, you may be eligible for this study.

**COMPENSATION UP TO \$750.00**

This is a study to evaluate the effects of cocoa powder and tea on blood sugar metabolism. Dr. David Baer is the Principle Investigator.



For information, call the USDA, at (301) 504-5454 or visit our web site [www.barc.usda.gov/bhnrc](http://www.barc.usda.gov/bhnrc) and click on "Human Study Facility"

## APB continued from page 1

has also brought about changes in the street grid for the adjacent residential townhouse development and an improved traffic circulation for that project. It adds as well some neighborhood retail on either side of the commons adjacent to the north-south connector.

Hruby also noted that the commons may allow better integration of the proposed trail/bikeway system with an extension from the commons area to the Breezewood/Cherrywood intersection.

Areas of disagreement have popped up between city staff and Metropark as a result of the creation of the enlarged commons area. One issue is that the expanded commons has resulted in the loss of 43 town homes. From the developer's standpoint that loss affects the potential economic yield from the development. They feel that trying to recoup this potential loss by adding apartments or condominiums in other parts of the development would be difficult on a one-for-one unit basis.

They ask that the city compensate for the loss by allowing up to 39 additional units over the 983 cap for the South Core. The city staff's position at this stage is that any discussion of going over the cap could best be addressed at the Detailed Site Plan stage, where there would be more flexibility.

The developer also disagreed with the city staff's insistence that a condition for phased availability of needed transportation facilities for the South Core would be funding to construct a single-lane roundabout at Cherrywood Lane and Metro Access Drive instead of the existing T-intersection. The developers and the county are not convinced that a roundabout is necessary for the South Core development.

### Shuttle

A modified condition, number 12, requires that prior to issuance of the 400th residential building permit for the South Core, the applicant shall provide a pedestrian and service vehicle connection from the (end) terminus of the north-south connector road to connect with the Metro station, unless the applicant decides to provide a shuttle bus service there.

Condition 14 deals with the proposed overpass connecting the north College Park residential area to the new development, which the developer has already agreed to provide. The proposed general location (and to a certain extent, the design) of the overpass is to be subject to review and approval by both College Park and the City of Greenbelt.

Condition 18 calls for the applicant to establish a continuing funding mechanism for a trolley/tram or similar light transit system to provide a mobile connection between the North and South Cores. Although this was not a changed condition, APB and staff agreed that any light transit system for the new development must be coordinated with transportation services to other parts of Greenbelt.

### Building Types

A new condition, number 22, states that at the time of review of the first detailed site plan for each core area, the applicant shall provide a plan showing all

proposed private and public trails, including the identification of public access points to the proposed stream valley trail system. Also new is an addition to condition 32 asking design consideration to mix building types to avoid monocultures of housing and continuous grouping of similar types, scale and massing. This condition addresses a concern voiced by council regarding housing choices. Condition 33, which had required "affordable" housing was eliminated since it had no basis in county or state law.

Condition 34 was modified slightly to assure the applicant shall do a conceptual design (at the applicant's cost) to assure consistency in design, scale and use of materials for any public building proposed for the commons area or other open space in the project. However, this condition allows the cost of construction to be borne by public agencies.

The developers appeared to balk at this provision, complaining that they had already committed to \$2 million for recreation facilities for the project and are having to deal with a 2.2-acre additional commitment for open space. To them this appeared to be the city's trying to extract additional funding out of the developer for the design cost of buildings contemplated for the commons or other open space areas. Developer representatives also asked for more flexibility regarding condition 36, having to do with a requirement that every detailed site plan shall conform to development district standards that were part of the approved Greenbelt Area Sector Plan.

Condition 37, regarding the review and approval process at the Detailed Site Plan (DSP) stage, was strengthened by city staff. Staff's rationale for broadening and tightening the DSP provisions was that the city had lost an opportunity that would have been afforded by the Preliminary Plan of Subdivision stage.

APB members raised an issue with condition 42, which covered restrictions on retail uses that were "auto-dependent," i.e., needed drive-in or drive-thru windows for service. As worded, the condition allowed for drive-up windows for banks and pharmacies. APB members questioned that allowance and asked for other possibilities, such as an associated parking garage.

A new condition, number 49, was a restatement of building height limitations for the North Core from the approved development agreement between the city and the developer. Condition 51 spells out the developer's responsibilities for design parameters associated with the commons area. A trigger for the developer to submit a proof of compliance with this condition is set at the 200th building permit in the South Core.

Following the review of all of the highlighted conditions, Hruby advised APB members that staff will continue to make minor revisions to the document and continue discussions with the Metropark development team to achieve agreement by the January 23 council meeting and, if necessary, before the Prince George's Planning Board meeting scheduled for January 26. (That meet-

## COUNCIL continued from page 1

ing was later postponed to February 2, 2006.) She noted that the Planning Board will be considering only the revised CSP on January 26. A meeting to address the DSP would follow at a later date scheduled for that purpose. Following discussion the APB unanimously adopted the following recommendation to the council: "The board recommends that the city council support the revised Conceptual Site Plan for Greenbelt Station, with staff conditions last revised on January 18 (1 p.m.) and including the following stipulations:

1. Consideration shall be given to allow flexibility in the total number of housing units permitted in the South Core, above the 983 allowed per the development agreement, as it relates to the loss of housing units associated with the dedication of 3.7 acres of land, given the previous commitment of the applicant to provide only 1.5 acres.

