



2021 Budget

Council Evaluates Budget for Museum, CARES and GAIL

by Matthew Arbach

The ramifications of COVID-19 on the Fiscal Year 2021 budgets of the Greenbelt Museum, Greenbelt CARES and Greenbelt Assistance In Living (GAIL) were the main topics at the Greenbelt City Council budget worksession on April 20. The uncertainties and challenges posed by the pandemic made budget decisions more difficult for council this year.

The meeting began with council consensus on some form of

notification to the city's apartment complexes, condominiums and homeowner associations on proper sanitation and hygiene in accord with state, county and federal guidelines, especially in common areas. Whether this would come from council or staff, such as the Planning Department or Code Enforcement, is to be determined.

Mayor Colin Byrd was keen on getting coronavirus testing sites to the Greenbelt area, per-

haps with help from Governor Larry Hogan. He suggested having them in the vicinity of Metro stations to better accommodate residents without cars.

Museum

Greenbelt Museum Director Megan Searing Young presented her budget report to council, which included the most recent exhibits, programs, tours and collection/archives status, as well

See **BUDGET**, page 8



PHOTO BY SHARON MILLER

Linda Kelley selects items from the St. Hugh pantry to fill food bags for residents. See letter, page 2.

ERHS Grad Remains Hopeful Developing a COVID Vaccine

by Brogan Gerhart

This story is part two in a two-part series about Olubukola Abiona's work with the Vaccine Research Center to develop a coronavirus vaccine. For more background on Abiona's research and how she got to where she is today, see the April 16 issue for part one.

For the last three years, Olubukola Abiona has been working as a post-baccalaureate IRTA Fellow at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Vaccine Research Center to develop vaccines for viruses like SARS, MERS and, most recently, COVID-19.

Scientist and Advocate

In addition to continuing the research she's pursuing now, Abiona said that she hopes to pursue a doctoral degree as a first-generation Ph.D. student to better define and further her interests in virology and vaccinology.

"I love it," Abiona said, referring to her current research with NIH. "After my first year, I realized, 'Okay, this is what I want to do.'"

Along with finding validation in her interests, Abiona said that

she overcame many challenges in her role as well. "I think that the biggest challenge, especially when I first got into this role, was learning that I have a voice and a say in the process," she said. "I'm surrounded by so many brilliant scientists on a day-to-day basis, so offering my opinion on things in the past, I wasn't as vocal."

Over time, Abiona says she learned that no matter what level you are in your training as a scientist, your opinion is valued and respected. "And that's really amazing as someone who's trying to go where [the scientists you work with] are," Abiona said.

But, with every challenge and lesson learned, Abiona said that the most important takeaway she received from her experience was



PHOTO COURTESY OLUBUKOLA ABIONA

Olubukola Abiona, a graduate of ERHS, shows off the NIH Vaccine Research Center where she is a post-baccalaureate IRTA Fellow.

advocacy.

"As a black woman in STEM, there are challenges that are unique to my situation that I have to learn how to vocalize,"

See **VACCINE**, page 4

Farmers Market 2020 Opens May 10 with Full Precautions

by Cathie Meetre

The good news is that the Farmers Market will open on time on Sunday, May 10, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. as usual to bring sparkling-fresh vegetables and more to the city. More good news is that most of the longest-running and crowd-favorite vendors will also return with some exciting newbies (oysters anyone?). The flipside is somewhat fewer vendors overall and the essential COVID-19 precautions – tougher than for grocery stores – that will inevitably impact the easy camaraderie so characteristic of the market. The fresh strawberries, however, outweigh much inconvenience.

Market COVID-19 Rules

Visitors must enter the market at a single point, nearest the New Deal Café, and exit only at the opening nearest the Aquatic & Fitness Center and must, throughout, wear a mask that covers their nostrils and mouth. Other market access will be blocked. Purchases may not be consumed in the market, though coffee from Zeke's (feared by returning Market Master Frances Ippoliti to be in jeopardy) will be available for carryout. Hand sanitizing will be required on entry and available at vendors throughout the market.

See **MARKET**, page 7

What to Do with that Ballot Once It Arrives in the Mail

by Kathleen Gallagher

Este artículo está disponible en español en nuestra página web www.greenbeltnewsreview.com.

According to the Maryland State Board of Elections, all registered voters who are qualified to vote in the Tuesday, June 2, Maryland Democratic and Republican Primary Elections should receive a ballot through the mail by the middle of May. Only qualified voters registered as Republicans or Democrats should expect to receive ballots to vote in these primary elections. Citizens may register to vote if they are at least 16 years old, but they cannot vote in the primary election unless they will turn 18 by the November 3 general election. The deadline for registering or changing one's registration has been extended to May 27.

Because of the difficulties in

attempting to run an election in the midst of a pandemic, Governor Larry Hogan directed that Maryland's primaries be set back until June and that the Board of Elections submit a plan for safely conducting them. The result will be Maryland's first election run

See **VOTING**, page 2

What Goes On

- Monday, May 11**
8:30 p.m. Council Meeting
 - Wednesday, May 13**
8 p.m. Council Budget Work-session on Planning/ Economic Development
- All meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.

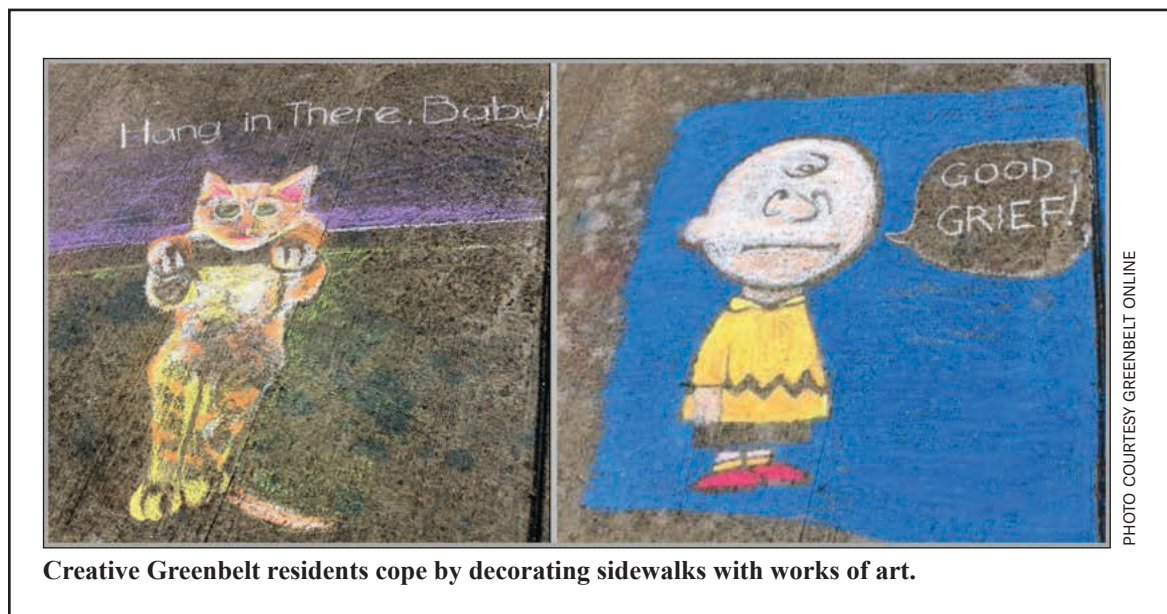


PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT ONLINE

Creative Greenbelt residents cope by decorating sidewalks with works of art.

