

75th Anniversary

Greenbelters Turn Out in Force To Listen to James Roosevelt, Jr.

by Patrick Donohue

Eleanor Roosevelt's spirit lives on in Greenbelt – that was the message delivered by James Roosevelt, Jr., grandson of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, on Saturday to an audience of more than 200 that filled the Community Center gymnasium.

"I know that she would be extremely pleased to think that nearly 50 years after her death that she still has something to offer a room full of residents of a place of which she was so proud," Roosevelt said of his grandmother Eleanor.

He decided to focus his speech on his grandmother because they spent time together; Eleanor was alive until he was a senior in high school.

Roosevelt began by recalling what she was like as a person and not just a public figure.

She "passionately believed that every person mattered," he said, and she had to overcome her shyness to be a voice for all women in the first half of the 20th century.

"Her life became expansive," Roosevelt said, "Her curiosity in-



PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG

James Roosevelt, Jr. listens to Mayor Judith Davis at the conclusion of the program.

formed her intellect and her public platform shone light in dark corners."

Indeed, Eleanor Roosevelt used her public platform to spread her message of how to live a fulfilling life in her 1960 book, *You Learn by Living*. Her grandson sum-

marized the book by discussing the 11 chapter titles, which his grandmother saw as the 11 keys to fulfillment in life.

Her book, he said, was "an attempt to answer, in a collective way, hundreds of thousands of letters asking her advice on both mundane and fundamental questions of life."

The opening chapter, "Learning to Learn," reflected his grandmother's belief that the purpose of life was to keep learning, maintain one's curiosity and achieve self-knowledge through self-discipline. "Fear, The Great Enemy" in chapter two echoes Franklin Roosevelt's first inaugural address and also one of his grandmother's favorite sayings, "Do what you think you cannot do."

"Uses of Time" helps readers understand that time is limited so they should use it wisely, and is the theme of the third chapter.

Growing up and being accountable for personal decisions is the message behind chapter four, "The Difficult Art of Maturity."

See **ROOSEVELT**, page 7

Election 2012

Seven Amendments Listed On Fall Election Ballot

by James Giese

Seven questions seeking approval for amendments to the state constitution will be on the ballot in the upcoming election. The four more controversial will be discussed in articles in future issues of the News Review. Here we will provide summary information of the three that appear less controversial and that have received little notice from the media. The first two deal with requiring Prince George's and Baltimore County Orphan's Court Judges to be lawyers and providing for a state or local elected person, found guilty by trial or pleading guilty or nolo contendere to a felony or disqualifying misdemeanor, to be immediately suspended from office or removed instead of waiting until the time of sentencing.

Ballot question 3 came about after Prince George's County

Councilmember Leslie Johnson pled guilty to a felony charge of conspiracy to commit witness and evidence tampering on June 30, 2011, but did not resign from office and was determined to be legally eligible to serve until she was to be sentenced. Johnson was not sentenced until December 9, 2011, but resigned from office on July 31.

If approved by voters, this constitutional amendment would remove an officeholder upon pleading guilty or nolo contendere to a felony (a plea stating that the defendant will not contest the charge but does not admit guilt or claim innocence) or a disqualifying misdemeanor (one relating to the elected official's public duties and responsibilities and involving moral turpitude, for which the

See **STATE ISSUES**, page 8

Three Referendum Questions Are on the County Ballot

by James Giese

Prince George's County has matched the state in placing referendum questions on the ballot with seven. For the county however, two are charter-required and five are bond issue authorizations. None have been initiated by referendum.

Question A asks for voter approval of a county council approved redistricting plan as required by the county charter following completion of the U.S. decennial census. While redistricting has engendered some controversy, the county council has apparently stilled the waters by rejecting the proposal of its appointed charter commission and approving instead "a stay as it is for the most part" plan.

The new plan includes one

change sought by Greenbelt politicians. Although uninhabited as yet, property in Greenbelt West, recently annexed to the city and to become the south core of the Greenbelt Station development, was not in the same district for election of a member of the county council as the rest of Greenbelt.