2. Recognizing the importance of the civic space/building in the central area of the South Core, the board requests that the design and timing of the civic space/building be further reviewed by the city, including the Advisory Planning Board, at the Detailed Site Plan level."

Roberts declared that he thought the developers were getting a "free ride" on the project. He thought that the cost of providing public safety was grossly underestimated and that the developers were also getting a "free ride" on recreation.

### School Issue

Mayor Judith Davis called the school issue an "18-ton gorilla." She noted that county school plans for a new elementary and middle school at Springhill Lake did not provide class space for students generated by the Greenbelt Station development. Rivera said that it would be two to ten years for the project to be built and that there was still time to make provision for these new students.

Davis countered that a site for a new school was needed. Rivera responded that the developers were not prepared to commit a site and noted that school property existed across the railroad tracks. Davis responded that she could not see elementary school kids crossing the tracks, no matter how safe the crossover

was made.

Davis said that everyone needed to sit down and work on this problem. She said that County Councilmembers Douglas Peters and Thomas Dernoga expressed interest in having such a meeting.

Rivera thought the Prince George's Scrap yard would be a good site for a school but Davis noted that it was not in the city because Berwyn Heights had already annexed that land.

Mach asked if there was a possible site in the North Core. Rivera responded that they couldn't say at this time but that it was unlikely.

### Open Space

Davis expressed her pleasure with the open space, which she termed a mall, as being available for free play. She asked if there would be other little common areas. Rivera agreed there would be some, which would be shown on the detailed site plan but not as many as before. He also noted that the apartment building courtyards would offer green space. Putens and Mach also supported the free play area.

Roberts, however, took exception, noting that the mall would not be big enough to play any kind of ball game. "It will be a little speck between housing," Rivera disagreed. "It is a huge space," he said. Councilmember Konrad Herling asked if it was larger than the space in front of the Community Center. "That's where we played as kids," Craze said it was at least twice as large.

### Commercial Space

Another issue is the amount of commercial floor space in the South Core. The city's existing agreement with Greenbelt Station calls for a maximum of 115,000 square feet. City staff wants to add a condition that the minimum commercial square footage should be 80,000.

The developers, on the other hand, want greater flexibility. They are not sure that the area can support that much square footage. They have already reduced the expected size for a food store from 60,000 to 30,000 square feet, the larger being that needed for a regional store such as the Greenbelt Safeway or Giant.

Sandra Gallagher, project manager for the planning of Greenbelt Station, said the smaller size would be more suitable for this neighborhood. Craze noted that Roosevelt Center has 66,000 square feet of commercial space and that the Co-op Food Store is 20,000 square feet.

"Kap" Kapistan of the Beltway Plaza shopping center expressed his wish that Greenbelt Station residents use that shopping center. He pointed out that the South Core commercial facilities would not be visible from Greenbelt Road and therefore would not attract motorists from other areas. He estimated the floor space required for retail facilities to serve the needs of the immediate neighborhood of 1,000 units at only 33,000 to 35,000 square feet.

Councilmember Edward Putens advocated more space for offices. Office buildings in the city are always filled up, he said. He knows of doctors who need office space. He does not want huge office buildings. "That's for government use," he said.

Craze recommended that

council not agree to change the limit on units or decrease commercial area until a specific site plan has been submitted for approval. However, if the county planning board puts a cap on the number of building units, it would be necessary to go through a site plan amendment, she said.

### Trip Generation

Rivera told council that development would still be limited by the number of vehicle trips generated by proposed units. When Herling asked for an explanation, Rivera said that there are mathematical formulas to compute trip generations for each type of use and if increasing one type of use generates more trips than another proposed type of use must be reduced so that the imposed limit on number of trips generated by the project is not exceeded. The number of trips a development generates determines the amount of area road improvements that developers are required to make.

Herling said it was important for the development to have walk-to convenient commercial facilities so that residents would not hop into their cars to go shopping.

Craze noted that allocating a maximum number of trips that could be generated by a project gave flexibility to how the project was developed. As a feature of Smart Growth, controlling trip generation by developments assures government ability to better provide for needed road improvements.

However, Craze cautioned that this allocation becomes a valuable commodity to the developer. If the final development generates fewer trips, for example, the unused amount can be sold off to another developer. By buying another's excess capacity, a developer can save money by not having to make as many road improvements as would otherwise be required. Craze said the value of surplus allocated trips was not known at this time.

Putens said the city must be a party to any changes made in trip generations. Craze said, "I think that we have done more in this development to discourage single car usage than in anything else we've done."

### Last Issue

The final site plan issue related to improvements to the intersection of Cherrywood Lane and Metro Drive, the access road to the Metro station. The city and the developer have agreed on what improvements should be done but not when to do them. City staff wants the improvements done concurrently with the development of the South Core. Craze noted that until the North Core is developed, access to the Metro station for residents of the South Core will be via Cherrywood Lane as the connector road will not yet be extended to the North Core. The developers would like to delay these improvements until development of the North Core.

