

## McLaughlin Proposes Financing For Big Ticket Capital Projects

by Thomas X. White

The Greenbelt City Council tackled a left-over item from its Fiscal Year 2012 budget deliberations at a worksession on January 11 at the Community Center. Although the worksession was labeled "Capital Projects," the discussion actually covered only a subset of such projects, labeled "Big Ticket" items in background material for an August 11, 2011, worksession following council's adoption of the FY12 budget (ending June 30, 2012).

In introducing the topic, Mayor Judith Davis said the meeting will be mainly an update and review by City Manager Michael McLaughlin on his suggestions for how the so-called big ticket items could be funded. No decisions would be made at this meeting, she said, and there would likely be a subsequent worksession to seek agreement on what funding mechanisms can be used.

With Councilmember Silke Pope out of town on family business, six councilmembers were present for the discussion, along with McLaughlin and Assistant City Manager David Moran.

McLaughlin's updated "Big

Ticket" items list had been outlined in a January 6 attachment to materials for the worksession. (See chart below.)

The subset of projects for the worksession included payoff for the project cost overrun for the Public Works facility, Old Greenbelt Theatre renovations and Greenbelt Lake dredging and dam repairs.

The thrust of the manager's memo had been his proposed strategies on how the city could pay off the final cost for the Public Works facility, identify sufficient funds to begin the long-sought renovation of the Old Greenbelt Theatre and a possible financing mechanism for needed

See **PROJECTS**, page 12

### Updated List of Identifiable Big Ticket Capital Projects

Project	Total
Theater Renovations	\$400,000
Public Works Facility Refinancing	\$800,000-1,200,000
Aquatic & Fitness Center Roof	\$500,000
Greenbelt Lake Dredging	\$1,000,000
Greenbelt Lake Dam Repairs	\$500,000-1,000,000
Community Center Gym Windows	\$300,000
Greenbelt Fire Station	\$6,000,000
Land Acquisition (\$2,000,000)	
Construction (\$4,000,000)	
Suggested Addition	
Springhill Lake Recreation Center Addition	\$2,000,000
<b>Total Potential Projects</b>	<b>\$11,500,000-12,400,000</b>

## Council Delays Any Decision On Contested TPB Appointment

by Kathleen Gallagher

There was a hint in the air that not everything would go well at the regular meeting of the Greenbelt City Council. It wasn't exactly a dark and stormy night but the area had unexpectedly been blanketed that evening by what the Washington Post would dub "the overachieving snowfall of January 9, 2012." And behind the clouds was a full moon. All members of council were present except for Silke Pope, who was away on family business.

Observers at that meeting were hopeful that the council's hapless 90-minute discussion of how to go about resolving a disagreement between Councilmembers Rodney Roberts and Emmett Jordan about which of them should represent the city on the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) could be blamed on the full moon. The issue was not resolved. Council voted 5 to 1, with Roberts dissenting, to defer action on all the COG appointments until the next regular meeting on January 23.

Iterations of this topic have now arisen at the last four meetings of the city council, including a worksession on December 5, when many of the issues were

aired exactly as they were on January 9. Having been billed as a meeting to review council's standing rules for meetings, that worksession did not receive much public attention.

Members of the city council act as liaisons to council's own advisory groups, as well as serving on various boards and committees of membership organiza-

tions that work to advance the interests of local government. In addition to COG, these include the Prince George's County Municipal Association, the Maryland Municipal League and the National League of Cities. Historically, when appointments have been required, the assignments have been

See **APPOINTMENTS**, page 6

### What Goes On

**Monday, January 23**

**8 p.m.**, City Council Meeting, Municipal Building

**10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**, Registration and First Class for GED, SHL Recreation Center Clubhouse

**Tuesday, January 24**

**7:30 p.m.**, Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability Meeting, Community Center

**Wednesday, January 25**

**7 to 8:30 p.m.**, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting, Community Center, Room 111

**8 p.m.**, Council Worksession re: Greenbelt South Core, Community Center

**Thursday, January 26**

**7:30 p.m.**, Council Worksession re: Quarterly Transit Meeting, Community Center

**Saturday, January 28**

**9 a.m. to noon**, Donation Drop-off, Parking Lot by Municipal Building

**9 a.m. to noon**, Electronics Recycling, Public Works Yard

## Students Design Futuristic City and Take First Place

by Hunter N. Whaples, 7th Grade

Four Greenbelt students attending the Kenmoor Middle magnet school are on the first place winning team fielded by the school on January 14 in the Mid-Atlantic Region Future Cities Competition. Designed for sixth, seventh and eighth grade students with an interest in engineering and city planning, the point of the competition is to get middle school students to imagine, design and build cities of the future.

A busy day for the Kenmoor Middle School Future City Team, as well as the 20 other teams

taking part in the Mid-Atlantic Competition, this year's competition was held at the Baltimore Museum of Industry in Baltimore. Kenmoor's team, along with a sponsor and two mentors, an engineer (Shankar Rachakonda) and an architect (David Whaples of Greenbelt) spent months working through the five requirements of the competition.

A city narrative in which life in the city is described, a research paper about "fueling your future" (this year's theme) and a

See **FUTURE CITY**, page 5



PHOTO BY MARILOU WHAPLES

The team members who made the presentation of their future city, Bagong Pag-asa, to the judges at the competition are shown with their trophy. From left Annina Commins, Hunter Whaples, sponsor Sra. Kendal Galiber and Vinai Rachakonda.

## Lights at McDonald Field Resisted by its Neighbors

by Thomas X. White

The first item of a January 11 Greenbelt City Council worksession on capital projects was a request by Greenbelt Baseball for installation of lights for McDonald Field. The field is located behind 7 and 9 Courts of Southway and 18 Court of Ridge Road.

The item, listed separately on the agenda, contained a notation from City Manager Michael McLaughlin regarding a 2011 city survey reflecting increased opposition by nearby residents to installation of lights at the field and that council direction was needed.

Although the item had been listed on the Summary of Capital Projects, at a projected cost of \$110,000, leaders of Greenbelt Baseball (the youth league using the baseball field) have indicated to council they may be able to raise some of the funds toward

installation of the lights. Six councilmembers were in attendance with Councilmember Silke Pope out of town. Greenbelt Baseball representatives included Vice President Jim Inzeo, Secretary Christine Bailey and Board Member Steve Valentich.

After Mayor Judith Davis introduced the topic, Councilmember Leta Mach noted a comment that playing beyond 10 p.m. would interfere with school studies. Councilmember Edward Putens said more education is needed on the impact of lights, and how nearby residents may or may not be affected.

**Baseball Program**

Following this discussion, Davis recognized Inzeo to outline the junior baseball program. Inzeo said baseball was

See **LIGHTS**, page 11

# Letters to the Editor

## A Vegan Longevity Birthday Milestone

It's wonderful that the Reel-and-Meal-at-the-New-Deal screening of Forks Over Knives was so well attended on December 19. Congratulations to Cam MacQueen, et al., on a hugely successful event and to the Reel-and-Meal Planning Committee for providing a wonderful, continuing series.

Among the 200+ attendees, as a member of the proverbial "choir," was my Father, Bob Auerbach, who'd just turned 92 a few days earlier. Dad has been a vegetarian since the early 1940s, (almost 70 years) and a vegan since the mid-1980s (about 26 years). He's in excellent health – a testament to the plant-based diet recommended in the film, as well as by Dr. Neal Barnard and others who spoke after the screening.

Happy 92nd Birthday, Bob Auerbach!

Hopi Auerbach

## THANKS!

We love Greenbelt!

There have been steady donations of grocery items for the Pantry of Greenbelt. The Green Bin at the Co-op is always full.

We thank Manager Bob Davis of the Greenbelt Co-op. This past December we had sweet treats and festive foods to offer 15 families.

Many thanks to the Greenbelt Golden Age Club, Safeway, Curves, Mishkan Torah community, the Boy Scouts of Greenbelt, St. Hugh's Church and to you, the members of the community of Greenbelt.

We love you.

Solange Hess  
President

The Pantry of Greenbelt

## Ways to Honor City's Greats

This is in response to last week's letter "Memorializing Golden Joe."

There are a lot of people in Greenbelt, past, present and future who have done/will do a lot for the city. Instead of putting up plaques on wooden benches outside, why not put up a large plaque in a convenient location to honor all people who have done a lot for the city? Put each person's name on the plaque. Either family/friends or the city

pays for each individual plaque. Such plaques can be found in churches, synagogues, etc., if you need examples of what I am writing about.

The idea of putting a plaque on the building of Generous Joe's is good because this was his business.

Gail Phillips

## More Second Hand Smoking Troubles

Despite Andy Carruthers' claims in his January 12 letter, the only home that is airtight is the space station. When our former neighbor's daughter visited her and smoked in the unit next door, it made my life a misery. GHI tried to seal all the openings in the common kitchen and bathroom walls but that helped only a little. The windows were not open – the smoke came through the masonry wall.

Every time the unit next to us changes hands, I am afraid that a smoker will move in. We would have to sell our home of 30 years and move out of GHI, because the Board will not protect us from the "nuisance" our neighbor would inflict.