The redistricting plan moves this property from Councilmanic District 1, that includes College Park and Laurel, to District 4, in which the rest of the City of Greenbelt is located.

In establishing the redistricting commission, county council received some flak by appointing only Democrat-affiliated residents,

See **COUNTY ISSUES**, page 8

Labor Day Festival

Three Queens Claim 2012 Titles

by Paula Clinedinst

Great smile? Check. Infectious giggle? Check. Winning personality? Check. Active minds? Check. Newly crowned Miss Greenbelt Veronica Handunge, Junior Miss Greenbelt Caroline Casey and Little Miss Greenbelt Ashley Wickline have the total package.

Throw in that two of these young ladies were also voted Miss Congeniality (Casey and Wickline) and one is Miss Photogenic (Handunge). Certainly there is no doubt that Greenbelt can expect to be well represented by its 2012 queens.

Miss Greenbelt

Veronica Handunge is a senior in the Science and Technology Program at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS). With an affinity for biology and research, she has an internship at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, where she is studying entomology with a focus on sand



PHOTO BY HELEN SYDAVAR

Miss Greenbelt Veronica Handunge, Junior Miss Greenbelt Caroline Casey and Little Miss Greenbelt Ashley Wickline pose for the photographers near the reviewing stand after the parade on Labor Day.

music and plays the viola.

Handunge began running as a pastime and found that it gave her confidence to do other things. Running is no longer just a hobby, though, as she is on the cross-country team at ERHS.

"Most of the time I am in running clothes," she says.

It was this confidence that brought her to enter the Miss Greenbelt Pageant, along with encouragement from friends Amber Youhouse (Miss Greenbelt 2009), Debbie Fishbeck (Miss Greenbelt 2010) and Victoria Gray (Miss Greenbelt 2011).

In fact, Youhouse, Fishbeck and Gray helped Handunge raise more than \$2,000 for "Bridge to Peace," a charity that creates and maintains schools for former child soldiers in Sri Lanka. Money from Handunge and her team has covered living expenses for medical doctors who traveled to Sri Lanka to teach and perform surgery.

Handunge's leadership in this project was not only successful but also came in handy for her on-stage question during the Pageant: "What activity have you done recently that shows leadership?"

Handunge, in the middle of the hectic job of filling out college applications, misses being

See **QUEENS**, page 6

What Goes On

Friday, September 28

8 to 11 p.m., Animal Shelter Fundraiser at New Deal Café

Saturday, September 29

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., National Public Lands Day Project, Stream Valley Park across from St. Hugh's

Sunday, September 30

3 to 4:30 p.m., Free Cabaret Treasure Hunt, Community Center Gym

Monday, October 1

10 a.m., Registration for 10-week GED Course, Municipal Building

7:30 p.m., Advisory Planning Board Meeting, Community Center, Room 114

Tuesday, October 2

7 p.m., Arts Advisory Board Meeting, Community Center

Thursday, October 4

7:30 p.m., Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Board Meeting, Administration Building

In Memoriam – Remembering Jaylee Mead

Philanthropist, former NASA-Goddard astronomer and former Greenbelt resident Jaylee Mead, 83, died of heart failure on September 14, 2012, in Washington, D.C. I first met Jaylee Mead and her late husband, Gilbert, in the early 1990s when I interviewed them for an article I was writing for the News Review.

Previously I had talked with Jaylee in connection with a grant submission I was preparing on behalf of the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum (FOGM). I had requested \$5,000 from the Mead Family Foundation to partially fund a video on Greenbelt's history. The video addressed their goal of funding projects that fostered community enrichment.

When I interviewed them, they were living in the Greenbriar Condominiums. They owned two apartments they had joined together to create one spacious home. Both had served on the Greenbriar, Phase I, Board of Directors. Charter members, they moved there in 1975 to be close to the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center where both of them worked, he as a physicist, she as an astronomer.

