



Girl Scout award, p.11



Raiders Soccer, p.15

“Tomorrow’s House Today” The 1938 Parkbelt Homes

by Letty Wilson Bonnell



Postcard of General Houses, Inc. model home exhibit at Chicago Century of Progress Exposition, 1933

Old Greenbelt’s 1930s architecture is a graceful reminder of the city’s New Deal heritage: the dramatic Art Deco design of the Community Center (originally also the town’s elementary school) and the theater, complemented by the International Style reflected in the townhouses and

apartment buildings. There is another small group of late-30s houses, however, that also played an important part in the development of Old Greenbelt’s low-cost, functional, yet aesthetically pleasing architecture. A stroll down the Forestway cul-de-sac just off Woodland Way reveals 10 single-

family houses with a variety of façade treatments, rooflines and floor plans. But hidden within the core of these homes are fascinating remnants of Greenbelt’s early architectural history: identical single-story, prefabricated steel frame structures defined by the flat roofs and clean, streamlined silhouettes of the late 1930s Moderne style.

In 1937, the Farm Security Administration, the government agency at that time overseeing the planning and building of Greenbelt, contracted Chicago architect/engineer Howard T. Fisher to build a group of 10 houses on Forestway Road. (For further details, see Stephen Oetken’s 2011 article at greenbeltnewsreview.com/issues/GNR20111006.pdf.) Fisher created the limited-corporation Parkbelt Homes Incorporated to construct these experimental steel-frame prefabricated homes in a functional, yet modern, style that was in keeping with the expanding Greenbelt townscape.

See **PARKBELT**, page 16

Council, PSAC, Police Argue Next Steps for Police Reform

by Matthew Arbach

The Greenbelt City Council continues to grapple with the best way forward on the issue of reform in the city’s Police Department, spurred by Mayor Colin Byrd’s revised Fair and Just Policing Act proposal and by the subsequent review of its first iteration by the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC). While both the council and PSAC are in agreement on the need for reform in certain areas like use of force, civil liberties and stop and frisk, the central debate revolves around whether the changes should be brought about by modifying the department’s General Orders, a legislative ordinance, or a combination of the two. The issue was discussed at a worksession on October 4 as well as at the council meeting on October 11.

General Orders, which dictate police policies, are binding in their application, with discipline applied when not complied with. Yet, they lack the permanence and authority of an ordinance. Compared with an ordinance, a General Order is easily changed or modified (which is done on

a frequent basis to conform to ongoing developments). Changing an ordinance requires a formal review and vote by council. Thus, the debate centered on the merits of expediency versus a more deliberative legal process.

In their report, PSAC expressed a preference to proceed by addressing the General Orders for the following reasons: many of the orders already address issues requested by the mayor’s initial proposal to PSAC; the ones that require modification are easily amended; and the upcoming state police legislation will remedy any other needed changes.

Chief Richard Bowers was reticent to enact an ordinance, as the department is awaiting the state’s new police legislation guidelines that will take effect on July 1, 2022. Bowers said that significant changes to the General Orders are expected, requiring training. It would be problematic to legislate city police policy now only to have to potentially change it and retrain later on.

Greenbelt is one of three See **POLICE**, page 13

Council Wrestles with CARES Rent Grants, Armory Purchase

by Cathie Meetre

Two major topics arising in the Greenbelt City Council meeting of October 11 are covered in this article. Remaining topics will be covered in a future article.

Rent Support Funds

City Manager Nicole Ard reported that, as of October 8, there had been six rental grants made by the city from federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds with additional utility grants either disbursed or in the pipeline. Those inquiring are also apprised of the possibility of a range of county grants and can receive counseling on the variety of options available. Of the six rental grants, there were two each from Greenbelt

West, Center and East indicating that information on the grants had successfully percolated throughout the city. At that time, there had been 54 applications received (apparently from all areas of the city and with some of the 54 still incomplete as they work through processing). Ard noted that there is the potential to receive both rental and utilities grants as well as obtaining food assistance that may also lessen the financial burden on those in need. As of the October 11 meeting, the city has processed \$67,000 in funds to 17 recipients and fielded 197 inquiries altogether.

Since the meeting, cumulative information through October 15 See **COUNCIL**, page 12

Franklin Park CASA Rally: Evictions Are NOT Pending

by Amy Hansen

Residents of Franklin Park and members of CASA de Maryland held a rally and press conference on Monday, October 18 protesting alleged eviction notices for the large apartment complex. While the group gathered peacefully and put on red CASA T-shirts in solidarity with the nonprofit organization, the apartment management, Fieldstone Properties, represented by Denise Knight, said the gathering was based on misinformation and that mass evictions are not pending.