Council positions on these issues, together with the Advisory Planning Board recommendations, were considered at the January 23 regular meeting at which time council set forth its recommendations to the Prince George's County Planning Board. (See related article on page 1 for more details.)

***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.

## Robberies

January 13, 5:02 p.m., 7700 block Hanover Parkway, a woman reported that she was in front of a condominium building when she was approached from behind by two men. They pushed her to the ground and removed a purse and a tote bag from her arms, then fled toward Mandan Road. They are described as two black males, 17 to 19 years of age; one was wearing a dark blue jacket.

January 14, 2:48 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court, a woman reported that as she was exiting her vehicle in a parking lot, she was approached by two men, one armed with a handgun. A robbery was announced and after obtaining the woman's purse the men fled the scene on foot toward Cherrywood Terrace. They are described as two black males, both 5'9" to 5'11"; one was wearing a black North Face parka, dark pants and a black ski mask. The other was wearing black clothing and a ski mask.

January 16, 6:05 p.m., 6100 block Springhill Terrace, a man reported that a youth approached him as he was walking home and demanded money from him. The youth had his hand under his jacket as though he had a handgun. After getting money from the man, the suspect fled the scene. The suspect is described as a black male, 12 to 14 years of age, wearing dark clothes, dark glasses and a ski mask.

## Assaults

January 15, 5:18 a.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane, a non-resident man was arrested and charged with second-degree assault, fourth-degree burglary, trespass, hindering, resisting arrest and fleeing and eluding. Another nonresident man was arrested and charged with fourth-degree burglary. Police responded to a report of several persons possibly using drugs in an apartment dwelling which was supposed to be vacant. As the police were at the front door, one man jumped out of a rear window and fled the scene on foot. Another man was located inside the apartment and, as an officer placed him under arrest, he pushed the officer and fled the scene on foot. He was located hiding in some nearby bushes and was taken into custody. A third man was arrested on the scene. Both suspects were released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner. The suspect who originally jumped out the window is described as a black male, wearing a black jacket and blue jeans.

January 17, in reference to an assault reported December 12 at Greenbelt Middle School, a resident youth has been petitioned for second-degree assault and making threats against a student.

## Arson

January 15, 7:17 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court, unknown person(s) set fire to the common mailbox in the vestibule of an apartment building. The fire department responded and extinguished the blaze.

## DWI Arrests

January 13, 7:16 p.m., Breezewood Court and Cherrywood Terrace, a resident woman was arrested and charged with driving while impaired, driving under the influence, reckless driving, negligent driving and other offenses as a result of the investigation of a motor vehicle accident. She was released on citations pending trial.

January 15, 2:54 a.m., Kenilworth Avenue and Crescent Road, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with driving while impaired, driving under the influence and driving while suspended after police observed the vehicle he was operating stopped on the shoulder of the roadway. The vehicle was in gear and the driver was asleep at the wheel. He was released on citations pending trial.

## Drug Arrests

January 18, 8:30 p.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane, a resident man was arrested and charged with possession of paraphernalia. Police on foot patrol observed the man standing outside an apartment building holding paraphernalia commonly used to smoke marijuana. He was released on citation pending trial.

## Theft

January 13, 1 p.m., Eleanor Roosevelt High School, a resident youth was arrested for theft after he allegedly took an iPod from another student at the school. He was released pending action by the school board and the juvenile justice system.

## Unattended Child

January 13, 6:23 p.m., 5900 block Greenbelt Road, a nonresident woman was arrested and charged with leaving a child unattended in a motor vehicle after a citizen reported two children alone in a vehicle in the CVS parking lot. Police located an eleven-month-old child in the vehicle with a nine-year-old child. The woman returned to the scene and was released on citation pending trial.

January 19, 6:06 p.m., 400 block Ridge Road, a resident woman was arrested and charged with leaving a child unattended after police responded to a report of two children left alone in an apartment. Investigation revealed that a six-year-old child was left with a 12-year-old child in the residence (a child must be 13 years of age or older to watch another child). The mother returned a short time later and was released on citation pending trial.

## Burglaries

January 18, 10:20 p.m., 6200 block Springhill Drive, it was reported that unknown person(s) entered the residence by forcing open a bedroom window. Computer equipment and a video game player were taken.

January 19, 12:10 a.m., 32 court Ridge Road, it was reported that unknown person(s) entered the residence by breaking out a rear window. The home was ransacked and alcoholic beverages were taken.

January 19, 10:25 p.m., 23 court Ridge Road, it was reported that unknown person(s) entered the residence by way of a rear window that may have been left

## Vicious Assault At Springhill Lake

On January 22 at approximately 9:32 p.m. police responded to the 6200 block of Springhill Court in response to a report of a man with a gun. Upon arrival they found three wounded Hispanic males, one with a head wound from a bullet that grazed his head, another had a slash across his face and the third had a gash in his forehead. Two of the men were transported to Prince George's Hospital Center and one was transported to Washington Adventist Hospital. None of the injuries was life threatening.

