

## City Staff Gives Council Detailed Update of SHL Redevelopment

by Thomas X. White

Greenbelt city staff, led by Assistant Planning Director Terri Hruby, provided an update briefing on Springhill Lake redevelopment plans at a Monday, March 6 worksession at the Municipal Building. Mayor Pro Tem Rodney Roberts presided because Mayor Judith Davis was not able to attend. Also present were City Manager Michael McLaughlin, Assistant City Manager David Moran, Director of Planning and Community Development Celia Craze, members of the city's Advisory Planning Board and several Greenbelt citizens.

Background materials available included the latest Illustrative Plan for the overall Springhill Lake redevelopment and a February 7 update memo from Hruby to the city manager. The memo presented the results of a January 6 meeting of the city planning staff with Apartment Investment and Management Company (AIMCO) representatives to discuss their next steps in the redevelopment planning process.

In addition to the background materials, Hruby reminded council that the AIMCO Conceptual Site Plan had been approved by the Prince George's County Plan-

ning Board in July 2005 and that the property was rezoned to the Mixed-Use-Infill (MUI) zone in November 2005.

She noted that the main objective for the briefing was to bring council and the APB members up to date on the developer's plans, their next expected filings with the county planning board technical staff and the expected required filings by the developer with the City of Greenbelt. Also, she would highlight several outstanding issues needing discussion and resolution during the next several weeks.

As an update to her February 7 memo, Hruby advised council that the probable date for Prince George's County Planning Board consideration of AIMCO's Preliminary Plan of Subdivision (PPS) will now be Thursday, April 27. If that schedule holds, city staff would plan on consideration of the PPS at the April 5 meeting of the APB and council consideration at its regular meeting of April 24.

Hruby alerted council that one of the most significant issues with the unfolding process is that AIMCO has not yet filed its required documents for city review.

City staff is aware that detailed site plans have been filed with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission but not with the city.

Other planning issues by the city staff include site and pupil capacity issues for public schools necessary to serve the increase in population and mandatory dedication requirements for recreation facilities. Also of concern is the issue of public versus private streets in the redeveloped areas and public safety capacity.

The planning staff must also consider the proposed increase in the height of buildings (from 12 stories to about 20 stories for those close to the Beltway) in the most recent plans. She noted some uncertainty regarding a commensurate increase in open space for the increased redevelopment.

### Plan Overview

The latest plan for SHL proposes construction of 5,800 housing units, with 35 percent as for-sale units. Housing types proposed are interspersed throughout the project and consist of townhouses (253), podium buildings

See SHL PLANS, page 6

## Council Seeks Charter Changes To Permit Some 2 to 1 Votes

by James Giese

After presenting ACE Educator Awards and spending 20 minutes reporting on the activities undertaken by the various members on behalf of the city, the Greenbelt City Council got down to dealing with a short agenda that required only an hour's time to handle at its March 13 regular meeting. In that time the council agreed to amend the city charter to permit 2 to 1 votes, gave initial consideration to a memorandum of understanding in which the city would reduce its admissions and amusements tax for five years to help return movie theaters to Beltway Plaza, bought a truck, opposed once more the Inter-county Connector, supported legislation found to be in the city's interest, agreed to sign a Trash-Free Potomac Action Agreement, introduced a resolution to award a landscaping and mowing service contract, accepted resignations and made appointments to city advisory groups.

### 2 to 1 Vote

Council received a one-page memorandum from its city solicitor, Robert A. Manzi, regarding whether a majority of the elected city council must vote (i.e., three votes) to take any action. At the February 27 meeting, with only

three members present, council had approved with conditions a detailed site plan for Greenbelt Crossing by a 2 to 1 vote. Section 8 of the city charter provides the following: "The affirmative vote of a majority of the members elected to the council shall be necessary to adopt any ordinance, resolution, order or vote; except that a vote to adjourn, or regarding the attendance of absent member, may be adopted by a majority of the members present . . ."

Manzi opined, "Greenbelt's language is clear concerning an Ordinance or Resolution but does not define the terms 'order' or 'vote.' Further, it is unclear whether all actions of council are 'votes' as referenced in the Charter or merely 'actions' which are not required by law to 'vote' (as in sending letters or giving advisory recommendations), the provisions of the Charter applies. Further, this must be viewed in light of the quorum requirements in the Charter which allow three (3) members to be a quorum. If three (3) votes are always required, shouldn't four (4) votes be the quorum?"

Manzi suggested that the council deal with the issue either by

amending the charter or amending its standing rules. Manzi was not at the meeting but his associate, John Shay, advocated simply amending the standing rules to clarify the charter language as to when a voting plurality would be permitted rather than a vote of a majority of elected members. City Manager Michael McLaughlin, however, advocated modification of the charter, contending that amending the standing rules would be easiest but only a "temporary solution" because the standing rules could just as easily be revised by another council.

Rodney Roberts, who had cast the one dissenting vote on Greenbelt Crossing, said that he saw no need to amend the charter. Instead, he felt that the council (with all five members present at this meeting) should re-vote on the Greenbelt Crossing recommendation. He was also concerned that a charter change could affect the super-majority vote required to delete properties from the newly-created forest preserve, but he was quickly assured by the other councilmembers that requirement would not be affected.

See COUNCIL, page 6

## City Council Holds Annual GEAC Stakeholder Meeting

by Carol Griffith

Mayor Judith Davis, Councilmembers Leta Mach and Rodney Roberts and City Manager Michael McLaughlin met with the chair and eight members of the Greenbelt East Advisory Committee (GEAC) on March 2 in the Hunting Ridge Community Center. Greenbriar had three representatives; and Hunting Ridge, Windsor Green and the Lakes of Greenbelt Village were also represented. Davis began by defining the term "stakeholder," emphasizing the importance of stakeholder participation in city business and noting that not all groups hold such annual meetings.

The first topic concerned the new post office. There have been "permit problems" which have delayed work, Davis explained. The wiring is now complete, the lights are on and the Postal Service will be installing sidewalks on Hanover Parkway and Ora Glen Drive around the facility, she said.

In response to speculation

that this process has resulted in the median lights on Hanover Parkway being nonfunctional, McLaughlin said he would look into the problem.

Davis told the group the city is working with the Postal Service and Congressman Steny Hoyer to maintain Postal Service presence in Roosevelt Center and that this matter will be the subject of a council worksession on March 15.

Following a question about traffic flow into and out of the facility, McLaughlin responded that, judging from the slant of the parking spaces, he believed that traffic would enter the facility from Ora Glen Drive and exit onto Hanover Parkway. In response to another question, Davis stated there will be drive-up mailboxes around the facility.

### Playgrounds

Playground agreements were the next item on the agenda.

See GEAC, page 12

## Specialist on Art Deco Era To Give Museum Presentation

by Jill St. John, Curator

The Greenbelt Museum will host a free lecture by Linda Lyons of the Art Deco Society of Washington, D.C., on Tuesday, March 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the Greenbelt Community Center Multipurpose Room, 201.

Metropolitan Washington, D.C., has a rich collection of buildings of the Art Deco era. This design movement, which flourished between the two world wars, was known as Moderne in its time. Then it represented the most desirable and up-to-date style for popular activities. Thus, Art Deco design is associated both with the Jazz Age fads of the 1920s and the machine-age streamlining of the 1930s.

In the Washington area, although official buildings tended

to be conservative in design (an exception being the magnificent Department of Justice building), the demands of population growth in the 1920s and 1930s meant that many commercial and residential buildings would be Moderne in style. These included the Hecht Company Warehouse on New York Ave. and the famed Kennedy-Warren apartment house on Connecticut Ave.

Movie theaters, such as the Silver Theatre in Silver Spring, designed by New York architect John Ebersson, and transportation structures, such as the Greyhound Bus Station, are other examples. But more modest storefronts, garden apartments and publicly

See MUSEUM, page 5

### What Goes On

#### Friday, March 17

1 p.m., Greenbelt Recreation Department Senior Ice Cream Social, Community Center

#### Tuesday, March 21

11 a.m., Ask the Experts Cable Show, "Cooking Small Meals for One or a Couple," Green Ridge House

7:30 p.m., Advisory Committee on Trees, Community Center Senior Classroom

#### Wednesday, March 22

8 p.m., Council Worksession, GSFC – Update on Forest and Sustainability Plan, Community Center

#### Thursday, March 23

7:30 p.m., GDC and GHI Board Meetings, GHI Board Room

Closure – Wednesday, March 22 through Friday, March 24  
Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center closed for Roof Repair (weather permitting)



## Letters

### Great Resources

To add to your history of the post office in your February 16 article Jill St. John, curator of the Greenbelt Museum, informed me that there has been a post office there since the beginning, in 1937. She checked with a Greenbelt pioneer and learned that the original post office was in the space now occupied by Generous Joe's, right where the News Review places it at "about 1954." She also directed me to a Library of Congress website where you can view photos of the original post office and other Greenbelt buildings online, at <http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/catalog.html>. Click on Number 21, Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information.

The Greenbelt Museum is a wonderful resource!

Don Comis

### County Schools Hold Career Expo 2006

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Special Education Department will hold a Career Expo 2006 on Friday, March 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Prince George's Community College Largo Student Center. The career fair targets sophomores and juniors enrolled in the PGCPS Diversified Occupations program.

Career Expo 2006 is part of the PGCPS Special Education Department's transition program designed to prepare students for life. They will have an opportunity to participate in mock job interviews, meet with employers, adult service providers and local community colleges and career schools.

