

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

VOL. 70, No. 6

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

DECEMBER 28, 2006

Food, Glorious Food, Fun Await Revelers at Greenbelt New Year

by Chris Cherry, Recreation Department

What's cooking for Greenbelt New Year? A scintillating selection of sweet and savory sensations! Greenbelt abounds in culinary talent and savvy partygoers will take the evening off from cooking and let Greenbelt's master chefs prepare the last dishes of the year.

At the Community Center, chefs Tina Gray and Deborah Taylor are preparing a delicious menu for the Scholarship Café, including Jamaican Jerk Chicken, green bean casserole, sesame noodles, macaroni and cheese and hot dogs. Hot hors d'oeuvres, cookies, brownies, sodas and coffee round out the bill of fare.

Taylor is a longstanding cook for the New Deal Café, where her samosas and vegetarian chili are legendary. Gray is a recent culinary school graduate who cooks for a downtown restaurant and moonlights at the Community Center welcome desk, as does her mother Marie. The Grays hail from Jamaica and their Jamaican Jerk Chicken is an authentic recipe. Proceeds from the Scholarship Café will go to the Mary Purcell



Geiger Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships for arts and senior programs of the Greenbelt Recreation Department.

Upstairs, while talented Greenbelt pianists tickle the ivories in the Greenbelt Piano Lounge, another talented Greenbelter, Chef Lou, will be tickling taste buds with his luscious desserts. Chef Lou is contributing a portion of his proceeds to charity. Partygoers are encouraged to indulge before those New Year's resolutions take effect.

For those who want to dance off their dessert, the Mad Hot Ballroom Dance Party will be in full swing in the Community Center Dance Studio and headliners DC Motors and the Visions of Jazz will be playing in the Com-

munity Center gymnasium.

Entertainment

The menu of entertainment, like the food menu, features items that appeal to different ages. For the little ones, the Blue Sky Puppet Theatre, Magic Mike the Magician and the Disney and All-Season Sing-Alongs in the Piano Lounge are certain to please. Adult partygoers will enjoy having their fortunes told by the Janus Fortune Tellers, watching the Great Big Greenbelt Home Movie, listening to Jim Olson's sets of music from the 30s, 40s and 50s in the Piano Lounge and participating in "Sit Right Down and Write Yourself A Letter," which will be mailed to them the last week of 2007.

Senior citizens are invited to take part in Greenbelt Sages, hosted by the Greenbelt Museum. Archivist and filmmaker Joseph P. Harris will conduct brief video interviews with participating seniors who will share important memories.

The New Deal Café, managed by master chef Ellen Siegel, will

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Town Hall Meeting Called Here To Kick Off Clean Air Campaign

by Steve Kane

The Greenbelt chapter of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN) and the Peace and Justice Coalition of Prince George's County are co-presenting a Town Hall Meeting in Greenbelt at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 9 at the Greenbelt Elementary School to address the human health, environmental and economic impacts of global warming and gas dependent cars. Gasoline-powered vehicles are the leading cause of air pollution in Maryland and help make this area the seventh worst in the nation for air quality and a major cause of respiratory illness and asthma. Maryland is also particularly susceptible to the effects of global warming because of its location and economic reliance on the Chesapeake Bay.

The focus of the evening will be to discuss one potential solution for the state of Maryland – the Maryland Clean Cars Bill. This legislation would raise the minimum pollution standards on all new cars sold in Maryland by signing into law the same low emission vehicle standards set by California and 10 other states. The law would also mandate that two percent of all cars sold in Maryland would be hybrids or alternative fuel vehicles. It would also provide for incentives for

research and development of new low-emission technologies, such as fuel cells or electric cars.

The major purpose of this Town Hall Meeting on clean energy will be to gather together concerned citizens in Greenbelt and Prince George's County who want to take some action to clean Maryland's air and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It will be an opportunity to help send the message to newly elected Maryland state legislators to pass this bill. Several of them, including Senator Paul Pinsky and Delegate Anne Healey, who will be voting on the bill, plan to attend to hear what citizens have to say as well as give their perspective on the proposed legislation. Two years ago this same legislation failed to pass the general assembly by one vote.

The program will include several experts and local elected officials. Greenbelt's Mayor Judith F. Davis and other city officials will present information about how the city is working to use clean energy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and its plans for the future.

Mike Tidwell, founder and director of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network and author of the book, *Ravaging Tide*, will talk about the state of global warming

today and what residents need to do about it here in Maryland. Brad Heavner, state director of Environment Maryland, will discuss how 11 other states around the country have passed clean cars bills. Jennifer Garman, environmental coordinator of My Organic Market, will discuss the responsibility of business to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Electric Vehicle Association of Greater Washington, D.C., will display plug-in electric vehicles in the school parking lot. These cars and light trucks use electric motors, have no internal combustion engine and produce zero emissions. They are recharged using in-home electric current.

Local folk singer/humorist Dan Hart will perform traditional and not so traditional environmental songs to get the crowd in the correct frame of mind to save the world.

CCAN is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to build local grassroots volunteer chapters to educate the public about global warming and to help promote the necessary changes to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including lobbying for legislation that would help to do so. Last

See TOWN MTG., page 6



A crane is seen taking down the Mobil sign.

Greenbelt Mobil Station Changes to Sunoco

"You may have noticed the new Sunoco sign at Roosevelt Center. The brand may change but the faces will remain the same," reports Bill Novick, owner.

"After 39 years of flying the Mobil flag it has now changed to Sunoco. Management and staff will stay the same; only

the brand will change. This may inconvenience some Mobil credit card customers but cards can be converted to Sunoco.

"We are excited with the change and look forward to providing our customers with the same quality products and service that we have in the past," said Novick.



PHOTOS BY BILL SOUSER

Passersby can now see a new name on the familiar establishment.

SHL Preliminary Plan Hearing

Springhill Lake Associates was granted a request from the Prince George's County Planning Board for reconsideration of Preliminary Plan 4-05082-Springhill Lake. The application is scheduled to be heard on its merits at the planning board's regular meeting at 10 a.m. January 11 in the County Administration Building at 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro.

What Goes On

Sunday, December 31

7 p.m. til after midnight, New Year's Eve Celebration, Community Center, Roosevelt Center, New Deal Café and Youth Center

Monday, January 1 – City and GHI Offices Closed in Observance of New Year's Holiday

Tuesday, January 2 – Registration for Winter Adult Classes at Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center

Monday, January 8

8 p.m., Public Hearing on the City of Greenbelt Entering into a Non-Exclusive Agreement with Verizon Maryland, Inc. to Provide Cable Television Services, Municipal Building

Tuesday, January 9

7 p.m., Town Hall Meeting on Global Warming, Greenbelt Elementary School

Editorial**Expecting Too Much**

In a letter on this page, Chief Communications Officer for the Prince George's County Public Schools John White explains a new law that requires volunteers who work with children in schools and particularly volunteer individual tutors to undergo background checks at an initial cost that may be as much as \$66. We think that is expecting too much of school volunteers.

