

VOL. 81, No. 17

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



Party, p.16

**Inside Stories** 



MARCH 22, 2018

# Turner Hears Greenbelt Issues, **Discusses Zoning and More**

#### by Amy S. Hansen

County Councilmember Todd Turner touched on county zoning rewrite concerns, the FBI headquarters and other issues during his listening session held in the Municipal Building on March 15.

The meeting, attended by about a dozen people including five city councilmembers, started with Turner highlighting developments in the county including the opening of the new Wayne Curry county administration building in Largo, as well as the MGM Casino in National Harbor.

Concerning the ongoing zoning rewrite, Turner introduced Project Manager Chad Williams who works for the Prince George's County Park and Planning Commission. The zoning rewrite, the first one in 51 years, has been underway since 2014 and Williams' group is nearing the completion of their part of it. He hopes to have the 220page report to the county council by the end of the month. The proposal will then go through the legislative process, taking a minimum of 18 months with more opportunities for public interaction.

Turner acknowledged that many of the people in the room were ready to speak to the zoning. "The elephant in the room, at least for Greenbelt, is the RPC [Residential Planned Community] and neighborhood conservation overlay zone," he said, asking Williams to address that issue directly.

An RPC zone overlay basically leaves the zones as they were so the new zoning code will not affect them.

Williams said the commission

See TURNER, page 6

ERHS Step Teams Carry On Tradition of Excellence

by Caroline Hanks



The Eleanor Roosevelt High School Step Teams

Members of the Eleanor sional international step-dance Roosevelt High School step squads work hard to carry on their teams traditions of success and commitment. At the 2017 Youth Step USA National Championships, the squads for both boys and girls, known as Dem Raider Boyz (DRB) and The Lady Raiders respectively, claimed the top spots. Both squads recently won their regional competitions that qualified them for the Youth Step USA national championship, which will be held on May 26 in Newark, N.J. Stepping is a dance tradition that has grown from song and dance rituals practiced by African American fraternities and sororities starting in the early 20th century. The dance form has produced competitions on local, regional and national levels on college campuses and at schools, churches and community organizations, according to the website for Step Afrika!, the first profes-

company.

DRB step squad was founded on September 21, 2001. A founding member of the squad, Richard Melvern, now coaches the DRB, a position he started after graduating from ERHS in 2003 while he attended the University of Maryland. He said he believes his role as the squad's coach is not confined to teaching members how to step or creating the choreographed routines for competitions.



A postal worker crosses the street during the snowstorm on the second day of spring.

# Old Greenbelt Theatre Managers Describe Successes, Challenges

#### by Melissa Sites

Old Greenbelt Theatre has become a destination for visitors from around the area, encouraging nonresidents to spend their money not only at the theater but also at other businesses here in Greenbelt, according to Caitlin McGrath, executive director of the theater. McGrath, along with members of the Friends of Greenbelt Theatre (FOGT) board of directors led by its Chair and Treasurer Cathy Jones, presented a funding and revenue analysis to city council during a March 14 worksession.

According to McGrath's report, the City of Greenbelt's \$50,000 investment draws 40,000 people to Roosevelt Center annually. Agreeing with McGrath's findings, Mayor Emmett Jordan responded, "The theater is one of the economic drivers for Roosevelt Center, and it is a gem."

The Old Greenbelt Theatre has operated as a community-based

nonprofit, under the direction of FOGT, since spring 2015. The theater has shown impressive growth in programming and membership since the group took over operations shortly after the renovation in 2014-2015. Councilmember Leta Mach declared that the city's financial support has paid off, saying "The best economic development we've ever done in Roosevelt Center is

See THEATRE, page 6

# **Council Begins National Search** For Next Greenbelt Police Chief

#### by Kathleen Gallagher

At its March 12 regular meeting, city council voted to authorize engaging the services of a firm to conduct a national search for the city's next chief of police. Chief James Craze retired in October 2016 with 45 years of service to the city and more than 50 served more than 30 years in the Greenbelt Police Department.

Up to \$30,000 was budgeted for the search. In December 2017 the city advertised a Request for Qualifications for police chief recruitment services and three firms responded, with estimates in the \$22,000 to \$30,000 range. The city manager, assistant city manager and director of human resources reviewed the responses and selected Springsted Waters

Executive Recruitment firm of St. Paul, Minn., as their first choice.

A strong factor in the decision was that this firm was recently employed locally for police chief searches by Rockville and Takoma Park, and these cities provided positive recommendations. Not only is Springsted Waters familiar with the local market, but Greenbelt will be able to benefit from

"I work hard to instill discipline, respect, a great work ethic and a desire to strive for excellence in everything that they do," Melvern says. "Their success off the stage is just as important to me as their success on the stage."

The squad's first-place finish was the second consecutive time and third time in its history DRB has won the Youth Step USA national title. This past year, the members of The Lady Raiders Step Squad joined their brother

See STEP TEAMS, page 9

in law enforcement. At that time, former City Manager Michael McLaughlin appointed Deputy Chief Thomas Kemp as interim chief of police, who himself has

See POLICE, page 15

#### What Goes On

Monday, March 26 8 p.m., City Council Meeting, Municipal Building Tuesday, March 27 6 to 7:30 p.m., Coffee with the Chief (See city ad for details.)

#### Wednesday, March 28 7:30 p.m., Council Budget

Worksession, Community Cen-

#### Thursday, March 29

8 p.m., Council Worksession (Closed), Community Center



Zoe Rohrbach, age 9, enjoys a snowball fight.

# **Letters to the Editor**

#### Women Benefit Too

Regarding the article titled Safe Haven Churches Offer Shelter, Food to Homeless, I couldn't help but notice some misinformation within the article.

It says in the article: "The other shelter, Warm Nights, is for families only," when referring to the categories of homeless being served.

I used to work for Warm Nights as a shelter manager. Warm Nights is funded by the county and is handled by Community Crisis Services, Inc. Warm Nights provides shelter for men, women and families so homeless women are able to benefit from these services.

> Pat McCoy, M.S. Addiction Psychology

#### Daylight Saving Time: What Benefits?

I am in third grade and since daylight saving just happened, we had to do a daylight saving worksheet. The last thing you had to do was choose between three options, one of which was a letter to the editor. So I thought, why not write a real letter to the editor?

My feelings on daylight saving are that it's silly. There are some benefits of daylight saving, like getting to play longer after school. But daylight saving also makes me a little more sleepy when I have to get up. Other than that, it's just changing a clock. I don't think there is any point in changing what we made. One day in March is the same as the next as far as the Earth's rotation, even if 9:00 is 8:00.

Rowan Kelly

#### Zoning Rewrite

A newsletter was recently delivered to GHI members containing an article regarding zoning and how it affects GHI.

I would like to offer a correction to one item in the article. It states "Because GHI is near a public transportation node (Greenbelt Metro station) and has immediate access to regional roadways, it is at risk of being included in a new zone with higher density." This statement is incorrect. Under the proposed zoning rewrite all properties currently zoned Residential Townhouse (RT), such as GHI, will be mapped to a new zone closest in density, character and purpose to the existing zone. This proposed

regarding the zoning rewrite. I think it is imperative for those interested in protecting Old Greenbelt to reach out to our elected officials now and to let them know we need a cap in density (dwelling units per acre) included in the new zoning ordinance. The proposed new zoning ordinance will be introduced as legislation shortly. Contact Dannielle Glaros, chair (dmglaros@co.pg.md.us) and Todd M. Turner, vice chair (District4@co.pg.md.us) of the county council and request that a footnote be included in the text of the new zoning legislation which caps residential density, at existing levels, in Greenbelt's National Historic Landmark District. This will ensure old Greenbelt is protected from increased density until such time as a community-based Greenbelt Neighborhood Conservation Overlay Zone (NCOZ) is developed and adopted that includes such a density cap. Now is the time to speak up before the county council adopts the new ordinance.

Molly Lester

#### Poetry in Protest

My 9-year-old son John wrote a haiku this week and he said today that he wants me to submit it as a letter to the editor. He says that it is about the maglev that has been proposed between Baltimore and Washington to be built through Greenbelt.

Trees are better than

what you are trying to build, so stop it people.

Owen Anthony Kelley

#### More Murals, Please

I enjoyed reading about the mural coming to Greenbelt Elementary School in last week's paper. Kudos to those who were involved in bringing life to the project over the past year. I look forward to seeing the finished masterpiece in a few months. It is clear that this project is having a positive impact on both the students and local community.

Why has it taken so long for a public mural to come to Greenbelt? I could be mistaken, but I can't think of any other public murals in our city. For such an artistic community, Greenbelt is lacking in public displays of art. We all know the Mother and Child statue that stands proudly in the center of old Greenbelt, and there are a few other statues around the Community Center. But there are no murals, despite the short-term and long-term benefits they bring to a community. As someone who grew up in Greenbelt, and moved back as an adult, it strikes me as a void in this town that could be easily filled by seeking and embracing more public art displays like the one coming to GES. According to research published in several professional art journals, there are many advantages to public murals. A community reaps the most benefit when its residents are involved in the design, creation and installation or painting of the mural. These displays of art engage the community by bringing together different demographics and invoke a sense of pride in one's surroundings. Murals can provoke discussion or exploration of issues such as environmental concerns **Corrections** There was an error in the letter published last week about HB1414 and Journey Butler. She was just 13 when she died.

The correct name of the restaurant group that has filed for a beer, wine and liquor license and is planning to operate at the Sir Walter Raleigh Inn site is Balkonie Restaurant Group LLC.

The News Review re-

serves the right not to pub-

lish any letter submitted.

Letters are considered ac-

the letter writer's name,

physical address and tele-

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name will be published; the

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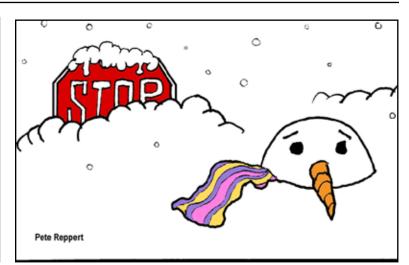
request.

and clarity.

All letters must include

cepted when published.

**Letters Policy** 



**Happy Spring!** 



## Sunday, May 6, 1-4 p.m.

Preserving Greenbelt's Legacy Greenbelt News Review Fundraiser Honoring Mary Lou Williamson

**Greenbelt Marriott** Details to follow in future issue

# visit www.greenbeltnewsreview.com

# Greenbelt News Review

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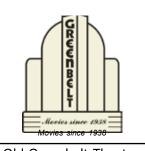
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Old Greenbelt Theatre 129 Centerway 301-329-2034 www.greenbelttheatre.org Members always \$6.50! Adults \$9, Senior/Student \$8, Members \$6.50, Kids \$6

All shows before 5 PM: Adults \$7, Members \$6.50, Kids \$5 OC = Open Captions CC = Closed Captions

SHOWTIMES March 23rd - 29th BLACK PANTHER (PG-13) (CC) (134 mins) Fri. 2:00, 5:00, 8:00 PM Sat. 2:00, 5:00, 8:00 PM Sun. 2:00 PM (OC) 5:00 PM Mon. 5:00, 8:00 PM Tues, 5:00 PM

mapping is not related to the proximity of a Metro Station.

Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning staff anticipates the RT zone will be mapped to a Residential, Single-Family - Attached (R-SFA) zone under the zoning rewrite. While the current RT zone allows for six townhouse dwelling units per acre, the R-SFA zone will allow for up to 16.33 townhouse dwelling units per acre. This will result in significant up-zoning of GHI property as well as other townhouse properties throughout the county. This up-zoning may make GHI and other townhouse properties more attractive to prospective developers for redevelopment.