They liked to be able to walk to work, Jaylee told me, especially on snowy days. On occasion, they also walked across the Spellman Overpass to shop at the Co-op supermarket.

In addition to funding FOGM's video project, in 1996 the Mead Family Foundation awarded a \$5,000 grant for writing a play on Greenbelt's history, to be staged at the Greenbelt Arts Center. Both Gil and Jaylee attended the opening night's performance and were genuinely enthusiastic.

As I recall, she was dressed unpretentiously in a polyester navy blue pants suit. Prior to the performance, they had made a point of dining locally at the New Deal Café.

Moved Away

By 1996 the Meads had moved to the Watergate Apartments. But they made a special effort to come to Greenbelt to see how the Foundation's money was being used. They had a very "hands on" attitude. Jaylee and her stepdaughter Diana had previously toured the Greenbelt Museum.

The Meads maintained a strong interest in Greenbelt and contributed \$2,000 from their personal funds to the Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC) as part of a matching grant for GAC's lighting improvements. While living in Greenbelt, they had been members of GAC. They also gave a matching grant to the City of Greenbelt's observatory which was dedicated in 2009.

Gil and Jaylee met at NASA,

where she was one of the first women to pursue a career in astrophysics. Both shared a love for theater and were active in Goddard's Music and Drama Group (MAD).

After Gil Mead's father died in 1988, he and Jaylee established a family foundation, together with his four children from a prior marriage. They envisioned the Gilbert and Jaylee Mead Family Foundation as a way to support their individual interests in the communities where each had lived. The Meads wanted to use their wealth to help community non-profits, as well as to

strengthen their relationship with his children and to share with them their love of philanthropy.

In the past several years they have had many venues named for them, including Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater, an auditorium at the Studio Theatre and the Mead Theatre Lab at the Flashpoint. Their \$35 million challenge grant gift to Arena Stage in 2006 was the largest individual gift to a regional theater in the nation's history. Survivors include three stepchildren, a sister and five grandchildren.

– Sandra Lange



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 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.

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Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM
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VOICING IS IN ALLELUIA

GOD ASCRIBED HIMSELF A HOLY NAME — PROFANE NOT

Logo © 2012 by
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QUEENS continued from page 1



2012 Miss Greenbelt Contestants: left to right, top: Katherine Crank, Parvathy Retnakumar, Rebecca Bernadel, Summer Moore, Samantha Kent, Julie Chemesky. Bottom: Veronica Handunge, Shelby Geter, Lisa Valladares, Sarah Larkin, Molly Jankowski and last year's Miss Greenbelt Victoria Gray



2012 Junior Miss Greenbelt Contestants: front row, left to right: Caroline Casey, Autumn Williams, Hannah Rose Blythe, Jeriah Labbe, Jordan Kent. Back row: Hyah Clay, Chayil Green, last year's Junior Miss Greenbelt Sarah Crank, Elizabeth Leishear and Carmen Borgia

able to spend more time with her friends. As a busy high school senior, however, who has been made even busier since being crowned Miss Greenbelt, she seems to have it all under control.

She appreciates her Miss Greenbelt Pageant experience, she says, especially the new friends she has made. In fact, her favorite thing about the Pageant was that "all of the girls got along and helped to make each other better," and that everyone left "with even more friends."

"This is a different type of Pageant," says Miss Greenbelt 2012.

Junior Miss Greenbelt

Caroline Casey is in the sixth grade at Holy Redeemer School. She loves math and reading and hopes to teach children with special needs when she is an adult. Casey loves to make friends, so entering the Pageant "seemed like a lot of fun" and a good way to do that. Casey entered the Pageant for the first time in 2011 and received the Most Spirited Award and 3rd Runner-Up.

In addition to being crowned Junior Miss Greenbelt 2012, Casey was also voted Miss Congeniality, which she emphatically says, "means a lot!" Miss Congeniality is voted on by the contestants themselves, so Casey is honored to have been given this title.