The press release issued by CASA de Maryland, a Silver Spring-based organization, states that “Since the expiration of the eviction moratorium on October 1, Franklin Park, managed and owned by Fieldstone Properties, has sued for possession and gotten more than 180 writs of eviction.”

Knight said, in an email dated October 15 to County Councilmember Todd Turner and other

city and county officials, that the statement was false. “Franklin Park has no plans to evict 180 residents within the next week, month or remainder of the year.”

Furthermore, she added, “As part of our continued commitment to our residents, we have been finalizing plans for an upcoming rental assistance fair specifically for our residents who do not have an Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) application pending. In conjunction with our work with the county, this has been scheduled to occur next week.”

She also noted that while Franklin Park has executed 11 evictions in the last month, those evicted had high balances due and did not have any pending rental assistance application. “And,” said Knight, “[they] failed to take advantage of available resources after exhaustive attempts on our part.”

What Goes On

- Saturday, October 23**
9 a.m. to noon. Electronics Recycling, Public Works Yard
- Monday, October 25**
8 p.m. City Council Meeting
- Wednesday, October 27**
8 p.m. City Council Worksession: City Manager Update (tentative)

All meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.



PHOTO BY LESLEY KASH

The McElhenny family makes wreaths at the Fall Family Fun event at Braden Field on Tuesday, October 19. Mariella, on the right in a beautiful blue mask, shows off her lovely seasonal wreath, exclaiming “I love these things!” See story, page 16.

Editorial

The Rest of the Story

In his October 14, 2021, page 6 advertisement, Rodney Roberts wrote: "The last GNR question that I answered in 2019 was censored by the then editor – both the words and the meaning of what I wrote were changed."

To correct the record, we were able to look back to see what Roberts sent us in 2019 and what was then published. The editor removed one sentence impugning another candidate.

The News Review stands by this action. The questions are to elicit candidates' views on an issue, not to serve as campaign jabs at other candidates.

We feel strongly about fair play in what we publish in the News Review.

Letters to the Editor

Reparations?

When voting, Greenbelt residents have a ballot question to consider as well as members of the next city council: whether you think forming a Reparations Committee of 21 is necessary.

Voters need to ask themselves, should Greenbelt take on an issue (reparations) considered controversial, complicated, divisive? Is this the time to experiment with a social justice issue centered around race? Should Greenbelt immerse itself in this topic when there are concerns looming on Greenbelt's horizon dealing with aging infrastructure and the maintenance and management of city programs?

The Community Center, the Municipal Building, Green Ridge House, historic Roosevelt Center structures, and the Police Station all have wear and tear and will need attention. There are streets, sidewalks, city playgrounds and community gardens that need repair and maintenance. Aging WSSC infrastructure is already causing issues in parts of the city. The city is serious about acquiring the National Armory building for use as a fire station among other potential uses and funds will be needed for renovation. There are unstable and diseased trees that need attention or removal. There are city staff positions and vacancies to fill. The city continues to provide a multitude of quality recreational, youth, senior and social programs.

Greenbelt should keep its eye on the ball and address its infrastructure, keep our residents safe, pay its bills, fill staff vacancies and use its resources wisely. Might reparations be a distraction to our city council and staff while addressing infrastructure concerns, providing quality services and functioning of our city?

Robert Snyder

Purple Lights Month

Having grown up in a large family affected by domestic violence, I was gratified to see the large sign with special lighting posted at the Municipal Building where the city council meets. The sign reads, "Domestic Violence Awareness Month." Is this the first posting of such a sign in Greenbelt?

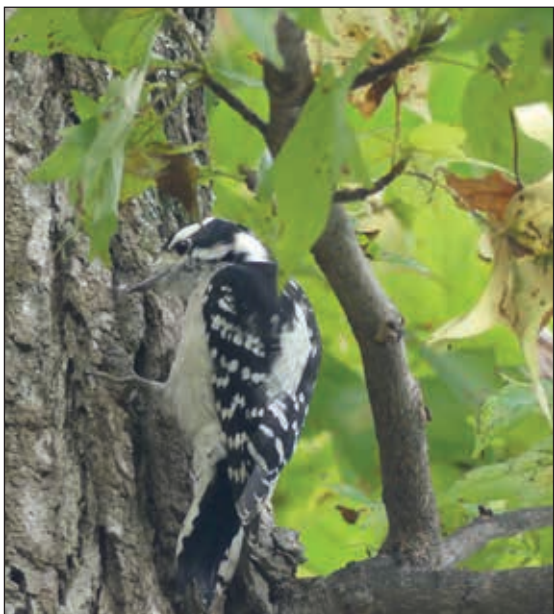
With Domestic Violence Awareness Month having been with us since 1987, I find it odd that there has been no mention in the October 14 Greenbelt News Review.

