

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

VOL. 76, No. 38

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

AUGUST 15, 2013



Back to School

New School Bell Times to Ring For Greenbelt Middle School

by Anne Gardner

When the bell rings for the first day of school on Monday, August 19 there will be a change for Greenbelt Middle School (GMS) students. The bell times will shift to the much later hours of 9 a.m. to 4:20 p.m.

The changes have been made to streamline transportation and reduce operating costs. Under this new system middle and high school students may share bus rides. The maximum walking distance to bus stops for all students has also increased to half a mile. According to Dr. William Hite, outgoing superintendent of schools for the county, changes being made this year in transportation will save the school system \$5 million, which will be put back into classrooms.

Maximum walking distances remain the same for elementary and secondary schools, at 1.5 and two miles, respectively.

Last year even bigger changes occurred at GMS with the opening of the new state-of-the-art building, with the addition of 40 minutes to the school day to be used for "enrichment and intervention" and with the inclusion of the Talented and Gifted "magnet" program for the northern part of the county.

Also, as part of the county's plan to move all middle schools to the 6 to 8 grade model, sixth graders from Greenbelt Elementary School and Hollywood Elementary School moved to GMS last year, joining the sixth graders already attending GMS from Springhill Lake Elementary School. Sixth graders from Magnolia Elementary school were slated to move to GMS in the 2013-2014 school year but this plan was put on hold because of the greatly increased enrollment in the new school building and concerns about overcrowding.

Transition Day

There will be a Transition Day for incoming sixth, seventh and ninth graders on Thursday, August 15. Students will be picked up by school buses, just as on a regular school day. They will attend a half-day program before being driven back to their allocated bus stop.

The program aims to help students prepare for life in middle and high school. They will learn about their new school and meet staff members. In addition, they will be shown their lockers, learn how the schedules work, find out about extracurricular activities and hear about homework and student responsibilities.

Students are asked to bring with them their printed schedule from SchoolMax. See more information about schedules at <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov>.

City Manager Gives End-of-year Update on Finances and Projects

by Kathleen Gallagher

The council worksession held on August 5 did double duty in covering not only City Manager Michael McLaughlin's quarterly update to council on the status of city business but also the council's traditional summer meeting to review capital projects for the new fiscal year. A third topic that had been scheduled for this meeting, a formal policy and procedure for requesting copies of public documents, was postponed to the agenda of a worksession scheduled for August 7 so that Mayor Judith Davis, who was absent due to illness, could

be present. Mayor Pro Tem Emmett Jordan conducted the meeting and the other five members of council were all present.

FY 2013 Update

Since the city's fiscal year closed on June 30, the manager's quarterly update focused on the end-of-year financial report for Fiscal Year 2013. McLaughlin said the news appeared to be good but he hastened to add two caveats. The figures are still preliminary and projected property tax receipts are not yet known. He recommended delaying discussion of decisions requiring

firm figures, given that for the last couple of years the city has received "significant negative news" at about this time of year from the state on projected tax revenues. He said the information might be out by the second week in August but at this paper's press deadline the city had received no update.

Having offered those cautions, McLaughlin said he anticipates having a larger end-of-year unrestricted fund balance (almost \$3.3 million) than previously

See **END OF YEAR**, page 6

Obituary

Former Greenbelt Mayor Antoinette M. Bram Dies

Former Greenbelt Mayor and Councilmember Antoinette M. Bram, 77, died on August 7, 2013, at her home in Belcamp, Md.

Born in Washington, D.C., she was the daughter of the late Henry Charles and Marie Frances Hopkins Houck. She graduated from Notre Dame Academy and attended Wilson Teachers College. She later completed her education at the University of Maryland, receiving a bachelor of science degree summa cum laude in urban studies and then a master's degree in urban history in 1985.

In 1956 she married Ralph A. Bram. They moved to Greenbelt, living first on Plateau Place and then moving to Boxwood Village. They raised their four children in Greenbelt. Mrs. Bram was a member and past president of the Greenbelt Homemakers Club, a Camp Fire leader, a board member and coach for St. Hugh's C.Y.O., a board member and meet official for the Swim Team and a PTA vice president. She was an active member of the Greenbelt Lions Club. She was a member of the Women's Investment Club of Greenbelt. Earlier she taught at the middle school level in Landover and Greenbelt



Antoinette M. Bram

and later worked in the office of admission and registration at the University of Maryland University College.

Mrs. Bram's interest in youth activities and the preservation of green space led to her appointment to the city's Park and Recreation Advisory Board. After serving on the Advisory Planning Board Mrs. Bram was elected to the Greenbelt City Council in 1983. She later served two terms

See **BRAM**, page 7

City Addresses Money Issues, Playground Grant, Mutual Aid

by Barbara Hopkins

The City of Greenbelt will be able to continue paying its bills after council authorized borrowing money for "General Fund Operating Expenses Heretofore Authorized."

At its first meeting in five weeks on August 12, Councilmember Leta Mach introduced for first reading and suspension of the rules an ordinance allowing the issuance of tax anticipation notes up to \$3.5 million to cover expenses at a time of year when revenues are typically low. County property tax payments to the city arrive by mid-October and since about \$1 million from the General Fund was used for

the new Public Works facility, the budget had a shortfall in the first quarter of the fiscal year, necessitating the borrowing to make ends meet.

For the past two years, the city has used Columbia Bank for these notes and will do so again this year, with an interest rate of 1.75 percent and no fees. Interest payments have declined since Fiscal Year 2011 when it was \$1,548. In FY 2012 interest was \$745 and \$219 in Fiscal Year 2013.

City Manager Michael McLaughlin explained that fund

See **COUNCIL**, page 9

What Goes On

Monday, August 19

8 p.m., City Council Worksession/Windsor Green/Request for Curfew Law, Municipal Building, Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov

Wednesday, August 21

8 p.m., Council Worksession/State Highway Administration (stakeholders), Community Center

Thursday, August 22

7:30 p.m., GHI Board Meeting, GHI Administration Building

Forest Preserve Insect Program Is Aug. 17

On Saturday, August 17 from 8 to 10 p.m. there will be two Greenbelt Forest Preserve 10 Year Anniversary insect and bat-related programs offered on Northway near the Greenbelt Forest Preserve sign.

The first, on insects, is from 8 to 10 p.m. A second, on bats, is from 8:15 to 9 p.m.

USDA Acarologist Dr. Ron Ochoa and Entomologist Michele Touchet will black light insects to provide a chance for participants to inspect them closely without any contact. There will be two black lighting stations in two different habitats. Insect displays and identification books will be available.

Lutz Rastaetter will also be present with bat echolocation equipment from 8:45 to 9:30 p.m. and will talk about bat facts and point out their echolocation sounds.

Little or no walking is involved – people can bring their own folding chair to sit and enjoy the show. Dress for possible mud, ticks and mosquitos in the woods. Light snacks will be served. The event will be cancelled if there is heavy rain at the starting time.

For details email greenbeltforestpreserve@gmail.com or call 301-474-7465; 301-272-5448.

Audubon Bird Walk In Bowie Saturday

Saturday, August 17 at 7:30 a.m. is the next Prince George's County Audubon Society bird walk at Governor Bridge Natural Area in Bowie. Beginners and experts are welcome, with participants likely to see and migrating woodland and field birds, waterfowl and raptors. Waterproof footwear and binoculars are suggested. Meet at the parking lot. Call 410-765-6482 for details.

Mobile Eye Clinic Free for Diabetics

Free health services including comprehensive eye exams, glasses and health risk assessments for diabetes will be provided to low-income, uninsured and underinsured county residents on Saturday, August 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Franklin Park-Springhill Lake Community Center.

Local optometrists will offer eye exams onboard a fully stocked VSP Mobile Eye Clinic hosted by VSP Vision Care, the Maryland Optometric Association and the City of Greenbelt.

With support from other Mission 20/20 collaborators and a grant awarded by the American Optometric Association Foundation, Optometry Cares, the Maryland Optometric Association will provide additional services on a first come, first serve basis.

Services provided by the VSP Mobile Eyes team are also free and open to the public. Appointments have been pre-scheduled but walk-ins are welcome and encouraged. Those who qualify may receive a VSP gift certificate for a free eye exam and glasses, if needed, from a local VSP eye care provider.

Aug. 15 Bird Walk Set for Artemesia

Thursday, August 15 at 6 p.m. the Prince George's Audubon Society will host a free guided bird walk at the Luther Goldman Birding Trail at Lake Artemesia. The birding trail loops around the 38-acre lake and along Indian Creek. Meet at the parking lot at Berwyn Road and Balew Avenue in Berwyn Heights. Beginners to experts are welcome. Binoculars are suggested. Call 301-459-3375 for more information.

Letters

THANKS!

A heartfelt thank you to our neighbors and friends for the fruit baskets, flowers and cards.

Your kindness was appreciated by all.

