



Fall/Winter 2019

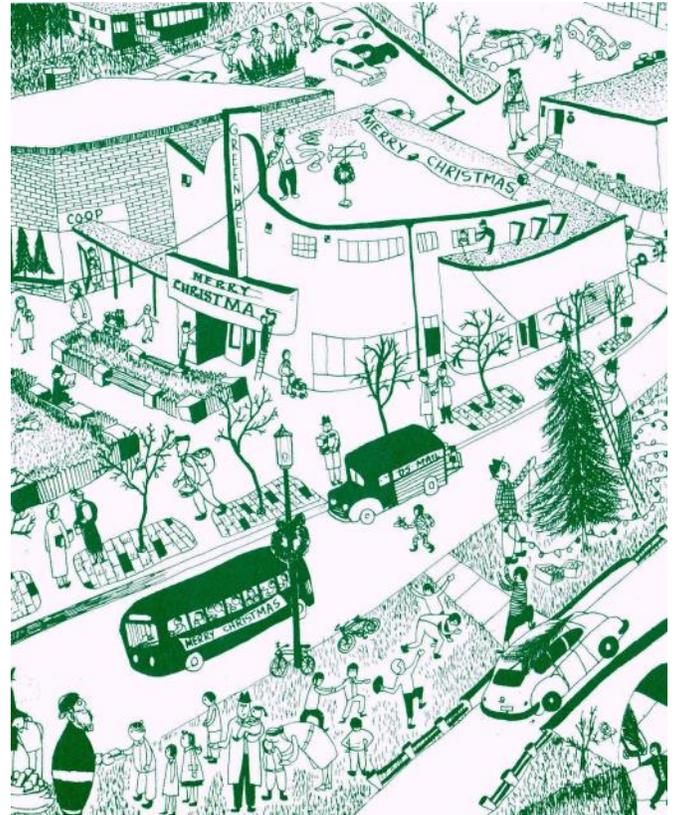
Utopian

Season's Greetings from the Museum

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It's been a busy year for the Museum! Plans are moving ahead for our new Education and Visitor Center at 10A Crescent (see page 3 for details). We've begun an exciting new partnership with Airbnb and Atlas Obscura to offer tours of historic Greenbelt via Airbnb, and we are collaborating with the Old Greenbelt Theatre to install our timeline exhibit in their new space.



The image above is a holiday card created by long-time Greenbelt resident and cartoonist, Izzy Parker. The bustling scene captures Greenbelt's downtown area, now known as Roosevelt Center.

These initiatives are in addition to our ongoing work: Sunday open hours, walking tours, assisting with research, offering special programs and events like the lecture series, Retro Town Fair, and Deco the Halls. You make all of this possible! Because the Museum is a partnership between the City of Greenbelt and the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum, we rely on our

members, donors, visitors, gift shop patrons, social media followers, and more to help us succeed in our mission - to share Greenbelt's history and New Deal legacy with as many people as possible. We could not do what we do without your ongoing support! We invite you to renew your member-

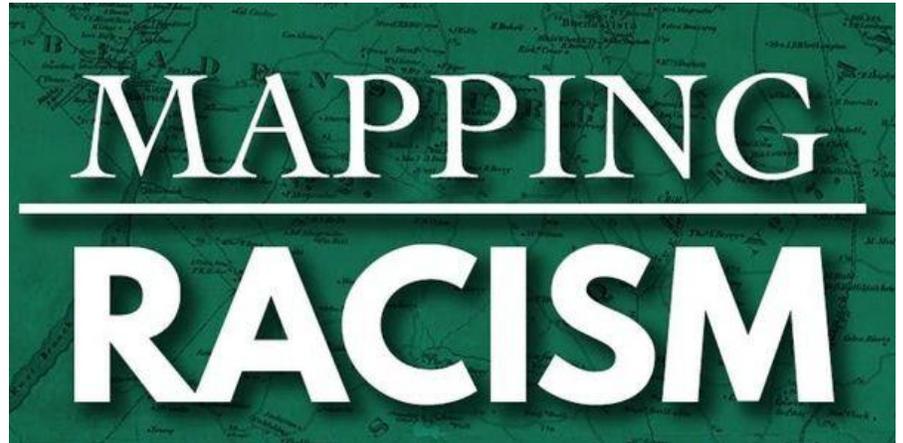
ship, make a year-end donation, or simply sign up for our electronic newsletter to help us spread the word about the important history of our community. For more information about how you can support our efforts, please visit www.greenbeltmuseum.com.