As for causation, there is much online from which I have derived this grievously incomplete list: mental problems, poverty and unemployment, abuse at workplace, lack of relationship retention skill, family history of domestic violence, pornography and culture that promote/accept domestic violence, self-defense, addictions and suspicion of infidelity.

There are also dozens of books about domestic violence. And there are 15 or more documentaries.

If one cannot personally assist a victim of domestic violence, then it would be more productive to acquire an understanding of it than wringing one's hands or saying, "Ain't it awful!"

Bill Norwood
Editor's Note. There was mention of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the October 7 City Notes column. The month has been observed with purple lights on the Municipal Building since 2015.



Downy Woodpecker

PHOTO BY KATHRYN BEARD

Election 2021 Candidate Biographies

In a departure from tradition, the News Review will not be reprinting the candidates' biographies the week before the election. Rather, biographies will be readily available on our website beginning October 7. To date, the following biographies, which are prepared by the candidates, have been published in the indicated issues:

- Brandon Ric Gordon, August 26
- Matthew Inzeo, September 16
- Kristen Weaver, September 23
- Silke Pope, September 23
- Alex Zajac, September 30
- Judith Davis, September 30
- Rodney Roberts, October 7
- Colin Byrd, October 7
- Emmett Jordan, October 7
- Bill Orleans, October 14

Election 2021

Early Voting

Center City
Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road

Through October 29: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Greenbelt West
Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane
Saturday, October 23, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, October 24, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wear White at Night!



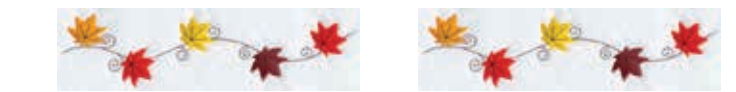
Old Greenbelt Theatre
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbelttheatre.org
Members Always \$6.50!
Member kids are always FREE!
Adults \$9, Kids \$6,
Senior/Student/Military \$8
All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Kids \$5
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES
Oct. 22nd – Oct. 25th
THE ELECTRICAL LIFE OF LOUIS WAIN (PG-13) (CC) (DVS) (2021) (111 MINS)
FRI. 5:00 PM, 7:45 PM
SAT. 7:45 PM
SUN. 2:00 PM (OC)
MON. 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM
I'M YOUR MAN (R) (2021) (102 MINS)
SAT. 5:00 PM
SUN. 5:00 PM

PETE REPERT



GESUNDHEIT!



Letters Policy During City Elections

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.

In an election year, the News Review will not print a letter raising a new issue the week prior to election day, when no other party would have a chance to respond.



Greenbelt News Review

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display Ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All Letters to the Editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified Ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/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.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the municipal building.

Community Events

Relics Concert For Food Pantry

Straight from the Labor Day Festival stage, The Relics will perform on Sunday, October 24 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Church, 1 Hillside Road, to benefit Help By Phone. The Relics are a local rock band who cover music from the 1960s and 1970s.

The all-outdoor event will be held with a rain date of Sunday, October 31. Concertgoers are encouraged to bring their own chairs and a monetary donation or non-perishable food item for the Help By Phone food pantry.

Suggested food items include boxes of cereal, pasta, pancake mix, oatmeal, cans of soup, stew, vegetables and fruit. For more information about Help By Phone, call 301-699-9009 Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Virtual Lecture: Greenbelt for Blacks

On Thursday, October 21 at 6 p.m. (note the early start time), the Greenbelt Museum will host a virtual lecture on Aberdeen Gardens, a New Deal community for Black families formerly known as Newport News (Va.) Homesteads. Built by the Resettlement Administration around the same time as Greenbelt, Aberdeen Gardens was specifically built "by Blacks, for Blacks," unlike Greenbelt, which was only open to White families although both Black and White laborers were involved in its construction. Aberdeen Gardens was designed by Black architect Hilyard Robinson and everyone involved in the project was Black. Margaret Wilson, Aberdeen Gardens resident and historian, will speak.

Participants must register for this free event by 3 p.m. on the day of the event; a link will be emailed by 4 p.m. The event will not be recorded so will not be available at a later date.

Decluttering Donation Drive Oct. 23 and 24

Greenbelt Community Church (GCC) is accepting decluttering donations at the church from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, October 23 and 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 24.

Soft goods (such as clothing and bedding) should be placed in 30-gallon plastic bags. Hard goods, though not as desirable, are accepted and should fit into boxes, if possible. GCC will load a trailer and take all donations to Value Village thrift stores. The stores would like advance warning of the number of bags being delivered. Email Gwen Vaccaro at gjvaccaro@gmail.com with the number of bags you plan to donate. Money earned will go to the charities supported by the church, including Greenbelt CARES. Donation receipts are available.