Jeanne Rowland
for the Rowland Family

Cookies at Bridge Picnic this Saturday

A reminder that all are invited to join in the Cookies at the Bridge school-opening gathering and picnic on Saturday, August 17 from 5 to 7 p.m. The picnic will be held rain or shine at Mowatt United Methodist Church, 40 Ridge Road. There will be food, drinks and police representatives; the church will provide paper goods, some food, drinks and cookies and invites others to bring a dish to share.

Cookies at the Bridge is an anti-bullying project for Eleanor Roosevelt High School students that places volunteers at the Spellman Overpass to welcome home-bound youngsters leaving school each afternoon with cookies.

Volunteers and program leaders liken the project to an extension of other community activist efforts like National Night Out and the Labor Day Festival. Representatives from Greenbelt churches, government and police also will be present.

Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday
10am – 4pm

Good, clean clothes for women, men and children!
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE WEEK OF AUG 16

Blue Jasmine
(PG-13)

FRIDAY

*5:15, 7:30, 9:35

SATURDAY

*1, *3:05, *5:10, 7:30,
9:35

SUNDAY

*1, *3:05, *5:10, 7:30

MONDAY – THURSDAY

*5:15, 7:30

*These shows at \$6.50
Tuesday is Bargain Day.
All Seats Only \$5.00.

Now accepting Visa, Discover
and MasterCard for
tickets and concessions

301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745

129 Centerway

www.pandgtheatres.com

Grin Belt



"And this is our school principal who babysits for me when my teacher had enough of me."

On Screen

In a Downward Spiral

Woody Allen's latest, "Blue Jasmine," opens at Old Greenbelt Theatre on Friday, August 16. Namesake Jasmine (Cate Blanchett), beset by troubled times in New York's higher precincts with her whiz-bang husband (Alec Baldwin), flies to San Francisco and to the everyday settings of her sister (Sally Hawkins). Humor has a sharp edge as Jasmine struggles to make sense of her downward spiral. Leaving aside the European locales of recent films, writer-director Allen – not acting in this go-round – hones in on a jaded life driven from one coast to the other.

PG-13, with mature thematic material, profanity and sexual content. Running time: 98 minutes.

– Eli Flam

Corrections

Last week's front page article on the death of Former News Review President Bill Rowland contained two important errors in the first paragraph that misstated his residence and place of death. The errors were not based on the information provided to us. Mr. Rowland had not moved from Greenbelt; he lived here at the time of his death July 27, 2013. We're doubly embarrassed since he was one of our own and very much still a current resident. The News Review very much regrets the errors and apologizes to his family in Michigan and elsewhere.

In the Co-op Wine Tastings, Food Demos Offered announcement on page three last week we misreported the intended new weekend hours for the Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy starting in September. The plan is to have the store open on Sundays an hour earlier, at 9 a.m. and close at 6 p.m. Saturday times are not affected.

NOTICE TO GHI MEMBERS

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Thursday, August 22, 2013

GHI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 7:30 PM

GHI Key Agenda Items:

- Repairs to 14G Hillside, 2nd Reading
- Contract for Minor Repairs on Parking Lots, 2nd Reading
- Consideration of Exception Requests from Members for Double-hung Windows to be Installed at 2A and 2B Westway
- Consideration of an Exception Request by the Member of 9R Laurel Hill for Erection of a Fence in an Adjacent Common Area

Regular Board meetings are open to Members

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



To request a sign language interpreter for this meeting, go to <http://www.ghi.coop/content/interpreter-request-form>, or go to the GHI Office (One Hamilton Place) or contact us by phone (301-474-4161) or fax (301-474-4006).

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-1887

301-474-4131 • FAX 301-474-5880

email: newsreview@verizon.net

website: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com

Alfred M. Skolnik, President, 1959-1977

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Assistant Editor Emeritus: Barbara Likowski 1970-

Editor: Mary Lou Williamson 301-441-2662

Assistant Editor: Altoria Bell Ross

News Editor: Elaine Skolnik 301-598-1805

Assistant to the Editor: Eileen Farnham 301-513-0482

Senior Copy Editors: Virginia Beauchamp, James Giese

Photo Editor: Helen Sydavar

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CIRCULATION

Core of Greenbelt: Ian Tuckman 301-459-5624

Franklin Park: Arlene Clarke 301-474-1526

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Marat Moore, secretary; James Giese; Diane Oberg and Altoria Bell Ross

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—\$45/year.

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

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. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215.

All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for August 19 through 23 are as follows:

Monday – Apple juice, meatballs with marinara sauce, green beans, cucumber and tomato salad, hot spiced fruit.

Tuesday – Orange juice, cornbread chicken casserole, baked beans, spinach, cherry fruit Jello.

Wednesday – Grape juice, shredded Cuban pork, crispy cubed potatoes, coleslaw, hot curry fruit.

Thursday – Apple juice, Salisbury steak with gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli, fresh fruit.

Friday – Fruit punch, cream of carrot soup, sliced turkey and Swiss cheese, mixed green salad with ranch dressing, fresh fruit.

GHI Notes

Thursday, August 15, 6:45 p.m., Investment Committee Meeting – Board Room

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

Friday, August 16, Office Closed – For emergency maintenance call 301-474-6011.

Tuesday, August 20, 7:30 p.m., Companion Animal Committee Meeting – GHI Library

Wednesday, August 21, 7 p.m., Woodlands Committee Meeting – Board Room

Thursday, August 22, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting, Open Session – Board Room

8 p.m., Board/Finance Work Session, 2014 Budget Items – Board Room

Saturday, August 24, 11 a.m., Pre-purchase Orientation – Board Room

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

At the Library Storytime

On Thursdays, a librarian reads age-appropriate stories to children and parents using imagination and props. Wednesday and Thursday programs have been combined due to low attendance at the former Wednesday programs. Pick up a free ticket from the information desk before the session.

Thursday, August 22, 10:30 a.m., Drop-in Storytime for ages 2 to 5 years intersperses stories with fun activities including songs, rhymes and fingerplays. Babies are also welcome. The usual 20-person room limit applies.

Saturday, August 17, 2 p.m., Read to Rover for ages 6 to 11 years. Children build their reading confidence by reading aloud to specially trained therapy dogs that are glad to listen. Each child will read for 15 minutes. Registration is required. Call the branch at 301-345-5800 for details.

Adult Programs

Tuesday, August 20, 7 p.m., Candice Millard's "Destiny of the Republic: a Tale of Madness, Medicine and the Murder of a President" will be the book for adult discussion. Four months after President James A. Garfield's inauguration, a deranged office-seeker tracked him down and shot him in the back. The battle over his medical treatment and an attempt by Alexander Graham Bell to invent a device capable of locating the bullet are only part of Millard's account of this dramatic story. Anyone who has read the book is welcome to participate. Copies of the book will be available at the library information desk through Monday, August 19.

For more information, visit the Greenbelt library branch, call 301-345-5800 or the library system website at www.pgcmcls.info for a number of library services, to review accounts or renew materials. For automated phone renewal call 301-333-3111.

Join the Cajun Jam At New Deal Café

On Wednesday, August 28 a free Cajun Jam will be held at the New Deal Café from 7 to 9:30 p.m. for dancers, musicians and listeners; the usual socializing will begin with food available for purchase at 6 p.m. Beginners are welcome.

For more information visit www.newdealcafe.com.

Lions, Doctors Hospital Blood Drive Is Aug. 22

The Greenbelt Lions Club and Doctors Community Hospital will sponsor a Red Cross blood donation drive on Thursday, August 22 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the hospital at 8100 Good Luck Road in Lanham.

Blood donors must be at least 17 years old and meet minimum weight requirements. Bring a donor card, driver's license or two other forms of identification. Appointments are encouraged but not required. For more information on donating or to make an appointment call 1-800-733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org.

Greenbelt Park Offers Trail Walk Sunday

On Sunday, August 18 at 10 a.m. there will be a ranger-led trail walk to discover Greenbelt Park. Meet at the Dogwood parking area; bring a water bottle, hat, sunscreen, tick/bug repellent and wear long pants and sneakers or trail boots.

The park entrance is at 6565 Greenbelt Road. For more information call 301-344-3944 or visit the website at <http://www.nps.gov/gree>.

Nonprofit Clinic Open Soon at Franklin Park

The long-awaited nonprofit Community Clinic in Franklin Park, 9220 Springhill Lane, is expected to open soon with primary and other medical and dental care for medically underserved people. Payment is to be through credit cards, medical assistance cards and a sliding fee scale for low income and underinsured people.

An introduction at the facility was held last week, followed by a community health fair. Pending final county building inspector approval, Community Clinic will open later this month, possibly on August 19.

Construction costs and start-up funding of \$2.3 million was provided by Prince George's County, as well as several insurance providers and health care systems. The 10,000 sq. ft. clinic is located in the old Giant grocery store training center and will have 12 examination rooms, three dental chairs, two onsite labs, a dental X-ray room, training classroom and office spaces for counseling, nutrition education and other office needs. Bilingual medical professionals will be available.

Community Clinic, which began in 1969, has previously provided primary care for Women, Infants and Children's Nutrition Services (WIC) and other health-related services facilities in Prince George's and Montgomery counties. Its plans for the soon-to-open clinic here were the subject of a council work session and council meeting in July 2012 that resulted in the city's encouragement and support of the clinic with the Four Cities Coalition, Franklin Park and a letter of support to County Executive Rushern Baker.