## Pen Pal Project Created By ACE Reading Club

by Liz Murray, ACE Reading Club Program Coordinator

Imagine living in a place with bears, sea lions, eagles, wild salmon, red fox and much more! Surrounded by mountains, travel is not only by car but by sea plane and boat as well. Imagine less than 100 miles of roads and most of them unpaved. Imagine volcanoes, tidal waves and earthquakes. Imagine exploring the native cultures and learning all about fishing. This is what Greenbelt students can experience when they become pen pals to a child on Kodiak Island, Alaska.

### Reading Incentive

ACE Reading Club Pen Pals is a unique new project offered by the ACE Reading Club, a reading incentive program created by the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education and offered by the City of Greenbelt. The Pen Pals Project will help students improve their reading and writing skills through a fun pastime. They will be able to learn about the Alaskan culture while sharing their own experiences of living in Greenbelt by letter-writing, video and audio tapes and creative art projects. This project will be a collaborative effort between the ACE Reading Club and the schools on Kodiak Island.

Students in fifth through eighth grades from Greenbelt and Kodiak Island will write to each other discussing reading interests (favorite books, etc.) and other aspects of their culture. ACE Reading Club members feel that the novelty of writing to children in another region of the country would peak the interest of Greenbelt students and increase their enthusiasm for

writing as well as reading. The ACE Reading Club maintains a website for students, teachers and parents where letters and responses, artwork and other reading-related projects that are exchanged between the students can be posted.

### Privacy and Safety

The ACE Reading Club takes the privacy and safety of their members seriously, so anything posted on the website will include initials and location only.

To get started, students write a letter of introduction that will enable project administrators to appropriately match them with other students. Students may want to describe their hobbies, favorite books, a description of their school, family or friends and any other information their pen pal might find interesting. The ACE Reading Club will use this letter and the information that the student provides to match them with an appropriate pen pal. Once they have been matched with a pen pal, the ACE Reading Club will notify each student and forward the letter. From that point on, students will be free to communicate directly with their pen pal. As part of the program it will be necessary to acquire permission from the parent or guardian of the student via a signed enrollment form.

The pen pal program is open to students in fifth through eighth grades who live in or attend school in Greenbelt. For more information or to enroll in the Pen Pal Project contact Liz Murray, program coordinator at [lmurray@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:lmurray@greenbeltmd.gov) or call 301-345-6660.

### City Notes

Planning staff compiled permit application documents for the skate park project.

The parks crews continued chipping branches and debris along the path around the lake at Buddy Attick Park and began chipping along the path and in the playground of Stream Valley Park. They also continued clean up of branches which fell during the snow along Crescent Road and started over-seeding at McDonald Field, Schrom Hills Park and Braden Field in preparation for Little League play.

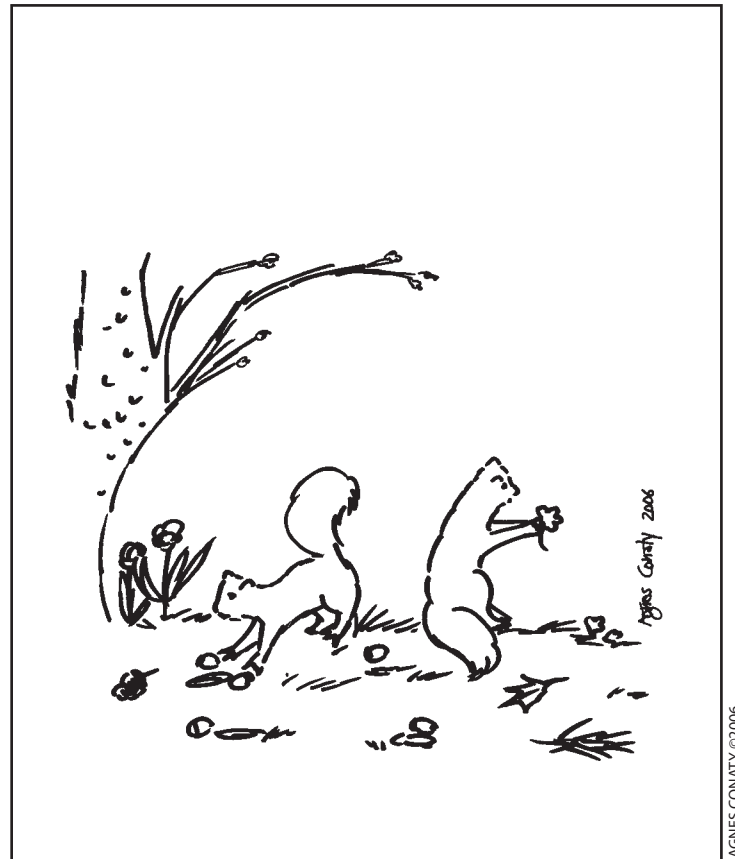
### Animal Control

Many visitors attended the

city's animal control open house but only one actual adoption application took place according to Celia Craze, planning director. However, since then there have been numerous contacts by residents who learned of the open house. As of February 27 all available adoptable animals had been placed.

In addition to the successful adoption efforts, the department has been contacted by many individuals and groups interested in volunteer opportunities with animal control. Plans for a volunteer program are underway to take advantage of this public interest.

### Grin Belt



"Look . . . a four-leaf clover! With a little bit of luck I hope to find the nuts I buried last winter."

AGNES CONATY ©2006

### On Screen

## "Crash" Lands in Town

"Crash," just chosen for Academy Award best film, opens Friday, March 17 at the Old Greenbelt Theatre. An L.A. detective muses that in a city of metal and glass, "We crash into each other, just so we can feel something." A questionable traffic stop primes a first explosion; emotions run riot as characters of different racial and ethnic makeup collide over a 36-hour stretch.

Director-writer Paul Haggis keeps the pace up and the pot bubbling fiercely. The series of harsh, chilling face-offs challenge the viewer's balance.

The cast includes Sandra Bullock, Don Cheadle, Tony Danza and Matt Dillon. 113 minutes. R for language, sexual content and some violence.

— Eli Flam

### Oops!

In the article last week "St. Hugh's Own Mardi Gras Draws Many Celebrants" by Austin Conaty, some of the people involved in planning were omitted the News Review has learned. Silke Pope, Gloria Winfrey, John Winfrey and Phil Larkin were also involved in planning and organizing. Along with the rest of the crew named in the article they are now planning a Holy Shrimp Feast to be held this summer.

### OLD GREENBELT THEATRE WEEK OF MAR. 17 CRASH (R)

Friday  
\*5:15, 7:30, 9:45

Saturday  
\*2:45, \*5:15, 7:30, 9:45

Sunday  
\*2:45, \*5:15, 7:30

Monday – Thursday  
\*5:15, 7:30

\*These shows at \$5.00

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### PRELIMINARY AGENDA MEETING OF GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS Thursday, March 23, 2006 GHI Board Room, 7:30 p.m.

#### GDC Meeting Agenda Item:

- Fourth Quarter, 2005 Financial Statements

#### Key Agenda Items:

- Rain Barrels – SDP Committee Report
- Member Responsibility for Insurance Deductible
- Vacant Units
- Spring/Fall Gutter Cleaning Contract – 2nd Reading
- Yard Line Committee Charter Review
- Spring Concrete Contract – 1st Reading
- Screening Meter Pads
- Contribution Requests
- Review of Board Task List

Regular board meetings are open to members.

## Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

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.



## Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

The meeting on March 8 was opened in regular form by President Bill Souser.

Rena Hull was the speaker and kept us all entranced with her story of her volunteer work as a nurse in New Orleans after Katrina. Her pictures made us more aware of all the destruction and human suffering. Our thanks to Rena and all the many volunteers.

Storytelling (open mike) will be the program on March 22 and bingo on March 29.

The Golden Age Club anniversary luncheon will be April 19 at La Fontaine Bleu. Dues must be current to attend.

The Travel Committee has been busy with plans for a trip to Sight and Sound to see "Ruth" in July and the trip to Cape Cod in September.

Hope everyone has enjoyed this lovely spring weather and here's an Irish blessing for St. Patrick's Day:

"May your pockets be heavy and your heart be light. May good luck pursue you each morning and night."

Congratulations to longtime Greenbelter Florence Holly who celebrated her 97th birthday on March 4. A former president, she is now the oldest active member of the Greenbelt Golden Age Club and attends meetings regularly.

## 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 to assure sufficient quantities of food are ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215 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, March 20 through Friday, March 24 include:

Monday - Orange-pineapple juice, turkey chow mein, fluffy rice, Japanese style vegetables, chow mein noodles, two almond cookies.

Tuesday - Orange juice, sliced roast beef with mushroom gravy, twice-baked potatoes, mixed vegetables, red Jello with fruit.

Wednesday - Minestrone soup, chicken enchilada with cheesy sauce, Mexican rice with red and green peppers, broccoli flowers, lemon parfait.

Thursday - Cranapple juice, ham steak with fruit sauce, black-eyed peas, brussels sprouts, canned peaches.

Friday - Grape juice, baked tilapia fish with lemon sauce, wild rice, peas and carrots, sweet cherries.

## Greenbriar Phase III Meets on Tuesday

On Tuesday, March 21 the Greenbriar Phase III annual meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the Greenbriar Terrace Room. For further information call Community Affairs Director Ramona Davis at 301-441-1096, ext. 11.

# Community Events



Tess (Gillian Hurley) is comforted by Clare (Jo Rake) in "Daughters" at the Greenbelt Arts Center now through April 8.