Investigation so far has revealed that three Hispanic male suspects forced their way into the apartment after a resident opened the door in response to a knock. The attack supposedly was in retaliation for an incident the previous day in which one of the residents of the apartment allegedly pulled a knife on one of the suspects for an unknown reason.

The man who was grazed with the bullet suffered the wound as a result of the gun discharging while he was being pistol whipped. The wounds to the face and head of the other two men may have been caused by a hatchet with which one of the suspects allegedly was armed. The suspects fled the apartment after the attack in an unknown direction.

Investigation is continuing.

unlocked. A DVD player was taken.

January 19, 11:36 p.m., 25 court Ridge Road, it was reported that unknown person(s) entered the residence by forcing open the rear door. Nothing appeared to have been taken.

## Vehicle Crimes

Four vehicles were reported stolen: a gray 1996 Ford Taurus 4-door, Maryland tags RNB584 from the 8000 block Mandan Road; a 2000 Dodge Intrepid 4-door from the 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace; a 1999 Ford truck from the 6200 block Springhill Court; and a black 2002 Toyota Camry, 4-door, Maryland tags KXG731 from Beltway Plaza.

Three stolen vehicles were recovered, two by outside police departments with no arrests and one was recovered by its owner.

Vandalism to, theft from, attempted theft from and attempted theft of vehicles were reported in the following areas: 7900 block Mandan Road (two incidents), 7700 block Ora Glen Court, 7200 block Hanover Drive, 6900 block Hanover Parkway, 7700 block Hanover Parkway, 6400 block Capitol Drive (two incidents), 6500 block Lake Park Drive, 100 block Westway, unit block Crescent Road (three incidents), Parkway, 1 court Southway, 13 court Ridge Road (two incidents), 6200 block Breezewood Drive, 9100 block Springhill Court, 6200 block Springhill Drive and 9200 block Springhill Lane.

## Residents, Employee Graduate from CERT

On Thursday, January 12 nine Greenbelt residents and a City of Greenbelt employee graduated from the 10th Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training session. The ceremony took place at the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute in College Park.

The CERT program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.

Greenbelt graduates were employee William R. Smith and residents David Alexander, Pam Cooper, Bhameny M. Fishbeck, Solange Hess, Bill Holland, Jack Patterson, Ken Silberman, Melanie Taylor and Lester Whitmer.

## One Alarm Fire Destroys GHI Home

A one-alarm fire broke out in the house at 20-A Hillside Road between 9 and 10 p.m. on Friday, January 20. The severely damaged unit is unlivable. According to a spokesperson from Greenbelt Homes, Inc., the cause of the fire is believed to be a burning candle. There was also damage to the units at 20-B and 20-C Hillside Road. The monetary damage to the units is being assessed.

Responding to the fire were units from Greenbelt, Berwyn Heights, College Park, Branchville and West Lanham Hills. There were no injuries.

## Sing-along for Fun With Eric Maring

On Saturday, January 28 from 7 to 9 p.m. the College Park Arts Exchange will host a free community sing-along to be held at the Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road in College Park. Participants will join in making fun on a dark winter night and are encouraged to bring friends. The sing-along will be led by College Park resident and third grade teacher, folk-singer Eric Maring. Singers are invited to lead a song themselves or volunteer a solo. Bring instruments and songbooks. Fun for all, this evening festivity is geared toward adults.

## Health Dept. Phone Scam Md. AG Warns

Beware of callers seeking personal information who claim to be from the Health Department. Maryland Attorney General J. Joseph Curran is warning all Maryland residents about a new phone scam where an imposter claiming to work for the Maryland Department of Health tries to get consumers to disclose personal information. Similar scams are also being reported to AGs around the country.

Curran's office reports that Marylanders have received unsolicited calls from people claiming to be employed by the Maryland Health Department who say they have won \$1,000 from the Department and to claim their prize they need to provide personal information. Consumers in other states have received calls in which they are told the Health Department has Medical Discount Vouchers for them. The callers claim to already have the consumer's name, address, the name of their bank and their bank account routing number and ask the consumers to "verify" their identity by reciting their checking account number.

"Never, ever provide personal or financial information to an unknown caller," says Curran. "All of these callers are scam artists. They are trying to get your personal or financial information in order to steal your money or falsely obtain credit in your name. The Maryland Health Department is not calling people offering prizes. Government agencies don't do that."

Anyone who believes they may be a victim of fraud should immediately contact their bank and close their account. Information about what to do if victimized by identity theft is available from the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338) or by calling the Attorney General's Office at 1-888-743-0023.

## Special Talks On Houseplants

During this wintry season, gardeners can focus their energy on houseplants. Draw inspiration from the U.S. Botanic Garden's (USBG) jungle and the tropical plant specialist who cares for it.

Dave Anderson, USBG gardener, will give this free presentation on Tuesday, February 7 in the conservatory classroom from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Pre-registration is requested; call 202-226-4082. The USBG is on the National Mall at the intersection of Maryland Avenue and First Street, SW, adjacent to the U.S. Capitol. Use of public transportation is encouraged.

