



Greenbelt Councilmembers Reflect On Feedback from Door Knocking

by James Giese

City councilmembers held a post-election discussion on what was on the minds of the many residents they met while door knocking and campaigning. Reflecting the results of the election at which voters returned all seven councilmembers to serve another two-year term, the campaigners found general satisfaction with the city and its operations. Each councilmember heard residents support his or her own views on city affairs. Silke Pope said that compared to what people could have said, the complaints received were not so bad.

But as Judith Davis noted, "What people say to your face may be quite different from what people put in the city questionnaire or may say on line." She declared a need to hear comments from everywhere.

Mayor Emmett Jordan gave each councilmember an opportunity to report on what they had learned from talking to residents while campaigning. These comments are summarized and consolidated below.

Elections

Jordan said some people felt the city elections should be held along with presidential elections. Davis received complaints about voter apathy, low voter turnout and unsatisfactory facilities. Rodney Roberts said he heard support for younger people to run at city elections.

Council Tenure

Jordan said some people were concerned about lack of change on the council. Davis heard expressions of need for younger leadership and complaints that the millennial generation was not willing to help out.

Growth

Jordan said constituents were uncertain about having more growth in Greenbelt West and the possible advent of the FBI headquarters facility. Davis said people were divided over development, some feeling that there was too much while others feeling there was not enough.

Communication

Better communication throughout the city is needed, Pope was

told. The News Review is not good enough; people don't read it, she said.

Taxes, Affordability

Davis said that no one complained to her face that taxes were too high, but Roberts, who has complained about high taxes each time the budget is considered, said that he had heard a lot of complaints. With potential rehabilitation plans for the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) housing possibly increasing home costs, GHI residents also expressed concern about their ability to be able to stay here, Roberts said. He also said that you hear more about taxes from Greenbelt East residents where there are larger homes. And in Franklin Park, he said, residents were concerned about their rents going up.

Konrad Herling said he had also heard some complaints about taxes.

City Services

Pope said that people she talked to spoke highly about

See **COUNCIL**, page 9

Barbara Stevens Shows Her Art at the New Deal

by Elizabeth Barber

Hurry down to see the newest of Barbara Stevens' work at the New Deal Café. She has strung a necklace of radiant jewels around the walls of the Café, each jewel with a story of hope as well as a warning.

A combination of her newest work with some fondly remembered pieces of years gone by, this surpasses all her earlier exhibits, underlining the conviction that she is truly one of the finest painters Greenbelt has ever produced.

The show, beginning in the front room, is one of radiant color and a protest against climate

change. The show continues in the back room. There are over 40 paintings displayed in a continuous flow of energy and profusion.

Sometimes Barbara pushes her style – putting on lavish strokes of paint over paint – yet the color is never muddy and each shade stands alone shouting out the artist's message.

At other times, there is a more delicate technique, as in the gorgeous painting #36 entitled Green Hope Under Aztec Sun. It is a revised painting from 2013 with added tones of gold.

See **STEVENS**, page 6



"Little Miss Sunshine and Aztec God"

PHOTO BY BARBARA STEVENS



What Goes On

Sunday, January 3

1 to 3 p.m. Community Art Drop-in, Community Center

Monday, January 4

7:30 p.m. City Council Special Meeting, Draft Environmental Impact Statement for FBI Headquarters, Municipal Building, Live on Comcast 71, Verizon 21 and streaming at greenbeltdm.gov/municipaltv

8 p.m. Council Worksession, Cablecast Upgrades and Review of Digital Integration Proposal, Municipal Building

Wednesday, January 6

8 p.m. Council Worksession, Volunteerism Report, Community Center

Top Stories of 2015

The News Review presents highlights of major stories of the past year. The reviews were prepared by Judy Bell, James Giese, Kathleen Gallagher and Cathie Meetre.

GNR Tackles Technology

After six months careful planning, the News Review Board brought a key element in the cost and culture of the paper, its layout, in house. This crucial step – which turns a collection of drafts and photos into a newspaper ready to print – was fully integrated in June with no little nailbiting. A team of three hardy souls, each of whom is capable of doing the paper alone, lay out the paper each week. The paper has benefited from their local presence, innovative ideas and the removal of a potential single-point failure.

Thanks to this step, less expensive than contracting, the News Review has had some disposable income to invest in new furnishings and equipment. Continuing strong advertising revenues also gave us the cushion to experiment with color.

Almost simultaneously, we published our new website. Elegantly simple, the site provides a framework for us to spread our wings further as we evolve each of its sections – thanks to a grant from the Greenbelt Community Foundation and the services of Greenbelt's own Diamante Designs. Future plans include an expansion of our photo gallery and an experiment in accepting copy and advertising directly through the website.

We are still working through some of the ramifications of these changes on our internal systems so that we are efficient in using the new capabilities – but community response has been very positive and our advertisers are vying for space on our three available color pages. Our more dynamic electronic presence and eye-catching format may also be responsible for the uptick in volunteerism, especially among those with computer and management skills.

All this is encouraging. While so many small papers are going under, ours is building a new and exciting presence in the community.

Thanks to our staff, our advertisers, the city and council, and, above all, our community of readers. Here's to an even stronger paper in 2016.

The Greenbelt Forest Preserve

The 10th anniversary of the Greenbelt Forest Preserve in 2014 was punctuated by disagreements among members of the Forest Preserve Advisory Board (FPAB). In 2015 the arguments continued, ending in resignations by some FPAB members upon the selection of a contractor to assess and prepare a report on the health of the Forest Preserve.

FPAB became more visible this year than most city boards and committees as members polarized in their opinions chose to expand their roles by taking their arguments directly to the public, in part through letters to and advertising in this newspaper. Initially the divide was between those who believed no maintenance or direct management of the preserve should be undertaken and those who thought immediate maintenance was necessary to control invasive plants.

Eventually the debate expanded beyond interpretation of existing maintenance and management guidelines to whether modification of the document would ever be allowed.

When council determined last year to undertake the assessment of the preserve as recommended in the guidelines but never implemented, the debate continued. This time it concerned the credentials for the consultant to evaluate the state of the preserve and whether to narrowly interpret the guidelines or to undertake a more inclusive approach, given the wide range of factors affecting the health of the preserve.

In September, a majority of council authorized the employment of A. Morton Thomas and Associates to perform the assessment with the expressed support of a majority of FPAB. In November, the three opposing FPAB members resigned.

Forest Stewardship

Under the rubric of the Greenbelt Forest Stewardship Project, efforts to improve the quality of woodlands were employed in targeted areas of Buddy Attick Park. Included activities were tree plantings, wrapping and caging tree bases to protect them from beavers, removing invasive species by training area high school and college student Weed Warriors to recognize and remove invasives, removing trash and undertaking planting projects during National Public Lands Day in September and sponsoring volunteer training to remove English ivy in the park on Columbus Day.

Theater Reopens under New Management

On January 26 the Greenbelt City Council approved the

See **TOP STORIES**, page 6

Correction

Jacques Moukouri is a fifth-grade teacher at Dora Kennedy French Immersion School. We regret the erroneous identification in the December 24 issue.

Letters**Our New Deal Café Turns 20 This Week**

After the recent showing of the classic movie *It's a Wonderful Life* at the Old Greenbelt Theatre, my friend Joe Harris, former bar manager and music coordinator at the New Deal Café, saw me and shared this observation, "You know, the people of Bedford Falls are just like the people of Greenbelt." He explained that, in the same way that Bedford Falls residents supported George Bailey and his Building and Loan Company and kept it afloat during the time of their greatest need, the residents of Greenbelt, the patrons and the members of the New Deal Café have kept it afloat over the past 20 years,

See **LETTERS**, page 11



Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbelttheatre.org

Adults \$9
Senior/Student \$8, Kids \$6
Members receive a \$1 discount on all shows after 5:00 PM
All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Kids \$5
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions

**SHOWTIMES
Jan 1 – Jan 6**

JOY
(PG-13) (CC) (124 m.)
Fri. 1:00 PM, 3:30 PM,
6:00 PM, 8:30 PM
Sat. 1:00 PM, 3:30 PM,
6:00 PM, 8:30 PM
Sun. 4:00 (OC),
6:30 PM, 9:00 PM
Mon. 5:30 PM, 8:00 PM
Tues. 5:30 PM, 8:00 PM
Wed. 3:15 PM, 6:00 PM,
8:30 PM
Thurs. 5:30 PM, 8:00 PM

