



ERHS Soccer, p.11



Voting Sites and Dates, p.2

## State Comptroller Franchot Updates Council on Economy

by Matthew Arbach

On September 30, a special council meeting was convened with Comptroller of Maryland Peter Franchot, Deputy Comptroller Sharone Bonardi and Acting Director of the Bureau of Revenue Estimates (BRE) David Farkas to discuss the findings of a September 29 revenue projection for Fiscal Years 2021 and 2022 and what Greenbelters, the state and nation as a whole should realistically expect in the general economy as the COVID-19 pandemic persists.

The report, made by the BRE, reveals a \$1.4 billion increase in projected revenues for FY 2021 from the previous forecast made in May. While this number is encouraging, Franchot and his associates were firm in saying that this is not a turning of the corner, and that the economic situation, contingent on several unknown variables, could very well worsen in the near future. Said Franchot, the “numbers were not as bad as

See **COUNCIL**, page 8



Volunteers removed trash from Indian Creek Trail for Public Lands Day. See story, page 12.

PHOTO BY JULIA ANN ARBUTUS

## Council Forms a Task Force To Oppose the Maglev Project

by Kathleen Gallagher

The agenda for a Special Meeting scheduled on September 21 with the purpose of picking up the pace for discussing matters related to the proposed superconducting magnetic levitation railway system (SCMaglev) was itself delayed and came to an ending of sorts at the regular meeting of October 5.

The original September 21 meeting had been requested by Mayor Colin Byrd and Council-

member Rodney Roberts for the purpose of accelerating the city’s planning and response to a sudden resurgence of activity and change of schedule for releasing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the maglev project.

The resolution for establishing a city task force to work with others to oppose building maglev and a discussion about identifying an environmental engineer or

consultant to advise the city on the findings of the DEIS were to be on the agenda for the next regular meeting on September 28, but that meeting was unexpectedly postponed to October 5.

Roberts was particularly eager to get the anti-maglev show on the road. He said both the resolution for the task force and the discussion about the

See **MAGLEV**, page 9

## Crime Rates Remain Steady With Auto Crimes Higher

by Julia Ann Arbutus

Crime rates in Old Greenbelt have remained close to numbers from the past year, according to a virtual town hall held by the Greenbelt Police Department last week. According to Police Chief Richard “Rick” Bowers, however, auto crime is up citywide, with

45 instances of auto theft in the city as a whole since the year began. The department has also seen a higher proportion of autopart theft this year relative to the theft of property from inside vehicles. Bike theft rates have remained almost steady, with 19 thefts citywide since the beginning of the year.

Bowers noted that the perpetrators of the auto parts theft are likely to be professionals who are able to quickly resell parts with Toyotas and Hondas as the apparent most frequent targets.

To reduce the risk of auto theft, George Mathews, public information liaison for the police department, said that Greenbelt residents should take items of value out of their cars or hide them. They should also alert police officers when they recognize suspicious behavior so officers can check out the area.

Officer Timothy White, who oversees the patrol division, noted

that officers measure their response to a suspected crime or person based on the description Greenbelt citizens call in to the station. If a description is vague, he said, officers cannot do much more than survey the area.

To combat bike theft, the Greenbelt Police Department offers bike registrations, which can be a deterrent to criminals, and can also help the department track down stolen bikes. A one-time registration is good forever, but residents are encouraged to reach out to the police department once a year to update any information that has changed.

Mathews also proposed the idea of a Neighborhood Watch, something that Greenbelt has had in the past. However, he noted by email, “the impetus has to come from residents, with the department doing what it can to facilitate.”

See **CRIME**, page 9



Weed Warriors remove invasive plant species. See story, p. 12.

PHOTO BY KEVIN CARPENTER-DRISCOLL

## GHI Fee Relief Fund Set Up So Members Can Help Others

by GHI Communications Committee

The COVID-19 financial crisis has greatly affected some Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) members. To address the challenge, GHI has allowed members to defer up to four months of cooperative fees under a special COVID-19 emergency fee deferral policy. As of the end of August 2020, the deferred fees totaled \$16,440. GHI members Cynthia Newcomer

and Jason Luly have offered to help shoulder this financial burden for the affected members and believe other GHI members would like to do the same. Newcomer and Luly have been working with the GHI Board of Directors over several months to create a crowd-sourced fund to which

See **GHI**, page 8



A face mask recently appeared as sidewalk art at Ridge Road and Gardenway. The text surrounding the mask says: “Wearing the biggest mask you’ve ever seen may not be the worst idea you’ve ever heard.”

PHOTO BY GLENN HARRIS

### What Goes On

- Monday, October 12**  
8 p.m. Council Meeting
  - Wednesday, October 14**  
7 p.m. (tentative) Council Worksession with Congressman Steny Hoyer
  - Thursday, October 15**  
1 to 3 p.m. Produce Giveaway, Community Center
- All meetings are virtual except the produce giveaway. See the meetings calendar at [greenbeltmd.gov](http://greenbeltmd.gov) for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.

# Letters to the Editor

## Thanks, Susan Taylor

Thank you for featuring the article by Susan Taylor, Of Greenbelt and Whiteness: The Context of Racism, in last week's edition. Taylor keenly lays out the situation of White people and offers both analysis and suggestions to use in changing our ways. We love Greenbelt and living in GHI; our five years here have been marked by much joy, a sense of community and well-being. Yet over time, we have come to realize that what we experience in Old Greenbelt is often not what residents in other parts of our city, particularly BIPOC people, experience. Taylor reminds us that race is not a biological category, but a social one that creates dominance and inequality. Segregation is not limited to the "old days" in the South. Lack of public investment in and concern for some parts of our city leads to unequal educational and recreation opportunities, inadequate housing and uneven public safety. This is not unique to Greenbelt, of course, but we believe we can do better. The contemporary reality reminds us of the earlier one, to which Taylor alluded: our founding as a legally segregated community. Indeed, according to information we have read, the 14 Black families who lived and farmed on part of what is now Greenbelt received little compensation for their land and were not allowed to live in the community built on that land. Black people worked on crews, building the new town, but left after their work. We who are identified as White have much work to do, here and in our

state, nation and world. First, as Taylor suggests, we must face reality, look ourselves in the mirror, resolve to change and help others to do so, as well.  
 Rev. Dr. Robin Hawley Gorsline  
 Dr. Jonathan Lebolt

## A Better Name

Every time I see the initials BLM I feel slighted! I know black people have felt the pain of racism and the death of innocent young black people for too long a time in our history. We must stick together on this and BLM seems to bring us apart. Those initials are put on shirts, pro basketball courts and the main street in the capital of our country. I think our Latino friends and all white and black people as well as all races matter. I would like as examples E.R.N. (END RACISM NOW) or R.H.A. (RACISM HURTS AMERICA), so we are all in this fight together!

D. Ginsburg

## Oh, Great Pumpkin

Should I buy Halloween candy to give out this year? Should I expect to hear a knock on my door, followed by the sounds of children saying "Trick-Or-Treat"? Last year, 50 kids knocked on my door asking for, and receiving, treats. Will that be the case this year? Oh, Great Pumpkin, will you ask the parents of the kids if they will be allowing their kids out for treats this year? And ask the City Council what their thoughts are and what advice they have for us candy buyers.

JW Thompson

## Correction

In last week's issue (10/1) we inadvertently ran an earlier display ad for St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church. The error has been corrected in the online newspaper and the correct ad was also displayed on the home page of the website throughout the week. The News Review regrets the error.



## POPULAR HALLOWEEN COSTUMES THIS YEAR...



COWPOKE NINJA NURSE WHITE HOUSE STAFFER  
 Pete Reppert



Children gather for Outdoor Recess, a program recently introduced by Greenbelt Recreation.

PHOTO BY BEVERLY PALAU

## Letters Policy

The News Review reserves the right not to publish any letter submitted. Letters are considered accepted when published.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider withholding the name upon request.

All letters are subject to editing for reasons of space, libel, privacy, taste, copyright and clarity.



## Election 2020

### Key Dates and Sites For General Election

The deadline to register to vote in Maryland, Tuesday, October 13, is fast approaching. The deadline to request a mail-in ballot is a week after that, Tuesday, October 20. For information about how to register to vote or how to request a mail-in ballot visit elections.maryland.gov, or Prince George's County Board of Elections, 1100 Mercantile Lane, Suite 115A, in Largo.

Voters who have received their mail-in ballots can return them to the Board of Elections Office, through the U.S. Postal Service or in ballot drop-boxes at multiple locations throughout the county, including some relatively close to Greenbelt available now:

- Duval High School, 9880 Good Luck Road, Lanham
- High Point High School, 3601 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville
- Northwestern High School, 7000 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville
- The Pavilion at the University of Maryland Xfinity Center, 8500 Paint Branch Drive, College Park
- Wayne K. Curry Sports and Learning Center, 8001 Sheriff Road, Landover

Additional drop-box locations will be available starting October 15 to 17:

- Eleanor Roosevelt High School, 7601 Hanover Parkway
- FedEx Field, 1600 FedEx Way, Landover
- Glenn Dale Community Center, 11901 Glenn Dale Boulevard, Glenn Dale

Once installed, all drop-boxes will be available through Tuesday, November 3. Ballots must be dropped off by 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3.

In-person early voting will be held Monday, October 26 through Monday, November 2, at multiple locations throughout the county with the final Election Day in-person voting on Tuesday, November 3.

## Greenbelt Talks

Greenbelt Access Television (GATe) invites participation in a new video series, Greenbelt Talks. Residents of Greenbelt – young, old and in-between – can voice their thoughts and opinions on issues of local and national importance. It's easy. Using a cell phone, click on video, face front and center, and talk to GATe and the community for up to one minute. Then, email the video to GATe at greenbeltaccess@gmail.com. Watch for these videos to appear on the city's public access channel and social media. It is that simple and easy.