On a personal note, I disagree with the statement in the article that it is premature at the moment for GHI members (and by extension Greenbelt residents) to reach out to elected officials

See LETTERS, page 4

Wed. 2:00, 5:00, 8:00 PM Thurs. 5:00, 8:00 PM

Stage on Screen CÉZANNE - PORTRAITS OF A LIFE (2018) (85 mins) Sun. 8:00 PM Mon. 1:00 PM

Storytime on Screen FREE! Mon. 10:30 AM

National Science on Screen Day - BOMB-SHELL: THE HEDY LA-MARR STORY (2017) (90 mins) - FREE! Tues. 8:00 PM CIRCULATION Circulation Coordinator: Karen Yoho circ@greenbeltnewsreview.com Core of Greenbelt: Ian Tuckman 301-459-5624 Greenbelt East: Contact Condominium Homeowner's Association Circulation and Distribution information also available at: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution/

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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—\$50/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd. OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 -10 p.m.

#### Page 3

# **Community Events**



Golden Age Club officers are sworn in. From right to left: Rebekah Sutfin, Councilmember Leta Mach, President Marti Galvin, 1st Vice President Randi Anderson, 2nd Vice President John Henry Jones, Recording Secretary Joan Baker, Corresponding Secretary Joyce Bailey, and Treasurer Warren Wilcox.

#### Golden Age Club

The Annual Spring Luncheon of the Golden Age Club will be held Wednesday, April 18 at the Holiday Inn College Park (near Ikea). Joan Baker is collecting money at each meeting for the luncheon with separate fees for members and guests. The deadline to pay is March 28.

The March 7 meeting featured the swearing-in of the club's officers, the oath administered by Rebekah Sutfin (a first-time event for her in her new job as Greenbelt's therapeutic recreation supervisor) and the attendance by Councilmember Leta Mach. New to the slate of officers is Joyce Bailey, the club's new corresponding secretary.

#### At the Library

Ready 2 Read Storytime: ages 3 to 5, Tuesdays, 7 p.m.; Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.; limit 20. Newborn to age 2, Thursdays, 10:15 and 11:15 a.m.; limit 15. Ages 2 to 3, Wednesdays, 11:15 a.m.; Thursdays, 4:15 p.m.; limit 20.

French Conversation Club. Adults, Thursdays, 5 p.m. Learning to speak French? Join the club and practice speaking French in a friendly atmosphere.

English Conversation Club. Adults, Tuesdays, 6 p.m. (except April 3). Learning to speak English? Join this club and practice speaking English in a friendly atmosphere with people from diverse backgrounds. Registration is recommended, as space is limited.

Senior Computer Club: Email Basics. Adults, Monday, April 9, 1:30 p.m.; limit 6. Learn how to send and receive email, manage the inbox and practice downloading and attaching files. Call the branch to register at 301-345-5800.

STEM-tastic: Crazy 8's Math Season 2, grades 3 to 5, Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. (except April 3). Get kids fired up about math with Crazy 8s after-school math club. Every week participants may build stuff, make music and play games, all while bonding with new friends over math. Kids Achieve Club. Ages 5 to 12, Tuesdays, 6 p.m. (except April 3). Take advantage of homework help and reading practice for students in grades K to 6.

#### 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, which provide at least one-third of Recommended Dietary Allowances for older adults, include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for the week of March 26 are as follows:

Monday, March 26: Pineapple chicken, black beans, garden vegetables, wheat bread, mandarin oranges.

Tuesday, March 27: Beef cabbage casserole, mixed vegetables, wheat roll, diced peaches, cranberry juice.

Wednesday, March 28: Turkey à la king, egg noodles, green peas, biscuit, pineapple tidbits, orange juice.

Thursday, March 29: Beef hot dog with chili, tater tots, mixed vegetables, wheat hot dog bun, fresh fruit, brownie.

Friday, March 30: Krabby cake, crispy cubed potatoes, glazed baby carrots, wheat hamburger bun, tartar sauce, diced pears, orange juice.



#### Delegate Washington Has Table Talk Tour

Delegate Alonzo Washington invites the Greenbelt community to join him for his upcoming Table Talk Tour on Saturday, March 31 from 10 a.m. to noon at Leon's Barbeque (9448 Lanham Severn Rd, Lanham). Washington has invited several county agencies to address any public safety, road and traffic issues in the community.

#### Dunham Addresses Astronomical Society

Dr. Joan Dunham, retired Goddard scientist, will be the featured speaker at the Thursday, March 29 meeting of the Astronomical Society of Greenbelt.

Dunham's topic is The Ashen Light of Venus. The 2015 occultation of Venus offered a unique opportunity to attempt observation of the ashen light of Venus as the planet's unlit side emerged from behind the dark side of the Moon. The dark side of Venus would be offered to observers without interference from the bright side of Venus or of the Moon. Observations were made from Alice Springs, Australia, visually with a 20-cm Schmidt-Cassegrain and with a low-light level surveillance camera on a 25-cm reflector. The talk discusses the data collected and results from the analysis of those data.

Dunham worked for many years at Goddard Space Flight Center primarily on spacecraft orbits. She retired as the Flight Dynamics Facility Operations Manager in 2012. She was also briefly employed at the U.S. Naval Observatory. She has been an enthusiastic observer of occultations by the Moon, planets and asteroids for many years.

The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. in Room 114 of the Community Center. All are welcome. There is no admission fee.

#### **GHI Notes**

Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m., Finance Committee meeting, Board Room.

Friday, March 23, office closed. Emergency maintenance service available at 301-474-6011.

Monday, March 26, 7 p.m., Communications Committee meeting, GHI Lobby.

Tuesday, March 27, 7:30 p.m., Audit Committee meeting, Board Room.

Wednesday, March 28, 7 p.m., Buildings Committee meeting, Board Room.

Thursday, March 29, 6:30 p.m., executive session of the Board, Board Room.

#### 12-Step Overeaters Anonymous to Meet

Overeaters Anonymous is a support group that meets at Greenbelt Baptist Church, 101 Greenhill Road, on Monday evenings. The next meeting is on Monday, March 26 at 7 p.m. This is a free 12-step support group for people with overeating, undereating and other problems with food. For more information call 240-305-3433 or 202-362-8571.

#### Snow Days Further Shorten Spring Break

The 2017-18 school year has lost more than two days to bad weather. Governor Hogan's mandate for a post-Labor Day start date with school ending June 15 means that the only way to meet the state requirement of 180 days of instruction is to shorten the spring break. April 6 was originally scheduled as the last day of spring break and will now be a school day. Other snow days, including March 21, may take away another day of the spring break.



#### ERHS Postpones One Act Plays

Due to weather concerns, the Eleanor Roosevelt High School Drama Department postponed its One Act Play Festival, originally scheduled for March 20 to 22, to after spring break (tentatively April 10, 11 and 12). Tickets that were purchased for the March performances will be honored on the corresponding day of the festival that week.

#### MakerSpace Events Welcome Spring!

Thursday, March 22: Magic: the Gathering (middle-school version) 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Friday, March 23: Fermentation Fans 7 to 9 p.m. On the fourth Friday of every month, we meet to see what is brewing.

Sunday, March 25: Animation Meetup from 2 to 4 p.m.

Tuesday, March 27: Post-season Training (Robotics) from 5:30 to 7 p.m., Chess Meetup from 7 to 9 p.m., and (new!) Thoughtful Discussion Group meetup from 7 to 9 p.m. This apolitical, non-religious discussion group meets weekly for friendly intense discussions. This group is not appropriate for children (thoughtful teenagers, however, are welcome) as intense listening, support and cheerful banter are expected. A topic is provided for each meeting.

Wednesday, March 28: Fiber Fans from 6 to 9 p.m.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

# Utopia Film Festival

#### Presents

"God Has Arrived (2012)," "A Quest for Peace (2013)," and "Manufacturer of Dreams (2017)"

Sunday, March 25th, 28st, and 30th Beginning at 8 PM

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





LAST CHANCE TO SEE ANGEL STREET

#### No April Produce

There will not be a produce distribution in April at Springhill Lake Elementary School as the school will be closed for spring break. The final distribution for this school year will be Thursday, May 3.



## **Greenbelt Access Television**

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

Free and Open to the Public

GATe's Annual Membership meeting is Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, from 3 – 5PM Members are encouraged to attend.s Visitors are welcome to come and see what GATe is all about.

**Check out our Channel on Comcast 77 and Verizon Fios 19** For our schedule, visit: www.greenbeltaccesstv.org and click on "Channel"



GREENBELT ARTS CENTER

GREENBELT ARTS CENTER

PRESENTS

Written by Patrick Hamilton Produced by arrangement with Samuel French

Directed by Pauline Griller-Mitchell Co-Produced by Malca Giblin and Pauline Griller-Mitchell

Mar 23, & 24 at 8pm FINAL SHOWS

Ticket prices: \$22 General Admission, \$20 Students/Seniors/Military, \$12 Youth (12 and under with adult)

#### COMING SOON:

Baskerville: a Sherlock Holmes Mystery - April 13-May 5, 2018 Return to the Forbidden Planet - May 18-June 9, 2018 GREENBELT ARTS CENTER-123 CENTERWAY-GREENBELT, MD (UNDER THE CO-OP GROCERY STORE)

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

# Letters continued

or social justice. In the case of the GES mural, it will integrate art and science while promoting environmental education and appreciation. Murals can also give voice to oppressed groups or redefine common values. There is an invisible harmony in bringing people together in the creation of community murals. Once complete, murals become magnets, drawing viewers and striking up social interaction.

Murals can also be seen as a bridge that connects Greenbelt's history with its present community. Public art was a big part of the culture during the New Deal era. According to the Smithsonian, there were thousands of federally funded public art projects in the mid-1930s as part of the work-relief programs implemented under President Roosevelt. This initiative aimed to make art accessible to Americans in public gathering places such as post offices and schools. New Deal murals centered on the American culture and displayed images of ordinary people in their daily routines, trying to make ends meet.

Greenbelt is an evolving community and one way to embrace this diversity is through public art that engages and unifies the local residents. I can think of several "blank canvases" in Greenbelt. Can you?

Rosanne Douglas

#### Illegal Hunting

The other day while I was walking through the woods, I came across two boys (9 or 10 years old) who were darting and stealth-running along the Canyon Creek bed. They had their air popper and dart guns poised. I naively thought they were playing a game akin to the now politically incorrect "cowboys and Indians" of my youth. However, they were not. They were hunting raccoons.

They excitedly told me that they had shot one "back there" and had one cornered in a cave in the undercut bank of the stream. I tried to discourage their rampage. I asked them questions about the value of life and talked about the ecosystem in the

#### **Hospice Offers Grief Program**

Community Hospices will be offering a gathering for informative, supportive and inspirational discussions on varied grief/loss topics on the final luesday of each month. The first presentation, Grief 101, will be held on March 27 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Room 114 of the Community Center. For more information, contact Margaret Capurso at 301-560-6002 or mcapurso@communityhospices.org.

woods. When I realized that appeals for mercy would not dampen their lark, I mentioned the potential for rabies. Finally, I hinted that I had photographed them and would show their pictures to the police. (I had not photographed them). No one is allowed to hunt in the Greenbelt or GHI woods. With that threat they abandoned the raccoon and ran.

I went on down the trail and found a dead raccoon. When I was talking with the boys, I thought they meant that they were shooting at another raccoon, but now I believe they killed it. I backtracked and found that the boys had returned to bombard their trapped raccoon. When they saw me returning, they ran off again. I kept watch for a while: I am now concerned that the 'fake' or imitation weapons (even the low tech variety) could kill and certainly maim small animals at close range.

I walk through the woods frequently and have never witnessed another incident like this. I hope it is an anomaly, though I suspect it is not a unique event. I encourage others who encounter children who may be 'hunting' in the woods, to caution them about the rules/law. I also request that those who are responsible for monitoring the woods state the obvious and post 'No Hunting' signs. Most of all, I urge parents who give their children toy guns, please not only teach them how

to use the toy safely and but also how to use the gun thoughtfully. Lynne Slater

#### Clarifications

In his March 15, letter Robert Snyder seeks to increase the perceived greenness of the maglev train by parenthetically claiming that it is partially powered by magnets. The magnets do not propel the train at all. They are just chunks of iron or steel with current-carrying wire wrapped around them. The magnets can only propel the train while precisely timed currents surge through these wires.

