

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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

DECEMBER 20, 2007

“Carnevale” Comes to Greenbelt

by Frank DeBernardo

A picture is worth a thousand words – and on New Year’s Eve in Greenbelt, a picture may prove to be worth a thousand smiles, too.

It was a picture of two masked and costumed revelers at Venice, Italy’s famous carnival, that inspired the city’s recreation staff to choose “Carnevale in Venice” as the theme of Greenbelt’s annual community celebration of the coming year. If past attendance figures are a predictor, about 1,000 people will show up this year – and almost certainly all will be smiling.

“The theme of carnival was a natural for us,” said Chris Cherry, a coordinator at the Community Center who has helped with the event for the past several years. “Barbara Davis, the arts assistant, found the photo and when she showed it to us, we all knew that the carnival spirit of merriment, costumes, masks, frivolity and excitement was what we sought for Greenbelt New Year’s revelers.”

The Venice carnival is a very old tradition, Cherry explained, which dates back to the 12th century. Carnival was the period preceding the Christian penitential season of Lent. Various European cultures celebrated it with their own unique twist but one thing they all had in common was the inversion of the social order during carnival.

“In Venice the city’s ruler, known as the Doge, would ceremoniously turn over rule of the city to the leaders of the revels,” Cherry explained. “Normal life and strict social class regulations



PHOTO COPYRIGHT ISTOCKPHOTO/HANS F. MEIER

King Paolo and Queen Francesca, directly from Venice, preside over the 2007 Greenbelt New Year revelries.

would be put aside and a spirit of joyous anarchy would prevail,” Cherry said.

Masks and costumes were key to the Venice celebration so that people could remain anonymous and enjoy each other’s company without regard to class distinctions between rich and poor, nobility and peasants.

Greenbelt’s night of celebration includes a whole array of music, arts, performance, storytelling and other creative activities. The festivities will begin at 6:15 p.m. with Early Revels outside the Youth Center, where Greenbelt Girl Scouts will host a Community Campfire and sing-along featuring free hot cider and s’mores.

Attendees will also witness a mock sword battle in the nearby

skate park, mimicking the bridge battles that would spontaneously erupt during the Venice carnival in medieval times.

At 6:45 p.m. Councilmember Konrad Herling will symbolically turn over “rule” of the city for the night to two masked and costumed revelers whom organizers have dubbed “Paolo” and “Francesca.” This king and queen for the evening will rule over the festivities, visiting events throughout the night and not saying a word but communicating through gestures. Their identities remain one of the most heavily guarded secrets by the planning staff.

Evening Programs

The evening’s programs, which have been chosen to appeal to

See CARNEVALE, page 5

Council Approves Actions For Overpass Security

by Robin Everly

The December 10 regular meeting of the Greenbelt City Council was a productive, non-controversial meeting. The first clue to how the night would proceed was that the majority of attendees were there to recognize Delegate Tawanna Gaines, who received the 2007 Advocacy in Action – Legislator of the Year Award from the Maryland Association of Youth Services Bureaus (MAYSB). Representatives from Youth Service Bureaus throughout the state were on hand to commend Delegate Gaines’ efforts to keep money for youth services in the state budget. After the presentation, which was early in the evening, only a handful of residents remained to observe council’s decisions.

Security

The agenda contained a variety of items to be considered. The item receiving the most discussion was the council’s discussion of the joint report from two city committees, Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB) and Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC), on the Spellman Overpass. The overpass

is a pedestrian bridge over the Baltimore-Washington Parkway that connects Greenbelt’s historic section with Greenbelt East and Eleanor Roosevelt High School. This summer some residents felt the walkway was contributing to more crime occurring on the Gardenway side of the bridge and Roosevelt Center. The committees held two public hearings and came up with eight recommendations for the council to consider.

Council discussed in detail the eight recommendations outlined in the report with City Manager Michael McLaughlin. They are 1) continued police presence, 2) proper maintenance, 3) better environmental design, 4) education and outreach, 5) security cameras, 6) emergency call boxes, 7) improved lighting and 8) private security. The last one, hiring private security, is not for the city to consider but for members of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. The cooperative has several homes on the Gardenway side of the overpass. City staff thought recommendations 1, 2 and 4 could be

See COUNCIL, page 5

Legion Post Honors Local Public Safety Officers

by Ashley Lewis

It is a proud time when cities are able to honor those public safety officers, emergency personnel and firefighters who work hard to keep safe their communities and homes. This year the American Legion Greenbelt Post #136 undertook to do just that.

Post #136 hosted its 19th Annual Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter/EMT Awards Banquet on Friday, October 26 at the Post Home.

Despite the unusually cold and rainy weather on that Friday night, the bleak conditions outside did not deter a large number of program attendees from coming out to honor and support this year’s honorees.

The awards program consisted of a series of festivities that included social hours before and after the program, an extensive bar and a wide array of hors d’oeuvres at the start. Guests dined on an elaborate full-course dinner.

Founded in 1988, the annual awards banquet has grown each year, with local dignitaries, such as Mayor Judith Davis, in at-

tendance.

This year, the honorees were nominated and selected from the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Prince George’s County Fire Department at Berwyn Heights Station, U.S. Park Police, and the Greenbelt Police Department. Six awardees were recognized as being the leading firefighters, EMT’s and officers of their respective departments.

“The honorees that received this honor displayed the highest values of the emergency profession during the year and served the City of Greenbelt with exemplary honor, pride and commitment,” said Kathleen Linkenhoker, commander of Greenbelt Post #136.

Each honoree was given his or her award individually, while co-workers, employees and friends recounted to the audience a long list of their special accomplishments. Each awardee was wel-

See AWARDS, page 6

Overview of Greener Greenbelt Charrette Is Available Online

by Jim Cohen

The Greener Greenbelt Initiative’s charrette on September 28-30 generated an enormous array of ideas and designs for preserving and improving Greenbelt. While volunteers are still organizing all the material produced, a slide show overview of the three-day visioning and brainstorming event is now available on the web.

Greenbelters can see the charrette overview at www.greenergreenbelt.org. A link at the very top of the home page, entitled “LATEST,” takes the reader to three separate slide shows, one of which is entitled “Adult Charrette PDF.” This show highlights the major charrette activities and some of the displays. The title of this file is intended not to titillate but to distinguish it from a second available slide show, “Children’s Charrette Report” that highlights the children’s charrette

activity on September 29. The third slide show, entitled “Artful Afternoon,” shows the wonderfully creative work of the children who participated in an August 5, 2007, exercise in which they planned and constructed an ideal city.

The three-day charrette in September, held at Greenbelt Elementary School, featured lively discussions and drew nearly 400 Greenbelt residents. Participants focused on the topics of affordability, livability, sustainability and historic preservation. These topics were discussed in four concurrent work groups organized by physical scale: 1) GHI dwellings, buildings and grounds; 2) Roosevelt Center; 3) the rest of Old Greenbelt, including the lake, parks and trails; and 4) Greater Greenbelt, including all areas of the city, its transportation system, environmental conditions, planned

developments and other issues.

The charrette was facilitated by volunteers from GHI, the University of Maryland’s School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation and the Potomac Valley Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. So many ideas and designs were generated that volunteers are still organizing the material. In a few weeks, anyone interested in viewing all the material may do so on the website.

Greener Greenbelt organizers are planning additional events in 2008 to get feedback on the material already produced, as well as to stimulate new ideas. All of us connected with the Greener Greenbelt Initiative look forward to further brainstorming with those interested in Greenbelt’s future. In the meantime, feel free to contact Jim Cohen with any questions or comments at 301-405-6795 or jimcohen@umd.edu.

What Goes On

Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25 –

GHI and City Offices Closed in Observance of the Christmas Holidays

Letters

Don't Censor Either "E" or "P"

Mr./Ms. "E" word, thanks for contributing to the discussion. We are in agreement that burning fossil fuel causes emissions and this problem will be decreased if the population is reduced. Although the former is the subject of extensive study, the latter is effectively banned from scientific discussion. Global warming is a multi-faceted problem: All aspects should be studied, especially those that multiply each other's effects.

As a humorous aside, it is now rare that an "E" word letter is written anonymously.

Joan Falcão

Editor's Note: And with Falcão's letter we terminate the "P" word discussion which turned from a local complaint into a world issue. While the discussion may be of great importance, our paper does not have the space and our staff does not have the capacity to deal with all the problems of the world. We confine our space to local issues.

Far from Home

Enclosed please find my check to continue my receiving the Greenbelt News Review which I enjoy so much.

Receiving my paper means a great deal to me as it keeps me in touch with the community where I spent 50 years of my life, raised my two children and where my beloved husband worked (GHI Maintenance) from approximately 1949 till he died at age 43 in 1965.

I'll always love Greenbelt and since my son lives in Boxwood I do return several times a year. Greenbelt will always be very special to me and it still looks beautiful!

Rayetta Henson
Margate, Fla.

Note: Mrs. Henson was also a long-time GHI employee who later worked for Realty 1.

Correction

Given our insistence on and need to publish names on all letters except those where the potential for personal harm may result from disclosure, it is especially embarrassing to have accidentally, unintentionally deleted the name of last week's letter writer. The letter "The 'E' Word, Not 'P' Word" was submitted by Chris Barnet.

The News Review regrets the error and puts "check signature line of all letters" at the top of its New Year's resolutions!

Holiday Deadlines, Schedule Changes

Christmas Week Issue – Dated Thursday, Dec. 27
Advertising and Copy Deadline: SUNDAY Dec. 23
New Year's Week Issue – Dated Thursday, Jan. 3
Advertising and Copy Deadline: SUNDAY Dec. 30

Holiday Office Hours

Sundays Dec. 23, Dec. 30 - 2 to 4 p.m.; 8 to 10 p.m.
(Monday Dec. 24 - Saturday Dec. 29 - CLOSED)
(Monday Dec. 31 - Sunday Jan. 6 - CLOSED)

All articles, photos, announcements and advertisements must reach us by no later than Sunday at 10 p.m., sooner if possible. Businesses on a five day schedule will need to submit copy on FRIDAYS for the Christmas or New Year's week issues. Please note that we will not be able to accept additional material for these issues after the stated deadlines. *Happy Holidays to All!*

New Year's Raffle Items Are Hand-made Knits

by Kathleen McFarland

There is a new, eye-catching display in the glass case just inside the front entrance to the Community Center. The Knit for Charity group is showing off some of their best work. The items will be raffled off at the city's gala New Year's Eve celebration. Money raised will go to the Mary Purcell Geiger scholarship fund for the arts.