Tina Rhea

## Smoking Lawsuit Facts

Please allow me to respond to Andy Carruthers' letter concerning the secondhand smoke lawsuit in the January 12 edition of the News Review. Mr. Carruthers states the facts of the case incorrectly, doing a disservice to the community.

First, Mr. Carruthers states that at no time did I bring my complaint about an individual neighbor's behavior to the general membership of the cooperative. Not only is it not appropriate to do so, it is not contemplated by GHI's rules. The member complaints process is described specifically and in detail in GHI's Member Handbook. It does not provide for an appeal to the general membership from the denial of a member complaint. Rather such appeals are allowed only from a decision to evict a member. GHI confirmed this at trial.

Following two written requests for confirmation from the Board that the administrative process was over, on October 8, 2009, GHI's president stated in writing, "[T]here appears to be nothing further that GHI can do to resolve the problem." In a letter

that same day to the smoking neighbor, the president wrote, "the right to smoke is not protected by law and is considered a nuisance by some courts. Just like any activity which prevents one from experiencing a peaceful enjoyment of his/her home, unwanted smoke is considered a hazard in this situation." [emphases added]

On December 7, 2009, the general manager stated in writing, "The Board regrets there is nothing more it can do for you regarding this matter."

GHI stated at trial it was not aware of a single instance where an individual member complaint had been brought to the general membership on appeal from a decision of the complaints panel. GHI also confirmed at trial that in cases of nonpayment, it proceeds directly to landlord-tenant court, rather than providing the issue for consideration by the general membership.

Second, Mr. Carruthers states that expert witness, James Repace, never claimed smoke could not be mitigated or prevented from entering the home from outside and casts doubt on Mr. Repace's credentials. Mr. Repace indicated at trial that it is not physically possible to seal completely a multi-family dwelling due to the multiple pathways for material transfer, both between units and from inside to outside. His testimony reflected the common and widely accepted views of the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers, available on the web. Mr. Repace is considered one of the world's leading experts on the detection and effects of secondhand smoke.

See **LETTERS**, page 8

## We've Moved!

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## OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

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### Saturday

\*2:30, \*5, 7:30, 9:55

### Sunday

\*2:30, \*5, 7:30

### Monday – Thursday

\*5, 7:30

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## Grin Belt



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## GHI Notes

Thursday, January 19, 6:45 p.m., Investment Committee Meeting – Board Room

7:30 p.m., Finance Committee Meeting – Board Room

Friday, January 20, Office Closed – For Maintenance Emergency call 301-474-6011

Monday, January 23, 7 p.m., Communicator Task Force Meeting– Lobby

7 p.m., Bylaws Committee Meeting – Library

Tuesday, January 24, 8:30 a.m., Yardline Review Committee Meeting– Board Room

Wednesday, January 25, 7 p.m., Buildings Committee Meeting – Board Room

Thursday, January 26, 7 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting – Board Room

Saturday, January 28, 11 a.m., Pre-purchase Orientation – Board Room

Friday, February 3, Office Closed – For Maintenance Emergency call 301-474-6011

Note: Committee and board meetings are open; members are encouraged to attend.

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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## CIRCULATION

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Franklin Park: Arlene Clarke 301-474-1526

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Renata York, secretary; James Giese; Diane Oberg; and Denise George

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—\$40/year.

## NOTICE TO GHI MEMBERS

### PRELIMINARY AGENDA

## GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012

GHI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 7:30 PM

### GHI Key Agenda Items:

- Yard Line Certification: 3 & 5 Court Crescent Road
- Proposed Installation of Canine Kennel – 11A Hillside
- Proposed Installation of Gardenside Screen Porch, 5E Eastway
- Proposed Rule Change §X.B. – Clarification of Blanket Approval
- Proposal to Publish Manager's Memorandum for Board Meetings on Website
- Finance Committee Recommendation Regarding Member Request to Waive Sub-lease Fee for 18K Ridge
- WSSC's Response to GHI Regarding Replacement of Pipes for Masonry Homes
- Contract for Addition Maintenance Program Reserves Analysis – 1st Reading
- Contract for Underground Utility Repairs, 9 Research – 1st Reading
- Contract for Renovation: 42M Ridge Road – 2nd Reading

Regular Board meetings are open to Members

For more information, visit our website - www.ghi.coop

# Community Events

## Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition "Food and Friendship" program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215.

All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for January 23 through 27:

**Monday - Orange juice, stuffed cabbage with meat sauce, Delmonico potatoes, green beans, pineapple/Mandarin orange tidbits.**

**Tuesday - Apple juice, baked chicken breast with garden sauce, black-eyed peas, stewed tomatoes, diced peaches.**

**Wednesday - Cranberry juice, Italian sausage with meat sauce on a roll, penne pasta, seasoned peas, applesauce.**

**Thursday - Orange juice, Salisbury steak with mushroom gravy, lima beans, broccoli and cauliflower, diced pears.**

**Friday - Cranberry juice, baked salmon with Newburg sauce, mashed sweet potatoes, seasoned carrots, apricots.**

## Two Part Explorations Ceramics Workshop

On Fridays, January 20 and 27 there will be a special Explorations Unlimited ceramics workshop led by Sandra Dwiggin. In Ceramics Hand-building Part 1 and 2, she will teach an introductory program on hand-building skills using clay. January 20 participants will learn to make cups and plates with impressed decoration; January 27 the group will glaze their projects from the prior session. These presentations will be held in the Ceramics Studio, Room 304 - due to space limits reservations are necessary. Call 301-397-2208 as soon as possible to reserve a seat.

Dwiggin has been making pots for over 35 years using both wheel and hand-building techniques. She is a former Greenbelt artist-in-resident who has taught hand-building in Greenbelt for over 10 years, has just celebrated her 70th birthday and is proud to teach seniors the skills used in working with clay. She says and demonstrates how addictive this form of art has become to her and enjoys creating the same fascination for others.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. All are welcome and questions are encouraged.

## Mall Offers Latin Music on Sunday

On Sunday, January 29 from 2 to 4 p.m. Humberto Guzman and his Mariachi Band will play at Beltway Plaza Mall. They will start at Center Court and move through the mall, playing as they go. The performance is part of the mall's Latin Sunday series.

## GHI Town Hall Meeting Coming

Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) will hold a "State of the Cooperative" Town Hall meeting on Saturday, February 4 from 2 to 4 p.m. to consider and discuss GHI in 2012 and beyond. All GHI members are urged to attend. The Town Hall will be held at the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department, 125 Crescent Road.

## GCA Board Meets

The Greenbriar Community Association (GCA) will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 25 at 6 p.m.

## Join Group Bike Ride Through BARC Sun.

All are invited to join in a community group bike ride through the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) to the Patuxent Wildlife Refuge Visitors Center Sunday, January 22.

The 20-mile loop leaves from Proteus Bike Shop in North College Park at 1 p.m. and returns to the shop at about 3 p.m. Greenbelt riders will leave from the New Deal Café at 12:30 p.m. and return about 3:30 p.m.

The route is fairly flat with some gradual or short hills. The group will ride at a moderate pace or in groups - no one will be left behind.

For more information visit [www.proteusbicycles.com](http://www.proteusbicycles.com) or call 301-441-2928.

## Grant Funds Youth Animation Workshops

The GAVA/GATE Animation Program was awarded a grant for its 75th Anniversary of Greenbelt Animation Special this month by the Greenbelt Community Foundation.

The grant will fund the youth animation workshops in which an animated short commemorating the city's anniversary is being created.

The workshops are held under the direction of animation instructor George Kochell on Thursday and Friday afternoons from 5 to 7 p.m. at GATE studios in the Greenbelt Community Center. Young people age 11 to 15 who live in Greenbelt or attend a Greenbelt school are welcome to attend. Due to grant funding, the animation program is able to offer the workshops free of charge to all participants.

The animation special is in its second year of production. In 2011, it was funded by the Jim Cassels Award, given by the Greenbelt Co-Op Supermarket and by a special appropriation grant from Prince George's County. The final animated short will be screened this coming fall.

The GAVA/GATE Animation Program is a co-operative project of two Greenbelt community arts nonprofits: the Greenbelt Association for the Visual Arts (GAVA) and Greenbelt Access Television (GATE).

For more information email Barbara Simon at [simongava@yahoo.com](mailto:simongava@yahoo.com).

## New Map Keeps Greenbelt Intact

Governor Martin O'Malley presented his proposed re-districting map for the state to the Maryland legislature. As required by the state constitution, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House introduced the governor's plan as a joint resolution to the General Assembly.

The governor's map enhances minority voting rights, respects natural and political boundaries and results in districts that are compact, contiguous and protect communities.

"The map submitted directly reflects the demographics of the state and the population trends that have occurred over the past decade," said O'Malley. "Equally important, the map reflects the extensive public comments that members of the committee and I heard from hundreds of Marylanders in public hearings across the state and in numerous written comments."

The governor's map resolves the splits to incorporated areas such as Frederick, Riverdale Park and Greenbelt. The Greenbelt City Council had asked that its boundaries be kept intact during the redistricting process. Initially the undeveloped "south core" area near the Metro station had been placed in a district different from the rest of the city. The governor's proposed map corrects this.