In the same issue with the pictures of "The Men Who Built a Town," one caption reads, "Plumber cutting a pipe at a brick home, August 1936." He is not cutting the pipe - he is threading the pipe. That new-cut thread will allow him to screw on an elbow or a tee, etc. Another caption reads, "Worker leveling cement floor ... "He is not leveling the cement – he is smoothing the cement. Gravity levels the cement just as it levels the top of the coffee or a thicker mix in your cup or bowl.

Bill Norwood

Congratulations to Aisha Mc-Calla, a senior at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, who was named to the 3A/4A 2017-18 Girls' Basketball All-State First Team by the Maryland Basketball Coaches Association (MBCA). As we reported last week, McCalla led the Lady Raiders to their eighth state title, along with her teammate, senior Nia Scott, who was named to the Third Team.

Also honored by MBCA from ERHS were junior Cameron Brown, Boys Basketball Second Team, and senior Jaden Faulkner. honorable mention.

Congratulations to Alan Elliott for his first place finish in the Middle School 600 and under section of the Maryland Chess Association's Middle School and High School Championship on March 17 in Baltimore. Alan won four games and lost one in the five-round tournament. He is a sixth-grade student at Friends Community School.

Congratulations to ERHS alumnus Ishmail Jabbiee who is part of the University of Maryland Baltimore County basketball team. UMBC was the number 16seed team in the NCAA basketball tournament and on March 16 they beat University of Virginia the number one seed team. With a score of 74 to 54, the upset was historic.

Congratulations to Nastassja Stephens, a student at Eleanor Roosevelt High School who has been selected to receive the 2018 Horatio Alger State Scholarship. This annual scholarship recognizes outstanding students, who, in the face of great adversity, have exhibited an admirable commitment to continuing their education and serving their communities.

Our Neighbors

Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@ greenbeltnewsreview.com.

#### **Easter Musical Fest** On Friday, March 30

Restoration Center Church, located at 119 Centerway, invites the Greenbelt community to be a part of its Easter Musical Fest on Friday, March 30. Doors will open at 6 p.m.

The festival, hosted by pastors Abby and Emmanuel Daramola, provides an opportunity to celebrate Easter with high praise, intense worship, spoken word, dance and much more.

> More Church Ads on Page 6



#### Holy Cross **Thrift Store**

**Every Thursday** 10am - 4pm

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

6905 Greenbelt Road Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111 ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH 135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4322

Greenbelt Baha'i' Community

HOLY THURSDAY LITURGY

AND POTLUCK

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

March 29, 6:30 P.M.

**SUNDAY MASS** 

AT MUNICIPAL BUILDING

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human happiness & welfare." - Baha'i Writings

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**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



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Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.

Rev. Glennyce Grindstaff, Pastor



#### Mishkan Torah Congregation

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

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GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, ACE EDUCATOR AWARDS, PRESEN-TATION OF FY2019 PROPOSED BUDGET March 26 at 8pm, Municipal Building

#### ORGANIZATION

Call to Order

Roll Call

Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag Consent Agenda – Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by \*] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.) Approval of Agenda and Additions

#### septeral en sgenaa and s

#### **COMMUNICATIONS** Presentations

- ACE Educator Awards
- Anacostia Trails Heritage Area Update
- Arbor Day Proclamation
- Proposed FY 2019 City Budget

#### Petitions and Requests

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

- Centralized Delivery of Packages for Greenbelt Residents – Laurie E. Siegel

Minutes of Council Meetings

- Administrative Reports
- \* -Committee Reports

#### LEGISLATION

- A Resolution to Authorize the Negotiated Purchase of Camera System Replacement from J & M Security Solutions of Clayton, North Carolina at a Cost of \$50,000 with Annual Maintenance Costs for the First Three (3) Years of \$30,000 per Year and Annual Maintenance Costs for Years Four and Five of \$40,000 per Year- 2nd Reading, Adoption

- A Resolution to Authorize the Negotiated Purchase of a Laserfiche Electronic Document Management System for the City's Human Resource Department from UnityECM of Poquoson, Virginia at a Cost of \$24,600 - 2nd Reading, Adoption

- A Resolution to Authorize the Negotiated Purchase of a Utopia Planning Software Upgrade from Perconti Data Systems, Inc. of St. Petersburg, Florida at a Cost of \$15,000 2nd Reading, Adoption

- A Resolution to Repeal and Reenact with Amendment Resolution Number 2045 to Adopt Standing Rules for the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland - 1st Reading

#### OTHER BUSINESS

#### - State Legislation

- Referral to the Youth Advisory Committee
- Census 2020 Regulations and City Action Plan
- \* Urban Land Institute Technical Ássistance Panel (ULI-TAP) Agreement
- \*- Reappointments to Advisory Groups
- Council Activities
- Council Reports

#### MEETINGS

#### PUBLIC HEARING ON MAGLEV TUESDAY, APRIL 3 GREENBELT MUNICIPAL BUILDING 25 Crescent Road 7:00pm

7:00pm City Council will be available to hear your thoughts and comments concerning the proposed MAGLEV system.

#### **MEETINGS FOR MARCH 26-30**

Monday, March 26 at 6:30pm, **G-CART MEETING** at Greenbelt Police Station, 550 Crescent Road. *On the Agenda: G-CART shirts, Future purchases, Programming ideas* 

Monday, March 26 at 7:30pm, **CERT MEETING** at Greenbelt Police Station, 550 Crescent Road. On the Agenda: Part 3 of Safely Handling Animals for CERT's: Equipment and how you use it.

Monday, March 26 at 8:00pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING, ACE EDUCATOR AWARDS & PRESENTATION OF FY2019 PROPOSED BUDGET** at Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Tuesday March 27 at 3:30pm, **SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISO-RY COMMITTEE** at Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. *On the Agenda: FORA/GAIL and Widowed Persons update, Resignation, Visibility of Community Center Stairstep Edges, Not For Seniors Only (NFSO) Event Planning Update.* 

Tuesday, March 27 at 7:00pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTE ON EDUCATION** at Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. *On the Agenda: Student Awards Nominations* 

Wednesday, March 28 at 7:30pm, COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION re: Overview, Revenues & General Government/ Other Funds/ Non-Departmental & Fund Transfers, at Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Thursday, March 29 at 6:00pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION** (to go into Closed Session) at Municipal Building. **CLOSED SESSION** – Personnel and Collective Bargaining Agreement.

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

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Greenbelt Board of Appeals

Notice is hereby given that the Greenbelt Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 7:00pm in the Greenbelt Community Center, Room 200, 15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt MD on an application filed by Stephen and Mary Wade for consideration of a request for a variance on premises located at 115 Lastner Lane, Greenbelt, MD. The applicant is requesting permission to encroach 5 feet into the required 20 foot rear yard setback for the purpose of constructing a screened porch and deck to the rear of the home. For more information please contact Terri Hruby at 250-542-2041.

#### DONATION DROP-OFF

DROP-OFF Saturday, March 24,

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

noon or until the truck

is full

Parking lot between

#### VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

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

For information on how to apply contact 301-474-8000.

#### COFFEE WITH THE CHIEF

Tuesday, March 27th 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Greenbelt Lake Village Manor House

6640 Lake Park Drive

Come out and meet Greenbelt Interim Chief of Police Tom Kemp and members of the Police Department in a casual, cordial and informative environment.

Enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and engage in positive, productive discussions where concerns can be shared and question can be answered. We look forward to spending some time with you!

#### GREENBELT POLICE CITIZENS ACADEMY APRIL 3-MAY 29

The Greenbelt Citizens Police Academy (GCPA) is a free nine (9) week program designed to increase communication and understanding between members of the Greenbelt community and the Greenbelt Police Department. It is an excellent opportunity for individuals, living, working or attending school in Greenbelt to gain a better understanding of how your law enforcement agency works. The GCPA combines classroom and hands-on instruction on a wide variety of police functions. CONTACT GEORGE MATHEWS, 301-474-7200

\*\* It is anticipated Council will schedule this Closed Session at its Regular Meeting on March 26, 2018.

#### **OFFICIAL NOTICE**

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) and (9) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a Closed Session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Thursday, March 29, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room of the Municipal Building to: 1) discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; and 2) to conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations.

The purpose of this meeting will be: 1) Council meeting with the Executive Recruiter for the Police Chief; and 2) City and Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 32 agreement regarding Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA).



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City Office and the **Community Center** Green Drop Charitable Donations Acceptable Items www.gogreendrop.com Convenient, charitable and green. Converting lightly used clothing and household items into critical funds for great American charities. Every second (2nd) and fourth (4th) Saturday of the month Info: 301-474-8308

A Work Session of the Council is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 29, 2018 for the purpose of Council moving to go into closed session as stated above.

\*The public may attend the Work Session of the City Council immediately prior to the closed session and observe the vote of Council to move into closed session.

Cindy Murray Acting City Clerk

#### **Community Pledge**

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate people of many cultures, faiths, and races living together. By sharing together all are enriched.

We pledge to foster a community which is respectful, safe, and fair for all people.

## THEATRE continued from page 1

this theater."

McGrath's report demonstrated the theater's success in becoming an economic and cultural driver for Greenbelt, bringing over \$330,000 worth of value to Roosevelt Center. Beyond box office and concession sales, the city's support provides only 20 percent of the theater's non-taxed revenue which is largely funded by memberships, sponsorships, rentals and other partnerships. The theater now has over 1,200 members, 46 percent of whom live outside Greenbelt.

"If Greenbelt has a certain brand, then the theater is a key element of that brand," said new FOGT board member Supratik Chaudhuri, a Greenbelter who works in digital services for a leading information technology firm.

Guest speakers who come to lead discussions about certain films are a special draw and are not paid for their time. Of the 32 guest speakers who pulled in visitors in the past year, McGrath explains, "They're experts in their field who are used to presenting in front of other experts. To be able to tell somebody about your nugget of expertise is really rewarding to these folks. We shower them with thanks and praise and free concessions."

One challenge McGrath faces is that she holds a contract with the city to run the theater, but institutions tend to prefer longerterm stability when giving grants. To grow an endowment for the theater, FOGT may need to develop much longer contracts with the city than the previous threeyear term.

Another challenge is that big box office hits have not been able to cover the theater's operational bills. Despite a good run of success with films including Hidden Figures, The Post and several weeks of stacked Oscar-nominated films, the percentage that the film industry charges fluctuates wildly, so that even the most successful film may not help the theater meet costs. Even a film as successful as Hidden Figures only netted \$350 each day after expenses, but the theater costs \$875 daily to operate. The Post, the theater's most profitable film for the year, netted \$548 daily.

Because of this, McGrath focuses on the non-taxed revenue streams to help the nonprofit theater thrive and grow. McGrath's report notes, "It is important to focus on non-taxable revenue to build a stable financial opera-



**Old Greenbelt Theatre** 

GES were encouraged by their principal to use the theater as a resource: she "brought her teachers down and showed them an inspirational TED talk.

"Then the teachers came to see an environmental documentary, or Hidden Figures, and have an expert talk to them. African American women engineers and scientists were eager to come and talk about their education and what they were interested in when they were fourth graders. One of the kids asked, 'What was your job at NASA?' and the speaker answered, 'You know Kevin Costner? That's me!' The light in their eyes! 'I grew up just like you, and you can do it too.""

Other special film series include Monday Matinee Classics; Family Series Lineup; Stage on Screen Series; cult film series Stranger Origins; Films for a Better Tomorrow, classic films celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Old Greenbelt Theatre; How to Resist, Then & Now: Cinema & Politics in partnership with The Clarice and Indivisible; and the Tournées Film Festival, bringing French films to American audiences.

Both McGrath and Jones pointed out several ways for patrons to support the theater, including volunteering, donating, becoming a member or renting the space. In September, in time for its 80th anniversary, the theater plans to replace its seats. With the Save Me A Seat campaign, for \$500 donors can save two seats, plus receive a tax credit, their names on a plaque and other donor rewards.