Candidates Forum

Problems with viewing the candidates forum on October 20 have been resolved. It is now available at greenbeltaccessstv.org/recent-productions.

At the Library

Greenbelt Library is now open on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays from noon to 8 p.m.; Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. The Library offers unlimited browsing, computers for extendable one-hour sessions with no appointment needed, printing/scanning self-service, self-checkout, staff assistance at the circulation and information desks, book drop for returning items with no quarantine, study rooms (five small, one group) available for two-hour sessions per day, and meeting room reservations for a fee.

Storytimes

Ready 2 Read Storytime. Wednesdays, ages 3 to 5, 12:15 p.m., limit 15 people. Thursdays, ages 2 to 3, 11:15 a.m., limit 15 people. Come for stories, songs, finger plays and more. Pick up a ticket at the information desk. The sessions will be held outdoors by the upper-level entrance.

STEM Festival

Celebrate the Maryland STEM Festival from October 15 to November 14. Featured events include STEM-tastic: Crazy 8's Math and Teen STEM Lab: The World in 3D (both on Tuesday, October 26 at 4:30 p.m.), with more to come in November. Visit the Library's events page for details.

Teentober Events

Check out the Teentober lineup that showcases events such as the Teen Reader's Advisory: Latinx Comics, Wednesdays Outdoor Movie Nights, Pumpkin Painting, Anime Jeopardy, Pop Star Coding with Ozobots and so much more. By participating in these programs, teens may discover new hobbies and career pathways. Many PGCMLS branches will also be hosting a Cosplay Parade. Visit pgcmls.info/events to learn more. Teens may also complete the library's Teentober Scavenger Hunt and post their results on social media tagging @PGCMLS and @PGCMLSTeens.

Learning Resources

Brainfuse HelpNow offers an array of additional learning resources for Prince Georgians, including SkillSurfer, a library of lessons, videos, tests and more, and is available year-round. The Library also helps students prepare for standardized tests and writing college admissions essays through the EBSCO Learning-Express online resource. Prepare for the PSAT/NMSQT®, ACT®, SAT®, AP®, ASVAB, and more to advance higher education and vocational opportunities.

Check the PGCMLS events calendar regularly for related programming, such as virtual career chats and conversations about the college experience.

Garden Poetry Oct. 24 In Schrom Hills Park

There will be a poetry reading on Sunday, October 24 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Three Sisters Garden in Schrom Hills Park. Tour and relax in the garden before joining the poetry reading group. Bring a favorite poem to read or just enjoy listening to others. Bring a chair as seating may be limited.

Genealogy Group Meets November 3

The Prince George's County Genealogical Society will hold a virtual monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 3 at 7 p.m. Mary Mannix, librarian of the Maryland Room at the Frederick County Library, will talk about Finding Those Western Maryland Ancestors, an exploration about researching in another part of Maryland.

Members will receive a Zoom invitation the week before. Non-members may request an invitation by email to president@pgcgs.org.

The society's library of more than 6,500 items is now open on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with county and City of Bowie mask guidelines in place. The scope of the holdings focuses on Maryland and Prince George's County as the primary concentrations, but includes resources on other Eastern states, migration routes and specific topical interests. The library is located at 12219 Tulip Grove Rd., Bowie.

Library Discussion Of Haley Film

Filmmaker, curator and creator Chris Haley will host a virtual discussion of his film Unmarked on Wednesday, October 27 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Part of the Freedom Stories series, the film explores the burial sites of enslaved African Americans throughout the South. Haley, director of the Study of the Legacy of Slavery in Maryland at the Maryland State Archives Research Department and executive director of the Utopia Film Festival, is a nephew of acclaimed author Alex Haley. Watch Unmarked in advance of the event for free on Kanopy with a library card.

For more information on the film and discussion, visit pgcmls.info/event/5691697.

Dog Training Test On Sunday, Oct. 24

Greenbelt Dog Training will be offering the Canine Good Citizen Test and the Advance Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Test developed by the American Kennel Club (AKC) at the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad Fire House at 125 Crescent Road on Sunday, October 24 from noon to 3 p.m.

Just got a new dog, during the pandemic? Or ever wondered how the dog would respond to distractions when walking in the community or what training might be needed to take the dog out and keep it safe? There is an easy way to find out - AKC has created tests which take 15 minutes to complete and rate the skills of humans and their dog to safely navigate public spaces.

Allie W. Lee, owner of Greenbelt Dog Training and an AKC certified CGC evaluator, will conduct the testing. For additional information call 301-345-6999, email info@greenbeltdogtraining.com or visit greenbeltdogtraining.com.