**MR. SMITH GOES
TO WASHINGTON**
(G) (129 m.)
Sun. 1:00 PM
Presented in 35mm!

**Remembering Greenbelters
Who Died in 2015**

Glenna Aaron, 69, January 27, 2015
Terrance F. "Terry" Aichele, 72, March 8, 2015
Jerry Anzulovic, 75, September 24, 2015
Ralph Salvador Arroyo, 74, April 28, 2015
Donna Sue Chambers Bailey, 60, March 6, 2015
Robert Bassett, August 28, 2015
Nettie Brockway, 79, July 27, 2015
Eileen Campbell, 79, February 12, 2015
George E. Cantwell, 86, October 15, 2015
Julian Clarkson, 14, August 28, 2015
Ronald J. Corazz, Jr., 47, September 15, 2015
Robin Jean Corbin, 58, February 16, 2015
Lucille Kalvass Coulter, 83, August 25, 2015
Don C. Davis, 90, April 24, 2015
Sean Davis, 41, August 14, 2015
Mary Madden Doman, 77, August 3, 2015
Walter Vincent "Vince" Dutton, 94, February 11, 2015
Thomas R. "Tom" Dwyer, 83, March 2, 2015
Donald E. Evans, 57, March 12, 2015
Ronald Fendlay, 60, July 17, 2015
Magdalene Mary Fuchs, 85, November 28, 2015
Winifred McNamara Greaney, 86, January 13, 2015
Barbara Jean Gremour, 69, July 6, 2015
Betty Marie Griggs, 85, February 18, 2015
Najla Haddad, 91, May 21, 2015
Walter H. Hanley, 82, August 22, 2015
Alan Edgar Harris, 86, December 11, 2015
John Hayes, 75, January 11, 2015
Rayetta K. Henson, 92, December 15, 2015
Judith Therese Holland, 75, July 4, 2015
James W. Hughes, Jr., 68, December 17, 2015
Charles E. "Mike" Jarvis, 96, February 4, 2015
Dale L. Jernberg, Sr., 91, April 5, 2015
Susmana Augustus Jones, Sr., August 20, 2015
Sylvia Kender, 95, December 25, 2014
Itsy Kliman, December 17, 2015
Sylvia Amos Kyle, 82, May 19, 2015
Elizabeth "Liz" Labukas, 59, April 23, 2015
Mary Ellen Lentz, 97, November 14, 2015
James I. "Jamie" Linkenhoker, Jr., 57, April 24, 2015
Nancye G. MacCord, 85, August 11, 2015
John Thomas Madigan, 55, January 9, 2015
Elizabeth "Betty" Kaser Maffay, 86, December 31, 2014
Berneice Irene Boswell Mast, 86, June 18, 2015
Jeanne McArdle, 90, September 25, 2015
Thomas J. McBride, 67, April 22, 2015
Richard A.M. Middlekauff, 81, October 7, 2015
Dorothy Suit Isele Miller, 84, March 17, 2015
Gudrun H. Mills, 89, October 24, 2015
Ruth Savoy Morris, 93, October 25, 2015
David A. Morrison, 80, September 23, 2015
Terry Arlene Mousley, 68, July 4, 2015
Kerry Douglas Mullaney, 26, February 20, 2015
Michael Joseph Mullaney, 63, September 12, 2015
Fred E. Murray, Jr., 66, August 2, 2015
Irene Myer Fulton Pavlish, 88, November 19, 2015
Edward Frank Pray, 93, December 15, 2015
Vasilios Psaromatis, 13, November 3, 2015
Helen Rafferty, 88, November 7, 2015
Kenneth Hal Reigner, 66, August 8, 2015
Barbara Anne Rexon, 85, April 15, 2015
Virginia Taylor Rexrode, January 13, 2015
Alan W. Rippeon, 32, April 22, 2015
Samuel J. Rolph, Jr., 32, October 22, 2015
Mary Burns Ourand Rosche, 85, August 26, 2015
Alejandro Santos, 7, May 23, 2015
Pamela Joanne Schaffer, 56, April 8, 2015
Willem Scheltema, November 6, 2015
James Joseph Schulz, 70, November 22, 2015
Jackie Hause Scott, 86, October 4, 2015
James Shanahan, December 28, 2014
Patricia Eileen O'Brien Shawker, 59, January 16, 2015
Jean Shifflett, 82, November 1, 2015
Gary R. Stenhouse, March 12, 2015
Douglas William Scott Sutherland, 81, January 8, 2015
Betsy Hartman Tropp, 77, January 8, 2015
Morton Tuckman, 82, June 29, 2015
Catherine Vanderzon, 82, November 14, 2015
Gerard J. "Jerry" Weber, 82, February 14, 2015
Margaret Manton Wersick, 83, June 12, 2015
Thomas X. White, 80, March 29, 2015
Jane M. Whitnell Wilcox, 72, May 13, 2015
Freda Lebowitz Wollman, 75, August 16, 2015

"My Two Cents" with Sense and Nonsense

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**Greenbelt
News Review**

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Cathie Meetre, president; Diane Oberg, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Sylvia Lewis, secretary; James Giese; Deanna Dawson and Tom Jones.

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and Classified Ads—8 p.m. Tuesday. Display Ads 4 p.m. Monday, 8 p.m. Tuesday if camera ready. 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, 6 - 10 p.m.

On Screen**Joy Continues at the Old Greenbelt Theatre**

David O. Russell's new film, simply entitled *Joy*, is in large part a star vehicle for Jennifer Lawrence as a more than standard issue American housewife named Joy Mangano with numerous problem relatives – and an idea. While contending with whacko parents, two young children, a difficult sister whose ex-husband lives in Mangano's basement and the difficulties of Mangano's own ex-husband, Lawrence's character manages to maintain both her sanity and a spark of creativity.

She comes up with the idea of a mop (yes, a mop) that can be wrung out without touching the head. The story then plunges into the complicated path of patenting, producing and distributing her new product. That part of the story is based on something that happened in real life.

Through all of this, Lawrence shines in her role and is effective in setting off the peculiarities of those orbiting around her. The rapid pace and constant chatter of Russell's style may bother some viewers, but Lawrence's performance will be savored by all.

PG-13. Running time: 124 minutes.

- Peter Curtis

Community Events

Upcoming Events At the New Deal

Thursday, December 31, Mid-Day Melodies with Amy C Kraft from noon to 2 p.m. Saskia and the Truly Unruly Band will perform a special New Year's Eve show from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Champagne at midnight.

Friday, January 1, the Café will be closed on New Year's Day.

Saturday, January 2, the TV John Variety Show from 11 a.m. to noon. Bruce Krittr plays classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m., followed by John Guernsey playing jazz and blues piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The Roustabouts will perform original upbeat blues music sprinkled with funk, R&B and rock from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 3, the Deaf Brunch will be held from 10:30 a.m. until noon. Later, By & By will perform traditional and original bluegrass music from 5 to 8 p.m.

Tuesday, January 5, The New Old Jamboree hosted by Ruthie and the Wranglers offers up old songs, new songs and special guests from 7 to 9 p.m.

Wednesday, January 6, acoustic duo The Vinyl Frontier plays classic light rock hits from the 60s, 70s and 80s from 7 to 9 p.m.

Thursday, January 7, Mid-Day Melodies with Amy C Kraft from noon to 2 p.m. SAW Open Mic hosted by Paige Powell from 7 to 10 p.m.

Friday, January 8, Guernsey plays American standards on piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The Bad Influence Band breathes new life and fresh energy into blues and roots music and also performs original songs from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 9, Krittr plays classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m. and Guernsey plays jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Four Star Combo provide some high energy 1950s rockabilly.



Happy New Year from the Greenbelt Arts Center

COMING IN 2016

Zombie Prom - January 22 - Feb 13
Directed by Jeff Lezniak

Bad Jews - March 4 - 20
Directed by Bob Kleinberg

Enchanted April - April 9 - May 1
Directed by Pauline Griller-Mitchell

New Wrinkles: The Middle-Age Musical May 13 - 29 - Directed by Helen LaRose

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!!!!

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

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

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

All meals include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk.

Menus for the week of January 4 are as follows:

Monday, January 4: Apple juice, lemon pepper fish, rice Florentine, parslid carrots, cornbread, fluffy fruit salad.

Tuesday, January 5: Grape juice, cranberry Dijon chicken, roasted potato medley, brussels sprouts, Italian bread, pineapple tidbits.

Wednesday, January 6: Cranberry juice, beef vegetable soup with crackers, fish sandwich, mixed green salad with French dressing, tartar sauce, fresh fruit.

Thursday, January 7: Pineapple juice, BBQ pork rib patty, baked beans, coleslaw, wheat hamburger bun, hot spiced apples.

Friday, January 8: Cranberry juice, baked potato with chicken and cheese sauce, sour cream, cracker, mixed green salad with Italian dressing, fresh fruit.

Library Mini-Comicon

On Saturday, January 9, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt library, George Kochell will introduce to the public the comic book/manga classes he leads for kids ages 9 to 12 and the graphic novel collection suitable for this age group at the library. The comic book/manga classes are held at the Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Stop by and meet some of the young artists and their creations. For more information about the classes, contact Barbara Simon of the Greenbelt Association for the Visual Arts, which manages the program, at simongava@yahoo.com or 301-474-2192.

At the Library

Weekly Storytimes: Wednesday, January 6: Preschool Storytime, 10:15 and 11:15 a.m., for ages 3-5, limit 20 people.

Thursday, January 7: Baby Storytime, 10:15 a.m., for ages 12-24 months, limit 20 people; Baby Laptime Storytime, 11:15 a.m., for ages birth-12 months, limit 20 people; Toddler Storytime, 4:15 p.m., for ages 2-3, limit 20 people.

Encourage your children to make reading a positive experience by bringing them to the library's storytimes. Each program contains a mixture of engaging activities and age-appropriate stories that support early literacy. Stop by the Information desk to pick up free tickets available on a first-come, first-served basis on the day of the event.

Weekend Events At Greenbelt Park

Saturday, January 2: Outdoor Stewardship Volunteer Event. Join the Invasive Plant Team as they monitor and repel the growing threat of invasive plants in Greenbelt Park. Participants will learn valuable information that not only helps the park, but can help protect vulnerable species in the region. Meet at the Ranger Station at 11 a.m. Event lasts until 1 p.m.

Monday January 4: Club 300 Senior Fitness Walk. Join Club 300 for a fitness walk with fellow seniors through Greenbelt Park. Length of walk is determined by the walker. Meet at the Sweetgum Picnic Area at 8 a.m. The walk will be cancelled if the morning temperature is 32 degrees or colder.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATe)

2nd Floor, Greenbelt Community Center, Suite 204
www.greenbeltaccessstv.org • Studio: 301-507-6581

Happy New Year!