This wintry scene featuring tall snow-covered trees, brick homes, and two residents walking along a pathway, was produced as a postcard with the words, Greenbelt, MD in the foreground, c.1938. Greenbelt Museum Collection.

October Lecture Explored Housing Discrimination

On October 17, Stuart Eisenberg, Executive Director of the Hyattsville Community Development Corporation (HCDC), gave a lecture in which he shared research he has been doing in the region about restrictive deed covenants. These land and property use restrictions became commonplace in the first half of the 20th century as tools for racial segregation, requiring that certain homes could only be sold to white buyers. He offered many examples of this systemic racism and shared how he and others are working to make sure these covenants are removed. Mapping Racism is a multi-faceted project led by the HCDC which, according to Eisenberg, has shined a light upon the historic use of



these racially-restrictive deed covenants in the area. The project has employed dance, theatrical experiences, and a series of workshops to focus on remnant, built structures with legacies of segregation. The project also speaks to how local communities have coped with these challenges. Project partners include Joe's Movement Emporium, Prince George's African American Museum and Cultural Center, Ally Theater, Orange Grove Dance, the City of Hyattsville and the towns of North Brentwood and Brentwood.

Thanks for Coming Out to Our Holiday Events!

We had a great turnout at our recent holiday events. Many of you walked over to the Museum house

following the City's tree lighting on December 6. The



house looks quite different at night decorated with vintage holiday decorations from the '30s, '40s, and '50s.

The tree, adorned with large old-fashioned lights and vintage ornaments, is always popular. Just next to the tree we have our



menorah on display, as well as two children's books about Hanukah. We had nearly 65 people come through and sales in the gift shop were brisk!

The next two days we saw many more of you at our Festival of Lights tables. All of the profits from our gift shop sales go towards Museum programs, so thank you for your patronage!

Margaret Poore, who lived in Greenbelt's defense housing as a child, brought us a gift of several boxes of vintage ornaments! Here she is adding one to the tree. Another visitor brought us old Greenbelt phone directories, which are extremely valuable to researchers! Above, a Hanukah book on display from the Museum Collection.