Since January 2005, the Knit for Charity group – now including some crocheters as well – has donated at least 2,365 hand-made items to hospitals, homeless ministries, rescue workers and disabled veterans. The group includes women (and a few men) of all ages and all levels of expertise.

After starting off with simple afghan squares, scarves, washcloths, baby caps and blankets for newborns, the group now produces a great variety of useful clothing – winter hats, mittens and scarves, lap robes for soldiers at Walter Reed, little hoodies for toddlers, socks of all kinds. Some group members have mastered new techniques

and often invent unique ways of using cable, spiral and mosaic stitches in their handiwork.

In the class, which meets every Friday morning, more experienced knitters help new people; friendships are formed; jokes are shared. Each session starts off with a "show and tell" segment where members show what they have completed and what they are working on and what difficulties they have encountered. They know the group leader Eve Gresser or one of the other knitters will be able to solve every problem.

Gresser uses 10 or 15 minutes of each class to give instruction on the basics but allows much latitude to the students in their choice of projects. Most items are made from yarn that has been donated to the class.

Come and see what this group has produced. Maybe you will be the lucky winner of one of their beautiful items, hand-made with love. Raffle tickets will be sold only on New Year's Eve and the drawing will take place during the gala that night.

Candlelight Program At Riversdale House



The doors of the 200-year-old mansion open. George Calvert and his wife, Rosalie Stier Calvert, welcome people into their home as the smells of gingerbread, spices and pine and the sounds of festive music waft through the air.

Riversdale House Museum invites people to relax during this busy season in the warm glow of candlelit evenings on December 27 and 28. The house will be festooned with seasonal greens and a harpist will play as costumed interpreters representing family, friends and servants of the house interact with visitors on their self-guided tours of the illuminated mansion. Cooking over an open hearth fire in the kitchen, children's activities and warming refreshments are all part of the spirit of the evenings.

There is a fee for adults; free for accompanying children 12 and under. No reservations are necessary. The house is open 7 to 9 p.m. both evenings and refreshments are provided with admission.

Riversdale House Museum, a National Historic Landmark, is located at 4811 Riverdale Road in Riverdale Park. For more information call 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544; or visit the website www.pgparcs.com.

20 SHL Kids Gift Shop with Police

On Saturday, December 22 twenty lucky kids will join members of the Greenbelt Police Department for a "Shop with a Cop" shopping spree at the Beltway Plaza Target store to buy Christmas presents for themselves and their family members. The children, chosen by need by administrators at Springhill Lake Elementary School, will be able to spend up to \$100 for themselves and their family this holiday season as a result of generous donations from Beltway Plaza, Target, Greenbelt Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #32 and contributions from the business community.

The kids will meet at Springhill Lake Recreation Center and be transported by bus to Beltway Plaza to shop. Afterward they will return to the recreation center to wrap their presents and eat lunch, courtesy of Three Brothers Pizza.

In addition all 20 families will be given a \$50 Safeway gift card for Christmas dinner, through a generous donation from Faith Baptist Church of Laurel.

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

WEEK OF DEC. 21 ATONEMENT

(R)

Friday
*5, 7:30, 9:50

Saturday
*2:30, *5, 7:30, 9:50

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

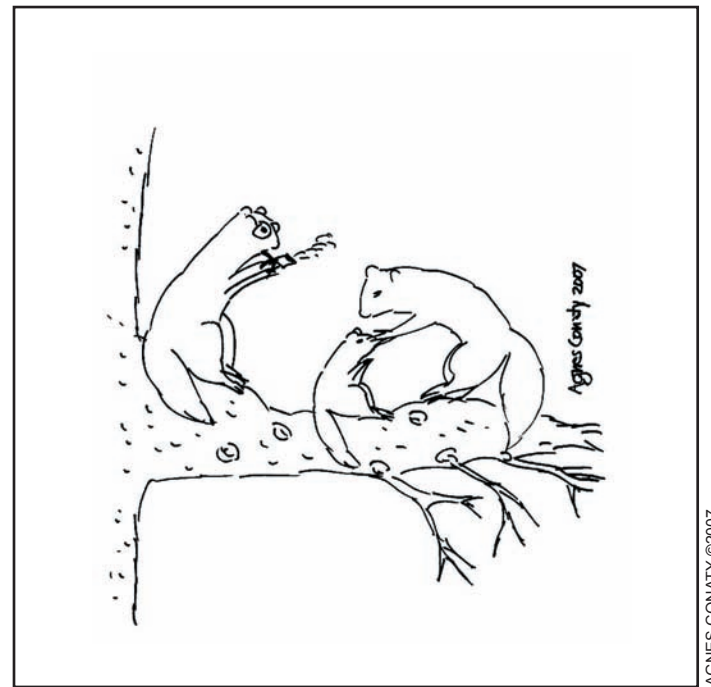
Monday
*2:30, *5

Tuesday
*5, 7:30

Wednesday–Thursday
*2:30, *5, 7:30

*These shows at \$6.00
301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745
129 Centerway
www.pgtheatres.com

Grin Belt



"Sorry, no gingerbread cookie crumbs
while you have a stomach flu"

On Screen

Making Amends

Inspired by the Ian McEwan best selling book, "Atonement," stars Keira Knightley as a rich young woman in love with the son of her housekeeper, played by James McAvoy. But her 13-year-old younger sister has a crush on him. Out of jealousy, the younger sister tells a lie that causes a break between the two lovers. The film traces the consequences of this lie.

The film was written by Christopher Hampton and directed by Joe Wright, who also directed "Pride and Prejudice." It portrays life among the rich in an English country manor shortly before World War II. This film runs 123 minutes and is rated R for salty language, violence in war and sexuality.

– William C. Jones

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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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.

Community Events

At the Library

The library will be closed on Monday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 25 for the Christmas holiday. There will be no Cuddletime next week.

Storytimes

A librarian will read age-appropriate stories:

Wednesday, December 26, 10:30 and 11 a.m., Toddler time for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, limit 15 children.

Thursday, December 27, 10:30 a.m., Drop-In Storytime for ages 3 to 5, limit 20 children.

Caregivers are asked to pick up a free ticket at the Children's Desk.

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 previous day 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 Wednesday, December 26 through Friday, December 28 include:

Monday and Tuesday - All sites closed for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Wednesday - Minestrone soup with crackers, meatballs with curry sauce, wide egg noodles, mixed vegetables, two sugar cookies.

Thursday - Orange juice, cheese omelette, two sausage links, two pieces French toast with syrup, mixed fruit, yogurt cup.

Friday - Apple juice, ham with cherry sauce, black-eyed peas, chopped collards, sweet potato pie.

Webb's 90th Party To Be at New Deal

On Saturday, December 29 Esther Webb and her extended family will be holding an informal celebration of her 90 well-lived years at the New Deal Café from 2 to 4 p.m. Community members are invited to bring smiles, well-wishes and memories of time spent together. Light refreshments will be served. No gifts! All are welcome.

City Notes

The Public Works parks crew completed the platform and railing for the Northway Field Observatory and met with city planning officials at Greenway Center regarding construction of a new bus stop along Greenbelt Road.

The horticulture crew removed two dead trees at Buddy At-tick Park and planted one red maple and one sweet gum tree; planted 18 crape myrtle trees in the Lakeside neighborhood along streets and two crape myrtles in the new traffic circles on Hanover Parkway; planted one magnolia and two crabapple trees at the municipal building; and planted a "purple robe" locust tree in the median at Schrom Hills Park.



Holiday lights adorn homes throughout the city. This display shines bright at 46K Ridge.

PHOTO BY HELEN SYDAVAR

Register on January 15 For Winter GED Class

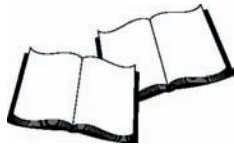
Greenbelt CARES has scheduled its winter 10-week GED course from Tuesday, January 15 through Thursday, March 20, 2008. Registration for the course will be held on Tuesday, January 15 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The first class will be held on Thursday, January 17.

GED I is held from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. GED I is for students who need review of basic math (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, decimals, percentages and word problems) and English grammar skills.

GED II is held from 1 to 3 p.m. GED II is for students who have successfully completed GED I and/or are ready to learn algebra and geometry, English literature and writing skills and prepare to take the GED test.

GED classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday for 10 weeks in the Municipal Building Conference Room at 25 Crescent Road.

Students are required to show



proof of residency (i.e., current lease, phone or electric bill, driver's license or Motor Vehicle I.D. card.)

There is no charge for Greenbelt residents. Non-Greenbelt residents are required to pay a \$175 registration fee. All students are required to buy a copy of the GED textbook and calculator that can be purchased from Greenbelt CARES.

Students do not have to be 16 years old to take the GED course. Students are eligible to take a free GED pre-test given at Greenbelt CARES. The actual GED test is given by the State of Maryland. However, students who are ready to take the test can obtain the application forms from Greenbelt CARES.

Questions and enrollment information regarding either GED I or GED II should be directed to Judy Hering, course instructor, at Greenbelt CARES at 301-345-6660 ext. 2016 or email: jhering@ci.greenbeltdm.gov.

See in the New Year At the New Deal Café

by Leslie Brothers

Walk on down to Roosevelt Center the evening of December 31 to celebrate both New Year's Eve and the 12th Anniversary of the New Deal Café. The café will be open from 7 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. serving food, music and dancing to ring in the New Year.

At 8 p.m. Magic Ray Jazz Ensemble will play with Steve Blau on saxophone, Cindy Woods on piano, Shawn Terrell on guitar, Seth Arenstein on trumpet and Raymond Y. Chu on bass.

Continuing the jazz theme will be John Guernsey, the marvelous pianist familiar to many Café regulars, with his group from 10 to 1 for listening and dancing. There will be a buffet for the hungry and drinks (including a champagne toast at midnight) for the thirsty. There will also be a suggested donation to support the music. This event is sponsored in part by Friends of New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA).