Pageant attendees might remember Casey's onstage question: If you had to give up one of your five senses, which one would it be? Casey, in her matter-of-fact yet humorous way, told the audience that she would give up her sense of taste because she would then be able to eat all the healthy food that's good for you.

Casey had a large contingent of fans in the audience on crowning night. "Everyone was there," she says, as she ticks off a list of family members and friends. Her grandmother, aunts and uncles, her two brothers and their friends and neighbors were all in attendance.

There had been genuine surprise on Casey's face when her name was announced and her mother, Kathy Wellborn, was surprised, too. "I knew she

had it in her," says Wellborn, a Greenbelt resident for more than 20 years, "but I was shocked."

Little Miss Greenbelt

Little Miss Greenbelt Ashley Wickline is in the third grade at Central Elementary School in Edgewater, where her sister, Allison, is in the second grade and their mother is a teacher. Wickline loves art, so she is excited about attending the Artful Afternoons each month at the Community Center. She is also looking forward to the Memorial Day parade in Bowie, where she will get to ride in a convertible, and the Greenbelt Christmas tree-lighting ceremony in early December.

This was Wickline's third appearance in the Little Miss Greenbelt Pageant. In 2010 she won Miss Congeniality, Miss Photogenic and 2nd Runner-Up. In 2011 she was 4th Runner-Up, and in addition to winning the title of Little Miss Greenbelt this year, Wickline was voted Miss Congeniality for a second time.

Wickline's father, Kurt, grew up in Greenbelt and attended ERHS, as did mother, Lauren, and there were lots of family members and friends in the audience. "I was excited when she said she wanted to be in the Pageant," says Lauren, who grew up watching the Pageant. "We were just watching it one year and she said 'Mommy, I want to do that.'"

In addition, seven-year-old sister Allison entered the Little Miss contest this year and, after having the experience for the first time, told her parents, "Now I have a



PHOTOS BY HELEN SYDAVAR

2012 Little Miss Greenbelt Contestants: front row, left to right: Starr Cunningham, Jenny Grier, last year's Little Miss Greenbelt Yasmyn Switzer, Kailyn Montague-Hall, Hailee Christian, Avrielia Evans. Back row: Serena Byers, Natalie Hughes, Ashley Wickline, Allison Wickline, Jade Labbe, Cynthia Quinton and Theresa Keith

goal." Greenbelters can look forward to seeing Allison again next year; her favorite part, she says, was "getting to be on stage."

Wickline's love of art has gained her some special attention. She designed a T-shirt for her elementary school's Tiger Trot 5K fundraiser and won first place out of more than 100 entries. Her design was on more than 500 T-shirts that were sold and given to the race runners.

She also enjoys swimming and playing soccer, scoring her first goal of the season in the first game a few weeks ago. She loves animals and wants to be a veterinarian.

Contestants' Moms

Mom Lauren is very supportive of the Pageant and the women who run it. In addition, she gathered the moms of the contestants each week for coffee while the girls met to practice their dance routines, modeling and their public speaking for the onstage questions and private interviews with the judges. Wickline is looking forward to the same type of camaraderie with her Pageant Sisters.

The queens (and parents) speak highly of the Pageant Committee: Natasha Jewell, Frann and Devin Fendlay, The-

resa and Kimberly Wynkoop and Bhameney and Debbie Fishbeck. They love the interactions between the Fendlay and Wynkoop mother-daughter teams. All agree these women are what make the Miss Greenbelt Pageant the success that it is.

Handunge, Casey and Wickline will have busy years. In addition to school, sports and other activities, they will make several appearances each month in their roles as Miss, Junior Miss and Little Miss Greenbelt. They are expected to attend Artful Afternoons at the Community Center the first Sunday of each month, will be at the Fall Fest at Schrom Hills Park on October 14 and will be present at Greenbelt's many holiday events.