Caitlin McGrath, executive director of the theater



## TURNER continued from page 1

understood the problems, but "the RPC zone is not recommended to continue. And it has not been included in the draft. We've heard comments from GHI, from the city, from other stakeholders to consider a legacy RPC Zone to continue, but we as a staff have problems with the legacy."

The problem, he explained, is that the legacy zoning doesn't do as much as a Neighborhood Conservation Overlay (NCO) Zone would do.

"Your RPC restricts density for new development," Williams explained. "What a NCO does is control the density and more. It can look at the architecture, it can protect trees or add trees. You can do a lot with NCO." He was recommending that the city and the county council work together while the zoning rewrite is going through the legislative process. "An NCO could easily be prepared in that 18-month window and be adopted at the same time."

Williams' answer satisfied several speakers who stood up to express their concerns that earlier timetables had a gap of several months. With time to create a new overlay that addresses all of Greenbelt, most members of the audience seemed satisfied that there would not be rapid development of high-density living. Williams said the report includes a response to all the comments made by citizens so that the responders know why their suggestions were accepted or not. **FBI** 

Turner also discussed the possible FBI relocation, an issue which has gripped Greenbelt and the rest of the county for several years. "It appears that the administration is going in a different direction," he said, echoing news reports that the General Services Administration (GSA) is currently planning to renovate the current headquarters instead of moving.

He said that the new inspector general of the GSA is reviewing the decision, adding that the new regional director met with county council in early March and said there might be "an opportunity to reverse that decision in the future." Turner said it wasn't clear if the FBI was still considering moving or if the GSA was scouting out temporary housing for the agency so the downtown buildings could be rebuilt.

In other news, Turner said the proposed county Fiscal Year 2018 budget was released last week and is available for public viewing on the county council web page princegeorgescountymd.gov/ DocumentCenter/View/17960.





Snow piles up on branches with fresh buds during the snow -storm on Wednesday.

Palm Sunday March 24 5pm Vigil Mass, March 25: 8, 9:30, and 11am Sunday Masses

tion."

Partnerships with organizations such as Prince George's County Memorial Library System have been hugely successful in terms of intangibles, such as contributing to quality of life for the community. Friends of Greenbelt Library and Friends of New Carrollton Library work together to help sponsor the free Storytime On Screen series, presented every second and fourth Mondays, featuring a story, a short movie and a craft. This series brings about 150 visitors to the theater twice a month, in service to the nonprofit's mission of supporting community programming.

Another special partnership is with Greenbelt Elementary School, which is close enough that students can walk to the theater without incurring the expense of renting buses. McGrath explained that the teachers at An Easter Worship Fest

Friday, March 30 Doors Open at 6 p.m. A Night of Celebration with Guest Artists Come Celebrate and Dance with Us



119 Centerway Greenbelt, MD. 20770 phone: 301 345 0007

email:info@rccgrestorationcenter.org

## Holy Thursday March 29 7:30pm

March 29 7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

#### Good Friday

March 30 Noon: The Living Stations of the Cross 2pm: Traditional Stations of the Cross 7:30pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

### Easter Sunday

March 31 8pm, The Vigil of Easter April 1: 8, 9:30, and 11am Sunday Masses

## Holy Week and the Paschal Triduum

Saint Hugh

**Catholic Church** 

135 Crecsent Rd.



# Page 7

# City, State Legislation Dominate Mar. 12 Council Meeting Agenda

#### by Kathleen Gallagher

Although the March 12 meeting of the Greenbelt City Council was otherwise almost entirely taken up with legislation, it opened with a presentation to council by Ingrid Cowan Hass on the pollinator-themed mosaic mural now underway at Greenbelt Elementary School. Hass is both a parent volunteer in the school's arts program and the president of the Greenbelt Association for the Visual Arts (GAVA), in which position she has carried on GAVAfounder Barbara Simon's enthusiasm for the mural. According to Hass, the project, which was featured in a story in last week's issue of this paper, is a joint undertaking of GAVA, the school's PTA and the Board of Education.

At the request of City Manager Nicole Ard, Acting Chief of Police Thomas Kemp followed up on a topic initiated at the February 26 council meeting when he responded to questions from Councilmember Colin Byrd regarding the department's policies and procedures that would apply to deployment of officers in a shooting situation like the one that occurred last month in Florida. Kemp reported that the department had reviewed its policies since the last meeting and confirmed that the city is in compliance with both national and international policy. He emphasized that the department's accreditation requires that they remain current on these and other matters.

In one other non-legislative item, council also agreed to schedule a public hearing on the maglev train proposal on Tuesday, April 3 at 7 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

#### **City Legislation**

A resolution to contract with a firm to provide services for a national search to hire a new police chief, which is discussed in a separate article, was adopted. Three other resolutions for negotiated purchase of new equipment or services were on the agenda for first reading and will return for second reading and adoption at the March 26 meeting.

One resolution provides for the purchase of a replacement security camera system from J&M Security Solutions of Clayton, N.C., at a cost of \$50,000 with an annual maintenance fee of \$30,000. Following a survey of camera needs in the city, Public Works staff and the Public Safety Advisory Committee recommended a system they believe will be more usable than prior systems and will also maintain video longer. Of the several firms interviewed by staff, J&M was judged to be the best match for the city and comes highly recommended by the City of Hyattsville. The proposal includes replacement of both the camera server and camera control software, which will facilitate the storage of police camera video for one year and other camera storage for one month. The Fiscal Year 2018 budget includes \$15,000 for cameras, to be supplemented by funds available in the Special Projects account. The city maintenance costs will not incur until next year.

ment system for the city's Human Resources Department was also introduced. The vendors of the five proposals judged to be best made presentations for review by staff who determined that a Laserfiche Electronic Document System contracted with UnityECM of Poquoson, Va., would best meet the city's needs. This year's budget includes \$20,000 for the purchase. Initial costs will be \$24,600, with the city IT Department picking up the costs of a cloud server. In addition, subscriptions will run \$9,600 per year, which will be included starting with the Fiscal Year 2019 budget. The longer-term plan is to expand the use of this system to other departments, such as Police and Finance, as well as offices under the city manager's office.

The third resolution introduced for first reading was for the purchase of a Utopia Planning Software Upgrade for the Planning Department. Among other improvements, inspectors will be able to use mobile devices to complete inspections, look up past inspections and accomplish other tasks in the field. Currently, inspectors complete paper forms for all their inspections with the information then having to be entered into the existing Utopia software when they return to the office. The time savings and improved data capture will benefit the entire department. The cost of the upgrade is \$15,000 from Perconti Software of St. Petersburg, Fla., which develops and maintains Utopia.

#### **Standing Rules**

It is difficult to remember that there was a time when council's review of its own Standing Rules following each council election rarely involved more than some fine-tuning of phrasing and tweaking of punctuation. This year, the Standing Rules were discussed at a worksession in December, with resolutions having appeared for first reading on the agendas of the meetings of January 22, February 12, February 26 and March 12. It looked like it might finally happen on

March 12, but there were still too many changes and too much disagreement about who gets to put things on the agenda (and how and when) to end with anything more than a plan to bring it back one more time for first reading on March 26

#### **State Legislation**

At the last meeting, council received a request from resident Jeff Harrison to support HB 1461 – the Supporting All Families Everywhere (SAFE) Act. The bill provides that officials of state or local government would be immune from criminal and civil liability for refusing to provide certain information to the federal government or another state in the absence of a warrant. The city's three delegates (Gaines, Healey and Washington) are co-sponsors of the bill, which council voted 6-1 to support, with Councilmember Silke Pope opposing.

A majority of councilmembers were unwilling to support a motion by Councilmember Judith Davis to support Delegate Anne Healey's Bill 766 - Forest Conservation Act, conditional upon inclusion of amendments being developed by the Maryland Municipal League since it was not certain what the amendments would include. Six councilmembers did, however, vote to support the bill with no mention of amendments, with Davis abstaining.

Councilmembers voted unanimously on the remaining two bills. They unanimously opposed SB 1253, which would have directed the city's Program Open Space funding to Prince George's County rather than continuing to send it to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission for allocation. Councilmembers all supported PG 301/ HB 471, which would create exemptions to a requirement for Special Entertainment Permits that cost \$1,500 annually. The leadership of the New Deal Café believes that it and similar establishments would be exempt from the fee.



# Developers Propose Apartments, Some Commerce by Courthouse

by James Giese



Artist's drawing of the proposed development on Cherrywood Lane.

A new developer is knocking Ivy Lane with a second entrance on the city's door asking for permission to come in. The Greenbelt City Council was pleased that the developers knocked first. They also, for the most part, appeared receptive to the concept proposed.

Representatives of the NRP (National Revitalization Partners) Group met with council at its March 5 worksession. They proposed a 328-unit three-to-five story rental apartment project with a small amount of commercial space for an undeveloped 16acre parcel of land across Cherrywood Lane from Capital Office Park and next to the U.S. District Courthouse. NRP is the potential purchaser of the property, zoned for office buildings and currently owned by Mack-Cali, the owners of Capital Office Park.

Before meeting with council, NRP met with city planning staff in December and the Greenbelt Advisory Planning Board (APB) in January. The proposal is a concept and not cast in stone at this time. NRP is first seeking the advice and opinions of city officials prior to the company acquiring ownership of the land and formally submitting plans for city and county approval.

#### Proposal

The lot is triangular with its longest side fronting Cherrywood Lane. The courthouse is to its right, as one faces the property from Cherrywood Lane, and closer to Edmonston Road. The site's main entrance would be opposite

to the left closer to the Capital Beltway bridge for Cherrywood Lane.

The developer's presentations showed three different plans with slight variations. All included two five-story L-shaped main buildings. Some 36 garage units would be built adjacent to the parking lots. A proposal to include five four-unit free-standing carriage houses, with each twostory dwelling being on top of a garage, piqued the interest of councilmembers.

A small amount of commercial space is proposed at the corners of the two main buildings which could house retail establishments. At the rear corner of the property will be a clubhouse community building offering access to an outdoor pool, a fitness center and probably the rental office. Other amenities being considered are walking paths, a tot-lot playground, picnic tables and a dog park.

#### Questions

Noting that NRP claims to be the top-ranked developer of affordable housing in the country, Mayor Emmett Jordan asked what determines if housing is affordable and whether such housing was being considered here. NRP spokesperson Josh Wooldridge said that affordable housing was eligible to receive government low-income tax credits; this project was contemplated to be market rate.

See **DEVELOPMENT**, page 12

**A Panel Discussion Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of The Kerner Commission Report** A National Advisory Ignored

A resolution for purchase of an electronic document manage-

Alan and Kathy Burt walk their dogs, Becca, left, and Oliver during the snowstorm on Wednesday.

#### Sunday, March 25, 2018, 1:30-4:00 pm **Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church** 3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi, MD 20783



The event is open to the public. The community is invited. We have ample parking, and Metro's R2 bus, Calverton/Fort Totten stops just outside our parking lot entrance. For more information, please contact us at KernerPa

# LET OUR SYSTEM CARE FOR YOURS

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## STEP TEAMS continued from page 1



The Eleanor Roosevelt High School Step Teams pose with their winnings.

team as Youth Step USA champions.

"It felt amazing not only winning but being able to share the victory with our sisters because they can attest to all the commitment that comes from being a part of the team," ERHS senior and DRB co-captain Marqui Williams says.

The Lady Raiders Step Squad was formed in 1997. The squad also has a coach rather familiar with the ERHS stepping tradition. Jonelle Agurs was a member and co-captain of The Lady Raiders Step Squad during her time at ERHS before taking on the role as coach in 2010 while studying at the University of Maryland.

Agurs says her role as one of five team leaders has evolved over these eight years, as she has transitioned from coaching and taking charge of all details to turning responsibility and leadership back to the team. "I'm just giving them the tools to really put on a show," Agurs says. The team is the driving factor in deciding choreography, routines and stage formations, which Agurs says leads to deeper team investment by its members.