We share the concerns of many parents, teachers and others that child molesters and other dangerous people should be prevented from having access to children. We support the laws now on the books that require educational workers and other school employees to have background checks in order to work with children. We understand that there is a cost to performing a background check on individuals and that the agencies performing this sort of work should be reimbursed for those costs – either by the individual being screened or the individual's employer. We also agree that volunteers in the school system who work with children, particularly those providing individual tutoring, should also be screened.

However, expecting an individual willing to volunteer to help with the education of our children to shell out \$66 for a full fingerprint background check as White explained is an exorbitant price to expect anyone to pay to make such a wonderful volunteer effort to help the children of this county.

Therefore, we ask our county school administration, our school board and our senator and delegates to the Maryland legislature to immediately look into this matter and find a way to satisfactorily resolve this dilemma in a way other than at the expense of school volunteers.

New Deal Exhibits Paintings in January

For the month of January, the New Deal Café in Roosevelt Center will be displaying "The Martins: A Year of Painting" in the front room. This show features paintings that were created over the past year by Lori and John Martin. John and Lori paint in the visual arts studio at Greenbelt Community Center most Sunday mornings while listening to jazz music and "What Do You Know?" on the radio.

John and Lori are married and live in Old Greenbelt. Lori has been painting with oils since 1995. Her small still lifes are of organic and luminescent objects. They convey a spirit of simplicity and thoughtfulness. John began painting in 2006 and works with acrylics. He paints everyday objects with fine detail and clever humor.

The show runs through the month of January with an opening reception to be held from 7 to 9 p.m. on Sunday, January 7. This art show is sponsored by Friends of New Deal Café Arts and was made possible in part by support by the Prince George's Art Council, and Prince George's County.

Volunteers Needed To Help Children

The office of the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)/Prince George's County, Inc. is recruiting volunteers to advocate for the needs of abused and neglected children in Prince George's County. CASA provides training and supervision to volunteers who spend time getting to know the children and what is in their best interests. Volunteers also collaborate with teachers, social workers and attorneys to ensure that the children's needs are addressed. CASA volunteers present their recommendations about the children's needs to the court.

CASA/Prince George's County is now accepting applications for day and evening training sessions. Bilingual volunteers are especially needed and urged to apply. For more information visit the CASA website at www.pgcasa.org or call 301-209-0491.

Winter Campfire Fun For Whole Family

Ages 3 and up can enjoy gathering around a cozy campfire, roasting marshmallows and sipping hot cocoa on Saturday, January 6 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at Clearwater Nature Center, 11000 Thrift Road in Clinton.

While there, listen to nature stories and lore and perhaps meet some of the resident animals. Nature-themed campfire programs are for the whole family.

There is a fee. Reservations are required; call 301-583-2665 or visit www.pgparks.com. This is SMARTlink activity #93048.

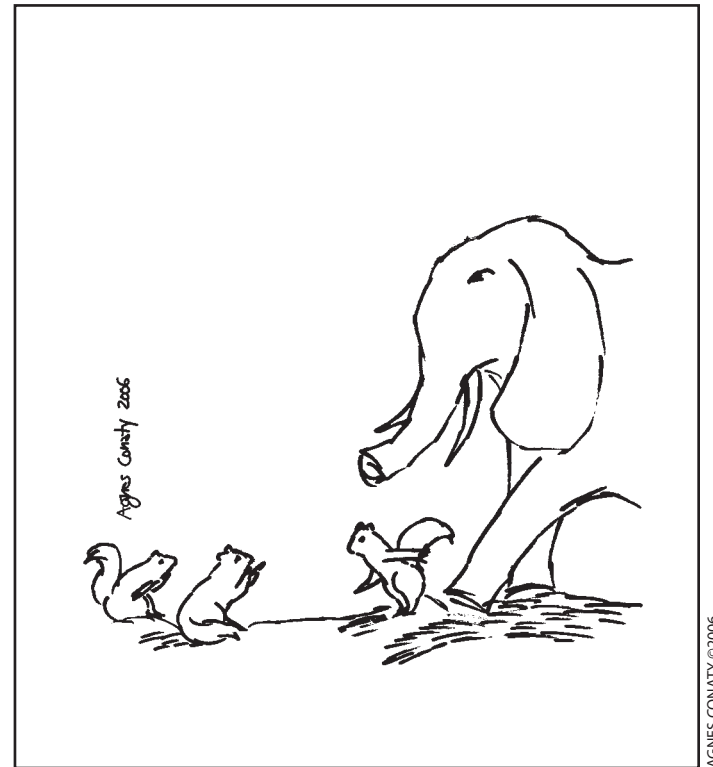
OLD GREENBELT THEATRE**WEEK OF DEC. 29****The Good Shepherd (R)**Friday – Monday

*1, *4:20, 7:45

Tuesday - Thursday

*4:20, 7:35

*These shows at \$5.00

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

"I got a white elephant for a gift . . .
I mean literally!"

Letters to the Editor**Official Explanation: Background Checks**

I am writing to express sincere appreciation for the Greenbelt Elementary School Parent Teacher Association's letter (November 23) regarding background checks and new procedures for volunteering in Prince George's County Public Schools and to clarify key points and misperceptions.

While not every volunteer must undergo a background check, new procedures go into effect on January 2, 2007, to make schools even safer for children and the many volunteers who generously donate their time and effort to our students.

A background check is not required for volunteers working in a capacity where no uncontrolled access is anticipated on a one-time basis or on a sporadic basis. For example, reading to a class one day, attending career day or chaperoning a school dance does not require a background check.

The new procedures are designed to protect children without discouraging volunteerism.

Volunteers working in a classroom on an ongoing basis where no uncontrolled access is anticipated or participating in a field trip must complete a commercial background check through the school system at a cost of \$10 annually.

Any volunteers working with children where uncontrolled access is anticipated, such as those working with students in an unsupervised capacity on school grounds, off of school property or after school, are required to complete a full fingerprint background check at a one-time cost of \$66.

The anonymous donor who covered the expense of background checks recently administered at Greenbelt Elementary School should be applauded. The school system is also exploring ways to fund background checks for volunteers.

Each school district must make its own decisions on volunteers

and safety. Prince George's County Public Schools wants to ensure that reasonable steps are taken to keep children safe without excluding parents and the community from the process.

Administrative Procedure 4215 can be read online at www.pgcps.org for complete details. If there are questions, speak with your school principal or call the Fingerprinting Office at 301-952-6775.