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A Review

# Jumpin' Jazz at the Library

by Judy Bell

An enthusiastic audience of about 40 people enjoyed a lively performance by members of the Annapolis-based Unified Jazz Ensemble (UJE) on Saturday, January 21 at the Greenbelt Library. With Mike Noonan on vibraphone and trombone, John Pineda on bass and Marty Morrison on drums, UJE engaged the audience in a casual concert of spirited acoustic jazz, took spontaneous questions and provided a brief education on the history of jazz, all in the space of about 45 minutes.

The group, fine musicians all, performed a cohesive, energetic version of "Yard Bird Suite," composed by Charlie Parker, who founded the bebop form of jazz. Responding to a question about his interest in vibraphone, Noonan explained that he was influenced by Lionel Hampton, Milton Jackson, Red Norvo, Greg Burton and others.

The vibraphone was developed early in the 20th century, Noonan noted. African "xylophones" played notes over a gourd, he said. The vibraphone has three octaves, a piano keyboard with metal notes and, also, similar to the piano, a pedal sustains the notes.

Jazz is a form of music wherein the melody returns over and over again, with improvisation going on all the while, Noonan said. The group provided a fascinating demonstration of this concept by playing

several different versions of "You Are My Sunshine," showing how harmony and even melody can be reconstructed.

They also performed "Bluesy Blues" with Noonan prefacing that standard blues music usually consists of a 12-bar harmonic progression. An original piece, "Soon Again," was beautifully played to close out the performance.

According to the website [www.unifiedjazz.com](http://www.unifiedjazz.com), UJE has been based in Annapolis since 1996. The group was previously located in Iowa and Arkansas as the flagship ensemble for the highly successful "Rural Residency Arts Initiative" funded by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

As NEA-sponsored artists-in-residence, UJE was funded to compose, perform and teach jazz to adults and students. Members of the UJE have served as faculty and visiting clinicians at over 100 primary and secondary schools, colleges and universities.

The goal of the UJE is to present jazz in an enlightening and engaging manner to audiences of all ages with a repertoire featuring jazz classics and standards as well as original compositions. This goal was met with aplomb in Greenbelt.

United Jazz Ensemble can be heard Tuesday nights at 49 West Street in Annapolis. The group has issued several CDs which are available on the website.

## Scripts Are Sought From Young Writers

Like to write creative material for performance on the stage? This is an opportunity to do that as The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County, Arts and Cultural Heritage Division is preparing for the 10th season of providing live theater to Prince George's County day camps and playgrounds.

M-NCPPC seeks two new scripts to be produced this summer for performance to children from 6 to 12 years old. The plays are performed by actors, ages 6 to 19 as part of their summer employment with the award-winning Teen Performance Ensemble and the Prince George's Children's Theater programs.

Scripts for musical or nonmusical plays will be accepted until February 15. Running time for these productions should be a minimum of 45 minutes to a maximum of 60 minutes. Casts are limited to eight performers who can play various roles in the production. Each show will be presented approximately 60 times over a four-week period throughout the county.

For information and to obtain an entry application contact the Arts and Cultural Arts Division, 6611 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale, telephone 301-454-1450, TTY 301-454-1472. Applications and guidelines may also be obtained on line at [www.pgparcs.com](http://www.pgparcs.com).



PHOTO BY BILL CORNETT

**Iszolda Trakhtenberg shoots publicity photos of husband (and clown) Rich Potter in front of the Greenbelt Library. The little girl getting a high ride is Celsiana Cornett.**

## Boys & Girls Club Seeks Baseball Umps

The Prince George's County Boys & Girls Club is looking for people with baseball experience to become umpires for the 2006 baseball season that begins in May for ages 10 to 16.

Prospective umpires will receive free training in baseball rules and field mechanics beginning in February. For information call 301-249-5858 or email [ghm24@verizon.net](mailto:ghm24@verizon.net), TTY 301-918-8123 for more information.

## Jazz Experts Present at U.M.

Join Bleu Orleans' Edward Anderson and radio station WPFW's noted jazz expert Willard Jenkins for a discussion on jazz, culture and New Orleans, pre- and post-Katrina.

This free discussion takes place on Saturday, February 4 at 7 p.m. in room 2200 of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at the University of Maryland.

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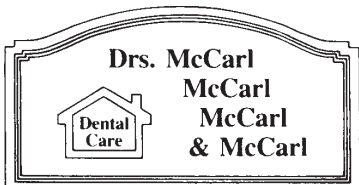
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**ACE**  
continued from page 1

needed. It is not located in Greenbelt but relatively close by. Additionally, Greenbelt Elementary School parents and PTA members have a significant interest in moving forward with the Greenbelt Middle School plans, as their children will be attending that school as they finish Greenbelt Elementary.

ACE had hoped that some of these issues would have been addressed at a recent city council meeting but no decisions were forthcoming. Some members blame the city council for not being more forceful in telling the school board what the city prefers.

A worksession is being planned by the council to discuss school issues. Prior to this session ACE will prepare a report to send to council enumerating concerns, suggestions and possible solutions to the schools issue. ACE will remind council that they also sent recommendations late last year. ACE is also encouraging parents and PTAs to provide input to the city council on these issues.