Letters to the Editor

Pantry Thanks

St. Hugh Ladies of Charity would like to thank all those who have donated Co-op Store gift cards to the St. Hugh Food Pantry. We have received \$4,650 in gift card donations thus far. I wish you could see the tears of joy and unbelief when a pantry family receives a card. They want to thank the donors for caring about their families during these hard times. They all express what a blessing it is. Thanks to all in the Greenbelt community for your continued generosity in buying Co-op \$5 food bags and for the donated non-perishable foods left at the St. Hugh rectory.

Mary Ann Tretler
President,
St. Hugh Ladies of Charity

Unmasked Concerns

I'd like to make a request for runners and bicyclists to wear masks, especially when they're exercising around Greenbelt Lake or other locations where there are a number of walkers in proximity. Since those moving quickly are more likely to be breathing more heavily than others, and because they may be passing other individuals at fairly close range (6 feet should still be maintained), this is important. Thank you for your consideration.

Lin Orrin

Beware of Scams

During this time of isolation, I've been ordering needed items from Amazon. Recently I received an email from Amazon telling me they were unable to process my order and would need additional information. I followed the instructions until I got to a section that asked for my Social Security number and date of birth. Only then did I realize it was not a legitimate request from Amazon. Please be careful in responding to such requests. Scammers are everywhere. Giving them personal information could lead to great financial loss. This is a sad but true fact during a time of great difficulty.

Barbara Havekost

Video Game But Vital

Walking in old Greenbelt today feels like playing Pacman, turning around, crossing intersections to avoid deadly contact. I prefer to think of it as saving lives, though.

Rick Coleman

Community Generosity

I am always in awe of the generosity of Greenbelters. Many who are reading this letter remember my sister, Liz Labukas who had Down Syndrome, lived most of her life in Greenbelt and was a program aide at Greenbelt Nursery School for many years.

While living in Greenbelt, Liz received residential group home services from the nonprofit agency CALMRA, Inc. This agency has 16 group homes in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties and provides residential services for 46 adults ages 19 to 82 with cognitive, medical and physical disabilities. These residents have been basically quarantined since the COVID-19 crisis began. As most of us, the staff have had difficulty obtaining

cleaning supplies and PPEs.

When I approached my neighbors in 5 Court Ridge and other friends in Greenbelt, they readily donated toilet paper, cleaning supplies and made monetary donations. Robert Strassler-Goldberg of RUAK and Bob Davis at the Co-op supported us. Four friends, Sue McKinley, Celestine Rainey-Howe, Donna Peterson and Karen Pedersoli sewed 100 face masks for the group home staff. The St. Hugh Parish Sodality added CALMRA, Inc. to their prayer list and many sodalists donated puzzles, crayons, coloring books and activities to keep the residents busy. The state and the St. Hugh Knights of Columbus Councils presented CALMRA, Inc. with a very generous, much needed donation.

Many thanks to all of these wonderful Greenbelters who honored Liz's memory and pitched in when needed. We are not out of the woods yet, however. We welcome anyone who is interested in making a donation of supplies or a monetary donation to please contact us at CALMRA.org.

Kathy Labukas

Co-op Curbside Pickup Success

Online ordering and curbside pickup is off to a big start! Thanks to all who have given us a try in our first "pilot" week. We've had at-near capacity with the system from the start, which is great. Remember, that it's for next day pick-up and we have about five slots per hour avail-

able so if you have a specific time you need for pickup, order early to ensure the spot you want. We're still working out the kinks of a new system but every day it's going more smoothly. We appreciate everyone's patience with us. Overall I've gotten a great deal of positive feedback about the program, which is very delightful. Customers have wanted to tip us, which is appreciated but we're not accepting tips for this service.

Maybe they can donate it to a food bank instead? Thanks, Greenbelt, for jumping into this new program with your Co-op!

Dan Gillotte
General Manager
Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket
& Pharmacy

Thanks to Gardeners

I want to thank Elena Lumby and her friends for cleaning up the small park on Laurel Hill Road. It's a much prettier space now, and their hard work has been noticed and appreciated by those of us who live close by.

It's worth noting that the space they are transforming had another purpose for many years; it was the site of a freestanding boiler unit that supplied hot water and steam for the defense homes on upper Laurel Hill and Ridge Roads. There were four such boiler plants in the North End; all four were demolished 30 years ago after the conversion to electric heat. It's wonderful to have such a lovely garden in a spot of historic interest to the community!

Stephen Oetken

VOTING continued from page 1

almost entirely by mail.

Limited in-person voting will be available for those who are unable to vote by mail, but to reduce the risk of spreading the novel coronavirus it is strongly recommended that all those who can vote by mail do so. Voters who do not receive a ballot by the middle of the month may call the Prince George's County Board of Elections at 301-341-7300 to request one or they can go to one of the voting centers on Tuesday, June 2, to vote.

Voted ballots must be post-marked on or before June 2. Voters who prefer to drop off their voted ballots rather than sending them through the mail may do so at designated ballot drop-off locations in the county where they live. These centers will be open from Thursday, May 21, through Election Day on June 2. People who are unable to vote by mail may vote in person on election day at a voting center in the county in which they live.

Prince George's County has five locations for dropping off voted ballots, four of which will also serve as voting centers on June 2.

The voting centers available in Prince George's County, which are open for voting on June 2 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., in order of distance from Greenbelt, are the following: the College Park Community Center, 5051 Pierce Avenue; the Kentland Community Center, 2413 Pinebrook Avenue, Landover; the Bowie Gymnasium, 4100 Northview Drive; and the

Southern Regional Technology and Recreation Complex, 7007 Bock Road, Fort Washington.

For purposes of dropping off voted ballots only, the office of the Prince George's County Board of Elections is also available at 1100 Mercantile Lane, Suite 115A, in Largo.

The Republican ballot is quite brief. Voters may choose either Donald Trump or Bill Weld as their nominee for President. Five people are running to become the Republican nominee to serve as District 5's Representative in Congress, the position currently held by Steny Hoyer. They are Byron DuVal Cubero, Lee Havis, Kenneth Lee, Chris Palombi and Doug Sayers. The races for positions of Delegate and Alternative Delegate to the Republican Convention are non-competitive since all the candidates are unopposed.

On both the Republican and Democratic ballots there are seven candidates vying for five positions as Judge of the Circuit Court: April Ademiluyi, Brian Seth Bereano, Wytonja Curry, ShaRon M. Grayson Kelsey, Jared Michael McCarthy, Cathy H. Serrette and Gladys Weather-spoon.