Both squads work to uphold traditions of success in step competitions along with their teams' missions. DRB members commit to brotherhood, scholarship, community service and creating exciting shows to learn and perform for audiences. The Lady Raiders commit to working hard in something that is fierce and perhaps "not so cute," as Agurs observed, while practicing and competing. Agurs said the team likes

- Photos courtesy of ERHS Step Teams



Dem Raider Boyz pose after their 2017 win.

to incorporate stepping, dancing and spoken word into a complete show that has a true storyline from beginning to end to enhance the audience experience.

This season both teams have competed and performed in shows including performances at Strathmore in Bethesda with Step Afrika! Also, DRB participated in events at the Kennedy Center, the Howard University Homecoming Step Show and on a trip to Los Angeles. The lead-up to the national competition in May for both teams features more practices, workouts, local competitions and community performances, including one that the teams will host on March 24 with a Game of Thrones theme, appropriately titled Game of Step. This competition will bring together teams from Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Florida and Texas.

Both coaches have high hopes for their teams as they continue to prepare for national competition. The teams work tirelessly and continue to make sacrifices in the name of their teams. Agurs cites the tremendous growth that her team has shown so far as a positive signal for the rest of the season, while DRB coach Melvern affirms that it is "this drive and determination that truly keeps our team on top."

Caroline Hanks is a University of Maryland journalism student and the Dorothy Sucher intern for the News Review.

# **City Recreation Department** Launches Brand New Look

After an extensive survey and family event outdoors and evmarketing study, Greenbelt Recreation is ready to present a brand new look that will emphasize the department's commitment to the needs of the Greenbelt community. A launch party of the new brand and logo will be part of this year's Annual Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 31 at Buddy Attick Park from 10 a.m. to noon. There will be more information about the new look, new program discounts and giveaways, and an opportunity to provide feedback on the new logo.

A 2017 marketing study showed that residents are overwhelmingly happy with the offerings and programs of the Recreation Department: over 90 percent of the survey participants would recommend them to others. What is needed is consistency in the message and more efforts to promote programs. The new logo complements the existing city brand while providing a unique identity to Greenbelt Recreation. Along with the department's new tagline - Fun, Fitness, and Friendship – the new logo depicts the department's commitment to provide diverse programming and facilities to meet the needs of the community.

Each of the icons on the logo has a special meaning that represents the goals and vision of Greenbelt Recreation. The first icon represents the city flag and the array of outdoor activities available to the community. Residents can enjoy skateboarding at the skate park, a leisurely walk around the lake, a fun seasonal

erything in between. The second icon represents the diversity of arts programming offered by the department and the many opportunities participants have to express their creativity through visual, ceramic and performing arts programs. The last icon represents Greenbelt's rich history of providing athletics and swim programs. Greenbelt had the first municipal swimming pool in the Washington, D.C., area.

"We are so excited to present our new brand to the community," stated Greenbelt Recreation Director Julie McHale.

For more information visit greenbeltmd.gov/recreation or call McHale at 301-397-2200.

# Stina Sings Songs At Wildlife Refuge

On Saturday, March 24 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the Patuxent Research Refuge join nature troubadour Stina for an afternoon indoor campfire singalong in the auditorium. Get a groove on with fun and silly nature songs. Parental participation is required. This program is for all ages; no registration is required.

Public programs at the refuge are free. For more information visit the website at fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent or call 301-497-5887. The Visitor Center is on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Route 197.

#### **Notice of Charter Amendment Resolution**

At its regular meeting of February 26, 2018, the City Council adopted a resolution to amend the City Charter. As required by state law, this resolution will be posted in its entirety for 40 days, until April 7, at the Municipal Building, as well as on the City's Web site at www.greenbeltmd.gov. Copies may also be requested of the City Clerk. It will become effective on April 17, 2018, unless a proper petition to submit the amendment to the voters on a referendum is filed as permitted by law. As also required by state law, this notice is given to provide a fair summary of the resolution.

Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2018-1 A Resolution of the City Of Greenbelt, Maryland, to Amend Section 2 of the Charter of the City Of Greenbelt, for the Purpose of Enlarging the Corporate Boundaries of the City Of Greenbelt, Maryland under the Provisions of Article 23a, Section 19, of the Annotated Code of the State of Maryland (1957 Edition and Amendments), Replaced by the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of the State of Maryland (2013 Edition and Amendments), by Annexing Thereto Certain Lands and Property Contiguous To and Adjoining the Existing Corporate Boundary of the City of Greenbelt, Prince George's County, Being the Lands Of The Greenbelt Station South Core Development, Owned by the Developer NVR MS Cavalier Greenbelt LLC, Located within Berwyn District 21, Prince George's County, Maryland, and being Part of the Land Conveyed by Alfred H. Smith to Alfred H. Smith and Harry R. Smith by Deed Dated June 10, 1987 as Recorded Among the Land Records of Prince George's County, Maryland, in Liber 6694 Folio 858 and Containing 0.131 Acres More or Less, as More Fully Described in the Metes and Bounds Description Prepared by W. Joseph Hines of Dewberry Consultants LLC; Establishing Certain Terms, Conditions, And Circumstances Applicable to Such Land and the Owners Thereof; and all Matters Relating to the Annexation of Such 0.131 Acres of Land, More or Less, Into the City Of Greenbelt Purpose: To amend the City Charter to annex a small portion, 0.131 acres more or less, of the property owned by NVR MS Cavalier Greenbelt LLC. This portion of property should have been included in the original Greenbelt Station South Core annexation.



For additional information, contact David Moran, Assistant City Manager, at 301-474-8000 or dmoran@greenbeltmd.gov

# New Gas Station, Store May Come To Greenbelt Road

Greenbelt City Council, during a worksession on Wednesday, March 7 had mixed reactions to a plan by developers proposing to possibly put a gas station and convenience store on a site off Greenbelt Road near the Capitol Cadillac dealership.

The developers, Patrick Ricker, Donna Wilson and Kirk Wineland, said they were approached by representatives of Wawa hoping to expand to this area. The representatives told Ricker they had identified a few sites in the county and asked if he could check on their availability. The Capitol Cadillac location was one of the potential sites presented to them and became "one of their top two sites" according to Ricker. "Royal Farms has now also expressed an interest," continued Ricker. The property is owned by Capitol Cadillac and is currently under contract, said Ricker.

The proposed site plans brought to council for the 4.4acre lot included two pads for small commercial buildings and an area for eight gas pumps. One of the buildings would likely be a Royal Farms or Wawa convenience store. The other would be a second retail location, possibly a bank depending on what company they could contract with. There is also a plan for infrastructure to improve access to and protect a small historical site on the premises.

Council appreciated that the developers came to them looking for support first although it was not required at this time. Prince George's County Council is the governmental body that would approve site plans and rezone the location. The location is currently zoned for commercial office. The developers would need a text amendment to change it to commercial miscellaneous.

#### **Another Gas Station?**

Several councilmembers questioned the proposal. Councilmember Judith Davis said, "I am concerned. Do we need another gas station? Do we need another with its proximity to Greenbelt Park and the offices on Walker Drive. "If you have a Royal Farms it will be generating traffic from the hotels," said Terri Hruby, acting director of planning and community development, with agreement from some council members.

from the proposed location.

Hruby and Brian Gibbons, chair of the Advisory Planning Board (APB), also expressed concerns about lighting, signage, frontage appearance and green building techniques. Hruby suggested a covenant attached to any rezoning by the county so that council could have an impact on these decisions.

#### Next Steps

The developers will present a revised plan to the APB and then come back to council with APB's report on the revised plan. Council members requested that the developers consider building only one building and the gas pumps structure but removing the second pad to leave as open space. Councilmember Silke Pope said, "I like Royal Farms and I don't think it is a bad idea. I just don't know if I am 100 percent there."

# **Community Foundation Expands Funding Focus**

#### by Carol Shaw

The door is noticeably wider this spring for community organizations interested in applying for a grant from Greenbelt Community Foundation (GCF) to fund their activities.

Groups with existing programs are now eligible to apply, provided they meet the foundation's criteria. Previously, GCF grants were limited to organizations starting new projects, but the foundation board recently decided to expand eligibility to ensure it serves all organizations, particularly small organizations that may not have the capacity to start a new program.

GCF now allows organizations to apply for funding to enhance their current programs or services or to secure funding as a bridge from one funding source to another. GCF will continue to provide one-year grant awards because its role is to support organizations as one of their funding sources, not to become the main or ongoing funder.

The GCF grants can range from \$500 to \$5,000 and the upcoming application deadline is midnight April 15. A week before that, on Sunday, April 8, there will be a free application tutoring session at 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Police Station to help organizations improve their grant applications. Organizations should bring a completed application for review. These volunteers can give recommendations, but this in no way ensures funding.

The foundation is interested in funding programs and services that enhance the cultural, artistic, recreational, social or environmental vitality of Greenbelt, and that impact residents in all parts of the city.

To be eligible for funding, organizations should have IRS tax exempt status [501(c)(3)] or find a qualifying organization to act as its fiscal agent. This agent must be a 501(c)(3) organization, willing to act as a financial sponsor and have a similar mission. Organizations eligible include nonprofits, cooperatives, religious groups, schools and associations.

Often a good community program is not funded due to a poorly written grant application. All areas of the application require proficiency and clarity. The criteria GCF uses to determine whether to support a program are value to Greenbelt, clarity of plan, feasibility of approach, qualifications of service providers and administrators, likelihood of success, appropriateness for GCF support and sustainability.

Register for this workshop by Friday, March 30 by emailing the name of the person attending, his or her contact info and the name of the organization to info@ greenbeltfoundation.net.

For more information about the workshop, application process and to get an application, go to greenbeltfoundation.net.

#### Patuxent Refuge **Birthday Bash**

On Saturday, March 24 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. the Patuxent Research Refuge is having a birthday bash to celebrate the national wildlife refuge system's 115th birthday. The event is for all ages and no registration is necessary. All festivities will be held at the National Wildlife Visitor Center. This year's theme is The Family of Earth. Highlights of the day will include a live puppet show, crafts for kids, raptor demonstrations, live music and tours through the forest on an electric tram.

For more information visit the website at fws.gov/refuge/.



#### Shell station at 8711 Greenbelt Road near Glenn Dale. There is an Exxon station at 7619 Green-

GREENSELT DOLL

bank? We have a lot of gas sta-

tions. We have a lot of banks."

Councilmember Edward Putens

added, "I'm sorry I just don't see

a need for another gas station. I

really don't." Ricker's response

was that Wawa is very interested

in the site. Ricker listed the clos-

est stations on Greenbelt Road as

the Shell in Berwyn Heights at

6327 Greenbelt Road and another

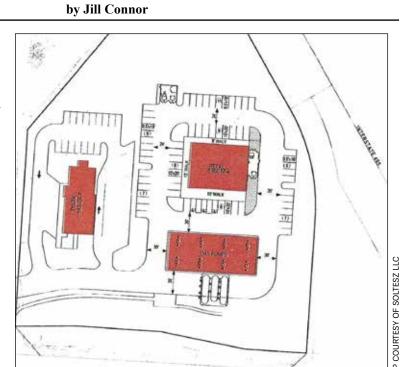
belt Road, Davis pointed out. Councilmember Rodney Roberts mentioned the BP at 20 Southway Road, which is less than a mile There were many comments about the utility of a convenience store in that location, especially

# Prepare for the GHI Election

#### by Alex Barnes and Tom Jones

Is it too early to think about file is 12 days after the debate the upcoming election? Not for a so potential candidates still have member of GHI which holds an time to decide to throw their hat





Initial Proposed site plan for gas station and convenience store on

Greenbelt Road presented to city council on March 7.

election every year in May. This year's annual meeting is Thursday, May 10 and the election continues Friday May 11.

To help GHI members choose among the candidates, GHI's Nominations and Election (N&E) Committee will host a candidates' forum on Tuesday, April 17, in the City Council chambers which will also be broadcast live on the city website and the Verizon and Comcast Greenbelt channels. This year's forum is three weeks before the election so GHI members have more time to consider the candidates and discuss with neighbors.