## Co-op Food Demo, Wine Tastings

On Friday, January 20 from 4 to 7 p.m. there will be a wine tasting of Ruta 22 Malbec, Colby California Red, Casal Garcia Vinho Verde and Tomaido Chianti Classico wines poured by John Mealey. Save \$1 on all wines offered at the tasting.

Wednesday, January 25 the monthly Seasonal and Savory food demo and wine tasting will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Ellen Siegel and Kim Rush Lynch will prepare an endive, pear, pecan and blue cheese salad. Wednesday is also Patron Appreciation Day with a five percent savings on purchases and a \$1 saving on the wines offered for tasting.

## Upcoming Events At New Deal Café

Friday, January 20 jazz pianist John Guernsey plays from 6:30 to 8 p.m., followed by local band Long Time Coming's mostly acoustic rock and roll from 8 to 11 p.m.

Saturday, January 21 begins with Bruce Krittr playing classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m., then John Guernsey playing jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Headliners Djesben finish the evening with jazz, be-bop and music from around the globe from 8 to 11 p.m.

On Sunday, January 22 Morgan returns to the Café with folk and Indie pop from 5 to 8 p.m.

### Next Week

Tuesday, January 24 long-time troubadour Steve Haug performs with an array of instruments from 7 to 9 p.m. Bring instruments and join the Cajun Music Jam on Wednesday, January 25 from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, January 26 Amy C. Kraft plays Mid-Day Melodies from noon to 2 p.m. The Songwriters Association of Washington hosts Open Microphone from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, January 27 jazz pianist John Guernsey plays from 6:30 to 8 p.m., then the Joy Bodycomb Band plays blues, rock, country and a touch of jazz from 8 to 11 p.m. The Saturday, January 28 schedule begins with Greg Meyer's Jazz Jam from 1 to 5:30 p.m. - come join in this monthly community jazz jam. John Guernsey follows with up-tempo jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and Kiva headlines with Acoustic World Music for the Spirit from 8 to 11 p.m.

Sunday, January 29 Eye of Isis, a high-energy duet, brings a journey of world music and dance to the stage from 5 to 6:30 p.m. There will be a reception from 7 to 9 p.m. for the current artists exhibiting at the Café - Christine Wilkin's paintings, Denise Brown's photography and Angela Ozbun's jewelry.

More Community Events

can be found on  
pages 2, 4, 5, 6 and 12

## At the Library Storytimes

On Wednesdays and Thursdays a librarian reads age-appropriate stories to children and parents using imagination and props.

Wednesday, January 25, 10:30 a.m.: Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5 years.

Thursday, January 26, 10:30 a.m.: Toddler Time for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver.

Space is limited; pick up a free ticket for Storytime events at the information desk.

For more information on any of these programs or events visit the library, call 301-345-5800 or visit [www.pgcmlls.info](http://www.pgcmlls.info).



## Holy Cross Thrift Store

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Third Saturday every month,  
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## WEEK OF JAN. 20

### FRI. - SAT.


Alvin & the Chipmunks, G  
11:30, 1:30, 3:50, 5:55, 8:05  
Contraband, R  
11:30, 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 9:50  
Underworld Awakening in 3D, R (!)  
11:25, 1:30, 3:40, 5:50, 7:55, 10  
Haywire, R (!)  
11:20, 1:25, 3:35, 5:45, 8, 10:15  
Beauty and the Beast in 3D, PG (!)  
11:55, 2:05, 4:15, 6:40, 8:45  
Red Tails, PG-13 (!)  
11:40, 2:20, 5:05, 7:40, 10:15  
Joyful Noise, PG-13  
11:30, 2:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:10  
Mission Impossible 4, PG-13  
11:55, 3:35, 7, 9:50

### SUN. - THU.

Alvin & the Chipmunks, G  
11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:20  
Contraband, R  
11:55, 2:20, 4:50, 7:15  
Underworld Awakening in 3D, R (!)  
11:30, 1:25, 3:25, 5:25, 7:25  
Haywire, R (!)  
11:45, 2:25, 4:50, 7:10  
Beauty and the Beast in 3D, PG (!)  
11:30, 1:25, 3:25, 5:25, 7:25  
Red Tails, PG-13 (!)  
11:35, 2:10, 4:45, 7:20  
Joyful Noise, PG-13  
11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:25  
Mission Impossible 4, PG-13  
11:45, 4:35, 7:15



## Opening At The Greenbelt Arts Center!



### *How I Learned to Drive*

Written by Paula Vogel  
Directed by Patrick Miller

January 20, 21, 27, 28,  
February 3, 4, 10, 11 at 8:00 PM

January 29 and February 5  
at 2:30 PM.

Ticket prices for each event:  
\$17 General Admission, \$14 Students/Seniors

For information & reservations, call **301-441-8770**  
email: [info@greenbeltartscenter.org](mailto:info@greenbeltartscenter.org)  
or **BOOK TICKETS ONLINE** at [www.greenbeltartscenter.org](http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org)

**Coming Soon:**  
February 17 - 19, 2012 - Truth Be Told, guest production from Alight Dance Company  
March 9 - 31, 2012 - Pippin  
April 7, 2012 - Celtic Concert with The Homespun Ceilidh Band

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# The Bus

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# Obituaries

## Patricia Davis

Patricia Ann (Pat) Davis of Woodland Way died after a brief hospitalization on Monday, January 16, 2012, at Doctors Community Hospital, Lanham.



Born September 6, 1944, in Washington, D.C., she was a lifetime resident of Prince George's County.

She attended St. Hugh of Grenoble (Greenbelt) and St. Ambrose (Cheverly) Elementary Schools and graduated from St. Vincent Pallotti High School in Laurel. She also attended the University of Maryland.

About three years ago she retired after working 30 years for Verizon.

Ms. Davis worked about 25 years as a volunteer for the Greenbelt News Review, working on writing, editing and make up. She also served on the News Review's Board of Directors.

She was preceded in death by her husband Charles Davis, her fiancé Dave Kelly and her daughter Gabriella Daley Klatt.

Her survivors include her parents, Carl Oliver, Sr., and Rachael (Rae) Oliver of Laurel, brothers Carl A. Oliver, Jr., and John M. Oliver; son-in-law Gregory Klatt and many relatives and friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Thursday, January 19 at 11 a.m. at St. Mary of the Mills Catholic Church, 114 St. Mary's Place, Laurel. Interment will be in St. Mary's Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made in her name to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 11454, Alexandria, VA 22312.



## Beltsville Garden Club Has General Meeting

The next meeting of the Beltsville Garden Club will be held on Wednesday, January 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the James E. Duckworth School, 11201 Evans Trail, Beltsville.

The speakers are David Keil and Christine Blazina, docents for the Dumbarton Oaks Historic Garden in Washington, D.C. They will focus on the development of Dumbarton Oaks as a study center, museum and planned garden.

For more information call Louise DeJames at 301-890-4733 or visit the club website at [www.beltsvillegardenclub.org](http://www.beltsvillegardenclub.org).

## New Café Artists' Exhibit, Reception on January 29

Three new exhibits by local artists are now being shown at the New Deal Café.

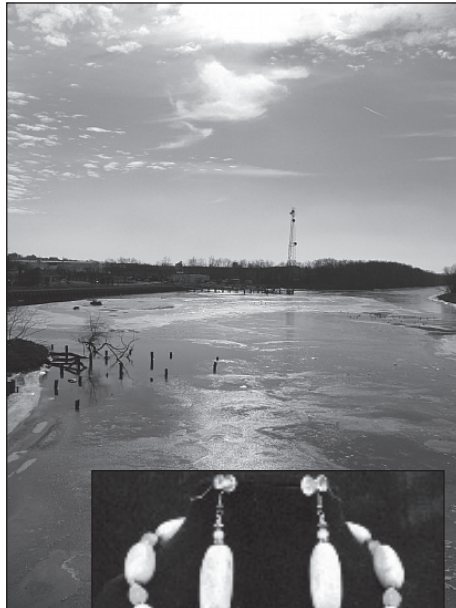
Chrissy Wilkin's paintings, Angela Ozbun's jewelry and Denise Marie Brown's photography will be on display until March 5. A free public reception will be held on Sunday, January 29 from 7 to 9 p.m. All are invited to meet the artists.

Wilkin uses mixed media and numerous painting techniques to create expressive, poignant images of people and places from her memory and imagination.

Ozbun works with beads, stones, crystal and wire to create jewelry that is hand-crafted for distinctive characters and occasions. She enjoys "studying the individual personalities and creating art that reveals just who the wearer truly is."

Brown's photographs showcase the beauty and transformation of Anacostia through each season. She has participated in over 50 exhibits, festivals and shows and has received numerous awards.

The New Deal Café art program is sponsored by Friends of the New Deal Café Arts.



**Works by Denise Marie Brown (top), Angela Ozbun and Chrissy Wilkin (below) are on exhibit.**



## Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi  
Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

**Sunday, January 22, 10 a.m.**

UU Perspectives on 12-Step Recovery by Worship Associate Abby Crowley with Ed Crowley, John Sebastian and Michael Léger. Music by Ed Crowley, Michael Léger and Jesse Crowley.

This service was rescheduled from August 28 due to the earthquake.

### BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. James Lawton - Pastor  
301-474-7573  
6301 Greenbelt Road  
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740  
[berwynpresbyterian.net](http://berwynpresbyterian.net)

Worship : Sundays at 11:00 am -- Child Care Available  
Sunday School: Sundays at 9:30 am  
Office Hours : M-F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

*"A hospitable, multicultural community of faith"*

## 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](http://www.mishkantorah.org)  
Conservative and Reconstructionist

## Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church



40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors  
[www.greenbeltumc.org](http://www.greenbeltumc.org) 301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

Worship Service 10am, Free breakfast served 8:40 - 9:15 a.m.

Second of four sermons on Anger - Matthew 5:21-26

Sermon Title: "What God Says about Anger"



## Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hillside & Crescent Roads  
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings

[www.greenbeltucc.org](http://www.greenbeltucc.org)  
Sunday Worship

10:15 a.m.

Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

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

## ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-474-4322



Mass Schedule:

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

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

Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.

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

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

Pastoral Associate: Rev. R. Scott Hurd



Education is of three kinds: material, human and spiritual. Divine education is that of the Kingdom of God: it consists in acquiring divine perfections, and this is true education.

(Abdu'l-Baha)

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community  
1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918  
[Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com](mailto:Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com) [www.bahai.us](http://www.bahai.us)



## Greenbelt Baptist Church

101 Greenhill Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20770 - (301) 474-4212  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://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"*

## St. George's Episcopal Church

Join us around a table where all are welcome!

Services

• Sundays

8 a.m. simple, quiet service (no music)

10 a.m. main service

(music includes a mixture of acoustic guitar, piano and organ music)

• Wednesdays

7 p.m. service with healing prayers (no music)

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



Catholic Community of Greenbelt

SUNDAY MASS, 10:00 AM  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING

SERVE BREAKFAST AT S.O.M.E.

Sunday, January 29

Meet at St. Hugh's School

Parking Lot, 6:00 AM



## HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111

[www.myholycross.org](http://www.myholycross.org) email [myholycross@verizon.net](mailto:myholycross@verizon.net)

Worship 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School & Bible Class 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m.  
Quiet Communion Service  
Come as you are!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church is a traditional Bible-believing, Christ-centered congregation! Join Us!  
Join us on Facebook at Holy Cross Lutheran Greenbelt



## FUTURE CITY continued from page 1

Sympathy to the family and friends of Patricia ("Pat") Davis, who died on January 16, 2012. Pat's colleagues at the News Review are deeply saddened by this loss.

We were sorry to hear of the death of former Greenbelter Beverly Kiddy, 82, of Stoughton, Wisc., on January 15, 2012. The Kiddy family was active at St. Hugh's church and school in the 1960s and 70s.

Congratulations to Air Force Airman Ashli K. Walker, a 2008 Eleanor Roosevelt High School graduate, who has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Tex.

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 Greenbelt West (Franklin Park). To send information for "Our Neighbors" email us at newsreview@greenbelt.com or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

- Kathleen McFarland

### Utopia Planning Now Underway

Utopia Film Festival organizers are now at work planning for the eighth annual event this coming fall. The first planning session will be held at 8 p.m. on Thursday, January 26 in the GATE Studios in Room 204 at the Community Center.

The all-volunteer festival screens a variety of independent documentaries, features, short films and animation from local, national and international filmmakers during the last weekend of October. Several key members cannot help with this year's event. Thus, volunteers are needed for the upcoming festival; those interested are urged to attend the planning meeting.

Volunteers serve in a variety of capacities including website planning, film scheduling, screening and selecting films and publicity. This is an opportunity to learn the nuts and bolts of organizing a film festival while sharing in the fun and excitement of this important Greenbelt cultural event.

### City Notes

Animal Control staff returned to owners two dogs running at large, issued two citations for one dog being a public nuisance and running at large and assisted in removing another dog stuck under a house.

Public Works staff assisted with the review of plans regarding Pepco improvements.

Street Maintenance/Special Details crews applied crack seal on roads in historic Greenbelt.

Horticulture/Parks/Playgrounds crew installed a bike rack at the Greenbelt library.

Refuse/Recycling/Sustainability crew collected 23.58 tons of refuse and 13.92 tons of commingled recyclable material.

computerized model using Sim City 4, were due prior to the final day of the competition. A physical model, using recycled materials to represent their city and a presentation in which a group of three students describe the city to a panel of judges are the final tasks used to evaluate each team. The team with the highest combined scores in the regional competition is allowed to progress to the national round in Washington, D.C.

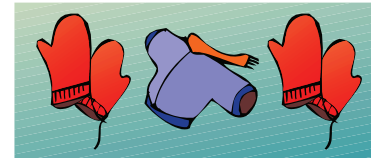
The Kenmoor Middle School team arose victorious, receiving the first place overall rank-

ing, leaving sponsor Sra. Kendal Galiber beaming with pride. Greenbelters Hunter Whaples and Annina Commins along with Vinai Rachakonda presented the project to the panel of judges. Their city, named Bagong Pagasa (New Hope), used nuclear fusion as the primary energy source. The majority of the city's housing is located in structures called earthscrapers (the inverse of a skyscraper). To get as many points as possible the team created a skit for their oral presentation in which Vinai played the role of a holo-

gram, Annina a school teacher and Hunter an engineer. Other team members in attendance and playing valuable roles included Greenbelt residents Rafi Kabir and Emma Grear, along with Michael Spooner, Jordan Holder and John Li.

The national competition will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Crystal City, Va., from February 18 through 22. To support the region's winning team, all are invited to come take a visit to the future.

More information is available at [www.futurecity.org](http://www.futurecity.org).



### JC Landscaping

- Beds Trenched and Mulched,
- Annuals, Flowers, Perennials,
- Ornamental shrubs and trees installed,
- Small tree removal.
- Shrubs and small trees trimmed and pruned. New lawn seeding or sod.

**Free Estimates**  
**301-809-0528**



# City Information

## GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 23, 2012 - 8:00 p.m.

Municipal Building

### COMMUNICATIONS

#### Presentations

- Electronic Agenda

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

#### Minutes of Council Meetings

#### Administrative Reports

#### Council Reports

#### Committee Reports

### LEGISLATION

- A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of Leasing Police Vehicles from Acme Auto Leasing, LLC. of North Haven, Connecticut.
- 2nd Reading, Adoption

### OTHER BUSINESS

- Advisory Committee on Education, Report #12-1 (ACE Grant Proposals)

- Appointment of Councilmembers to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Policy Boards and Committees

- Other Reports

- \* - 16. Reappointments to Advisory Groups

### MEETINGS

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

## DONATION DROP-OFF

American Rescue Workers

Saturday, January 28, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.  
Parking lot between City Office, 25 Crescent Road and the Community Center.

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



## GREENBELT ANIMAL SHELTER

550-A Crescent Road  
(behind Police Station)

**COME OUT AND VISIT ALL THE ADORABLE PETS.**

*Congratulations to Willow, Jacks, Maddy, Bubbles, Sox, Star, Betty, Chex, Axel, and Kyle on their adoptions. Much love in their happy new homes!*

Left: Poseidon is a young boy whose owner had to move and could not take him. He is very friendly and lovable, but he is a bit sad and scared in his new situation without his former owner. The shelter has many adorable pets waiting to go home with you. Please come out to see them!

The shelter is open on Wednesdays from 4-7pm and on Saturdays from 9am-12pm or by appointment. INFO: 301.474.6124. Donations welcome any time!

Follow us on Facebook!



Visit and "Like" the City of Greenbelt on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt](http://www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt)

## MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 23-27

Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00 p.m., **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING** at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov)

Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m., GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> from 7-8:30pm, **SENIOR CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, Room 111.

Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m., **COUNCIL WORK SESSION** re: Greenbelt South Core at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m., **COUNCIL WORK SESSION** re: Quarterly Transit Meeting at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

*This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.*

## VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Arts Advisory Board, Employee Relations Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Public Safety Advisory Committee and Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

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

## ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28TH

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Public Works Yard

City residents can recycle old and/or unwanted computers and other electronic items.

Bring your items to Greenbelt Public Works, 555 Crescent Road.

Accepted items include: TVs, CPUs, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, laptop computers, recording equipment, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, wires and power cords, fax machines, cameras, telephones, radios, DVD players, VCRs, batteries taped on one end, expanded polystyrene (block "Styrofoam" #6) – NO cups, egg-cartons, nor food trays.

PLEASE CALL IN ADVANCE IF YOU WANT TO DROP-OFF OF MORE THAN 10 ITEMS OR ITEMS OVER 50 LBS.

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

## EARN YOUR GED

Classes will be held at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center Club House, 6101 Cherrywood Lane.

Registration and Class begins on **MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2012 from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**COST: FREE!!!!**

GED will be held every Monday and Friday, from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Come to register and stay for GED class on Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Bring a pen and a pencil with you. That's all you need! Judy Hering, Course Instructor will explain the program. Call Judy at Greenbelt CARES, 301-345-6660 ext. 2016 if you need additional information

## UPHOLSTERY

Many Fabrics to Choose From.  
Free Estimates.  
Quick Return.

LEW'S CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY  
**301-345-7273**

## APPOINTMENTS continued from page 1

worked out by the city council informally, without public fanfare, based on members' interests and their capabilities to be available at meeting times. There has been a tacit understanding that members who wish to continue in a specific role may do so, with newly-elected members deferring to those preferences.