2020 Greenbelt Museum Lecture Series

Iconic Planned Communities and the Challenge of Change

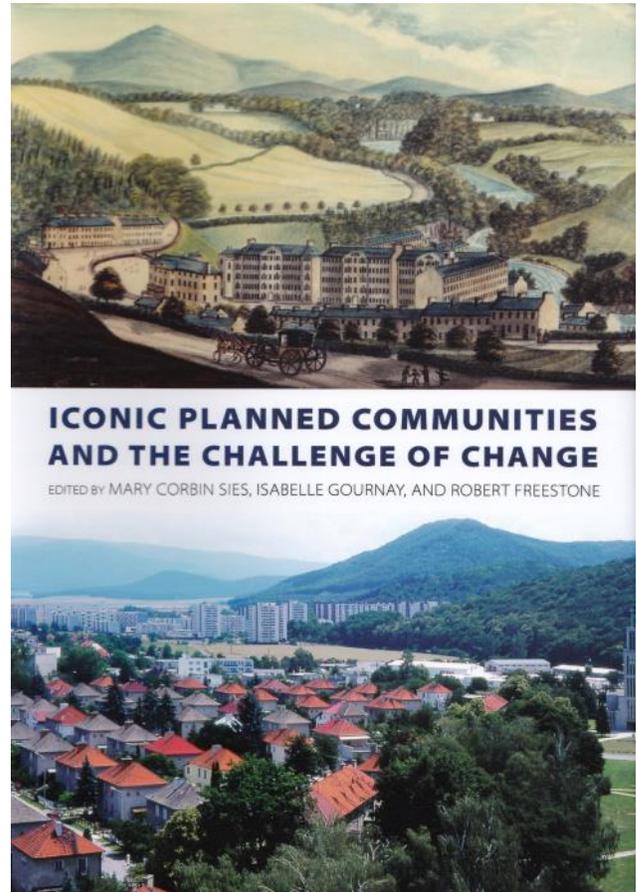
Lecture & Book Signing

with Mary Corbin Sies and Isabelle Gournay

Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 7:30pm

Join us on Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 7:30pm at the Greenbelt Community Center for a lecture and book signing with Mary Corbin Sies and Isabelle Gournay, who along with Robert Freestone, are the editors of the new book, *Iconic Planned Communities and the Challenge of Change*. In the history of planning, the design of an entire community prior to its construction is among the oldest traditions. *Iconic Planned Communities and the Challenge of Change* explores the 21st-century fortunes of planned communities around the world. Drawing on interdisciplinary perspectives, the editors and contributors examine what happened to planned communities after their glory days had passed and they became vulnerable to pressures of growth, change, and even decline. Gournay and Sies wrote a chapter in the book on Greenbelt. They will be signing books after the lecture. Reserve your copy of the book today, and pay the night of the lecture, by visiting the lecture page at greenbeltmuseum.org.

The lecture is sponsored by the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum and the City of Greenbelt. The lecture is *free*, but you must sign up for a ticket via [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com), limit 2 per



registrant. Limited seating may be available at the time of the lecture for those without reservations, but please plan arrive early if you did not register in advance. Thank you!

Update on 10A Education and Visitor Center



The FOGM Board is proud to announce that they have been working with Christopher Weston (Principal) and Neharikha Nallacheruvu of Old Line Architects. The firm will provide architectural services for the conver-

sion of 10A Crescent Road from a residence into the Greenbelt Visitor and Education Center. Deliverables include: measured drawings, renderings, constructions

specifications, a list of furnishings, and cost estimates. The Board and staff have been refining initial drawings that will then go to both City Council and Greenbelt Homes, Inc. for review and approval. Thus far FOGM has raised over \$175,000 towards the project through grants, naming opportunities, and individual donations. If you'd like more information about the project and/or to support it, please contact us at 301-507-6582 or info@greenbeltmuseum.org.

Looking Ahead to 2020!

We have several programs that we've already been working on for 2020 including a Women's History Month event in March, a lecture by writer and cultural historian Mark Opsasnick tentatively scheduled for April, a light-hearted event called Jello In July, and so much more! We hope you'll stay tuned for more details and information.

This colorful 1932 Jello recipe booklet in the



Greenbelt Museum's collection describes the new product: "As powdery and fine as new fallen snow, this new Jello holds in each tiny crystal an incredible store of pure fruit flavor!" It contains recipes for Prune Whip and Sea Dream Salad among other treasures.



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Greenbelt Maryland, 20770
Phone: 240-542-2066

Tours
240-542-2064

Greenbelt Museum Calendar of Events

January

16 Lecture & Booksigning, *Iconic Planned Communities and the Challenge of Change*, Greenbelt Community Center, Room 201, 7:30pm. Please register via Eventbrite.

February

22 Save the Date! Panel Discussion: Desegregating Greenbelt, Greenbelt Community Center, Room 201, part of City of Greenbelt Black History Month programming, 2-4pm.

Exhibition: *The Knowing Hands That Carve This Stone: The New Deal Art of Lenore Thomas Straus*, on view at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, open daily.

Group or Walking Tours: Book a tour! Tours are \$10/person for groups of 4 or more & we kindly request that you book in advance. To schedule a tour call 240-542-2064 or email to education@greenbeltmuseum.com. Thanks!

Would you like to receive our email newsletter? Sign up at www.greenbeltmuseum.org

Join the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum

Membership Benefits: unlimited admission to the Museum's historic house, 10% discount in our gift shop, mailed newsletter *The Utopian*, invitations to lectures and events, members-only programs, and the knowledge that you are helping to preserve Greenbelt's history.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Yes, I'd like to make a gift in addition to my membership \$ _____

Please make check payable to Friends of the Greenbelt Museum, mail to PO Box 1025, Greenbelt MD 20768 or **join securely on-line at GreenbeltMuseum.org**. FOGM is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Thank you!

Standard Membership

\$25.00 Student/Senior, all benefits above

\$35.00 Adult, all benefits above

\$75.00 Family, all benefits above

Supporting Membership

Resettler \$250.00 All standard membership benefits plus recognition on an annual donor roster, print of WPA

Cooperator \$500.00 All standard membership benefits plus private walking tour for 5

Tugwell \$1000.00 All standard membership benefits plus behind the scenes tour or curator case opportunity

Roosevelt \$5000.00 All standard membership benefits plus dinner for two in the historic house