Start the New Year right. Join us for the **free Orientation class** On Saturday, Jan. 9th from 10AM-12:30PM in the GATe Studio. We'll go over the policies and procedures to get you going in the right direction!

Interested in learning to edit? For members only

12 classes each, starting at 7:30 PM

Mondays, Jan. 11-April 4, Apple's Final Cut Pro X class
Wednesdays, Jan. 13-April 6, Adobe Premiere Pro Basics class
Thursdays, Jan. 14-April 7, Adobe After Effects Basics class

Do you have a video project that will serve or promote the Greenbelt Community?

Apply for the **Thomas X. White Memorial Scholarship!!**

The winning recipient will receive a 2016 membership as well as training for the Canon cameras and Adobe Premiere Pro or Final Cut Pro X non-linear editing software to bring that project to fruition.

GATe is now accepting applications through Mon, Feb. 29th

Guidelines are on the GATe website. The scholarship is open to all Greenbelt residents and Greenbelt organizations.

For the Channel schedule go to www.greenbeltaccessstv.org and click on "Channel".

Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

The presents have been unwrapped, lots of goodies have been eaten and the Golden Age Club is ready for the next year. There are lots of good programs and trips planned. The officers for 2016 will be installed in January.

The Seasoned Players will be at the Club on January 13. Come and enjoy the music and maybe join in some songs.

January birthdays will be honored at the pot luck luncheon on January 20.

It's that time again - to pay dues for the next year. Come out to meetings and help support the club and the officers. Visitors are always welcomed.

Many thanks to everyone who has worked and joined in this past year. We wish everyone a joyous and peaceful new year.

Delegate Washington Hosts Town Hall

State Delegate Alonzo Washington will host a town hall meeting on Thursday, January 7 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Youth Center gymnasium.

The format will be a panel/open discussion with members of the community. This discussion will be led by a panel that includes newly appointed Prince Georges County Police Department Chief Hank Stawinski; Maryland State Delegate Erek Barron, District 24; Sheila Isong, Center for American Progress Policy Manager and Dr. Kris Marsh, University of Maryland Professor of Sociology.

The topic of the meeting will be economic inequality and racial barriers. This is a follow up to the meeting Delegate Washington had in Greenbelt this past June.

ACADEMY STADIUM THEATERS
6198 GREENBELT ROAD
CENTER COURT OF BELTWAY PLAZA
301-220-1155
For directions visit www.academy8theaters.com
R = ID Required
(!) = No passes, (!!) = No passes weekend
* Not part of the morning and Tuesday discount shows
Most features are \$5.50 all day on Tuesdays; add \$2.00 for 3-D

Week of January 1

FRIDAY - SATURDAY
Star Wars: The Force Awakens PG-13
10:35, 11:05, 1:30, 2, 4:30, 5:15, 7, 9:30, 9:55
Alvin & the Chipmunks: Road Chip, PG
10:50, 1, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
Sisters, R
11, 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50
Daddy's Home, PG-13
11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 7:30, 10
Point Break, PG-13
11, 2, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50
Concussion, PG-13
10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7, 10
The Hateful 8, R
10:40, 2:20, 6, 8:30

SUNDAY
Star Wars: The Force Awakens PG-13
10:35, 11:05, 1:30, 2, 4:30, 5:15, 7
Alvin & the Chipmunks: Road Chip, PG
10:50, 1, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30
Sisters, R
11, 1:40, 4:20, 7:10
Daddy's Home, PG-13
11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 7:30
Point Break, PG-13
11, 2, 4:40, 7:15
Concussion, PG-13
10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7
The Hateful 8, R
11, 2:45, 6:30

MONDAY
Star Wars: The Force Awakens PG-13
11:05, 1:30, 2, 4:30, 5:15, 7
Alvin & the Chipmunks: Road Chip, PG
10:50, 1, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30
Sisters, R
11, 1:40, 4:20, 7:10
Daddy's Home, PG-13
11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 7:30
Point Break, PG-13
11, 2, 4:40, 7:15
Concussion, PG-13
10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7
The Hateful 8, R
11, 2:45, 6:30

TUESDAY - WEDNESDAY
Star Wars: The Force Awakens, PG-13
10:35, 11:05, 1:30, 2, 4:30, 5:15, 7
Alvin & the Chipmunks: Road Chip, PG
10:50, 1, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30
Sisters, R
11, 1:40, 4:20, 7:10
Daddy's Home, PG-13
11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 7:30
Point Break, PG-13
11, 2, 4:40, 7:15
Concussion, PG-13
10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7
The Hateful 8, R
11, 2:45, 6:30

THURSDAY
The Revenant, R 7
The Forest, R 7
Star Wars: The Force Awakens, PG-13
10:35, 11:05, 1:30, 2, 4:30, 5:15, 7
Alvin & the Chipmunks: Road Chip, PG
10:50, 1, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30
Sisters, R 11, 1:40, 4:20
Daddy's Home, PG-13
11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 7:30
Point Break, PG-13 11, 2, 4:40
Concussion, PG-13 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7
The Hateful 8, R 11, 2:45, 6:30

In Memoriam**Jimmy Hughes, Legionnaire,
Friend and Greenbelt Boy**

by Rick Ransom

James W. "Jimmy" Hughes, Jr. passed on to Post Everlasting, as they say at the American Legion, on December 17, 2015. He was 68. He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Veronica (née Denice), his son George (fiancée Michelle), his brother Edward (Judy) and his sister Judy. A son, James III, was killed in a car accident in 2008.

Jimmy was born in Washington, D.C., but became a true Greenbelt boy at the age of two when his parents, Jim and Mary, moved into the 8 Court of Plateau Place. In 1959, they moved to the Lakewood subdivision. Jimmy graduated from St. Hugh's Elementary and subsequently from DeMatha Catholic High School where he played football. He also participated in the Greenbelt Little League and later in adult softball. He liked to play cards and to hunt, often with long-time friend Gary Barbour. His sister Judy noted that he also enjoyed watching NASCAR races. His sister-in-law, also named Judy, added that he loved the beach and that they often sat and watched the sunset there on family trips. He was an ardent, life-time fan of the Yankees.

Jimmy served in the U.S. Army as a member of the Military Police and completed a tour of duty in South Vietnam. He was discharged as a Specialist E4. It is perhaps this experience that led him to take a job in the D.C. Government's Department of Traffic Adjudication, scheduling hearings. Jimmy rose to manager of the division before retiring after 30 years. His sister-in-law said that one of the creeds he lived by was "if you're ten minutes early, you're on time."

Upon returning home from the service, Jimmy became a fixture at Greenbelt American Legion Post 136. He worked for a number of years as the weekend bartender. He loved the Legion and spent many hours there both on and off work. He was playing for the Legion Softball Team when he met Veronica, who had come to watch a game with other Legion friends. After their marriage in 1985, Jim and Veronica moved to Beltsville, where Veronica grew up, and lived in an apartment for a time before acquiring their own home there.

I knew Jimmy as a teenager but we really coexisted in separate worlds. I got closer to him as an adult on my excursions to the Legion and its bar. When thinking of Jimmy, I am always reminded of Billy Joel's song Piano Man which, in one verse with some word substitutions, describes him: "Now John [Jim] at the bar is a friend of mine, he gets me my drinks for free [for a fee]. And he's quick with a

joke, or to light up your smoke but [and] there's someplace [no place] that he'd rather be."

Jimmy served as Post Commander in 1982 and subsequently on executive boards. Current Commander Mike Moore said that Jimmy was his go-to guy on procedures and past practices and that he was irreplaceable in that capacity. He knew the details of nearly everything in the building and in the records, as well as more members than anyone else. In the last couple of years, he retired from the bar to serve as assistant manager under Steve Messer, who remarked sadly, "I'm going to miss my buddy."

Jimmy was nothing if not practical. Another childhood friend and Greenbelt boy, Tommie Delaney, remembers a time when Jimmy was driving a muscle car he owned in his youth and Tommie asked him to show its power. Jimmy stomped on the gas and said, "Watch the gauges." Tommie said the speedometer needle rose rapidly while the gas gauge needle visibly retreated. Jimmy noted, "That's why I don't do that very often."

When my son died, Jimmy and Veronica touched my life in a personal way by attending the short service and reception at Greenbelt Community Church. Veronica said they knew the experience of losing a child, unfortunately. I will remember Jimmy fondly for his strong handshake, quick wit and smile and cheery greeting "How ya doin' Ricky!"

Our Neighbors - Hello and Goodbye

Dear Neighbors,

When Marat Moore tapped me on the shoulder at a plant sale near the city maintenance offices at the lake that summer – it must have been almost 10 years ago – she said that somebody told her I knew everybody in Greenbelt. The News Review was looking for someone to take over the Our Neighbors column, and she thought I could do it.

Well, it was true that I'd lived in Greenbelt almost all my life, and knew many people because of my eight children, my husband's ties to the American Legion and my church friends. I did like to write and, as a new widow after being a caregiver for a number of years, I now had a little more time. Marat said the only requirement was that I be willing to publish my home telephone number so people would call me. So I agreed to try it if I didn't have to be at the office for their late-night editing and could just send in my items by email.