Not satisfied with the choices? The deadline for candidates to into the ring. Maybe you want to run?

Set a good example for kids or grandkids or neighbors' kids and start now to find someone to represent you on one of GHI's elected bodies: Board of Directors, Audit Committee and N&E Committee. Think of who can make GHI better. Recruit them to run or recommend them to the N&E Committee. Happy with how GHI is functioning? Then encourage current Board, Audit and N&E Committee members to run again.

More information is at ghi. coop/content/ghi-elections or contact N&E Chair Tom Jones at 301-474-6001.



#### Periodo de Comentarios Publicos de 30 Dias

#### Del lunes 26 de marzo al martes 24 de abril de 2018.

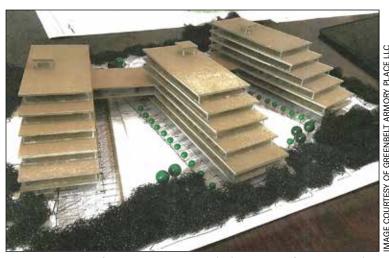
La Comisión de Transporte y Movilidad de Maryland Central notifica por medio de la presente que se llevará acabo una audiencia pública acerca de un Cambio a la Política de Tarifas del Servicio propuesto que afectará todas las rutas fijas de la Agencia Regional de Transporte de Maryland Central (RTA): 201, 202, 301, 302, 401, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 409B, 501, 502, 503, 504 y RTA Mobility. También se discutirá una mejora del servicio propuesto para la Ruta 501. Para obtener más detalles sobre los cambios propuestos, visite www.transitRTA.com o llame al 800-270-9553 de lunes a viernes, de 8:30 am-5:00 pm. La audiencia pública se llevará a cabo el martes 24 de abril a las 6:00 p.m. en la Oficina de Administración de la RTA ubicada en el 8510 Corridor Road, Suite 110, Savage, Maryland. Los pasajeros pueden acceder estas instalaciones a través de la ruta 409. La Comisión abre un período de comentarios públicos de 30 días desde el martes 26 de marzo hasta el martes 24 de abril de 2018. Durante este período, se invita al público a proporcionar comentarios sobre los cambios propuestos enviando comentarios por escrito va sea en línea, www.transitRTA.com, correo electrónico, consumer@transitRTA.com, 7-1-1 MD Relay o por correo, RTA Administration Office, 8510 Corridor Road, Suite 110, Savage, MD 20763. Los cambios propuestos están programados para comenzar el domingo, julio 1, 2018. Cualquier persona que requiera asistencia especial o adaptaciones adicionales, o que requiera materiales impresos en un formato alternativo debe comunicarse con la RTA con anticipación al 1-800-270-9553 para hacer arreglos necesarios. La RTA cumple totalmente con el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964. Para conocer la política completa, visite www.transitRTA.com.

# Old Nursing Home Property May Feature Glass Walls, Hot Tubs

by Jill Connor

The representatives of a developer proposing to build at the site of the former nursing home off Greenbelt Road received a more supportive response to their new plans from city council on Wednesday, March 7 than at their previous meeting. Between 2007 and 2009, Greenbelt Armory Place LLC began the process for developing the property off Greenbelt Road, the former location of a nursing home. The proposal includes a detailed site plan of a multi-family 90-unit structure approved by the county as well as a text amendment to the zoning code. The covenant put on the property involved a number of stipulations including approval by the city of a variety of aspects of the building process. The building was not built earlier because of the financial recession, said company representatives. "Now that we have come out of the recession," said Tom Haller, an attorney with Gibbs and Haller representing Greenbelt Armory Place LLC, "we wanted to take a fresh look at the property. We wanted to come up with something that was economically feasible and something that the city would support."

This is the second worksession in which company representatives explained a proposal for developing the site they had purchased in 2004. At the first meeting on December 6, 2017, the company representatives came to council with a more traditional townhome-style project but council was not supportive of the idea. "We came and presented that to you and you were very clear with your direction to us. You actually thought we had it right the first time," said Haller. "You thought the multi-family option made sense and that an elevatorserviced product would not only be attractive to existing residents



The new model for the proposed building at the former nursing home site shown at the city council worksession on March 7

wanting to downsize but stay in the city but also to people coming into the city. Maybe we were offering a product not available already.'

#### **New Plans**

The plans presented at the March meeting were for three buildings housing 40 to 50 twobedroom units, each estimated to be between 1,200 to 1,400 square feet. The proposed design of the upper floors would have units with glass outer walls and private terraces facing Greenbelt Road and possibly University Square. The proposed layout also includes courtyards with hot tubs, a restaurant-style community room and private storage lockers for deliveries. The proposed buildings feature six floors with the ground floor of tandem parking spaces for residents and some visitor parking.

#### **Parking and Zoning**

The proposed parking would offer one lane parking that can fit two cars, one in front of another, underneath the building with retaining walls. The architect Ian Black said, "The parking ratio is 1.9 spaces per unit, which counts the tandem as two spaces. The zoning code is written in such a way that the tandem or the second space doesn't really count toward the parking requirement."

This design is above the currently-zoned density. "The main issue is density, the property was originally zoned R-18, which is where the original 90-units figure came from," said Haller. "So what we would be asking of you tonight is to listen to the proposal and continue to give us feedback on it if you think we are going in the right direction. What we would like to do is to work with your staff to write up a text amendment." That text amendment and a detailed site plan would need to be approved by the Prince George's County Council.

#### Costs

Though the market prices were not detailed, Mike Postal, representative of Greenbelt Armory Place LLC, said "We believe we can sell these for about \$300 a square foot. The market was telling us we couldn't get over \$425,000 per unit." Considering the proposed sizes, that

See NURSING, page 15

# **City Crews Prepare For Solar** Energy Sites, Earth Day

attended a preconstruction meeting with the solar contractor at Springhill Lake Recreation Center and continued coordination of post-storm tree cleanup.

Street maintenance crews straightened and added backfill to headstones at the cemetery and installed No Parking signs on Ivy Lane.

Building Maintenance crews worked after hours on the Pepco street light inspection.

Horticulture/Parks crew continued cleaning up and chipping debris after recent windstorms.

Refuse/Recycling/Sustainability crews collected 21.43 tons of refuse and 11.54 tons of materials for recycling. They performed a site check in partnership with a Maryland graduate student doing a capstone project. And in preparation for the upcoming Earth Day celebration, they coordinated a planting demonstration and are expecting six free shrubs for the food forest.

Animal Control staff removed an injured raccoon and two raccoon carcasses, picked up a stray dog that was returned to its owner and investigated a cruelty case and the abandonment of a dog.

Recreation Department staff attended the Old Greenbelt Theatre worksession.

Youth Center staff continued planning for Spring Camps, distributing promotional flyers in area schools in English and Spanish. With five members of the Youth Advisory Committee, staff attended the National League of Cities Congressional City Conference in Washington. Camp staff positions were advertised in the Greenbelt News Review; applications for Summer 2018 are now being accepted.

Aquatic & Fitness Center staff report giving access to Warm Nights Families for a complementary shower opportunity on February 27. During the week

Public Works administration of April 2, Raymar Plumbing Services has been scheduled to de-winterize the outdoor pool, turning on water and reconnecting motors.

Community Center staff continues recruiting for one permanent Center Leader shift. The facility hosted an American Red Cross Blood Drive. The Center provided free meeting space for the Golden Age Club, Greenbelt Concert Band, Girl Scouts #2799, Greenbrook Village HOA, Charlestowne Village HOA, Greenbelt Youth Baseball, Greenwood Village HOA and Greenbelt Writers. City groups also used community meeting spaces: Be Happy Be Healthy Yoga and Volleyball, CARES, GAIL, Advisory Planning Board and city council.

Two Recreation arts instructors attended the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts. Staff are processing applications and selecting artists for the Festival of Lights Juried Art and Craft Fair.

During February, CARES staff counseled 14 families and 60 individuals. Crisis Intervention Counselors saw eight clients. Staff attended the Prince George's County Department of Family Services Community Partners Meeting and the State Advisory Group for Juvenile Justice and conducted an Active Parenting session.

#### **Free Women's Cancer Screenings**

Women who reside in Prince George's County may qualify for free breast and cervical cancer screenings if they have a photo or picture ID, are age 40 or older, are uninsured or underinsured or have a limited income. Appointment required. Call 301-552-8524 or go to DCHweb.org/breast to make an appointment at Doctors Hospital, 8116 Good Luck Road, Professional Office Building, Suite 110.





Central Maryland Transportation & Mobility Commission (CMTMC)

**RIVERS OF LIFE A.M.E. CHURCH Rev. Kendra Smith, Pastor** 

FREE FOOD, GAMES, CRAFTS & PRIZES 6060 Springhill Dr., Greenbelt, MD 20770 SUNDAY, APRIL 1st 10AM

#### **30 Day Public Comment Period**

#### Monday, March 26th through Tuesday, April 24, 2018.

Central Maryland Transportation & Mobility Commission hereby gives notice of a public hearing regarding a proposed Fare Policy Service Change that will affect all Regional Transportation Agency of Central Maryland (RTA) fixed routes: 201, 202, 301, 302, 401, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 409B, 501, 502, 503, 504 and RTA Mobility. A proposed service enhancement to Route 501 will also be discussed. For more details regarding proposed changes, visit www.transitRTA.com or call 800-270-9553 Monday-Friday. 8:30 am-5:00 pm. The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 24th at 6:00 p.m. at the RTA Administration Office located at 8510 Corridor Road, Suite 110, Savage, Maryland. Riders can access location via Route 409. The Commission opens a 30-day public comment period on Monday, March 26th through Tuesday, April 24, 2018. During this period the public is encouraged to provide feedback regarding proposed changes by submitting written comments either online, www.transitRTA.com, email, consumer@transitRTA.com. 7-1-1 MD Relay or mail. RTA Administration Office. 8510 Corridor Road, Suite 110, Savage, MD 20763. Proposed changes are scheduled to begin Sunday, July 1, 2018. Anyone requiring special assistance or additional accommodations, or who requires printed materials in an alternative format should contact RTA in advance at 1-800-270-9553 to make arrangements. RTA fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For the full policy, visit www.transitRTA.com.

# DEVELOPMENT continued from page 7

Wooldridge noted the site's walkability aspect with its close proximity to retail space and public transportation, the Greenbelt Metro Station. He also said NRP was considering providing a bikeshare program.

Councilmember Judith Davis suggested the developers consider providing a child day care facility. This opened the door for Councilmember Leta Mach to advise that there is a cooperative group interested in setting up a child day care facility in this area.

Jordan suggested the architecture be compatible to the adjacent buildings or mimic original Greenbelt building designs.

#### Dissent

Councilmember Rodney Roberts asked why the city should give up valuable commercial property for more rental apartments when there are already some 3,000 units just across the Beltway. He noted that apartments would be a greater burden on the city, county and school system's financial ability to provide services. Also, he felt the design concept proposed was not new and was "going up" else-where. He asked if the project would be "stick" construction (wood framing and support) and when told it would, he called it "cheap construction" that would not be permitted in Montgomery County. If the buildings were more than five stories high, a masonry construction would be required, he said, and that would be much better.

Wooldridge called his comments "unfair." He said it would not be cheap construction. Also, NRP is doing similar construction in Montgomery County.

Councilmember Silke Pope said she liked the plan and the comments made by the Advisory Planning Board in its report to council. She urged the developers to check with the county school system as to where children from the development would attend school, noting the problem the city was having in getting children from the South Core of Greenbelt Station to attend schools within the city. Davis asked NRP to be sure they would have the 20770 Greenbelt zip code.

Councilmember Edward Putens said he was still uncertain how he felt about the proposal. He noted that it was not really a mixed-use proposal as sought by council and that a large part of the site was devoted to parking.

He pointed out a need to provide for the pullover of buses at stops.