First topic: The Notorious RBG, Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Deadline for submission is Friday, October 16. Future topics will focus on the maglev, Black Lives Matter and Why Did You Choose to Live in Greenbelt?

Some tips for recording:

1. Avoid dark or noisy surroundings.
2. No advertisements.
3. Avoid bad language. This is public access TV and FCC rules apply.
4. Keep the video to one minute or less.

This is not part of the Rose Award Program. For more information on the Rose Awards, visit greenbeltaccessv.org/rose-award.

Charge up those phones and start talking – GATe wants to hear from all Greenbelters.

 The road to heaven is paved with good advertising.  
 Nonprofits \$10.50  
[www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com](http://www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com)

# Greenbelt News Review

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DEADLINES: Letters, Photos and Articles under 700 words - 2 p.m. Tuesday. Display Ads and stories over 700 words - 2 p.m. Monday, Classified Ads and camera-ready Display Ads - 6 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be emailed, or mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 2 p.m. Tuesday) or dropped through the mail slot for our office on the east side of the Community Center, (side closest to the Municipal Building) 15 Crescent Road. Mail subscriptions—\$50/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
 OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.  
 Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.

# Community Events

## At the Library

Greenbelt Library Curbside Service hours: Tuesday, 1 to 8 p.m.; Wednesday through Friday, 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m. (By Appointment Only.)

### Drive-up Wi-Fi

Drive-up public Wi-Fi is accessible from the library parking lot to check email, download eBooks or audiobooks, use online resources or access community resources. A library card or LINK card number is required.

### Requesting Books

Hold requests for up to 50 items can be made via catalog. [pgcmls.info/polaris](http://pgcmls.info/polaris). For instructions see [pgcmls.info/422](http://pgcmls.info/422) or call 240-455-5451. Patrons are notified when the items they requested are available so they can schedule a pickup time. All patrons picking up items must wear a mask.

If a customer has a virtual card (starting with PACREG), it will not be possible to check out materials via curbside service until the virtual card is converted to a regular library account. Call 301-699-3500 and ask for Public Services or use the link at [pgcmls.info/contact-us](http://pgcmls.info/contact-us) for assistance.

Further information on the reopening process is available via the Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) website at [pgcmls.info/reopening](http://pgcmls.info/reopening) (English) or [pgcmls.info/reapertura](http://pgcmls.info/reapertura) (Español).

Returned items must be placed in the returned book slot to the right of the lower entrance. Items need to be in quarantine for seven days before they are checked in and processed, so they may temporarily appear as overdue in a patron's account. The library is now fine-free: all existing overdue fines have been waived.

### Play I Spy...

Although PGCMLS library buildings may be closed to the public on the inside, the Greenbelt Library welcomes families to stop by the upper level entrance to visit the I Spy... discovery station. Library staff have created a display of various items to be viewed through the glass for any curious customers passing by who wish to take a friendly peek into the Library. Remember to observe social distancing etiquette during exploration.

### Virtual Events

PGCMLS continues to offer virtual events for the public. This week, to celebrate Hispanic Heritage, the library is offering 1,2,3 Andrés Presents Music and Fun Concert on Saturday, October 10 at noon for ages newborn to 12. Andrés and Christina are the Latin Grammy-winning music duo who get the whole family dancing and learning in Spanish and English. Access this program and a full schedule of upcoming programs at [pgcmls.info/events](http://pgcmls.info/events).



## Canine Good Citizen Test Offered October 4

Greenbelt Dog Training will be offering the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Test and the Advance Canine Good Citizen Test developed by the American Kennel Club (AKA) at the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad Fire House at 125 Crescent Road on Sunday, October 11 from noon to 3 p.m.

Did you just get a new dog, during the pandemic? Do you know how it would respond to distractions when walking in the community or what training might be needed to take a dog out and keep it safe? There is an easy way to find out – AKA has created tests to rate the skills of humans and their dog to safely navigate public spaces at [aka.org](http://aka.org).

Allie W. Lee, owner of Greenbelt Dog Training and an AKA certified CGC evaluator, will conduct the testing. For additional information call 301-345-6999, email [info@greenbeltdogtraining.com](mailto:info@greenbeltdogtraining.com) or visit [greenbeltdogtraining.com](http://greenbeltdogtraining.com).

There is a fee, but all proceeds will be donated to the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad where Greenbelt Dog Training classes are held.

All COVID-19 protocols will be observed.

## Candlelight Vigil

The weekly candlelight vigil formerly held at the corner of Hanover Parkway and Ora Glen Drive has been relocated. It is now held on the second and fourth Saturday of every month from 7 to 8 p.m. at the intersection of Breezewood Drive and Cherrywood Lane, near the Shell station. The purpose of these vigils is to provide community members an opportunity to gather with candles and signs and to engage in dialogue to better understand one another and to understand issues of policing as well as sources of racism. All are welcome to join and it is not necessary for participants to bring a candle.



## Haunt the Highway

Greenbelt residents will be hosting Haunt the Highway marches, scheduled for Sundays, October 11, 18, 25 and November 1. The marches will begin at the Municipal Building at 10 a.m. and end at 11 a.m. Participants will march up the sidewalk to the intersection of Southway and Greenbelt Road. During these recurring Haunt the Highway events, the names of over 80 Black victims of police brutality will be recited. The final march will be held November 1, which is All Saints Day, a Christian holiday honoring all saints, known and unknown. The inspiration for these events comes from Maryland State Delegate Julian Ivey of District 47A (Prince George's County) who has been posting names to Twitter daily in an attempt to urge other state delegates to open a special session of the Maryland General Assembly and pass Anton's Law. No advance registration is required for those wishing to participate in any of the marches.

## Mental Health Town Hall Saturday, Oct. 10

Mayor Colin Byrd is hosting Numbing the Pain, a mental health town hall on Saturday, October 10, at 1 p.m. in honor of World Mental Health Day.

Panelists include Taylor Cole, founder of Greenbelt-based Choice Clinical Services; Dr. Otis Williams, chair of the Counseling Department at Bowie State University; and Dr. Mia Smith-Bynum, associate professor of Family Science at the University of Maryland, College Park.

To register, follow this link: [us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZwpfu2srTstGNzBwblc-8jhABYV5wLtbF2v8](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZwpfu2srTstGNzBwblc-8jhABYV5wLtbF2v8).



## GCAN Meets

Greenbelt Climate Action Network (GCAN) will hold its next monthly meeting, via Zoom, on Wednesday, October 14, 7 to 9 p.m.

The first half of the meeting will focus on the THRIVE (Transform, Heal, and Renew by Investing in a Vibrant Economy) Agenda Resolution, which was recently introduced into Congress (see [sierraclub.org/THRIVE](http://sierraclub.org/THRIVE)). The discussion will explore the eight "pillars" of the agenda and compare them to the Six Principles for a Just Recovery discussed last month. It is not necessary to have attended last month for this discussion, as the Six Principles will be briefly reviewed.

The remainder of the time will be used to begin to narrow down GCAN's campaign goals for the fall. This month, there will be brief updates about seven of the 17 options: Campaign for Environmental Human Rights; Beyond Coal; Maryland Legislative Coalition; Climate Justice goals; Composting for Large Institutions; Transportation & Climate Initiative; Prince George's County School Board; Climate Action Plan; Clean Air Prince George's; Brandywine Power Plants. Participants will be invited to join a "straw poll" to help rank order the interest in the various options.

Zoom logon details are available at [chears.org/gcan](http://chears.org/gcan) and on [facebook.com/pg/chearsorg/events/](https://facebook.com/pg/chearsorg/events/).

For more info, contact Lore Rosenthal, [SimplicityGroupsMd@gmail.com](mailto:SimplicityGroupsMd@gmail.com), 301-345-2234.

## Mindfulness Outside

On Sunday, October 11 from 1:30 to 3 p.m., the Greenbelt Unplugged Monthly Mindfulness session will venture out for a Contemplative Walk at Lake Artemesia. No experience necessary – except for walking. Bring and wear a mask. In case of inclement weather, bring an umbrella. Cell phones allowed for pictures only. To RSVP, email [events@greenbeltunplugged.org](mailto:events@greenbeltunplugged.org).

## Voter Information Location Change

The Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club is hosting voter information tables at several locations throughout the Greenbelt and College Park areas. Weather permitting, information on voting requirements, absentee ballots, registration, voting locations and drop-boxes will be available to the public between the hours of 1 and 4 p.m. every Saturday, concluding on October 31.

Effective Saturday, October 10, outdoor table set-ups will be placed at the Giant Supermarket at Beltway Plaza, Roosevelt Center and Lake Artemesia. (An information table will no longer be located at Schrom Hills Park.)

To volunteer to help answer questions or for more information, send an email to [GreenbeltVotes2020@gmail.com](mailto:GreenbeltVotes2020@gmail.com). Include name, email address and telephone number. Date and location selections will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis. Emailed confirmations responding to requests will be sent within 48 hours of receipt.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

GATE GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION		
Friday October 9 - Thursday October 15		
PROGRAM	SCHEDULE	SUBJECT TO CHANGE
7 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATE Archive
8 am	Democracy Now!	• Repeat of Yesterday's Program
9 am	Utopia Film Festival ★	• Collection of Films from Utopia 2018
11 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATE Archive
SAT/SUN	Member Spotlight	• GATE Community Producers
12 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
1 pm	Science Bowl PGCPSS	• Beacon Heights v Magnolia • Judge Woods v Whitehall
2 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATE Archive
3 pm	Utopia Film Festival ★	• Collection of Films from Utopia 2018
5 pm	Science Bowl PGCPSS	• Beacon Heights v Magnolia • Judge Woods v Whitehall
SAT/SUN	Member Spotlight	• GATE Community Producers
6 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATE Archive
7 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
8 pm	Utopia Film Festival ★	• Collection of Films from Utopia 2018
10 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
11 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATE Archive
12 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATE Archive

WATCH US on VERIZON Fios 19 or COMCAST 77  
STREAMING LIVE at [www.greenbeltaccessstv.org/channel-live-stream](http://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org/channel-live-stream)

**Seeking a Better World Through Film**

Q&A with Filmmakers

**Utopia Film Festival**

**Special Free Virtual Film Showings**

Enjoy special screenings with Q&A discussion by the filmmakers from the comfort of your home. Space is limited to the first 100 registrants.