Lakeside North Has Party for Residents

On Saturday, August 24, Lakeside North will hold annual Resident Appreciation Day from noon to 5 p.m. There will be a dunk tank, mechanical bull and pool party, with catered food.

Labor Day Festival Used Book Sale

Raising funds for: Greenbelt Elementary School PTA

Book donation drop-off at

Co-op Supermarket

August 1 – 29

Large Donation

pickup available.

For information

call: 301-474-0390



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Most features are \$5.00

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R = ID Required

(!) = No pass, (!!) No pass weekend

WEEK OF AUG 16

FRIDAY – TUESDAY

We're the Millers, R (!)

11:15, 1:50, 4:25, 7:10, 9:50

Elysium, R (!)

11:05, 2, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45

Percy Jackson "Sea of Monsters", PG-13 (!)

11:20, 2, 4:30, 7:10, 9:35

Lee Daniel's The Butler, PG-13 (!)

11, 1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 10:05

Planes, PG (!)

11:25, 1:45, 4:10, 6:50, 9:10

Kick Ass 2, R (!)

11, 1:40, 4:15, 7, 9:40

Smurfs 2, PG

11:10, 1:35, 4, 7:10

Fruitvale Station, R

9:35

2 Guns, R

11:15, 1:45, 4:20, 7:05, 9:30

WEDNESDAY

We're the Millers, R (!)

11:15, 1:50, 4:25, 7:10, 9:50

Mortal Instruments, PG-13

11, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:05

Percy Jackson "Sea of Monsters", PG-13 (!)

11:20, 2, 4:30, 7:10, 9:35

Lee Daniel's The Butler, PG-13 (!)

11, 1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 10:05

Planes, PG (!)

11:25, 1:45, 4:10, 6:50, 9:10

Kick Ass 2, R (!)

11, 1:40, 4:15, 7, 9:40

Elysium, R (!)

11:05, 2, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45

2 Guns, R

11:15, 1:45, 4:20, 7:05

THURSDAY

We're the Millers, R (!)

11:15, 1:50, 4:25, 7:10, 9:50

Mortal Instruments, PG-13

11, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:05

Percy Jackson "Sea of Monsters", PG-13 (!)

11:20, 2, 4:30, 7, 9:35

Lee Daniel's The Butler, PG-13 (!)

11, 1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 10:05

Planes, PG (!)

11:25, 1:45, 4:10, 6:50, 9:10

Kick Ass 2, R (!)

11, 1:40, 4:15, 7, 9:40

Elysium, R (!)

11:05, 2, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45

2 Guns, R

11:15, 1:45, 4:20, 7:20

You're Next, R

10

More Community Events can be found throughout the paper.

EVERYONE LOVES A PARADE!

And now you can be in one!

To participate in the Greenbelt Labor Day Parade, go to the website

<http://greenbeltlaborday.com/get-involved/parade-participants/>,

download a parade application form, fill it out and

submit it to GreenbeltLaborDayParade@verizon.net

no later than August 23, 2013.

See the above website link for more information on the parade.

Texas BBQ

Saturday, Aug 24th

St. Hugh's Church

Noon till 8:00 p.m.

Ribs, Chicken, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Corn on the Cob, Cole Slaw

Eat In or Carry Out

135 Crescent Road Greenbelt

Greenbelt Arts Center
OPENING FRIDAY!



'Tis Pity She's a Whore
By John Ford
A Rude Mechanicals Production

Tis Pity She's a Whore
a Whore
by John Ford
Guest Production from the Rude Mechanicals

August 16-31

Ticket Prices:
Adult: \$17,
Student (ages 22 and Under, with ID), Senior (60+) and Military: \$14
Child (12 and Under): \$12

Note: Some subjects in the show may be unsuitable for children

For information & reservations,
call 301-441-8770 or email: info@greenbeltartscenter.org or
BOOK TICKETS ONLINE at www.greenbeltartscenter.org

Greenbelt Arts Center
123 Centerway • Greenbelt, MD 20770 • Located underneath the Greenbelt CO-OP

Obituaries

Patricia Ann Richardson

Greenbelt resident Patricia Ann Richardson, 78, died at the Maine Medical Center on July 31, 2013.



Mrs. Richardson was born on December 29, 1934, in Washington, D.C., to parents Levi St. Peter of Orono, Maine and Vina Granville of Springfield, Maine.

She raised three sons here with her husband John Richardson, Sr.

In her twenties Mrs. Richardson was employed as a secretary to the president of Catholic University and then worked part-time for more than 25 years for the registrar at the University of Maryland University College.

Mrs. Richardson is survived by her husband; sons John, Jr. and wife Dr. Stephanie Grohs of Brunswick, Maine; Mark and wife Patricia of Hookstown, Pa., Brian and his wife Kim of Radnor, Pa. and seven grandchildren: John, Glenn, Madeline, Mark, Emily, Julia and Jordan.

There will be visiting hours on Monday, August 19 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Brackett Funeral Home, 29 Federal Street in Brunswick and on August 20 at 11 a.m., a Catholic graveside burial service at the Riverside Cemetery in Orono.

At "Nana's" request, the family suggests contributions in lieu of flowers be made in Mrs. Richardson's name to Springfield Congregational Church, P.O. Box 7, Springfield, Maine 04487 to assist with church winter heating costs.

Condolences to the family may be left online at www.brackettfuneralhome.com.



Toastmasters to Meet On Wed., August 21

The next meeting of the Greenbelt Toastmasters will be on Wednesday, August 21 at 7:30 p.m. at the Greenbelt Toastmasters Club in the Social Hall of Greenbelt Community Church at Hillside and Crescent Roads. The Social Hall is at the rear of the church on the lower level of the main building.

Toastmasters offers professionals, students, stay-at-home parents and retirees a supportive environment to improve skills in communication and leadership. Members learn to lose the fear of public speaking, become better listeners and build skills for success.

Our Neighbors

Greenbelters were saddened to learn of the death of former mayor Antoinette M. Bram, who died August 7, 2013, at her home in Belcamp, Md. Our sympathy to husband of 57 years Dr. Ralph A. Bram, other family and all those in Greenbelt who knew and remember her.

We were sorry to learn of the death of Paul A. Geiger, 55, on July 24, 2013. Our sympathy to his dad, former News Review staffer Al Geiger, and other family and friends. Plans for a memorial service are pending.

Condolences to John Richardson, Sr., other family and friends on the death of his wife Patricia Ann Richardson.

Congratulations to:

- Cynthia Newcomer, who was the winner of the T-shirt in Greenbelt News Review raffle at our booth at the Farmers Market last Sunday.

- Benjamin and Angella Foster, on the arrival of daughter Adelina Collette Foster, who put in her debut August 1, 2013, at 5:17 a.m. at George Washington University Hospital in Washington, D.C. She weighed in at 7 lbs., 14 oz. Mom Angella is a city recreation department employee and best known for her founding of Alight Dance Studio. Adelina's parents are grateful to the Greenbelt community of "family" who have joined them in making the new arrival feel welcome in her hometown.



To send information for "Our Neighbors" email us at news-review@verizon.net or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

- Kathleen McFarland

August Reel & Meal Film Is "The Garden"

Monday, August 19 at 7 p.m. the next film in the monthly Reel and Meal at the New Deal Café is the documentary "The Garden." The Reel and Meal program is preceded by the availability of a special vegan buffet starting at 6:30 p.m. Prior to the start of the film there will be a brief video about African aid to victims of the 10-year "blood diamonds" war in Sierra Leone.



Nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature in 2009, the 2008 film by Scott Hamilton Kennedy shows the fate of an industrialized area of sprawling warehouses, vacant lots and poverty in South Central LA. The city used eminent domain to seize the land from a private owner in the mid-1980s to build a trash-to-energy incinerator, then let the project go after residents protested.

After the 1992 riots the city transferred the land to the LA Regional Food Bank and local gardeners transformed it into a 14-acre collective. The gardens sustained 350 farmers and their families, many of them immigrants from Mexico and Central America.

In 2003 the city sold the land back to the developer who offered it to the community for \$16.3 million. In 2006 the developer evicted the farmers and bulldozed the garden which remains a junk-filled empty lot to the present day. The focus of the film and the debate is on the best way to use vacant lots in disadvantaged neighborhoods and uses urban farming in Detroit as one model.

Donations of clothing and shoes are sought, which will be sent to war survivors in Sierra Leone. For more information call Abdul Turay at 240-640-0082 or Ed Fallon at 240-413-7449 or email edfallon@gmail.com.

The discussion afterward about the South Central LA urban farm and issues of individual property rights, social and environmental values will be led by Jim Cohen, director of Urban Studies and Planning Program at the University of Maryland.

Free Bonsai Exhibit

Through September, a free bonsai exhibit will be featured in the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum at the U.S. National Arboretum. The exhibit is open Fridays through Mondays only, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"Becoming a Bonsai" shows images, text and artifacts demonstrating the steps involved in creating bonsai and illustrates the process that transforms a common crape myrtle into bonsai through pruning, wiring and repotting.

BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Mary Pullen - Pastor
301-474-7573
6301 Greenbelt Road
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740

Summer Worship : Sun 10:00 am - 11:00 am (Child Care Available)
Office Hours : Mon, Thu, Fri 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Tue, Wed 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

"A hospitable, multicultural community of faith"

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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 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS
Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building
ALL ARE WELCOME.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor
Worship Service 10 a.m.

Withhold not from the poor the gifts which the grace of God hath bestowed upon you. He, verily, shall recompense the charitable, and doubly repay them for what they have bestowed. (Baha'u'llah)

Greenbelt Bahá'i Community
1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918
Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com www.bahai.us

Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltucc.org
Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.
Clara Young, Interim Pastor

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

<p>11:00am Worship Service August 18th "Kept for the Love of God" Jude 17-23</p> <p>August 25th Guest Speaker: Jeff Kelly</p>	<p>9:45am Sunday School September 1st "The Bread of Life: Feeding on God's Faithfulness" Psalm 37</p> <p>September 8th "Kept for: Glory" Jude 24-25</p>
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ALL WELCOME!

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 | www.stgeo.org

Mishkan Torah Congregation
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield

Friday evening services 8:00 PM except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:30 PM

Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM
Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.

For further information call 301 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Conservative and Reconstructionist

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

Sunday, August 18 at 10 a.m.
Rev. Diane Teichert, Minister,
with John Sebastian, Worship Associate

The query "How are you?" can be mindlessly tossed, wanting no answer but "Fine." Or it can be tossed like a lifesaver, as in "saying metta" in the Buddhist tradition.

Summer Fun for children, with youth assisting, after the Singaway Song. Today is Signing Sunday - those who are ready to join the church are invited to meet the Minister and Board member at the chalice after the postlude.

199th Anniversary War of 1812 Weekend

The weekend of Friday, August 23 through Sunday, August 25 is a big celebratory weekend in Prince George's County for the 199th anniversary of the pivotal Battle of Bladensburg in the War of 1812, which is being celebrated throughout the state. Last year launched the year-long commemoration.

Weekend dates, times and locations follow:

Friday, August 23

Noon – 4 p.m.

Hodges' Chance: Treason and the War of 1812, Darnall's Chance, 14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro. John Hodges, a wealthy merchant who lived at Darnall's Chance, was charged with High Treason by the United States in 1815. Darnall's Chance has displays about his arrest and trial including an invitation for visitors to cast a vote for innocence or guilt.

7pm – 11 p.m.

War of 1812 Night at the Bowie Baysox, Prince George's Stadium, 4101 Crain Highway, Bowie, with games, contests, information and fireworks.

Saturday, August 24

11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Battle of Bladensburg Encampment & Tactical display, Riversdale House Museum, 4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park. Exhibits show British and American troops as they prepare for battle. Visitors might be recruited to join the American militia. Free activities include children's activities, music, period-inspired refreshments and fun activities for all ages.

Noon – 4 p.m.

Hodges' Chance: Treason and the War of 1812, Darnall's Chance, 14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro. See first listing on Friday.

Sunday, August 25

11 a.m. – Noon

Court Martial of Captain Samuel Dyson, Ft. Washington Park, Fort Washington. In 1814 Captain Dyson ordered the garrison he commanded at Ft. Washington to destroy the supply of black powder and was court-martialed soon after for his decision. A park guide will discuss the details and reasons for Dyson's decision to blow up the fort, with visitors being asked to vote on his fate at the court-martial.

Noon – 3:30 p.m.

A Star Spangled Summer

Oxon Cove Park, Bald Eagle Road, Oxon Hill. Dramatic vignettes of an enslaved woman, a landowner and her son, a British naval officer, a citizen soldier and American troops stationed on the Mount Welby hillside in the summer of 1814. Reservations are required; call 301-839-1176.

Noon – 4 p.m.


Historic Bladensburg Open House

Bladensburg Waterfront Park (for parking and information), 4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg. See unique historic homes in Bladensburg not typically open to the public, with refreshments and information. Included are George Washington House, Magruder House & Market Master Store and Bostwick. Stop at the Waterfront Park for a map and locations for parking or walking directions.



Mayor Judith Davis receives a plaque in recognition of the Old Greenbelt Theatre funding campaign. From left Councilmembers Emmett Jordan, Konrad Herling and Leta Mach; Washington Field Office Representative Monica Rhodes and Director Rob Nieweg of the National Trust for Historical Preservation; Mayor Davis; and Councilmembers Silke Pope and Rodney Roberts.

PHOTO BY AARON SOLOMON



City Information

TREADMILLS FOR AUCTION

The Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center will be accepting competitive bids for five(5) individual StarTrac 4500 Treadmills. All are in working condition and will be sold as is. Winning bidder is responsible for pickup/delivery of treadmill within 10 days.

An opportunity for potential buyers to inspect the treadmills will be held on Tuesday, August 27, 2013 from 9am-8pm.

Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope and received no later than 12:00pm on Monday, September 9, 2013. Bids will be opened and publicly read at 12:10pm in the Council Room of the Municipal Building on September 10, 2013.

If interested in purchasing, please submit sealed bids to: GAFC Treadmill, City of Greenbelt, Finance Office, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

NOTE: Bids received after this deadline may be refused and deemed ineligible for consideration at the City's sole discretion

Treadmill #1	Problems: Missing both end caps			
ACQUIRED	SERIAL	VOLTS	AMPS	WATTS
8/25/2000	D13457	110	15	1650
CYCLES	PHASES	IP No.		
50/60	Single	X2		
Treadmill #2	Problems: Missing 1/2 of one end caps, Stop Button taped			
ACQUIRED	SERIAL	VOLTS	AMPS	WATTS
11/27/2000	D15226	110	15	1650
CYCLES	PHASES	IP No.		
50/60	Single	X2		
Treadmill #3	Problems: Missing 1end cap missing			
ACQUIRED	SERIAL	VOLTS	AMPS	WATTS
5/30/2003	D29000	110	18	1650
CYCLES	PHASES	IP No.		
50/60	Single	X2		
Treadmill #4	Problems: Ok			
ACQUIRED	SERIAL	VOLTS	AMPS	WATTS
5/11/2000	D15756	110	15	1650
CYCLES	PHASES	IP No.		
50/60	Single	X2		
Treadmill #5	Problems: Ok			
ACQUIRED	SERIAL	VOLTS	AMPS	WATTS
1/5/2001	D18595	110	15	1650
CYCLES	PHASES	IP No.		
50/60	Single	X2		

MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 19-23

Monday, August 19 at 8:00pm **COUNCIL WORK SESSION** re: Windsor Green/Request for Curfew Law at Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and Streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov

Wednesday, August 21 at 8:00pm **COUNCIL WORK SESSION w/State Highway Administration (stakeholder)** at Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

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

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR CITY ELECTION OCTOBER 7, 2013

Greenbelt residents are reminded that to participate in the 2013 City Council election—whether as a voter, a candidate for City Council, or a signer of a petition for a candidate—you must be qualified to vote in Prince George's County.

To register, you must:

- Be a citizen of the United States of America
- Be at least 16 years of age (you may register to vote at 16 but cannot vote until at least 18 years of age by the date of the election)
- Be domiciled within the corporate limits of the City of Greenbelt as of the date of registration
- Not have been convicted of a felony, or if you have, you have completed serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment, including any term of parole or probation for the conviction
- Not be under guardianship for mental disability

VOTER REGISTRATION

For information about registering to vote in Prince George's County, contact the County Board of Elections at 301-430-8020 or visit www.elections.state.md.us. Forms for voter registration and address and name change are available at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road, and the Greenbelt Library, 11 Crescent Road. Forms are also available on the city website, www.greenbeltmd.gov.

All forms must be received by the County Board of Elections in Upper Marlboro no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, October 7.

For additional information, contact Cindy Murray, City Clerk, at 301-474-8000 or cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov.

If you are already registered to vote in Prince George's County but have moved or changed your name since the last election, you must complete an application to have this information changed.

This can also be done online at www.elections.state.md.us.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Youth Advisory Committee

For information call 301-474-8000.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!
www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt

Back to School



Bus Stop Tips

Parents of students registered at schools by July 31, 2013 should receive a letter from Transportation a week before school starts. The letter names the bus stop location, the route number and pickup/drop off times. It is also possible to look up students' bus stop information the week before school starts, at www.pgcps.org under Parents, Bus Stop Search.

Since several buses may be picking up children in the same area, the Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) recommends to parents:

Before the school year begins, parent and child should visit the arranged bus pick-up location.

Be sure the student knows the safest way to the exact location where the bus will stop.

Parents should take the child to the bus stop on the first day. It is important to be at the pickup location at least five minutes early.

Students should know the route number and the name of this year's school to ensure they board the correct bus. Each bus has a sign located on the side in the second window on the door side.

Parent and child should become familiar with the assigned bus driver but be aware that a different driver may substitute when needed.