In the years I've done the column, I learned that I certainly didn't know everybody, and that there are many kind, interesting, wonderful people in our town. Greenbelt is so much bigger now than it was when I grew up here and raised my children here. My news tended to be from the old center of town, from people who are grandparents now and as the years have gone by, more about funerals than about weddings and new babies. My hope is that the editors and the new person writing the column will be able to figure out a way to more closely involve all the newer areas of Greenbelt – East, West and in-between.

Hi

I have quite a pair of shoes to fill with following in the footsteps of Kathleen McFarland. I look forward to writing the "Our Neighbors" column in the new year, and continuing to share the highs — and sometimes the lows — of our wonderful community with News Review readers. I will be dedicated to serving all corners, so please let me know when you have news. I am reminded of this start-of-the-new-year quote from Benjamin Franklin (with some editing for the 21st century):

"Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better person."

- Karen Yoho



Congratulations to Eleanor Roosevelt High School Soccer player Roshawn Panton for being honored by The Washington Post as a player of the year. In addition, the Post named ERHS Soccer coach George Kallas and football coach Tom Green as coaches of the year for the metro area.

To send us information for Our Neighbors, email us at editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com or leave a message at 202-957-3072.



In this final column, I must thank Editor Mary Lou Williamson for her calm leadership over the years and Eileen Farnham for her guidance and patience with me in the early years. When people ask me what I like so much about Greenbelt, the first thing I mention is the Greenbelt News Review. It's simply amazing to me how this dedicated staff puts together such a fine paper and has been doing it over 75 years,

every week since the beginnings of Greenbelt – never missing an issue. Recently it's gotten even better, with the new website and color photos. It's been an honor for me to say that I'm on the staff. You may still see an occasional article from me about the olden days of Greenbelt.

Happy New Year! I'll see you at the Co-op!

Kathleen McFarland

www.greenbeltnewsreview.com



"God has created the world as one—the boundaries are marked out by man." - Baha'i Writings

Greenbelt Baha'i Community

1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918
Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com www.greenbeltbahais.org

ST. HUGH OF GRENABLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322**Mass Schedule:**

Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

GREENBELT
BAPTIST CHURCH

Come worship God with us!
Sunday School 9:45AM
Worship Service 11:00AM

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

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.
Join us for Holy Communion this Sunday.

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

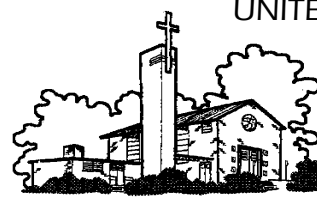


January 3, 2016 10 a.m.
"Our Song of Thanksgiving"

Guest preacher Anthony Jenkins; with Carol Boston, Worship Associate; and Dayna Edwards, Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration.

Greenbelt Community Church

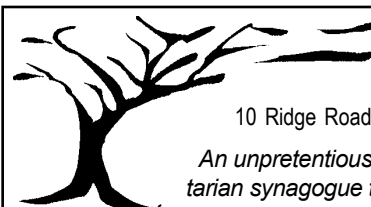
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



1 Hillside (at Crescent Road)
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.

Rev. Glenyce Grindstaff, Pastor

**Mishkan Torah
Congregation**

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM. Educational programs for children K-12 and for adults. Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children. Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program. Opportunity for leadership development. Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors. Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities. Interfaith families are welcome.

Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation



**Catholic
Community
of Greenbelt
MASS**

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

ALL ARE WELCOME.

MD Sierra Club's Priorities Reviewed

Greenbelt Climate Action Network (GCAN) will meet on Wednesday, January 6, 7 to 9:15 p.m. in the Community Center, Room 114. They will review the Sierra Club Maryland Chapter's state legislative priorities for 2016, which include:

- Extend and expand the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act
- Increase the share of renewable energy in the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) to 25 percent by 2020
- Drop the renewable energy credit in the RPS for dirty combustion sources like trash incineration, dirty biomass combustion and burning of black liquor
- Pass a beverage container deposit bill (bottle bill) that will triple the recycling rate for cans and bottles and reduce litter, incineration and landfilling
- Protect honeybees by labeling nursery plants treated with toxic bee-killing pesticides and by restricting their consumer use
- Ban the prophylactic use of medically-important antibiotics in livestock production

After an overview of the six bills, the guest speakers, Marion Edey and Martha Ainsworth, will lead in-depth discussions of the legislation to clean up the RPS and to adopt a beverage container deposit program in Maryland.

Edey is leading the Sierra Club's campaign to take the dirty energy out of Maryland's RPS. A long-time environmental activist, she serves on the Sustainable Planet grants committee of the Threshold Foundation and was the founder of the national League of Conservation Voters.

Ainsworth is chair of the Prince George's Sierra Club Group, a member of the Maryland Chapter Sierra Club executive committee and one of the chapter co-leads on the bottle bill. Zero waste – reducing, reusing and recycling – has been a Prince George's Group conservation priority for the past three years and has now become a state-wide Sierra Club campaign.

As always, GCAN will use the last portion of the evening for local announcements and updates on Greenbelt sustainability projects.

For more info, contact Lore Rosenthal at lore@simplicity-matters.org or 301-345-2234.

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Good, clean clothes for women, men and children!
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 Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111



City Information

MEETINGS FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 4-8

Monday, January 4 at 7:30pm, **SPECIAL MEETING re: Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for FBI**, Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Comcast 71, Verizon 21 and Streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipal

Monday, January 4 at 8:00pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION re: Cablecast Upgrades/Review of Digital Integration Proposal**, Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Comcast 71, Verizon 21 and Streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipal

Wednesday, January 6 at 8:00pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION re: Volunteerism Report**, Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

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

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

The Greenbelt City Council will hold a Special Meeting on Monday, January 4, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Council Room of the Municipal Building. This meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the Draft Environmental Impact Study (DEIS) for the FBI.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Federal Bureau of Investigation

For further information, please call 301-474-3870.

MOM'S MORNING OUT



This traditional pre-school program provides activities that encourage social development, offer beginning reading, math, & science curriculum, develop fine and gross motor skills, and lots of fun with peers. Children must be fully potty trained before they are eligible to register. Winter session begins on January 4 and continues until May 27. Registration is ongoing and space is limited!

Ages 3-4 years: Tu/Th 9:00am-12:00pm
 Fee: \$600 resident, \$720 non-resident (40 classes)

Ages 4-5 years: M/W/F 9:00am-1:00pm
 Fee: \$1160 resident, \$1392 non-resident (60 classes)

Instructors: Gaye Houchens, Brenna Lauer
 *Pre-School Program is licensed by the Maryland State Department of Education

Call the City of Greenbelt Recreation Department for more information at 301-397-2200.

VISIT OUR ADOPTABLE PETS OVER THE HOLIDAYS AT THE Greenbelt Animal Shelter

550-A Crescent Road 301-474-6124
 Open Wednesdays 4-7pm and Saturdays 9am-12pm



Ernie is an affectionate guy who came in with his buddy Tiger. Tiger was recently adopted but Ernie is still waiting for you to come adopt him! Visit Ernie and all his friends at the Greenbelt Animal Shelter!

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

See pets at www.greenbeltmd.gov/animalshelter

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Arts Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee and Youth Advisory Committee.

For information call 301-474-8000.

COMMUNITY ART DROP-IN

Sunday, January 3 from 1-3pm

Greenbelt Community Center-15 Crescent Road
 Free Art Workshops

Room 113: Painting Party with Kathy Karlson
 Room 204: GATe Open Lab. Watch young animators and try your hand at Flash.

Also, exhibit *Oriented Strands: Paintings by Chris Zick-efoose* in the art gallery. Museum exhibit is *The Knowing Hands that Carve This Stone: The New Deal Art of Lenore Thomas Straus*.

For more information about City of Greenbelt art programs, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts or call 301-397-2208.

Christmas Tree Collection

Your discarded Christmas tree can be recycled. The Public Works Department will pick up trees at the locations listed below and process them through the wood chipper. The chips will be used as mulch around trees and flower beds. Please bring trees to any of the following areas up until February 5, 2016.

GHI

- Ridge Road, 73 Court (opposite playground)
- Plateau Place and Ridge Road (corner on playground side)
- Research Road and Hillside Road (corner)
- Ridge Road, 44 Court (Area near playground)
- Eastway and Crescent Road (corner)
- Ridge Road, 21 Court (across from Green Ridge House)
- Crescent Road and Ridge Road (playground at junction)
- Parkway (corner across from 58 Court Crescent Road)
- Parkway (corner across from Community Church)
- Southway, 7 Court (playground at Little League field)
- Ridge Road, 11 Court and 13 Court area (area between courts)

Boxwood: Ivy Lane and Lastner Lane (playground)

Lakewood: Greenhill Road and Crescent Road (by Baptist Church)

Charlestowne Village and Charlestowne North: Property adjacent to Attic Park

University Square: In front of swimming pool

Lakeside North: Near Swimming pool

Franklin Park: Community building

Greenbriar:

- Between buildings 7708 and 7710, Hanover Parkway
- Between buildings 7728 and 7730, Hanover Parkway
- Between buildings 7826 and 7828, Hanover Parkway
- Between buildings 8003 and 8009, Mandan Road

Glen Oaks:

- Between buildings 7903 and 7905, Mandan Road
- Between buildings 7509 and 7511, Mandan Road

Hunting Ridge: Between buildings 6936 and 6978, Hanover Parkway

Windsor Green: Court entrances, picked up by WG staff

Greenbrook Village and Estates:

- Southeast corner of Ora Glen Dr. and Matthew Drive
- Southeast corner of Hanover Parkway and Greenbrook Drive
- In front of barricade at Mandan Road and Matthew Street