## "Daughters" Playing At Arts Center

From Friday, March 17 through Saturday, April 8 the Greenbelt Arts Center will present "Daughters" by John Morgan Evans. This harrowing, hilarious family drama shows how four generations of Irish American women deal with crisis. The five women gather in the kitchen of the Greenbelt home while the gravely ill family patriarch is in his bedroom playing Irish songs on a record player. With yelling, laughter, crying and lots of food, the daughters' characters are composites of bravado, anxiety, selfishness, love, innocence and the desire to stay a family.

The play is held at the Greenbelt Arts Center at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays through April 8 and on Sundays March 26 and April 2 at 2 p.m. There is a fee with a discount for students and seniors. Call 301-441-8770 for reservations.

## Woodlands Group Hosts Spring Thaw

The GHI Woodlands Committee will sponsor a Spring Thaw Social on Saturday, March 25 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the GHI Administration Building on Hamilton Place. Join fellow woodland wanderers for a fun meet and greet. Watch "Green Concrete" - a short enviro-film by Greenbelt Access Television. Dress comfortably for a short hike and come expecting a fun time. Light snacks and drinks provided. No fee, open to all. For more information and to RSVP email mberres@ghi.coop.

## GHI Notes

Monday, March 20, 7:15 p.m., pre-purchase orientation

Wednesday, March 22, 7:30 p.m., CAC Committee Meeting, Board Room

Thursday, March 23, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting, Board Room

Saturday, March 25, 1 to 4 p.m., Spring Thaw Party at GHI

Sunday, March 26, 1 to 3 p.m. Invasive Plants Workshop at GHI

Tuesday, March 28, 7 p.m., Marketing Committee Meeting at GHI, followed by Sellers Seminar at 7:30 p.m.

## Greenhill Road Work Begins

Street construction on Greenhill Road begins on Monday, March 20. Temporary parking restrictions will be in effect, so watch for signs. Some driveways will be blocked during construction.

Street construction will include miscellaneous sidewalk, curb and driveway apron replacement. All areas on Greenhill Road to be replaced will be marked by city inspectors. While in the area, the contractor has agreed to extend the same prices being charged the city to any resident interested in driveway replacement. Those interested should call public works at 301-474-8004.

## At the Library

Tuesday, March 21, 10:30 a.m. - Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months with caregiver, limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, March 22, 10:30 a.m. - Toddlertime for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, limit 20 children.

Thursday, March 23, Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5. Limit 10 children.

## USPS Presents Service Session

Postal customers can print either postage or shipping labels with postage from the U.S. Postal Service or one of their approved vendors using personal computers. It is also possible to order stamps, arrange carrier pickups and other services at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com).

Learn how to use these services at the Greenbelt Library, 11 Crescent Road on Friday, March 24 from 1 to 4 p.m. Each attendee will receive a free gift.

## "Expert" Demonstrates Cooking Small Meals

On Tuesday, March 21 the "Ask The Experts Cable Show" will be filmed at Green Ridge House from 11 a.m. to noon. This month the topic is "Cooking Small Meals for One or for a Couple." The presenter will be Megan Elsner, coordinator of the Capital Area Food Bank's Fresh Produce and Brown Bag Food Program.

Green Ridge House is at 22 Ridge Road. The taped program will be broadcast on Channel 71 during the month of April. All are welcome to attend the taping of the show at Green Ridge House.

## Invasives Workshop Open to Public

The Woodlands Committee of GHI will host an Invasive Plant ID and Control Workshop on Sunday, March 26 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the GHI Administration Building on Hamilton Place. Learn how to identify, control and replace invasive plants in the yard. Weather permitting there will also be a short hike to see some culprits in their natural habitat. For more information or to RSVP, email [mberres@ghi.coop](mailto:mberres@ghi.coop).

## March 21 Strategy Game Is Rummikub

Greenbelt's Strategy Games Club invites players to join in weekly strategy games and will provide help over the next few weeks for players to learn about some of the games. The game of the week for next week's play, on Tuesday, March 21 from 7 to 9 p.m. will be Rummikub.

The game of Rummikub originated in the early 1930s. Today Rummikub is the third most popular family game in the world. Those who enjoy playing the card game rummy are likely to enjoy Rummikub. Rummikub players may have heard of the "Lutz." This is a strategy developed by a Greenbelt Strategy Games participant; come learn the "Lutz" or develop a new strategy. Those who have never heard of Rummikub, never learned to play or are interested in learning are invited to come to the next Strategy Games Club.

The Strategy Games Club has a variety of games available to participants. Some of the games offered are Mah Jongg, Flux, Hoity Toity and Quinto. The club also offers some more well known strategy games such as chess, checkers, backgammon, Connect Four and Jenga.

The Strategy Games Club meets every Tuesday in the Youth Center multipurpose room. This is an intergenerational group from age 8 and above. No registration is required; participants may come as they please. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

## Greenbelt Park Seeks Ranger Station Help

Help is needed answering phones and greeting visitors from around the world.

Skills required for this volunteer position are the ability to communicate, ability to read and write and an outgoing friendly personality. Help is especially needed for three hour shifts Friday through Sunday.

Student service hours can be earned through this volunteer position although 16 is a minimum age requirement.

To apply for an interview call 301-344-3944.

Send us your community news.

## Candidates Sought For Cassels Award

by Dorrie Bates

The Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative, the Co-op, is beginning the search for the first recipient of the Jim Cassels Award for Community Service. This award seeks to recognize an individual or a group that has made significant contributions to the Greenbelt community. The award will take the form of a \$1,000 grant to be given to the winning group or organization.

Throughout his many years in the Greenbelt community, Jim Cassels has been an outstanding cooperator. Whether helping local groups, mentoring new cooperatives, guiding the formation and realization of senior housing or getting up at the crack of dawn to deliver newspapers in Green Ridge House, he has been tireless in making Greenbelt the place we all love to be.

Applicants who are interested in being considered for this award should complete the application form that is available through the Co-op's office. The information requested includes a typed, one-page statement presenting those activities or actions that warrant consideration. The statement should specify the nature of the activity, the population benefitting from the individual or group endeavors and the general cooperative aspect of their involvement. Supporting statements or recommendations should be included and will be considered. A panel comprised of members of the cooperative will select the winner.

Applications should be returned to the Co-op's office by April 26. The recipient of the award will be announced early in June.

## March 19: GATE Annual Meeting

Greenbelt Access Television (GATE) will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, March 19 at 3 p.m. in the GATE Studio. There will be an overview of the past year's activities and refreshments will be served. The meeting is free and open to the public.

The guest speaker will be Chris Haley, nephew of "Roots" author Alex Haley. He is an actor, screenwriter and producer and is involved with the Annapolis Film Festival as well as the Utopia Film and Video Festival.

The GATE Studio is located on the second floor of the Greenbelt Community Center (15 Crescent Road) across from the Multipurpose Room. For information call the studio at 301-507-6581.



## Greenbelt Nursery School Family Super Sale

**Saturday, March 25**  
**10 a.m. - 2 p.m.** (1/2 price sale begins at 1 p.m.)  
**Greenbelt Community Center**  
**Multi-Purpose Room**  
**15 Crescent Road**

**Featuring Gently Used (and some new!):**

- Infant and Children Clothing
- Toys and Games
- Books
- Maternity Wear
- Baby Gear

Donations accepted on Friday, March 24, from 1:30-4 p.m. at the Greenbelt Nursery School

## Free Tax Help at the Library

Sponsored by AARP, sessions are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through April 11. For information and a list of what to bring, call 301-541-5031.



# Md. State KofC Awards Go to Two Greenbelters

by Austin Conaty

Each year the Maryland State Council of the Knights of Columbus commemorates the founding of the Knights of Columbus by celebrating Founder's Day. In 1882, Michael J. McGivney a young parish priest in New Haven, Conn., formed what has since become the largest Catholic family fraternal service organization in the world.

Fr. McGivney is honored by a Mass followed by an awards banquet. This year the Mass was held at the Alumni Chapel of Loyola College in Baltimore. The awards banquet was held at the Notre Dame Council of the Knights of Columbus, also in Baltimore.

This year two of the winners recognized at the Maryland State Council Founder's Day Awards were from Greenbelt. St. Hugh's Catholic School teacher Margie Sparks was recognized as the Catholic Teacher of the Year by the Maryland State Council. Sparks was recognized for her many years as an inspirational science teacher for 6th, 7th and 8th graders. She has introduced many of the St. Hugh students to all sorts of interesting science adventures with her involvement in the Jason Project, a multi-disciplinary program that explores biological and geological development on Earth and in space.

Greenbelt VFD firefighter James Silcox was recognized as the Firefighter of the Year by the Maryland State Council. Silcox was nominated by Chief Brian Rudy for the bravery with which he performed during a call in May of last year. When part of the roof of a burning building collapsed trapping two firefighters, Silcox worked furiously to free his colleagues. In the process his fire protectant gloves came off. Silcox continued to work and eventually freed the other firefighters but suffered second degree burns in the process.



(l to r) Knights of Columbus Maryland State Council Community Activities Director Gil Boisvert, Knights of Columbus Maryland State Deputy Ron White, Greenbelt VFD Firefighter James Silcox, Greenbelt VFD Chief Brian Rudy and St. Hugh Knights of Columbus Grand Knight Austin Conaty. Silcox was named Firefighter of the Year by the Maryland State Council.



(l to r) Knights of Columbus Maryland State Council Community Activities Director Gil Boisvert, Knights of Columbus Maryland State Deputy Ron White, St. Hugh's Teacher Margie Sparks and St. Hugh's Knights of Columbus Grand Knight Austin Conaty. Sparks was named Catholic Teacher of the Year by the Maryland State Council.