The issue of Greenbelt students being guaranteed a place in a Greenbelt school was brought up. Mach indicated that city students are currently guaranteed to be placed in a Greenbelt school in only one instance – Eleanor Roosevelt High School. Legislation that moved school improvement funds from ERHS to improve another high school included the agreement that all Greenbelt high school students would attend ERHS.

The next monthly ACE meeting will be held on February 28 at 7 p.m.

**Acting Careers Discussed at UM**

On Monday, January 30 at 8 p.m. at the Gildenhorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center there will be a unique opportunity to hear from L.A. Theatre Works professional actors from the cast of the Great Tennessee Monkey Trial. The free discussion will be moderated by UM Department of Theatre Professor Scot Reese.

**Black History Month At the Smithsonian**

Throughout the month of February, the Smithsonian will celebrate Black History Month with a series of films, lectures and performances at various museums around the Institution. All programs are free unless otherwise indicated.

**Feature Event**

The public is invited to the Smithsonian on Saturday, February 4 for "Inspirations: A Celebration of Gospel and the Spoken Word" in the National Museum of Natural History's Baird Auditorium from noon to 5 p.m.

The event will begin with a gospel concert by the nationally acclaimed recording artists "Patrick Lundy and the Ministers of Music." Jacquie Gales Webb of the "Sunday Afternoon Gospel" program on WHUR-FM will host the concert. At 2 p.m. Rod Murray hosts a live broadcast of "Hip Hop Connection," a weekly Voice of America radio program heard throughout Africa and online. This special show will explore recent gospel infusions in hip hop.

**Performance**

Legendary Washington saxophonist Buck Hill will lead his ensemble in a program of jazz interpretations of American standards at the Smithsonian Jazz Café at the National Museum of Natural History on Friday, February 3 from 6 to 10 p.m. For more information visit [www.mnh.si.edu/jazz](http://www.mnh.si.edu/jazz).

**Poetry Slam Held At Smithsonian**

During February the Smithsonian will celebrate Black History month with a variety of special activities. On Saturday, February 4 at 3 p.m. poet and Smithsonian archivist Reuben Jackson will host the Smithsonian's second annual poetry slam.

Pre-registration is required for participating poets. Call 202-357-4005 for more information or send an email to [heritagemonths@si.edu](mailto:heritagemonths@si.edu).

The slam will be held in the National Museum of Natural History's Baird Auditorium.

**EPA Grant Program Supports Wetlands**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded a \$780,726 grant to support Maryland's wetlands programs.

"Wetlands are one of our nation's most unique ecosystems, providing various environmental and economic benefits," said Donald S. Welsh, EPA's mid-Atlantic regional administrator. "By committing to protect and restore these valuable resources, Maryland is taking big steps in protecting the environmental quality."

The grant, awarded to the Maryland Department of the Environment, will be used for increased monitoring of wetland mitigation projects and to expand the state's database systems used to track wetland gains and losses.

The grant comes from a pilot wetlands project at EPA that was set up to study the effectiveness of state and tribal wetland programs. The project focuses on linking program activities to measurable environmental outcomes, particularly no net loss of wetlands, net gain of wetlands and the protection of vulnerable wetlands.

The funding covers a three-year grant period with one-third of the funding provided each year.

**New Artistic Displays At Montpelier Center**

The Montpelier Arts Center will have three artistic displays for Black History Month.



In the Main Gallery John Beckley's "Monuments to Memories" will be displayed from February 3 through 26. A Gallery talk by the artist will be given Friday, February 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Kenneth Warinick's "Grid Drawings: Defining Light" will be shown from February 5 to March 29.

In the Resident Artist Gallery Clarence Page will show "Embossed, Fired, Balanced and Wired Metal Work" from February 3 to 26.

A reception for the artists will be held Friday, February 10 from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Deadline for  
**LOVE NOTES**  
is February 7 at 10 p.m.

**Evolution Issue Topic Of Panel Discussion**

On Wednesday, February 1 at 6:30 p.m. in the Gildenhorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center a panel of social historians will explore why the issue of evolution was so divisive at the time of the Scopes trial and why it continues to generate so much controversy today. Panelists will compare the social and political environment of 1925 to that of today, including the current legal battles over intelligent design. This event is free and presented by the Constitution Project, a nonprofit organization that formulates bipartisan consensus solutions to controversial legal and constitutional issues.

**Faculty to Discuss Scopes Trial Legacy**

Come hear faculty members of the University of Maryland College of Chemical Life Sciences discuss the effects of the Scopes trial on science and research. This free event will be moderated by Dr. Richard Payne, chair of the Biology Department. It will take place in the Gildenhorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, January 31 at 6:30 p.m.