Most residents would likely agree that it is to the city council's credit and the city's benefit that over the years Greenbelt's elected officials have become increasingly visible in representing the city outside its corporate limits. It was not too many years ago that the council could not consistently field representatives for all the available spots and left some unfilled. Now that the council is larger – seven members instead of five since the 2009 election – and more of its members are interested in more substantial involvement, the growing pains that were evident on January 9 suggest that more structured procedures may be necessary to assure that everyone has the opportunity to participate without sacrificing the benefits that come with having experience and tenure in a position.

On the January 9 agenda, the appointments to COG boards and committees were listed as item #17, but because a number of residents were present to speak to this item, the council agreed to advance it to an earlier spot. Mayor Judith Davis introduced the item by saying that because it had been unusual for more than one person to be strongly interested in the same position, the council had not needed a defined policy and had agreed on appointments by consensus before taking a formal vote. In this case, however, having discussed the issue at a work session on January 7, they had been unable to reach consensus because Roberts and Jordan both wanted the position, which Roberts had held for about 15 years. The mayor suggested that as a first step, each of them speak on their interest in serving.

Roberts emphatically refused, saying he would not participate in an effort to turn the matter into a competition to be voted on. He said it had always been a matter of common courtesy to defer to the wish of the incumbent in the situation and that it was not fair to single out him or the TPB position for different treatment. He believed this practice had worked well for the city and that if council were to change it, there would inevitably be conflict.

Davis said she was not trying to change practice but efforts to find a resolution at the worksession last week had been unsuccessful. In other situations, the councilmembers involved had been able to resolve the matter. She said that since this is the first time this has happened, there is no practice or policy. She agreed with Roberts that the lack of resolution was divisive and said she, too, preferred not to have to put it to a vote. Roberts replied that the only reason other situations had in fact resolved themselves was that the person holding the position was allowed to choose whether or not to give it up. He said he did not agree that this was the first time the matter had arisen but it was the first time a

councilmember's seniority and contributions had not been recognized. He said this was the fourth time the mayor had suggested changing the practice and that she was creating a division that did not need to exist.

Jordan said it was not a matter of personalities for him. He simply would like to have the opportunity to serve on the TPB and thought the positions should be rotated occasionally when more than one person was interested. He asked why he should have to wait six or eight years to participate. He said he did not think it should be decided on the basis of seniority or privilege, since everyone elected to council brings different things to the table.

Councilmember Konrad Herling said that when he had been elected to council eight years ago he had wanted to serve on the TPB but was instead made an alternate. He said Greenbelt could do what Takoma Park does: both the representative and the alternate attend the meeting and can speak but only one votes. Davis added that sitting at the dais is first come, first served, so more than one person can be at the table but there are no guarantees. Mach added that having both attend with an ability to speak sounded like a workable solution.

Councilmember Ed Putens commented that in fact council does have a policy because when a practice has been in place for many years, it becomes policy. He said if Roberts prefers to continue as representative to the TPB, he would support that. City Solicitor Robert Manzi agreed that although no legal issue was involved, there should always be consideration of what has been done in the past. On this matter, he said, council has set a policy by practice but it is also council's prerogative to change the policy whenever it wishes.

Jordan said again that he did not think a newly elected councilmember should have to wait for six years or more to be able to participate in a committee of interest. Roberts responded that Jordan has had the ability to go to TPB meetings but has not done so. He added that if council were to start rotating representatives, it should do so across the board, not selectively.

Jordan said Roberts had asked him to cover a TPB meeting as alternate only once and because it was with only two hours warning, he had been unable to go. Jordan asked Roberts if he would consider alternating and Roberts said no.

Councilmember Leta Mach said the voice representatives bring to the meeting is the important thing and she asked if Roberts and Jordan could both sit at the dais and speak but alternate who votes every month. Davis said it would be necessary to ask COG if that were possible.

Roberts reiterated that past practice dictated that he should have the option of maintaining the position if he wished. He said that it was a dangerous precedent for a sub-group of councilmembers to dictate to others.

Roberts said the mayor had asked him to resign from the TPB following the election two years ago, saying that Jordan, as the new mayor pro tem, should

have the option. He said he had refused and that the mayor "has made an issue of it ever since."

Davis replied that since Roberts had raised the incident, she would say that at that time there was an attendance problem, which Roberts had subsequently rectified. Her interest had been in getting full representation for the city on the TPB. Roberts denied that there was an attendance problem at that time and said, "It is not the mayor's job to critique another councilmember's attendance or how they vote." Davis said she had not intended a critique but had the impression there was an attendance problem because the council was receiving no reports.

Publicly available minutes of the TPB show attendance by Roberts in 2004, which was when the Intercounty Connector was being discussed and regular attendance beginning in March 2009. There is no indication of any representation of Greenbelt by any councilmember from December 2004 through February 2009.

Audience members who spoke expressed respect for both councilmembers but a majority supported the idea that having experience in the position was of benefit and should be given priority. At a minimum they thought a change in practice should apply to all and not be focused on one position or individual. Don Comis compared a forced rotation of positions to term limits, which he opposed.

On the other side, Tom Jones spoke against assigning privilege by seniority rather than on the basis of qualifications. Sylvia Lewis said the position is no one's private property but that her main concern was that Greenbelt had voted for this council to make decisions and it was not doing so. "You're being wimps," she said. "Don't duck this issue." She added that she thought it would be a waste of time to solve the problem by having two people attend the meeting.

Taking a middle position, Bill Orleans suggested that the matter might be resolved if Jordan challenged Roberts to a duel.

At its December 5 worksession, the council had discussed all these issues within the context of assigning liaisons to city advisory boards and committees. Although they did not explicitly discuss the COG TPB appointment, it was unmistakably the elephant in the room. Among the possibilities discussed for approaches to deciding appointments were the place of seniority (length of service on council), tenure in the appointed position, position on the council (mayor or mayor pro tem) and voting rank in the last election (as a reflection of voter preference).

In discussing their tentative liaison appointments to city groups, which were acted on formally at tonight's meeting, they followed their usual practice of exploring which members were open to changing positions and which were not. Changes that occurred without issue were that Jordan will replace Putens as the liaison to the Advisory Planning Board; Putens will replace Jordan with the Community Relations Advisory Board; and Roberts will replace Davis with the Forest Preserve Advisory Board.

### What Is the TPB?

In the 1960s the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) was a rather ineffective, loosely knit organization whose members were area local governments. Greenbelt was not a member. This all changed in the early 70s when the federal government agreed to permit regional local government review of federal transportation projects through the establishment of transportation planning boards. For Washington, COG was designated as the regional transportation planning agency. Thus, all members of COG, through its Transportation Planning Board (TPB) had the opportunity to review and comment on federal plans for transportation projects.

With two major federal highways passing through Greenbelt, Greenbelt needed to become a part of the review process. The Greenbelt City Council decided to become a member of COG, thereby becoming able to designate a city representative to the TPB. Although other COG committees have grown in influence, the TPB continues to be one of the most important outside groups upon which Greenbelt can be represented.

As the city representative, the person representing Greenbelt is responsible for putting forth the adopted positions of the city council on transportation issues rather than the person's personal points of view.

– James Giese

### Camp Fire Franklin Park Offers Winter Activities

During the past holiday season, teens and youth at Camp Fire Franklin Park distributed gifts and food to over 100 families in the community and earned community service points at school in the process.

Activities now available include the Monday Middle School Youth Leadership and Service Program for teens in 6th to 9th grades; Little Stars, a program for stay-at-home moms and daycare providers of preschoolers; and the High School Service Learning Program that includes road trips and service projects.

Another active program at Franklin Park is Camp Fire USA's Teens in Action program that provides teens the opportunity to take part in activities designed by youth to deal with social challenges. The principles of Teens in Action are based on youth-adult partnerships and learning through empowering experiences. The intent is to strengthen the ties of family, school and community to issues of concern to youth.

Coming in February: a Babysitting Course and a Teen CERT (Certified Emergency Response Training) Course. Adult and college student volunteer opportunities are always available and new participants are encouraged. A good fit is sure to be found.

Monetary donations to continue this kind of community involvement may be made via CFC #67182, United Way/NCA #8333, United Way Central MD #925229. To shop and donate online go to [www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com) and enter Camp Fire USA Patuxent Area Council.

Camp Fire sponsors many and varied activities that help the community and the individual grow. Spread the word and get involved. Visit the Camp Fire office at Franklin Park, 9176 Springhill Lane, Greenbelt, email [info@campfireusa-patuxent.org](mailto:info@campfireusa-patuxent.org) or call 240-391-6246. Newcomers are always welcome.

**Corporations are not The People!**  
Let's urge our local government to SUPPORT  
the Constitutional Amendment *Revoking the*  
Supreme Court's 2010 Ruling on *Citizens United*

**We need many Greenbelters to attend  
the Greenbelt City Council meeting  
Monday, January 23 at 8pm!**

Several local governments (Greenbelt, College Park, Riverdale, and Hyattsville) are considering support for a Constitutional Amendment *Revoking the* Supreme Court's Ruling on *Citizens United*. State Senator **Jamie Raskin** will soon submit a resolution or letter in support of the Amendment to the Maryland General Assembly.