PHOTOS BY SEAN SPARKS

## Butterfly Gardens Is Garden Club Theme

The March general meeting of the Beltsville Garden Club will be held on Wednesday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the James E. Duckworth School at 11201 Evans Trail in Beltsville.

The speaker this month is Miri Talebec whose topic will be "Creating a Butterfly Garden." Talebec is a graduate of the University of Maryland, where she completed her B.S. in entomology. She is also certified as a Professional Horticulturist by the State of Maryland. Talebec has been with Behnke Nurseries for six years and has extensive plant knowledge, particularly in perennials and woody plants.

The public is welcome; there is no fee. For information call Louise DeJames at 301-890-4733 or visit [www.beltsvillegardenclub.org](http://www.beltsvillegardenclub.org).



**Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS**

Sundays 10 A.M.  
Municipal Building

**Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church**

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt  
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!

**St. George's Episcopal/Anglican Church**

7010 Glenn Dale Road  
(Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)  
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org

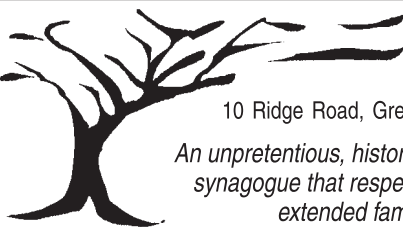
<b>Sundays:</b>	8:00 am	Simple, quiet Mass
	9:00 am	Christian education for all ages
	10:00 am	Sung Mass with organ and folk music, ASL interpreted
	1:30 pm	Signed Mass (last Sunday of each month only)
<b>Wednesdays:</b>	7:00 pm	Simple, quiet Mass

An inclusive congregation!

**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



**Congregation Mishkan Torah**

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223

*An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.*

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM.  
Educational programs for children K-12 and for adults.  
Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children.  
Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program.  
Opportunity for leadership development.  
Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors.  
Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities.  
Interfaith families are welcome.

Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

## Octava Piano Duo Returns for Concert

The Octava Piano Duo will return for a spring concert at Greenbelt Community Church on Sunday, March 26 at 7:30 p.m. Pianists Wei-Der Huang, music director at Greenbelt Community Church and Haien-Ann Meng will perform music by Mozart, Schubert, Grieg and Brahms. There is no admission fee but free-will donations will be accepted for the benefit of the church.

The duo is now in their fifth year of a collaboration that began when they both were pursuing doctoral degrees in musical arts at the University of Maryland. They now both serve on the piano faculty at Howard University.

Besides performances in Greenbelt and at Howard, the two have performed regularly in local well-known music venues such as Strathmore Hall, Levine School of Music and Summer School. They have also performed on the West Coast and in Taiwan.



**Memorial Service For Anne Sucher**

A memorial service for Anne Sucher will be held at Riderwood, 3140 Gracefield Road, Silver Spring on Saturday, March 25 at 10 a.m.

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF Seymour Etkin**

died March 20, 2005  
Survived by wife Anne, daughters Nancy and Elizabeth, granddaughters Pheobe and Wendy and 10 great-grandchildren

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

**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)

**Greenbelt Community Church**

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST




Hillside & Crescent Roads  
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings  
[www.greenbelt.com/gcucc/](http://www.greenbelt.com/gcucc/)  
**Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.**  
Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

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

**GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH**

Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](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

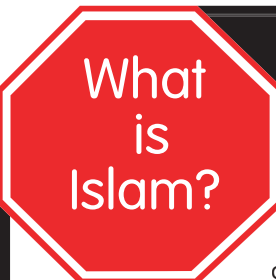
**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**

6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111

Sunday 8:00am	Worship Service	
9:15am	Sunday School/Bible Study	
10:30am	Worship Service	
Wed. 12:15pm, 7:30pm	Mid-week Lenten Service	



Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail [myholycross@verizon.net](mailto:myholycross@verizon.net)



**What is Islam?**

The Holy Qur'an was revealed over 1,400 years ago and is preserved in writing in its original Arabic form without even a single word being changed.

At the age of 40, the angel Gabriel came to Muhammad (peace be upon him) and revealed to him the words of God - the first verses of the Holy Qur'an - thus appointing him as the last Prophet for all mankind. For the next 23 years as the Qur'an was revealed its verses were written down by appointed scribes. It is memorized by millions of Muslims around the world.

To find out more about the Holy Qur'an or about Islam, e-mail us at [info@searchislam.org](mailto:info@searchislam.org) or call 301-982-9463 or visit the website [www.searchislam.org](http://www.searchislam.org).





Our sympathy to News Review staffer Marjorie Gray on the death of her father two weeks ago in Blacksburg, Va.

Congratulations to Eleanor Roosevelt High School Athletics for adding more sports trophies to the school's already excellent collection. The Raiders' girls track team won the sprint medley, 4 x 400- and 4 x 800-meter relays and finished second in the distance medley at the two-day Nike Indoor Nationals last weekend. In February, the Raiders won their sixth straight title in track and their fifth straight state running championship in the Maryland 4A/3A indoor track championships. In basketball, the girls team won its second straight Maryland 4A basketball championship on Saturday in Catonsville, beating Gaithersburg High School, 53-45.

The Raiders' boys teams also did well on the weekend. In basketball, the Raiders team lost the Maryland 4A championship by just one point to Montgomery County's Walt Whitman High School at Comcast Center. In indoor track, the boys took second in the sprint medley at the Nike Indoor Nationals.

Wednesday, March 15 was the 102nd birthday for former Greenbelt Outstanding Citizen Otilie Van Allen. She is living in Florida and hopes to return to Greenbelt soon. Notes and cards from Greenbelters would be welcome. People can write to: Mrs. Otilie Van Allen, c/o Royal Care, 1213 West Stratford Road, Avon Park, FL 33825.

**Greenbelt FCU Staff Do Taxes at VITA Site**

Staff of Greenbelt's Credit Union are participating in a volunteer program that provides free federal and state tax preparation services to people/families who earn \$38,000 or less. The services are offered through April 13 at the nearest VITA site, which is located at the Prince George's Child Resource Center in Largo.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax help to low-to moderate-income people who cannot prepare their own tax returns. Volunteers sponsored by various organizations receive training to help prepare basic tax returns in communities across the country. VITA sites are located at community and neighborhood centers, libraries, schools, shopping malls and other convenient locations. As in years past, the Child Resource Center in Largo is serving as a VITA site where free tax preparation services are provided, along with free e-filing for faster refunds. It is the VITA site nearest Greenbelt.

To use the service, people need to bring their social security card or individual taxpayer identification number; W-2 forms; 1099 forms for other income; child care provider's name, address and tax ID number; any other tax documents; last year's tax return; and a voided check for direct deposit.

The VITA site is at 9475 Lottsford Road, Suite 202, in Largo. Services are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Call 301-772-8420, ext. 235 for more information or to make an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome.

**MUSEUM** continued from page 1

financed housing were also built in large numbers.

Lyon's lecture will survey this rich assortment of structures, discuss historic preservation efforts of the Art Deco Society of Washington and explain where the name Art Deco, an invention of the 1960s, came from.

Linda Lyons is an architectural historian and chair of the education committee of the Art Deco Society of Washington. She researched and wrote the society's brochure "Metro Deco: A Guide To Metro-Accessible Art Deco Architecture of The Washington Metropolitan Area." She has also organized an annual bus tour of Art Deco architecture in the Washington metropolitan area. Lyons leads walking tours and gives lectures on Art Deco architecture. For the Latrobe Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians, she has organized and led tours connected with biennial scholarly symposia on such topics as "John Joseph Earley: Expanding the Art and Science of

Concrete," "Mid-Century Modernism in Metropolitan Washington, D.C.," and "Washington Builds for War: Defense, the Homefront, and Security in the Capital Region."

Lyons was associated with the National Building Museum for 10 years as staff member in charge of tours and docents. She developed, researched and led architectural tours both inside and outside the walls of the museum; trained and supervised docents and organized other public programs such as lectures, courses and demonstrations.

Lyons is the author of "Building a Landmark: A Guide to the Historic Home of the National Building Museum," published by the museum and now in its third edition. She has also written a chapter in the book "Montgomery C. Meigs and the Building of the Nation's Capital," based on a 1997 symposium.

Another area of interest to Lyons is Washington neighborhoods, which she has studied and



Art Deco Moderne Greyhound bus station at New York Avenue. Photo courtesy of the Greenbelt Museum.

presented in tours, lectures and courses. She is president of the Latrobe Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians. In Maryland she serves on the board of Save Our Seminary at Forest Glen.

Originally a scientist specializing in genetics and cell biology, Dr. Lyons has an undergraduate degree from Brown University

and graduate degrees from Johns Hopkins and Rockefeller Universities. In the Washington area she was a researcher at the National Institutes of Health and taught at George Mason and American Universities.

For more information about this program contact, the museum office at 301-507-6582 or museum@greenbeltmd.gov.



**City Information**

**Meetings for March 20-25**

**Tuesday, March 21st, 7:30pm, Advisory Committee on Trees, Greenbelt Community Center, Senior Classroom.** All interested persons are welcome to attend. Info: 301-474-8004.

**Wednesday, March 22nd, 8:00pm, Council Work Session, GSFC-Update on Forest & Sustainability Plan, Greenbelt Community Center.**

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

Greenbelt Assistance in Living program presents:

**Ask The Experts Cable Show  
March 21st at 11:00 a.m.  
Green Ridge House**

**"Cooking Small Meals for One or a Couple"**  
The presenter is Megan Elsner, Fresh Produce and Brown Bag Food Program Coordinator for the Capital Area Food Bank. All are welcome.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Award**

The City of Greenbelt is eligible to receive \$10,672 in Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds. It is the intent of the Police Department to add this amount to the award received last year. A combined total of \$29,512 will allow the Department to purchase and install six or seven mobile video cameras in police cars. Questions and/or comments can be made by calling 240-542-2105 or through email at doneil@greenbeltmd.gov.