Fourteen candidates are named to run for President on the Democratic Ballot: Joe Biden and 13 of those who shared the debate stage with him this year. Running for Congressional Representative are incumbent Steny Hoyer and challengers William A. Devine III, Vanessa Marie Hoffman, Briana Uria and Mckayla Wilkes.

Service or Garden Side?



I guess I'll get bananas.

- B. Glee

Mail Alert

Due to the closure of the Community Center it appears that some mail sent to us is being returned to the sender. Mail can be placed through the mail slot in our outside door. If that is not feasible, please email us at editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Correction

Last week in Our Neighbors, in mourning the death of Rena Hull, we misspelled the name of the Voigt family.

Restaurant Updates

An updated list of local restaurants which are open for take-out/delivery can be found at www.greenbeltnewsreview.com.

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

Community Events

GCAN Will Meet Virtually on May 13

The Greenbelt Climate Action Network will again be holding their monthly meeting via Zoom. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 13 from 7 to 9 p.m.

To get the call-in instructions, visit facebook.com/pg/chearsorg/events/ or chears.org/gcan.

Once again, participants will spend most of the meeting discussing several articles. This month, they will explore the topic of a Green Stimulus Plan. The nation is currently facing three converging crises: the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting economic recession, the climate emergency and the extreme inequality in how this pandemic affects different populations. They will explore some proposals that climate and social policy experts have developed – a sort of “menu of solutions” – that would collectively comprise a Green Stimulus to meet these challenges.

The group would like attendees to read the articles before the meeting, but it is not a requirement. Links to the articles/videos are in the Facebook Invite, as well as online at chears.org/gcan.

For more information, or for those who do not have access to Facebook and/or the internet, contact Lore Rosenthal at SimplicityGroupsMD@gmail.com or at 301-345-2234.

Online Meet-up For Visual Artists

The Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program invites visual artists working in all media to meet up online for a Virtual Art Share on Friday, May 8 at 7 p.m. This casual, friendly forum is intended for adults of all experience levels. Artists are invited to bring one to three pieces to share and discuss. The program is free, but advance registration at greenbeltmd.gov/arts is required in order to receive a Zoom meeting link. Art Shares are held monthly.

Environmental Zoom Earth Day Offering

The Green Teams of the City of Greenbelt and Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ, offer the first of a series of short interactive online presentations by local experts in honor of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day.

The first presentation will be on Sunday, May 17, from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. Lore Rosenthal will present Introduction to Drawdown: How We Can Reverse Global Warming. Following her presentation, there will be time for questions as well as discussion of possible follow-up actions.

Due to security concerns, RSVPs will be required to join this presentation, which will be online via the Zoom app. RSVP by Wednesday, May 13 to Jane Young at gccjane@aol.com. She will send a confirmation with a link for joining the presentation.

Tea Time on Zoom

The Greenbelt Community Tea continues to meet weekly on Thursdays at 7 p.m. for a purely social time, to help counteract cabin fever and to get to know your neighbors. Make a cup of tea and hop onto Zoom.

Participants talk about anything and everything. Find the group on Facebook at facebook.com/pg/greenbeltimebank/events/. Those not on Facebook can email greenbelt.timebank@gmail.com to request the Zoom link.

The Community Tea is not a Greenbelt Time Bank event, but they are offering their resources to make this successful.

OGT's Next Film Discussion Is May 10

The Old Greenbelt Theatre hosts film discussions via Zoom every Sunday at 2 p.m. On Sunday, May 10, the Flick of the Week film discussion will be on *Snowpiercer* (2014, 126 minutes, R for violence, language and drug content), directed by 2020 Oscar-winning director Bong Joon-Ho (*Parasite*). For those who wish to view the film ahead of the discussion, it is available for streaming on Netflix (subscription required) or can be rented for \$3.99 on Amazon Video, YouTube, Google Play or AppleTV.

To participate, go to greenbelttheatre.org/film/flick-of-the-week/ to register for the film discussion to receive information on how to access the Zoom call. Those who do not have internet access can join the film discussion via phone. Call Kelly at 301-329-2034 to request access information.

About the Film: *Snowpiercer*

In this sci-fi epic, a failed global-warming experiment kills off most life on the planet. The final survivors board the SNOWPIERCER, a train that travels around the globe via a perpetual-motion engine. When cryptic messages incite the passengers to revolt, the train thrusts full-throttle toward disaster.



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Learn About Dynamic Community Governance

The Center for Dynamic Community Governance (CDCG) is offering a no-cost (but donations are greatly appreciated) introduction to Dynamic Community Governance on Saturday, May 9 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Contact Aileen at aileen@dynamic-governance.org for the Zoom link and to provide feedback on the new site.

Assistance by Phone

AARP help with taxes will not be rescheduled this year in Greenbelt. For information on tax sites as they open call 888-227-7669.

Phone calls to the GIVES office are being answered remotely as the Community Center remains closed.

Time Bank Hosts Talk On Fraught Topics

On Sunday, May 24 from 3 until 4:30 p.m., the Greenbelt Time Bank will host a discussion on Difficult Conversations: Talking Across the Lines. The discussion will be via a Zoom link and is open to non-Time Bank members. To register, contact Linda Warren Seely at lwseely@gmail.com.

With the political divide currently experienced in the U.S. ever widening, with concerns about the COVID-19 crisis and with increased social distancing, the ability to communicate effectively is or can be significantly compromised. For those who have ever had to have a difficult conversation, or are facing the need to have one, the group will explore strategies for having them and tips on how to avoid becoming overwhelmed.

GATE Program Schedule Friday May 8 - Thursday May 14		
SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE		
7 am	From the GATE Archive	• Selected Programming
8 am	Democracy Now!	• Repeat of Yesterday's Program
9 am	GATE Classic Film ★ <i>Fantasy/Family • 1934</i>	• March of the Wooden Soldiers <i>Stan Laurel • Oliver Hardy</i>
11 am	From the GATE Archive	• Selected Programming
12 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
1 pm	Science Bowl PGCPSS	• Kids Science Quiz Show
2 pm	From the GATE Archive	• Selected Programming
3 pm	GATE Classic Film ★ <i>Fantasy/Family • 1934</i>	• March of the Wooden Soldiers <i>Stan Laurel • Oliver Hardy</i>
5 pm	Science Bowl PGCPSS	• Kids Science Quiz Show
6 pm	From the GATE Archive	• Selected Programming
7 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
8 pm	GATE Classic Film ★ <i>Fantasy/Family • 1934</i>	• March of the Wooden Soldiers <i>Stan Laurel • Oliver Hardy</i>
10 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
11 pm	From the GATE Archive	• Selected Programming

GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION

WATCH US on VERIZON Fios 19 or COMCAST 77
STREAMING LIVE at www.greenbeltaccessstv.org/channel-live-stream

Greenbelt Federal Credit Union SOCIAL DISTANCING / NEW BUSINESS HOURS until further notice

Due to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic and our state Governor's recommendations, our business hours have been modified.

The branch will be **closed to members on Tuesdays and Thursdays**; you may call to schedule an appointment for loan closings or new account openings. The branch will be open on Mondays and Wednesdays normal business hours, and on Fridays from 9am to 5pm. Thank you for your understanding.