At the *Citizens United* House Party held in Greenbelt on January 13, 2012, participants reached the consensus to ask the Greenbelt City Council to approve a letter in support of the Raskin resolution that will be introduced at the Greenbelt City Council meeting on Monday, January 23 at 8 p.m. in the Council Room, 25 Crescent Road.

**Strength for this cause is in numbers and we need as many Greenbelt residents present as possible. Citizens United Greenbelt participants look forward to seeing you with your family and friends on the 23rd!**

**For further information, contact Jennifer Robinson at  
[jrobinson720@yahoo.com](mailto:jrobinson720@yahoo.com)**

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

# Greenbelt



Supermarket Pharmacy

## Farm Fresh Produce

Sweet Large Seedless Red Grapes <b>99¢</b> lb.	Fresh Crop Russet Potatoes 5 lb. bag <b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b>	Florida Red Grapefruit 5 lb. bag <b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b>
Crisp Iceberg Lettuce head <b>\$1<sup>49</sup></b>	Florida Red Ripe Strawberries 1 lb. package <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b>	Fresh Cut & Peeled Baby Carrots 1 lb. package <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b>
Fresh Crisp Pears Bosc/Red/D'Anjou <b>\$1<sup>49</sup></b> lb.	Fresh Clean Sliced Mushrooms 8 oz. <b>\$2<sup>00</sup></b>	Check out our special <b>4-Day Citrus Sale</b> Wed., January 25 through Sat., January 28

## Fresh Quality Meats

Fresh Shurfine Homestyle Roasting Chicken <b>79¢</b> lb.	Fresh Lean Beef Boneless Chuck Roast <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> lb.	Fresh Value Pack Boneless Center Cut Pork Chops & Roasts <b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b> lb.	Fresh Value Pack Chicken Legs, Thighs & Drumsticks <b>\$1<sup>19</sup></b> lb.
Fresh Value Pack Boneless Country Style Spare Ribs <b>\$2<sup>79</sup></b> lb.	Fresh Value Pack 80% Lean Ground Beef <b>\$2<sup>88</sup></b> lb.	Fresh Value Pack Boneless Chuck Steaks <b>\$4<sup>29</sup></b> lb.	Fresh Value Pack Prima Porta Italian Sausage <b>\$2<sup>49</sup></b> lb.

## Dairy

## Deli

## Frozen

Kraft Natural Chunk Cheese Assorted 8 oz. <b>\$2<sup>50</sup></b>	Shurfine Orange Juice Assorted 64 oz. <b>\$2<sup>00</sup></b>	Deli Gourmet Oven Roasted Chicken Breast <b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> lb.	Banquet Assorted Dinners Select Varieties 5-10.5 oz. <b>98¢</b>	Swanson Meat Pot Pies Assorted 7 oz. <b>\$1<sup>00</sup></b>
Shurfine Pure Butter Quarters 1 lb. <b>\$2<sup>50</sup></b>	Coffeemate Liquid Creamers Assorted 16 oz. <b>\$2<sup>00</sup></b>	Deli Gourmet Corned Beef <b>\$7<sup>99</sup></b> lb.	Birdseye Classic Vegetables & Blends Select Varieties 8-16 oz. <b>\$1<sup>25</sup></b>	Shurfine Bagels 6 pack <b>\$1<sup>25</sup></b>
<b>Health &amp; Beauty</b>	<b>Seafood</b>	Deli Gourmet Lacey Swiss Cheese Lower Salt <b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> lb.	<b>Natural &amp; Gourmet</b>	<b>Bakery</b>

**Customer Appreciation Discount Day**

**Wednesday, Jan. 25**  
**5% Discount to ALL customers on ALL purchases**  
 (except stamps and gift cards)

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Pharmacy Med Pill Boxes or Pill Crushers Assorted each <b>99¢</b>	East Coast Fresh Oysters Select/Standard 8 oz. <b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b>	Kind Plus Nutrition Bars Assorted 1.4 oz. <b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b>	Fresh Store Baked Original 8 inch Apple Pie <b>\$3<sup>49</sup></b>

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Campbell's Select Harvest Soups Assorted 15-19 oz. <b>\$1<sup>25</sup></b>	Quaker Instant Oatmeal Assorted 12-16 oz. <b>\$2<sup>50</sup></b>	Shurfine Assorted Pasta Select Varieties 12-16 oz. <b>\$1<sup>00</sup></b>	Bumble Bee Chunk Light Tuna 5 oz. <b>\$1<sup>00</sup></b>	Lipton/Knorr Rice in Sauce or Noodles in Sauce Assorted 4-6 oz. <b>\$1<sup>00</sup></b>
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Coors Beer 12 pk.-12 oz. cans <b>\$10<sup>29</sup></b>

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## 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](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf).  
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

### Robbery

January 10, 4:35 p.m., 7800 block Somerset Court. A man was approached by another man who demanded the person's property. The robber is described as a black male, 15 to 16 years old, 5'10" tall, weighing 140 pounds.

### DWI/DUI

January 7, 4:35 a.m., Unit block Crescent Road. A 19-year-old Riverdale man was arrested and charged with multiple alcohol-related violations and other charges after a traffic stop. He was released on citations pending trial.

### Disorderly Conduct

January 7, 1:23 a.m., 9100 block Edmonston Road. A 24-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. He was transferred to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

January 12, 2:30 a.m., 6100 block Springhill Terrace. A 24-year-old College Park man was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. He was released on citation pending trial.

### Trespassing

January 5, 3:56 p.m., 9200 block Edmonston Road. A non-resident juvenile was petitioned for trespassing on private property and subsequently released to a guardian, pending action by the Department of Juvenile Services.

### Burglary

January 6, 2:32 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace. Electronics were taken.

January 12, 7:47 a.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace. Electronics were taken.

January 12, 11:40 a.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane. Electronics were taken.

### Vandalism

January 5, 9:01 a.m., 8900 block Edmonston Road. Several windows were broken with a BB gun.

January 6, 8:37 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace. Windows were broken.

January 7, 1:24 p.m., 6000 block Springhill Drive. A rock was thrown through a sliding glass door.

January 7, 3:34 p.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane. A rock was thrown through a sliding glass door.

January 8, 6:50 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive. A window was broken.

January 9, 11:09 a.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane. A window was broken.

January 10, 6:30 p.m., 6000

### Cherrywood Rape, Assault Arrests Made

Two men, Sheldon Snead, of no fixed address, and K'Vaughn Brandon Hives, of Washington, D.C., both 18, have been arrested and charged with the December 17 sexual assault of a College Park woman in the 6000 block of Cherrywood Lane. They are currently being held without bond at the Department of Corrections in Upper Marlboro.

Each has been charged with first degree rape, second degree rape, first degree sexual offense, second degree sexual offense, first degree assault and second degree assault.

The 24-year-old woman received serious but non-life threatening injuries.

The Criminal Investigations Unit of the Greenbelt Police Department made the arrests. The response of the department on the night of the crime included patrol officers, detectives, evidence technicians and a canine unit.

No additional information is available at this time.

block Springhill Drive. A window was broken.

### Vehicle Crime

Two vehicles were stolen, a white 2003 Ford Crown Victoria with Md. tags taken from 9100 block Springhill Lane and a gold 2000 Nissan Quest with MD tags taken from 7400 block Frankfort Drive.

Two stolen vehicles were recovered. A red 1992 Isuzu Rodeo reported stolen through Prince George's County Police was recovered on January 5 in the 6100 block Springhill Terrace. A gray 2010 Chrysler reported stolen from Virginia was recovered January 7 in the 7300 block Morrison Drive. No arrests were made in either case.

Five reports of thefts from autos were received: 9100 block Springhill Lane (rear MD tag), 8000 block Mandan Road (set of wheels), Beltway Plaza Shopping Center, two incidents (clothing and currency; side mirrors), 6200 block Springhill Court (engine parts).

Reports of vandalism included: 6200 block Springhill Drive (tires flattened), 100 block Westway (hole drilled in a gas tank), 6200 block Springhill Court (window broken), 6100 and 6200 block Breezewood Court (windows broken in five vehicles), 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace (windows broken in two vehicles).

His work has been cited by the United States Surgeon General 19 times.

Mr. Carruthers misunderstands the importance of Mr. Repace's scientific measurements in this case. They were made not to measure a particular level of secondhand smoke but rather to indicate conclusively, rather than anecdotally, that secondhand smoke from the neighbor travels onto and into the adjoining property. At trial, both the smoking neighbor and the general manager admitted that cigarette smoke from the neighbor was present in my unit.

Thirdly, and most importantly, Mr. Carruthers states that all a neighbor should do if secondhand smoke "irritates" him is occasionally to close his windows. He implies that if a non-smoking neighbor had appealed such an issue to the general membership, the membership might simply have said, "just close the windows," thereby saving everyone the time and expense of litigation. This view trivializes the serious effects of exposure to secondhand smoke, which even a cursory search on the web indicates, causes lung cancer, emphysema, heart disease and a range of immediate medical effects. The Surgeon General has said definitively there is no safe level of secondhand smoke.