*John White,
Chief Communications Officer
Prince George's County
Public Schools*

THANKS

In response to the request of the American Red Cross, a special Christmas blood drive was held at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center on December 22. It was sponsored by the Greenbelt Recreation Department, Springhill Lake Apartments (AIMCO) and the American Red Cross.

Since this drive was held only 35 days after the last blood drive, many people could not donate blood this time. Even so, this drive was considered a success and helped the American Red Cross increase their inventory.

As usual, thanks go to the American Red Cross personnel and to the volunteers.

The next blood drive will be held on Friday, February 23 from noon to 6 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. Those who have not already made an appointment through the Red Cross should call Janet Goldberg at 301-397-2212. As was the case in the last blood drive, walk-ins will be accepted at the end of each hour to fill in for no-show appointments.

*Janet Goldberg
Recreation Coordinator*

**How Many Raptors Live Near Here?**

Teens can join the census, raptor census that is, on Saturday, January 6 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Mt. Rainier Nature and Recreation Center, 4701 31st Place, Mt. Rainier. A van trip to study the raptors in the area will leave from and return to the Center.

Students 10 to 17 years old, including those who would like to earn service/learning hours, can join this search for hawks that stay here year round. Dress for the weather, bring binoculars, lunch and a drink. Space is limited for this free activity, so sign up by calling 301-927-2163 or TTY 301-699-2544.

Boating Class Starts in January

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 72 is offering an advanced coastal navigation class, which will meet twice a week for six weeks, Monday and Wednesday evenings starting Wednesday, January 20 at High Point High School, 3601 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville. Among the subjects covered are navigation tools and references, chart reading, dead reckoning, piloting, tides and currents. The only cost is for books and charts.

To register call Steve at 410-531-3313 or Jean at 301-779-3184 after 9 a.m. or email tsktsk10@hotmail.com.

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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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

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

A Rabid Raccoon Creates Neighborhood Excitement

by Sue Krofchik

Before you complain about your day, think about Pat Ball of Fayette Place in Lakewood. On the morning of December 23 when she went outside to pick up her newspaper from the lawn, she "heard shrieking and saw an animal coming around the corner running at me." Fortunately she had her cane.

"It grabbed my pants and bit me in the leg. I hit it with my cane," she said. It ran one way and she hobbled the other as best she could, up the steps back into her house. It was 6 a.m. and still dark so she could not see clearly what had attacked her.

A few hours later, around 11 a.m., Ball looked out the window and saw a raccoon wobbling along the sidewalk in the Fayette Place cul-de-sac, heading north. She called police to report both the raccoon and the 6 a.m. incident. Police responded and advised her to get immediate medical attention for the bite. She headed to the hospital emergency room as the police began a search for the raccoon.

At 12:26 p.m. three police officers located a raccoon appearing to be in distress in the 65 court of Ridge Road. According to Greenbelt police shift supervisor Sgt. Matthew Carr, the animal was destroyed according to protocol and the remains transferred to Prince George's County Animal Control then on to Baltimore for rabies testing. It tested positive

for rabies.

Meanwhile Ball was administered her first set of rabies shots on December 23. She will undergo four or five more sessions before January 20. If anyone else had contact with a raccoon around the time of this December 23 incident, they should contact their health care provider.

After Ball was bitten at 6 a.m., authorities were notified about 7 a.m. that a raccoon was seen on Hillside Road, northeast of Fayette. Despite a search by animal control warden Patti Brothers, none was located. Apparently the raccoon had headed southwest through woods and backyards, because it was seen again by Ball at 11 a.m., back in the Fayette Place cul-de-sac.

Fayette Place resident Kathleen McFarland saw a raccoon about noon as she was driving west on Greenhill, heading home, just past the Hillside and Research Road intersection. Research Road leads to Ridge and the garden side of 65 court.

Resident Mary Camp heard two loud noises about 12:30 p.m. that sounded like "big bangs." After the second one she looked out the window and saw two police cars and three officers. One opened the trunk of his cruiser and took out a large red plastic bag.

The large circle this raccoon had been making since 6 a.m. had finally ended.

County Students Have Mandatory Homework

In a program called "Keeping Students on Course for Success," the school system has announced that they sent home winter vacation homework packets to boost student achievement, helping children prepare for important upcoming exams for the third year in a row.

Prince George's County public school students received winter vacation skills packets to continue preparing for Advanced Placement tests and state and national assessments.

"Parents can help keep their students on track for a successful school year by ensuring winter vacation homework packets are completed and returned on time," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. John E. Deasy. "Every child should relax and enjoy the holiday season but we must also ensure students are prepared to perform their best during this annual testing season."

Winter vacation homework packets for students in pre-kindergarten through Grade 10 were sent home last week. Homework should be completed and returned to school when classes resume on January 2. Students will receive a grade for this work. If students did not receive or bring home the packets, winter vacation homework can be downloaded at www.pgcps.org.

"This work is particularly important for the Class of 2009, the first class of high school students who must pass state assessment exams in four subjects to earn a diploma," Deasy added.

The state High School Assessment (HSA) exams are scheduled for January 8 through 11. Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) is supporting high school students as they prepare for assessments in algebra/data analysis, reading/English language arts, biology and (local, state and national) government.

The Maryland School Assessments (MSA) will be administered March 12 through 21 for students in Grades 3 through 8.

Community Events

GEAC to Meet

The next meeting of the Greenbelt East Advisory Committee (GEAC) will be Thursday, January 4 at 7:30 p.m. at Greenbriar.

Golden Age Club

The New Year is fast approaching and the meeting on January 3 will be installation of officers for 2007. Let's have a good turnout to welcome them and show lots of support.

This is the season for wishing everyone health and peace and to share our joys with loved ones.

To everyone: A Joyous New Year!

At the Library

The library will be closed on Monday, January 1.

Storytimes

Tuesday, January 2, 10:30 a.m. – Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months with caregiver, limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, January 3, Toddlertime, at 10:30 and repeated again at 11 a.m. For ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, limit 15 children.

Thursday, January 4, 10:30 a.m. Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5. Limit 20 children.

Postal Unit Is Now Open



Limited postal services are now available in the Municipal Building Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wishes, Hopes Theme For Artful Afternoon

January's Artful Afternoon program will be held on Sunday, January 7 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Community Center. Participants will have the chance to contribute to a community book of hopes and wishes in Artful Afternoon's free art project. Also offered will be a free memory game tournament for all ages.

Led by Artist-in-residence Kathy Karlson from 1 to 3 p.m., people will make hopes, wishes and memories with creative writing and visual art to compile a community book of wishes and hopes for 2007.

At 3 p.m. everyone is invited to join in an all-ages memory game tournament, using game cards created by local artists especially for this show.