They are excited about the jam-packed schedules, though, and, as Junior Miss Casey put it, "I'm excited about being with my Pageant Sisters." After all, while there may always be a Miss Greenbelt Pageant, Ashley Wickline, Caroline Casey and Veronica Handunge are the only ones who can claim 2012 as their own.

Paula Clinedinst still claims (Miss Greenbelt) 1985 as her own.

Individual Awards

Little Miss

Fundraiser Award
Miss Photogenic
Miss Congeniality
Most Spirited
4th Runner-Up
3rd Runner-Up
2nd Runner-Up
1st Runner-Up

Cynthia Quinton
Kailyn Montague-Hall
Ashley Wickline
Starr Cunningham
Starr Cunningham
Jade Labbe
Theresa Keith
Cynthia Quinton

Junior Miss

Tessa Osborne Award
Miss Photogenic
Miss Congeniality
Most Spirited
3rd Runner-Up
2nd Runner-Up
1st Runner-Up

Hannah Blythe
Autumn Williams
Caroline Casey
Chayil Green
Nyah Clay
Chayil Green
Autumn Williams

Miss Greenbelt

Miss Photogenic
Miss Congeniality
Most Spirited
Top Scholar Award
4th Runner-Up
3rd Runner-Up
2nd Runner-Up
1st Runner-Up

Veronica Handunge
Sarah Larkin
Molly Jankowski
Parvathy Retnakumar
Parvathy Retnakumar
Molly Jankowski
Summer Moore
Sarah Larkin

75th Anniversary

James Roosevelt Speaks About His Grandmother

by Barbara Young

Among early arrivals at last Saturday's James Roosevelt, Jr., speech event sponsored by the 75th Anniversary Committee, were front-row center seat claimants Frank Pearlman of Plateau Place and the O'Neil family of Ridge Road. It was good to come early because a near-capacity crowd was already in place in the Community Center gym when the program got underway at 2 p.m.

The Combined Choir of about 30 singers, directed by Jean Cook, opened the afternoon with a varied program beginning with a nostalgic medley of 30s and 40s tunes like "Begin the Beguine" and later offerings of "Get Happy" and "Coffee in a Cardboard Cup," which made the audience laugh, as well as the inspirational "Give Us Hope" and "America: The Spirit Lives On," with Susan Breon as accompanist.

Councilmember Emmett Jordan introduced Roosevelt, grandson of President Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, a Democratic party official and CEO of the Tufts Health Plan in Massachusetts. A large, affable man with a humorous touch and fine speaking voice, he chose to speak about his grandmother Eleanor, whom he said he knew rather well since she lived until he was a senior in high school.

His family visited with her several times a year, he said, "so I pretty much learned to read by reading her newspaper column 'My Day.'" He noted how pleased she would have been to see a room full of residents of a place of which she was very proud, describing her saying her work and reputation as a humanitarian were based on the respect she earned as First Lady and that

Bel Air Mansion Hosts History Play

The Maryland Historical Society Players will perform on Sunday, September 30 at 3:00 pm at the historic Belair Mansion located at 12207 Tulip Grove Drive, Bowie. The program features historic living history characters of the Civil War, Rebecca Davis and Sgt. Major Christian Fleetwood. This program is one of the Divided Voices: Maryland in the Civil War outreach living history programs sponsored by the Maryland Humanities Council and Maryland Historical Society (MdHS). This program is free with admission to the museum. Call 301-809-3089, or email museumevents@cityof-bowie.org for details.

The program features professional actors. Britt Olsen Ecker portrays Rebecca Davis, a young Montgomery County woman whose actual personal diary revealed deep divisions existing in her own family during the Civil War. Davis' diary is found in the archives of the MdHS library. Also, the audience will meet Sgt. Major Christian Fleetwood portrayed by Roderick Howard II. Fleetwood was a Baltimore-born free black man who served as a Union soldier and willingly risked his life during the Civil War. He was one of the first African American to receive the Medal of Honor for his bravery.

she used her curiosity "to find daylight in dark corners."