Please remember Social Distancing to keep yourself and our staff safe.

We encourage our members to utilize our electronic services as much as possible. This includes **online banking w/bill pay, visiting our atm to make deposits and withdrawals, and using our mobile app to check your balance**. If you need assistance signing up or using these services please contact us and our staff will be happy to help you.

Thank you for your membership



Greenbelt FCU

GREENBELT FARMERS MARKET

**Opens Sunday,
May 10.**
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
In the parking
lot behind the
New Deal Café.

- Most long-time vendors will be attending.
- Market conforms strictly to all P.G. health standards – more rigorous than stores.
- Masks required! Hand sanitizer on entry
- Market is one-way circulation, take-out only – no food consumption on premises.
- Distancing observed in shopping and queueing. Move right along, please.
- Contactless payment highly desirable.

For more information on vendors, rules, payments and volunteering/donating visit
[WWW.GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org](https://www.GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org).
GFM thanks the City of Greenbelt for its help.

Obituaries

Ronald Gingell



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Ronald Gingell

Ronald Lee Gingell died suddenly on April 27, 2020, at his home in Kill Devil Hills, N.C. He was just shy of his 63rd birthday. Born in College Park, Mr. Gingell was raised in the Greenbelt area.

He was married for 17 years to his wife Gloria. The Gingells made the Outer Banks their home 25 years ago. Always a hard worker, Mr. Gingell was a valued team member at Food Lion, Coca-Cola Company and Frito-Lay where he excelled in sales.

Mr. Gingell is survived by his wife; one sister, Karen Smith of Greenbelt; a step-son, Jaime Jofre of New York; a sister-in-law, Sylvia Young of Chesapeake, Md.; and niece and nephew-in-law Paola Victoris of Dunkirk and Danilo Yanes of Pompano, Fla.

In keeping with Mr. Gingell's directives, he will be cremated and no services are to be held. Family and friends may express their condolences via the online register at gallopfuneralservices.com.

Jim Cooley

James "Jim" Lawrence Cooley died on the evening of Tuesday, April 28, 2020, at UM Prince George's Hospital Center, as a result of COVID-19. He was born on April 17, 1938, in Northampton, Mass., and grew up in Pelham, Mass., in rural and humble beginnings. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts in 1960 with a B.Sc. in mathematics and in 1962 received his M.A. in mathematics from Pennsylvania State University.

Mr. Cooley started his employment in 1963 as a mathematician and aerospace engineer at the Goddard Space Flight Center,

where he was recognized with multiple citations and held many positions including head of the Mission Design Section and staff engineer. He created a 34-year legacy of work in which he contributed to the orbital mechanics of satellites that helped monitor and warn of weather dangers.

Mr. Cooley leaves behind his wife of 58 years, Brenda, whom he met in college; daughter Deborah; son Andrew and his wife Lynn; two granddaughters, Ciera and Ruth; and great-grandson Landyn. He also leaves behind a myriad of friends in Greenbelt, where he served in numerous capacities across church and civic organizations. Mr. Cooley had a passion for wine tasting, jogging and sports and especially the Maryland Terrapins. He shared all of these experiences with his family as often as he could.

John Holbrook



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

John Holbrook

John Francis Holbrook, age 69, a longtime resident of Greenbelt, died on Sunday, March 22, 2020, of complications of chronic kidney disease at the Hebrew Home of Greater Washington in Rockville. The son of Francis (Frank) and Dorothy (Schwartz) Holbrook, John was born in Washington, D.C., on February 16, 1951. He graduated from

C.U. Campus School, St. John's College High School and the University of Maryland.

John treasured the Serenity Prayer and lived it. He had "the serenity to accept the things he could not change" – chronic illnesses; "the courage to change the things he could" – he was a friend of Bill W for 36 years and a friend and role model to many; and "the wisdom to know the difference." John led a life centered around social justice and community service. While a student at the University of Maryland, he helped found MaryPIRG (Maryland Public Interest Research Group), a student-led social justice organization still thriving at the College Park campus after more than 40 years. He volunteered at the Greenbelt Step Club and elsewhere, and was an active member of the Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church and the Eleanor and Franklin Democratic Club. As his friends and family can attest, he could discuss politics, a good book (history, please) and the latest movie with gusto. An avid Nats fan, John was overjoyed at their World Series victory last year.

John is survived by his siblings, Charlie Holbrook of Delray Beach, Fla.; Anne Holbrook Trench of Seattle, Wash.; Maria Holbrook Dawson of West River; and Janet Holbrook of Crownsville.

Donations in John's honor can be made to the Greenbelt Step Club (P.O. Box 1084, Greenbelt, MD 20768), the Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church (3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi, MD 20783) or to the children's charity (worldvillages.org) founded by his cousin, Father Al, to whom John felt very connected. The Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist church will host a Celebration of Life for John on Saturday, May 9 at 2 p.m. on Zoom (uuma.zoom.us/j/99965301181).

VACCINE continued from page 1

Abiona said. "Not to say that there weren't resources, but I had to be proactive about finding opportunities and if I needed something, not just sitting there, but actively searching for those opportunities."

At the Vaccine Research Center, Abiona said that she not only found opportunities to pursue the research she wanted to pursue, but mentors who were willing to help her succeed in her career and in her personal development.

A Love for the Lab

"The work I'm doing has so many implications," Abiona said. "From a public health and political perspective, to touching on every different kind of person and social issue, this research has an intersectionality about it that is something close to my heart. I love thinking about problems in that sense – not just looking at one aspect of it, but multiple."

Abiona explained that research has both short-term and long-term implications. Although vaccine development can go on for years and even the majority of someone's career, Abiona said that even during that time you can contribute in a way that has almost immediate applications, like finding antibodies that help people in medicine and in the field. "I think that's a beautiful thing because you can make an impact not just later on, but currently where you are," she said.

In light of the current public health crisis, Abiona said that aside from a slight increase in hours, her role hasn't changed much. "I think what's great about our coronavirus program here is that we're all about pandemic preparedness," Abiona said. "So, when it comes to responding to this public health crisis, I'm basically doing the same things I would be doing, just with a different virus. Our idea is to have a generalizable approach to not just tackle one virus but to tackle

multiple viruses if necessary."

Abiona said that outside of her work, she is astounded by the sacrifices people make on the front lines of fighting this current pandemic, not just in research, but in medicine.

"I get to see that firsthand," she said, explaining that her whole household is essential during this crisis with both of her parents working as nurses and her brother as a pharmacy technician. "We're just very careful at home," Abiona explained. Even before this time of social distancing, she said that her parents would do "ankle-bumps" at home as a more sanitary way of showing affection, along with everyone checking in with each other to make sure they were okay.

"I operate from a place of hope," Abiona said. "This is something that can be a learning opportunity. This is something that allows us to take a step back, look at our lives and understand more about the time we are spending [together]. This is not to be facetious, but operating from that place, a place of hope, allows other people to feel hope as well."