The New Deal Café is located at 113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center in Greenbelt. Call 301-474-5642 or visit www.newdealcafe.com for more information.

the Chromatics

TOASTED for the Holidays

SAT, DEC 22
8 PM

Greenbelt Arts Center
123 Centerway
301-441-8770

Tickets:
\$15 adults
\$12 seniors/students

Postal Services Available



Limited postal services are now available in the

Municipal Building Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Academy Stadium Theatres

Beltway Plaza Mall
Center Court
301-220-1155

ALL SHOWS BEFORE 5 p.m.

ONLY \$5.50

Children, Seniors \$5.50
Adults \$7.50

R = ID Required

(!) = No pass, No Discount Ticket

Week of December 21

FRI. - SUN.

The Golden Compass, PG

11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20

The Perfect Holiday, PG (!)

12:10, 2:35, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10

I Am Legend, PG-13 (!)

11:40, 12, 2:15, 2:35, 4:50, 5:20,

7:40, 8, 10:20, 10:40

National Treasure: Book of

Secrets, PG (!)

12:30, 4, 7:30, 10:30

Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story,

R (!)

12:10, 2:35, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30

Alvin and the Chipmunks, PG (!)

12, 2:35, 5:20, 8, 10:30

This Christmas, PG

11:40, 2:20, 5, 7:50, 10:40

MON.

The Golden Compass, PG

11:50, 2:15, 4:45, 7:20

The Perfect Holiday, PG (!)

12, 2:15, 4:50, 7:20

I Am Legend, PG-13 (!)

11:50, 1, 2:15, 3:45, 4:45, 6:45, 7:20

National Treasure: Book of

Secrets, PG (!)

1, 3:45, 6:45

Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story,

R (!)

12, 2:15, 4:50, 7:20

Alvin and the Chipmunks, PG (!)

11:50, 2:15, 4:45, 7:20

This Christmas, PG

1, 3:45, 6:45

TUES.

Water Horse: Legend of the Deep,

PG (!)

3:45, 6:45, 9:30

Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story,

R (!)

4, 7, 9:45

Alien vs. Predator: Requiem, R (!)

3:30, 6:30, 9:15

National Treasure: Book of

Secrets, PG (!)

3:30, 6:30, 9:15

The Great Debaters, PG-13 (!)

3:30, 6:30, 9:15

Alvin and the Chipmunks, PG

3:45, 6:45, 9:30

I Am Legend, PG-13

4, 7, 9:45

This Christmas, PG

4

The Perfect Holiday, PG

7, 9:45

WED. - THUR.

Water Horse: Legend of the Deep,

PG (!)

11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20

Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story,

R (!)

12:10, 2:35, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10

Alien vs. Predator: Requiem, R (!)

11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20

National Treasure: Book of

Secrets, PG (!)

12:30, 4, 7:30, 10:30

The Great Debaters, PG-13 (!)

12:30, 4, 7:30, 10:30

Alvin and the Chipmunks, PG

11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20

I Am Legend, PG-13

11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20

This Christmas, PG

11:40, 7:50, 10:40

The Perfect Holiday, PG

2:20, 5:05

Part D Open Season Ends December 31

Open Enrollment Period for Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage for Medicare beneficiaries continues only until December 31. Any Medicare recipient wishing to join or change their drug plan for 2008 must do so by December 31.

Changes Coming

Almost all Medicare Part D plans will change in 2008. When a plan changes, a letter called an "Annual Notice of Change" is sent to each plan member. The letter explains important changes to the plan, including changes to the premium, the drugs covered, their cost and any restrictions used to limit access to drugs. If an Annual Notice of Change letter has not been received, call the plan immediately. While this letter is very important, it does not have the details needed to choose among the available plans.

Perhaps the best way to compare plans is to use the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder at www.medicare.gov. The Plan Finder allows members to see the estimated costs for their current plan and drugs and to compare those costs with other plans in the area for 2008.

The Donut Hole

The coverage gap (called the "donut hole") is a period during which members have to pay all the costs for their drugs and continue to pay the monthly premium to maintain overall coverage.

The coverage gap begins after the member and the plan together have spent a certain amount (no more than \$2,510) on drugs that are included in the plan's formulary (list of accepted prescription drugs). The coverage gap ends after the combined expense is \$5,726.75 in total drug costs paid, including the \$3,216.25 that the member spent on drug costs during the coverage gap. After \$5,726.25 has been spent, catastrophic coverage begins - at which time the member will pay only the monthly premium and up to 5 percent of prescribed drug costs. None of these costs include the cost of monthly premiums. Some plans provide some coverage in the coverage gap but most do not.

Cost Assistance

For Medicare beneficiaries who have limited income or assets, two programs may help - the federal Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) or the "Extra Help" Program. In addition, Maryland's Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program (SPDAP) may help those who do not qualify for the LIS but have limited income (assets are not considered).

To Change Plans

Enroll in a new plan by contacting the plan directly or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (TTY 1-877-486-2046) or visit www.medicare.gov before December 31.

For more free help to make decisions about Medicare Part D plans and information for low-income Medicare beneficiaries, the Maryland Department of Aging Senior Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) offers free one-on-one counseling and assistance to people with Medicare and their families. To find the closest SHIP office the Maryland Department of Aging telephone 1-800-243-3425 or visit www.mdoa.state.us.

- Gloria Lawler, Secretary, Maryland Department of Aging



Baha'i Faith

"It is not for him to pride himself who loveth his own country but rather for him who loveth the whole world. The earth is but one country and mankind its citizens."
— Bahá'u'lláh

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



Catholic Community of Greenbelt

SUNDAY MASS, 10:00 AM
CHRISTMAS EVE MASS
Monday, Dec. 24, 6:30 PM
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
SERVE BREAKFAST AT S.O.M.E.
Sunday, Dec. 30
Meet at St. Hugh's School
Parking Lot, 6:00 AM

Greenbelt Baptist Church
101 Greenhill Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770 - (301) 474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org

Welcome!

Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School
Sunday 11:00 am Worship Service
Wednesday 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

ALL are Welcome!

"Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family Through Loving Service"

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

December 23
Worship 8:15 & 10:30 Advent Lessons, Carols

December 24 - Christmas Eve
12:15 Communion Service
10:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service

December 25 - Christmas Day
10:00 a.m. Communion Service

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

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 23, 10 a.m.
Pageant Time - "The Light of Life"
by Barbara W. ten Hove, co-minister,
with Michael Leger, worship associate
and Carla Miller, director of Religious Exploration
(Annual Mitten Tree)

Two Christmas Eve Candlelight Services
Monday, Dec. 24
6:30 p.m. - All Ages, featuring our Holiday Family Choir
9:30 p.m. - Reflective, featuring the Choir and Chalice Dancers

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

Hope Fellowship
... living life together

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)

Dec. 23: An Intense Moment at Bethlehem

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

Faith Ministries, Inc. presents

CHRISTMAS BENEFIT CONCERT
Dec. 22, 2007, 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Mowatt Memorial U.M. Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Music, Recitals, Liturgical Dance and more

Good Samaritan Evangelical Lutheran Church
10110 Greenbelt Road, Lanham, MD 20706
301-794-7300 mygoodsam@comcast.net

Dec. 24th Christmas Eve:
Service of Lessons & Carols at 7 p.m.

Sunday Worship 11 am
Sunday Church School 9:30 a.m.
Bible Study Sunday 9:30 a.m. & 7 p.m.; Monday 11

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..."

Christmas at St. George's 2007
7010 Glenn Dale Rd. • 301-262-3285 • www.stgeo.org

Christmas Eve Services - Monday, December 24
5 p.m. Family Service - This service is designed with the needs of children and families in mind, with a children's sermon.
10 p.m. Festive Eucharist - This is a more traditional service with much singing and a festive reception following the service.

Christmas Day - Tuesday, December 25
9 a.m. Simple Eucharist - Come and celebrate the day of Christ's birth with worship and celebration.

First Sunday of Christmas - Sunday, December 30
9 a.m. Service of Lessons and Carols - Come hear the story of our salvation and sing Christmas hymns in response to what God has done in the world.

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: Rev. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Rev. R. Scott Hurd

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

Christmas & New Year's Schedule

Confessions
December 19 - 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
December 22 - 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

Christmas Masses
Children's Mass - Monday, December 24 - 5:00 p.m.
Midnight Mass - Tuesday, December 25 - 12:00 a.m.
(Lessons and Carols begin at 11:30 p.m.)
Christmas Day Mass - Tuesday, December 25 - 10:00 a.m.

Masses for Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
(holy day of obligation)
Monday, December 31 - 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, January 1 - 10:00 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Rev. R. Scott Hurd

COUNCIL continued from page 1

implemented at very little cost.

Police Presence

There was a lot of discussion of what "continued police presence" really means. Is it only when the high school students are walking to school in the morning and coming home in the afternoon? Mayor Judith Davis emphasized that other neighborhoods such as those near the high school in Greenbelt East and near Greenbelt Middle School on the west side of the city are also dealing with incidences and disturbances by students similar to the ones taking place at the overpass. Therefore, they too should have an increased police presence during this time of the day.

Also there was discussion of the U.S. Park Service's role in maintaining the bridge or their current lack of maintaining it. The bridge is 25 years old and showing its age. There are holes in the fencing and it could use some sprucing up.

The future aesthetics of the walkway were also discussed. Councilmember Konrad Herling used the Bowie Town Center bridge as an example of a more aesthetically pleasing and inviting walkway. Most of the councilmembers were not in favor of this future look for the overpass and the conversation eventually went back to safety concerns.

With regard to the third recommendation, better environmental design, there was a lot of discussion of the proposal to straighten the path on the Gardenway side and how that could be accomplished. Right now, several trees would need to be removed and the Park Service wants to maintain a park like setting on both ends of the bridge.

Recommendations 5, 6, and 7 will cost some money and in the Fiscal Year 2008 city budget there is between \$30,000 and \$40,000 for this purpose; \$20,000 for unspecified safety improvements and another \$20,000 for call boxes. Right now the city budget plans to place one call box at the overpass and another at Metro Access Drive, between Cherrywood Lane and the Greenbelt Metro Station.

After much discussion of all seven recommendations by the council and McLaughlin, council approved 5 to 0 implementing the first seven recommendations. The staff will draft an action plan for a January council meeting.

Other Actions

The council also approved the following measures with less fanfare but considerable discussion. Ordinance to amend Chapter 19 "Taxation" of the Greenbelt City Code and reenact with Amendments Section 19-1 will establish a City Homeowners' Property Tax Credit Program for residents with a limited income. The city program will be indexed and based on the state's current program. A resident who qualifies for the state program will automatically qualify for the city's program.