**ILLEGAL** Director- Nick Alexander  
Zoom virtual showing **Sat., Oct. 17th, 7pm**  
The realities of refugee and aspiring immigrant Latinos as told by one who fled the 1980 civil war in Salvador.

**The Definition of Insanity**  
Director-Gabriel London  
Zoom virtual showing **Mon., Oct. 19th, 7pm**  
**Sponsored by The New Deal Cafe Reel and Meal**  
A progressive approach to police, social services and the judicial system aimed at rehabilitation as opposed to incarceration for mentally challenged persons in Florida, which can be a model for improvement to all other areas in the US as well.

We will also be offering screenings **Oct. 23** and **Oct. 25**, including **Suppressed: The Fight to Vote** and **Like a Woman**.  
Check out our Facebook page- **Utopia Film Festival** for trailers and future announcements.

To join the viewing of these films you will need to send an email with your choice of films to [utopiafilmfest20770@gmail.com](mailto:utopiafilmfest20770@gmail.com) and download the [zoom.com](https://zoom.com) app. We will email the codes to access the films the day of the viewing.  
Project of Greenbelt Access Television **GATE**

# Obituaries

## Nathan Hughes, III

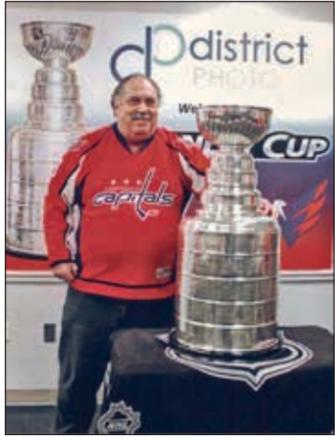


PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Nathan "Skip" Hughes

The thing is, while this year was busy irritating just about everyone on the planet, it saved some extra nonsense for Nathan "Skip" Beers Hughes, III, who died on September 28, 2020. Surprisingly, his death was not due to the spiders living in the shed with the radioactive rocks nor was it due to the gout his mother swore he had. He was thwarted by the tiny buttons on his cell phone and struggled to type anything with his ogre paws. He quite possibly decided to take his leave to avoid upgrading his flip phone.

Skip grew up in, lived in, and loved Old Greenbelt. His youth was spent with many fellow young Greenbelters and filled with shenanigans, not all of which he was willing to admit to later on. He loved the Ravens, drinking beer, creeping out kids at Halloween, hunting, fishing, camping, fossil and rock collecting. (Who knew you could fit that many tons of rocks in an Old Greenbelt townhouse?)

Skip worked for District Photo for over 42 years, something he wasn't sure whether it was an accomplishment or proof of

his insanity. He also worked for Behnke's Nursery for many years during the holidays and always came home smelling like Christmas trees.

Skip leaves behind his two daughters, Heather Hughes and Corrine Hughes, who will grow up to avenge his death. He was a loving and caring father and his daughters meant the world to him. Skip is also survived by his mother, Elizabeth Buckner, who we all believe is stubborn enough to outlive all her children. Skip's older brother, Dale Hughes (mom's favorite), no longer has his little brother to blame things on, pick on or roll down the stairs. Skip was a dedicated uncle to Kimberly Hughes Barr and Jesse Hughes, teaching them useful life skills they could have used to escape and live in the wild. He was also a great-uncle to Kevin Whitaker, Jonah Hughes and Avery Hughes. Skip was preceded in death by his father, Nathan "Nat" Beers Hughes, Jr., and his sister, Cynthia Diane Hughes. The family feels that his untimely death was a bit of an excessive way to avoid the holidays with them this year.

The Celebration of Life for Nathan "Skip" Beers Hughes, III, will be on Saturday, October 10 at 2 p.m. at Buddy Attick Park. Bring a chair – masks and social distancing required – and bring memories to share.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in his name to the Greenbelt Animal Shelter, the Wildlife Conservation Society or the National Rifle Association.

Directions from the parking lot: Follow the main path toward the lake. Turn left on the path that goes around the lake. The Celebration of Life will be on the right side along the lake.

- Kim Hughes Barr



Our condolences to the family and friends of Skip Hughes, who died last month. They will gather Saturday, October 10 at the Lake to celebrate his exuberant life and share memories.

A hearty Greenbelt welcome to the Reverend Curtiss DeMars-Johnson, the Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ's new interim minister.

Congratulations to Daniel Dancis, who grew up in old Greenbelt and graduated from Eleanor Roosevelt High School. Proud dad, Greenbelter Jerome Dancis, tells us that as part of Daniel's work at the National Archives and Records Administration, he presented a talk, Researching World War II Spanish Posters at the National Archives, about posters by Mexican artists that were commissioned by the U.S. Government. This was part of an effort to minimize racial tensions in Los Angeles during WWII and to appeal to the people of Latin America in order to contain Nazi activities in Latin America. Daniel's presentation is available at [hispanicheritagemonth.gov](http://hispanicheritagemonth.gov) as part of the federal government's tribute to National Hispanic American Heritage Month.

Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com).



# Community Church Extends Warm Welcome to Minister

by Jo-Anne Fournier

The Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ welcomes the Reverend Curtiss DeMars-Johnson as the interim minister during a time of reflection and revitalization for the church. "In following the guidelines of the United Church of Christ, Greenbelt Community Church will work alongside the interim minister as we prepare to search for a called or settled pastor in the next year or so," said Karen Yoho, church moderator. "Interim ministers have special training and proficiency in working with churches like ours. We are thrilled to have an experienced and energetic leader join us in this work."

DeMars-Johnson served as an interim and settled pastor in the Midwest and Western U.S., including Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Colorado. Prior to coming to Greenbelt, he was at First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ in Charlotte, Mich., where one parishioner wrote "any church would

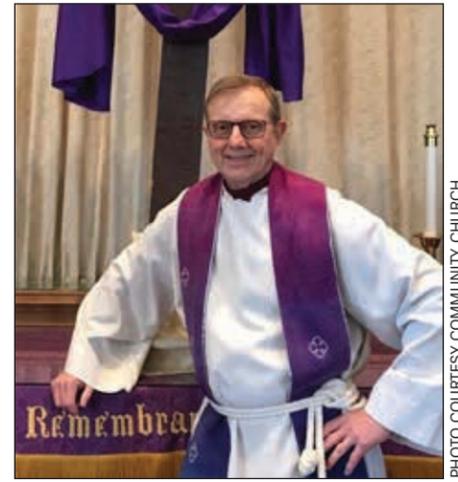


PHOTO COURTESY COMMUNITY CHURCH

The new pastor of the Community Church, Rev. Curtiss DeMars-Johnson

be lucky to have Curt as their pastor. He came into our situation and took the time needed to figure out just who we are. He then helped us figure out who we are."

Born and educated in Minnesota and graduating from Macalester College and the United Theological Seminary in Saint Paul, DeMars-Johnson has been active in spiritual, justice, peace

See MINISTER, page 8

## Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

The Bible Says...  
**The Ten Commandments**  
 #1-Have No Other Gods Before Me  
 Exodus 20:2-3

**Sunday Worship Services**  
 10a-11a ONLINE  
[MCFcc.org/online](http://MCFcc.org/online)

Greenbelt Community Church

**Welcome Rev. Curt DeMars-Johnson**  
 Check us out on Facebook Live  
 this Sunday at 10:15 AM  
<https://www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD>

1 Hillside Road 301-474-6171

**ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
 RETURN TO PUBLIC CELEBRATION

With joy, we return to the public celebration of Mass. Attendance is limited to 100 persons per Mass, all (3 and up) must wear masks. All details available on our website. Mon-Fri 7:15am, Sat 9am; Sat vigil 5pm; Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am  
 Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm

135 Crescent Rd.  
[www.sthughofgrenoble.org](http://www.sthughofgrenoble.org)

Worship with us at  
**Greenbelt Baptist Church**

Biblical  
 Confessional  
 Reformed  
 Gospel Centered

Join us OUTSIDE Sundays at 10:00am/Wednesdays (online) at 7:00pm  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)  
 Instagram/Facebook/Youtube

<<101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt MD>>  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)  
 301-474-4212  
 @GreenbeltBaptist

**Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church**  
 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors  
 Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)  
 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

**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.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm  
 Saturday morning services at 10:00am  
 All services and activities are currently virtual  
 For further information, call (301) 474-4223 [www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)  
 Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

"Humanity's collective life suffers when any one group thinks of its own well-being in isolation from that of its neighbours or pursues economic gain without regard for how the natural environment, which provides sustenance for all, is affected. A stubborn obstruction, then, stands in the way of meaningful social progress... There is no justification for continuing to perpetuate structures, rules, and systems that manifestly fail to serve the interests of all peoples."  
 —Universal House of Justice

**Greenbelt Bahá'í Community**  
[www.greenbeltbahais.org](http://www.greenbeltbahais.org)

**Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church**  
 3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi  
 Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

October 11 10 a.m.  
**"Mindfulness and Deep Listening"**

Rev. Rachel Christensen; with Worship Associates Tricia Most and Diana McFadden

Unitarian Universalists pride themselves on being open to learning. How might we improve on our listening skills? In the time of Coronavirus, we find ourselves more focused on what is really important, and how we might bring profound change to the things that matter. How can our deep listening help us in this work? ONLINE ONLY.  
 Streaming info at <http://bit.ly/PBOct20>



# 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.



**PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION**  
**Thursday, October 15**  
**1:00-3:00pm**  
**Greenbelt Community Center**  
**15 Crescent Road**  
**Ground Floor East**  
 Located near the Roundabout and Flagpole.

**GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL- REGULAR MEETING**  
**Monday, October 12, 2020 8:00 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**  
 - Co-Op Month Proclamation  
 - Maryland Economic Development Week

**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 Meetings**  
 - Greenbelt Public Safety Petition to City Council

**Administrative Reports**

**Committee Reports**  
 \* Forest Preserve Advisory Board - Protecting the Sunrise Tract from Beltway Expansion - Report # 2020-06

**LEGISLATION**

**OTHER BUSINESS**  
 - WMATA's Proposed Service Cuts  
 - Authorization for City Manager to sign WMATA Trail Permit  
 - Council Activities  
 - Council Reports  
 \*-Letter of Support - Comptroller's Proposal to Create a Small Business Grant Program  
 \*- General Assembly Letter Opposing Beltway Widening  
 \*- Reappointments to Advisory Boards  
 \*- Resignation from Advisory Group

**MEETINGS-Scheduling of Future Meetings**  
**COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE VIRTUAL** Cablecast on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and [www.greenbeltd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltd.gov/municipaltv)  
**Resident participation: Information will be posted on Meetings Calendar at [www.greenbeltd.gov](http://www.greenbeltd.gov)**  
 In advance the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email [banderson@greenbeltd.gov](mailto:banderson@greenbeltd.gov)

**VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER 12-16**

Monday, October 12 at 5:30pm, **YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE** On the Agenda: Crime Prevention, continuing discussion, Voter Registration, Advisory Committee Liaison Reports

Monday, October 12 at 8:00pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING** Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 & 996 and streaming on [www.greenbeltd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltd.gov/municipaltv)

Wednesday, October 14 at 6:00pm **EMPLOYEE RELATIONS BOARD** On the Agenda: Distribution of the updated Employee Summary of Updated Procedures for Employee Appeals and Grievances (review and approval) and Updates and initial discussion on proposed Fair and Just Policing Act and proposed Racial Equity Ordinance.

Wednesday, October 14 at 7:00pm (tentative) **WORK SESSION w/Congressman Steny Hoyer** Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 & 996 and streaming on [www.greenbeltd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltd.gov/municipaltv)

**This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000. For information on public participation for the virtual meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at [www.greenbeltd.gov](http://www.greenbeltd.gov).**

**TRICK-OR TREAT**

Governor Hogan has renewed his declaration of the COVID-19 state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency. Additionally, the CDC had declared Trick-or-Treating as a risky activity and recommends other ways to celebrate. If you decide that you will be Trick-or-Treating, please observe these suggestions.

- Participating in one-way trick-or-treating where individually wrapped goodie bags are lined up for families to grab and go while continuing to social distance (such as at the end of a driveway or at the edge of a yard)
- If you are preparing goodie bags, wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 second before and after preparing the bags.
- A costume mask (such as for Halloween) is not a substitute for a cloth mask. A costume mask should not be used unless it is made of two or more layers of breathable fabric that covers the mouth and nose and doesn't leave gaps around the face.
- Do not wear a costume mask over a protective cloth mask because it can be dangerous if the costume mask makes it hard to breathe. Instead, consider using a Halloween-themed cloth mask.

**THE CITY OF GREENBELT STRONGLY ENCOURAGES YOU TO VISIT THE CDC FOR OTHER SAFE ALTERNATIVES**  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html>  
 #halloween  
 Please take advantage of City and area sanctioned activities and **STAY SAFE!**

**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
- Youth Advisory Committee

**For more information call 301- 474-8000**

**City of Greenbelt**  
**BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AND RECOVERY FUND**

The Greenbelt Business Improvement and Recovery Fund was established to offer immediate financial assistance to local small businesses whose operations have been impacted by the Covid19 pandemic. This program will provide businesses with a grant for up to \$10,000. This is a working capital grant which means that funds can be used to support operating expenses related to business interruption, improvements and continuity. Applicants must meet eligibility guidelines and provide evidence of financial impact due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**GRANT AMOUNT \$10,000**

**Application Process:**  
 The application process has been streamlined to expedite the review, selection and disbursement of grant funds. The process is as follows:

Businesses would be required to provide the following documentation:

- Completed application
- 2019 Income Statement or Business Tax Return (Form 4506-T)
- 2020 Interim Income Statement (January – June)
- 2019 Personal Tax Return (if filing a Schedule C)
- Business is in good standing with Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT)
- Proof of Employment

**Apply at [www.greenbeltd.gov/recovery-fund](http://www.greenbeltd.gov/recovery-fund)**

FOLLOW THE CITY OF GREENBELT ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER @CITYOFGREENBELT

**Fall Family Fun Week**  
**October 19 – 22**  
**Activity sessions offered at 2:45pm, 4:00pm, or 5:15pm**  
**Schrom Hills Park**

Join Greenbelt Recreation and your fellow Greenbelters for pumpkin carving, scarecrow making, and fall crafts. All participants are encouraged to wear costumes. \$5/individual (ages 3 & over) for each activity. **Pre-registration is required!**

**Registration is limited to Greenbelt Residents and will begin on Monday, October 12.** Registration and more information will be available <https://bit.ly/3619bz5>  
 Contact Greenbelt Recreation at 301-397-2200 for more information.

**SEEKING LIFEGUARDS AND POOL MANAGERS!**

The Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center is now hiring lifeguards! Apply now at [www.greenbeltd.gov/jobs](http://www.greenbeltd.gov/jobs)

**OUTDOOR RECESS**  
 Each session \$3

**Mondays & Fridays**  
 Two sessions each day:  
 4:00-4:45pm  
 5:00-5:45pm

**Greenbelt Youth Center Outdoor Court**  
 Greenbelt Recreation is here to improve your e-learner's physical and mental health with our Outdoor Recess Program! Join us for a variety of outdoor activities to get moving after all that screen time. Online pre-registration by day is required. Class requires masks/face coverings and physical distancing for all participants. For Greenbelt residents, ages 6-12. Classes start October 5th.  
**Activity #: 432604-1 & 432604-2**  
 Inclement Weather will cancel class. For more information contact [aphelan@greenbeltd.gov](mailto:aphelan@greenbeltd.gov).

**Be Prepared!**  
**Flu Season is Coming**  
 Get Your Free Flu Shot Here

**Drive Thru or Walk Up**  
 Vaccines for children 6 months - adults

Tuesday, October 20th 10-3pm  
 Beltway Plaza  
 6000 Greenbelt Road,  
 Greenbelt, MD 20770

Tuesday, October 27th 10-3pm  
 Greenbelt Community Center  
 15 Crescent Road,  
 Greenbelt, MD 20770

You must pre-register online at <https://www.vaccineconsent.com> to register please search by location - Beltway Plaza or Greenbelt Community Center.

More information or to register by phone call 240-542-2033

**ELECTRONICS, STYROFOAM, AND PAINT RECYCLING**

**SATURDAY, October 24, 2020**  
**Public Works Yard, 555 Crescent Rd.**  
**9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**Electronics Recycling!**  
 Accepted items include: TVs, CPUs, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, laptops, recording equipment, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, wires and power cords, fax machines, cameras, telephones, radios, DVD players, VCRs, batteries taped on one end.  
**ALSO, expanded polystyrene (block "Styrofoam" #6)**  
 NO Cups, egg cartons or food trays.  
**PLEASE CALL IN ADVANCE IF YOU HAVE ITEMS OVER 50 LBS.**

**Paint Recycling!**  
 Cost—\$5 per container. DO NOT mix paint in other containers. In order for paint to be properly used, the contents on the inside need to match the label on the outside. If you are unable to attend the event, you may hire this service directly to come to your home for an additional \$50 service fee. Yuck Old Paint, LLC 888-509-9825 (YUCK) [www.YuckOldPaint.com](http://www.YuckOldPaint.com)

Questions? Greenbelt Sustainability Office 240-542-2153

## Greenbelt Alliance Celebrates Cooperatives in October

by Leta Mach

*This is the first of two articles on celebrating cooperatives in Greenbelt.*

October is Co-op Month, a time to recognize and celebrate cooperatives. This year's Co-op Month theme is Cooperatives – Commit to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, which celebrates how co-ops comprise people working together to make their communities and the world a better place for everyone. This year, due to the pandemic, most of the co-op celebrations and recognition have been virtual or by promotional articles and information.

Cooperatives have been working on behalf of their members and communities since 1844 when the Rochdale Equitable Pioneers Society opened a consumer co-op store in England. The success of the pioneers came from the practices and procedures under which they operated. These practices have been updated through the years by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) and they form the basis for today's cooperative principles. Greenbelt's many cooperatives are part of this strong tradition.

### Cooperation

By working together in the Greenbelt Cooperative Alliance (GCA), Greenbelt cooperatives carry out one of the most important principles, cooperation among cooperatives. Each year, alliance members organize activities for October Co-op Month. Co-op Month in Greenbelt will begin on Monday, October 12 with a proclamation from council and the celebration will continue throughout October.

### Membership

Voluntary and Open Membership is the first principle listed by ICA. In many respects this is because cooperatives are membership organizations and without member support they will fail. Co-ops are open to all people able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership. When a family enrolls in Greenbelt Nursery School, they become members of that co-op. Their responsibilities include participating in every aspect of the school's operation from governance to fundraising to maintenance.

After finding a Greenbelt Homes Inc. (GHI) home, potential members apply for membership and their responsibilities include paying their monthly co-op fee. Greenbelt News Review volunteers who work regularly become members of the newspaper's worker cooperative.