Transportation help is available: the PGCPS Transportation Phone Bank is open daily Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 301-952-6570.

Volunteer at School

Volunteers help enhance education for students in the Prince George's County school system. Parents, students, neighbors, friends, business and government employees, crafts people, retirees and anyone who has time to share is invited to be a volunteer.

Volunteer activities include tutoring children individually or in small groups and aiding teachers in reading, mathematics, handwriting, science, English as a Second Language or any area of interest, or sharing skills and talents, job expertise or life experience, as special resources for classroom instruction.

Volunteers are needed to assist staff in the school office, media center and cafeteria. Those unable to travel to a school could volunteer to help from home by making instructional materials, typing, making displays and carrying out many other activities. Contact the local school to offer assistance.

School Registration, Schedules Online

Registration is ongoing at all local public schools. Registration packets can be picked up from the school offices during regular office hours. A copy of the child's immunization record is required, as well as the Social Security number, proof of residency and proof of age. For more information go to www1.pgcps.org/backtoschool.

Parents are encouraged to register their children as soon as possible in order to secure bus transportation and to pick up an official schedule in time for the first day of school.

Schedules for registered students should be available online via the SchoolMax Family Portal on the Prince George's County Public Schools website the week before school starts. Information on how to access SchoolMax, which also lists students' grades for each assignment during the year, will be distributed to new students at the beginning of the school year. Students moving up to middle or high school will use the same log-in information as they used in elementary school.

Parents are encouraged to check SchoolMax before the first day of school so students will know who their homeroom teacher is and where to go when they arrive at school on August 19.

Before & After Care Extends Learning

The county school system operates a school-age child care program at Greenbelt Elementary, Magnolia Elementary and Springhill Lake Elementary schools. Child care begins at 7 a.m. and operates until the start of the school day. The afternoon session begins at the end of the school day and operates until 6 p.m. There is a fee.

Returning parents are given first priority to register in May for the following school year. The remaining slots are then offered to new families.

Activities vary between locations, according to the interests of staff and students but a wide range of activities are provided, for example, art, drama, music and sports. A daily snack is also provided and students are given time to begin homework assignments and socialize.

County Councilmember Turner Greet Students

Prince George's County Councilmember Ingrid Turner, her staff and community volunteers will be among dignitaries welcoming children back to school on Monday, August 19. Making a yearly tradition of visiting schools in her district on Back to School Day, Turner will welcome returning students this year at Greenbelt Middle School from 8:30 to 9 a.m. and also will visit students at other District 4 schools.

Turner says, "The first day of school is an exciting time for our students and we share in their excitement for a great school year," adding "we support them and are invested in their success."

School Meal Prices For 2013-14 Year

School meal prices for the coming school year will remain unchanged from last year: student breakfast: \$1.50; elementary lunch: \$2.60; secondary lunch: \$2.85. Milk alone will be \$0.55.

The required forms to apply for free or reduced-price meals can be obtained at each school and will be sent home with the children. Parents may also call 301-952-6517 to have an application form mailed to their home.

Paypam System

Parents of students enrolled in Prince George's County Public Schools can pay for their children's meals, sports activity fees and other fees through the school system's new Paypam electronic system. Paypam, which stands for Parent Account Management System, can be accessed at <https://paypams.com/HomePage.aspx>.

Parent Teacher Organizations

Most of the local schools have some kind of parent organization and many of these have their own websites or a page on the school's website giving additional information about the schools and how to volunteer.

Greenbelt Elementary – www.greenbelt.com/gespta or email greenbeltespta@gmail.com

Magnolia Elementary – email info.mes.pto@gmail.com

Turning Point Academy – see the school webpage and www.facebook.com/tpa.pto

Greenbelt Middle – www.greenbeltmiddlepta.org or email ptagreenbeltmiddle@gmail.com

Eleanor Roosevelt High School – www.erhspta.weebly.com or email erhsptsaweb@gmail.com

END OF YEAR continued from page 1

estimated, resulting from a reduction of revenues combined with a significantly larger reduction of expenses.

Revenues are expected to be slightly lower than predicted in March (about \$106,124 or 0.4 percent), largely due to a higher number of property tax abatements during the last quarter of the year than had been anticipated. These losses were partly offset by higher revenues than estimated in March from red light and speed cameras and from recreation programs.

On the expense side, the city should end the year showing about \$565,000 less in expenditures than expected but almost half that amount (\$243,000) is for police vehicles that have been ordered but not received. An additional \$25,000 will carry over to be awarded for an economic development study. Real reductions in expenses include about \$42,000 in electricity, \$28,000 in vehicle maintenance, \$26,000 in fuel, \$26,000 for red light camera expenses and \$50,000 in departmental equipment expenses.

McLaughlin said council has expressed interest in the past in possibly reprogramming some of the fund balance for such purposes as paying off part of the excess expenses from the Public Works Department facility, prepaying the city's general obligation debt or directing funds toward the Old Greenbelt Theatre renovation. He said that if the increase of nearly \$200,000 does occur, the council may have the opportunity to have that discussion if it wishes.

As part of the quarterly update, council reviewed the Council Action Requests Report, which is an ongoing listing of tasks or projects council has asked city staff to undertake. The city manager also presented his "Top Ten" list, which currently comprises the 12 [sic] items deemed by the city manager to be most likely to require significant staff time and attention over the next year.

Capital Projects

Of the Capital Projects list for Fiscal Year 2014 Jordan commented it seemed like just yesterday that council had discussed this list as part of the regular budget worksessions. McLaughlin said not much had changed since then. Typically the capital projects list is given an overview during the budget period and then examined in closer detail during the summer worksession. Although the focus of the worksession is on those projects budgeted for the upcoming year's funding, the projected funding for the next five years is presented.

Added to the capital projects list since the last quarterly update were an additional bus shelter, energy efficiency improvements funded by a Smart Energy Communities grant and a contribution requested by the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area for bike tourism marketing. The adopted budget for FY 2014 included almost \$2.6 million in total capital expenditures. The total now with carryovers and changes is about

\$3.1 million.

A significant addition to the list is the repair project for the Greenbelt Lake dam, which has also been incorporated into the five-year capital projects plan. Of the \$650,000 estimated for the five years, only \$30,000 is programmed for FY 2014 for initial planning and engineering work. This project resulted from notification by the state that repairs are required to the dam.

One of the projects being carried over from Fiscal Year 2013 is the removal of the underground gasoline tank at the police station, which was found not to meet current state environment regulations. This work will be completed in FY 2014. Other projects listed for completion in FY 2014 include the purchase and installation of a shed at the Animal Control facility, to be funded by a contribution; improvement of trails and pathways in Greenbrook; traffic calming on Springhill Drive that is part of the Safe Routes to Schools grant; and work on Southway as part of the "Gateway Entrances" sign plan.

Theater Meeting

Since a long-awaited work-session has been scheduled for August 28 on the Old Greenbelt Theatre renovation, discussion on that project was deferred. McLaughlin said he expected to present options for council discussion on prioritizing necessary work and he hopes to have harder numbers for consideration than has been possible to date. While certain things must be done first, such as the power work and the bathrooms, other projects could proceed in different sequences. For example, is it better to do lobby work or behind-the-walls HVAC work first? Jordan asked when the historic preservation grant needed to be used. McLaughlin said he thought if the work were not well underway by the end of the fiscal year, an extension would be needed but he was confident that it would be in progress.

Despite all the work being accomplished, a permanent fixture of every capital projects meeting is the list of projects unfunded in the budget that need to be considered for the next five years. This list currently includes 20 projects, including such items as the dredging and water quality work needed at Greenbelt Lake, the expansion of the cemetery, work on the Youth Center roof and lights at McDonald and Schrom Hills fields.

More uplifting funding news was announced by Assistant City Manager David Moran, who said it was likely that there would be reprogrammed Community Development Block Grant monies available from the county and it was possible the city might qualify to receive some of the funds for use on the Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

The worksession on the Old Greenbelt Theatre renovation will be held Wednesday, August 28 at 8 p.m. at the Community Center.

**Watch out for
school children
crossing the road.**

BRAM continued from page 1

as mayor beginning in 1993.

She was a board member and served a term as president of the Prince George's County Municipal Association. Later she was a board member of the Maryland Municipal League. She initiated the Prince George's County Elected Municipal Women organization in 1983 and was its first president.

After her retirement, she and her husband moved to Belcamp, Md., on the Chesapeake Bay. She then returned to her early vocation as a history teacher at the community colleges of both Cecil and Harford counties.

In addition to her parents, Mrs. Bram was predeceased by a sister, Patricia Regina Abernethy.

Mrs. Bram is survived by her husband of 57 years; their children Timothy R. Bram of Pasadena, Regina R. Bram Howard of Baltimore, Simone A. Moran of Bel Air and Jennifer M. Ward of Columbia; siblings Henry Hopkins Houck of Annapolis, Joseph Robert Houck of Denton, Helen Jacqueline St. Martin of Fairfax, Va. and Mary Teresa Blakeslee of De Leon Springs, Fl.; as well as seven grandchildren.