There is a fee for each dog test. All proceeds will be donated to the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad where Greenbelt Dog Training Classes are held.

Covid-19 protocols will be in use.

For Trick-or-Treat Residents to Decide

Trick-or-treating is not run by the city and is not an official City of Greenbelt event, city officials note.

However, recommended trick-or-treating hours in Greenbelt are typically from 6 to 8 p.m. on October 31.

The city does recommend following CDC guidelines and looking for houses with their porch light turned on; most houses not participating will leave the porch light off.

One can ask on the Greenbelt Community or Greenbelters Facebook pages to get an idea of which neighborhoods are participating.

Some recommended precautions for children include wearing masks that protect from Covid-19, rather than traditional Halloween masks; avoiding large parties; going trick-or-treating in small groups; not sharing candy; and avoiding games like bobbing for apples.

City Manager Nicole Ard also noted the guidance from Dr. Askew, deputy chief administrative officer for health, human services and education in Prince George's County.

First and foremost, Dr. Askew stated, "We must stress that anyone showing symptoms of Covid-19 or recently exposed to the virus should not participate in in-person Halloween festivities and should not be giving out candy at their doors."

Music Makers Meet Mondays at Schrom

All are invited to create and practice music together every Monday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Schrom Hills Park, weather permitting.

The group will practice songs from the Daily Ukulele Songbook (The Yellow Book). Bring a stringed instrument if desired.

All musical abilities invited.

Mrs. Miniver Is Nov. 1 Monday Matinee

Old Greenbelt Theatre continues its Monday Matinees series with Mrs. Miniver on November 1 at 1 p.m. Proof of Covid-19 vaccination is required for entry; the theater has distanced seating throughout. The show will have a limited capacity of 75 people. Reserve tickets online only at greenbelttheatre.org.

City Offers Rent, Utility Assistance

Through CARES, those who live within the city limits of Greenbelt are eligible to receive up to \$10,000 per household from the American Rescue Plan Act federal funds for emergency rental assistance. Applicants must show financial hardship due to Covid-19. Previous recipients of rental or utility assistance funds can apply but the previous balances count toward the total grant award allowed.

Email Cares@greenbeltmd.gov or call 301-345-6660 to receive an application.

Legion Post Hosts Health Screenings

Residents living in and around Greenbelt can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening. Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 will host this community event on Thursday, November 18.

Screenings can check for the following: (1) the level of plaque buildup in arteries, related to risk for cardiovascular disease, stroke and overall vascular health; (2) HDL and LDL cholesterol levels; (3) diabetes risk; (4) bone density as a risk for possible osteoporosis; (5) kidney and thyroid function, and more.

There is a fee for screenings; consultants will work with participants to create a package that is right for them based on age and risk factors. Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit the website at lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.

Greenbelt Access Television

Oct 22, Fri – Oct 28, Thu

Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77
(School Programming on Your Cable Guide)
Streaming on www.greenbeltaccessstv.org

THIS WEEK ON GATE • Your Community Access Station

7am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Halloween Programming
8am	Democracy Now!	Yesterday's Syndicated Program
9am	GATE Classic Film <small>Horror/Mystery • 1968</small>	Night of the Living Dead • George Romero <small>Duane Jones • Judith O'Dea</small>
11am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Local Community Programming
Noon	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
1pm	PGCPS Science Bowl	Hyattsville v Walker Mill Middle Schools
2pm	Music at the New Deal	Episodes from Season One
3pm	GATE Classic Film <small>Horror/Mystery • 1968</small>	Night of the Living Dead • George Romero <small>Duane Jones • Judith O'Dea</small>
5pm	PGCPS Science Bowl	Hyattsville v Walker Mill Middle Schools
6pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	Halloween Programming
7pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
8pm	GATE Classic Film <small>Horror/Mystery • 1968</small>	Night of the Living Dead • George Romero <small>Duane Jones • Judith O'Dea</small>
10pm	Music at the New Deal	Episodes from Season One
11pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
MN	Greenbelt Newsreel	Halloween Programming

Connect with GATE [f](https://www.facebook.com/gate) [y](https://www.youtube.com/gate) [i](https://www.instagram.com/gate) www.greenbeltaccessstv.org

Obituaries



Jack Downs



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Jack Downs

John F. "Jack" Downs, Jr., died on Thursday, October 14, 2021, at his home on Crescent Road in Greenbelt, where he and his wife Dolores (Dee) lived for the last 68 years. Jack was holding Dee's hand and surrounded by family.

In 1951, Jack took Dee on their first date to a dance to celebrate Maryland beating Navy in the first game ever played at the new Byrd Stadium. Jack met Dee in 1946, at a teen dance. Jack soon began giving Dee dime-store engagement rings, every month for a year. In the spring of 1952 in the Greyhound bus station, Jack proposed.