Greenwood Village

- Opposite 8175 Mandan Terrace
- Opposite 7646 Mandan Road
- Opposite 7648 Mandan Road

Greenspring and Greenspring II

- Southwest corner of Megan Lane and Craddock Road
- Park area between 7926 and 8006 Greenbury Drive
- Corner of Spring Manor Drive and Springshire Way
- Open area between 6519 and 6515 Springcrest Drive

Belle Point

- Corner of Vanity Fair Drive and Prince James Way
- Open area between 7800 and 7801 Vanity Fair Drive
- Open area beside 7962 Vanity Fair Drive

Greenbelt Village

- Open area between 6729 & 6715 Village Park Drive
- Open area across from 6632 Lake Park Drive
- Open area across from 6510 & 6512 Lake Park Drive

Darkness to Light's Stewards of Children Training

Hosted By: City of Greenbelt & Greenbelt CARES
 Tuesday, January 19, 2016 from 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
 Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road

Stewards of Children is a 1.5 hour, facilitator-led training program appropriate for any group of adults, to show them how they can protect children around them. The training uses real life survivor stories, expert advice, and practical guidance to empower you with the 5 Steps you can take to prevent, identify and respond to child sexual abuse. Beneficial for: Parents & Caretakers, Community Members, Clergy Members, and Youth Serving Professionals

To learn more or register, go to: www.bcaci.org/training
 Email us at: training@bcaci.org
 Call us at: 410-396-6147

TOP STORIES cont. from page 1

Friends of the Greenbelt Theater (FOGT) proposal to operate the city-owned Greenbelt movie theater as an alternative to multiplex theaters, with Caitlin McGrath, FOGT president, to serve as executive director of the newly formed nonprofit organization. Change orders increased total costs for the 10-month renovation project to \$1,265,775, a 14 percent cost overrun. Several hundred patrons paid 50 cent admission for adults to see what had been the theater's first film showing, "Little Miss Broadway" (1938) starring Shirley Temple, with free popcorn at the new Old Greenbelt Theatre historic single-screen movie house grand reopening on May 29.

Development Underway at Greenbelt Station

On February 25 the Greenbelt City Council received an update on the status of the Verde at Greenbelt Station rental apartments to be situated near the southwest corner of the South Core of Greenbelt Station nearest to North College Park and the train tracks, with a planned 2016 occupancy. The apartments will expand the housing mix of the South Core, joining condo apartments and townhouses completed and under construction by NVR, Inc. and Ryan Homes, Inc. to the east of the site, on the west side of Indian Creek. As of that week, NVR, Inc. had sold 32 large townhouses, of which 18 were already occupied, and more since completed. On August 19, residents of the new South Core neighborhood attended a city council worksession to review plans for a 2.7 acre neighborhood park central gathering area hopefully to open by spring 2016. Later, council reviewed plans for a pedestrian trail leading to the Metro Station with a side trail to allow Franklin Park residents to reach Metro from Breezewood Drive at Cherrywood Lane with opening planned around November 2017.

Meanwhile the General Services Administration (GSA) slowly moved forward in the selection process for a site for a new Federal Bureau of Investigation headquarters facility, with one possible location the North Core of Greenbelt Station near the Metro Station, a site considered a "game changer" for city economic development. In November GSA issued a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for three potential sites. A cursory review of the document found the Metro Station site would have the least impact on area roads, require the fewest parking spaces and offered the best mass transit. Only the Greenbelt site would not require shuttle bus service to the facility. At year's end, city council was developing its recommendations on the DEIS. With Maryland Senator Barbara Mikulski obtaining funds in the new federal budget for the facility, a site could be chosen and a construction contract awarded as early as November 2016.

Council Sees Need for Economic Development

Council began the year holding two worksessions to consider five consultant recommendations on city needs in economic development. Noting aging housing, an overabundance of rental apartments, high vacancy in office buildings and stagnant commercial growth, the Sage Policy Group report recommended increasing the amount of owner-occupied housing, tax breaks to encourage new construction and major upgrades in owner-occupied housing and in commercial property over 10,000 square feet, support for redevelopment efforts of Beltway Plaza Mall and action to bring about the upgrade of historic Roosevelt Center buildings. While councilmembers generally supported the recommendations, they were uncertain how to accomplish them. In a June presentation Stuart Eisenberg, executive director for the Hyattsville Community Development Corporation (HCDC), compared what other area municipalities are doing and spending on economic development. He recommended council establish priorities, considering the expense and time involved in doing a project as compared to benefits to be achieved, noting it can take years to achieve results. In October, council contracted with HCDC to develop a series of next steps in economic development, what types of programs the city might undertake and what county and state resources could be utilized, but put on the back burner identifying steps to take to implement recommendations by the Sage Policy Group.

See TOP STORIES, page 12

STEVENS continued from page 1

The paintings are done on canvas and some of the works incorporate space photos of the earth, sun and moon – a tribute to our neighbors at Goddard. The combination is one that grabs at one's attention and conscience.

The statements are bold and often unsettling but this is as it should be. The subject of climate change is very difficult to convey. At times, the feeling of dread is evident. We get the message: We are in danger and something must be done if the planet is to survive. Painting #34 shows the sun in a blazing gold with a sweet smile on its face, but pushing out from the sweet face are dangerous dagger-like images.

In painting #39, the Finger of God (painted in several shades of blue) is pointing to an earth now covered in shades of gold and red. The title is Global Warming Hope. It is as if God is saying, "Look well, ye earthlings and wake up and do something!"

Beverly Deiduch, who was also at the Café, wrote the following words about Barbara's intensely diverse and gifted talent: "The paintings are of a verdant opulence punctuated by bursts of orange, yellow and red. The works featured at the New Deal Café are a cosmic feast for the eyes."

Harriet Phelps added that this is an extremely impressive show of exceptionally dazzling color and should not be missed.

The exhibit has been extended through January 9. The art show program at the New Deal Café is sponsored by the Friends of New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA) with support from the City of Greenbelt.



"Hope Our Lady of Guadalupe Visits Climate Change Talks"



"Green Hope Under Aztec Sun"

Photos by Barbara Stevens

Town Center Realty
& Associates

Richard Cantwell/Broker 410-790-5099	Frances Fendlay 240-481-3851
Jeannie Smith/Assoc. Broker 301-442-9019	Mike McAndrew 240-432-8233
Mike Cantwell 240-350-5749	Mark Riley 301-792-3638
Christina Doss 410-365-6769	Mindy Wu 301-661-5387

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*May Your Homes and Hearts be Filled
 with Peace, Hope and Joy this Season
 and in the New Year.*

**HAPPY
 NEW YEAR**

**Call Us for a FREE Home Analysis
 and Home Buyers Assistance!**



PHOTO BY KYLA HANINGTON

Squirrel in a tree near Greenbelt Lake.

Send us your photos!

The News Review would like to print more photos of Greenbelt landmarks, activities and the changing seasons. Photos should be at least 300 dpi, and must include the name of the photographer, and a caption. The caption must name any identifiable people in the photo, as well as explain the picture. The photos will be black and white in the print issue but may be color on our new color pages or in the online version. Send us no more than five photos at a time.

Critter Camouflage At Patuxent Refuge

On Wednesday, January 6 from 10 to 11 a.m., children from ages 8 to 10 can learn why most animals use camouflage to hide, some of them advertising their presence with bold colors and bizarre behaviors.

This program, held at the National Wildlife Visitor Center, is free although advance registration is required by calling 301-497-5887. For more information, visit the website at www.fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent. The Visitor Center is on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197.

Botanic Garden Holds Free Tour

On Tuesday, January 5 from 2 to 3 p.m., a free tour of the U.S. Botanic Garden will be offered.

Want to visit a jungle, desert and tropical paradise? Want to travel back to the U.S. Exploring Expedition and the Jurassic period? Take a tour with a knowledgeable guide who will connect the exotic plant world to everyday life. You might see bananas, cacao and coffee ripening on the tree or learn about the next big breakthrough in medicinal plant research. No pre-registration is required.

AARP Identifies Some Charity Scams

Americans are generous people, donating at least \$358 billion to charities last year. As the tax year winds down, many of us are inundated with appeals for assistance. Unfortunately, the latest AARP research finds that some charities are not who or what they claim to be. AARP Maryland urges consumers to take some time and do their homework. Here are four things to know:

- If the appeal is an inbound call to your home, do not provide your credit card or bank information over the phone. A legitimate charity will be happy to follow up with additional information and a way to pay by mail or online. If they hesitate, hang up.

- Go online for a free background report from Charity Navigator, CharityWatch and the Wise Giving Alliance. This trio of major charity watchdogs rates charities on factors such as how they spend money and steps they take to protect donor privacy. (Each uses somewhat different criteria, so check short-listed charities with at least two, if not all three, watchdogs.)

- Bigger is not always better. In general the highest-rated charities spend at least 75 percent of donations on program activities; fundraising efforts and administrative costs shouldn't exceed 35 percent.

- If you suspect a scam, contact the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraud-watchnetwork.

Community Art Drop-In January 3

Bring in the new year with a splash of color. The Greenbelt Recreation Department Arts Program invites guests of all ages to a Community Art Drop-In on Sunday, January 3. Two free workshops will run concurrently from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Community Center. Guests are welcome to participate in either or both activities.

In Room 113, Artist-in-residence Kathy Karlson will lead a free painting party. All materials provided. Remember to wear your painting clothes.

In Room 204, guests can see young animators at work and try their hand at Flash at an animation open lab sponsored by Greenbelt Access Television.