Each month during Artful Afternoon, Open Studios gives art fans the opportunity to talk to the artists-in-residence as they demonstrate their work in the 3rd floor studios, from 1 to 5 p.m. See whimsical sculpture displays scattered throughout the Center, created by community members at previous events.

Museum tours are held from 1 to 5 p.m. at 10-B Crescent Road at the historic 1930s home operated by the Greenbelt Museum.

Artful Afternoons are held the first Sunday of every month from 1 to 5 p.m. with hands-on art projects, performances, open studios and other activities.

For additional information visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/ARTS or call Barbara Dickey Davis at 240-542-2062.

County Gives Seniors A Free TheBus Ride

The Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation has announced a new fare policy for TheBus. Seniors (55 and older) and disabled customers can now ride TheBus free by providing proper identification – a driver's license, Metro Senior or Disabled ID, MetroAccess card or similar ID. Additionally, one personal companion rides free with a MetroAccess cardholder. Riders utilizing the free fare will not receive a paper transfer. Call 301-883-5656 for more information.

Boys and Girls Club Website Launched

The Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club has a newly-designed website. Soon it will be possible to also register online, print out game schedules and get field/court directions. The website address is www.greenbeltbgc.com. Comments and suggestions are welcome; send them to gbgcinfo@greenbeltbgc.com

Academy 8 Theatres

Beltway Plaza Mall
Center Court
301-220-1155

All shows starting before 6 p.m.
Are ONLY \$5.00
R = ID Required
(!) = No pass, No Discount Ticket

Week of December 29 FRI. – SAT.

(!) Night at the Museum – PG
12:20, 2:40, 5:30, 8, 10:30
(!) Black Christmas – R
12:10, 2:50, 5:45, 8:10, 10:20

(!) Dreamgirls – PG-13
1, 3:50, 6:45, 9:45

(!) We Are Marshall – PG
12:50, 4, 7, 9:50

(!) Happy Feet – PG
12:10, 2:40, 5:30, 8

(!) Charlotte's Web – G
12:30, 3:10 5:45, 8:10, 10:20
(!) Pursuit of Happyness – PG-13
1, 4:10, 7, 9:45

(!) Rocky Balboa – PG
12:30, 3:00, 5:45, 8:10, 10:35
(!) Déjà Vu – PG-13
10:20

SUN. – MON.

(!) Night at the Museum – PG
12:20, 2:40, 5:30, 8
(!) Black Christmas – R
12:10, 2:50, 5:45, 8:10

(!) Dreamgirls – PG-13
12, 2:50, 5:35, 8:30

(!) We Are Marshall – PG
12:50, 4, 7

(!) Happy Feet – PG
12:10, 2:40, 5:30, 8

(!) Charlotte's Web – G
12:30, 3:10 5:45, 8:10

(!) Pursuit of Happyness – PG-13
12, 3, 5:45, 8:30

(!) Rocky Balboa – PG
12:30, 3:00, 5:45, 8:10

TUE. – THUR.

(!) Night at the Museum – PG
5:30, 8

(!) Black Christmas – R
5:45, 8:10

(!) Dreamgirls – PG-13
5:35, 8:30

(!) We Are Marshall – PG
5:15, 8

(!) Happy Feet – PG
5:30, 8

(!) Charlotte's Web – G
5:45, 8:10

(!) Pursuit of Happyness – PG-13
5:45, 8:30

(!) Rocky Balboa – PG
5:45, 8:10

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Greenbelt East
Advisory Committee
(GEAC)



The Lions Club of Greenbelt wishes to express our appreciation to our neighbors who have supported our endeavors. Our programs are in the form of vision, glaucoma and hearing tests; eyeglasses to those in need; pre-school vision screening; holiday toys to children in need; support of Scouting; youth programs; etc.

Thank you for helping with our White Cane Days, the Holiday Toy Drive, attending our Pancake Breakfast with Santa, and for letting us wrap your holiday gifts at Beltway Plaza, all of which support these programs.

Happy Holidays and a wonderful New Year!

Share details about your organization's activities for the Community Events page.

Obituaries

Joseph V. Rimar



Joseph Vincent Rimar, 85, of Greenbelt died of congestive heart failure on Friday December 22, 2006.

Joe was born the fourth of 11 children in Madeira, Pa., on February 18, 1921. Enlisting in the Marines Corps in 1942, Joe served in the South Pacific during World War II, receiving an honorable discharge in 1946.

Joe married Elinor Souder September 11, 1943. They moved to Greenbelt in November 1947. Joe and Ellie and their two sons, Joe and Andy, lived for 20 years on Laurel Hill Road and, in 1967, moved to Hillside Road.

From 1947 until 1950 Joe drove streetcars in Washington, D.C. In 1950 he began working as a cartographer for the Naval Hydrographic Office in Suitland. After 30 years of service Joe retired in January 1980 and played golf regularly for the next 20 years.

During junior high school Joe began writing poems, a passion he continued throughout his lifetime. In 2002 he published his first book "Sands of Time" and in 2004 he published his second book "Sands of Time Extended." Both books are recorded in the U.S. Library of Congress and 11 of Joe's poems are published in "Anthologies" as well as in various magazines.

Joe was a member of the



Ellie and Joe Rimar

Greenbelt American Legion and the Greenbelt VFW. He was active in the Golden Age Club, where he served as "Poet Laureate." He was also a proud lifetime member of the Marine Corps League and the Sea-going Marines.

Joe is survived by his wife of 63 years Ellie, his son Joe, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Son Andy preceded him in death in 2004.

A memorial service will be held on January 6, 2007, at 1 p.m. at the Donald V. Borgwardt Funeral Home, 4400 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville (phone: 301-937-1707).



Greenbelt Alert System Now Available for Use

As an initiative of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), the City of Greenbelt has had access to an area-wide alert system over the past year. The current system, which was being tested as a public officials and employee system, will now become available at no cost to any resident who would like to sign up. The city has now launched "Greenbelt ALERT," the public portion of this text-based emergency communications system. Through Greenbelt ALERT, city officials will be able to instantly send out important messages, updates or instructions to city residents via any wireless communication devices.

Greenbelt ALERT was demonstrated at a city council meeting this summer, as part of a briefing on emergency preparedness. "In emergency situations, it is imperative to have a variety of methods to alert our citizens and dispense important information," said Mayor Judith Davis.

In the event of an emergency, Greenbelt ALERT will be able to deliver messages to any wireless device which is registered by a citizen through this program. Residents can register up to four devices which may include: email accounts, cell phones, text pagers, BlackBerrys and/or wireless PDAs. Participation in Greenbelt ALERT is free and totally voluntary.