Davis asked about the proposed carriage houses. Matthew Tedesco, the attorney representing NRP, said that was a new concept for this county. Wooldridge said each unit would have a groundfloor garage and would have both an outside and a garage entrance to the home. The units could be studio, one bedroom, one bedroom with den or even threebedroom rental units.

Davis suggested clustering the carriage houses instead of spreading them about the project. She also said she liked having a dog park and picnic tables and urged constructing a safe pedestrian pathway around the pond. Wooldridge also told her that there would be an electric charging station for automobiles near the clubhouse.

#### **High Rents**

Councilmember Colin Byrd asked if this construction would withstand "the big, bad wolf." NRP representative Joseph Torres responded that the project was aimed toward "the highest rent levels" and would need to be quality construction. "It will be here for 50 years," he said. He noted his company does not defer maintenance and the property would be "kept up."

Jordan asked how storm water would be captured and whether the project would be LEED certified (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). Wooldridge responded that it had the potential to be and that NRP had sought certification elsewhere. All appliances would be energy star certified.

Jordan noted there would be garages separated from the apartments. Wooldridge responded that 42 were proposed. Some residents would like to have one, either for their car or for storage, he said.

Mach asked if amenities were planned to help people work in place. Wooldridge responded that there would be work spaces planned. He also noted that people liked to get out of the house, which is why a retail establishment such as a coffee shop in the commercial area and other amenities would be desirable.

#### **Staff Comments**

City Planner Terri Hruby told council that staff was opposed to any townhouse development, believing such development was unneeded in the city. She said the NRP proposal would complement the office park and be a catalyst

> <u>OPEN HOUSES</u> Every Tuesday in

March & April\* 8:30a.m.-11:00a.m. Map of proposed development on Cherrywood Lane

to increasing its occupancy. She was pleased with NRP's work at other locations and that it had selected Greenbelt for its first county project and that the city would be working with it from the project start.

Roberts asked Hruby what the percentage of rental apartments was in the city. She said the exact figure would be in the forthcoming city budget document and that it was more than 50 percent.

Jordan noted a proposal had been made for a high-rise apartment at a site council felt was unsuitable and asked if a highrise building had been considered for this property. Wooldridge said NRP believed its proposal was a better use.

Davis said she opposed building more offices but said there may be a need for medical offices. She thought NRP should consider a wide variety of retail needs, such as a cleaners.

Davis noted talk of expanding the courthouse and wondered if there is a need for this land for that. Jordan and Putens said adjacent Beltsville Agricultural Research Center property was allocated for a possible expansion.

Marc "Kap" Kapistan, representing the Beltway Plaza shopping center, told council he was excited by the project, even though he was unfamiliar with the developers. He urged council to go forward with it.

#### Schedule

Tedesco said he felt there had been positive feedback from council. NRP needed now to determine whether to proceed and do further planning. Site plan review would take a couple of months. He thought the company might be back to the city by June at the earliest.

Hruby told council that the proposal might require the passage of some legislation. Since

it is located within a designated transportation center, approval might be faster than for other proposals.

Wooldridge thought it would be 12 to 15 months before the company actually purchased the property.

Torres said the meeting had brought out information they had not previously considered, such as day care, a roundabout and medical offices. They will go back and look over their notes and "talk about" them.

#### MilkBoy ArtHouse **Offers Free Yoga**

Pints and Poses: Yoga at MilkBoy ArtHouse will be held on Tuesday, March 27 at 5:30 p.m. at the MilkBoy ArtHouse in downtown College Park.

Enjoy an after-work flow yoga class compliments of Numi Yoga and enjoy drink specials together afterwards. Class will be approximately one hour long. Participants can expect to move through a range of poses to relieve stress, build strength and increase mobility. All ages and abilities are welcome.

Some yoga mats will be provided but feel free to bring one. Class is free of charge, although donations (cash or credit card) will be accepted to support arts and music opportunities for local students.

#### **Upcoming Events** At Greenbelt Park

Friday, March 23: Farm Life in March Two Centuries Ago. What did farmers 200 years ago do in the busy spring thaw of March? Cider was the beverage of the month during Carnival and Lent, and doughnuts would be eaten as a treat for Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday before the fast of Ash Wednesday. Wood cutting (splitting) and seasoning were conducted in March. The farmer prepared for the spring thaw and planting. Meet at the Ranger Station at 1 p.m.

Saturday, March 24: Greenbelt City, a Green Oasis. Learn about the history of Greenbelt with a description of the birth of a planned city, a green town as a relief project during the Great Depression. Learn about the city's growth during war and peace, and the Art Deco architecture of private homes and public buildings, with the civic adornments of sculptures that still grace this modern community today. Meet at the Ranger Station at 1 p.m.

Sunday, March 25: Greenbelt Walking Club. Join in at the Sweetgum Picnic Area at 9:30 a.m. to walk the 1.4 mile Loop Road. Beginners and pets welcome. This is a part of the Healthy Parks Healthy People events throughout the National Park system.

Sunday, March 25: Every Kid in a Park: Planning a summer vacation for 4th graders? Come and learn how to get a free pass to national parks while playing Guess Your National Parks. We will also discuss other America the Beautiful Passes and their benefits to help prepare for summer vacation. Meet at the Ranger Station at 2 p.m.

#### **Family Kite Event**

The U.S. Botanic Garden will hold a children's program, Orchids and Kites, on Sunday, March 25 from 1 to 5 p.m. led by Lee Coykendall, children's education specialist. Learn how amazing orchids really are, and create a botanically themed kite just in time for the kite festival on the Mall. This is a drop-in program appropriate for all ages. The workshop is free, and no pre-registration is required.

## **Dust Off Your Dancing Shoes!!**

Join me for a night of live music in support of my 2018 campaign for Delegate! Food, Cash Bar, Great Company Included!





**Holy Redeemer School** 4902 Berwyn Road College Park, MD 301-474-3993 school@holy-redeemer.org www.holy-redeemer.org Pre-K~8th Grade The Pre-K Program is all-day (7:45a.m.-2:50p.m.) Before & Aftercare is also available



"Excellence in Education with the Power of Faith"



May 10 & May 11 7:00pm FREE & open to the community

Holy Redeemer School Four Seasons Room

When: Saturday, March 24, 2018 from 7-11 p.m. Where: Branchville Volunteer Fire Company 4905 Branchville Rd. College Park, MD 20740

Visit marylehmanfordelegate.com to purchase tickets.

Single Admission: \$15 Couple Admission: \$25 Sponsorship levels start at \$100



Follow me on social media to keep up with the campaign! Facebook: @Marylehmfordelegatemd21 Twitter: @MaryLehman1



By Authority: Citizens for Mary Lehman, Jeanne Taylor, Treasurer

#### Page 13

# **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.

#### Assault

March 10, 5:01 p.m., 6100 block Cherrywood Lane. A man was walking away from the fitness center when a car drove up alongside of him and the driver asked him what he was looking at. The walker began to run and the driver then exited the vehicle and began running after him. The driver caught up with him, punched him once and then fled.

March 11, 9:10 p.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court. A woman became involved in a verbal altercation with several people when some of them began punching and kicking her. They then fled on foot. The woman was transferred to Doctors Community Hospital for treatment of minor injuries.

#### Burglary

March 13, 1:01 p.m., 9300 block Edmonston Road. Two laptop computers, two cell phones, a purse and cosmetics were taken after a residence was entered after breaking out the kitchen window.

#### Trespass

March 9, 1:38 a.m., 7200 block Hanover Drive. A 28-yearold nonresident was arrested and charged with trespass after he returned to the Holiday Inn after having been banned from the hotel by agents of the property. He was released on citation pending trial.

March 10, 4:40 p.m., 7500 block Greenbelt Road. A 17-yearold Greenbelt youth was arrested for trespass and theft by officers responding to a report of a shoplifter in custody. He was released to a parent pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

#### Vandalism

March 13, 5:30 a.m., 2 Court Gardenway. The lock on a garage door was damaged.

March 13, 10 p.m., 9200 block Edmonston Road. A man reported that on March 12 at approximately 10 p.m. he heard a loud noise. The next morning he found his kitchen window had been broken out.

March 14, 1:34 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive. The bedroom window of a residence was broken out.

#### Vehicle Crime

A 4-door black 2007 Mercedes S-550 with Md. tags 812968 was taken from the 6900 block Hanover Parkway on March 10.

Attempted thefts from vehicles occurred in the 9100 block Edmonston Road on March 11, when windows were broken on four vehicles. Three were rummaged through, but nothing was taken, and entry into the fourth vehicle was not gained.

A front passenger window was broken out in the 6200 block Springhill Drive on March 11 and cash was removed. Two tires and rims were taken in the 7700 block Hanover Parkway on March 12.

#### **Fatal Shooting Arrest**

Greenbelt police arrested Lenard James Grayton, a 29-yearold man with no fixed address, on March 17 and charged him with first degree murder and other related offenses in connection with the March 10 fatal shooting of Gabriel Hernandez Dreke. He was arrested without incident in the 7200 block Hanover Drive and transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

#### Learn How Law Enforcement Works

Registration for the spring session of the Greenbelt Citizens Police Academy is now open. Class 18-01 will begin on Tuesday, April 3 and continue each Tuesday through May 29 from 7 to 9 p.m. This free nine-week program is an opportunity for those who live, work or attend school in Greenbelt to gain a better understanding of how a law enforcement agency works. It consists of both classroom and hands-on instruction covering a wide variety of police functions.

Classes will be held at the Greenbelt Police Station, 550 Crescent Road. The number of attendees is limited to 12. More information, including criteria for selection, can be obtained at gpdcitizensacademy.com or by calling George Mathews, public information liaison, at 240-542-2116.

#### Garden Club to Meet Wednesday, March 28

The Beltsville Garden Club will meet on Wednesday, March 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room of the Duckworth School, 11201 Evans Trail, Beltsville. Dr. Richard Olsen, director of the U.S. National Arboretum, will present Perennially Yours: Herbaceous Perennials Need Love Too. Olsen, a Greenbelter who admits his first love is woody perennials, shows some love for herbaceous perennials too. He will highlight perennials observed in his travels to foreign lands as well as ones worth experimenting with in Maryland gardens.

A recognized international leader in the public garden arena, Olsen has the distinction of being the last Ph.D. student of the famed horticulturist J.C. Raulston at North Carolina State University.

The public is welcome and admission is free. Attendees are invited to bring a plant, cutting, garden tool or magazine to exchange. Refreshments will be served after the talk.



#### Heart Disease Support Group

Doctors Community Hospital offers a womens support group on heart disease on Tuesday, March 27 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The group is dedicated to helping women who have or who support someone who has heart disease; women who may be at risk of heart disease are also welcome. Join heart disease experts who provide educational information while encouraging women to make well-educated and heart-healthy decisions.

For more information or to register call 301-552-8058.

#### Drivers Needed For Cancer Patients

For many cancer patients, getting to and from treatment is one of their toughest challenges. The American Cancer Society needs volunteer drivers in Greenbelt to help provide transportation for cancer patients in the community who are receiving treatment at various cancer treatment facilities.

Last year, Road to Recovery volunteer drivers all over the U.S. provided more than 340,000 rides to and from treatment, but there is a greater need for more drivers in every community. Schedules

# Final Decision on Turning Point Academy under Study

#### by Matthew Arbach

On April 24, the Prince George's County Board of Education will make its final decision concerning the possible closure of Turning Point Academy (TPA) in Lanham. Based on the most recent performance review, the charter school has not fulfilled the requirements of its charter agreement in the areas of board governance, student academic performance and facility conditions.

Since June 30, 2017, when the three-year charter agreement term expired, the school has been existing under an agreement that ran from the 2017-2018 academic year as the review of the renewal application was under scrutiny. If the shutdown goes through, the plan is for TPA to be placed under the aegis of the Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) during the 2018-2019 academic year with a final closure on June 30, 2019. This is the 11th year for TPA.