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Two-story addition with arched window and skylights. Large office downstairs & widows on 3 sides. Remodeled kitchen. \$439,900 SOLD

**Greenbrook**

Beautiful townhome in move-in condition. Garage, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, walk-o. bsmt. & breakfast area overlooking woodlands. \$355,000

**Three Bedrooms**

Renovated GHI townhome with new kitchen, fresh paint, new carpeting in bedrooms, fenced backyard patio & more. A bargain \$174,900 SOLD

**Linda Ivy - 301 675-0585**

**Dirk Kingsley - 240 472-0572**

**Mary Kingsley - 240 604-6605**

**Denise Parker - 301 709-8689**

**Michele Southworth - 240 286-4847**

**All Brick Townhome**

This 2 bedroom home has central air and heating; a rarity for GHI! Thousands in recent upgrades, including new kitchen. \$279,900 SOLD

**Frame Townhome**

Great value in this 2 bedroom GHI home. Two bedrooms and two full levels. Lots of improvements at a bargain price! Just \$163,500. SOLD

**Corner lot with addition**

GHI frame townhome with one of the largest yards in GHI. Boiler room addition has full bath and forced-air heating & cooling. \$214,990 SOLD

**Brick End Unit With Large Addition**

GHI townhome with 3 bedrooms & hardwood floors upstairs. Lower level addition has half-bath. A few steps to Roosevelt Center. \$264,900

**Brick Rambler - Great Price!**

Get this single-family home for the price of a townhome; and NO extra HOA fees! Four bedrooms & two full baths. Don't miss! \$279,900 SOLD

**Backs To Woodlands**

Three bedroom GHI townhome with addition and wooded backyard that overlooks Parcel One with lots trees and wildlife. \$199,900 SOLD

**Three Bedroom Townhome**

Refinished oak hardwood flooring on both levels. Front porch addition with sliding glass doors. Across from park & play area. \$174,900 U.C.

U.C. = Under contract; seller may consider back-up offers



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## College Info and Help For Hispanic Students

The Prince George's County Public Schools International Student Guidance Office (ISGO) is targeting Hispanic students for college enrollment.

Twelve percent of students are Hispanic in Prince George's County Public Schools. According to the U.S. Census Bureau's National Center for Education Statistics many Latinos lack necessary information on student aid and college preparedness. In fact 62 percent of Hispanic parents said they did not have enough information about paying for college. To address this need the ISGO is collaborating with local colleges to encourage and prepare Hispanic students and their families to successfully complete the college application process and financial aid procedures.

On Saturday, February 4 at 9 a.m. the school system will hold its 10th Annual "Estudios Universitarios a su Alcance - College is Within Your Reach" workshop and college fair at Northwestern High School in Hyattsville. ISGO counselors are collaborating with staff from the Educational Opportunity Center at the University of Maryland in College Park and bilingual college admission representatives from Prince George's Community College and several other colleges to provide information and explain the college admissions process to Hispanic students of all ages and their families.

The workshop targets students in grade 8 to 12 but is open to all family members.

The ISGO provides specialized services to U.S. citizen English language learners, U.S. students who have studied in schools abroad and international newcomer students and their families. The office is open year-round to assist families with school placement and registration, in addition to providing a variety of services, such as "Newcomer Groups" for students as a follow-up to registration.

All foreign-born students, K to 12 and evening high school students, who are in the following categories, are required to enroll through the ISGO before being admitted to their local schools: all students who are not U.S. citizens; all U.S. citizens whose primary language is not English; and all students whose transcripts are from a foreign country.

Before registering, families (or school personnel assisting international families) should call the ISGO at 301-445-8460 to schedule an appointment. This procedure will ensure that the family has all the necessary documents to register and that a counselor will be available to complete the registration. The ISGO will provide students with any other necessary registration papers. Students in Pre-K register directly at their boundary school if a program is available and school registrars forward the registration information to the ISGO for recording.

**Share your school news with the rest of the community.**

# School News

## Auto Group Offers Scholarships

Herb Gordon Auto Group in Silver Spring and Mercedes-Benz USA have announced that, along with Mercedes-Benz dealers nationwide, they will make \$1.5 million in scholarship funding available to students who are the first generation in their families to attend college.

The Mercedes-Benz Scholarship Program will grant \$10,000 scholarships (\$2,500 per year for four years) to 100 high school seniors across the country who demonstrate financial need and exceptional achievement in the areas of academic performance, leadership and school and community activities.

An additional \$500,000 will establish performing arts scholarships for college-bound students who plan to pursue a degree in music, theater/drama, dance or film. These will also be \$10,000 scholarships, granted at \$2,500 per year for four years to 50 high school seniors across the country.

Students can visit <http://www.mbusa.com/drivefuture> to learn more about the programs and access application materials through the February 10 deadline. Scholarship recipients will be announced in May.

## Essay Competition

The annual Service Learning Essay Competition for 2006 graduating seniors is now open for applicants. Winners will be awarded \$250 scholarships. Graduating seniors who have a minimum 2.5 GPA and have completed 36 service learning hours toward graduation in Prince George's County are eligible.

To enter, type or neatly print an essay, not to exceed 200 words, on the importance of service learning volunteering. Submit two letters of recommendation from a teacher, counselor, civic or religious leader, community member or a volunteer manager. All applications must be submitted by February 17. For information contact 301-699-2800 by phone or by email at [pgvolunteerctr@mindspring.com](mailto:pgvolunteerctr@mindspring.com).

## Teacher of the Year Nominations Open

Nominations for the Maryland 2005-2006 "Teacher of the Year" award are being accepted through March 1. The announcement came from the award sponsor, Teachers' Insurance Plan, a car insurance program exclusively for members of the educational community.