Jack was born March 5, 1930, in Salamanca, N.Y., to John "Johnny" and Mary Downs. Johnny's father was James, the son of Michael, who left County Limerick in 1851 as a cabin boy, sailing to New York.

Jack and Dee married November 22, 1952, at St. Jerome's Catholic Church in Hyattsville. His brother Joe Downs was the best man. Jack graduated from the University of Maryland and served in the United States Air Force. He and Dee settled in Greenbelt, and he began working at the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) in Prince George's County. Jack was with the Com-

mission until 1992, retiring after an extensive term as its executive director. Those who served under his leadership praise the spirit of kindness and caring that was present during his tenure. He was often Santa during the Christmas parties. One year he was made by his 2-year-old granddaughter, Lauren, who recognized grandpa's shoes. Jack also founded the M-NCPPC Retiree's Association.

Most recently, as founding members of the 35-year-old Catholic Community of Greenbelt, Jack and Dee enjoyed the fellowship of very committed members, and a range of traveling Catholic priests. The group began services in the old Greenbelt Theater and moved to the Greenbelt Municipal Building. For the last 19 months, they have held paratiturgies weekly on Zoom.

In their early years in Greenbelt, Jack and Dee devoted time to the Cana Club. He was also a 4-H leader as he and Dee busily grew a family. Jack also created the Zach Walk, a 10-kilometer walk in Greenbelt that meandered by his grandson Zach's home on Hillside.

Jack was parish council president of St. Hugh Catholic Church

in Greenbelt, and active in the Cursillo Movement, Marriage Encounter, Handicapped Encounter Christ, as well as a local meditation group. As part of the St. Hugh's parish, Jack worked actively, including organizing the Greenbelt stop for the Poor People's March on Washington in 1968. He also was active in supporting The Longest Walk in 1978, a peaceful Native American protest from Alcatraz Island to the Washington Mall.

In their later years, Jack and Dee traveled extensively, including trips with Trinity College such as Travels in the Footsteps of Paul, where they visited Greece and Turkey, and their first trip to Israel. In a range of Elderhostel trips, they spent time on the Navajo and Hopi Indian reservations and in Alaska, Ireland and Quebec, as well as the Augusta Music Festival in West Virginia. Jack's favorite place in all the world is the west bank of the Cacapon River, just above Ede's Fort on Compton Lane.

Jack and Dee volksmarched (10K walks) in all 50 states. After their first several states, Jack helped organize multi-state walks such as the seven South-

west states, as a wonderful way to socialize and enjoy the scenery. Knee replacements for both Jack and Dee were hopefully unrelated. Jack also played on a senior softball team until he was 70, when he injured his knee.

He did extensive genealogy for both his own and Dee's families and kept their large extended family in touch with a newsletter called Comings and Goings, which recently released its 570th issue.

Jack is survived by Jack B, and Jennifer, Brendan, Collin and Devin; Mike and Resa, Kelle, Matt and Jen, Mackenzie and Zoey; Tom and Marge, Patrick and Jamie, James, Lauren and Sean, Braden, Nora Rose and Joe; Dave and Lori, Jamie, Young Dave, Isabel, Mia, Anabelle and Josh; Paul and Susan; Eileen and Bill, Nicole and Madison, Wesley and Andrea, Selena, Tony and Bianca; Tyler and Christy, Jay and Riley; Teresa and Rich, Zachary and Casey; Chris and Mary, Jack and Molly.

Jack's siblings are Joseph Downs of Lansdowne, Va.; and Kathleen Woznicki of Mesa, Ariz. He is predeceased by a sister, Mary Margaret Kirkendall.

A community celebration is being planned for around Thanksgiving. More information will follow.



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Jack Downs, right, with his wife Dee.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY of GREENBELT

During the pandemic, we gather VIRTUALLY for Liturgy of the Word Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

For ZOOM link:
FDeBernardo@aol.com

The Bible Says...

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23

IN PERSON Sunday Worship Services
10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School
MCFcc.org

Greenbelt Community Church

Whoever you are and wherever you are on your Spiritual journey, you are welcome HERE.

This Sunday's Sermon on Facebook Live Sunday at 10:15

Let Me See Again

www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

ST. HUGH OF GRENABLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm.

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

*Live-streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.

CELEBRATE WITH US
135 Crescent Rd.
www.sthughofgrenoble.org

Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH

Christ-centered Biblical & Reformed

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am
Sunday School 9:15am
Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD
www.greenbeltbaptist.org

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

Reverend Rivera, Pastor

In-Person Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

Take Time to be Holy

"Education must be considered as most important; for as diseases in the world of bodies are extremely contagious, so, in the same way, qualities of spirit and heart are extremely contagious. Education has a universal influence and the differences caused by it are very great." – 'Abdu'l-Bahá

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

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
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

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

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

October 24 10 a.m.