Services are being held on Thursday, August 15 at McComas Funeral Home, Abingdon, Md., starting with visitation at 10 a.m. and followed by a memorial service at 11 a.m. with Rev. Pat Drost officiating.

In lieu of flowers memorials in Mrs. Bram's name can be



PHOTO BY J. HENSON

Councilmembers Ed Putens and Judith Davis; Mayor Antoinette Bram; Councilmembers Rodney Roberts and Thomas X. White.

made to The Toni Bram G.E.D. Scholarship Fund, c/o Leslie Blackstock, treasurer, American Association of University Women, Harford Branch, 702 MacPhail Court North, Bel Air, MD 21014. Donation checks should be desig-

nated "for G.E.D. program." Online memorial tributes may be sent to the family at the guestbook at <http://www.mccomasfuneralhome.com/obituary/Antoinette-Bram/Belcamp-MD/1232801#obit-services>.



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See you at the Labor Day Festival!




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Preservation &
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Society**

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The march is on to experience the War of 1812 in Prince George's County, MD!

Special events throughout the
summer!

Family fun, history, exploration
and the 199th Anniversary of
the Battle of Bladensburg on
August 23-25, 2013!



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Closed Sunday



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Fresh Value Pack \$2.49 lb. Boneless, Center Cut Pork Chops	Fresh Nutritious 99¢ lb. Broccoli Crowns	Dannon 50¢ Yogurt Fruit on the Bottom/Light & Fit 6 oz.	Birds Eye Classic \$1.00 Vegetables Select Varieties 8-16 oz.	Fresh Catch \$6.99 lb. Flounder Fillets
Fresh Value Pack \$2.88 lb. 85% Lean Ground Beef	Fresh Ripe \$2.00 Sweet Cantaloupe each	Minute Maid \$2.50 Orange Juice Assorted 59 oz.	Healthy Choice \$2.00 Bakes or Lunch Steamers Assorted 8-9.7 oz.	Sea Choice Frozen \$4.99 Salmon Burgers 12.8 oz.
Hatfield \$1.50 Meat Franks Select Varieties 1 lb. <i>BUY ONE GET ONE FREE</i>	Fresh Picked 40¢ Sweet Corn ear	Heluva Good \$2.50 Cheese Chunks Asst. 6-8 oz.	Shurfine Classic \$2.50 Ice Cream Assorted 64 oz.	Canadian Frozen \$6.99 lb. Snow Crab Leg Clusters
Grocery Bargains			Grocery Bargains	
Hunt's Assorted \$1.00 Pasta Sauces 28 oz.	Bumble Bee \$1.00 Chunk White Tuna in water 5 oz.		Hunt's Assorted \$1.00 Snack Pack Puddings 4 pack	Gatorade \$1.00 Thirst Quencher Sports Drinks Assorted 32 oz.
Peter Pan \$1.50 Peanut Butter Asst. 16.3 oz.	Stroehmann's \$1.50 Dutch Country Breads Assorted 20-24 oz. <i>BUY ONE GET ONE FREE</i>	Ken's Assorted \$1.25 Salad Dressings 9 oz.	Wisk Liquid Asst. \$4.99 Laundry Detergent 20-50 oz.	
Deli	Bakery	Natural & Gourmet	Health & Beauty	Beer & Wine
Deli Gourmet \$5.99 lb. Brown Sugar Ham	Fresh Store Baked \$1.29 White Italian Bread loaf	Iron Chef \$2.99 Marinades Assorted 15 oz.	Aim \$1.00 Toothpaste Assorted 6-7.2 oz.	Busch \$4.29 Beer 6 pk.-12 oz. cans
Deli Gourmet \$5.99 lb. Swiss Cheese	Fresh Store Baked \$4.99 Mixed Berry Pie 8-inch	Almondina \$2.99 Original Natural Snack 4 oz.	Axe Assorted \$3.99 Antiperspirent Deodorant 2-3 oz.	Pacific Rim \$9.99 Wines 750 M.L.

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Labor Day Festival

Festival Activities Will Range From Silk Trapeze to Rock

by Jon Gardner

The main stage at the Labor Day Festival will feature a wide variety of entertainment as returning favorites are joined by new acts. At the festival's opening ceremony on Friday, August 30, Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizen for 2013 will be announced. The opening of the Miss Greenbelt Pageant will follow and then Johnny Seaton and Bad Behavior will take the stage.

Johnny Seaton has become an institution at the Festival, performing Elvis' music with crowd-pleasing rhythm and dance moves. This year he will mix in his original songs and those of other artists as he is joined by Billy Bogus on drums and Randy Stewart on keyboard.

Saturday morning the entertainment starts at 11 a.m. as Greenbelt's favorite circus star, Greg May, is joined by the performing group from his Center Ring Circus School. As a special treat this year, May will set up his trapeze rig in front of the main stage and the Circus School students will perform on the silk, Lyra and static bar trapeze. May said, "We're very excited about this performance. This will be the first time that the Labor Day Festival will see these kids fly."

After his show watch for May as he strolls around the Festival grounds on stilts, makes balloon animals and entertains the Festival crowd with his clowning.

Saturday afternoon will feature cool jazz by the Bruce Swaim quartet, followed by soul and blues by the Mary Shaver band. The blues will continue at 5 p.m. as Jackie Scott and the Housewreckers take the stage. Scott is new this year. She will bring her signature mix of Chicago-style blues to the Festival with songs from her award-winning CD, "How Much Woman Can You Stand?"

Saturday evening, The Midnight Movers will perform. Led



Jackie Scott and the Housewreckers, a new band this year, will bring Chicago-style blues to the stage from 5 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, August 31.



The Fabulous Hubcaps will wrap up the Festival's musical fare on Monday, Sept. 2 from 2 to 6 p.m.



Johnny Seaton as Elvis will perform on Friday, August 30 from 9 to 11 p.m.

by the dynamic trumpeter and vocalist Curtis Pope, the band plays classic funk and Motown. The group takes its name from a song by Wilson Pickett, whom they backed onstage before striking out on their own in 1997.

The jazz and blues theme continues Sunday afternoon. Fast Eddie and the Slowpokes, the 2012 winner of the DC Blues Society Battle of the Bands start the day, followed by Forecast playing jazz. The Miss Greenbelt Pageant judges select the winners from 4 to 7 p.m. For a youthful

alternative or to cool off go inside for Greenbelt's Rising Stars in the Community Center gym starting at 2 p.m.

Sunday evening brings rock and soul to the main stage with the CPR band. Listeners won't be able to sit in their seats – people often feel compelled to get up and dance to the band's strong horn section.

After the parade on Monday, watch the Art and Photo show winners get their prizes and then grab a spot on the lawn for The Fabulous Hubcaps. The Hubcaps are approaching their 40th anniversary and have played more than 5,000 shows of rock-and-roll oldies and toured more than a million miles. In their 2013 show, the presentation of songs, costumes, arrangements, instrumentation and production remain authentic and are an ongoing tribute to the original hit records and artists that we all treasure and love. It will be a perfect ending to the 2013 Greenbelt Labor Day Festival.

For more information about festival entertainment and a complete schedule of events, see the website at <http://greenbeltlabor-day.com/>. For questions, send an email through the website or phone Committee President Linda Ivy at 301-675-0585.

Jon Gardner is a member of the Labor Day Festival Committee.



Fast Eddie and the Slowpokes, winner of the 2012 DC Blues Society Battle of the Bands award, will play from noon to 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 1.

Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robbery

August 7, 9:35 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Lane. Two men approached another person, displayed handguns and took the person's property. One robber is described as a black man 6' tall with a thin build, wearing a baseball hat, shorts, tennis shoes and a gray shirt with a red, white and blue circle on it. The other robber is described as a black man 5'6" tall with a heavy build, wearing a sweatshirt with horizontal black and white stripes and white shoes. They fled in a white Toyota Camry with Md. tags, number unknown.

Cutting

August 4, 8:37 p.m., Beltway Plaza. A shoplifter stabbed a security officer twice when the officer tried to stop him. He fled with an unknown amount of store property. The officer sustained non-life-threatening injuries and refused medical treatment. The shoplifter is described as a black man in his mid-50s, 5'10" tall, 165 pounds, wearing a black baseball hat, black reading glasses, a white muscle shirt and black swim trunks with the word "Guinness" on the side.

DWI/DUI

August 3, 12:24 a.m., 16 Court Ridge. A 27-year-old nonresident man was arrested and charged with multiple alcohol-related offenses, among other charges, after a traffic stop. He was released on citation pending trial.

August 7, 8:56 p.m., 8000 block Mandan Road. A 29-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with multiple alcohol-related offenses, among other charges,

after a traffic stop. He was released on citations pending trial.

Trespassing

August 3, 1:54 p.m., Beltway Plaza. A 23-year-old nonresident man was arrested and charged with trespassing on private property. He was released on citation.

August 4, 2:17 p.m., Breezewood Drive at Springhill Lane. A 24-year-old nonresident man was arrested and charged with trespassing on posted property. He was transferred to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Burglary

August 3, 5:14 p.m., 7 Court Southway. Electronics and currency were taken.