The software and hardware for this system was purchased with Federal Homeland Security grant funding through the COG. Interested Greenbelt residents can go to <http://alert.greenbeltmd.gov> to sign up for this new service. Wireless carriers may charge a fee to receive text messages.

Local Blood Supply Is Dangerously Low

The Greater Chesapeake & Potomac Blood Services Region of the American Red Cross is issuing an urgent plea for immediate blood donations due to low blood donor turnout and the projection of a difficult holiday season.

For information and to schedule an appointment call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit www.myredcross.org. Platelet donors may schedule appointments by calling 1-800-272-2123.

Jungle Plants Are Also Houseplants

Draw inspiration for inside gardens from the U.S. Botanic Garden jungle and the tropical plant specialist who cares for it at a lecture on Wednesday, January 3 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Get basic care and pest information, then tour the Conservatory jungle and see plants to consider for home use. The lecture is free but pre-registration is required. To register call 202-225-2226 or visit www.usbg.gov/education/events.

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

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ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

301-474-4322



Mass Schedule:

Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Pastor: Fr. Walter J. Tappe

Pastoral Associate: Fr. R. Scott Hurd

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH



6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111

Sunday, December 31, 2006

10 am Worship Service



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



Our sympathy to Ellie Rimar on the death of her husband Joe. Golden Agers will miss his birthday poems which he wrote for each month.

Congratulations to former Aquatics Supervisor George Rogala who recently retired. He was with the Recreation Dept. for 31 years and plans to stay in the area.

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church



3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi

Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

December 31, 10 a.m. -

"Should Auld Acquaintance Be Forgot?"

Guest Paint Branchers with Michael Legere, worship associate

No R.E. today.

- Barbara W. and Jaco B. ten Hove, co-ministers



Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hillside & Crescent Roads

Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings

www.greenbelt.com/gccucc/

Sunday Worship

10:15 a.m.

Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

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

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212

www.greenbeltbaptist.org greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net

Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor

Sundays:

Traditional Service 8:30 am

Sunday School 9:45 am

Contemporary Service 11:00 am

Weds. Worship: 7:00 pm

(Adult Bible Study/Prayer & Children's Ministry)

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301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org

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

An inclusive congregation!



Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Sundays 10 A.M. Municipal Building

Baha'i Faith

"Were man to appreciate the greatness of his station and the loftiness of his destiny he would manifest naught save goodly character, pure deeds, and a seemly and praiseworthy conduct." - Bahá'u'lláh

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

www.bahai.org www.us.bahai.org

Learn About Islam

GIVE THANKS

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

Remember to count your blessings. For more information about gratefulness from an Islamic perspective, call 301-982-9463 or email info@searchislam.org or visit www.searchislam.org.



Bible Study & Worship

9:30 "Good Morning!!" Coffee and Snacks
10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Worship
Greenbelt Youth Center
99 Centerway (Behind the Community Center)

December 31 Sermon: When All Else Fails, Read the Directions

Pastor Lou Redd
301-474-4499 410-340-8242 (cell)
...living life together

Immunizations Are Required for Students

New school immunization requirements became mandatory in Maryland last year (COMAR 10.06.04.03E(2)) and go into effect January 2007. The regulation states that students in grades 5 through 9 who fail to meet state immunization requirements can be excluded from school.

Beginning January 2 all students in grades 5 to 9 must show proof of Hepatitis B vaccination or proof of immunity. They must also show proof of Varicella (chicken pox) vaccination, proof of immunity or doctor's documentation of chicken pox disease with the month and year of infection. If students do not meet these requirements, they must have an appointment for their immunizations to be administered on or before January 20.

The school system encourages parents to contact their child's doctor to ensure their child meets these requirements. In response to the deadline, the Prince George's County Health Department is offering three special Saturday clinics in January, along with its regular free immunization clinics. Appointments are required.

Immunizations will be administered at the Cheverly Health Center, 3003 Hospital Drive, Cheverly on Mondays from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.; Tuesdays from noon to 4 p.m.; Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays from 8 a.m. to noon; and special Saturday clinics on January 6 and 13 from 9 to 11:45 a.m., where up to 50 immunizations per hour will be done. At the D. Leonard Dyer Regional Health Center, 9314 Piscataway Road in Clinton immunizations are offered the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 8 a.m. to noon and a special Saturday clinic on January 20 at a time to be determined.

The Laurel Maternal and Child Health Center at 13976 Baltimore Avenue in Laurel offers immunizations on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

For information and to make an appointment, call the Prince George's County Health Department at 301-583-3300. Those who do not have health insurance for their child/children's other medical needs are asked to call the Healthline at 1-888-561-4049.

Bowie-Crofton Camera Club Has Full Calendar

The Bowie-Crofton Camera Club is open to anyone interested in photography and the art of photography. Meetings take place every Monday beginning at 7 p.m. at All Saints Lutheran Church at the corner of Mt. Oak Road and Route 301. For information and upcoming events contact 301-725-0234 or visit www.B-CCC.org.



PHOTOS BY BILL SOUSER

The Community Center provides a dramatic presence with its holiday decorations.



City Information

GREENBELT NEW YEAR 2007: LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD

Join your friends and neighbors for a hometown New Year's Eve celebration featuring entertainment for all ages. The party begins at 7:00 pm on Sunday, December 31 and lasts till after midnight. Your wristband admits you to all of these events at adjoining venues in historic Greenbelt:

In the Community Center: Visions of Jazz, DC Motors, Magic Mike the Magician, Blue Sky Puppet Theater, Greenbelt Piano Lounge, Mad Hot Ballroom Dance Party and Mini-Lessons with Frank Solomon, Sit Right Down and Write Yourself A Letter, Greenbelt Sages Video Interviews, Janus Fortune Tellers and Memory Card Game, New Year Craft Workshop, Countdown to Midnight

In Roosevelt Center: Greenbelt Girl Scouts Campfire in the Plaza with Song Leader Melissa Sites, Tim the Storyteller, and genuine Girl Scout S'mores, Elegant, featuring Vasili, at the New Deal Café, Camp Cabaret at the Greenbelt Arts Center, The Alex Martin Trio at the New Deal Café, GAVA/GATE Animation Festival at the Greenbelt Movie Theatre

In the Youth Center: Greenbelt Idol Contest, Giant Action Games, Improv Asylum, Wacky Hair Salon

Admission wristbands now on sale now at the Community Center and the Co-op Supermarket. Cost: \$5 in advance; \$7 at the door. Children 5 and under admitted free. For more information, call the Community Center at 301-397-2208. Hosted by the Greenbelt Recreation Department and Greenbelt Community Organizations.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City Offices will be closed Monday, January 1st for the New Year's Holiday.

REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Week of January 1st
 Monday Route – Collected Tuesday
 Tuesday Route – Collected Wednesday
 Wednesday Route – Collected Thursday
 Thursday Route – Collected Friday
 There will be no appliance or yard waste collections on Friday, January 5th.

GREENBELT CONNECTION

The Greenbelt Connection will not be operating on Monday, January 1st. The Connection will operate from 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 31st.

GREENBELT AQUATIC AND FITNESS CENTER WINTER ADULT CLASSES JANUARY 2-FEBRUARY 24

Register now at the Aquatic and Fitness Center, 101 Centerway, 301-397-2204. For a listing of classes, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR GREENBELT NEW YEAR!

CALLING ALL GREENBELT ARTS CENTER DIVAS AND DIVOS!

Fun is in the cards for Greenbelt New Year partygoers, courtesy of the fabulous fortune telling performers of the Greenbelt Arts Center! Sign up for a shift of prognostication, and attend the entire celebration for free!

Call Chris Cherry at 240-542-2055 to sign up.

CALLING ALL GREENBELT SENIOR CITIZENS!

The Greenbelt Museum will film Greenbelt Sages, a series of brief video interviews, during Greenbelt New Year 2007 on December 31. Is there a particular memory you would like to share with current and future Greenbelters? We want to include it in the video archive! Participants will receive a DVD of the interviews. Call the Community Center business office at 301-397-2208 to book a 20-minute interview slot.

CALLING ALL MEMBERS AND ALUMNI OF ALONIZ!

ALONIZ! members past and present are welcome to join alumnus Jesse Folks in the Improv Asylum at Greenbelt New Year on December 31. You can also put your improvisation skills to work as a fortune teller! An hour of improv gets you free admission to the event!

Call Chris Cherry at 240-542-2055 to sign up.

CALLING ALL FRIENDS OF THE MARY PURCELL GEIGER SCHOLARSHIP FUND!

Concession sales at the Community Center during Greenbelt New Year will benefit the Mary Purcell Geiger Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships for arts and senior programs of the Greenbelt Recreation Department. Volunteer for a shift in the kitchen, and receive free admission to the celebration!

Call Chris Cherry at 240-542-2055 to sign up.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CITY OF GREENBELT ENTERING INTO A NON-EXCLUSIVE AGREEMENT WITH VERIZON MARYLAND, INC. TO PROVIDE CABLE TELEVISION SERVICES

Monday, January 8 at 8pm
 Municipal Building
 25 Crescent Road

A copy of the agreement may be downloaded at www.greenbeltmd.gov

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups. Vacancies exist on the: Arts Advisory Board, Advisory Committee on Education, Advisory Planning Board, Employee Relations Board, Public Safety Advisory Committee, Recycling & Environment Advisory Committee, Youth Advisory Committee (youth and adult positions)

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





PHOTOS BY BILL SOUSER

Lights abound throughout the city, even draped across this dancing bear at the Community Center.

Savvy Environmentalist

Just Changing Light Bulbs Can Help the Environment

by Joe Gareri and Holly Wheeler

Every day we hear about problems threatening the health of our world: air pollution, water pollution and sprawl that eats away open space. These are not just theoretical problems affecting people elsewhere; they threaten our quality of life right here in Greenbelt.

Fortunately, just as our individual actions have played a role in causing these problems, our individual choices can play a role in solving them. The good news is that all of us can do something to ensure that our children and grandchildren inherit a clean, healthy environment and go on to enjoy the quality of life that we ourselves have enjoyed.

With this column, our goal is to offer specific, straightforward ideas on what all of us can do to minimize our impact on our environment. Even better, most of these ideas will save us money.

In these times of rising heating costs, gas prices and electric bills, taking a few steps that are good for our planet and also save money is pretty savvy. It can be as simple as screwing in a light bulb. A compact fluorescent light (or CFL) to be specific.

We all have visions of the old fluorescent bulbs – the flickering blue light that gave rooms an institutional look. But fluorescent bulbs have come a long way.

According to the Maryland Energy Administration, five to 10 percent of the average household's energy costs are spent on lighting. With CFLs using up to 75 percent less electricity to produce the same amount of light, replacing just four of the most-used bulbs with CFLs can save up to \$200 over the lifetime of the bulbs.

Using less electricity means less electricity generated, which results in significantly lower environmental impacts. Sixty-four

percent of Maryland's electricity comes from coal, petroleum or natural gas, all of which release carbon dioxide – the leading pollutant linked to global climate change.

CFL Bulbs

The Environmental Protection Agency shows that if every American household replaced just one traditional bulb with an Energy Star-rated CFL, the U.S. would save enough energy to light more than 2.5 million homes for a year. It would also prevent greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions of nearly 800,000 cars.

The key is selecting the right CFL for one's use. First, one should look for the Energy Star label. To qualify for Energy Star certification, the CFL must use at least two-thirds less energy than standard bulbs, last up to 10 times longer, save \$30 or more in energy costs over the bulb's lifetime, turn on instantly and produce no sound.

Next, one should select for brightness and color. Because CFLs use fewer watts, one should look for how many watts the CFL is equivalent to (a 15-watt CFL is equivalent to a 60-watt standard bulb). For color, CFLs identified as 2,650-3,200 degrees Kelvin or "warm white" will produce light similar to the color of standard bulbs; higher Kelvin ratings will produce a brighter light ("day-light").

CFLs, however, are often larger than the equivalent standard bulbs (adapters are available). In addition, specially designed bulbs are required for dimming, three-way, outdoor and enclosed fixtures.

For more information, visit the Energy Star website at www.energystar.gov. We invite those with ideas on subjects for future articles to write us at savvyenvironmentalist@gmail.com.

NEW YEAR continued from page 1

be a Greenbelt New Year venue again this year, offering sumptuous hot foods and desserts including regular favorites and special holiday treats. The Café will also serve a breakfast buffet beginning at 12:30 a.m. Entertainment on tap at the Café includes Elegant which plays a mix of Euro-folk and jazz and the Alex Martin Trio which plays Brazilian and American jazz.

Outside in Roosevelt Center another culinary delight will be available for partygoers gathered around the Community Campfire. The Greenbelt Girl Scouts, who are hosting the campfire, will prepare genuine Girl Scout s'mores. This excellent invention, a felicitous combination of graham cracker, chocolate bar and toasted marshmallow, deserves a merit badge of its own.

Rumors that campfire song leader Melissa Sites and storyteller Tim Livengood insist on alternating their sets so that each has the opportunity to consume several s'mores cannot be confirmed.

It would be completely unreasonable to expect teenagers to go without pizza for the five hours during which the celebration will take place, so GreenBELT Pride will be selling pizza at the Youth Center along with chips, sodas, and baked goods. Partygoers who stop by for a slice will also want to catch the Greenbelt Idol contest, adventure games, the Wacky Hair Salon and the Improv Asylum.