And Abiona said that that is very important in the work she, her family and all frontline medical workers do. "If you just sit and despair, even though those are very strong feelings, you can lose sight of recognizing that this is a temporary feeling," Abiona said. "This is a short period of time where we are going through something that is difficult, but that is also a part of life. This too shall pass."



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 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
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 301-474-9410
 Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor
 In person worship services cancelled for now.
 Live streaming on our Facebook page @mowattumc.
 10 a.m. Sunday mornings

Greenbelt Community Church
 Our Sunday Worship Services are Cancelled until Further Notice

Check us out on Facebook Live
Sunday at 10:30 AM
<https://www.facebook.com/GCCUCMD>
 1 Hillside Road 301-474-6171 Rev. Glenyce Grindstaff

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 3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
 Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org
 Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community
May 10 10 a.m.
A Mother's Day Bouquet of Music
 David Chapman, Music Director and Pianist; Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister; Jeri Holloway, Worship Associate; and Special Music
 The Annual Choir Music Service in a New Virtual Format. Join us as we worship together with music and words featuring our prerecorded choir, choir reflections and special music. Streaming info at bit.ly/TeamPBUUC

The Bible Says...
Come to Me,
 all who are weary and heavy-laden
 and I will give you rest.
Matthew 11:28

Sunday Worship Services
10a-11a ONLINE
MCFcc.org/online

Mishkan Torah Congregation
 10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
 Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield
 An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.
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 Saturday morning services at 10:00am
 All services and activities are currently virtual
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Worship with us at
Greenbelt Baptist Church
 Biblical Confessional Reformed Gospel Centered
 Sunday School 9:15 am
 Worship Service 10:30 am
 Evening Service 6:00 pm
 <<101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt MD>>
www.greenbeltbaptist.org
 301-474-4212
 @GreenbeltBaptist



The Greenbelt community has lost a vivid, informed and active member with the death of John Francis Holbrook. Among his activities were the Greenbelt Step Club, the Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church and the Eleanor and Franklin Democratic Club.

We were also saddened to learn of the death in North Carolina of Ron Gingell, who was a longtime resident of Greenbelt and still has family here.

Another loss to our community this week is Jim Cooley of Lastner Lane who died April 28 from COVID-19. Condolences to his wife, family and many friends.

Jim's death brings home the fact that COVID-19 is here in Greenbelt. According to the coronavirus.maryland.gov website, the number of our neighbors in zip code 20770 suffering from the virus by Tuesday, May 5, was 191.

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

City Notes

City business continues, with all departments meeting and training online.

Animal Control removed two raccoons from balconies. Two cats are sheltered with three kittens in foster care. A baby bird was left outside the Community Center with a note, but Animal Control was not advised. The bird did not survive. Reminder: Call Animal Control at 301-474-7200.

This week 24.55 tons of refuse and 11.90 tons of recycling material were collected.

The Aquatic & Fitness Center added new mats to the treadmill room.

The Virtual Recreation Center was promoted via yard signs, social media and the city's website.

A Mom's Morning Out birthday celebration featured a decorated car parade.

For Children's Mental Health Week, CARES promoted Prince George's County's Chalk Art Festival, seeking images of positive chalked messages.

The Virtual Artful Afternoon featured Beech Tree Puppets' The Crystal Ball.

Therapeutic and Recreation staff delivered meals and word games to 32 seniors.

With nice weather, Park Rangers report increased crowding in city parks.



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL- REGULAR MEETING and PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED FY 2021 BUDGET
Monday, May 11, 2020, 8:30 p.m.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

- Presentations**
- Public Hearing on the proposed FY 2021 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.)

*** Minutes of Council Meeting**

Administrative Reports

- * Committee Reports**
- * Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Trees Report #2020-2 (Arbor Day Proclamation)
- * Arts Advisory Board (AAB) - Report 20-2 (Recommended Enhancements to Lighting in Roosevelt Center)

LEGISLATION

- Resolution for State Enterprise Zone

OTHER BUSINESS

- Forest Preserve Advisory Board (FPAB) - Report # 2020-01 (Recommendation that the City of Greenbelt Create a Science Fund for Studying the Forest Preserve)
- Greenbelt Theatre Expansion Plans and Façade Improvements at Pop-Up Space
- Emergency Tenant Relief Letter
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
- *- Reappointment to Advisory Groups
- *- Resignation from Advisory Group

COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE VIRTUAL

Cablecast on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and streamed at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv as it happens.

Resident participation: Join By phone: (301) 715-8592, Meeting ID: 829 9803 8939, Password: 997282

In advance the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov

UPCOMING VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Monday, May 11 at 5:30pm, **YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, On the Agenda: Awareness Campaign, Crime Prevention, Voter Registration, Liaison Reports.

Monday, May 11 at 8:30pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FY 2021 PROPOSED BUDGET**, Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Wednesday, May 13 at 8:00pm, **BUDGET WORK SESSION WITH PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Thursday, May 14 at 7:30pm, **COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (CRAB)**. On the Agenda: Approval of Minutes, Community Feedback, Resources for Helping Greenbelters During a Crisis, Referral from Council – Greenbelt Residents who Celebrate their 100th Birthday. This agenda is subject to change.

ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION IS POSTED ON THE MEETINGS CALENDAR AT WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV



CELEBRATION OF SPRING
SATURDAY, MAY 16
2:00PM

Save the date and plan to join us for a Celebration of Spring. We have music, floral themed crafts, a featured athlete, a magic show and more!

Check the Special Events section of the Virtual Recreation Center for more details next week.

Contact: Frank Jones, fjones@greenbeltmd.gov

Summer Help - Public Works Maintenance Worker II

– Salary \$14.11/hr. Performs a variety of tasks requiring manual labor. May perform basic landscaping tasks such as mowing lawns, raking leaves, planting shrubbery, leveling playing fields, cutting and pruning trees, maintaining playgrounds and clearing dead wood. May perform traffic safety tasks such as the maintenance of traffic signs, street painting, and patching streets by pouring and shoveling asphalt and concrete. A High School diploma or equivalent is required. Must possess a Maryland State Driver's License in good standing. A City of Greenbelt application is required. To apply, log onto www.greenbeltmd.gov.



Parenting During Corona Virus

Online Classes:

Dealing with Stress (May 13 & 20)

Making Smart Money Decisions (May 27 & June 3)

Be the Best Parent You Can Be!

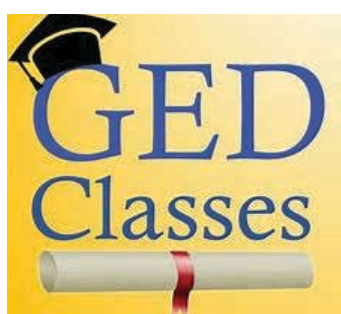
Time: 5pm - 6:00pm

To register email: cares@greenbeltmd.gov

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Public Safety Advisory Committee, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, and the Youth Advisory Committee. **For more information call 301- 474-8000**

NEW! VIRTUAL



GREENBELT CARES RESOURCES AND VIRTUAL GED CLASSES NOW AVAILABLE.