Her UN Work

Roosevelt also talked about his grandmother's role in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and the 1960 Democratic convention which nominated John Kennedy (she supported Adlai Stevenson), going on to describe qualities his grandmother believed were necessary for a fulfilling life.

Eleanor Roosevelt stressed that every person mattered and that human rights begin at home – in the neighborhood, the school, on the job – she maintained, "without such rights and engaged living, we will look in vain for progress in the world at large."

Questions

After Mayor Judith Davis presented gifts and opened a brief question-and-answer session, Roosevelt received a standing ovation as he left to catch a plane to Boston. Audience members then dispersed to the back of the room for food provided by the 75th Anniversary Committee via Chef Lou and the Greenbelt Co-op.

Barbara Young, a member of one of the very first families to move into Greenbelt in 1937, is a member of the 75th anniversary committee and arranged for James Roosevelt, Jr. to come to Greenbelt.

Franklin, Eleanor Who's on Top?

by James Giese

At the September 22 program featuring James Roosevelt, Jr., Mayor Judith Davis told the speaker that photographs of his grandparents were hung on the back wall of the city council meeting room where councilmembers could see them while council is in session. I think those pictures were first hung around the time of the city's 50th Anniversary and I myself supervised the hanging. I thought the photos would appear more aesthetically pleasing if one photo was placed higher than the other, instead of side-by-side.

The construction of Greenbelt was a product of the Roosevelt Administration, of course, and Franklin was President of the United States, highest office of our country. I had therefore placed him higher than his equally famous spouse, Eleanor.

Sometime later, I found the two photos had changed places – with Eleanor now on top. I switched them back.

Over time, however, I would repeatedly find Eleanor above Franklin. Apparently a group of dedicated Eleanor devotees and prominent women of Greenbelt were taking exception in their own way to my decision.

The mayor's comments caused me to wonder once more, who's on top? For the answer, look for yourself the next time you are in the Municipal Building council chamber.

City Notes

CARES staff reports that 28 students have registered for GED classes. New interns Shawna Johnson, Meghan Reilly, Sarah Boone, Ngozi Okafor, Karen Nalley and Elsy Rosette have joined the CARES staff.

Animal Control staff reports a bird was removed from a building and returned to the wild and six turtles were impounded at Dollar City for being for sale illegally.

Horticulture/Parks/Playgrounds crews trimmed or removed storm-damaged trees from Buddy Attick Park.

Refuse/Recycling/Sustainability crews collected 26.89 tons of refuse and 14.1 tons of commingled recyclable material.

Facilities/Building Maintenance crews worked with a con-

tractor on the bucket truck to install a 600-foot cable which is linked to the Stream Valley lights.

Recreation staff is gathering information from other jurisdictions on the minimum age requirement to enter aquatic facilities without adult supervision. It appears that Greenbelt is currently one of the few places that still allows children seven and under into a pool without a parent/guardian 18 years of age or older. Staff also took this up at the PRAB (Park and Recreation Board) meeting, where the topic received much discussion.

Aquatic and Fitness Center staff reports 39 passes to the Shuttle UM have been sold.

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 Tower Federal Credit Union, 7901 Sandy Spring Road,
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 Monday, November 5, 2:30 to 8 p.m.,
Lions Club of Burtonsville at Liberty Grove United
Methodist Church, 15225 Old Columbia Pike,
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 Wednesday, November 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.,
Capitol College, 11301 Springfield Road,
 Laurel
 Thursday, November 8, 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.,
 Washington Adventist Hospital, 7600 Carroll Avenue,
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Explore the Yin Yang With Susan Stern

Greenbelter Susan Stern will offer a look into balancing one's health by making sure one moves one's body, mind and spirit. Such a topic could be "up the yin yang" with philosophy. The yin yang symbol in ancient China represents the understanding of how things work.