Admission wristbands for Greenbelt New Year are on sale now at the Community Center, Youth Center and Co-op Supermarket. Children five and under are admitted free.

TOWN MTG. continued from page 1

year CCAN was instrumental in helping to pass Maryland's Healthy Air Act, which forces the seven Maryland power plants to reduce emissions of four main pollutants.

The Greenbelt chapter of CCAN was formed last August in response to community interest to Al Gore's movie, "An Inconvenient Truth," which played at the Old Greenbelt Theatre at that time. Seventy-five people, mostly Greenbelters, attended two discussion groups at the New Deal Café, to discuss their concerns generated by the movie and to talk about what they could do to help solve the challenge of global warming. Of this group, 10 residents started meeting weekly. The Peace and Justice Coalition of Prince George's County networks between the many groups and individuals working for peace, justice and a clean environment and believes in the use of nonviolent means of conflict resolution, movement toward sustainable energy and fairness and justice to all humans and the earth.

Several Greenbelt and Prince George's County organizations will co-sponsor the event and have exhibits demonstrating their commitment to cleaning up the environment.

Contact Steve Kane at sr.kane@verizon.net for more information about this event. Greenbelt Elementary School is located at 66 Ridge Road.

Without Surprises So Far City Finances Look Good

After completing five months of the fiscal year in November, the city financial situation appears to be in good shape according to City Treasurer Jeff Williams. The city has already realized 70 percent of its revenues, which is two percent more than it had realized at this time last year. On the expenditure side the city is slightly behind its typical rate of expenditure for this time of year.

The good news, according to Williams, is that there have been no fiscal surprises this year. He attributes this to the city locking in favorable rates for electricity and natural gas. While the price of gasoline and motor fuel has risen slightly since bottoming out several weeks ago, the big picture, Williams believes, shows that oil reserves nationally are steady or rising as a result of warmer than normal temperatures this late in the fall.

Under revenues, Williams financial report shows that the city has already collected slightly more than its budgeted amount for real estate taxes. It has also realized almost \$500,000 more in corporate personal property taxes than in the previous year when collections fell short. Williams notes that this year's collections follows the historically typical pattern of collections for this tax. Revenues earned from investment of on-hand city funds is higher than a year ago by almost \$15,000 reflecting expected higher interest rates. Revenues for the

Aquatic and Fitness Center and the Community Center are up slightly for the current year and the revenue for the city's summer camp programs increased by approximately \$21,000.

Down Side

On the down side, however, are revenues from red light camera operations which through November are \$27,000 less than for the prior year. Williams reported that red light camera revenues have declined each year since FY 2003 and that, perhaps for the first time since the program began, costs exceed revenues. He said that this may be a sign that the program is successful as violations may be on the decline. Further review of the program is to be done in December.

On the other hand, parking ticket revenues are ahead of last year by approximately \$6,000. Williams expects the recent decision to change parking ticket collection vendors to have an even greater positive effect on the revenues received from fines paid by parking violators.

While total city expenditures are slightly behind a year ago, Williams notes that no expenditures have yet been made for capital items budgeted. The two largest capital expenses are for the purchase of police cars and the transfer of funds to a fire equipment reserve fund. Williams notes that the new police vehicles are now on order and that the fire equipment fund transfer will be made in December.

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Prince George's Publick Playhouse Parks & Recreation
M E N G P P C

**Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket
5x16**

Police Blotter

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

Robberies

December 17, 10:32 p.m., 9100 block Edmonston Court, a man reported that he was approached by a young man in a parking lot. The man asked him for a ride to the Metro Station. A second young man then approached him from behind, displayed a handgun and demanded his wallet and keys. After getting the wallet and keys the men fled the area on foot. Both suspects are described as black males, 15 to 20 years of age, 6', wearing black hooded sweatshirts.

December 20, 8:19 p.m., 6200 block Springhill Court, a man reported that he was walking in front of an apartment building when he was approached by two men. One of the men was holding what appeared to be a handgun and announced a robbery. The victim fled the scene and called police. Both suspects are described as black males, 18 to 25 years of age, 5'11", 180 pounds with black hair, brown eyes, a dark complexion, wearing puffy black jackets and baggy pants.

December 21, 10:42 p.m., 9100 block Edmonston Road, a food delivery person reported that he was attempting to make a delivery when he was approached from behind by two men, one armed with a hammer. They forced the delivery person into a nearby laundry room. After taking his money the men fled the scene. The suspects are described as a black male, wearing a black leather jacket and black pants; and a black male, wearing a camouflage jacket, green hat and blue jeans.

Assault

December 21, 6200 block Breezewood Drive, a man reported that he was walking to a residence when he was approached by as many as five men. One of the men asked him for the time and then assaulted him, punching him in the face several times. The men fled the scene on foot. The victim declined medical treatment for facial injuries. The suspects are described as five black males, one wearing a black jacket and blue jeans, one wearing dark

clothing and the remaining three wearing black jackets.

Disorderly Conduct

December 20, 3:15 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a nonresident woman was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct after being told to leave the Target department store by management. She refused, began yelling and flailing about and was arrested when she refused to stop. She was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Trespass

December 20, 5:19 p.m., 7600 block Ora Glen Court, three resident men and one nonresident man were arrested and charged with trespass. Police responded to a report of trespassers in the basement parking garage of a business. The men were located and released on citation pending trial.

Burglaries

December 18, 7:20 p.m., 7700 block Hanover Parkway, two residents youths were arrested for burglary after they were observed entering a vacant residence without permission. Both youths were released to parents pending action by the juvenile justice system.

December 19, 9:35 a.m., 7700 block Lakecrest Drive, unknown person(s) attempted to enter a residence by removing a front window screen and attempting to force open the window. Entry was not gained.

December 21, 1:13 p.m., 7500 block Mandan Road, unknown person(s) used unknown means to enter a residence. Two televisions were taken.

December 21, 1:13 p.m., 7500 block Mandan Road, unknown person(s) used unknown means to enter a residence. A television and a DVD were taken.

Vehicle Crimes

No stolen vehicles were reported.

Two vehicles were recovered by outside police departments with no arrests.

Vandalism to, theft from and attempted theft from vehicles were reported in the following areas: Beltway Plaza (two incidents), 6200 block Springhill Court, 9300 block Edmonston Road, 11 Court Parkway, 7700 and 7800 blocks Hanover Parkway (three incidents), and 7600 and 7800 blocks Mandan Road.

City Notes

Animal control reports a rabbit, two cats and one dog got new homes last week and Ronin, the Lab that had hip dysplasia surgery, had his first water therapy session.