In another item of business council awarded \$31,208 to Slavin Management Consultants of Norcross, Georgia, to conduct a Classification and Compensation study for city employees. Finally, the FY08 Budget includes \$190,200 to purchase eight replacement police vehicles. This purchase was awarded to Criswell Chevrolet of Gaithersburg and 2008 Chevy Impalas will be purchased for this purpose.

CARNEVALE

continued from page 1

all generations of Greenbelters, will take place in the Community Center, the Youth Center and Roosevelt Center.

The recreation and arts staff, along with a team of citizens, are preparing decorations and trimmings to give these venues a Venetian feeling – complete with gondolas!

Participants will have their own opportunities to create Venetian flair during the evening at the Mascherari – mask-making – workshop. "Wearing a mask is key to an authentic carnival celebration," Cherry explained, "so we will have materials and assistants nearby to help participants create their very own mask for the evening."

Feathers, sequins, paints and brightly colored fabrics will all be available for revelers to fashion their own unique masks, hats and ruffled wrist decorations. Monica Mische, the arts education specialist, and her staff of volunteers will be on hand to assist the mask-makers.

But masks don't have to be the only personal decoration that participants employ, Cherry said. They can come to the event dressed for carnevale. "Any bright colored clothing, any festive accessories, anything with feathers or sequins, anything that glitters or is mysterious, anything flamboyant – these are the clothing that make carnival exciting for everyone," he said.

So if winter weather has got you down, if the holidays have broken your bank account, if the stress of year's end has frayed your nerves, come to Venice for Carnevale on New Year's Eve. It's just right around the corner in Greenbelt!



Congratulations to Blanca Brana, crisis intervention counselor, who passed the National Counselor exam and is now a Licensed Graduate Professional Counselor.

Send us your reports of new babies, awards, honors, etc. to share with our readers.

We'd especially like to hear more from our neighbors in Greenbelt East and Springhill Lake. To send information for "Our Neighbors" email us at newsreview@greenbelt.com or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

– Kathleen McFarland

Season's Greetings! Windsor Green HOA

To All My
GREENBELT FRIENDS
and
NEIGHBORS



*May all the wonders and joys
of nature brighten
your holiday season!*



Judith "J" Davis

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open heart, Open minds, Open doors
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Dr. Paul C. Kim, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am
Prayer Meeting Sun. 9:45 am
Come as you are!

**GIVE BLOOD,
GIVE LIFE
1-800-GIVE-LIFE**

Mishkan Torah Congregation
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield
Friday evening services 8:00 PM
except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:30 PM
Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM
Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.
For further information call 301 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Conservative and Reconstructionist

**Celebrate, Preserve and Share
the unique history of Greenbelt**

Become a Member of the

GREENBELT MUSEUM

Benefits of membership include:

- A subscription to the *Utopian*, the Museum's quarterly newsletter
- Year-long free admission to the museum's historic house
- Discounts on selected items at the museum gift shop
- Invitations to lectures, events and exhibition openings

Thank You for Your Support!
Donations to FOGM are **Tax Deductible**

Basic Membership \$20.00

Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____



Please make your check payable to (FOGM) the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum
mail to
**PO Box 1025
Greenbelt, MD 20768**

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

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

Recreation Department Hosts Annual Holiday Door Contest

This year's Greenbelt Recreation Department annual holiday door contest was open to all city offices and had door entries from nearly every department. The Greenbelt Police Record's Department won first place with their 3-D Holiday Tree door. Sarah and Beth Fendlay from the Aquatic and Fitness Center won second place with their "Merry Chris-MOUSE" door. Susan Ollinger from Public Works won third with a Recycled Tree door (not shown).



PHOTOS BY CELESTIE MAY

A Review

Robot Musicians on Display Invite Viewers to Look, Listen

by Brian St. George

"Magnificent, fascinating, wow, scary and I'm in love with your art." These are some of the comments made by those who have seen Neil Feather's exhibit "Quality Machines" at the Community Center Gallery running through January 27. All nine robots have unique qualities and their names, "Mom," "Meow" and "Drum Driver," suggest some of the distinct qualities inherent in his creations.

Naturally "Mom" means different things to different people, as will this creation. Through the use of electric motors, steel strings, guitar pickups, amplifiers and an occasional bowling ball, Feather engages the observer to contemplate and interact with his robots. Whether his machines are soloing or in concert together, a penetrating, yet oddly meditative quality is created.

Though his pieces are semi-automatic they have distinct personalities and were designed to be interactive; "subtle manipulation can create a huge variety of sounds," he said. Interestingly his formal art training was in ceramics, specifically Japanese style pottery. Upon arriving in Montana for graduate school and discovering a rich after-market for machines from the 50s and 60s, his robotic musicians began to take form. He indicated that certain machines in America reached their zenith at this time in terms of functionality and aesthetics. In the 21st century, he says, many machines are meant to be replaced after a relatively short life and not meant to be seen as objects with any significant aesthetic value.

Influences

Feather's musical influences include John Cage, an American composer who has described his own music as "purposeless play," and Captain Beefheart, also known as Don Van Vliet, who rarely played a composition the same way twice. Both are considered virtuosos within the world of experimental music whose compositions can be unusual for listeners to accept, as our minds are trained to listen for certain tonalities that are easily absorbed that we associate with certain feelings.

Feather has performed experimental music for over 30 years and will be performing at Greenbelt's New Year's festival for the second year in a row. This year he indicated that he would have some robotic musicians join him on stage, along with human musician Robert Berndt.

Feather said his goal is to not fulfill expectations and that being surprised is often more rewarding, something we as a society look for in sports but often do not like in music.

He encourages the audience to "enjoy the process of figuring out what's happening. Interesting ideas and feelings can occur by chance and this randomness can allow the listener to go through changes as the music unfolds."

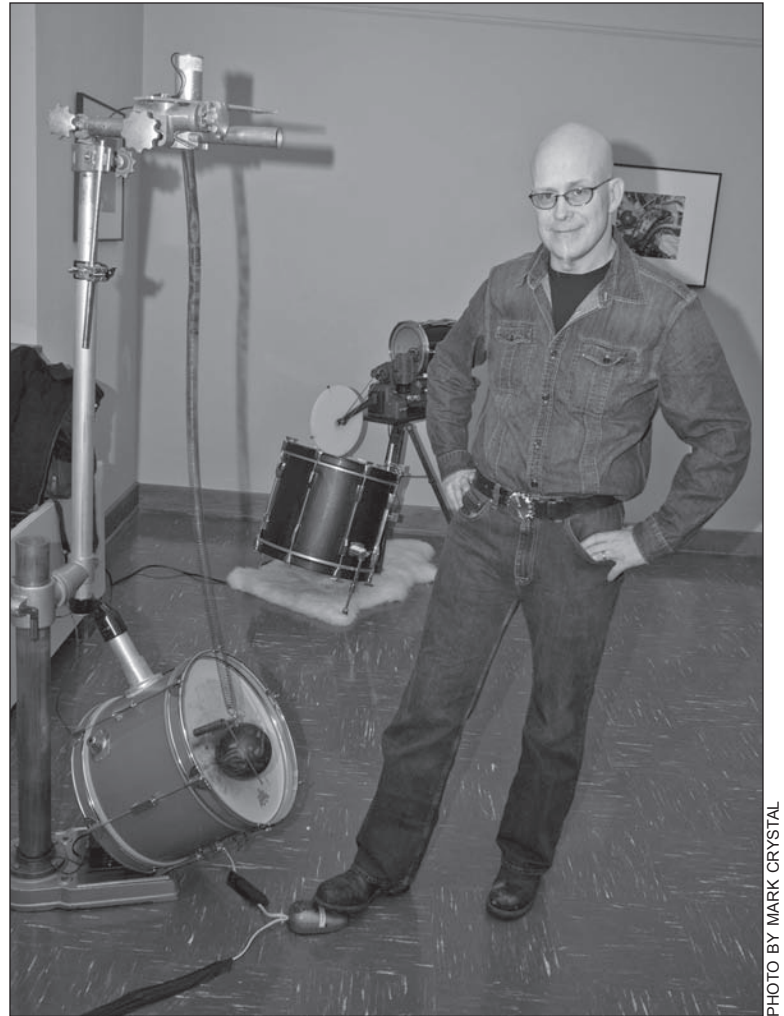
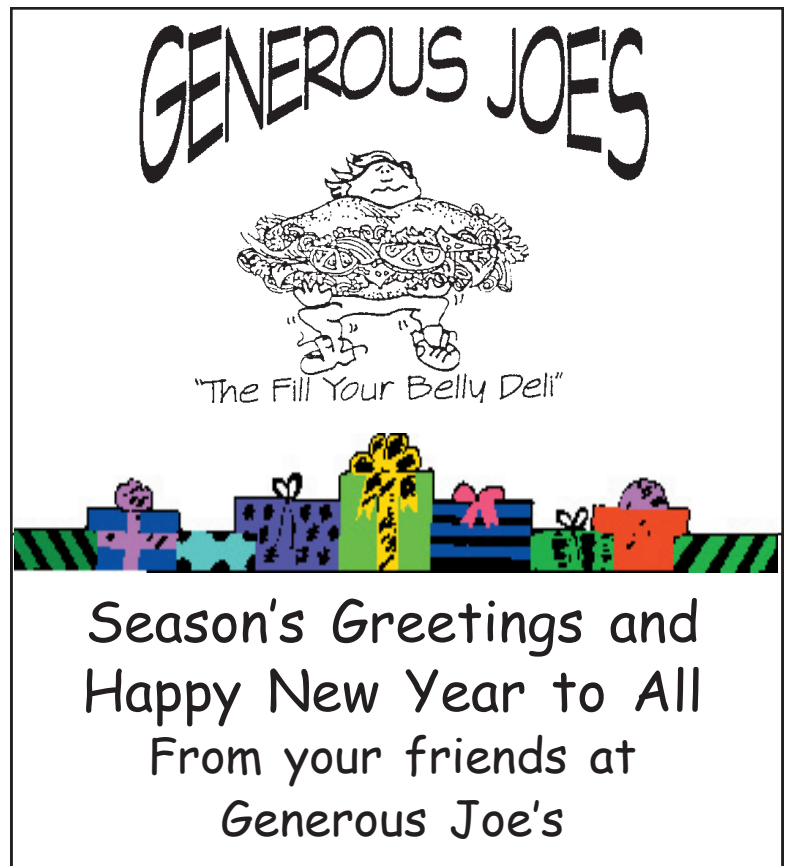


PHOTO BY MARK CRYSTAL

Artist Neil Feather demonstrates one of his musical "Quality Machines" on display in the Community Center Gallery through January 27.