With as little as \$10, people become members of the Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy. When their capital account is \$100 or higher, they become voting members. A critical member responsibility is to shop at the

store. Members of the Greenbelt Federal Credit Union also have a responsibility to use the credit union's services and maintain a minimum balance in their share savings account, which makes them members of the financial co-op. When MakerSpace converted to a community co-op, founding members became co-owners for a membership fee of \$20 per year.

### Participation

It is crucial to the success of a cooperative that members use the services of the cooperative. Using the local cooperative is also good for the local economy. For every \$100 spent locally, roughly \$68 to \$73 dollars is returned to local activity because locally owned businesses often purchase from other local businesses, service providers and farms. Purchasing local helps grow other businesses as well as the region's tax base.

As a not-for-profit organization, a credit union generally offers better rates than for-profit banks. Members of GHI pool resources to make housing more affordable. When times are good, Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy members receive an annual patronage dividend based on the financial performance of the store. Likewise, members of the Greenbelt News Review may receive a dividend that depends upon the financial resources of the paper. The volunteer work of Greenbelt Nursery School members helps the school provide high-quality early childhood education at a moderate cost. Greenbelt MakerSpace Cooperative members save money by learning how to repair equipment.



### Send Us Your High Resolution Photos!

The News Review encourages readers to send in photos of Greenbelt landmarks, activities and the changing seasons. Photos should be at least 300 dpi, and must include the name of the photographer and a caption. The caption must name any identifiable people in the photo, as well as explain the picture.

If you are sending photos from your phone, please choose the option to send "actual size", or upload the photos to your computer first and then email the photos at full size. Send photos to [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com).



### SUPPORT & APPRECIATION RALLY for Greenbelt's Police & First Responders

Sat. Oct. 10, 11 am to 1 pm  
front of Municipal bldg.

**Working Together for a safe and just Greenbelt**



### RIP TooToo (LuckyToo)

After 10 years of fun and joy at the library end of town, he's crossed over the Rainbow Bridge. He leaves behind his best bud, LuckyOne and very sad owner and neighbors. Previous residence, Greenbelt Animal Shelter. TooToo was about 15 years old. He will be missed by many.

## Candidates Sought For Co-op Board

Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative (GCC) is seeking candidates willing to run for election to its board of directors. The Co-op will conduct its election at its virtual annual meeting on Saturday, November 7 at 10 a.m. Two board members will be elected to serve three-year terms. Incumbents Linda Ivy and Barbara Ford are running for re-election. Members interested in serving as directors can pick up nomination forms at the Co-op's customer service office. To be considered, a member must: (1) have a minimum of \$100 in their member capital account and (2) submit both a brief biography and the completed nomination form by Monday, October 19. GCC does not accept nominations at the annual meeting.

## Utopia Film Festival To Be Online This Fall

The Utopia Film Festival, in its 16th consecutive year, had to cancel the live festival this year.

The pandemic forced the venues closed, yet the festival's agreement with the source of most of its films, Film Freeway, required live festivals.

As did almost all other film festivals, Utopia had to postpone or cancel.

However, many worthwhile films were submitted before the announcement was made. So that some of these films may be made available, the festival will be hosting, via interactive internet screenings, some of these important and worthwhile movies later in October and early November.

Here are descriptions of three of them. *Illegal* tells the plight of many refugees and immigrants at the U.S. southern border. *The Definition of Insanity* tells of the progressive judicial, social services and police enforcement work in Broward County, Florida. *Suppressed: The Fight to Vote* documents the recent gubernatorial election in Georgia.

Schedules, previews and announcements will be forthcoming.

## Community Conversations: Connecting Across Greenbelt

by Tom Adams and Lois Rosado

Breaking down barriers between East, West and Historic Greenbelt is the goal of Connecting Across Greenbelt by fostering Community Conversations. No matter how long a person has lived in Greenbelt, if one knows much about the rest of the city, they are among the few. There are so many man-made barriers – Greenbelt Road, the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, Kenilworth Avenue. Without a destination, one stays close to home.

This physical isolation reinforces the challenge of understanding and meeting the needs of all our neighborhoods in an equitable way. Without action, the pandemic makes these divides worse.

Residents from all parts of Greenbelt have come together for Community Conversations. There have been three conversations so far and the next one is scheduled for Thursday, October 15 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. On the agenda are plans for GOSH (Greenbelt's Own Scavenger Hunt), in collaboration with RUAK, the weekend of October 24 and 25 and a Community Forum on Mental Health in November.

From the conversations so far, the following purpose and goals for Community Conversations have been developed:

Purpose: To enhance the qual-

ity of life for all residents of Greenbelt, by convening a series of grassroots cross-community, cross-neighborhood and cross-cultural conversations.

Goals: To increase understanding and appreciation of all residents, neighbors and neighborhoods, while building communication and improving interpersonal relationships across our city; to identify community assets and determine how they are used to address challenges facing each of Greenbelt's neighborhoods participating in the conversations; and to determine actions needed to ensure that resources and services are equitably distributed through the City of Greenbelt.

All Greenbelt residents are invited to participate in these conversations. Email [communityconnections@gb.com](mailto:communityconnections@gb.com) to get the Zoom link for the October 15, 7 p.m. meeting or to get involved.

**LISTEN to the NEWS REVIEW**  
Visually impaired may listen for free  
Call Metropolitan Washington Ear  
301-681-6636  
No special equipment needed



### PRELIMINARY AGENDA GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS Thursday, October 15, 2020

- GHI Special Open Session – starts at 7:00 p.m. (open to members and visitors)**  
Approve Motion to Hold an Executive Session Meeting on October 15, 2020
- GHI Executive Session – starts after the GHI Special Open Session Meeting adjourns (closed to members and visitors)**
  - Approve Minutes of Executive Session Meeting Held on September 17, 2020
  - Review Member Financial Matters
  - Consider Approval of the Following Contracts:
    - Removal of Asbestos Materials from Crawlspace of 4 Frame Buildings and Attic of a Pre-Fab Home - 1<sup>st</sup> reading
    - 2021 Contract for Employee Medical Insurance Benefits – 1<sup>st</sup> reading
  - Review Member Complaint Matters
- GHI Open Session (open to members and visitors) – starts at 7:45 p.m.**
  - Announcement of Complaint Hearing Held in a Closed Meeting on September 30, 2020
  - Announcement of Complaint Hearing Held in a Closed Meeting on October 7, 2020
  - Announcement of Executive Session Meeting Held on October 15, 2020
  - Approve Minutes of Special Open Session Meeting Held on September 17, 2020
  - Approve Minutes of Regular Open Session Meeting Held on September 17, 2020
  - LGAC Recommendations and Comment Letter re: Draft EIS for I-495/I-270 Expansion
  - Proposed Revisions to GHI Rule Section III. Minimum Use and Maintenance Standards – Homes and Yards
  - Succession Planning Task Force's Report re: Transition and Sustainability Issues
  - Review Draft of a 'Reasonable Accommodations Policy'

Contact information for attending the GHI Special Session, and Regular Open Session Meetings which will be held via a Zoom electronic platform due to the COVID-19 pandemic, is as follows:

Time: Oct 15, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)  
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86278469672?pwd=dHJOVWx5WHFXYnJVVXRmSm1aM0czQT09>  
Meeting ID: 862 7846 9672  
Passcode: 201148

One tap mobile  
+13017158592,,86278469672#,,,,,0#,,201148# US (Germantown)  
Dial by your location  
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)  
Meeting ID: 862 7846 9672  
Password: 201148



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

Regular Board meetings are open to Members  
For more information, visit our website: [www.ghi.coop](http://www.ghi.coop)



## Reel and Meal Kicks Off 14th Year of Relevant Films

by Cam MacQueen, Vijay Parameshwaran and Susan Barnett

On September 21, Reel and Meal at the New Deal Café, the monthly film and vegan dinner series, celebrated the kickoff of its 14th year with a viewing of *The Condor* and *The Eagle*.

The documentary centered on the issues of climate change, Indigenous rights and environmental justice across both North and South America. The film screening was facilitated by Vijay Parameshwaran and was shown in partnership with the Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church Social Action Committee and the Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth. The post-screening discussion featured Aly Tharp with the Ministry for Earth and Professor Nicole Fabricant with Towson University and the South Baltimore Community Land Trust.

Discussion topics were varied and involved much passionate conversation. The Baltimore-Washington Maglev project was discussed as an environmental justice issue. The politics of South American countries such as Ecuador, Bolivia and Brazil were discussed in the context of Indigenous rights and environmental issues. Attendees brought up collective efforts supporting Indigenous peoples as well as ideas for rethinking how to divest from fossil fuels and reinvest in renewable energy. An overarching theme was how to transform from an extractive economy based on fossil fuels to a regenerative economy based on environmentalism and renewable energy.

Although the situation is currently bleak throughout much of the Americas, attendees expressed hope for the planet and its inhabitants and inspiration from those continuing to fight for environmental rights, as well as the social justice movements of 2020 that environmental groups are now actively supporting. As is typical of Reel and Meal events, many follow-up actions were shared in which individuals could engage.

### A Brief History

Reel and Meal started 14 years ago with a group of Greenbelt activists concerned over the fate of the New Deal Café. In those days, the Café was new to Roosevelt Center, having started in the Community Center as a weekend gathering place to hear live music and enjoy vegetarian and vegan bites. As with most startups, it was unclear if the Café could make it in its new location with greatly expanded hours, so the group decided to try to find a way to support this important community resource.