Why do we do that?

[ChrisMcCann - DRE, Rev. Ann Kadlecsek](mailto:ChrisMcCann@pbuuc.org)
Zoom video at <https://zoom.us/j/93495780708>
with Worship Associate John Barr

Much like the weather, it has been said that if you don't like a Unitarian Universalist worship service, just wait a week. And yet, there is quite a bit of predictability in Unitarian Universalist services, with regular elements and a common overall structure from week to week, and from congregation to congregation. Where does that commonality come from? How do we decide what goes into a worship service? Join us for an exploration of "Why do we do that?"

For our recognition of joys and sorrows, please bring a small bowl of water and a stone for each person attending the service with you.

And, as always, if you have a joy or sorrow that you would like shared aloud during this service, please email it to joys-sorrows@pbuuc.org by noon on Friday.



City Information & Events

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

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING Monday, October 25, 2021 at 8:00pm

ORGANIZATION

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

- Bike Related Infrastructure in Greenbelt
- Family Court Awareness Month
- Blindness Awareness Month Proclamation
- Economic Development Week
- Maryland Emancipation Day Proclamation
- LGBTQ+ History Month
- Municipal Government Month Proclamation

Petitions and Requests

*Minutes of Council Meetings

- Statement for the Record - Closed Session, August 10, 2021
- Statement for the Record - Closed Session, August 24, 2021

Administrative Reports

*Committee Reports

- Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB) Report# 2021-01 (Council Referral - Petition for "Inclusivity at Annual Festival of Lights")

LEGISLATION

- A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase and Installation of Architectural Services for the Space Study Projects as Outlined in the Request for Qualification from Frederic Ward and Associates at an Estimated Cost of \$61,000-2nd Reading and Adoption
- A Resolution for Support of an Application to Planning Assistance to Municipalities Communities Program for Wayfinding Plan-1st Reading, Suspension of the Rules-2nd Reading, Adoption

OTHER BUSINESS

- Community Gardens Shading Plan Phase One
- Rental Aid
- Prince George's County Boundary Changes for Council Redistricting and Letter
- Council Activities
- Council Reports

MEETINGS

Meetings

Stakeholders

COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE VIRTUAL Cablecast on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Resident participation: Information will be posted on Meetings Calendar at greenbeltmd.gov

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

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) and (7) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, virtually via Zoom immediately following the City Manager's Quarterly Update: 1) discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; 2) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

The purpose of this meeting is 1) to address personnel matters over which this public body has jurisdiction, and the performance evaluation of the City Manager; 2) to consult with legal counsel regarding outstanding legal matters.

**The public may attend the Greenbelt Work Session prior to the closed session, and observe the vote of the City Council to move into closed session on Wednesday, October 27, 2021.*

Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Assistant to the City Clerk

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on:

- Advisory Committee on Education
- Arts Advisory Board
- Board of Election
- Park & Recreation Advisory Board
- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
- Youth Advisory Committee

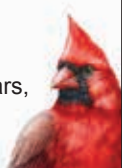
For more information call 301-474-8000

INTRODUCTION TO BIRDING

Friday, October 29

Ever wanted to try birding, but don't know where to begin? Join environmental coordinator, Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, for an introductory tour around Greenbelt Lake. We will go over keys to bird identification, choosing and using binoculars, as well as using different mobile apps in the field.

To register, contact kdrriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov



VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER 25-28

Tuesday, October 26 at 3:30pm, **SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, *On the Agenda: Please See greenbeltmd.gov for Meeting Agenda*

Tuesday, October 26 at 6:30pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION – ANNUAL PTA PRESIDENTS MEETING**, *On the Agenda: Overview of Grants Program (11/10/20), Educator Awards (3/15/21), Student Awards (5/5/21), PTA Representatives Discuss What Has Been Happening in Their School, Concerns, and How ACE Can Help*

Tuesday, October 26 at 7:00pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**, *On the Agenda: Meeting with PTA Presidents, Minutes of September 2021, Grants – Hiatus Report, AOB, Next Meeting – Regular Meeting*

Tuesday, October 26 at 7:30pm, **GREEN ACES/GREEN TEAM**, *On the Agenda: Mosquito Control (Adulticide), Energy/Solar Circle Goals and Recommendation for Council, Update on Locations to Propose as Pollinator Areas, Update on Asking About No-Mow Spring, Discuss EVIPG Report for Council*