AWARDS

continued from page 1

comed with loud applause and a standing ovation from the entire audience.

Honorees

John Voigt, of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, was noted for exceptional leadership, as well as serving faithfully at the fire department for over 35 years.

John Schunk, of the Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, was recognized for receiving a bronze medal in 2005 for rescuing an elderly woman from an apartment fire in Washington, as well as for playing an integral part in capturing a dangerous arsonist in Springhill Lake.

Ed Holland, a 17-year veteran and one of the most highly decorated officers of the Greenbelt Police Department, was praised for receiving a bronze medal for preventing the murder of a fellow officer in 2003, as well as playing a vital role in investigating a homicide in 2005.

As the honorees received their awards and posed for pictures in front of the smiling audience, they spoke briefly and with great humility.

Adam Zielinski, of the U.S. Park Police, was praised for dedication to his job, specifically in reference to the exceptionally high number of awards and accomplishments he had received during the past year. Zielinski was praised for making 200 DUI arrests on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, as well as for recovering four firearms and seven stolen vehicles.

Amy Gunn, of the Prince George's County Fire Department at Berwyn Heights, was recognized for outstanding work and dedication as a volunteer firefighter for over four years, as well as exceptional service as an operating paramedic.

John Thomas, also of the Prince George's County Fire Department at Berwyn Heights, was commended for quiet diligence and exemplary perseverance and dedication to his job.

"Just to think, when I joined a few years back, I didn't realize that it would become such a duty and responsibility. But I'm definitely glad to help," Voigt said quietly as he accepted his award.

At the program's end, each awardee was recognized again for major contributions to the safety of Greenbelt and its surrounding areas.

"We sleep better at night because of you all," Greenbelt's mayor said as the program came to a close.

Watkins Winter Festival Lights

The 21st annual Winter Festival of Lights will be presented by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission at Watkins Regional Park through January 1. Near Upper Marlboro, the show features a drive-through display with more than a million twinkling lights set in animated exhibits located throughout the park.

The hours of operation are 5 to 9:30 p.m. nightly. Donations of canned goods will be accepted at all times the festival is open. There is an admission fee.

Skate with Family At Wells Ice Rink



The Herbert Wells Ice Rink holds special family skating sessions every Sunday from 1 to 3 p.m. With a paying adult, up to four children are permitted to participate free, excluding skate rental. It is an economical way to spend the day, cherish family and enjoy some exercise.

Wells Ice Rink is located at 5211 Paint Branch Parkway in College Park. For more information call 301-277-3717.

Plug Air Leaks

This simple step can help keep a home at the desired temperature and save money. Common leaks occur around windows, doors and other wall penetrations. Plugging those leaks with weather stripping and caulk can be a simple task for anyone. Savings: reduce an energy bill by \$100 per year or more.

— U.S. Green Building Council

How to Create A Green Home

Plant trees to provide shade and wind protection for the home. This simple step can help you save money on heating and air conditioning bills while providing beautiful landscaping around the home.

— U.S. Green Building Council



The Board of Directors and Staff at GHI Would Like to Wish a Happy Holiday Season to all GHI Members and the Entire Greenbelt Cooperative Community

Bring in 2008 at the New Deal Café!


New Year's Eve Party

Offering an evening for Grown-ups with the Jazz stylings of the **Magic Ray Jazz Ensemble** and dance to swinging Jazz of the **John Guernsey Group**

Dinner Buffet
\$15/person or \$25/couple
Not hungry? Suggested donation of \$5 - \$10 to help support the music
Champagne toast!
Music starts at 8pm

Doors open from 7pm until 1:30 am for late niters and folks on western time zones
Don't get caught without a plan for New Year's!
113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, Maryland (301) 474-5642
www.newdealcafe.com
Sponsored by Friends of the New Deal Cafe Arts (FONDCA)

City Information



GREENBELT NEW YEAR 2008 CARNEVALE IN VENICE

Come join jugglers, swordfighters, and Paolo and Francesca, the masked king and queen of Carnevale, for a sparkling night of entertainment for all ages!

Early Revels start outside at 6:15 pm at the Skate Park Plaza, with the Greenbelt Girl Scouts hosting a Community Campfire with Folksinger Melissa Sites and free hot cider and s'mores. Paolo and Francesca will arrive shortly after 6:45 to be crowned the monarchs of the carnival. They'll throw open the doors of the Greenbelt Youth Center and the Greenbelt Community Center, and Carnevale will begin! (The Early Revels will be held in the Community Center in the event of rain.)

This year's entertainment includes a record number of Greenbelt performers, including East and West, Transatlantic Crossing, Camp Cabaret, the GAVA/GATE animation showcase, and Greenbelt Piano Lounge players Jim Olson and Chris Fominaya. New headliners include circus performer Gregory May, the outlandish instruments of THUS, and the Duke Ellington School of the Arts Show Choir. Returning favorites include DC Motors, Magic Mike, Blue Sky Puppets and the Improv Asylum.

Admission wristbands are on sale now for \$5 at the Co-op Supermarket, the Greenbelt Community Center, and the Greenbelt Youth Center. Admission is \$7 at the door. Children 5 and under are admitted free.

FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD

At its May 29 Regular Meeting, the City Council adopted changes to the Forest Preserve article of the City Code and approved the formation of a standing Forest Preserve Advisory Board. Residents interested in serving on the new board may call 301-474-8000 for an application form and booklet or find the form and information on the City website under "Boards and Committees."

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE
City Offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 24th and 25th, and Tuesday, January 1st, in observance of the Christmas and New Year's Holidays.

REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE
Week of December 24th and December 31st
Monday Route - Regular Schedule (on Dec. 24th & Dec. 31st)
Tuesday Route - Collected Wednesday
Wednesday Route - Collected Thursday
Thursday Route - Collected Friday
There will be no appliance or yard waste collections on Friday, December 28th, and Friday, January 4th.

GREENBELT CONNECTION
The Greenbelt Connection will not operate on Monday and Tuesday, December 24th and 25th, and Tuesday, January 1st

GREENBELT AQUATIC AND FITNESS CENTER Winter Session

Adult Water Aerobic Classes
Session Dates: 12/31 thru 2/22
Residents and Passholders: December 17th and 18th
Open Registration: December 19th, until classes are filled.
For class listings, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov

SWIM MEET CLOSINGS
Please note - the indoor pool is closing at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 19th, 2008 and on Saturday, January 26th, 2008 for high school swim meets.
For more information call 301-397-2204

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES
Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups. Vacancies exist on the:
Advisory Planning Board
Arts Advisory Board
Forest Preserve Advisory Board
Recycling and Environment Advisory Committee
Youth Advisory Committee
For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

Happy Holidays and Season's Greetings



GREENBELT SERVICE CENTER

Greenbelt CityLink: www.greenbeltmd.gov

A Review of Greenbelt Concerts

by Jim Giese

Greenbelt is fortunate to have great winter holiday musical events during the city's Festival of Lights. The Greenbelt Combined Choir performs on several occasions with their main concert, *Make a Joyful Noise*, held December 9. The Prince George's Choral Society treated Greenbelters and others to Christmas music on Saturday, December 15. Unfortunately I could not attend that event. The Greenbelt Concert Band's annual Holiday Lights Concert was on Sunday, December 16. This Saturday, December 22 the Chromatics return to the Greenbelt Arts Center stage for their holiday concert, "Toasted for the Holidays." If you have not yet seen this top notch group of Goddard space scientists sing in harmony, catch them if you can Saturday at 8 p.m.

The Greenbelt Combined Choir had been a long-time holiday tradition that ceased performing a few years back due to the retirement of their accompanist Muriel Balzaar and Director Jean Cook's desire to take life a little easier. But the choir reformed and we're happy that they did.

The choir is now under the co-direction of Cook and Christopher Fominaya. Fominaya first sang with the choir as a teen. Now a teacher of music in the county school system, he has become a master of many musical talents. Susan Breon, another longtime choir participant, is now the group's accompanist.

Most of the members of the combined choir are choir members in Greenbelt or nearby churches. Others join this group just for the short term duration that it performs.

Greenbelt Community Church was nearly filled for this year's candlelight concert. Those attending enjoyed a wonderful program of seasonal Christmas music, some very familiar and others less so. Intermixed were a number of familiar carols to which the audience joined in singing. The audience was in good voice.

The choir, too, was in good voice and performed its various tasks most competently. Of particular note was the skillful blending of voices in Randall Thompson's difficult "Allelulia." Other highlights of the evening were the performances by Lisa and Mark Gransfors-Hunt, newcomers to the Greenbelt scene, who sang solo parts in Christina Rossetti and Gustav Holst's "In the Bleak Midwinter" and Ruth Schram's "We Await You."

Another outstanding performance was the duet performed by Jenna Koepf and Chris Fominaya. These two young performers have sung together before at Greenbelt Community Church. Their performance of "The Prayer" by Carol Bayer Sager and David Foste was a joy to the ears.

Besides the wonderful music, many attendees look forward to this annual concert for the fellowship and good food found at the traditional pre-performance spaghetti supper arranged by the Fominaya family—Tony Fominaya is a master chef—and the great array of homemade holiday treats provided by choir members, punch and coffee that follows the concert.

Concert Band

Tom Cherrix, who took on the announcing chores as well as most

of the directing chores, told the crowd attending this year's holiday concert that he had now been with the band 33 years, 14 as its conductor. Before then he was a clarinetist, band manager and principal spokesperson in seeking financial support. Over that time Cherrix has seen a great deal of improvement in the size and quality of performance of this city-supported group and he can take a lot of credit for it.

This year's top-notch concert was again the traditional mix of familiar pieces with new selections intermixed. Once again there were the three sleigh ride pieces, Wolfgang Mozart's "The Sleigh Ride," Leroy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride" and, of course, "Jingle Bells." This time the latter was performed as "Jingle Bells Rhapsody," a J. Pierpont rendition. It is an interesting piece with the familiar tune played in various styles, as it might be in an opera a grand Viennese waltz, a cha-cha-cha or a symphonic grand finale.