As a licensed acupuncturist Stern has been a practitioner at Pleasant Touch and now focuses on health and wellness education with At Home Holistic Health.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. This presentation will be held in Room 114, the Senior Classroom. All are welcome to attend and questions are encouraged. For more details call 301-397-2208.

Nature Tots: Move it! Move it!

On Thursday, October 4 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m. children ages 3 and 4 can join the Nature Tots: Move it! Move it! program at Patuxent National Wildlife Visitor Center. Kids can discover how animals move and why. Learn how to run, jump, wiggle or slither like animals in this interactive program for preschoolers. Advance registration is required by calling 301-497-5887.

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A Review

Cabaret Celebrates Treasured Music from Greenbelt's Past!

by Rebecca Winner

Music was the treasure audiences found at "Treasure Hunt Cabaret: Give My Regards to Broadway" at the Greenbelt Community Center on Sunday, September 23. The performance, starting with a big note, ended with a standing ovation in a magnificent musical celebration that was two parts time travel, one part history lesson and 100 percent delightful.

The rollicking show, produced by Chris Cherry, performing arts program director at the Greenbelt Community Center, featured music performed on Broadway during the 1937-38 season. Every song had a story and Cherry acted as chief storyteller, setting the stage for an afternoon of singing, learning and laughter.

Stories and songs ranged from the whimsical to the political to the bittersweet to the unabashedly sentimental. Film clips added historical context as well as showcasing some of the best singing and dancing of the era.

Modern-day entertainers gave new life to the music of the past in a series of absolutely terrific performances. Cherry was joined onstage by classically trained singers and Greenbelt residents Ingrid Cowan and Ole Hass; talented teen performers Kristen Beauchamp, Carlos Castillo, James Fahey, Sam Goldstein, Isobel Springer and Megan Winner; and distinguished piano accompanist Stefan Brodd.

The show featured a number of perennial crowd-pleasers from the Great American Songbook, like Cowan's lovely version of "My Funny Valentine" and Cherry's charming "This Can't Be Love."

Lesser Known

But the audience was also introduced to numbers rarely performed today. Some of these songs reflected the political struggles of the '30s: "Sing Me a Song with Social Significance" (sung by Beauchamp); "Doing the Reactionary" (sung by Springer); and "The Cradle Will Rock" (sung by Castillo) dealt with the struggles of working men and women for decent wages and fair treatment.

Others were just fun. "FDR Jones," the light-hearted tale of a family who had proudly named their newborn after the president (performed by Winner), got big laughs from the audience.

Laughs abounded throughout the afternoon, starting when Cherry delivered the "big note" in his rendition of "Johnny One-Note," in which the musically challenged Johnny shows that he doesn't have much range but boy can he belt it out. Springer and Goldstein's hilarious re-creation of "I Can't Get Started With You" from the Ziegfeld Follies brought down the house.

Beauchamp, Springer and Winner joined forces for a couple of rousing girl-power songs: "Lady Is a Tramp" and "Down with Love." The former celebrates a woman's desire for freedom to live an unconventional life (I get too hungry for dinner at eight/I like the theater, but never come late/I never bother



Chris Cherry opens the show with Johnny One Note.



Isobel Springer, Kristen Beauchamp and Megan Winner sing "The Lady Is a Tramp."

At right, Carlos Castillo sings "The Cradle Will Rock," an old labor song.

with people I hate) at a time when women faced many social constraints.

"Down With Love," an enthusiastic rejection of romance, was performed by the teenage girls with joyful exuberance and a thrilling final harmony.

But there were quiet moments too. Cowan and Hass sang "Our Last Waltz," a song mourning the end of a relationship, from a show that marked the end of opera as a popular musical form. James Fahey's deep voice shone on the wistful "I Dance Alone" and Castillo's tender rendition of "I'll Be Seeing You" visibly moved many listeners.