DIGITAL ANIMATION STILL PROVIDED BY GEORGE KOHELL

"Animation Art by Rashaan"

Senior Stage Auditions Held

On Wednesday, January 6 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Prince George's County seniors ages 60 and up who are talented singers are invited to audition for a springtime show, Seniors on Stage, that will take place on March 30.

For audition guidelines and to register to audition, call 301-446-3400. Auditions are free and will be held at the Prince George's Ballroom, 2411 Pinebrook Avenue, Landover. Call 301-446-3400; TTY 301-699-2544 for more information.

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Sunday 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-0522

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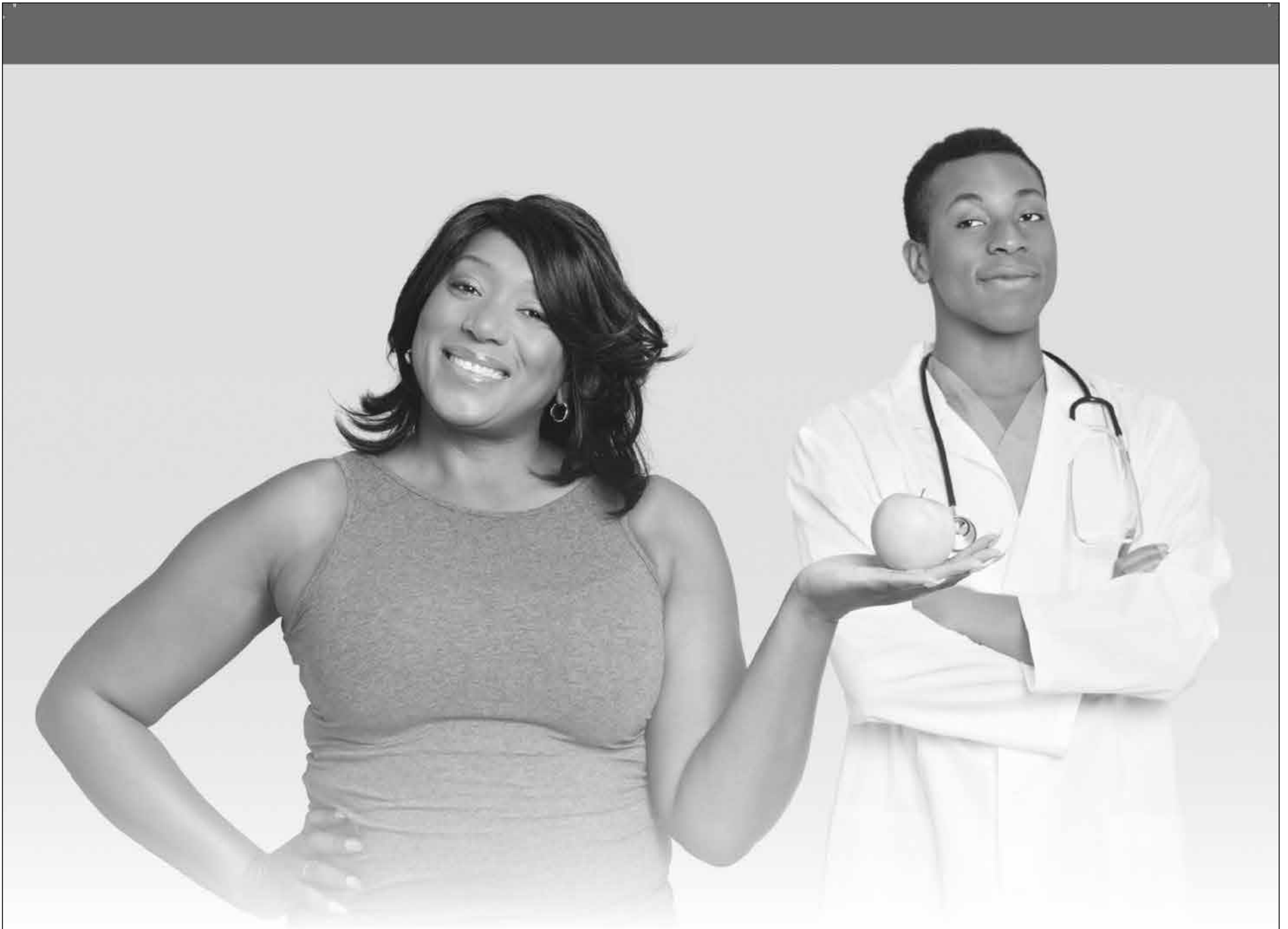
Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. until 7 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-4400
Closed Sunday

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All Natural Fresh Chicken Assorted 30% OFF	Red Ripe Florida Strawberries 1 lb. \$2⁹⁹	Florida's Natural Premium Orange or Grapefruit Juice 59 oz. \$3⁰⁰	Friendly's Ice Cream Assorted \$2⁵⁰ 1.5 Qt.	Sea Best Frozen Tilapia Fillets \$3⁴⁹ lb.
Fresh Value Pack Bone-in Southern Style Spare Ribs \$1⁹⁹ lb.	Washington State Crisp Apples Select Varieties \$1⁴⁹ lb.	Best Yet Assorted Cottage Cheese 24 oz. \$1⁹⁹	Lean Cuisine Assorted Entrees 6-11.75 oz. \$2⁰⁰	26-30 Size Extra Large Raw Shrimp 2 lb. \$11⁹⁸
Grocery Bargains			Grocery Bargains	
Green Giant Canned Vegetables Corn-Peas-Green Beans 14-15.5 oz. \$1⁰⁰	Campbell's Chunky Soups Assorted 15-19 oz. 3/\$5⁰⁰		Chicken-of-the-Sea Solid White Tuna 5 oz. 99¢	Betty Crocker Meal Helpers Hamburger-Chicken-Tuna 5-12.5 oz. \$1⁰⁰
General Mills Honey Nut or Original Cheerios 12-12.9 oz. \$2⁵⁰	Kraft Assorted Macaroni & Cheese Dinners 5.5-7.3 oz. \$1⁰⁰	Era 2X Liquid Laundry Detergent 50 oz. \$2⁹⁹	Nabisco Assorted Premium Saltine Crackers 9-16 oz. \$2⁵⁰	
Deli	Bakery	Hot Food Deli	Natural & Gourmet	Beer & Wine
Smithfield Virginia Ham \$4⁹⁹ lb.	Fresh Store Baked Club Rolls 6 Pk. \$1⁹⁹	Fresh Instore Cooked Whole Rotisserie Chicken Each \$4⁹⁹	Thai Kitchen Assorted Asian Noodle Bowls 2.4 oz. \$1⁹⁹	Busch Beer 6 pk.-12 oz. cans \$4⁶⁹
New Yorker White American Cheese \$5⁹⁹ lb.	Fresh Store Baked Fruit Filled Turnovers 2 Pk. \$1⁹⁹	Cooked Instore Freshly Steamed Shrimp \$8⁹⁹ lb.	Chocolove Chocolate Bars Assorted 3.2 oz. \$1⁹⁹	Enate Wines 750 ml \$9⁹⁹

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Professional Office Building
Suite 210
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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, www.greenbeltmd.gov/police

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

Robbery

December 21, 11:52 a.m., 6000 block Greenbelt Road. A man approached a cashier at the checkout counter at Marshall's Department Store, produced a knife and announced a robbery. After taking money from the register he fled on foot. He is described as black, 24 to 30 years old, 5'6" to 5'8" tall, 210 to 250 pounds, wearing a black jacket, dark blue jeans, tan boots and a black hat.

DWI/DUI

December 18, 9:54 p.m., Edmonston Road near Greenbelt Road. A 27-year-old resident was arrested and charged with multiple alcohol- and traffic-related charges after being stopped for a traffic violation. He was released on citations pending trial.

Arrest

December 16, 8:12 p.m., 9100 block Edmonston Court. Two Greenbelt men, ages 19 and 31, and three nonresident men, two 19 years old and the other 22, were arrested and charged with burglary after being discovered in a vacant apartment. They were transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

December 22, 7:44 p.m., 9100 block Edmonston Road. A 25-year-old nonresident was arrested and charged with burglary and trespass after he was discovered in a vacant apartment. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Theft

December 17, 11:14 a.m., 7601 Hanover Parkway. A laptop computer was reported stolen

from Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

December 17, 6:22 p.m., 7500 block Greenbelt Road. A man entered Game Stop and removed a laptop computer from the counter.

December 19, 12:08 p.m., 6000 block Greenbelt Road. An unattended purse was taken at Foot Locker shoe store.

December 20, 5:30 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive. A carry bag was taken from a residence where contracting work was being done.

December 20, 5:30 p.m., 7500 block Greenbelt Road. A man reported his wallet was stolen while he was shopping at Greenway Shopping Center. A credit card kept there was later used to make an unauthorized purchase.

December 22, 6:24 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane. A carry bag was taken from a residence where contracting work was being done.

Vehicle Crime

A 2007 Volkswagen Passat station wagon reported stolen December 9 from the 7800 block Mandan Road was recovered December 18 in the 5700 block Greenbelt Metro Drive.

A 2004 Cadillac Escalade SUV reported stolen from the 9100 block of Springhill Lane was discovered in the 5900 block of Greenbelt Road when officers were called to assist with a vehicle fire. Several power tools had been taken from the vehicle.

A registration sticker was taken from a vehicle in the 9300 block Edmonston Road on December 17.

A vehicle was spray painted in the 6000 block Springhill Drive on December 17.