Assistant Conductor Jim Moore led the band in "A Fireside Christmas," an arrangement of traditional holiday melodies by James Swearingen. Moore also sang solo in the program's finale, "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" by Johnny Marks, leading an audience sing-along with a flashing red nose and scarlet antlers.

Before playing a Morton Gould arrangement of "Adeste Fideles," Cherrix received a request from a band member to re-tuneup. Cherrix explained that the piece was a challenge to play and the members wished to be at their best. The piece consisted of sonorous chords and organ like tones requiring synchronous sound from all the instruments. The band met the challenge well.

Guest Performer

Each year the band has a guest performer. This year Yvonne Williams-Battle was invited. She is a church soloist and gospel singer. Williams-Battle got off to a shaky start singing "O! Holy Night" with band accompaniment. Part of the problem was that her positioning made it difficult to view Cherrix to follow his lead and turning to see him pulled her away from the microphone. Her voice had trouble competing with the full sound of the band. Also, from where I was sitting, she was to my left but her voice was coming from a speaker to my right.

As the piece progressed, however, Williams-Battle became more comfortable with the situation and her pleasant voice blended better with the band.

For her second piece Williams-Battle sang "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

The band used an arrangement prepared by Cherrix who informed us that he just could not find a satisfactory arrangement of the piece for band and soloist. His arrangement worked. The band played in softer tones enabling Battle-Williams voice to become the lead instrument. She also seemed more comfortable with the more contemporary musical style and was rewarded with applause and cheers from the audience.

Sing-along

The top music critics are noted for their ability to pan poor performances with acid tongue. Maybe I have a chance to join their ranks

even though I have no musical talent.

The program included two selections from George Handel's "The Messiah." The first was the overture. Having a concert band play that music made for a surprisingly rich performance. Various members of the band were able to show off their talents as melodic variations were tossed about from one instrument section to another. This the band did well.

Next came the "Hallelujah Chorus." I found no fault with the band's performance of this work either. However, Cherrix asked the audience to sing along. Words and music had been distributed to all. I now have a better appreciation of a chorus performing this work.

I saw a "Messiah" sing-along once by the National Symphony at the Kennedy Center. That audience was loaded with top-notch amateur performers who brought their own music and sang with gusto. There was also a chorus on stage to help the audience keep its place. Those of us who could not sing well kept silent and listened.

The Greenbelt audience stank. There were all those notes and one Hallelujah after another to sing. We quickly became lost as to just which hallelujah we were hallelujahing. The result was little audience sound that was mostly out of synch.

I would suggest for next year a less complicated piece for a sing-along. "Rudolph" worked well. Or perhaps a better audience.

Beltway Plaza Toy Drive Starts with a Parade



PHOTO BY JAMES SANBORN

The Annual Beltway Plaza Toy Drive kicked off with a parade around the shopping center complete with marching bands, local community organizations and Santa Claus. Unwrapped toys can be donated until Christmas Eve in collection bins at Beltway Plaza Mall, Greenbelt Co-op and Greenbelt Community Center.

HERBERT WELLS ICE RINK

5211 Paint Branch Parkway

College Park, MD.

301-277-3717



HOLIDAY ICE SKATING SCHEDULE

Monday, December 24th

9:00am – 11:00am SUPER SAVER
12:00pm – 2:00pm SUPER SAVER

Tuesday, December 25th

CLOSED

Wednesday, December 26th

12:00pm – 2:00pm SUPER SAVER
3:30pm – 5:30pm SUPER SAVER
7:00pm – 9:00pm SUPER SAVER

Thursday, December 27th

12:00pm – 2:00pm SUPER SAVER
3:30pm – 5:30pm SUPER SAVER
8:00pm – 9:30pm Roosevelt Alumni Game
10:00pm – 12:00am Adults Special

Friday, December 28th

12:00pm – 2:00pm SUPER SAVER
3:30pm – 5:30pm SUPER SAVER
8:00pm – 10:00pm SUPER SAVER

Saturday, December 29th

2:00pm – 4:00pm SUPER SAVER
8:00pm – 10:00pm SUPER SAVER

Sunday, December 30th

1:00pm – 3:00pm FAMILY SKATE
5:30pm – 7:30pm SUPER SAVER



Monday, December 31st

9:00am – 11:00am SUPER SAVER
12:00pm – 2:00pm SUPER SAVER



Tuesday, January 1st

12:00pm – 2:00pm SUPER SAVER
3:30pm – 5:30pm SUPER SAVER

SUPER SAVER \$4.00
INCLUDES ADMISSION
&
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01/03/08
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf.

Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Attempted Murder

December 10, 5:58 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, an officer on patrol heard what was believed to be the sound of several gunshots nearby. The apartment was located and the occupants were found to be uninjured. The occupants reported that they were in their residence when they answered a knock at their front door. When they opened the door a man produced a handgun and attempted to force his way into the apartment. The victims were able to close the door on the man to keep him from gaining entry. A short time later several shots were fired into the rear sliding glass door of their residence and the man was observed running from the area. The suspect is described as a black male, 19 to 20 years of age, 5'7" to 5'9", 130 to 150 pounds with black hair in short dreadlocks and a dark complexion. He had a goatee and was wearing a black Northface coat and blue jeans.

Attempted Rape

December 9, 6:44 p.m., 7100 block Lake Drive, a woman reported that she was walking home when she was grabbed by a young man and dragged to the backyard area of a nearby townhome. The man punched the woman several times and attempted to sexually assault her but she was able to fight off her attacker and scream for help. The man fled the scene in the general direction of Schrom Hills Park; the woman was treated on the scene by ambulance personnel for minor cuts. The suspect is described as a black male, 16 to 25 years of age, 5'9" with a medium build, wearing all black clothing, a black scarf and black gloves.

Assault

December 8, 11 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Lane, a man reported that he was involved in a verbal argument with a man that became physical during a birthday party. The man then stabbed him in the arm with an unknown object and fled the scene. The victim declined to be transported by ambulance personnel for treatment. The suspect is described as a Latino male in his 30s with a heavy build and short black hair, wearing a white shirt.

Robbery

December 11, 2:45 p.m., Beltway Plaza, a woman reported that she was walking to her vehicle in the shopping center parking lot when she was approached by a man who grabbed her, displayed a knife and demanded money. After obtaining a Metro fare card from her, he fled the scene on foot. The suspect is described as a black male, 5'5" to 5'6", 145 to 150 pounds with brown eyes, wearing light blue pants and a black ski-type mask.

Weapon Arrest

December 7, 6 p.m., Eleanor Roosevelt High School, a resident

youth was arrested for concealed deadly weapon after a knife fell out of his pocket during class. He was suspended and released pending action by the Board of Education and the juvenile justice system.

Disorderly Conduct

December 8, 12:35 a.m., 7200 block Hanover Drive, a non-resident man was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. He was asked by management to leave Willy K's Bar and Restaurant for acting in a disorderly fashion. He refused to cease his disorderly behavior and was arrested. The man was released on citation pending trial.

Theft

December 11, 12:10 p.m., Eleanor Roosevelt High School, two resident youths were arrested for theft after allegedly stealing clothing and shoes from a locker. Both youths were released pending action by the Board of Education and the juvenile justice system.

School Disruption

December 11, 12:10 p.m., Eleanor Roosevelt High School, two resident youths were arrested for disruption of school activities after they were involved in an incident in the cafeteria. One allegedly threw a chair and the other food. Both were released pending action by the Board of Education and the juvenile justice system.

Malicious Destruction

December 8, 7:47 p.m., Beltway Plaza, two nonresident youths were arrested for malicious destruction after they were observed spray painting graffiti on the walls at Beltway Plaza mall. The youths were released to parents pending action by the juvenile justice system.

Vandalism

December 10, 7:49 p.m., 8100 block Lakecrest Drive, it was reported that someone used broke out the side window of a residence.

Open Alcohol

December 8, 2:38 p.m., 6200 block Breezewood Drive, a resident man was arrested and charged with drinking in public after he was observed by police drinking an alcoholic beverage. He was released on citation pending trial.

Burglaries

December 7, 7:32 a.m., 6100 block Springhill Terrace, it was reported that someone entered a residence by forcing open a living room window. A wedding ring was taken.

December 10, 12:41 p.m., 7200 block Hanover Parkway, a commercial burglary was reported.

December 12, 7:54 p.m., 7700 block Greenbrook Drive, it was reported that someone entered a residence possibly by forcing open a basement window. Among the items taken were a television, a video game player

Youth Arrested For Auto Theft

A resident youth was arrested in the 6000 block Springhill Drive and charged with motor vehicle theft and theft. Police responded to a report of a stolen auto and took a report. Later the woman who reported the theft called back to report that a youth had driven her vehicle back to the scene. A description was given for the youth who was located in a residence nearby. The youth was positively identified, arrested and transported to Boy's Village in Cheltenham pending action by the juvenile justice system.

Carjacking Suspect Sentenced in Court

An armed carjacking that was reported November 27, 2006, near Edmonston Terrace and Breezewood Court, resulted in the arrest of William McKnight, 28, of 6122 Breezewood Court. He was found guilty in Prince George's Circuit Court of armed carjacking, two counts of robbery, two counts of second-degree assault and theft. McKnight was sentenced to 60 years in jail for these charges and an additional 15 years for violation of probation.

and a laptop computer.

Vehicle Crimes

The following vehicles were reported stolen: a maroon 2000 Dodge Caravan, Nebraska tags PD0767; a 2001 Chrysler 300M 4-door from the 6000 block Springhill Drive; a green 1995 Honda Accord 4-door, Maryland tags 8BGM43 from the 7800 block Hanover Parkway; a gray 1994 Jeep Grand Cherokee, Maryland tags 703M523 from the 5900 block Cherrywood Lane; a white 1995 Dodge Neon 4-door, Maryland tags 1CJE82 from the 6200 block Springhill Court; a gold 2005 Toyota Camry 4-door, Maryland tags 5CYM87 from the 5800 block Cherrywood Lane; and a blue 1996 Dodge Caravan, Maryland 669M077 from the 9000 block Breezewood Terrace.