August 6, 8:46 p.m., 7800 block Hanover Parkway. A man attempting to break in did not gain entry. No description of him is available.

Vandalism

August 5, 9:28 p.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane. A window was broken.

Vehicle Crime

A black 2001 Oldsmobile Alero with DC tags was taken from the 6100 block Springhill Terrace and a blue 2001 Ford E350 pickup truck with Md. tags was taken from the 5800 block Cherrywood Lane.

A Chevrolet Suburban stolen from the 7800 block Mandan Road was recovered by Prince George's County police. No arrests were made.

A cellphone was taken from a car in the 9100 block Edmonston Court.

A car window was broken in the 7600 block Mandan Road.

Fall Programs at Club125!



FLL Robotics, ages 9-14, starts Wednesday August 28th. Our two teams, Feral Cats (coed) and LabraDoodles (girls only!), meet twice a week. See FLL.club125.com to sign up!



Greenbelt Technical Institute

Vocational education classes in technical subjects start Monday, September 9th. Earn valuable certifications in Linux, Windows, Website Development, Databases, Networking, and Security. Scholarships for at-risk youth and unemployed are available. Speed over to GTI.club125.com for more information.

STAND BACK



Get started on your Citizen Science project today! Our community showcase, **Fanfare of Science**, will be held Sunday, December 8th. Register your idea, find a partner or two, and show your progress at CSP.club125.com.



Programs and activities for homeschool families start with Botany at the Club on September 9th, and Intro to the Scientific Method with Bubbles on September 16th. Check our online schedule for more info, and become a support volunteer.

Club125 wishes to thank the Greenbelt Community Foundation for their \$5,000 grant to support CSP and SAIC for their \$10,000 grant to support community robotics programs. Please join them in support of community education. Become a sustaining member or corporate sponsor today. See us at club125.com.

Celebrate the best of Greenbelt
with your neighbors.
See you at the Labor Day Festival!

City Council Discusses Fees For Copying Public Records

by James Giese

The Greenbelt City Council spent most of the time at the August 7 worksession discussing possible changes to the election of the city council but the councilmembers also quickly reviewed a draft city policy for the copying of public records. This item was to have been discussed at the August 5 worksession but deferred to August 7 because of the absence of Mayor Judith Davis. Councilmembers made suggestions about possible changes to the draft policy statement.

At the start of the worksession, Molly Lester protested council taking this matter under consideration at the meeting because there had not been no public notice. Davis noted that this was a worksession and that no formal action would be taken.

At a council meeting last spring, William Orleans told council that occasionally he has been asked to pay for the copying of city documents. He requested to see documentation of city policy for copying public records.

At the worksession Orleans made a brief statement saying that he was surprised to be asked to pay for a copy of the city charter and a copy of a financial report. If council receives a copy at no cost, all citizens should be able to get a free copy he declared.

While staff recalls some council direction being given in the late 1980s, it found nothing written as a policy, although the council's standing rules and the information packet provided all council candidates contain references to charging 15 cents a copy for more than a few pages. After reviewing policies of the cities of Laurel and College Park, staff drafted a policy statement in June for council's consideration.

Policy Draft

As an introduction, the policy draft quotes the Maryland Annotated code: "All persons are entitled to have access to information about the affairs of government and the official acts of public officials and employees." However, a custodian of records can deny inspection if such inspection "would be contrary to the public interest," the code continues. The city policy, as drafted, would require a person requesting to inspect or copy a public record to do so in writing detailing the records sought. A draft request form asking for the person's name, address and telephone number and a list of the items to be inspected or copied is a part of the policy. The city clerk is required to review the request to determine "if the record is one that may be disclosed pursuant to the law."

The policy provides a fee of 15 cents per page if more than six pages are copied (black and white, no fee stated for color). If more than two hours of staff time are required to search, prepare and produce the records for inspection and copying, an unspecified fee will be charged. The fee for a copy of a video on a DVD is \$15 but there is no mention of a fee for electronic transmissions via email or copying data to a disk or memory stick. The draft states, "It is the policy of the City of Greenbelt to require prepayment of such fees, notify the applicant of the fees incurred [sic], and that

said fees must be paid in full prior to the release of the documents." The city will accept cash, check or money order for payment.

Discussion

Davis was concerned that the applicant should receive timely notice of the cost of copying before doing it. She wondered, however, if the six pages for free might create a problem with someone coming in repeatedly to request small portions of a large document.

Councilmember Leta Mach noted that the statement lacked a provision requiring that a reason be provided for rejecting an applicant's request to see public records and that the policy should also provide a procedure for appealing such decisions.

Councilmember Emmett Jordan wanted to be sure that the copy fee charged was a reasonable cost. He also thought the \$15 fee for a DVD was expensive. He asked if the policy should apply to the media. Mach said that she thought the media should pay too.

Davis asked staff to make suggested changes but asked to whom an appeal should be made. City Manager Michael McLaughlin said that staff would study that issue.

There was also some discussion about allowing copying to be free twice and then charge, if the requests were during the same month.

COUNCIL continued from page 1

balances have grown, allowing the city to go longer before borrowing.

Since money will be needed to pay current expenses before council's next meeting in September, the rules were suspended and the ordinance introduced for second reading and adoption. It passed unanimously, although Councilmember Ed Putens was not yet present at the meeting.

Property Tax Bills

Earlier in the meeting McLaughlin told council that county real estate tax bills had been sent out with an error in the county tax rate. It was shown as 96 cents when it should have been 80.9 cents. He emphasized that the total amount due on the bills is correct, however. The county has advised the misprint is on all bills but no new bills will be issued.

Mayor Judith Davis said residents should read the Tax Facts brochure that accompanies tax bills, as it describes rebates available for the new "rain tax" for storm water management. This new fee is projected to create 5,000 jobs in the county, treat 8,000 acres and cost \$1.2 billion.

She also noted that the Homestead Tax Credit application must be made before December 31.

Financing Retirement

Councilmember Emmett Jordan introduced for first reading a resolution to amend the city's charter enabling the city to "borrow money to pay off unfunded accrued liabilities in its retirement

plan and police pension plan." The unfunded liabilities of these plans are currently being paid down through the Maryland State Retirement Agency at interest rates of 7.5 and 8 percent.

Refinancing these debts through a bank could save the city \$100,000 this year and up to \$2 million over the term of a loan but the current city charter does not permit debt to be incurred for this purpose. The introduced resolution would create a new section in the charter that would allow borrowing for this purpose.

The resolution will come before council for second reading and adoption at council's next meeting on September 9.

Belle Point Playground

Council agreed to apply for a Maryland Community Parks & Playground Grant to fund a new tot lot near the Belle Point neighborhood at a cost of \$98,342. Councilmember Silke Pope, who abstained from voting since she is president of the Belle Point Homeowners Association, said there currently is no playground within easy walking distance from the neighborhood, an "up and coming" area for families with young children.

The area is near the Forest Preserve but was left out of the preserve specifically to become a playground. The site contains some small trees and brush that would have to be removed.

Assistant City Manager David Moran told council the grant

would take about a year to come through, allowing time to make adjustments to the proposed plan prior to construction, as long as such changes did not increase the requested funds. The playground must also meet requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, he said.

Greenbelt resident Lore Rosenthal asked council to revisit the issue of "poured-in-place" surfaces and Davis told her the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board intends to hold public meetings on this issue. There are several sides to the discussion on this topic, Davis added.


Police Agreement

The Town of Berwyn Heights has asked the City of Greenbelt to enter into a mutual aid agreement between the two police forces. Greenbelt has such agreements in place with the cities of Laurel, Hyattsville and Mount Rainier and the towns of Bladensburg, Riverdale Park, University Park and Edmonston. Berwyn Heights does not want to take part in this larger agreement but seeks one with Greenbelt since the two municipalities share jurisdictional boundaries.

The Annotated Code of Maryland permits such reciprocal agreements and staff has recommended the Berwyn Heights agreement since officers from the two jurisdictions already interact and frequently back up each other. Council unanimously supported the agreement.

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5000 BTU A/C UNIT – \$50; 900 watt Sunbeam microwave, \$40; bar stools, 2 @ \$25 each/\$40 for pair; 3 tiered glass TV stand, \$60; Onkyo 7.1 surround sound receiver with speakers, \$100. Call Nick, 410-215-3100.

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YARD SALE

BIG INDOOR SALE – Contents of kitchen from Bowie estate sale: Pots, pans, stock pots, all kinds of baking needs, coffee makers, dishes, utensils, gadgets, mashers, strainers, pounders, Pyrex, Revere ware, Cuisinart, small "cabinets" – some jewelry, luggage. August 16, 17, 18, 19 – 9 to 5, 3C Plateau Place.