**GREENBELT MUNICIPAL/PUBLIC ACCESS  
CHANNEL 71**

**MUNICIPAL ACCESS: 301-474-8000:**

**Tuesday & Thursday, March 21 & 23: 10am & 6pm** "Ask the Expert-Care for the Caregiver," **7:00pm** "ACE Reading Club-Springhill Lake Elementary," **7:30pm** "ACE Reading Club-Greenbelt Elementary."

**PUBLIC ACCESS (GATE): 301-507-6581:**

**Wednesday & Friday, March 22 & 24: 7:00pm** "GMax Gospel Music Videos," **7:30pm** Shakespeare on the Green "Henry IV pt 1."

**Greenbelt Recreation Department  
ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

featuring

**A TOUCH of SINATRA with RICHIE G**

**Friday, March 17th at 1pm**

**Greenbelt Community Center**

*Senior citizens will be able to socialize, relax and be entertained with the sounds of Frank Sinatra. After the performance, make your own ice cream sundae. The ice cream will be available beginning at 2:30 pm in the dining room. All senior citizens are encouraged to attend this delightful afternoon!*

For more information call the Greenbelt Community Center at 301-397-2208.

**VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES**

Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups.

Vacancies exist on the:

Advisory Committee on Trees

Community Relations Advisory Board

Youth Advisory Committee (Opening for adult position)

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

Greenbelt Recreation Department

**Spring Camp #236501-4**

**Monday, April 10 - Friday, April 14**

Warmer days are on their way and Spring Break is right around the corner! We'll keep your kid's break action-packed with a combination of events at the Youth Center, Community Center, Aquatic and Fitness Center and by taking field trips. Tentative trips include: Jeepers, bowling & roller skating, hiking Cunningham Falls, Speed & Thro magic show, swimming and a cookout at Schrom Hills Park. Campers will also take a clay modeling class at the Greenbelt Community Center. All campers must be in kindergarten through sixth grade and are responsible for providing their own non-perishable lunch and drink.

**REGISTER NOW!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 301-397-2200**

**GREENBELT AQUATIC AND FITNESS CENTER CLOSURE**

The building will be entirely closed on March 22, 23 and 24 (weather permitting) for roof resurfacing.

For updates, contact 301-474-5525.



## SHL PLANS continued from page 1

(1,046), perimeter block buildings (2,545), walk-up buildings (293), artist lofts (72), live/work units (64) and tower buildings (1,526).

Except for the tower buildings, building heights range from two to five stories. The tower buildings range in height from 20 to 22 stories but due to proposed architectural elements (cupolas) the building heights are increased to approximately 260 to 280 feet high.

Private amenities to serve the project include a 17,900 square foot community building and adjacent private parkland. This complex would include private community facilities, including indoor and outdoor pools, an outdoor tennis center and small urban pocket parks within an open space area along Springhill Drive.

At the site of the existing SHL Elementary School is a large open-water feature and a trail system. The current plan does not show any public recreation facilities and parkland. Also, the city-owned SHL Recreation Center is no longer included in AIMCO's redevelopment plans.

In her background memo, Hruby lists several notable changes in the plans from what was proposed and/or were conditions of approval on the July 2005 CSP supported by the city:

- Tower height increased from 10-12 stories to 20-22 stories.
- Extensive private recreation facilities/open space now provided.
- For-sale units increased from 25 to 35 percent.
- There is a greater mix of housing types throughout the development.
- The city SHL Recreation Center is no longer included in the plan.

### Site, Capacity Issues

The latest AIMCO Illustrative Plan continues to show the existing SHL Elementary School site as the location for their main storm water management facility even though, as Hruby pointed out, the Prince George's County Board of Education is continuing to evaluate whether they would give up that site and participate in the developer-proposed combination elementary and middle school complex at the existing middle school and school bus lot site.

City staff, councilmembers and members of the APB believe that a lack of sufficient attention to the potential impact on school age population statistics by the SHL redevelopment, combined with the planned residential development at the Greenbelt Station and possibly at the Beltway Plaza site could result in possible delays for redevelopment.

City planning staff pointed out that planning approvals for the Greenbelt Station residential development have already taken into consideration the school surcharge.

Due to the overall complexity of the SHL plan to, in effect, trade land parcels for a relocated elementary school with the Board of Education and the uncertainty of the viability of a relocated school bus lot and the reluctance of the School Board to take a position on the two-school complex, there is a possibility that the combined complex may not be able to meet future demands.

Applying the basic formula used by the Board of Education to predict potential school age

populations from new development, Hruby noted that the number of additional children expected from just the Greenbelt Station and SHL redevelopment is 384 middle school children; 576 high school students and 1,152 elementary school children.

Faced with those numbers, Hruby feels that the Board of Education may want to retain the SHL Elementary site and possibly look for another site for an additional elementary school.

In response to a question from David Lange of Lakeside as to whether the school system and the Park and Planning staff are using the same formula to assess future impacts of development on the schools, the city staff felt that they were close. They noted, however, that County Councilmember Thomas Dernoga has shown a lack of confidence in the numbers and felt that the impact could be greater.

Other comments by members of council reflected a general concern regarding the school site issues. They wondered just how much leverage the city has. All agreed that if an additional elementary school was needed, it should be centrally located for Greenbelt West students.

### Planning Concerns

With AIMCO now planning not to use the city recreation center site as part of their project, the city will now have to take a new look at its optimum strategy for renovating and/or expanding the present facility. As currently planned, it would be down the street from a new state-of-the-art private recreation complex.

The Board of Education's re-evaluation of the school capacity issue could also place in jeopardy the prior AIMCO proffer relating to additional public ball fields at the middle school/bus lot site. One possible solution to these planning dilemmas would be invoking zoning ordinance requirements for mandatory dedication of open space or recreation space. According to city staff, however, AIMCO has already indicated it is against their corporate policy to dedicate land. They hope to meet mandatory dedication requirements through what is known as fee-in-lieu-of payments.

Roberts seemed to capture the feeling on this difficult challenge by noting, "If they (SHL) are seeking support for such a massive development (they would at least) want to meet some of the public needs and concerns."

### Building Heights

Mandatory dedication also came up in discussion regarding increased building heights. APB members in particular wanted to make sure there was additional open space to balance against the increased densities in the latest plans. The increased heights of the tower buildings adjacent to the Beltway also prompted concerns about the potential visual impacts on users of Attick Park at Greenbelt Lake and Boxwood Village.

Staff assured council they would request sight-line assessments to evaluate any visual impacts resulting from the tower elevations projected in the plans. Staff also committed to evaluate the open space issues relating to increased density.

Treatment of the street improvements in the new plans has also raised staff concerns. They worry that the elaborate plans for roadways and sidewalks could

result in unusually large future financial commitments on the part of the city. In an issue the staff has labeled "Public versus Private Roads," they expressed concern with the length of streets proposed for the redevelopment and the extensive amount of landscaping proposed in terms of maintenance costs and long-term responsibilities.

Staff believes that the city should not assume responsibility for all roads within the development. Rather, the city should assume responsibility only for those roadways providing public access. The staff memo noted that the new SHL zoning classification requires that all roads serving multi-family housing be public. They think this public versus private issue may be a problem for AIMCO because AIMCO has indicated it would be relying on the majority of roads within the project being public and would like to discuss with the city using Tax Incremental Financing to finance construction of these improvements.

Robert Fireovid of Boxwood asked questions about this possibility and was assured by the city manager that the city has no proposal before them and that the estimated amount of financing for such infrastructure would be well beyond the city's capability.

When Roberts asked if there were any additional questions, it seemed there were none. The city planning staff indicated they would be meeting with the developers shortly and that they hoped the AIMCO filing requirement with the city would be forthcoming. They would stay on top of the range of issues and work toward timely consideration of the plans by APB on April 5 and council on April 24.

## COUNCIL continued from page 1

Councilmember Leta Mach felt change was in order. "We need to resolve the ambiguity," she said. Mayor Judith Davis was concerned that without an amendment there could be a future problem with a "contentious council." Councilmember Edward Putens and Mach both felt that if the language would permit the council to authorize the issuance of a letter or make recommendations on legislation, a 2 to 1 vote would be fine. Council then adopted unanimously a motion by Putens directing staff to draft a proposed charter amendment to deal with the ambiguity presently in the Charter by making it clear that a majority of those present may take actions other than passage of ordinances or resolutions, provided that a quorum has been established, with the exception of those situations already defined in the Charter as requiring four affirmative votes. Councilmember Edward Putens seconded the motion, which carried 5 to 0.

### Reconsideration

Near the end of the meeting, council considered an item added by Davis to reconsider the vote at the prior meeting on the city's recommendation to the Prince George's Planning Board to approve the detailed site plan for Greenbelt Crossing subject to some conditions. A motion put forth by Mach and seconded by Putens carried by 4 to 1, with Roberts again voting in opposition. Roberts then commented that he had felt a lot better after the previous vote. McLaughlin had noted before the motion that conditions in the city recommendation adopted by the 2 to 1 vote had been incorporated by the Prince George's County Planning Board's approval of the Greenbelt Crossing detailed site plan.