Three vehicles were recovered, two by Greenbelt police and one by an outside department. No arrests were made.

Theft from, attempted theft of and vandalism to vehicles were reported in the following areas: Beltway Plaza (two incidents), 6200 block Breezewood Drive, 9100 block Edmonston Terrace, Market Lane, 7500 and 7800 blocks Hanover Parkway, 7600 block Mandan Road and 7800 block Emily's Way.



PHOTO BY JIM DAVIS

Firefighters from several communities respond to the scene of an upstairs fire at 7 Court Research Road on Sunday evening, December 16. One resident was injured.

Research Road Fire Sunday Sends Resident to Hospital

A Greenbelt man was displaced after fire erupted in his Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) unit on Sunday, December 16. Just after 7 p.m. fire trucks from Branchville, Berwyn Heights, West Lanham Hills and surrounding fire departments were called to 7 Research Road for smoke coming from the dwelling. Units arrived on the scene and reported an active fire on the top floor of the unit (not in the unit for which the "for sale" sign can be seen in the photo).

Using an aggressive approach, firefighters were able to bring the fire under control. Four adjacent units suffered minor damage at least partly attributed to precautions taken by the firefighters to assure there was no fire within the walls. Fire investigators suspect that improperly discarded smoking

materials caused the fire.

An adult male was transported to a local hospital suffering from smoke inhalation and minor burns. Residents of the other units were apparently unharmed.

Fire loss is estimated at \$5,000.

On Monday, December 17, GHI inspected all affected units to ameliorate damage and ensure safety. GHI immediately initiated an insurance claim via the GHI master policy to expedite physical repairs.

GHI reminds members and others that it is very important to have personal homeowners' insurance (HO-6 insurance), which provides coverage for personal property, personal liability and loss of use in cases when the home cannot be inhabited during repair or rehabilitation.

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HOLIDAYS
&
SEASON'S
GREETINGS
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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. People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.

Holiday Greetings

Wishing all our friends and neighbors peace and goodwill and hoping that 2008 will be a very good year for Greenbelt!

Robert & Sylvia Lewis

Holiday Greetings
To Friends,
Old and New,
And a Healthy and
Happy New Year, too.

Elizabeth Pels Nash
and Philip Pels

May the warmth and peace of the season stay with you now and throughout the New Year!

Delegate
Tawanna Gaines

Season's Greetings

from Mary Lou and Jim Williamson

Season's Greetings & Happy New Year!

Greenbelt Dog Park



FROM GREENBELT FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS

Holiday Greetings
To all our Greenbelt friends, may this holiday season be filled with the joy of family and friends and the New Year filled with peace and fulfillment.

Bernie and Jim Giese

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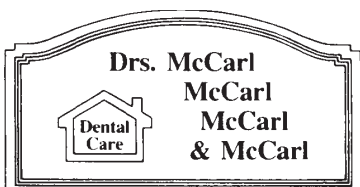


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Labor Day Festival 2007 Art Show Winners

by Barbara Simon

Many visitors commented that the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Art Shows were even better this year than last.

Adult Winners

In the adult show, Patricia Gershwill was awarded first place in the oil/acrylic painting category for her abstract "Beauty in Mistakes." Hilary Katherine Theis received the second place award for her "Russian Constructivist Self." Theis also received a fourth place award for her "White Conte Still Life." Joan Baker was awarded third place for her still life "Sourdough, Wine and Cheese" and Caitlin Donahue received a fourth place award for her "... of she who made a faux pas."

In the drawing category, Jacqueline Tull Willoughby was awarded first place for her large pencil drawing "Rebirth." Nora Simon received the second place award for her pencil drawing "Still Life" and she also was awarded fourth place in the graphics category for her computer print "Room for One More." The third place award in drawing went to Erika Weaver for her ink portrait "Untitled."

In the graphics category, which includes mixed-media two-dimensional works as well as prints, Peter Awah was awarded first place for his "Hard Workers," a large work that combined acrylic painting and collage. This work also received the Cipriano Award for the entry best depicting the theme "Americans at Work." Elena Khazanova received the second place award in the graphics category with her collage "Blue Bowl" and Jan Garland received the third place award for her tissue paper collage "Bevan at Tea."

In the sculpture category there was a wide variety of media and techniques. John Norden received first place for "Face It" and Elizabeth Morisette received the second place award for her "Friendly Fire." "Sunrise" by Eileen S. Murray took third place and Wendy Hagelgans received the fourth place award for her humorous "Toofpase."

In the fine crafts category, Lorraine Brooks was awarded first place for her "A View With Nature." Kathy Kent received the second place award for her quilted wall hanging "East Meets West." Eileen S. Murry received another third place award for her crocheted "Vase" and Colette Zanin received the fourth place award with her "Green Man Earrings."

Preschool to 6 Years

The children's show is divided into age groups as well as categories for judging.

In painting, "The Window," a large tempera by Elizabeth Gardner, received the first place award.

Gardner also received a first place award in the sculpture category for her ceramic work "Candy Shop" and a third place award in the drawings and prints category for her drawing "Flower Girl." Kathryn Turnbull's large "Orbit" received the second place award in painting and William Peterson's water color "Lobster" received the third place award.

In drawings, prints and mixed-media two-dimensional works, Emma Brewster-Geisz received the first place award

for her mixed-media "The Rainbow Bird." John Commins received the second place award for his drawing "Dinosaur." Karen O'Brien received the third place award for her drawing "Inside the Rainbow." O'Brien also received a first place and a second place in the sculpture category for her ceramic works "Santa's Milk and Cookies" and "On the Bottom of the Sea." Jacob Keifline received a fourth place award for his collage "The Snowman" and Kadin Smith received a fourth place award for his mixed-media "The Turtle."

7 to 10 Years

Savannah Keifline received a first place award in painting for her "Pansies" and a second place award for "The Village." Grace Kendall was also awarded a first place award in painting for her water color "White Heron." Patty Commins received the third place award for her "Self Portrait" and another third place for "Greenbelt Lake." Eileen O'Brien received the fourth place award for "The Living Sea."

In the drawings, prints and two-dimensional mixed-media category, Mary Commins received the first place award for her drawing "Mother and Child." Jonah Pitts received the second place award for his print "Steam Under the Stars." James Fahey received a third place award for his drawing "Dragon Fire" and Samantha Fu received a third place award for her multi-colored print "At the Beach." Catherine Peterson received the fourth place award for her collage "Speckled Egg."

In the sculpture and three-dimensional works category, Clementine Morisette received the first place award for her "Four Seasons" fabric creation. Mary and Patty Commins together received the second place award for their "Dusk and Dawn" masks. Michael Goolsby received the third place award for his sculpture "Leo" and Charles Fahey received the fourth place award for his ceramic sculpture "Ancient Vampire."

11 to 14 Years

Lindsey Leigh received the first place award in painting for her water color "Emerging Dragon." In the drawings and prints category, Genevera Gannon received the first place award for her drawing "The Great Pyramid" and also the second place award for her brush drawing "The Blue Dragon." Lisa Donn received the third place award for "The Lady" and Selina Donahue received the fourth place award for her drawing "Bohemian Bird." In the sculpture category, Rose Commins received the first place award for her ceramic candle holders.

15 to 18 Years

Hope Nicholson received the first place award in painting for "The Sea and Sun of Peter Max." Nicholson also received the first place award in drawings and prints for her "80s Hair Metal" as well as the fourth place award in the same category for her computer print "80s Hair Metal Revamped." Aaron Pixley received the first place award in drawings and prints for his ink drawing "Rage" and the third place award in this category for his drawing "Bio Shock." Maddy Henderson received the second place award for her colored pencil drawing "Valor."



Adult art show winners: From left to right: Patricia Gershwill, Joan Baker, Marian Donahue (receiving award for her sister Caitlin Donahue), Nora Simon, Erika Weaver, Peter Awah, Elena Khazanova, Elizabeth Morisette, Eileen Murray, Lorraine Brooks, Kathy Kent and Colette Zanin. Not pictured are Hilary Katherine Theis, Jacqueline Tull Willoughby, Jan Garland, John Norden and Wendy Hagelgans.



Pre-teen art show winners (11-14 year olds) Left to right: Lindsey Leigh, Genevera Gannon, Selina Donahue and Rose Commins. Not pictured is Lisa Donn.



At right, Teen Art Show winner (15-18 years old) Hope Nicholson. Not pictured are Aaron Pixley and Maddy Henderson.



Child Art Show winners (7-10 year olds) Left to right: Grace Kendall, Patty Commins, Eileen O'Brien, Mary Commins, Samantha Fu, Jonah Pitts, Clementine Morisette, James Fahey and Charles Fahey. Not pictured are Savannah Keifline, Catherine Peterson and Michael Goolsby.



At right, youngest art show winners (pre-school to 6 years old) Left to right: Elizabeth Gardner, Emma Brewster-Geisz, Karen O'Brien and Kadin Smith. Not pictured are Kathryn Turnbull, William Peterson, John Commins and Jacob Keifline.

Photos by
Jon Gardner

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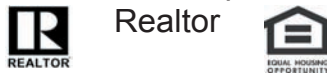
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Death, Taxes and Homework

Winter break packets of assigned homework for the holiday break period for all students from kindergarten through Grade 10 were sent home this week with all Prince George’s County Public School students.

The school system explains the purpose is not punitive but is meant to keep students’ Reading/English Language Arts skills sharp for Advanced Placement (AP) courses, PSAT and SAT tests and state assessments. Designed to hone students’ skills and prepare for upcoming state exams, students are to return the completed packets when they return to school on January 2.

Parents are asked to help support their child’s (children’s) academic achievement by ensuring winter break packets are completed and returned to school on time.

“I encourage all students to relax and enjoy their winter break but also to take some time to sharpen skills so that they are prepared to perform their best during the annual testing season,” said Dr. John E. Deasy, Superintendent of Schools. “This is especially important for the Class of 2009, the first class of high school students who must pass state assessments in four subjects to earn their diploma.”

The state High School Assessment exams are scheduled for January 7 through 11. The Maryland School Assessments will be administered April 1 through 10 for students in Grades 3 to 8. Winter break packets can be downloaded at the school system website www.l.pgcps.org/curriculum/index.aspx?id=34206.