Today, the program is still intimately tied to the Café, now a local institution – the community living room – and the place to go to hear live music and enjoy delicious, earth-and-animal-friendly food, thanks to the talents of DC Vegan. Reel and Meal is made up of Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group, Green Vegan Networking, Prince George's County Peace and Justice Coalition and Utopia Film Festival with graphic design support since nearly the beginning from Jean Newcomb. From the start the series has focused on bringing the local community together to see relevant documentaries and discuss timely social justice, environmental and

animal rights issues.

### Going Virtual

Reel and Meal had to pivot to transition to this new pandemic reality. The silver lining is that the programming is now reaching a much wider, more diverse audience and has expanded beyond the bounds of Greenbelt. The September event drew participants from Ecuador, Colorado and Canada. This expansion is an exciting development encouraging for both Reel and Meal and the New Deal Café.

Moving into its 14th year, Reel and Meal will explore ways to continue growing. Hopefully, at some point in the near future, it will morph back into an in-person event where food is shared, conversation and networking flow, and the new Zoom family can help co-create in the original brick and mortar Café Reel and Meal experience.

Reel and Meal has always been grateful for the symbiotic partnership with the New Deal Café – each supporting the other. It could not have made it this far without the ongoing loyalty of its friends in Greenbelt. Reel and Meal thanks those who have supported it as it reaches this phenomenal 14-year milestone.

To be added to the Zoom list, contact [reelandmeal@newdealcafe.com](mailto:reelandmeal@newdealcafe.com) and follow on Facebook and the Café website. Reserve Monday, October 19 for the Utopia Film Festival screening of *The Definition of Insanity* by Gabriel London.

### City Notes

Planning staff met with Recreation, Arts and Beltway Plaza representatives, exploring Beltway Plaza possibilities.

Park Rangers prevented ATV use at Schrom Hills Park, earning thanks from the Greenbelt Soccer Alliance.

Horticulture/Parks thinned plantings in Roosevelt Center, moving some to the lake park. Refuse/Recycling collected 29.77 tons of refuse and 11.22 tons of recyclables. Sustainability/Environmental held a National Public Lands Day event; 19 volunteers earned 57 service hours removing 552 pounds of trash from the Indian Creek Trail. Building Maintenance installed domestic violence lights at the Greenbelt Police Station, Municipal Building and Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center publicized the center's reopening. Community Center staff prepared flyers and signage with voter information. Arts offerings include a felt mandala workshop and a puppet movie class. The Springhill Lake Recreation Center Three Sisters garden sculpture was removed for repairs.

The Animal Shelter hosts one rabbit, nine cats and two kittens. The Museum's latest blog entry features Fala, President Franklin Roosevelt's beloved dog.

**Wear White at Night!**

## GNR Archive Sparks Memories For Pioneer Barbara McGowan

by Cathie Meetre

The News Review was lucky to receive a call a few weeks ago from Barbara McGowan, who, as Barbara Bradley, moved into Greenbelt in 1937 with one of the pioneer families. She lived for 18 years with her family at 7-E Ridge, just across from the Kellahers who then lived in 8 Court. She called to follow up on our Archive story from the August 27 issue that told of her father, George Bradley, who, after working for the federal government in D.C. in 1945 was manager of the Tobacco Shop, which sold candy and cigarettes. She remembers him walking from their home down to Southway where he caught the bus.

Indeed, we have earlier news of her father in June 25, 1943, when an article states, "Presenting George Bradley, new manager of the Hillside Road food store. One look at the freshly scrubbed floors, well-stocked shelves and neat signs at this establishment will convince you that here is a man who knows his business and enjoys it. Mr. Bradley has many plans in mind for the Hillside store, one of which is to stock it so well with a variety of lines that people in the Northern section will be spared too many wearisome trips to the Center. Many Northenders already appreciate being able to purchase razor blades, tooth powder, shoe polish, and the like here. Mr. Bradley has added fly swatters, scrubbing brushes, and mops to the growing list of extra conveniences. 'I'd like to get more meat up here,' says Bradley. 'And if I can get hold of more refrigeration, I certainly will.'"

McGowan, it turns out, appears in the *Cooperator* (the News Review's original name) in her own right. In the issue of September 23, 1948, she joins the choir at St. Hugh's and there she is again listed as a babysitter in the issue of September 1, 1949.

McGowan was the oldest in the family, with three younger brothers – one of whom, Bill Rich, still lives in Greenbelt. It was he who called her up to let her know about the story. She recounted that her cousin Norman McCarthy and his wife Joanne also lived nearby. McCarthy played a variety of leadership roles for the Greenbelt Little League, including Farm Team manager.

On the phone, McGowan recounted a story she remembered about her father. The man who cleaned the offices and the movie theater, and who was well known to everybody, was bitten by a black widow spider. George Bradley rushed him to the small hospital that was then on Gardenway, where they gave him a shot. A search of the archive at [greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://greenbeltnewsreview.com) quickly finds the story in the issue of January 19, 1945. "Jerry Goodin, G.C.S. (Greenbelt Consumer Services – later the Co-op) Porter, is home in bed after being bitten early Wednesday morning by a Black Widow spider. The spider took up quarters in Mr. Goodin's gloves shortly after he came to work and when he went to put them on again she expressed her indignation at being disturbed. Mr. Goodin did

not pay much attention to the bite at the time and it was only when his finger and hand began to swell that he was persuaded to seek medical attention. Mr. George Bradley, manager of the Tobacco Shop where Goodin was at the time, saw to it that he was taken up to the Health Association where he was treated by Dr. Hans Wodak. Mr. Goodin is the only full-time Porter working for G.C.S. at the present time, and has been with the cooperative for about five years."

Forever after that, Goodin always talked about Bradley as "the man who saved my life." McGowan notes that in those

days, everything you needed was right there in Greenbelt – including a hospital.

McGowan lived in Greenbelt with her family for 18 years and, when she got married, first lived in the apartments by the Roosevelt Center and then moved to 44-J Ridge Road around 1955. McGowan said it was wonderful to live there – she would put the kids in the carriage and walk to the lake. She said that she walked everywhere.

McGowan (301-801-8259) would be delighted to hear from any of her old friends still living in the area.

### 1938 Photo Contest Winner



PHOTO BY JOSEPH TAYLOR

This photo of Sharon Elizabeth Taylor, age one, won first prize in the "Life in Greenbelt" photo contest at Greenbelt's first town fair in 1938. Ms. Taylor, now Sharon Elizabeth Taylor Allemann, currently lives in California but thinks of her much loved hometown often. She is proud to say both she and Greenbelt are now 83 years of age.



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## COUNCIL continued from page 1

they could have possibly been,” yet these continue to be “tough and serious times,” in the face of unusual and challenging circumstances.

Franchot said that the present situation defies classical economic analysis, in that such a drop in revenue would typically be expected to bring a major downturn in the economy, but that “it didn’t happen this time.” He said that tax revenues from the newly unemployed stayed more or less the same and that business tax withholding from employees has been a significant source of revenues.

He credited the \$2.2 trillion federal stimulus as the chief reason, which he described as unbelievably expensive, but also effective and a godsend. Specifically, he cited the CARES Act, the Paycheck Protection Program and the \$600 federal weekly unemployment subsidy (now ended).

He stressed though, that another federal stimulus is desperately needed and almost mandatory for the economy to retain this level of stability. Such future stimulus remains uncertain.

The September 29 report is only a temporary assessment, awaiting a more comprehensive and expansive report in December, which will be used by the state legislature in its budget deliberations.

The uncertainty is based on two major factors: the yet-to-be-approved second federal stimulus and the unpredictability of the virus itself. Franchot characterized the virus as a game changer for all predictions.

Franchot revealed that on June 30, the end of FY 2020, the State of Maryland reported a positive fund balance of \$585.8 million. He was keen on making that fund available immediately for the state’s small businesses, which

are suffering severe challenges to stay open. He said that “small businesses have done so much for the state.”

Said Franchot, Governor Larry Hogan has indicated that he would like to keep that money for public budgets. Franchot countered Hogan, saying that there already exists a \$1.2 billion Rainy Day Fund that could be allocated for this. Franchot said that possibly \$100 million from that fund could be set aside for businesses as an alternative. Franchot added that constructive conversations with Hogan are ongoing.

He encouraged council to draft a letter to the governor expressing their desire to see the \$585.8 million made available for small businesses. Council agreed to discuss the matter at an upcoming meeting.

Bonardi, whom Franchot extolled for her indispensable administrative efforts, said that the agency has “performed well under unfortunate circumstances,” processing more tax returns than in previous years. Effective customer service is a priority. The Greenbelt office is now open by appointment only.

Farkas echoed Franchot’s update and recommendations, predicting a slowing of wage growth as the year proceeds, while also saying that he didn’t “forecast an outright decline.” He said that while the labor market has done poorly, individual income has sustained, mostly due to federal funds, and that sales did not decrease as badly as forecast in May. He said that the lack of a second stimulus would create a worse situation.

In reply to a question from Councilmember Judith Davis, Franchot said that the jury is still out on some of the state grants that the city relies on, like the

Highway User revenues. This grant is essential to Greenbelt and “needed to be funded,” said Franchot, with “money needing to be found somewhere.” Yet, he added, with less traffic due to the pandemic, the revenues should be expected to go down.

Councilmember Emmett Jordan asked about adding nonprofit organizations to future stimulus packages, as they are exempt currently. He cited the nonprofit Old Greenbelt Theatre which would benefit greatly. Franchot concurred and supported the idea, citing the AFI Theatre in Silver Spring.

Franchot gave an update on the unfinished Purple Line. The previous lead contractor is under investigation by both the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Department of Justice for illegal business practices, with jail likely for its leadership. He said that the state has now taken charge and is committed to completing the job, even if it means another year of work and a higher cost.

Council reminded Franchot that they support the no-build option on the maglev proposal and are opposed to the widening of the Beltway. Franchot was receptive to their concerns and promised to keep council aware of any updates. Councilmember Rodney Roberts said that the pandemic has made a stark case for the abandonment of the Beltway widening, in light of the reduced traffic and more virtual work.