COUNCIL continued from page 1

city services. Herling said that people he had talked to were pleased about how well the city performed services. Edward Putens said that residents were not aware of all that the city is doing. When that is explained to them, they become happy, he reported.

City Personnel

Herling said someone had complained to him about having 55 uniformed police officers. There was also concern expressed about the high number of pending employee retirements.

Crime

Greenbelt East residents expressed concern about the increase in crime there, Davis reported. Roberts said he also heard complaints in Greenbelt East with residents saying they would like to see more police on bicycles and on foot patrol – to see actual people so that residents felt they were getting something for their tax dollars.

Animal Shelter

Jordan also noted that people he spoke to were not clear about the issues raised about the "no kill" policy at the city animal shelter.

Dog Park

Residents asked Pope where the proposed new dog park would be located (not yet determined). Putens said he was told residents would like to have another one, but not near where they live. Herling noted that he thought residents supported the city providing another one.

Traffic

Leta Mach heard complaints about traffic in the city going too fast, the need for more speed bumps, particularly at Westway and Ridge Road, but also throughout the city. Motorists are not stopping for stop signs, she was told. Pope also heard traffic complaints and Herling, too, had heard the complaint about Westway and Ridge Road.

Recreational Activities

Pope was told that more weekend activities should be offered for toddlers. Putens said that in spite of their having many facilities of their own, Greenbelt East residents were supportive

of having more city facilities. Roberts, too, said that Greenbelt East residents wanted to have more recreational facilities. Pope was told that the pool needed updating to provide for better lap swimming. Also, a splash pool was proposed to her.

Performing Arts Center

Putens said that people he had talked to also liked the idea of having a performing arts center.

Community Celebrations

Pope said she heard advocacy for doing more of these.

Basketball Court

Mach and Jordan heard concerns expressed about a basketball court that was removed in the Windsor Green area and the need to replace it at a location possibly closer to the street. Putens said that the Windsor Green Homeowners Association was trying to find a place for one, but most residents are not interested in having one and there is nowhere to put it.

Forest Preserve

Jordan said that residents were not clear about the issues raised in the recent controversy about selecting a consultant to recommend how the city woodland should be maintained. Mach reported support for nonprofit educational activities taking place within the forest preserve.

Greenway Center

Pope heard concerns about the loss of the Old Navy store and the future of this major commercial center.

Roosevelt Center

Pope was told better signage was needed.

Green Ridge House

Putens said residents would like to see another senior apartment building built in the city. He thought the council needed to be proactive and try to get the owners of the former nursing home property on Greenbelt Road to build one.

Donate Blood During This Holiday Season

The American Red Cross is asking eligible donors to make sure a blood or platelet donation – the gift of life – is first on their holiday to-do list. To make an appointment, download the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Donors can use RapidPass to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, from a computer or laptop. Visit redcrossblood.org/RapidPass to get started.

A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are at least 17 years of age (16 with parental consent in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

For more information, please visit redcross.org or visit Twitter at @RedCross.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.
Call 1-866-411-TIPS.

Utopia Film Festival Presents
Sunday, Jan. 3rd & Wednesday, Jan. 6th
Beginning at 8 PM

"Experimental Video (2012)",
"Luck of the Draw (2009)",
"Cardboard (2012)", and "Superdate (2104)"

On Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATe)
 Comcast 77 & Verizon Fios 19 Channels



The Greenbelt Grasshopper

Welcome to the new "Greenbelt Grasshopper," a section just for kids! Want us to feature your artwork? Submit your name, age, and artwork as a .jpg to sfts7@gmail.com. Must be between the ages of 2 to 16.

Trivia Time: Lenore Thomas Straus, the creator of "Mother and Child" (found in Roosevelt Center), made the sculpture when she was only in her early twenties!

Riddle in the Middle: Q: Throw away the outside and cook the inside, then eat the outside and throw away the inside. What is it?

Joke of the Week:
 Knock Knock! Who's there?
 Marietta! Marietta who?
 Marietta whole cake!

Riddle in the middle answer: A: Corn on the cob, because you throw away the husk, cook and eat the kernels, and throw away the cob.

Today's Coloring Picture: Happy New Year!

Happy New Year, Greenbelt!



Peace on Earth

PRELIMINARY AGENDA
GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
 Thursday, January 7, 2016
 GHI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 7:30 PM

GHI Key Agenda Items:

- Review Marketing Committee's 2015 Report
- Review Communications Committee's 2015 Report
- Request by Member of 11D Hillside to Have HIP Contractor Install Full-view Serviceside Entry Door
- Contract for Sewer and Storm Drain Line Replacement at 18L-M Ridge Road, 1st Reading
- Review of Charges for Administering the Repair and Resale of Units that are Assigned to GHI
- Establish a Task Force to Recommend a Policy for a More Expeditious Transfer of Membership in the Event of a Member's Death
- Status of Marketing and Member Outreach Committees
- Proposed Agenda for a Town Hall Membership Meeting
- Review Draft Fee Deferral Agreement

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).

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ANALYST – Work on SOA infrastructure. Work on config plans to deploy composites. Write test cases for SOA composites. Code review & design discussions. Define/validate/doc operating env., states of tech, & IT/bus proc. Gather req., data profiles to maintain Jboss SOAP proj. MS in CS or Pub. Admin.; knwldge of/exp in dev. Projects in C++, leveraging tech incl J2EE, C/C++, Java, SQL, Ruby Rails, XHTML/CSS/JavaScript, XML, Apache/Tomcat, MySQL, Eclipse, Visual Studio, Windows, Unix, LINUX, HTTPS, Adobe PS, MS Office. Res to job loc; Paradyme Management Inc., Attn: E.O., 9111 Edmonston Rd, Ste 400, Greenbelt, MD 20770

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GET YOUR YARD AND HOUSE READY for the holidays! Call Next-Day Care for leaf removal, mulching, seeding, cleaning and any related services. Senior discount available. Call Dennis at 240-264-7638. Next-Day wants to thank the Greenbelt Community for another great year.

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BOXED: \$9.60 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$14.40). Deadline 4 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 8 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads.
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Letters continued

during the times of its greatest needs. I readily agreed with Joe.

I related this to Tom Jones, a member of the New Deal Café audit committee, and he added, "Not to mention the same kind of community support for the News Review and Co-op Supermarket."

The New Deal Café, one of our community and member-owned cooperatives, turns 20 this week.

Throughout these 20 years, thousands of Greenbelt residents, patrons and members of the New Deal Café Cooperative and others have supported the Café during its good and bad times. Members, patrons, volunteers, musicians, artists, poets, paid staff, board members, audit committee members and other supporters – enthusiastic, talented and devoted individuals all – as well as organizations like Friends of New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA), Reel and Meal at the New Deal and others, had one motivation in common: the survival and growth of the New Deal Café as a community meeting place and a vibrant venue for visual and spoken arts, music and dining.

Thank you, all of Greenbelt and beyond, for enabling the New Deal Café to continue to serve as Greenbelt's community living room. Here's to the next 20 years!

*Michael Hartman
President, New Deal Café*

Pepco Tree Removal

I live in Lakeside North Apartments and was distressed to discover this morning that tree crews were taking down two trees along the power lines/access road that parallels the complex. One is a magnificent pine tree that did not appear to be diseased or sick.

I'm concerned about the number of trees removed by Pepco in recent years. I understand

that they need to protect electrical service to customers, but I don't understand why a tree has to be removed by Pepco simply because it might fall in a storm.

Cutting down trees also removes habitat for wildlife and birds and decreases air quality in an area that is already very congested. Reduction in shade from tree canopies can also increase summer power use when the AC is on.

Is there any way for citizens to review what trees Pepco intends to cut? And if so many trees have to be removed, why isn't more consideration being made into putting power lines below ground?

Elizabeth Tobey

Kudos on Upgrades

Just want to give a loud yahoo for the recent improvements in the News Review print edition and your upgraded website. Really good color photos in the print edition as well as the website, much better quality than the usual bland black and white photos. The website design is also nifty and easy to use. One suggestion for the website: more photos should be added to the Photo Gallery if possible. I plan to continue enjoying the News Review every week. Keep up the great work and hope you all have a happy, healthy 2016.

Don Rich

Editors Note: We are planning to add more photos to the gallery and then keep it growing as time goes on – keep checking back.



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Home Energy Assistance Available from Maryland

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's (DHCD) energy efficiency programs are designed to help low-income Marylanders save money on utility bills; improve the comfort, health and safety of their homes; and repair or replace nonfunctioning heating systems.

Through the program, a home energy analyst will visit the home to conduct a comprehensive whole-house assessment of energy and health- and safety-related issues. Applicants must meet income and other eligibility requirements. Using state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment, including blower door, carbon monoxide and heat system testing and infrared scans, the analyst will develop a full-service, energy-efficient retrofit scope of work to be implemented by an authorized weatherization company.

DHCD also offers evaluations and corrective services to address lead paint, mold, asbestos, roofing issues and light rehab/structural issues, and can assist in the repair or replacement of nonfunctioning heating systems for qualifying individuals.

To be eligible for these programs, a resident's household income must be equal to or less than the equivalent of 200 percent of the federal poverty level. For a one-person family unit,

the maximum annual household income is \$23,540; for a two-person family, \$31,860; three-person, \$40,180; four-person, \$48,500; five-person, \$56,820; six-person, \$65,140; seven-person, \$73,460 and eight-person, \$81,780.

For more information, visit dhcd.maryland.gov/Website/Programs/lieep or call 855-583-8976.