The performance review determined the level of board governance in the Not Met category due to its inability to be effective in its administrative duties and its self-assessment and self-improvement procedures.

In 2015 to 2017, TPA generally scored below the average trends for both PGCPS and the State of Maryland in PARCC Math and PARCC ELA (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers English Language Arts) for grades 3 to 8. The deviation was in PARCC ELA where TPA 8th graders scored highest. This places TPA in the Approaching category which indicates a majority but not complete achievement level, requiring further development.

The review indicated the following concerns about the state of the facilities at TPA: student safety levels of the 14 temporary buildings now in use; operational issues deriving from the shared space with the community church; tight conditions in the main facility's classrooms, as well as narrow hallways and unsafe wall construction; and insufficient protection from weather.

Said Loretta White Khaalid, charter school liaison, "closing schools is painful for students, staff, parents and community members and we deeply regret any disruption this may cause to your family."

TPA has offered students the following options for closure: enrollment in the neighborhood boundary school lottery for charter/specialty programs or special transfer to another school beyond the neighborhood area.



**Turning Point Academy** 

# visit www.greenbeltnewsreview.com



leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Call 1-866-411-TIPS.

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\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

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ADMINISTRATIVE/BOOKKEEP-ING WORK - PT or FT. Lanham/ Greenbelt area. Please call 301-538-5911.

#### NOTICES

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, Greenbelt Baptist Church, 101 Greenhill Rd @ Crescent Rd, Greenbelt. Newcomer welcome meeting Monday, March 26 at 7 p.m. A 12 step support group for people with over and under eating and other problems with food. Info @ 202-362-8571 or 240-305-3433.

#### COMMERCIAL RENTAL

GREENBELT OFFICE AVAILABLE -One room in a quiet suite. Bathroom, partial kitchen, waiting area. Parking free and within steps of suite. R-12 Metro bus and Greenbelt Metrorail connections. Greenbelt Professional Center. Adjacent to Greenbelt Road. 301-982-7137

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JACKIE'S CLEANING - No job too big or small. Estimates, 301-731-0115.

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BUYING JUNK from basements, garages, attics, self-storage. Robert, GUTTER CLEANING - Free estimates. No McMansions please. Call Paul 301-474-6708 or 301-655-2517.

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BECAUSE THEY'RE FAMILY - Pet Photographer, 301-792-4976, www. Warren Wilson Pet Photograhy.com

#### YARD SALE

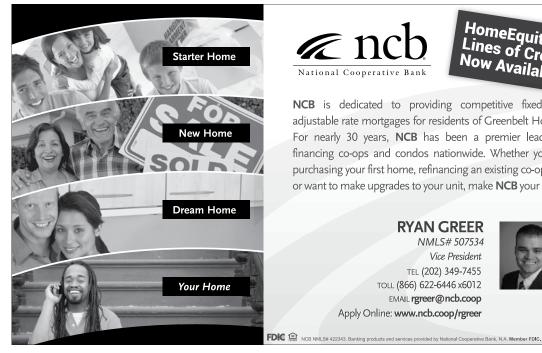
INDOOR COMMUNITY YARD SALE – April 7, 9 - 1 p.m., Greenbelt Fire Dept., 125 Crescent Rd. To reserve tables, call Kathy, 301-474-4372. Refreshments will be sold.



CLASSIFIED: \$3.00 minimum for ten words. 15¢ for each additional word. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 8 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 7 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770

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## **Open House:**

### Sunday 3/24 1-3pm

**18 U Ridge Rd-** This charming 3 bedroom brick has it all! Laundry room addition with sink, gorgeous open remodeled kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances. New flooring and carpet on the main floor, new exterior paint and large shed. Schedule for HIP renovations this year! \$205,000

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301-260-(TAIL) 8245 info@maestrostail.com www.MaestrosTailPetCare.com NEW LISTING! 115 Greenhill- 3 bed/2bath single family in sought after Lakewood. New room, refinished hardwood floors, whole house generator, carport, and more! Steps to Greenbelt Lake. \$345,000 UNDER CONTRACT

**<u>NEW LISTING!</u> 18 D Ridge-** Stunning end brick with wood burning fireplace, gorgeous renovated kitchen, sunroom addition, Second floor laundry, custom window treatments and more!! \$210,000 UNDER CONTRACT

**<u>10 J Southway-</u>** 3 bedroom frame with addition. **1**.5 baths, hardwood floors throughout, convenient location, and Screened porch ! \$153,900 UNDER CONTRACT

<u>8 Woodland Way-</u>Single family GHI! 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, refinished hardwood floors, gas fireplace, new AC and roof, custom built ins, new kitchen floor, large patio and deck, new shed, wooded backyard, and multi car driveway ! \$339,000 UNDER CONTRACT

73 K Ridge Rd- This Coop home is situated in one of the best locations in all Greenbelt, top of Ridge road near the USDA farms. This 3 bedroom frame is at the rear of the court and backs to woods. The kitchen has an open floor concept. New carpet and fresh paint! \$142,500 UNDER CONTRACT

## NURSING continued from page 11

would translate to units between \$360,000 to \$420,000.

#### **Council Opinions**

Councilmember Judith Davis said she liked the idea. "It's going to be very striking." Davis also expressed concern about the affordability of the units. "I want it to be affordable to people who are downsizing. When you add this extra stuff it means that it's not going to be affordable to our Greenbelt folks that want to downsize and I'm gonna have a problem with that." She also has concerns with the sound from Greenbelt Road.

Councilmember Emmett Jordan said the design was attractive and reminded him of Frank Lloyd Wright.

One topic brought up by

Councilmember Rodney Roberts was about the building material and the quality of the structure saying, "I think you should build it out of concrete." Councilmember Edward Putens expressed his concerns about security as well as the building materials. Postal said when pushed by council, "As much as I would like to build it out of concrete we just might not be able to afford it.'

The next step for Greenbelt Armory Place LLC will be a full presentation to Greenbelt's Advisory Planning Board which will give a recommendation to council. The Prince George's County Council will have to approve a new text amendment and detailed site plans.

# HANSEN рното ву аму

Daffodils droop in the snow during the storm on March 21.

# www.greenbeltnewsreview.com



## POLICE continued from page 1

piggy-backing on an agreement used by the other two cities.

Since the proposed start date for the work was March 19, city council introduced the resolution for negotiated purchase of services for first and second reading, as well as adoption, at the March 12 meeting. Ordinarily, resolutions must be read at two separate meetings before they can be adopted. The city council's Standing Rules require an affirmative vote from at least six of the seven members to introduce and adopt a resolution on one night. The council unanimously supported the staff recommendation to contract with Springsted Waters at a cost of \$24,000.

The entire hiring process is expected to take about four months and will resemble the search that took place for the city manager position. The draft agreement outlines the recruitment process, including development of a candidate profile, advertisement and outreach to potential candidates, application screening and support in negotiating with a final candidate.

City Manager Nicole Ard said people sometimes think of a national search as being directed toward external candidates only, but that she wanted to assure everyone that this search will be inclusive of both internal and external candidates.

Development of the candidate

profile will include ideas from the city council and employees, as well as comments from residents through, for example, the recent community meet-and-greets held by the city manager, advisory group meetings and surveys. It is hoped that opportunities to meet with the finalists can be scheduled with police department employees and the public included, subject to candidate confidentiality needs.

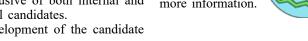
Ard also announced that a survey and place for comment is still available online and encouraged residents to make use of it (surveymonkey.com/r/JCNZLYM).

#### Free Egg Decorating Workshop Offered

A free Easter egg decorating workshop will be held on Saturday, March 24 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Brentwood Arts Exchange. Come for glitter, eggs and fun at this family-friendly event. Create beautifully decorated eggs that will impress friends and even the Easter Bunny. Children will receive their first two eggs for free; additional eggs

will be available for purchase.

Call 301-277-2863, TTY 301-699-2544 for more information.



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**New Deal Events** 

# Cub Scout Pack 202 Holds Annual Pinewood Derby

#### by Natalie Bailey

Cub Scout Pack 202 held the Pinewood Derby on Sunday, March 11 at Elks Lodge 1778 on Kenilworth Avenue. In the Pinewood Derby, scouts race cars made from a standard kit of a block of wood, nails and wheels. They can shape and decorate their cars however they like, but the cars must weigh in at under 5 ounces and meet certain size requirements.

The pack held competitions for each den, for the overall pack, and for friends and family. Design competitions were held as well.

Chartered by Greenbelt Community Church, Cub Scout Pack 202 is the oldest continually running pack in Prince George's County.

Sunday, March 25, 10:30 a.m. to noon, Deaf Group: Weekly Brunch Meeting. Deaf and hearing people socialize together using sign language. Newcomers welcome. 7 to 9 p.m., The Nighthawks. Mixing blues, R&B, honky-tonk country, doo-wop, gospel and rockabilly into one delicious stew, this D.C. legendary band graces the stage for a night to remember. Reservations suggested.

Monday, March 26, 6:30 to 9 p.m., New Deal Café regular board meeting. Members and visitors welcome.

Tuesday, March 27, 2 to 4 p.m., Bruce Kritt, classical guitar. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., The Colliders. The past and future of rock-n-roll with classic rockabilly, blues and honky-tonk.

Wednesday, March 28, 2 to 4 p.m., Bruce Kritt, classical guitar. 7 to 9:30 p.m., The Campfire Session. A monthly "listening room" showcasing local songwriters with something to say. Brief Q&A follows each performance.

Thursday, March 29, noon to 2 p.m., Mid-Day Melodies with Amy C Kraft. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Open Mic with Tom Gleason.

Friday, March 30, 2:30 to 4 p.m., Music Makers Jam Session. Bring instruments, voice and passion for making music together in a casual and supportive atmosphere. All ages and experiences welcome to participate. 8:30 to 11:30 p.m., Geraldine. Country-leaning acoustic trio blending elements of old time, American folk, bluegrass and alternative country in a distinctive, enthusiastic sound. Rock Creek Revival. Drawing on musical influences from bluegrass and country, Rock Creek Revival is a strictly acoustic bluegrass band that considers the New Deal Café their home. Moonlight Drive. Winner of the 2018 Mid-Atlantic Bluegrass Competition, mixing progressive bluegrass, country and traditional American music with a solid dose of traditional bluegrass.

Saturday, March 31, 8:30 to 11:30 p.m., Cousin John Band. With bluesy guitar riffs, tight harmonies and buttery grooves, CJB's live performances are both eclectic and electric featuring a wide range of original music mixed with covers from bands such as Little Feat, The Allman Brothers, Delbert McClinton, Aerosmith and Stevie Ray Vaughn.

#### LISTEN to the REVIE

## 100th Birthday Celebration



Friday Bridge players pose with Anne Lemaire, who celebrated her 100th birthday this week. They had cake and sang to her several times. Lemaire swims at the Aquatic & Fitness Center twice a week. She claims she is just as happy as she was when she moved to the U.S. from Europe in 1950. She was excited to tell Community Center staff that she taught nursery school for about 7 years in Greenbelt, starting in 1958.

#### March for Our Lives - Photos Requested



If you are going to the March on Saturday, please send us photos of yourselves and any other Greenbelters you see there.





# JOIN US FOR EASTER

#### Sunday, April 1, 2018

The Greenbelt Marriott invites you for brunch on Easter Sunday. From omelets and waffles to mouth-watering dishes like peach bourbon BBQ chicken, slow-roasted herb prime rib, and Cajun turkey, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Adults \$36, Children (5-12) \$18 Children 4 and under free. \*Plus tax and gratuity

BRUNCH IS SERVED FROM 11 AM - 2 PM Reservations are strongly encouraged



The pack winners Ben Rowe, Anthony Ship and Madhav Parthasarati show off their ribbons.



Tiger Den Leader Clark Rushing checks in cars and makes sure that they are within the size and weight allowed.



Scouts and families look on as Wolf Scout parent Jim Heagy collects cars from the finish line to determine the heat's winner.

- Photos by Natalie Bailey

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