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Tuesday, August 20, 1 to 7 p.m.,
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Thursday, August 22, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.,
Greenbelt Lions Club/Doctors Community Hospital,
8100 Good Luck Road,
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Friday, August 30, 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.,
Washington Adventist Hospital, 7600 Carroll Avenue,
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Thursday, September 5, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.,
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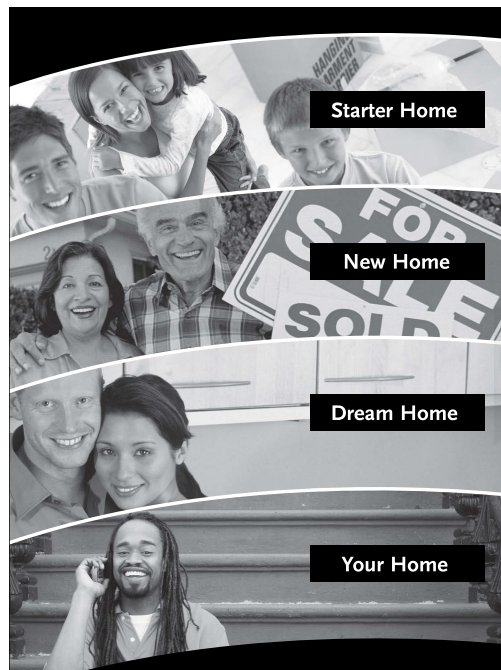
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Artist Vernon Sears Shown at Patuxent

Works by local artist Vernon Sears will be shown at the Hollingsworth Gallery in August at the National Wildlife Visitor Center at Patuxent Research Refuge. Sears was born in Washington, D.C., and raised in Mt. Rainier. His income was what he earned with a drawing pad and a grease pencil – he sold his caricatures for a dollar on Bleeker Street in New York City while he was studying at the city's Academy of Fine Arts. His line and detail made his sketches so successful, however, that he was eventually able to charge \$25.

His preferred media includes oils, acrylics and oil pastels; he is also active in veterans' organizations and has done shows for the American Legion Women's Auxiliary.

The Visitor Center is located off Powder Mill Road between Rt. 197 and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, south of Laurel.

Daily Tram Tours Held at Patuxent

Through Labor Day half-hour guided tram tours through the Patuxent Research Refuge National Wildlife Visitor Center will take riders through forest, meadows and wetlands, weather permitting. The tram is a 40-passenger, all-electric open-air vehicle providing access to wildlife and habitats.

The Visitor Center is off Powder Mill Road at 10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop in Laurel. There is a nominal fee per person, with no charge for children two and under who do not require a seat. For tram times, visit <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/patuxent/tram.html> and call 301-497-5772 to confirm the schedule.

Kids Bird Program At Patuxent Refuge

Bird Buddies, a hands-on program and hike for children from ages 5 to 10, will be held Saturday, August 17 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the Patuxent National Wildlife Visitors Center. Participating children will search for birds by sight and sound to discover their special qualities.

Public programs at Patuxent Research Refuge are free although advance registration is required; call 301-497-5887. For more information visit the website at www.patuxent.fws.gov. The Visitor Center is on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197.

Animal Adaptation Program for Kids

On Wednesday, August 21 from 10 to 11 a.m. there will be a program on animal adaptations for children ages 5 to 7 at the Patuxent National Wildlife Visitor Center. Participants will learn what makes reptiles, amphibians, birds, fish, insects and mammals different and how adaptations help them survive in a hands-on interpretive program.

Public programs are free although advance registration is required; call 301-497-5887. The Visitors Center is on Powder Mill Road between Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197.

Free Diabetes Support Group

Doctors Community Hospital will hold a free diabetes support group on Monday, August 19. The meeting will be held at the hospital's Joslin Diabetes Center, 8100 Good Luck Road, North Building, 5th Floor, DSE Room. To register call 301-552-8661.

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Townhome With Addition - 2 BR Townhome with front addition for laundry and storage. Opened kitchen with extra storage racks. Ref floors. \$91,900

Brick GHI Townhome - 2 Bedrooms, opened kitchen, modern tile and appliances throughout, including extra outlets. **SOLD**

Townhome near Roosevelt Center - 2 BR Townhome with modern kitchen and granite counters. Refinished hardwood flooring. Walk to Center! \$79,900

2 BR Frame End Unit - Modern bath w/ ceramic floor tile. Updated kitchen with s.s. appliances & hardwood cabinets. Ceiling fans, large shed & more.

Brick Townhome With Addition - Very close to Roosevelt Center. Extra full bath on first floor. Fenced front and back yards, deck, too! Very nice! **UNDER CONTRACT**

Block Townhome - 2 bedroom GHI home with 11'x17' master bedroom. Large wood deck on service side. Very close to Roosevelt Center & shopping.

Block Townhome - 3 BR Block GHI home with vinyl siding & insulation. Updated cabinets with ceramic tile floor and backspash. Pedestal bath sink.

Walk To Roosevelt Center - 2 BR block w/downstairs study. Remodeled kit. w/Silestone counters, s/s oven and refrig. - <http://25ridgec.wix.com/home>

2 BR GHI Townhome On Corner Lot - Large stone fireplace, tile floor, remodeling with granite, stainless steel, front storage addition. Lots of landscaping. **SOLD**

Block Townhome With Addition - Rear addition with full bath and office space. Hardwood floors, granite and ceramic tiles. Close to Roosevelt Center. **SOLD**

Remodeled 2 BR GHI Townhome Recessed lighting, custom molding, modern kitchen, refinished flooring, ceramic tile and more! \$106,900

Your Greenbelt Specialists In Roosevelt Center

“Myths and Legends” Is Theme for Camp Circus Performance

by Jim Link

For two hours on Friday night, August 9, the gymnasts, jugglers, clowns, warriors and princesses of the Greenbelt Youth Circus dazzled their families and friends with the theme “Myths and Legends.”

The Greenbelt Community Center gym was packed – all 200 tickets were sold – with adoring fans who applauded wildly for every minute gesture – every somersault, pirouette, cartwheel, tendon-stretching splits – every Herculean victory, Sisyphean futility, Sasquatch sighting, Robin Hood rescue, Red Riding Hood escape.

Will these kids, these little darlings, ever be showered again with such pure appreciation? It’s a moment to be cherished forever.

The conjurer of this wonderful pageant is Greg May – not with magic, white or black, but with sweat, tears and toil (no blood). Every summer May and his cadre of coaches and counselors, including wife Sheryl and mom Betty, put their young charges through rigorous training. Every year their choreography shows imagination and originality.

His Following

“They (the kids) have so much energy. They are always coming up with something new,” said Scott Kincaid, manager of the Circus Camp.

“The kids keep him (May) going; they just love him; he has his own following,” said Becky Sutfin, Community Center coordinator.

Three generations of Liam McConlogue’s family showed up to applaud him and his comrades. Mother Miriam said Liam, 12, is “Awesome!” Sister Phoebe, 17, said Liam, a member of King Arthur’s Court, “is actually very good.” Grandmother Karren modestly exclaimed, “Oh, Liam’s the best! The absolute best!”

Counselor Joe Capotosto enthused, “Oh, they’re awesome! They’re so talented! This training sharpens their reactions,



PHOTOS BY TAMAR ESKIN

Greenbelt’s Youth Circus Camp put on its final performance of the season on Friday, August 9 in the Community Center gym. Spectators were dazzled by acrobatic feats in the air and on the ground.

Pictured at left, unicycle performers are from left Marley Groves, Edward Jahoda, Marzi Branyan, Megan Hruby, Mira Willson, Liam McConlogue and Bella Vignola.

Below aerial artists gracefully perform. Clockwise from back, Megan Hruby, Zachary Cheng, Silas Fishburne, Tyler Clarke and Natalia Rincon.

increases their quickness, helps them to think.”

Counselor Amelia Vignola, 16, who used to be a performer in the show, is now “happy to help the kids the way I was helped,” including her little sister Bella, one of the Fairies. The Fairies, by the way, are ballerinas – petite, graceful, acrobatic and strong – Marzi Branyan, Marley Groves, Megan Hruby, Mira Willson.

Three Surprises

Three gender-bending surprises involved Sasquatch, Hercules and the Tooth Fairy. After appearing four times, the 15-foot-high (great stilts!) Sasquatch was captured and revealed to be – a girl! Credit Julia Sharapi for humorously playing a tough role.

Hercules was also a girl, Marley Groves, who had a rip-roaring good time slaying a slew of bad guys and performing impossible tasks.

In the Tooth Fairy episode, the mean mom who spoils her children’s slumber party (“Go to sleep!” Who sleeps at a slumber party, huh?) turns out to be a boy! Credit Nick Willson for allowing his balloon-inflated behind to get punctured by his vengeful kids. And credit



the Tooth Fairy, Mira Willson (Nick’s sister) for rewarding everyone who lost teeth, which she had found under various pillows.

The audience was treated to scads of unicycling, sword-fighting, tight-rope walking and jump-roping.

The magical evening ended with all of us clapping in unison to Sister Sledge’s rousing “We Are Family!”



PHOTO BY BILL BOOTS

Trapeze artists are from top Megan Hruby, middle left Marzi Branyan, middle right Mira Willson; bottom Edward Jahoda.

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Look for the next issue for the free tasting times and dates.

Greenbelt is a great place for families!