Franchot said that residents should expect a two- to four-year economic recovery period for a return to pre-pandemic norms. The state will need to be cautious about new spending, taxes and fees. He said that the goal is to put cash back into people’s pockets and into businesses, to rebuild the small-business economy.

## MINISTER continued from page 4

and ecological issues for decades. He shares his views on justice, “We all are created by God to have lives of dignity, purpose and potential. Justice occurs when people are allowed and encouraged to find self-expression that is honored respectfully in a society with many diverse viewpoints. Diversity is a blessing from God to us.”

DeMars-Johnson also taught elementary and middle school students. “It’s a spectacular experience to work alongside young learners and do what it takes to get kids, who were failing in the system, to engage in learning.” In 2002, he wrote a textbook – Igniting Your Genius: The Startling Fusion of Creativity, Curiosity, Intellect, Passion, and Awe – about the blessings of engaging people and experiences with students.

DeMars-Johnson believes “life is more enjoyable when we remain curious and engage with

others. We can do this by asking unasked questions and practice listening deep for their responses and questions. Learning the art of seeing what people are saying and not saying communicates clues.” He used this technique with students and found the most common response from students was, “I don’t know because nobody ever asked me about that before.” What happened next was real engagement with students.

In this time of COVID-19, Sunday worship services at Greenbelt Community Church are continuing to be virtual only, broadcast via Zoom and on Facebook Live. DeMars-Johnson is using Zoom to meet church members and members of the community for now. “Curt’s warmth and love come through when you see him on Zoom or talk to him on Facetime,” said Yoho. “He has inspiring and uplifting messages to share of hope and love.”



PHOTO BY THELMA MARTINEZ

Brothers Nathaniel and Eli ride bikes on the empty sidewalks of Greenbelt Elementary School. It’s nice to see some kids playing at the school even if they can’t play with their teachers and friends.

## GHI continued from page 1

GHI members and others can contribute to offset the fees deferred by those GHI members financially affected by COVID-19. They hope to raise enough money to completely pay off the deferred fees. As Newcomer said, “We’re a cooperative. Let’s cooperate – because as a cooperative, we are all in this together.”

The chosen fundraising platform is at [chuffed.org/project/ghi-relief-fund](https://chuffed.org/project/ghi-relief-fund). Newcomer and Luly believe that using chuffed.org will allow a campaign that is transparent, communicative and integrated with other social media. Although using the chuffed platform itself is free, payment processing is not free. Two percent of the donation goes to a payment processor. Donors may add an optional percentage to their donation to defray the payment processing costs.

The funds raised on the [chuffed.org](https://chuffed.org) site will be directly transferred to GHI to forgive the deferred fees and reduce the amount that the affected members will have to pay back to GHI beginning in January 2021 when the fee deferral period ends. The funds will be distributed equally by GHI to the deferred balances of the participating members until the balances are zero or until all transferred funds have been depleted, whichever occurs first. Any funds raised in excess of the deferred fees will be deposited



PHOTO BY AMY HANSEN

GHI has allowed members to defer up to four months of cooperative fees under a special COVID-19 emergency fee deferral policy.

into the GHI general fund.

Newcomer and Luly kicked off the fundraising drive on September 23 and hope that GHI members and others join them in

donating online and spread the word to friends and neighbors. No donation is too big or too small.

## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual



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# Police Blotter

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

### Assault Arrest

September 20, 8 p.m., 9000 block Breezewood Terrace. A 30-year-old resident was arrested and charged with aggravated assault after he allegedly stabbed another person during an altercation in the parking lot. He was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner and the injured person was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

### Theft

September 24, 11 a.m., 7573 Greenbelt Road. A wallet was taken from a purse in an employee locker at Dollar Tree.

### Indecent Exposure

September 28, 4:10 p.m., 6000 block Greenbelt Road. A man exposed himself as he walked toward two people in the rear parking lot of Beltway Plaza. He then fled on foot.

### Fraud

September 24, 3:49 p.m., 5 Court Ridge Road. A woman received a call from a person who claimed to be with Amazon security and said her account had been compromised. She was told to pay a fee in the form of gift cards to rectify the situation. After she purchased gift cards and provided the information, she realized she had been defrauded.

### Burglary

September 9, 12:25 p.m., 6000 Greenbelt Road. Jewelry and watches were taken after forced entry into Watch World.

### Vehicle Crime

A white 2019 Amazon van with Pennsylvania tags ZPB7431 was taken from 9008 Breezewood Terrace. A 2005 Lexus RX350 was stolen from 7595 Greenbelt Road and recovered in the same area three days later.

Seven airbags were taken after door handles were forced open and damaged. Three occurred in the 8200 block Canning Terrace, two in the 7300 block Wintergreen Court and two at 6978 Hanover Parkway.

Sets of four tires and rims were taken in 8150 Lakecrest Drive and 7800 block Hanover Parkway.

Maryland tags 5AEK60 were taken from 6110 Breezewood Court and Maryland tags 7EB2761 were taken from 6216 Breezewood Drive. Registration stickers were taken on Mandan Road near Greenbelt Road. A handicap placard was taken from 9 Court Ridge Road.

A woman looked out from her residence at 7762 Mandan Road at approximately 2:45 a.m. and observed what she thought was her vehicle being towed. When she went outside she realized that a man was taking the tires and rims off her vehicle. When she confronted him, the man threatened her and demanded her cell phone. He then fled with the tires, rims and her cell phone.

Wallets were taken from vehicles in 6203 Springhill Court and 5829 Cherrywood Terrace after windows were broken out to gain access. Two vehicles were rummaged through in the 6000 and 6106 blocks Breezewood Drive after entry was made through broken windows.

A driver's license and credit card were taken from a wallet in an unlocked vehicle in the 7800 block Emily's Way.

Hand tools and power tools were taken from 9110 Springhill Lane after locks were tampered with and damaged to gain entry.

A rear window was broken out at 213 Lakeside Drive.

## MAGLEV continued from page 1

environmental consultant or engineer were on the agenda for the following week, but he requested the Special Meeting to initiate action earlier than that.

### Timeline

Councilmember Judith Davis asked Planning Director Terri Hruby to explain the timeline as it now exists for responding to the DEIS.

Hruby explained that the DEIS will be released on January 22. Public hearings will be held February 21, and the comment period will be January 22 until March 8. Davis commented that it would then be the late January to early March period that should be the city's target for having its documents and testimony prepared, to which Hruby agreed.

According to Hruby, Greenbelt is a participating agency but not a cooperating agency in the review process. An administrative DEIS is scheduled to be sent to cooperating federal agencies next week, with their review comments due in mid-November. These comments will be used to revise the DEIS before its release to the public in January. Davis asked why Greenbelt could not directly contact the federal agencies that make up the cooperating agencies and ask for copies of their statements. City Solicitor Todd Pounds replied that they could indeed do that. Councilmember Edward Putens said it might be the case that the agencies were not free to provide copies of those opinions, and he also recommended that the requests include materials not only from the main agency but from offices within it. Pounds indicated that if the agencies would not supply the statements, he would file Public Information Act (PIA) requests as needed.

### Task Force

The resolution to establish the Greenbelt SCMaglev Opposition Task Force was unanimously adopted, and for several weeks the city ad in this paper has

featured information about the task force and about applying to participate. The task force will include representatives of the city's advisory boards and committees and homeowner associations, and it also seeks residents with experience in the following areas: environmental engineering, major transportation projects, environmental law, social justice and community advocacy. Councilmembers hope to have representation from all parts of the city.

### Environmental Engineer

Roberts said that, as with the task force, he wanted to pass an ordinance that night to proceed with the hiring of an environmental consultant or firm. He envisioned authorizing staff to undertake the search and hiring, and he made a motion to that effect. Pounds ran through a list of possibilities he had explored for consultants, but the number of interested companies was not large.

Davis disagreed with Roberts, saying there needed to be more information and that council needs to have a list of viable possibilities. She said they could move on it quickly. Staff

can investigate, she said, but council needs to make the decision. Councilmember Leta Mach agreed with Davis, as did Councilmember Emmett Jordan, saying more time should be taken.

Davis asked to have the matter continued on the agenda of the September 28 meeting (which eventually became the October 5 meeting). She said council needed information on candidates' qualifications, backgrounds and project experience, as well as pricing.

The mayor had seconded Roberts' motion for the purpose of discussion but said he thought Davis' points were well taken and that all that council was really doing tonight was receiving a briefing from the attorney.

Roberts argued that council had previously authorized the prior city manager to hire in the situation, but councilmembers disagreed with him, and he eventually withdrew the motion.

Because of the relatively limited responses to Pounds' queries, councilmembers asked staff to prepare materials to serve as a Request for Proposals (RFP).



## CRIME continued from page 1

The town hall had 22 attendees and was held as a part of ongoing meetings the police department has had with different Greenbelt neighborhoods. Prior to this town hall, the department met with residents from Greenbelt East, Franklin Park and Greenbelt Station.

During the town hall, Bowers indicated a desire to offer mini-sessions of the Citizen's Police Academy to inform Greenbelt residents on the use of force

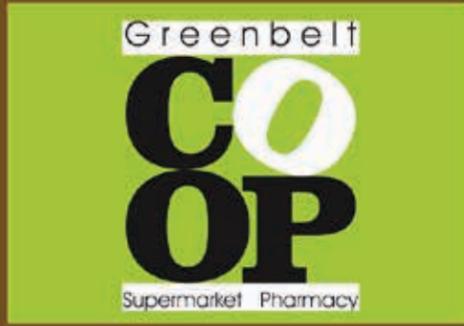
by police officers. The Citizen's Police Academy is an eight-week program that gives Greenbelt residents an opportunity to experience what it is like to be a police officer. The department has offered three programs over the past few years.