### Theater Memorandum

Staff presented council with a

draft memorandum of understanding between the city and Academy Theaters, LLC (a Beltway Plaza subsidiary) which would give a five-year tax break to the theater in return for Beltway Plaza remodeling and reopening the former AMC 8 theaters as eight stadium-seating theaters. AMC closed the eight-theater complex at the mall on February 27 after almost 20 years of operation because newer area theaters had taken away customers from the outdated theater. Last June AMC had closed its six-theater complex at the same shopping center.

The city had been charging the theaters Admissions and Amusements Tax amounting to 10 percent of the admission fee. McLaughlin said that in Fiscal Year 2000 the yield from this tax had peaked at more than \$650,000. Staff now estimates the yield for the current year at \$200,000 and for next year at \$50,000 if all theaters at the Beltway Plaza remain closed.

Quantum Management, managers of the shopping center, has requested of the city a reduction of the tax levy for a period of time as a way to help the mall remodel and restore the six-theater complex. The proposed memorandum of understanding is an agreement that would establish a "public/private partnership" in which Academy would intend to operate the former AMC 8 theaters at Beltway Plaza and the city would reduce its Admissions and Amusements Tax to 1 percent for the next fiscal year and increase it each year thereafter for the next four years by an additional 1 percent. After the five-year period, the tax would return to 10 percent. The memorandum also provides for higher tax rates of up to 5 percent if theater rev-

See COUNCIL, page 12

Greenbelt Arts Center  
*presents*

# DAUGHTERS

by John Morgan Evans

**March 17 – April 8**

**Fridays & Saturdays at 8:00pm**

**Sundays: March 26 & April 2 at 2:00pm**

This harrowing and hilarious family drama shows how four generations of Irish American women deal with crisis. The five women gather in the kitchen of their Greenbelt home while the gravely ill family patriarch is in his bedroom playing Irish songs on a record player. With yelling, laughter, crying and lots of food, the Daughters' characters are composites of bravado, anxiety, selfishness, love, innocence and the desire to stay a family.

\$12 General Admission

\$10 Students & Senior Citizens

**Greenbelt Arts Center**

123 Centerway (next to the Post Office)

**RESERVATIONS 301-441-8770**

[www.greenbeltartscenter.org](http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org)

***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.

### Assault

March 4, 4:21 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a man reported that he was inside a public restroom at the mall when was approached by another man who asked him if he wanted to buy drugs. He replied that he did not, at which time the suspect produced a kitchen-type knife and assaulted him, cutting his neck and chin. The suspect then fled the scene and the victim declined treatment for his injuries. The weapon was recovered at the scene.

March 9, 11:46 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court, a man reported that he was driving when a person stepped out in front of his vehicle, causing him to come to a stop. The man got out of his vehicle to speak with the person when a vehicle occupied by several people pulled up alongside them. One of the occupants of that vehicle got out and removed the temporary registration plate from the man's vehicle. The man and the first suspect began to engage in a physical confrontation, at which time a second suspect produced a knife and attempted to cut him. The victim was able to avoid being cut. The two suspects fled the area on foot and the suspect vehicle drove from the scene. The suspects are described as two Latino males, 16 to 18 years of age, 5'5", 125 pounds with black hair and brown eyes, wearing white T-shirts and blue jeans. The suspect vehicle is described as a green Honda Civic 4-door.

### Robbery

March 7, 9:11 p.m., Greenway Center, a nonresident woman was arrested and charged with strong-arm robbery, theft, possession of a controlled dangerous substance, assault and possession of paraphernalia. Police responded to a report of a shoplifting that had just occurred at the CVS Pharmacy. Upon arriving on the scene, police saw a pharmacist detaining a woman in the store parking lot. The CVS pharmacist reported that the woman entered the store, approached her and forcibly removed a bottle containing a controlled prescription medicine from her hand. The woman then fled the store but was caught and detained by the pharmacist and citizens until police arrived. She was found to be in possession of paraphernalia commonly used to ingest "crack" cocaine. She was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

### Drug Arrests

March 4, 12:11 a.m., 7200 block Mathew Street, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana after police observed a suspicious occupied vehicle. Upon approaching the vehicle the officer detected the odor of what he believed to be marijuana. The man was found to be in possession of a quantity of suspected marijuana and paraphernalia commonly used to store marijuana. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

March 4, 8:09 p.m., 6100 block Springhill Terrace, a resident man was arrested and charged with possession of paraphernalia. Police responded to a report of several persons possibly

smoking marijuana in a laundry room. Police observed the man hiding a suspected marijuana cigarette inside the laundry room. He was released on citation pending trial.

### Counterfeit Merchandise

March 2, 6 p.m., 5700 block Cherrywood Lane, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with sale of counterfeit trademarked merchandise. Another nonresident man was arrested and charged with possession of paraphernalia. Police observed the two men engaged in some sort of transaction in the parking lot of the Shell Foodmart. Investigation revealed that one man was selling counterfeit CDs and DVDs; he was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner. The second man was found to be in possession of paraphernalia commonly used to smoke marijuana and he was released on citation pending trial.

### Suspicious Person

March 6, 9:41 a.m., Mandan Road and Hanover Parkway, two students reported that they were walking to school when a vehicle pulled up to each of them separately during a fifteen-minute time period. During the first incident a man attempted to engage the student in a conversation. The student ignored him and walked away. During the other incident the man asked the second student to "get in the car for a minute." The second student also ignored the man and walked away. The suspect is described as a black male in his thirties, with dark hair. The vehicle is described as a silver or gray SUV, possibly an Oldsmobile or a Lincoln, with unknown Maryland tags.

### Trespass Arrests

March 6, 5:36 p.m., 6100 block Cherrywood Lane, a resident youth was arrested for trespass and false statement. Police observed the youth at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center and knew that he had been banned from the center by agents of the property. The youth ran from the area upon seeing police and was located in the 9200 block of Springhill Lane. He gave police false information as to his identity and was released to a parent pending action by the juvenile justice system.

March 7, 7:19 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with trespass, false statement, fourth-degree burglary and malicious destruction. Police on foot patrol found the door to a utility closet in the laundry room of an apartment building forced open. The man was found hiding inside and he gave false information as to his identity. Investigation revealed that the man had an open arrest warrant with the Prince George's County Sheriff's Department and had been banned from the apartment complex by agents of the property. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

### Theft

March 2, 10:29 a.m., 20 Court Hillside, unknown person(s) removed a lawn ornament from the backyard of a residence.

### Vandalism

March 9, 7:05 p.m., 200 block Lastner Lane, a homeowner dis-

covered damage to the siding of her house. Further investigation revealed that the damage was caused by a .22 caliber bullet. According to the homeowner, the damage occurred sometime between March 6 and 9.

### Burglaries

March 2, 2:33 p.m., 9300 block Edmonston Road, it was reported that unknown person(s) entered a residence by forcing open the front door. A digital camera, clothing, DVDs, a DVD player and money were taken.

March 2, 2:50 p.m., 9300 block Edmonston Road, it was reported that unknown person(s) entered a residence by prying open the rear sliding glass door. An electronic keyboard, an electric guitar, DVDs and CDs were taken.

March 9, 4:26 p.m., 6500 block Lake Park Drive, police responded to a report of a residential alarm. Unknown person(s) had entered the residence by prying open the front door, but were apparently scared off by the sounding of the alarm. Nothing appeared to have been taken.

March 10, 3:27 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court, a man reported that he heard a knock at his front door; he looked out the peephole and thought he recognized the persons standing outside. As he began to open the door, two men pushed their way in. Once inside the men began punching the victim in the face and body. After the assault they fled the residence, throwing a tree branch through the victim's bedroom window. They left the scene in a vehicle described as a red or maroon SUV. The suspects are described as two black males, both 19 to 22 years of age and weighing 160 pounds. One was 5'11" with black hair in braids and brown eyes, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and blue jeans; the other was 6' with black hair and brown eyes, wearing a white T-shirt and blue jeans. The victim declined medical treatment for minor injuries.

### Vehicle Crimes

Five vehicles were reported stolen: a green 1996 Dodge Ram 1500 truck from the 9100 block Edmonston Court; a green 1998 Dodge Stratus 4-door, Maryland tags 790AMK from the 8000 block Mandan Road; a tan 2000 Dodge Stratus 4-door, Maryland tags 01488AE from the 7500 block Mandan Road; a 2004 Chevrolet Tahoe from the 7200 block Hanover Drive; and a black 1991 Nissan Sentra 4-door, Maryland tags 3AFL06 from the 6100 block Springhill Terrace.

Five vehicles were recovered, one by Greenbelt police and four by outside departments. No arrests were made in any of the recoveries.

Vandalism to, theft from and attempted theft of vehicles were reported in the following areas: 6200 block Springhill Court, 200 block Lakeside Drive, 6600 block Lake Park Drive, 16 Court Ridge Road, 37 Court Ridge Road, 6900 block Hanover Parkway (four incidents), 7200 block Hanover Parkway, 7700 block Hanover Parkway, 7800 block Hanover Parkway, 7800 block Emily's Way, 7900 block Mandan Road (three incidents), 8000 block Mandan Road and 8100 block Mandan Terrace.

## Fire & Rescue Log

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

### Incident Report

In the month of February the GVFD&RS responded to a total of 115 engine and 146 ambulance calls. Among those calls were 27 reports of smoke or fire, nine automatic fire alarms, eight gas leaks, 43 motor vehicle accidents and 120 medical calls.