GIVE BLOOD, GIVE LIFE

– Saturday, December 22, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.,
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Mormon Temple's Lights and Music

The 30th annual Mormon Temple holiday lights and free programs are open to public view at dusk through January 1. There are exhibits inside the Visitors Center and extensive outside lighting on display from dusk to 10 p.m. daily. Music programs are offered nightly at 7 and 8 p.m. by a variety of community groups from throughout the Metro region. Included are bell choirs, barbershop ensembles, choirs, blue grass bands and other forms of holiday entertainment to be presented in the Visitor Center theater.

Over 450,000 Christmas lights

illuminate the temple grounds. A Visitor Center creche exhibit features nativity scenes from over 30 countries. There are 17 decorated Christmas trees inside including four international trees exhibiting dolls donated by more than 90 Washington embassies.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Mormon Temple Visitors Center is located at 9900 Stoneybrook Drive, in Kensington, off the Capital Beltway. For further information, a schedule of groups and dates of their performances and other events call 301-587-0144 or visit the website www.lds.org/dccal-endar.

How to Create A Green Home

It is a good idea to program the thermostat. When at home, keep the thermostat at 78 degrees or higher in the summer and 62 degrees or lower in the winter. Programmable thermostats allow the systems to reduce output when they are not needed (e.g., when no one is home during the day, or in the evening when everyone is sleeping). Reduce the energy bill by \$100 per year or more!

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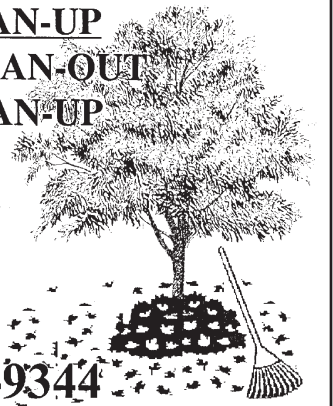
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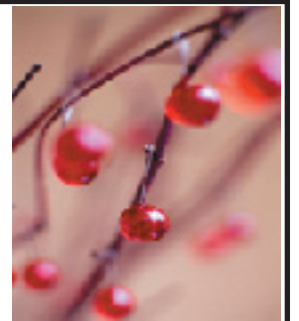
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Maryland Department of the Environment

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Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

301-982-2582

www.greenbeltautoandtruck.com



A.S.E.

Master Certified Technicians

A complete service facility equipped to perform all service requirements that your manufacturer recommends to comply with Preventive Maintenance service schedules & extended warranty programs! Also, routine repairs that keep your vehicles operating safely and reliably.

- Now Offering! •
- Auto-body, collision repairs and theft recovery damage
- A.S.E. Certified Technicians,
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- Free estimates, please call for appointment

Clean & Spotless

You know us as JOHN & TAMMY, a household name in Greenbelt for over 14 years. We are the experts at cleaning your home and giving you more time. Time for grandchildren, children's recreation, and each other. Call, let a familiar and trusted name help you out.

- We offer :
- Weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly service
 - Spring cleaning any time of the year
 - Window cleaning
 - Help for special occasions
 - FREE estimates

Professionals with the Personal Touch
Phone 301-262-5151

We wish for you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Thank you for your business and God bless you.

From Maria, Donna, Jenny, Marie and Penny at

Maria's Beauty Salon

141 Centerway
301-474-4881

Advice for Safely Shopping Online

According to the Better Business Bureau and Javelin Strategy and Research, 8.9 million Americans had their identities stolen last year. Check Point Security offers some online precautions to prevent identity theft:


* Fight holiday fraudsters, hackers and identity thieves by securing that personal/home computer. A good firewall is essential and antivirus, anti-spyware, spam and browser protection are also critical. Keep up with security update downloads.

* Beware of online phishing scams, where an emailer pretends to be a bank, credit card company or retailer. Do not give out personal or financial information in response to unsolicited email or click links in any email when conducting financial transactions. If you think you've been phished, immediately visit www.consumer.gov/idtheft.

* Be aware that merely browsing in some online music, gaming and other sites can deliver personal information into the hands of marketers as well as scammers.

* Make holiday donations directly to charities, not from links received in emails. Check bank statements regularly and investigate any suspicious charges.

* Only buy gifts from online retailers that disclose full, verifiable contact information. In addition, look for the little yellow lock icon at the bottom right corner of the browser window that indicates a secure site.



COUNSELING CENTER

Create Healthy Relationships
FEEL BETTER — ENJOY LIFE!

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WOMEN, MEN, COUPLES & TEENS

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Flooring, drywall, painting, kitchens, baths, siding, decks, replacement windows, fencing and small jobs

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NEW Millennium Contracting and Town Center Realty and Renovations MHIC #84484

Town Center Realty and Renovations
Mike McAndrew
240-432-8233

55-H Ridge Rd.
3 BD end, 2-story add.
\$270,000

13-Z-2 Hillside Rd.
2 BD, 1 BA
Backs to Park closing help
\$185,000

301-490-3763




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 the county. CASA gives training and supervision to volunteers who spend time getting to know the children and what is in their best interests. 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. Bi-lingual volunteers are especially needed.

For more information visit www.pgcasa.org or call 301-209-0491.

JC LANDSCAPING
Beds trenched and mulched. Annuals, ornamental shrubs and trees installed.
Small tree removal.
Shrubs and small trees trimmed and pruned.
New lawn seeding or sod, other landscaping needs,
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Our nutritionists can help you meet your nutrition and exercise goals for disease management, wellness or athletic performance.

Rebecca Bitzer & Associates
The Eating and Exercise Experts
Greenbelt 301-474-2499

Om for the Holidays
Give the gift of yoga this holiday season!

Greenbelt Om Gift Passes

- 5-class Om Pass: \$80
- 10-class Om Pass: \$150
- 20-class Om Pass: \$300

Buy a Greenbelt Om gift pass for 10 or 20 classes and receive a handmade, flaxseed eye pillow FREE!

(A \$20 value. In-studio purchases only, while supplies last).

For more details and a complete class schedule, see www.greenbeltom.com



Greenbelt Om Community Yoga
133 Centerway, 2nd Floor
301-220-0084
www.greenbeltom.com

Our web site has gifts for all the yoga enthusiasts on your list. Our beautiful, homegrown Greenbelt Om logo graces organic t-shirts and baby onesies; tote bags, hoodies and more. Order at www.greenbeltom.com and then deeply relax. You are supporting a Greenbelt business, getting the word out about local yoga, and—also crucial—giving some stylish gifts!

Pleasant Touch Holiday Specials

❁ *Half-Price Makeup Application with purchase of any Facial*
Enjoy any facial and receive a makeup application for 50% off. The perfect way to relax and prepare for a night of holiday celebration.

❁ *New! Micro-Zone Treatments*
Drop in for a new Dermalogica Micro Zone treatment: a quick, targeted treatment for lips, eyes, or other specific areas of concern. Ask us for more details about this smart, effective new way to keep your skin glowing throughout the holiday season.

❁ *Your Favorite Services, All Wrapped Up in Perfect Packages*
A gift from Pleasant Touch to you: our signature services, packaged together for holiday savings:

- ❁ 30 minute massage, Manicure & Deluxe Pedicure: \$95 (regularly \$110)
- ❁ Treatment Facial, Manicure & Deluxe Pedicure: \$130 (regularly \$150)
- ❁ Treatment Facial, 30 minute massage, Manicure & Deluxe Pedicure: \$170 (regularly \$200)

These offers may not be combined with any other offers, and are valid through December, 2007.



133 Centerway
Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-345-1849

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Corner Lot

2 Br. townhome on corner lot adjacent to protected woodlands. Fresh paint and more. Ample yard space with shed. Ready 4 U! \$186,500.

Great Value

This 2 br towhome has fresh paint, refinished floors, new sink, countertop and stove. Fenced backyard - backs to playground. \$174,900

One Bedroom GHI - Better Than New

Completely remodeled GHI home with fresh paint, new carpet, new stove & refrigerator, updated bath, landscaped yard & more. \$108,500 U.C.

Townhome With Garage

Large 2 bedroom block townhome & garage with electric and heat. Fenced backyard opens onto large open space & playground. Nice!

Woodland Hills

Brick rambler with 5 bedrooms. Hardwood floors, 2 full baths and eat-in kitchen. Storage shed with electric power. Backs to Parkland. \$414,900

Hillmeade Station

Stone fireplace, large deck, completely remodeled kitchen with modern appliances, garage and more! 3 bedrooms & 2 full baths. \$369,900

One Bedroom - Cheaper Than Rent

Why pay a landlord when you can own a home and get the tax deductions you deserve? This GHI townhome is a bargain at \$109,900.

Remodeled Townhome

Stainless steel appliances, custom cabinets & matching hutch, landscaped front & back yards & more in this 2 br. townhome. \$178,000

Westchester Park

Updated kitchen w/flat top stove, built-in microwave, ceramic floor tile and modern cabinets; - modern bathroom, too. Roomy shed. \$180,000

Charlestown Village

Single-Level living in Greenbelt proper! New stove, refrigerator, kitchen floor and carpeting. Patio, thermal windows and more! \$184,000 U.C.

Snowden Oaks

Rambler in Laurel with large family room addition. Den can be used as a 4th bedroom. \$0 down, \$0 closing for qualified buyers. \$329,900

Charlestown Village

Bright two level townhome in sought-after Old Greenbelt! Dual-level dishwasher, Corian countertops, private balcony, & more! \$236,000

Greenbriar

This is the best-priced condo on the market! Lots of improvements - extra den, priced thousands below the competition! Value! \$174,900

Brick Townhome

2 br townhome with remodeled bath and tile flooring. Hardwood floors, spacious cabinets & lazy susan, stacking w/d, chair molding. \$205,000



2 Bedroom Townhome

GHI townhome with laundry room addition. Remodeled kitchen and bathroom. Adjacent to protected woodlands. Nice! \$185,000 U.C.

Shady Grove Village

Shows like a model home! 3 levels, 3 br, 2 full & 2 half baths. \$389,000

Your Greenbelt Specialists

SEASON'S GREETINGS



Each year at this time we come together with family and friends to celebrate the holidays. As 2007 draws to a close, the City Council, City employees, and members of Council's Advisory Boards and Committees wish all citizens a safe and joyful holiday and a prosperous New Year.

City Council, Advisory Boards & Committees, & Employees of the City of Greenbelt

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Edward V.J. Putens

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