Greenbelt CARES has now made some of its services available virtually including a large list of resources on mental health, domestic violence, food resources and more to help you get through the Covid19 crisis and GED classes. Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/cares

WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV/COVID19

CENSUS 2020

Your Community is Counting on You to Fill out the Census !

Who Counts in Greenbelt?

- Property Owners and Renters
- College students who live off-campus in Greenbelt
- Children, including infants
- Non-Citizens

EVERYONE living in Greenbelt on April 1, 2020

If our community is undercounted, we miss out on **\$1,825** per person each year

The Census is used to distribute billions of federal funds for hospitals, roads, and other vital programs

Complete the Census today online at www.my2020census.gov or by phone at **844-330-2020**



This project has been financed in part with State Funds from Maryland's 2020 Census Grant Program. Project content or opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the State of Maryland or any of its instrumentalities.

Virtual Art Share
Friday, May 8, at 7pm

Artists of all levels are invited to bring 1-3 pieces to share and discuss. The program is free, but advance registration is required in order to receive a Zoom meeting link; the sign-up is available at www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts. Art Shares are held monthly.

Seven Song Sing-Along w/Chris Cherry & Stefan Brodd

Saturdays at 2pm on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt and on the Virtual Recreation Center at www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation

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STAIR LIFTS – Never walk up steps again! Buy new or certified pre-owned stair lifts at reduced prices. Installation, lifetime warranty and free service contract included. Cal (301) 448-5254

SERVICES

LAWN & ORDER is offering a free bleach and disinfectant treatment this week only. For those who prefer an actual living yard, Lawn & Order is offering a 10% discount on mulching, cutting and hedge trimming services for the rest of May. Call Dennis at 240-264-7638

COMPUTERS – Systems installation, troubleshooting, wireless checkup, anti-virus, firewall, -etc. 240-601-4163.

LEW'S CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY – Free estimates, fabric samples, local business for over 30 years. Call Missy, 301-345-7273.

SILVER LAWN CARE. Call for cut, trim, blow. 240-676-9175

LAWN MOWING Service for the Greenbelt area. Contact 240-391-8615

PATTI'S PETSITTING – By a Professional Animal Care Specialist. All types of animals! Insured! Reasonable rates! References available. Patti, 301-910-0050.

DAVE'S HANDYMAN SERVICE – Drywall work, painting interior/exterior, light construction, trim work, deck and shed repairs, cleaning and sealing. 443-404-0449

KELLAHER MAINTENANCE ENGINEERING, LLC – Plumbing, electrical, painting, drywall, LEAF REMOVAL, landscape design, flower beds, bucket truck services, stump grinding, pruning trees & removal, pole lighting, power washing siding & decks. Mulch & top soil delivery. Dkellaher@hotmail.com. 301-318-5472. Insured. Visa, MasterCard, Discover.

HOUSECLEANING – Over 20 years in Greenbelt area! Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or one-time cleaning offered. Local references and free estimates available. Debbie, 301-523-9884.

MISSY'S DECORATING – Serving Greenbelt for over 30 years. Interior painting, wall papering. Free estimates. MHIC #26409. Insured. Call Missy, 301-345-7273.

ESTATE PLANNING – will, health directive, financial POA package \$250, MD licensed attorney, Naomi Littlefield, 202-246-1072

FRANK'S VIDEO CONVERSION – Convert VHS tapes/8mm movies slides to DVD. LP records to CD. (H) 240-295-3994, (C) 703-216-7293.

DAVE'S PLUMBING SERVICE – Repair/replace or remodel. Free estimates. 240-470-5450.

ANGELA'S HOUSE CLEANING – Cleaning your home like my own, at reasonable prices. Reference available in Greenbelt. Ten years professional experience. AngelaLazo1@hotmail.com or 240-645-5140.

Classified Advertisements

Because the Community Center is closed, individuals wishing to make payments or submit advertising may drop their ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the building (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building). The office door, up a short flight of exterior stairs, is clearly labeled with a News Review sign. If a receipt is required, request it with the ad submission and provide a contact email address.

If the exact amount for the ad is not included or further information is needed, call the ad desk at 301-474-4131 or send an email to ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

 Advertise here and read about **YOU.** Not us! \$20 and up www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com

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RATES
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.
BOXED: \$10 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15). Deadline 4 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 8 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads.
NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

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3 Bedroom 1 bath
2 Eastway Unit E \$195,000
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Please check out the virtual tours!
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Realtor
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Greenbelt, MD 20770
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Cell: 410-365-6769
cdoss12279@gmail.com

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Mike Cantwell: 240-350-5749
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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, www.greenbeltmd.gov/police.
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robbery

April 28, 11:51 p.m., 9200 block Edmonston Road. A person approached a man who was walking to a residence, produced a knife and stabbed him. He then took the video game player the walker was carrying in his backpack. The injured man was transported to UM Prince George's Hospital Center for treatment.

Assault

April 25, 11:12 a.m., 5506 Cherrywood Lane. A woman knocked on the door to Chipotle, which was locked because the store had not yet opened for business. One employee did not let her in but another one opened the door for her. The woman approached the first employee and pushed her. When she was told to leave she began to do so and threw a screwdriver at the employee, which hit her in the back.

April 26, 9:54 p.m., 5707 Cherrywood Lane. Officers responded to a report of a stab-

bing in the parking lot of the Shell Food Mart and found a man with what appeared to be non-life-threatening injuries. He was transported to UM Prince George's Hospital Center for treatment. Witnesses said the men had been in a verbal altercation that became physical.

April 28, 1:28 p.m., 6000 block Greenbelt Road. A 39-year-old resident was arrested and charged with assault, theft and trespassing after he assaulted an officer who had detained him for shoplifting at Greenbelt Liquors. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Theft

April 25, 1 p.m., 5910 Greenbelt Road. An unattended Trek mountain bike with a neon green stripe on the side and a silver stripe on the bottom was taken from in front of the CVS store.

April 28, 10:56 a.m., 9010

Breezewood Terrace. Packages were taken from the front stoop of a residence.

Fraud

April 24, 1:49 p.m., 8100 block Bird Lane. A man reported that he mailed a check at the Greenbelt Post Office on February 1 and found out later that the amount had been altered and the name was made out to another person(s).

Malicious Destruction

April 24, 7:57 p.m., 7480 Greenway Center Drive. A 26-year-old nonresident was arrested and charged with malicious destruction and disorderly conduct after he allegedly broke a plexiglas divider at the desk in the lobby of Woodsprings Suites. He was released on citation pending trial.

Disorderly Conduct

April 26, 10:15 p.m., 5707 Cherrywood Lane. A 39-year-old resident was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct after he walked through an area where police tape had been placed by officers investigating an assault. He then threatened officers who stopped him to keep him from compromising the crime scene. He was released on citation pending trial.

Trespassing

April 24, 7:39 p.m., 6100 block Greenbelt Road. A 25-year-old Greenbelt resident was arrested and charged with trespassing after he refused to leave Beltway Plaza at the request of security personnel. He was released on citation pending trial.

Burglary

April 24, 11 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive. Two 19-year-old residents were detained by officers who responded to a report of a burglary of a vacant apartment. Both were identified and released pending charges.