The award will include \$1,000 to the winning teacher and a \$500 grant to that teacher's school. The state winner will also be eligible for the national award that includes a special recognition and a \$2,500 travel certificate.

Teachers, students and parents can nominate any of the state's more than 65,000 accredited teachers. Nomination forms are available online at <http://www.teachers.com/toty>. To nominate an educator, or oneself, explain in 250 words or less why this teacher should be the Teacher of the Year. Nominees will be judged on their ability to motivate students, their special talents and their contribution to their school, students or educational community.

Winners will be announced at the end of the school year.

## Free Help in Filing Student Aid Forms

College Goal Sunday will be held on February 12 at many locations in the area. Hosted by the DE-DC-MD Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, Inc., college-bound students in Prince George's County are invited to Prince George's Community College Largo Campus where they can receive free professional assistance to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Colleges, universities and private career schools require the FAFSA form to qualify for federal grants and loans as well as most state and private scholarships.

Students attending College Goal Sunday need to bring proof of 2005 income and benefits information, such as completed or estimated IRS federal income tax returns and W-2 forms or year-end pay stubs and proof of untaxed income for the student and the parent(s).

For more information on College Goal Sunday, students and parents can call toll free 1-866-602-GOAL (4625) or visit [www.GO2GOAL.org](http://www.GO2GOAL.org).

## For Louie, Who Gave Us Paws



Over the hill on Plateau came our Louie,  
Nearlly, dearally, feraly cat,  
Making his rounds for a handout or twoie,  
Purring and talking and not getting fat.

Summer and winter he wandered for dinner,

Autumn and spring he was regular too.  
Louie the Bummer for years was our winner,  
Living outdoors yet in our hearts true.

Neighbors and pets may arrive and then move;  
Louie was faithful and grateful for years.  
Then he was injured and went home above.  
For Louie we're thankful in spite of our tears.

Louie, we miss you, and hope you are resting  
Safe and secure in the Home we all seek.

*- From the neighbors in 6 and 8 courts on Plateau Place  
(and Louie's other haunts)*

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## City Information

# Changes for Greenbelt West: Plans for Greenbelt Station

by Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager

*This article is the second in a series to ensure that Greenbelt residents are aware of the development and redevelopment proposals being considered for Greenbelt West. Greenbelt West is that area of the city west of Kenilworth Avenue, east of the Metrorail tracks and between the Capital Beltway and Greenbelt Road.*

Three separate development/redevelopment proposals have been brought to the city's attention. The first one is commonly known as Greenbelt Station, which includes the developable land west of Cherrywood Lane between the Capital Beltway and Greenbelt Road and is the subject of this article. It covers approximately 170 acres and is divided into the North Core, adjacent to the Greenbelt Metro Station and within the city's boundaries, and the South Core, which fronts on Branchville Road and is the site of the old A.H. Smith sand and gravel operation. The South Core is not currently in Greenbelt (though it is in the process of being annexed to the city).

The proposed usage in the North Core is a dense, urban-type, mixed-use development to take advantage of proximity to the Metro station and the Capital Beltway. It will actually be built on what is now the Metro parking lot. The city has negotiated a limit on the density of the North Core as follows: 1.2 million square feet of commercial office space, 1.1 million square feet of retail space, a 300 room hotel and 1,267 residential units. These limits are lower than the densities previously approved by Prince George's County. Those densities were 1.74 million square feet of office space, 1.4 million square feet of retail space, a 550 room hotel and 760 residential units. At this time it is not clear when the North Core will be built.

The South Core property is moving through the planning process at this time. Builders such as Pulte Homes and Bozzuto are interested in building this project right now. Based on the latest discussions, 983 residential units are proposed, consisting of 340 townhouses and the balance split between condominiums and rental apartments.

Also proposed is a primarily neighborhood retail center to be not less than 80,000 square feet, which is about one-third larger than Roosevelt Center. This center is expected to have the types of stores a person needs on a regular basis, such as a small grocery, dry cleaners or convenience store.

A concept plan reflecting the above for the South Core was before the city council at its January 23 meeting, along with an annexation agreement. The council supported both by a vote of 3 to 1. The concept plan contains nearly 60 conditions to ensure the development is to the city's liking and it will come before the Prince George's Planning Board on February 2 for consideration. The annexation will become effective today if it has not been petitioned to referendum.

If plans for the South Core proceed, a road to connect the South Core to the North Core and also provide access to the Greenbelt Metro Station is to be built. This road is referred to as the north-south connector road. The city has been asked to provide public financing assistance for the construction of the road if the area is annexed. The likely method of financing is called Tax Incremental Financing (TIF). The use of a TIF or other financing mechanism will be the subject of a future article.

There will be future opportunities for additional public input on the South Core plans. Detailed site plans must be prepared. The city's development agreement with Greenbelt Station gives the city approval authority for the site plans in addition to the county.

If there are questions about this article please forward them to the Planning Department at 301-345-5417 or email [pcd@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:pcd@greenbeltmd.gov). The next article will describe the development concepts for the rebuilding of Springhill Lake.

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