### Annual Banquet

On March 11, members of the GVFD&RS celebrated 51 years of service to Greenbelt at the annual banquet. Also in attendance were the mayor, members of the Greenbelt City Council and County Councilmember Douglas J.J. Peters, as well as representatives from many other fire departments and organizations. A representative of County Executive Jack Johnson delivered a proclamation congratulating the department on their 51 years of dedication to public safety.

The GVFD&RS officers and trustees for 2006 took their oath of office and many awards were presented during the evening, including 15 awards for those members who ran the most calls during 2005. A special appreciation award was given to Vernon Iseli for his years of service to the department including his fabrication of custom metal containers and the emblems on the front of each chief vehicle. Firefighter of the Year was awarded to Jeremiah Voigt. Voigt and firefighter Marcus Paxton were also promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

### Major Incidents

On February 17, units from Greenbelt were first on the scene for an overturned street sweeper on the Inner Loop of the Beltway near Route 1. Two individuals were trapped and required extrication. GVFD&RS ambulance transported one of the victims to an area trauma center. Units cleared the scene in approximately 40 minutes.

On March 5, Greenbelt was dispatched for an apartment fire in the 7100 block of Hanover Parkway. Upon arrival units reported heavy smoke and asked for a second alarm, bringing nearly 50 firefighters and 14 pieces of fire apparatus to the scene. GVFD&RS ambulance was dispatched to provide medical support if needed. The cause of the fire was electrical. There were no reported injuries. The estimated fire loss is \$10,000 and four families were displaced.

### Volunteers Sought

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

Questions and comments regarding this report or any fire department issues may be directed to [public-info@engine35.com](mailto:public-info@engine35.com) or to 301-345-7000.

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## Local Crime Solvers Need Assistance from Public

National Capital Area Crime Solvers is asking for the public's assistance in identifying the man responsible for abducting and assaulting at least nine women over the last four years. All but the first attack occurred at various hotels throughout Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. Investigators from those involved jurisdictions are working together to identify and apprehend the suspect in these cases. Following is the information regarding these attacks.

On May 26, 2002, a woman was sexually assaulted in a car after accepting a ride from the suspect. This occurred in the area of the 4000 block of Rhode Island Avenue and the 3400 block of Pennwood Street in Hyattsville.

On December 1, 2002, a woman was sexually and physically assaulted in a hotel room at the Hilton Hotel, 8727 Colesville Road in Silver Spring. The suspect's dark-colored, beret-style hat by Huckel was left at the scene along with a red box-cutter knife bearing the handwritten word, "Debbie" on it.

On May 11, 2003, a hotel in the 900 block of 9th Street NW in Washington, D.C., was the scene of a sexual and physical assault in a hotel. The woman was able to remove the suspect's ring from his hand. Another assault took place in a hotel in the 1200 block of 16th Street NW on May 23, 2003.

A woman was abducted, then sexually and physically assaulted in a hotel room on June 6, 2003. The assault took place in the



Sketch 1



Sketch 2



Ring worn by the suspect.

Holiday Inn Hotel at 2650 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington.

On June 9, 2003, a woman was sexually and physically assaulted in a room at the Marriott Courtyard Hotel, 6301 Golden Triangle Drive, Greenbelt. The suspect was seen getting into a 1985-1994 blue, two-tone Ford Aerostar mini-van.

Another physical assault to a woman occurred on June 22, 2003, at the Motel 6, 5701 Allentown Road, Suitland. Yet another assault took place on February 13, 2005, in Takoma Park at the Quality Inn, 7411 New Hampshire Avenue. The most recent assault occurred February 6, 2006, when a woman was physically and sexually assaulted in a room at the Red Roof Inn, 5975 Richmond Highway, Alexandria.

In each of these attacks the suspect was described as a black male, 25 to 35 years old with a dark complexion. He was between 5'7" and 5'11" tall and weighed approximately 180 to 210 pounds. He spoke with a limited use of the Spanish language. In most of the cases the suspect used a small-sized knife, black in color. He was casually dressed and always clean-shaven with a neat

appearance.

Detectives investigating these cases are hoping that someone will recognize this man or the hat and ring that he wore during some of the attacks. The ring has a unique and unusual appearance. The suspect may have had access to a Ford Aerostar mini-van at some time in the past. With the exception of the first attack, all of these victims were hotel employees and were working at the time of the attacks.

Anyone with information on any of these cases or the ring, the hat or the suspect involved, is asked to call Crime Solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS (8477). Callers may also contact any of the affected jurisdictions through that number to report their information.

A cash reward of up to \$5,000 is possible for information leading to an arrest in these cases. Crime Solvers in Prince George's County, Montgomery County, Arlington County, Fairfax County and Washington, D.C., are each offering cash rewards of up to \$1,000 for information leading to an arrest in their cases. Callers never have to give their names or appear in court.

## Patuxent Programs

The Patuxent Research Refuge public programs are free but require advance reservations; call 301-497-5880.

### North Tract

The North Tract is located on Route 198 east of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

"Bird Buddies," Tuesday, March 28, 1 to 2:30 p.m. for ages 5 to 7. Learn about feathered friends through stories, songs and a trip outdoors.

"Bird Walk," Wednesday, March 29, 8:15 to 10:30 a.m. for ages 16 and older. Search for birds in several refuge habitats on this guided hike. Field guides and binoculars recommended.

### Visitor Center

The National Wildlife Visitor Center is located on Powder Mill Road east of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

"Nature Tots," Monday, March 20, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m. for ages 3 and 4. Introduce toddlers to baby animals through songs and stories.

"Birding Basics," Saturday, March 25, 10 a.m. to noon and continuing Sunday, March 26, 9 to 11 a.m. for ages 16 and older. Discussion and walk focusing on bird identification, habitats and equipment. This is a two-part series; participants must attend the Saturday lecture followed by the bird walk on Sunday.

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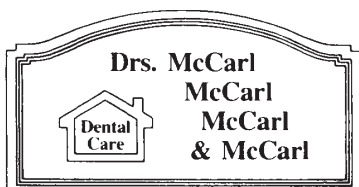
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**Native Plant Sale At Nat'l Arboretum**

On Saturday, March 25, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. a native plant sale will be held at the U.S. National Arboretum. Purchase choice native plants at this event, which features some of the area's best native plant nurseries gathered in one spot. A portion of the proceeds supports the arboretum's Native Plant Collection. This event is co-sponsored by Friends of the National Arboretum. Free admission. No registration required. Visit [www.usna.usda.gov](http://www.usna.usda.gov) or call 202-245-4523 for more information.

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**FOUND** - Keys, corner of Hillside and Research, Friday, March 3, 12:30 p.m. Leave message at 301-345-5408 to claim.

**NOTICE**

**SPAGHETTI DINNER** - The last one until fall. All you can eat spaghetti, bread, salad. Mowatt Methodist Church, 40 Ridge Road, March 18. Adults \$8, 5-12 yrs. \$6, under 4 free. Pies for sale. Come, enjoy food, fellowship. 5-7 p.m.

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**YARD SALES**

**YARD SALE** featuring children's toys, clothing, books, and mommy/baby gear. Greenbelt Nursery School Family Super Sale, Sat., March 25, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Greenbelt Community Center, Multi Purpose Room. Donations accepted at the school, Fri., March 24, 1:30 - 4 p.m.

**YARD SALE** - Furniture in excellent condition, owner leaving country soon, many pieces are now deconstructed and can be reassembled. Homemade soap, lotion, lip balm also available. At 110 Greenhill Rd., Saturday, March 18.

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**Michele Southworth - 240 286-4847**

**Brick Townhome on Corner Lot**  
This 2 bedroom home has central air and heating; a rarity for GHI! Close to Roosevelt Center - rear addition laundry room. \$249,900

**Frame Townhome - End Unit**  
Great value in this 2 bedroom GHI home. Two bedrooms and two full levels. Lots of improvements at a bargain price! Just \$164,900.

**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. Steps to Roosevelt Center. \$264,900 U.C.

**New Listing in GHI**  
This two bedroom townhome is adjacent to protected woodlands and miles of hiking trails. Get out of the rent trap and buy now! \$178,900

**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 SOLD

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



## GEAC continued from page 1

The representative from Windsor Green reported that the Recreation Committee had presented ideas for two playgrounds, raised money, paid for drainage of the chosen sites and is now obtaining competitive pricing for the designs.

Davis responded that she is waiting to see the council budget, as the city will match one-fourth of the \$25,000 budgeted for playgrounds by the city. She added further that Windsor Green is at the top of the list to receive playground monies because of the conditions of its present playgrounds.

In response to a question, McLaughlin said there are four GHI playgrounds and two or three other playgrounds left to be replaced. Davis said she will recommend that the Greenbriar Phase II playground be removed and the area be left natural despite past efforts to maintain it, as it has become an "attractive nuisance."

### Traffic Calming

After noting that one-half of the Greenbelt East traffic calming has been completed, with the rest, including two roundabouts in Windsor Green, to be finished when the weather improves, Davis asked Greenbriar representatives if they thought the humps improved conditions. The consensus was that they had, although some drivers still do not slow down, they said.

A resident asked about lane striping, to which Davis reminded them that Greenbriar had voted previously that there be no lanes.

Another resident asked for more police presence in that area but Davis said only one police officer was dedicated to traffic and that this officer had worked several times in Greenbriar.

The Lakes of Greenbelt Village representative requested that, as part of traffic calming in the area, some bus stops be moved. Davis asked that he call the Planning Department to check the placement of the stops, adding that plans are afoot to erect a bus shelter in there and that all such plans are part of a bond issue.