Planning staff researched information on the Greenbelt West school capacity issue and conducted research into viable current cooperative housing financing models.

The Public Works streets crews put down 40 tons of asphalt on the service road between the Community Center and the Youth Center leading to the new skate park.

Recreation staff bid farewell to long-time friend and co-worker, now-retired Aquatics Supervisor George Rogala. He was with the Recreation Dept. for 31 years and plans to stay in the area.

Staff met with the landscape architect and designer of the skate park to review the park now that it is near completion. Posts for the ornamental fence were installed last week. Additional work remains to be completed prior to opening the park.

Arts staff reports a new stage backdrop was installed in the Community Center gym with the assistance of Public Works. The backdrop was designed by Artist-in-residence Elizabeth Morissette and created with local youth, using recycled materials.

CARES

Wendy Wexler has completed the first eight-week teen discussion group at Eleanor Roosevelt High School. The group had 11 student participants from ninth to 12th grade. Discussions covered a wide variety of topics including school achievement, personal goals, anger management and family communication. The next group will begin in January.

Slideshow on Birding At Airport Annex

The Patuxent Bird Club and Prince George's Audubon Society invite people to a slide-talk by Hank Kaestner at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 9 at the College Park Airport Annex, 1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive.

Kaestner began his worldwide birding under the tutelage of Patuxent Bird Club founder, field guide author and recently retired renowned wildlife biologist Chan Robbins. Kaestner's work as a former spice buyer and current consultant for McCormick Spice Company has taken him to exotic spice-growing lands the world over. The event is free and open to all. For information call Maureen Blades at 301-262-5148.



PHOTO BY BILL SOUSER

Lights are shining bright at 6-T Hillside Road.

Tip of the Week

Save Energy and Keep Warm: the Attic Factor

by Jessame Ferguson

The second in a series of tips from the Community Education and Planning work group of GHI's Sustainable Design and Practices Ad Hoc Committee.

The access hatch to your attic might be a big energy loser in your home. Consider doing something to insulate the opening to your attic, thereby saving on heating costs and heat loss during the winter. Reducing electricity use has another benefit besides saving you money; it means that less coal has to be burned to generate the power needed to heat your house, which means less production of greenhouse gases. Also, there will be federal tax credits available for expenses for insulation that meets national standards, starting with the 2006 tax year.

If your attic access is located inside a closet, you can simply close the door. But to realize more benefit, insulate the inside of that closet door and add weatherstripping so that no drafts escape.

Those who have pull-down stairs may notice a significant amount of heat loss if their ceiling access is not currently insulated. There are several products on the market which range in cost from \$70 to \$300. You can check out the various products and details with this helpful site: www.toolbase.org/Technology-Inventory/Interior-Partitions-Ceilings/attic-access-insulation.

However, you can also devise some very simple solutions. The U.S. Department of Energy

– Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's (EERE) information center has a very detailed "how-to" guide at: www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/info/documents/pdfs/26447.pdf that also talks about "knee-wall" door insulating. Or for a quick idea, look at "Norm's Notebook" for a quick home-built design made from foil-faced rigid insulation, aluminumized tape, weatherstrip and a few nails. (See "This Old House;" Nov. 2003, Vol. 8 Issue 9, p112, 1/3p, diagram 1.) Other GHI members have found an even quicker solution by simply putting a large layer of carpet remnant on top of the attic opening. If you do this, make sure the remnant overlaps the opening by at least a foot on all sides, and make it as thick as possible in order to realize the most benefit.

If you want to do extensive home insulating, you'll be glad to hear that the federal government has created a tax incentive for energy efficient home improvements. Beginning with the 2006 tax year, homeowners who purchase and install energy-efficient insulation, windows, doors roofs and heating and cooling equipment in their homes can receive a tax credit of up to \$500. Details on the tax credits are available at www.energy.gov/taxbreaks.htm.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Citizens may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.

NOTICE

There have recently been several reported vandalisms to homes in the Greenbelt East area, many involving objects being thrown at and shattering windows. Citizens are urged to report any suspicious activity to Greenbelt police at 301-474-7200.

Thomas E. Maslen, M.D. Internal Medicine Board certified physician

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

from our family to yours!
Greenbelt News Review

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Some People Don't Smile in Pictures . . .

Ask yourself if any of these areas may be affecting the beauty of your smile:



- The color or shape of your teeth
- Spaces or missing teeth
- Noticeable cavities or old dental work
- Uneven or unhealthy gums

If so, come into the offices of the McCarl Dental Group for a complete and comprehensive evaluation.

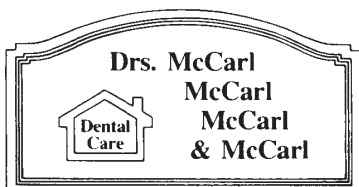


Nicole Burgess of Severna Park had severely discolored teeth from a very early age. Throughout her life, Nicole had been self-conscious of her smile. In just three short weeks, the McCarl Dental Group gave Nicole a beautiful smile and a new start in life! Call the McCarl Dental Group to see if a smile makeover could change *your* life.



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Beautiful 5 bedroom, 2 bath split foyer at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac. Screened porch and deck has wooded views. Priced at \$399,900 **SOLD**

Remodeled Single Family Home
Upgraded five bedroom, two bath home with large front porch. Two finished levels plus basement. Great rental potential! Priced at \$459,000

Charlestown Village - Corner Lot
This 2-story townhome is on the end with storage space underneath. It has 2 bedrooms, a full bath and powder room. Price at \$229,900 **U.C.**

Lakeside
Brick Cape Cod Home with Garage; a rarity in Greenbelt! 3 levels and lots of space. This home won't last; call for details! \$454,900 **SOLD**

Brick Townhome on Corner Lot
Modern kitchen with hardwood cabinets, modern appliances and countertop. Roomy shed in large yard. Laundry room upstairs! \$234,900 **U.C.**

Suitland
Single Family Home near the DC line. Sunroom, 4 bedrooms and 2 baths. Large yard with shade trees. Great condition! \$329,900

Glen Ora
This 3 level townhome has 4 bedrooms and 3 1/2 baths. Fireplace, modern appliances, deck and patio. Steps away from pool! \$367,000 **SOLD**

1 Bedroom Upper Level
This home has an updated kitchen and bathroom & fresh paint. There's also a separate laundry room with full-sized washer and dryer. \$116,000

Frame Townhome on Corner Lot
This 2 bedroom townhome has a large yard with rail fencing and storage shed. Wide floorplan with remodeled kitchen & bath. Value! \$189,900

GHI Townhome With Additions & Extra Bath
This two bedroom home has an addition in the front with w/d hookup and a rear addition with two rooms. Half-bath on the main level. \$209,900
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