Bonsai Exhibit Opens

The U.S. National Arboretum will present a bonsai exhibit, Winter Silhouettes, January 8 through 17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Special Exhibits Wing, National Bonsai and Penjing Museum.

Winter is the best time to enjoy the true mastery of the art of bonsai by observing the "bare bones" of the trees. With no leaves, the structure of a bonsai reveals how well the artist has created a miniaturized version of nature. The bonsai curator has selected notable trees from the museum's permanent collection for a formal display of these living artworks. This event is free.



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GHI Townhome - 2 BR Unit near USDA with washer and dryer on top floor. Fenced backyard with wood deck and large shed. Remodeled kitchen & bath. **SOLD**

Townhome on Corner Lot - 2 BR GHI end unit with finished floors, remodeled kitchen and bath. Nice! **SOLD**

3 Bedroom GHI Townhome - Backyard with view of park that backs onto large, mature trees. Open dining area - extra window. Dishwasher, too! **SOLD**

Corner Lot - 2 Bedrooms with large fenced yard and deck. New flooring and fresh paint throughout. Modern kitchen and granite counters. Very Nice!

Screened Porch - 2BR Townhome with fenced, corner lot that backs to protected woodlands. Butterfly, vegetable and perennial gardens. Peaceful...

Need to reach us right away?
Text 'Greenbelt' to 88000 on your cell phone and get an instant response! We can show you any listing in Greenbelt.

Scan here with your cell phone and go directly to our website! Search all of the MLS and more.

Columbia - 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA Remodeled townhome with maple floors. Front & rear decks. Covered parking in front. More than \$50K in modern renovations.

Two Bedroom GHI Townhome - Completely remodeled with new kitchen and bathroom. Refinished hardwood floors. Like new inside! Wide floorplan.

Priced To Sell - 2 BR townhome within walking distance to center. Sound-proofing. **SOLD**

Brick Townhome - Large Floorplan 3 B4. GHI with extra storage on main level. Large fenced backyard. Walking distance to Roosevelt Center. Roomy!

GHI 2 Bedroom Townhome - Ceramic tiled bathroom floor & tub area, double sink in kitchen. Fenced front & back yds. Adjacent to protected woodlands.

Brick Townhome - Extra Half-Bath - 2 BR unit with 11'x17' MBR. Luxury replacement windows. Remodeled kitchen. Beautiful setting. \$155,000

2 BR Frame Unit - Corner Lot - Completely remodeled by GHI. Fresh paint, new carpet and refinished floors. Modern kitchen with new appliances. Nice!

Priced To Sell - 2 Bedroom GHI townhome with remodeled kitchen - New appliances & more. Opened floorplan on main lev. Hardwood Flrs. \$109,900

Block Townhome - 2 bedroom townhome with updated kitchen. Modern kitchen. **SOLD**

Remodeled Townhome - 2 BR GHI home with French doors opening onto brick patio. **UNDER CONTRACT**

Brick Townhome - Corner Lot - Fireplace, double sink, hardwood flooring, vinyl, etc. **SOLD**

Corner Lot - 2 BR GHI frame townhome with large fenced yard. Remodeled throughout with modern kitchen and bath. Refinished hardwood floors.

Brick Townhome - 3 Bedroom GHI unit with new carpet and hardwood flooring on main level. Dining room converted into office space with lots of shelving. **UNDER CONTRACT**

**Your Greenbelt Specialists
In Roosevelt Center**

GILA Sends Greenbelt Prayers for the New Year

The News Review reached out earlier this month to the Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Community (GILA) asking leaders of our various religious communities for their hopes and prayers for Greenbelt in the new year. Here are their responses:

The Reverend Glennyce Grindstaff, Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ –

My biggest hope and prayer for our community in the new year is that we continue to seek ways to treat one another with kindness, respect and dignity honoring the wild and wonderful diversity that is Greenbelt. I hope that as we extend a welcome to Syrian refugees we continue to find ways to care for the people of our community who are here now and who need help. Our limited shelters are full, our food pantries are empty and care for the mentally ill is almost nonexistent. I pray that we find generosity in our hearts all year long as we continue to find ways to care for one another.

Jim Fischer, Secretary, Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Greenbelt –

We are thankful for the joy of living in Greenbelt with its diverse people of generous spirit and good will. May we enter the new year united in our friendship to all people, as a community whose children, youth and adults serve humankind with their words and deeds alike. "I charge you all that each one of you concentrate all the thoughts of your heart on love and unity. Thoughts of love are constructive of brotherhood, peace, friendship, and happiness." ('Abdu'l-Bahá, Bahá'í writings) Let us come together in prayer that Greenbelt may be a shining light of unity and hope for the future.

The Reverend Gloria Cline-Smythe, Good Samaritan Lutheran Church –

Thanks to the City of Greenbelt for another year when we



PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG

GILA members walk in the 2012 Labor Day Parade. From left: Rabbi Jonathan Cohen of Mishkan Torah, Jim Fischer of Greenbelt Bahai Community, and Rev. Fay Lundin of Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church.

were a part of several civic and religious activities but especially the Easter dawn service at the lakeside, the annual Labor Day parade and the once-every-two-years round table discussion with the mayor and council to present our accomplishments and challenges. Council's intention to share with the county executive's office the need for public weekend transportation to facilitate members of the various congregations attending worship service was well received. Our interaction with other members of the GILA has been of immense value as it enables the community to see Christians, Muslims and other faiths continue to peacefully coexist.

We pray 2016 and the future bring new security awareness and revitalized economic growth that would enhance the development

of the City of Greenbelt for the benefit of our various communities.

The Reverend Fay Lundin, Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church –

In a time when so much public rhetoric seems intent on producing fear and division, my hope and prayer for Greenbelt is that we continue to be a community that embraces diversity. May we respect and cherish our differences, while working together for what we value in common. May we care for each other and for our environment. I pray that we do not let fear prevent us from reaching out in fellowship to strangers as well as neighbors. Instead let us work diligently to ensure that justice, peace and love be hallmarks of our streets.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GLORIA CLINE-SMYTHE

Above: Gloria Cline-Smythe of Good Samaritan Lutheran Church.

Left: Rev. Fay Lundin of Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church and Rev. Glennyce Grindstaff of Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ, at the Blessing of Animals last fall.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL GRINDSTAFF

TOP STORIES cont. from page 6

Thomas X. White Dies

Longtime former Greenbelt Councilmember and community activist Thomas X. White, 80, died March 29, 2015, after battling cancer for two years. He was a 30-year member of the city council, serving as its mayor pro tem four terms; Greenbelt Homes, Inc. board and committee member; GATE board member; founding board member of the Greenbelt Community Foundation and News Review board president and city council reporter. Mr. White contributed his entire adult life to those institutions he found important to a good life in Greenbelt. During his student years he began a life-long career in the rapidly expanding biotechnology field. Following his retirement from council in 2003, more than 150 people attended his party, where he received many accolades and proclamations. Mr. White had the last word: "I've had a great ride. I have enjoyed serving you for 30 years."

Elaine Skolnik Retires

The grand dame of the Greenbelt News Review, Elaine Skolnik, retired from the staff this year after more than 60 years of volunteer service. Skolnik, her husband Alfred and their children came to live in Greenbelt in 1952. It wasn't long before she became involved with the News Review, writing the Our Neighbors column, covering council meetings and conducting research on a continual basis. She inherited the role of president of the paper from her husband after his untimely death in 1977. For many years she spent countless hours on the phone with important officials always digging to get the real scoop on issues important to the city.

On May 30, the News Review hosted a retirement luncheon for Skolnik where she was gently roasted and mightily applauded.

City Election

The November 2015 city council election was the first in 26 years where four challengers chose to run for office against a full complement of incumbents and with no vacant seats. Once again the incumbents won. The top challenger missed being elected by only 135 votes. Emmett Jordan maintained his position as lead vote-getter and was re-elected to his fourth term on the council and his second term as mayor. Judith Davis retained her position as mayor pro tem. Perhaps attributable to the extra competition, there was an uptick of about six percent in voter turnout.

School Named for Dora Kennedy

At the beginning of the 2014 academic year, the county's French Immersion School moved into the recently renovated building that had been vacated by Greenbelt Middle School. On July 1, 2015, the school adopted its new name: Dora Kennedy French Immersion School. A supporter of total language immersion for all elementary and secondary students, Dr. Dora F. Kennedy was the first foreign language supervisor for Prince George's County Public Schools and introduced the system's first immersion language program 30 years ago.

Some changes that have occurred since the move include: for the first time in many years the school, which carries a long waiting list, is now adding about 25 students each year; the fifth-grade now has permanent classrooms, new furnishings and up-to-date technology; and after hours, the whole building is alive with activities such as Destination Imagination and three environmental clubs – E.S.W.A.T., Environmental Entrepreneurs and Green Team.

Greenbelt Welcomes Refugees

On December 14 the city council agreed to send a letter to Governor Larry Hogan, with copies to Greenbelt's county, state and federal elected delegations, expressing the city's openness to receiving refugees from Syria or other parts of the world where terrorism has forced people from their homes.

On November 23, a residents' petition urged the city council to join other local governments from Maryland and across the nation in supporting President Obama's goal to admit refugees, despite the opposition of governors of more than half the states, including Maryland. The letter further asks that Maryland's governor reconsider his stand.

The city's letter highlights Greenbelt's Community Pledge, which speaks to the city's commitment to diversity and tolerance. It also suggests that the State of Maryland remember its own origins as the birthplace of religious freedom in our nation.

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