"It does come down to the residents of the city being the eyes and ears," Bowers said. "The police department can't do it alone."

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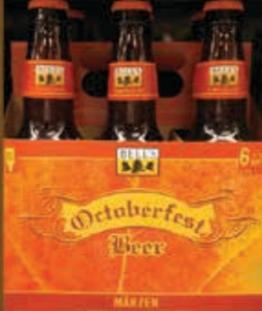


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# Sports

## Soccer Teaches Skills Beyond the Field for ERHS Alumna

by Amy Lepore

For many students, high school sports are an opportunity to be active, make friends, and have fun. But for Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) alumna Kate Monroe, soccer was much more.

Monroe was born and raised in Hyattsville. Before graduating in 2014, she participated in a variety of extracurricular activities, though none more influential than soccer. Her four years on the team were “an incomparable constant,” allowing her to grow as an individual and a teammate. “Coming in as a freshman, I was

in awe of the older girls on the team who were such cool examples of how to be successful on and off the field,” Monroe says. From the very first day of school, the ERHS soccer team made her feel welcome. She describes the team as a “committed community of friends” that supply each other with unwavering support and a sense of belonging. By her senior year, Monroe became a mentor for the younger players, just like those she admired as a freshman.

ERHS soccer also gave Monroe valuable skills that she continues to carry through her life.

“Teamwork, positivity and clear communication,” she says, are among the attributes she learned as an athlete. She also learned that recognition does not come easily; determination and dedication are rewarded over impatience. Experiencing setbacks and failures is likely, but Monroe learned it’s important to stay focused and steadfast.

“Working hard and with purpose despite roadblocks along the way can lead to some of the most meaningful experiences in life,” she says.

Her journey to success was not one she traveled alone, though. Like many young athletes, Monroe doubted her abilities before joining the soccer team. “You can never know what something will be like until you try,” she says. Ultimately, it was positive feedback, an emphasis on sportsmanship and encouragement from her coaches and teammates that led to her success.

“Real success and a sense of satisfaction are tied deeply to

one’s attitude, a willingness to remain open to learning and the support of their community,” she learned.

Since graduating, Monroe has applied the lessons she attained through soccer to all aspects of her life. In the spring of 2015, she began attending Middlebury College in Vermont where she studied Chinese language and literature. Though she hasn’t formally played soccer since high school, she has taken on rugby, joined a dance group and sung as a part of an a capella group. She has also traveled, interned on farms, worked as a food delivery driver, and taught preschool at a bilingual immersion school in DC.

“My roles in all of those things and more were definitely shaped by my previous experiences with team sports and collaboration, like those on Roosevelt’s soccer team,” Monroe concludes.

*Amy Lepore is a junior journalism student at Eleanor Roosevelt High School.*

## Babe Ruth Baseball Returns Now for Reduced Practice

by Ian Gleason

Entering 2020, Greenbelt Babe Ruth Baseball was coming off a successful spring and fall 2019 season. There was additional excitement and hope for even higher player turnout and dedication motivated by the Washington Nationals’ World Series victory. Then a week before practice was set to start, everything halted on account of the pandemic.

Fast forward to September, after almost a full year of no baseball activities for Greenbelt Babe Ruth due to the offseason and coronavirus shutdown, baseball has returned to Greenbelt.

Practices have resumed at Braden Field at a reduced capacity. For the time being practices consist of a limited number of players and coaches and have been adapted to address the potential spread of the virus. While a normal fall season – accompanied by another World Series championship – would be ideal, the return to practice is welcome to both players and coaches. Getting back out on the field brings the hope of brighter days ahead, not just for those involved, but for the greater community as well.



PHOTO BY KATHY SMITH

AJ Rizzo of Greenbelt Babe Ruth at the plate against the Laurel Bolts in a Prince George's County Babe Ruth Fall League game last October.



PHOTO COURTESY ERHS SOCCER

After the 2013 County Senior All-Star Game, ERHS Class of 2014 seniors pose with the JV soccer coach. From left, Joanna Dubon, Kate Monroe, Coach Patrick Gleason, Bernizette Ndukong (kneeling), Molly Septus and Nicole Delabrer.

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# Hardy Weed Warrior Volunteers Remove Unwanted Invasives

by Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll

With fall right around the corner, a group of dedicated volunteers offered their time and service to remove invasive plants from the pollinator garden at Buddy Attick Park. The morning of Saturday, September 12, was cool and overcast, perfect weather for working outdoors. The group met at the food forest demonstration area where they listened to a quick introduction by Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, environmental coordinator with the City of Greenbelt. He introduced some of the invasive species they would be targeting for removal and gave an overview of the tools and techniques they would employ. The group then made their way to the pollinator garden to begin their work. The focus for the day was to remove invasive vines including Japanese hops, bindweed and porcelain berry. These species will crowd out and cover native species, starving them of sunlight and competing for resources.

Volunteers of all ages worked together in family groups to remove these and other invasive plants from the pollinator garden. For many, this was a great opportunity to get outside and be active after a long quarantine over spring and summer. One volunteer, Joyce Abma, remarked that it was the first time she had gone out and performed an activity since March. Many of the volunteers were scouts or students with their families working to gain some service hours for school or for their scout troop.

The work done by these volunteers has created space for the native flowers and grasses in the pollinator garden so they will provide food and habitat to the native pollinators that rely on these plants to survive. The group was able to observe some of the species supported by the garden, from a juvenile black rat snake safely hiding among the detritus, to the numerous butterflies, wasps and flies that rely on the nectar and pollen of the plants. The habitat provided in these kinds of ecosystems supports a vast array



A truck is loaded with invasive plants.

- Photos by Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll



Juvenile black rat snake

of wildlife and it is important to maintain them so they may continue to do so.

The Department of Public Works will be holding more Weed Warriors events to remove invasive plants and plant native species around Greenbelt Lake. The next event will take place

on Saturday, October 10. To register, email Carpenter-Driscoll at [kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov). For more information and volunteer opportunities visit [greenbeltmd.gov/government/departments-contract-public-works/green-volunteer-opportunities](http://greenbeltmd.gov/government/departments-contract-public-works/green-volunteer-opportunities).

# Volunteers Clean Trail for National Public Lands Day

by Beverly Palau

This year, National Public Lands Day was observed on September 26, and the community in Greenbelt answered the call. Nineteen volunteers lent their time and labor to participate in a trash pick-up, sponsored by the Department of Public Works, along the Indian Creek Trail and stream. National Public Lands Day is celebrated annually around the country on the fourth Saturday of September and is a signature event for the National Environmental Education Foundation. It promotes both public enjoyment and conservation of the nation's public lands through free park admissions and volunteer activism.

## Off to Work

The morning began at 10 a.m. in the Beltway Plaza parking lot at the corner of Cherrywood Lane and Breezewood Drive. Councilmembers Leta Mach and Edward Putens were in attendance and asked local community leader, Kristin Weaver, to read aloud the proclamation for National Public Lands Day to begin the event. The city's environmental coordinator, Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, then gave a safety briefing and quick instructions before the group set off across Cherrywood Lane to begin the morning's work.

The Indian Creek Trail runs parallel with Cherrywood Lane and along Indian Creek, before it passes under Greenbelt Road and runs toward Lake Artemesia.

## Wetland Cleanup

The paved path of the trail encircles a wetland habitat, and at its north end connects with the Greenbelt Station community. The creek and the wetlands are a vital part of the Anacostia watershed providing habitat to native wildlife, filtering stormwater and serving as part of the nutrient and water cycles from the land out to the Chesapeake Bay. Keeping these areas clean and free of litter is an important aspect of responsible stewardship and for maintaining the overall health of the Bay.

At the end of the event a slight drizzle began as the last of the refuse was weighed and loaded onto the dump truck. The volunteers contributed a combined total of 57 hours and managed to collect a staggering 552 pounds of litter, as well as two tires, a rusty bicycle and various pieces of old scrap metal. A huge thank you and round of applause goes out to all of the volunteers that provided their time and service to Greenbelt's public lands.



Councilmembers Leta Mach and Edward Putens look on as community leader Kristin Weaver reads the proclamation before the start of the event.

PHOTO BY JULIA ANN ARBUTUS

# Greenbelt Dog Park Reopens With Updated Rules and Fees

by Mya Zepp

The Greenbelt Dog Park reopened on September 26 with new rules after being closed due to COVID-19. When the pandemic struck, the park closed due to health and safety precautions along with other parks in D.C., Maryland and Virginia.

The new park rules mainly consist of an updated version of the previous park rules along with new age restrictions regarding children at the park, stating "Children under eight years of age are strongly discouraged from using the park."

The reopening came with updated rules, policies and a warning to use at your own risk during the pandemic, according to Nelly Ortiz, Greenbelt's animal control officer.

There are no pandemic-specific rules in place at this time other than a general rule to respect others and try to social distance when possible.

City councilmembers could not reopen the park until they were in agreement regarding the new park rules.

Those who wish to visit the dog park must submit an application that includes their agreement to park rules, the medical information of the dog(s) in question, plus a \$10 annual fee for residents and a \$30 annual fee for non-residents, according to Ortiz.

The dog park is open only to dog owners who have submitted an application and received a permit. Applications must be resubmitted annually to remain in good standing. Applications can be found on the city website at [greenbeltmd.gov/dogpark](http://greenbeltmd.gov/dogpark).

The annual fee covers all dogs in a single household; however, only two dogs per owner are allowed at the park at one time.

Mya Zepp is a University of Maryland journalism student reporting for the News Review.

visit [www.greenbeltnewsreview.com](http://www.greenbeltnewsreview.com)



The photographer gets too close, and the great blue heron flies even closer while fleeing the scene.

PHOTO BY KATHRYN BEARD