Not only does Mr. Carruthers' view ignore the fact that non-smokers on either side of the smoker are not able to use our patios and yards, it misses the point of the lawsuit, namely that the victims of exposure to secondhand smoke should not be required to mitigate its effects or organize their lives around the smoker's behavior. Running around to close all the windows in our units anytime a smoker decides to smoke and inability to use our patios and yards is not "compromise," as I understand it.

On February 10, 2009, the general manager wrote to the smoking neighbor in this case, "[Y]our Mutual Ownership Contract, Section 3d, under Authorized Use of the Premises, . . . states in part, ' . . . not to engage in conduct that is objectionable and to ensure that all persons occupying or visiting in the premises so act. Member agrees not to do or allow to be done, or keep or allow to be kept upon the premises, anything that will increase the rate of insurance on the premises or do or allow to be done any act or thing that shall or may be a nuisance, annoyance, inconvenience or damage to GHI or its members or tenants or to occupants of adjoining dwellings or of the neighborhood.' This paragraph covers any act or behavior which would annoy or inconvenience one's neighbors, which could be interpreted to include unwanted or second-hand smoke infiltration. A court of law considers second-hand smoke to be a nuisance. Therefore, one might attribute this section to apply to smoking." [emphases added]

The cooperative has established rules. The rules do not permit unconstrained smoking in an individual unit that violates the Mutual Ownership Contract (MOC). The member complaints process provides for resolution of complaints that violate this clause. The cooperative did not

follow its own rules in this case. Rather it chose to defend the actions of the smoker. There is a reason the GHI headquarters building is smoke free. There is a reason that public buildings and facilities in Greenbelt are smoke free. And there is a reason that smoking is not permitted outside public buildings.

A more sensible path for the cooperative would have been, and continues to be, to advise the smoker not to continue behavior that violates the MOC or contributes to health hazards for its members. In contrast to Mr. Carruthers' description of the appeal as "irrational," in the face of these facts, the cooperative's behavior would appear to be the more irrational course of conduct.

David S. Schuman

**Editor's Note:** Nevertheless, as summarized in our January 5 year end story the Circuit Court ruled in favor of GHI and the neighbor, permitting him to continue smoking outside.

### The Green Elephant In the Living Room

While the January 5 "Greenbelt Has Turned a Deeper Shade of Green during 2011" was reassuring, I can still see an elephant in the living room. We have too many polluting and space-and fuel-wasting cars around and many of us are doing a better job of supporting them than our city.

This city was designed for reduced car use, so, in that spirit and in the spirit of greenness, we should keep to an absolute minimum how many cars we have and how much we use them. Everyone reaches a point in life when he or she no longer really needs an automobile. But most of us keep them long past safety and economic practicality. For some, retirement could signal car riddance time. But long-term life planning can in some cases even

place younger families near jobs, schools, shopping and other needs. Some local, young immigrant families are doing all of the necessary things without using automobiles.

Getting rid of a car frees up a lot of money, perhaps \$6,000 to \$7,000 a year, a greater proportion of which could be spent right here in Greenbelt. Also persons without cars tend to go less "where they don't belong anyway." How many have driven 20 miles to a sale to save \$20? If it is less convenient to go farther, residents will more likely do their shopping and even community involvement right here in Greenbelt, Chris Balish explains in his book.

What better way to reduce the "oil guilt" that some of us feel when we perceive that the warring in the Middle East is all about keeping down the price of oil?

Since 1970 I have minimized car use by walking and bicycling and by using public transit and carpooling. Thirty-one years ago I moved and reduced a commute from 23 to three miles and it was almost seven years ago that I realized the car wasn't really necessary and donated it. I have maintained full-time employment, now at a distance of about 4.5 miles and there are over 100 reasons that I am happy with that decision. Admittedly, though, excess income might have caused excess car use.

Yes, high MPG autos help but they are usually lighter-weight and more crushable in wrecks. Yes, hybrids are better but we have found no environmentally friendly way to dispose of their huge batteries when they expire.

We need to develop a green-on-the-go index that will allow Greenbelt to compare itself to other towns and cities in terms of cars per person, adjusted for age distributions and possibly a few other factors.

Bill Norwood



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Sunday, January 22, 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.,

Christ Congregational Church, Main Church Building,  
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Tuesday, January 31, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.,

3M Health Info Systems, 12215 Plum Orchard Drive,  
Silver Spring

Sunday, February 5, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.,

Bowie United Methodist Church, 13009 Sixth Street,  
Bowie

Monday, February 13, 1:30 to 7:30 p.m.,

Knights of Columbus Prince George's Council,  
9450 Cherry Hill Road,  
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# Greenbelters Unite against Citizens United

Several Citizens United House Parties involving more than 40 Greenbelt residents were organized in Greenbelt and in neighboring communities to discuss possible actions in support of a constitutional amendment revoking the Supreme Court's 2010 ruling on the Citizens United case.

In addition to participating in national events, the group has requested the Greenbelt City Council to send a letter supporting State Senator Jamie Raskin's soon-to-be released resolution/letter in support of the amendment to the Maryland General Assembly. The letter will be introduced at the Greenbelt City Council meeting on Monday, January 23 in the Council Room at 25 Crescent Road in Greenbelt at 8 p.m. Interested Greenbelt residents are encouraged to participate.

Following the efforts in Greenbelt, the group plans to work with people in nearby communities – including College Park, Riverdale, Hyattsville, Mount Rainier – to take similar actions. For further information contact Jennifer Robinson at jlr-robinson720@yahoo.com.

### Rallies

A number of organizations are working together to revoke Citizens United (see <http://www.united4thepeople.org/>). There are several planned national and state events in our area, including a rally in Annapolis on January 19 at 11 a.m. in the Lawyers Mall and a rally Friday, January 20 at 11 a.m. in front of the U.S. Supreme Court.

### History

In 2008 a conservative non-profit organization called Citizens United produced a negative video, "Hillary: the Movie," which was scheduled to air on cable TV during the Democratic primaries. The Federal Election Commission (FEC) ruled that the advertisements for the "documentary" were "campaign ads" that fell under the campaign spending restrictions of the McCain-Feingold Act, which barred political advertising bought by unions or corporations in the final 30 days of election campaigns.

The case went to the U.S. Supreme Court. In a landmark 5-to-4 decision issued January 21, 2010, the Court ruled that the First Amendment prohibits government from limiting corporate political spending, overturning parts of the McCain-Feingold Act and paving the way for unlimited corporate spending on elections as long as the money is not funneled directly to politicians, their campaigns or their parties.

The majority decision written by Justice Kennedy was quite explicit: "The Court has thus rejected that political speech of corporations or other associations should be treated differently under the First Amendment simply because such associations are not 'natural persons'."

At the Greenbelt House Party, the group voiced its concern that the Citizens United decision already has reshaped the political landscape – spending quadrupled by outside groups in the 2010 election cycle. Much of this money went to secretive political action committees (PACs) not required to disclose their donors. The impact was clear. Of 75 congressional contests in 2010 where power changed hands, spending by outside groups favored the

winning candidate in 60 of those contests.

This does not take into account the impact of the court decision on state elections, where smaller financial margins can be influenced by relatively small amounts of money. The voices and votes of ordinary people – including Greenbelters – could be permanently marginalized unless local citizens act, the group affirmed.

The Citizens United decision has focused public attention on the dangerous influence of corporate power in our elections and throughout our democratic process. Already state and local governments are publically supporting constitutional reform. Local resolutions calling for constitutional amendments to curb corporate influence in elections

and our democracy have passed in major cities and small towns across the country.

For example, New York's City Council passed a measure that seeks an amendment "so that the expenditure of corporate money to influence the electoral process is no longer a form of constitutionally protected speech," and calls on Congress to begin the process of amending the Constitution.

Some members of Congress also have begun to respond to public demand for constitutional reform. Several proposals for a constitutional amendment have been introduced, including one by Maryland Congresswoman Donna Edwards.

– Eugenia Kalnay,  
Jennifer Robinson and  
David Abraham

### In Memoriam, Danica Marie Kenney Elliott June 4, 1974 – January 20, 2011

A year ago you left us and were carried to Heaven, on January 20, 2011; We were in shock, grief-stricken, not prepared for the loss; but He knew what was best, He who died on the cross. Old Greenbelt was home you loved it in so many ways; the Greenbelt Swim Team, ballet lessons, school and Labor Day. A beautiful daughter and sister, time with Grammy and friends; you lived each day to the fullest from beginning to end. Next a wife and a mother, two daughters, three sons; one taken too soon, the rest have blossomed. Through tragedies and triumphs, through joy and through pain; you lived life on your terms with a strength that remains. With a generous, loving heart you tried to please everyone; but your soul had grown weary and wanted to go home. Now you'll live on forever, with the Lord, your husband and dad; and the little girl who was waiting is no longer sad. A bench was placed in your memory behind the Youth Center; where we can gather in peace, sit and remember. You live on through your children, your family and friends; until one day when we'll all be together again. This tribute from your family, with all our heart and our love; to our beautiful angel, in Heaven above.