At this point, Roberts suggested to the speaker that he "ask about the ten million dollars," an apparent reference to the proposed Tax Increment Financing for annexation of the South Core of Greenbelt West. A heated debate ensued, mainly among Roberts, McLaughlin and Davis, of the advantages and disadvantages of this proposal, before returning to the agenda.

### Forest Preserve

Davis reported that the Forest Preserve Task Force has submitted the results of their study of several parcels. The criteria for saving a parcel as a forest preserve are the presence of a forest and the value of saving the property as a forest. Once an area is preserved as a forest, it cannot be removed from that status, she noted. The task force did not recommend preserving the Sunrise property at this time, pending more discussions of the need for ballfields throughout the city.

Davis then provided an update on Greenbelt West developments. She reported that the South Core area has been annexed but the detailed site plan not yet approved. Work on Greenbelt Crossing will begin soon, she said, and the preliminary plan for the redevelopment of Springhill Lake is

in review. Plans should come before the city council within the next two months, she predicted, although the school situation remains to be worked out. The city has entered into discussions with Beltway Plaza's owners to create a town center-type of development with additional retail and residential units in the back.

### Budget

Concerning the Fiscal Year 2007 budget, Davis informed the group that the budget is being developed. While it is estimated that assessments will grow 8 to 10 percent, the city faces the problem of expenditures growing faster than revenue. These expenditures, she explained, were caused in part by increased salaries, the cost of health care and the increasing price of gas. Additionally the city will face retirements of long-term employees in the foreseeable future. She reminded those in attendance that council worksessions on the budget are open to the public and that homeowner groups are invited to view the budget, via paper, CD-ROM or online.

### Further Items

Other agenda items not requiring discussion followed. The Public Service Commission is considering a pilot program for electric power aggregation and municipalities are invited to participate. Greenbelt, however, has not offered to participate because of its heavy workload.

In regard to the newspaper box issue, as the result of a meeting held with newspaper representatives in February, the City Solicitor is developing an agreement to be reviewed by the newspapers and other municipalities. Newspaper boxes may not be removed as such action would constitute interference with the right of freedom of speech.

Construction plans are being prepared for remodeling of the Greenbelt Theatre, which can ideally be accomplished without it closing.

### Open Session

At this point the meeting was opened for questions from attendees and other items not on the agenda. Davis reported on the recent council meeting with the State Highway Administration, informing the group that there is a new administrator for the Greenbelt area and that the city is working to expedite the installation of a countdown signal for the intersection of Greenbelt Road and Hanover Parkway.

Sections of Greenbelt Road where the surface is peeling will be replaced as soon as possible, she said, and the "No Right Turn" sign on Greenbelt Road east of Greenway Center will be removed. The Greenbelt Road - Hanover Parkway intersection is slated for an additional turn lane for traffic going west on Greenbelt Road, she added. The city will also reinvestigate the need for a traffic signal at the intersection of Frankfort Place and Greenbelt Road.

A resident noted that Code Enforcement appears to be "reactive" to problems rather than "proactive" in preventing them, citing an example of problems with trash containers in Windsor Green. Mayor Davis explained that this issue is "controversial" and that she would like guidance from the Windsor Green Board when they have completed their review of the covenants.

## COUNCIL continued from page 6

enues exceed \$200,000 in the previous year.

McLaughlin told the council that staff was still at work on the memorandum and wanted to better verify theater admission receipts and place some restrictions on any new theater signage. He also noted that the tax reduction would apply to the Old Greenbelt Theatre as well.

Councilmembers were concerned that the Academy theater might compete with the city-owned Old Greenbelt Theatre by showing the same movie at the same time. McLaughlin felt that would not be a problem since the same person, Paul Sanchez, would be managing both theaters.

### Other Actions

Council unanimously approved a resolution awarding the purchase of a new two-ton truck chassis from Tysons Ford of Vienna, Va. for \$42,000. An existing dump body will be transferred to the chassis by a separate contract. Roberts said he had done such work himself and felt that having the city mechanics do the work would provide them with a new challenge. Public Works Director Ken Hall felt that the city crew had neither the time nor expertise needed for the job and asked Roberts if he would like to do it. Roberts demurred, saying that would be a conflict of interest.

Another resolution was introduced at the meeting to award much of the city's grounds maintenance operations to a private contractor. McLaughlin commented that with the recent retirement of the Park's Foreman Richard Mills, city staff felt it was a good time to consider a change. He assured concerned councilmembers that existing employees who had been doing this work would be reassigned to other tasks and their jobs would not be affected.

The resolution would award the work to TruGreen LandCare of Ashton, Md., as providing the best bid at a cost of \$47,723. The maintenance work to be done in the contract includes the area surrounding the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, the right-of-way of Cherrywood Lane, the corner of Breezewood and Edmonston Road, the city dogpark on Hanover Drive, Greenspring Park, the median and city-maintained right-of-way on Hanover Parkway south of Greenbelt Road, median strips north of Greenbelt Road on Mandan Road, the area around the Greenbelt Police Station and Animal Control Facility. It also includes areas in the Boxwood Village park, areas along Crescent Road, turf areas around the Municipal Building, the Community Center and the Youth Center, the Lakewood Streamvalley Park, Northway east of Ridge road, grass areas on the walk from Gardenway to the Spellman Overpass, areas along Southway, the Lakecrest Drive Tennis courts and along Legion Drive to the circle at the entrance to Belle Point.

The city would still maintain its ballfields and Albert S. "Buddy" Attick Park. The resolution will be considered for passage at the March 27 meeting of council.

Council unanimously authorized a letter to Neil Petersen,

### City Information

## Greenbelt West: Next Steps

*This is the seventh and final in a series of articles to ensure that Greenbelt residents are aware of the development and redevelopment proposals that are 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.*

This week's article is about the next steps in the process. As was pointed out in one of the earlier articles, the City of Greenbelt by law does not have planning and zoning authority. However, state law does require that in matters of planning and zoning the city must have the opportunity to review and comment on plans that deal with property within its city limits. In the case of Greenbelt Station, the city has negotiated to have approval over site, landscape and other plans.

As readers of this newspaper know, the Greenbelt Station project, AIMCO's plan to rebuild Springhill Lake and the future of Greenbelt Middle School are active matters. Plans are in various stages of consideration. With Greenbelt Station, the city expects detailed site plans for portions of the South Core to be submitted in the very near future. Detailed site plans will show how specific parcels will be developed with buildings, roads, sidewalks, landscaping, recreational amenities, etc. Site plans are not ready for all of the South Core but very well could be in the next 12 months. Plans for the North Core have not progressed nearly as much, though it is expected that conceptual plans, which are the initial ones to be reviewed, could be submitted for review by the end of the year.

Plans for Springhill Lake are slightly behind schedule compared to the plans for the South Core of Greenbelt Station. Preliminary plans of subdivision have been filed but review by the city has not begun yet. Plans of subdivision indicate what portions of the property will be developed and it is during this step of the review process that the adequacy of public facilities (schools, public safety, recreation, parks, roads, etc.) is addressed. These are then followed by detailed site plans.

All these plans must be filed with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) as the official planning review agency. When this is done, the city will receive a copy for its review and consideration. In progression, all these plans will be reviewed by city and M-NCPPC staff, the city's Advisory Planning Board (APB) and possibly other city boards, the City Council, the County Planning Board and, possibly, the County Council (though in this role it is called the District Council). Each of the reviews by the APB, City Council, Planning Board and County Council are open meetings which are publicly advertised.

Anyone interested in staying abreast of these plans can monitor the agendas of the APB and the City Council in the Greenbelt News Review, on the city's cable station Channel 71 and on the city website at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov). The agendas of the Prince George's Planning Board can be found on the web at [www.mncppc.org](http://www.mncppc.org) by looking under Prince George's County and clicking Planning Board. One can also be notified of the progress of plans by registering with M-NCPPC to become a person of record. For more information contact M-NCPPC. The agenda of the County Council is available at [www.co.pg.md.us](http://www.co.pg.md.us) by clicking on Legislative Branch, then Agenda and then District Council. As is apparent, the planning review process is extensive and open to the public at many steps. Given the scale of these projects, the planning process will likely be going on for at least a couple of years, though the earlier one gets involved the better.

Hopefully this series of articles has been useful. The changes being planned and considered for Greenbelt West are exciting and challenging. In many ways Greenbelt West can be viewed as a small community unto itself. What is being discussed is the building of a new community. The original planners of Greenbelt faced similar challenges 70 years ago and today we benefit from their work. With an informed and involved citizenry, we can be as successful.

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).

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administrator of the State Highway Administration, restating the city's longstanding opposition to the Intercounty Connector, which the city finds to be too costly, to cause environmental destruction and to have limited positive aspects on the region's traffic.

Council supported legislation to create a task force to study, survey and assess the adequacy, quality and quantity of juvenile delinquency prevention and diversion services in the state (House Bill 686), increase state police aid (Senate Bill 1020) and provide a \$1,000,000 state grant to the Capital Area Food Bank for its capital campaign to build a new food distribution center (SB 1021/HB 1630).

Council agreed to retain Clif-

ton Gunderson to perform the city's audit for another year. It authorized the mayor to sign a Trash-Free Potomac Action Agreement at a summit meeting on this subject to be held on March 16. The resignation from the Community Relations Advisory Board by Michelle Thomas, who had moved out of the city, was accepted; Bradley Burt was appointed to the Youth Advisory Committee and Jeff Morissette was reappointed to the Advisory Committee on Education. Also, council accepted a joint report from the Advisory Planning Board and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board relating to a master plan for Northway Fields prepared by Clinton and Associates Landscape Architects.