Vandalism

April 24, 8 a.m., 99 Centerway. Graffiti was spray-painted on a door at the Youth Center. Similar graffiti was found in several other locations in the city.

April 27, 11:46 a.m., 6006 Springhill Drive. A rock was thrown through a bedroom window of a residence.

Vehicle Crime

A 2003 Infinity FX35 SUV reported stolen February 10 from the 6100 block Breezewood Drive was recovered April 23 by Baltimore City police in the 3800 block Fear Avenue.

Four tires and rims were taken from the same vehicle in the 200 block Lakeside Drive and two temporary Virginia tags, A32740, were taken from 121 Centerway.

Sixteen handicap placards were taken, of which nine were from Mandan Road. Others were from Hanover Parkway and Lake Park Drive. All were taken on the same date, April 25.

Various items were taken after windows were broken out to gain access. These include power tools, drill, hand tools, a radio, cell phones and a notebook.

Three vehicles were broken into but nothing appeared to have been taken.

MARKET continued from page 1

Shoppers indicate choices but do not touch produce and items are bagged by the vendor – reusable bags may not be placed on vendor tables. Some vendors will sell only prepackaged items. In addition, vendors not present at the market may opt to use a pre-order drop-off and pickup service at the market – details in process. Payment is strongly preferred via a contactless service, examples include Venmo, Apple-Pay and Google-Pay – though not all vendors will have all options. The aim is to minimize contagion involving surface contact.

A Tough Challenge

“Daunting” best describes the process of opening the market. Until late April, the board had no information on what new regulations would be forthcoming from the Prince George's County Department of Permits, Inspection and Enforcement (DPIE), the county fire marshals or the health authorities. When the rules were published, there were only two weeks to go so it was touch and go for opening day.

Board President Terry Kucera chaired several organizational meetings and the numerous tasks were shared among the board. Members include Anne Marigza, vendor relations; Carole MacAdam, city and county liaison; Carissa Ralbovsky, food security programs; Alicia Baker, publicity; Cathie Meetre, treasurer and site security. Thanks go to Jonathan Gordy, a market-founding former board member, who amended the to-scale site drawing required by DPIE.

Marigza developed a layout

to maximize and balance vendor space while observing a required 12' offset from vendor to vendor, one-way circulation and social distancing. After numerous iterations, a security plan, updated letter of city support for the market and a compliant site plan were entered into DPIE's electronic submission system to enable scheduling the first day's opening inspections.

Valued City Support

Without City Manager Nicole Ard, Director of Planning and Community Development Terri Hruby, Captain Gordon Pracht of the Greenbelt Police and city staff's instantaneous and generous support, this quick response would not have been possible. Thanks also to city council members for cheering the market on. Public Works Director Jim Sterling and the staff of the Aquatic & Fitness Center continue to be fully and cheerfully supportive.

Further details will continue to be published on the greenbeltfarmersmarket.org website.

Life is uncertain
Eat dessert
first.
-Ernestine Ulmer

Paid advertisement

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Real Estate and Social Distancing

Doing my part to stop the spread of the Covid-19 virus, for now I will be limiting my in-person meetings. If your immediate need is urgent, let's talk about how to work together safely. That said, **now is a great time for buyers and sellers to get ready for a move.**

- Buyers,** let's talk by phone or video conferencing on goal-setting and connecting with the right lender for preapproval. You can be ready to roll as soon as the quarantine is lifted! Schedule with me via text 301-789-6294
- Sellers:** let's plan your best sales strategy and get your house show-ready. Right now, you may have a little more time than usual to get their houses shined up and looking great! Schedule with me via text 301-789-6294

Let's all do our part to keep each other safe. Be in touch!

Kim Kash
301-789-6294
kkash@caprikarealty.com
www.caprikarealty.com

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The Leader in
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Lakeside Subdivision Enormous 3BR/2.5BA 2-story rambler w/GARAGE! Finished lower level with family room & office. Remodeled kit. on main level.

Westchester Park 2 Br/2Ba condominium with balcony & amazing views of Greenbelt Park. Remodeled throughout, lots of closets and storage. Nice!

3 Bedroom Townhome Refinished Oak hardwood flooring on both levels. Fenced backyard opens onto protected woodlands. Priced to sell at \$149,900.

Rambler on large lot 4 bedroom, 2 bath home on large wooded lot with parking, 5.5 car garage, hardwood flooring and brick fireplace on main level.

2 Bedroom Townhome Priced to sell! Modern tub surround in bathroom. Upgraded cabs. & dishwasher in kit. Separate laundry area. \$124,900

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Single Level Living Lower level 1-bedroom GHI townhome - no stairs! Large wood deck in fenced backyard provides plenty of room for entertaining.

Rancher 4 br, 3 ba home with 2-car garage, 2nd floor, full finished basement, 2nd floor hardwood flooring, remodeled kitchen & more. \$349,000

Large floorplan w/addition Half bath on main level. Masonry townhome w/ fenced backyard & brick patio. Zoned HVAC system, 11' x 17' master br.

Townhome w/Garage 2 br home in the heart of Greenbelt. Large 11' x 17' master br. Remodeled kitchen with granite counters. Shaded backyard w/patio.

Townhome with 2 additions 2 bedroom GHI home on fenced, corner lot. Large family room addition in back, extra storage in front. Central HVAC.

4 Bedroom 3 Level Townhome Master bedroom & full bath on main level. Opened remodeled kitchen, fireplace in lr. Backs to protected woodlands.

Townhome with addition 2 br townhome w front laundry/office addition. Opened kitchen w/passthru & pantry. Fenced backyard with large deck.

One Acre Lot Potential for up to 4 separate dwellings on 1.23 acre rambler with 3br. Basement has been professionally waterproofed. \$399,900

Greenbelt Condominium Remodeled 2 br cond. with modern kitchen & extra cabinets. Includes tile in four-round use. Remodeled ceramic-tiled bath.

Addition - Backs to Woodlands Completely remodeled throughout; half bath on main level. Zoned HVAC system. Fenced yard, shed & raised deck.

Brick Townhome 2 Bedroom GHI townhome remodeled throughout. Modern kitchen with s/s dishwasher. Hardwood both levels. \$169,900

Greenbelt 2 Bedroom, 2 Greenbelt Condominium w/ tile flooring and laminate flooring in kitchen. Owners looking for cash buyers at \$129,900.

Upper Level One Bedroom GHI home with full-sized washer and dryer in separate laundry room. Refinished hardwood flooring throughout. Nice!

**Your Greenbelt Specialists
In Roosevelt Center**

2021 Budget

City Council Meets with Public Works Department and Staff

by Diane Oberg

The Greenbelt Public Works Department provides a variety of services including maintaining the city's green spaces, parks and recreational areas; cleaning and maintaining city-owned buildings, streets and vehicles; collecting refuse and recycling; and running the Greenbelt Connection. Department staff met with the Greenbelt City Council on Earth Day (April 22) to discuss the budget for Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21, which begins July 1).