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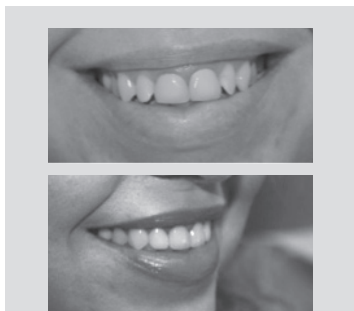


Dr. David McCarl, Dr. Clayton McCarl,  
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Every dental patient is unique and dentistry should be customized specific to each patient's situation and needs. When a dental patient consults with a dentist about concerns and goals for their smile, a general dentist with advanced dental skills will be able to offer a wide range of dental treatment options.

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In a recent case, a patient wanted to upgrade the "porcelain fused to metal crowns" on her two front teeth which she received following trauma 10 years ago. The crowns were well made but were not attractive. No matter how well made, dental crowns made completely with porcelain (called all-porcelain crowns) look more natural, lifelike and esthetic than crowns made from porcelain fused to metal.



Before and after photos of a dental patient with teeth whitening, thin veneers, porcelain crowns and gum re-contouring.

When the patient and dentist discussed the advantages of replacing the porcelain fused to metal crowns with "all-porcelain crowns", the patient also wanted to address a slight uneven gum height and small, uneven teeth (lateral incisors) adjacent to the front two teeth. In this case, full crowns would be unnecessary on the lateral

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# LIGHTS continued from page 1

not played on Sundays except for the league's opening day and the playoffs.

Weekday evening games take place between 6 and 8 p.m. Due to a league rule, no inning may be started after two hours of play and, under that rule, most games would be over at 8 p.m. or within minutes later.

If lights were installed, the latest technology would be used and they would be focused only on the field. He added that installation could include removable stanchions. He also said the league would work with nearby residents regarding placement and direction of the lights.

In response to comments from council and residents at the meeting, Inzeo noted that although Greenbelt Baseball sometimes uses other fields to accommodate its schedule, McDonald Field is its home location and its major site for fundraising efforts.

In regard to parking issues, he suggested it might be possible to provide additional parking along the right field line and admitted they could likely do a better job on litter removal following use of the field. He said they would look into the provision of more trash receptacles.

The mayor quickly suggested, "and recycling."

### Parking Issue

Councilmember Rodney Roberts said his main concern was parking and that he would not like to see any tree removal or paving for more parking. He suggested that a shuttle service could be provided for parking at the Armory lot about a block away or better access from that lot for pedestrians to walk to the field.

Councilmember Emmett Jordan suggested obtaining information from other organizations where lights had recently been installed.

In response to a question by Councilmember Konrad Herling regarding the estimated cost of \$110,000 for the project, Inzeo felt \$130,000 would be required

to properly light the field. This estimate was based on his most recent discussions with vendors.

Concerning the Greenbelt Baseball schedule, Inzeo explained the League schedule for 11- to 12-year-olds is from April 1 to about July 7 and is called spring ball. Beginning after Labor Day to the end of October, a skills and instructional league is held for younger players.

During the season each team plays two games a week on a 17-game schedule. Recently about a dozen games have been scheduled at Braden Field. He emphasized, however, that it is not an optimum baseball field. About 110 kids are in the program, of whom about 75 percent are Greenbelt residents.

### Resident Complaints

Residents living in the adjacent GHI courts continued to raise issues concerning the games and at other times. Parking was a huge issue, they reported. Trash was also a problem after games.

They were concerned that such problems could increase with installation of the lights. One neighbor, after expressing what residents have to deal with, said they call them the "litter league."

Another resident of 7 Court Southway provided council with a list of concerns including actual pictures of overflow parking and "double parking." He said he liked Greenbelt Baseball but they need to be a good neighbor.

Picking up on that theme, council suggested that Greenbelt Baseball begin changing the status quo, address the concerns raised and take more control of the adverse situations described. Inzeo and the other League representatives expressed a willingness to address these issues.

McLaughlin told council he will prepare of list of possible options including a better understanding of the city's responsibilities for electricity and water supply to the field, strict parking restrictions and enforcement.

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## PROJECTS continued from page 1

repairs to the Greenbelt Lake dam and dredging of the lake as part of the same project.

### PWD Cost Overrun

Council had previously authorized "borrowing" \$868,000 from the city's General Fund to pay the final cost of the Public Works facility. McLaughlin noted that the General Fund is able to support this "loan" for most of the fiscal year cycle, using the city's Undesignated Fund Balance and typical cash flow.

During July, August and September however, when cash flow is constrained, the city would need to obtain a tax anticipation loan, which had been done for the past three years. McLaughlin noted the decreasing cost for such short-term borrowing. He believes such borrowing is an affordable approach for carrying the Public Works cost overrun for the near term. He cautions, however, that such an arrangement provides no progress in paying off the \$868,000. His proposed solution is for council to commit to budgeting between \$50,000 and \$200,000 per year in future years to allow paying off the \$868,000 within 10 years.

### Theater Renovations

McLaughlin laid out a proposed strategy for coming up with \$400,000 to begin theater renovations during 2012. His identified sources for funding would include using \$200,000 of the \$727,740 added to the city's fund balance at the end of FY11 (city revenue having exceeded expenditures for that fiscal year).

To the \$200,000 he would add another \$232,100 that had been added to the city's Debt Service Fund in the FY12 budget to be available in refinancing the city's outstanding debt. Since this purpose has not been needed, these funds are now available for a new use.

McLaughlin further advised council the \$400,000-plus thus identified could be used to satisfy the needed match for two State of Maryland grants (totaling \$380,000) which, combined, would provide over \$800,000 for the theater renovation project.

### Lake Dredging, Dam

Dredging of Greenbelt Lake is necessary, McLaughlin said, and the dam repairs are required by the state. Plans developed for the two projects cost an estimated \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000.

McLaughlin believes a low interest loan (currently 2.00 percent) is available from the state for such work. He advises that repayment of a \$1.5 million loan over 10 years would total about

\$165,000 per year and a \$2 million loan about \$240,000 per year. He cautions, however, that, under current fiscal conditions, he does not see how this expense could be met within the city budget without program cuts. On the other hand, he says a one-cent increase to the city's tax rate would generate approximately \$210,000 in Fiscal Year 2013 and possibly more in future years.

Discussion by council focused more on theater renovations and the Greenbelt Lake projects than on the financing approach outlined for handling the Public Works cost overrun. Councilmember Leta Mach expressed a need to begin the theater renovation.

When Councilmember Rodney Roberts asked what has been done to achieve reductions in the renovation costs, McLaughlin said he is ready to present the project to council at an estimated cost of \$800,000. To move ahead on the theater project, he suggested a worksession on detailed plans and options scheduled by late February or early March. If agreement is reached on the scope of the project, he estimates it could be initiated in early November 2012.

Discussion on the Greenbelt Lake projects started with speculation as to whether the lake had ever before been dredged. It appeared no one was completely sure. Some partial dredging might have been done in association with the so-called fore bay project years ago, they thought.

Another thrust of council concern was need for an "expert" presentation on the state of the dam and possible corrective options. From the audience, David Schuman felt the problem could just be seepage and that a possible remedy would be the strategic planting of water-seeking plants or trees in the plain behind the dam.

The mayor wondered if the proposed state loan option would require a referendum vote by Greenbelt citizens. McLaughlin said he will ask the city solicitor if the state's 10-year loan could be considered a "contract" and allowable under Greenbelt's Charter.

There were questions also about why the state was so interested in the conditions of the dam. Some speculated that because of failure of a dam at Lake Needwood in upper Montgomery County, state officials were taking a look at similar earthen dam structures.

McLaughlin said no funding options had been developed for the remaining projects. He believes the projects discussed in the memo, however, should have a higher priority.

### Owens Science Ctr. Site for ASG Meeting

The next meeting of the Astronomical Society of Greenbelt (ASG) on Thursday, January 26 at 7:30 p.m. at the H.B. Owens Science Center will feature a presentation by ASG member Elizabeth Levin.

Levin will discuss her experiences attending the annual meeting of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. A teacher in the Prince George's County public schools, Levin attended several workshops and seminars designed for teachers, as well as the exhibits. The H.B. Owens Science Center is at 9601 Greenbelt Road in Lanham (adjacent to DuVal High School). All are welcome. Admission is free.

### Alight Troupe Dances Downtown

Alight dance theater, based in Greenbelt, will perform this weekend at Dance Place in Washington, D.C. The program, entitled Truth Be Told, 50s Front & Shadowmark, will be performed on Saturday at 8 p.m. and on Sunday at 4 p.m. Tickets may be purchased at [www.danceplace.org](http://www.danceplace.org).

### National Gallery Presents Concert

The National Gallery of Art will be the site of a free concert on Sunday, January 22 at 6:30 p.m. Cuarteto Vivace Brasil will perform music by Villa-Lobos and other composers in the West Garden Court.

## December Reel and Meal Vegan Donations Benefit Greenbelt Rd. Pregnancy Aid Center



December Reel & Meal donations benefit Greenbelt Road Pregnancy Aid Center. From right to left: Susan Barnett, Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group; Jean Newcomb, Green Vegan Networking; Cam MacQueen, Green Vegan Networking; Madhyatu Mercado, Health Educator & Community representative for the Pregnancy Aid Center; Donna Hoffmeister, Prince George's County Peace & Justice Coalition; and Shirley Middleton, Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group.

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