The jam-packed audience included many of Greenbelt's early residents. Pauline Bordas, who moved into Greenbelt in 1943 as a 14-year-old, remembers attending sock hops in the gym. "I knew all these songs and I just loved hearing the young people sing them," said Bordas. "It brought back so many memories."

"The show was marvelous," agreed fellow Greenbelter Diana

Wilson.

Next Week's Show

If you didn't catch the first Treasure Hunt Cabaret, you haven't missed all the fun. Next Sunday, September 30, the ensemble will reunite for "Treasure Hunt Cabaret: Hooray for Hollywood," a celebration of songs from the movies of 1937 - 1938.

September 30, as it happens, is the anniversary of Move-In Day for the first five families of Greenbelt - so the show will include a chorus of "Happy Birthday" to the city. It promises to be another fantastic show!

The final free performance will again take place at the Community Center gym, 15 Crescent Road, from 3 to 4:30 p.m., followed by refreshments.

A Review

Return to Middle Ages In GAC Dark Comedy

by Carol Griffith

Travel back to the Middle Ages for an evening at the Greenbelt Arts Center to see the latest offering, "Incorruptible." The journey is rewarding - it's a darkly hilarious and irreverent comedy full of great one-liners and gags.

A small and struggling monastery in France around 1250 A.D. is the setting. The monks, led by Abbot Charles, are trying to perform their mission of caring for the poor, the sick and widows but they're short of money. Pilgrims and their donations aren't coming to the monastery and even the Pope has stopped visiting.

Clearly, the monks reason, the saint whose bones they possess has stopped working miracles. What's a poor remote monastery to do?

Do the means justify the end and how to balance idealism and real life - are the underlying themes of the fast-moving and very funny results of the monks' solution to the problem.

Denis Latlowski, a frequent performer at GAC, gives his usual excellent performance as Abbot Charles. Andrew Negri, another name well known to GAC audiences, is second-in-command Brother Martin, who rapid-fires one-liners and sarcastic retorts.

Fred Wells gives a believable seriousness to the part of Brother Wells, the idealistic young novice. Jack, the minstrel who has a plan to save the monastery, is played beautifully by the very experienced and talented Larry LaRose. Other characters are also played to perfection.



The GAC production of Incorruptible continues through October 13.

Star of Show

But the star of the show is Stephen P. Yednock (son of director Stephen C. Yednock, Jr.), another familiar face at GAC. His blend of comic timing and physical comedy as the dim-witted Brother Olf steals the show.

Some might tend to be offended by the play's irreverence toward the church, but the characters are so broadly drawn and the plot so silly, it would be quite a stretch to make comparisons to real events or real people.

So go back in time for an evening full of laughs.

"Incorruptible" will play on the Friday and Saturday evenings of September 28 and 29 and October 5, 6, 12 and 13 at 8 p.m. There will be two Sunday matinees on September 30 and October 7 at 2 p.m.

Reservations may be made at the box office at 301-441-8770, online at www.greenbeltartscenter.org or at the Greenbelt Arts Center at 123 Centerway, located beneath the Co-op supermarket.



Greenbelt News Review
75th Anniversary Dinner
6 p.m. Sunday, November 18, 2012
Greenbelt Marriott
6400 Ivy Lane, Greenbelt, MD



MENU Selection

(choose 1 entrée per person)

___ Chicken with Mushrooms

___ Grilled Salmon with Soy & Ginger Sauce

___ Vegetable Napoleon

Cost: \$50 per person

Amount Enclosed: \$_____ for _____ person(s)

All reservations must be made no later than October 25, 2012. No refunds or cancellations after that date.

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Mail check to: **News Review Dinner**
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To receive your tickets by mail, send your check and this form with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the above address. Tickets may also be purchased at the News Review office in the Community Center on Tuesdays, 2-4 p.m. The Marriott Hotel is reserving a small number of rooms at a discounted rate for those who wish to spend Sunday night at the hotel. Contact the Marriott Hotel at 301-441-3700 to make your own reservations.

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