City Manager Nicole Ard's proposed budget calls for spending \$3.9 million for public works, plus \$1.4 million on parks and \$120,800 for the Greenbelt Connection (\$7,400 of which is covered by fares). These expenditures represent increases over the Fiscal Year 2020 adopted budget of 2.1, 11.1 and 6.6 percent, respectively. Her budget proposal, however, was completed prior to Governor Larry Hogan's shutdown and closure orders, which are expected to significantly reduce the city's revenues. In response, Ard, Assistant City Manager David Moran and City Treasurer Laura Allen have proposed freezing vacant positions, deferring nonessential purchases and projects, and canceling all nonessential travel and training.

While Public Works has no current vacancies, the department is likely to be heavily impacted by deferral of purchases, including planned purchases of several vehicles with an estimated cost of \$353,000. Additionally, a variety of projects performed or managed by the department may be deferred including pedestrian/bike improvements, bus shelters and accessibility changes, street resurfacing and miscellaneous concrete work.

Public Works Director Jim Sterling said they had planned an Earth Day rollout of a new food waste program. It was deferred but he expects to start it by the end of the current fiscal year in June. He also jettisoned his presentation describing planned new initiatives but noted his belief that training staff to be supervisors or otherwise improve their skills is essential and should be

funded, as should the summer help program (1.6 FTE).

Council did not discuss the potential savings and cuts identified by Moran and Allen. However, Sterling expressed his hope that the city will continue to fund resurfacing one mile of streets each year.

There was some discussion of specific issues and programs. Sterling reported the department no longer has any natural gas vehicles. They are purchasing electric or hybrid vehicles, wherever appropriate, and have installed two electric vehicle charging stations at the public works facility. However, Sterling said that he does not expect to purchase anything other than gas or diesel for police cruisers, refuse vehicles and other heavy equipment, saying "the technology is just not there."

Sterling said the department is planting more perennials and

fewer annuals in city flower beds to reduce the work required.

Apparently, some residents or visitors are discarding masks or gloves wherever they take them off. [Note to readers: if you are doing this, please stop.] Sustainability Coordinator Luisa Robles said that she can loan grabbers and provide trash bags to anyone who wants to pick them up.

Sterling also attributed an uptick in refuse volumes to social distancing stress and boredom.

Updates

Sterling reported that the Shred It program that was canceled in April has been rescheduled for June 6. Electronics recycling was also canceled in April, but he expects to have it on its next scheduled date of July 25.

Sterling said that it has not yet been decided whether the city will hold a July 4 fireworks display.

Public Comments Solicited On Park Sewer Relocation

The National Park Service (NPS) in coordination with the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) invites public comment through May 18 on an Environmental Assessment for the relocation of a sanitary sewer line within Greenbelt Park. The NPS and WSSC propose to relocate a 400-foot section of a 21-inch reinforced concrete sewer pipe located along Still Creek within the park to accommodate construction of a new bridge.

The construction of the bridge over Still Creek is part of a larger effort to rehabilitate Greenbelt Park roads in collaboration with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). During construction, the NPS and FHWA determined that the sewer pipe is in poor condition and is too close to the foundation for the south side of the new bridge.

The shortened public review period is necessary to allow for relocation of the pipe during bridge construction to avoid construction delays and additional costs. Relocating the sewer pipe is also necessary to prevent po-

tential failure in the existing aging sanitary sewer system.

How to Comment

Public participation is vital to the planning process, which is conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. There are two ways to comment:

1) online through the NPS Park Planning, Environment and Public Comment website at parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectID=94614 through May 18.

2) by mail for letters postmarked by May 18. Address letters to: Superintendent, Greenbelt Park Headquarters Office, Attention: Greenbelt Sanitary Sewer Relocation, 6565 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

Be aware that the entire comment – including personal identifiable information – may be made publicly available at any time. Commenters can ask that personal identifiable information be withheld from public review, but park officials cannot guarantee that they will be able to do so.



PHOTO BY ALBERTO GARCIA

During the America Strong Flyover event held on Saturday, May 2, the Navy Blue Angels and Air Force Thunderbirds fly in formation over the easternmost part of the Greenbelt and New Carrollton areas. Though little use against a virus, the sight and sound of the jets was a treat for residents who walked out to see them.

BUDGET continued from page 1

as their budget proposals, fundraising and update on the 10-A Crescent Education and Visitor Center.

The discussion focused on the aim of the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum (FOGM) for a greater clarification of the roles played by FOGM and the city. According to the FOGM report to council, "the current MOU has significantly blurred lines of responsibility. There is not a systematic assignment of responsibilities and tasks." FOGM would like to concentrate on fundraising, and delegate all day-to-day tasks of running the museum to the city. Currently, the city employs the museum director, with FOGM proposing that, in addition, the role of volunteer and education coordinator (a FOGM employee) be transferred to the city in a part-time capacity. This position would be "partially funded by a National Endowment for the Humanities grant awarded to FOGM in FY 2007," according to the city budget report.

Councilmember Judith Davis was concerned about hiring new employees in this economic crisis, stressing that in more normal circumstances "council would probably entertain this." Assistant City Manager David Moran replied that this part-time position would be a relatively budget-neutral proposal, with the salary provided by the NEH grant and funds brought in from the gift shop, donations and tours. The meeting ended with a move to have a future meeting with FOGM to clarify all the budgetary details.

FOGM Board Member Jennifer Ruffner, in regard to the interior redesign project for 10-A Crescent, said that they "had a long way to go," with \$200,000 of the anticipated \$500,000 raised. She speculated on a more phased process, and that FOGM will likely raise funds as we go.

Dr. Liz Park, director of Greenbelt CARES and GAIL, said that services have been upended under the pandemic. Yet, she said, "we have maintained our caseloads," even adding more, as they have adapted to new approaches like teletherapy.

Christal Batey, community resource advocate for GAIL, said that a huge challenge has been providing services to clients, mostly seniors, without online connections, stressing that phone calls and mailing have compensated, saying that "we are

learning to reinvent ourselves." Batey said that most calls being received concern utilities and information on evictions, which have been deferred during this crisis. Group-style programs like the free produce distribution have been suspended due to the need for social distancing. Council was keen on developing new strategies to provide these food essentials.

Batey said that Green Ridge House, the senior-living complex, is now fully leased and virus-free at the moment.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts reminded the attendees that the search for a new space for CARES should not be forgotten, even in this health priority. Park answered that "we have not stopped looking at other spaces." She also noted that she wasn't sure if there was money in the budget for any of it.

Councilmember Edward Putens was concerned about residents, seniors in particular, having access to essentials, especially hygiene products, and suggested seeking out a supplier that could work with the city.

Byrd concluded the meeting with news that masks are now available for purchase at the Cop Supermarket.



*****AVAILABLE HOMES FOR SALE*****



65A RIDGE RD



8F SOUTHWAY



13H HILLSIDE

KEEPING OUR AD
Freedom Realty is extremely grateful to the Volunteers of the Greenbelt News Review for continuing to produce the Paper during difficult times. We plan to continue our ad and continuing our Real Estate endeavors to help the community safely.



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