Wednesday, October 27 at 7:00pm, **MAGLEV TASK FORCE MEETING**, *On the Agenda: Open Discussion, Updates, Brainstorming Ways to Build Support for the "No Build" Option*

Wednesday, October 27 at 8:00pm, **WORK SESSION RE: CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE, (TENTATIVELY)**, *Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996, and Streaming at greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv*

Thursday, October 28 at 7:00pm, **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD**, *On the Agenda: Science Fund Application Review, Pilot Project Draft Plan and Discuss Tasks Performed by Volunteers and Suggested Tasks for Public Works, Master Trail Plan: Maintenance Options and Final Changes to Introduction & Trail Management Overview*

Thursday, October 28 at 7:30pm, **FOUR CITIES MEETING AT NEW CARROLLTON**

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

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION

ANY REGISTERED GREENBELT VOTER MAY VOTE BY EARLY VOTING

**EARLY VOTING or ABSENTEE VOTING
NO MORE EXCUSES!**

EARLY VOTING DATES AND LOCATIONS:

Springhill Lake Recreation Center (6101 Cherrywood Lane)

Saturday, October 23, 9:00am to 1:00pm and
Sunday, October 24, 11:00am to 2:00pm

Greenbelt Municipal Building (25 Crescent Road)

October 11–October 29:
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 9:00am–5:00pm
Tuesday 9:00am–8:00pm

ABSENTEE VOTING:

Any qualified voter of the City of Greenbelt may choose to vote by absentee ballot.

An ABSENTEE BALLOT may be requested in one of two ways. Each individual requesting a ballot must submit a separate, signed application form or letter.

Fill out an application form that you may: 1) pick up in the City Clerk's office, 2) request from the City Clerk by phone at 301-474-8000 or by e-mail at banderson@greenbeltmd.gov, or 3) print from the City's Web site at greenbeltmd.gov; or

Write a letter of application to the City Clerk, 25 Crescent Road, including your full name, domicile address in Greenbelt, signature, and telephone number.

Military service members, their families, and other U.S. citizens abroad who are covered under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act may also use the Federal Post Card Application (fvap.gov) to request an absentee ballot for City election.

Applications to receive absentee ballots must be received by noon on Monday, November 1, 2021. The completed ballot must be received by the City Clerk no later than 6:00pm the day of the regular election, November 2, 2021.

Return your executed absentee ballot by 1) sending it through the U.S. mail in time to arrive by November 1, 2) hand-delivering it to the City Clerk's office, or 3) placing it in the locked drop-box at the east door of the Municipal Building at 25 Crescent Road.

Questions? Call the City Clerk at 301-474-8000, or email elections@greenbeltmd.gov

FALL FAMILY FUN WEEK

Gourd Painting and Wreath Making:

Saturday, October 23, 10:00am–12:00pm, Schrom Hills Park



Greenbelt residents only. Masks are required. There will be designated household spaces and a health screening upon arrival. Fee: \$5

Pre-registration required at: <https://bit.ly/3Cld0k0>

Questions? Email LFisher@greenbeltmd.gov

TRUNK OR TREAT WITH GREENBELT POLICE

Friday, October 29, 6:00pm–8:00pm

Franklin Park Leasing Center, 6220 Springhill Dr., Greenbelt, MD

Join the Greenbelt Police Department, Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department, Franklin Park Apartments, and Mission BBQ to celebrate Halloween with this family friendly event. Candy, food, and prizes will be provided.

ELECTRONICS, STYROFOAM & PAINT RECYCLING



Saturday, October 23 9:00am–12:00pm
Public Works Yard, 555 Crescent Road

Accepted items: CPUs, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, laptops, recording equipment, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, cameras, telephones, radios, DVD players, VCRs, fax machines, wires, and power cords.

NO MORE ALKALINE BATTERIES OR TUBE TVS ACCEPTED.

Yuck Old Paint – Paint Recycling – \$5 per container.

Questions? Greenbelt Public Works at 301-474-8004.

For more information visit greenbeltmd.gov/electronicrecycling

SHREDDING DAY

Saturday, October 30 9:00am–12:00pm (or until the truck is full)

COVID-19 safety procedures in place.

The Greenbelt Federal Credit Union will be shredding your documents in the parking lot behind the Credit Union at 112 Centerway.

Only 5 file boxes/person; must wear a mask. Personal records only (no business).

No contaminants, batteries, plastic binders and sheets. Abandoned boxes/bags will be put in the trash.

For more information, call the Public Works Office at 301-474-8004.



Election 2021

Candidates Present Ideas

Last week's News Review published the responses to the three questions we had posed to the candidates for city council election.

One candidate, Rodney Roberts, did not send his. He planned instead to place his responses in a paid ad that he thought would avoid any possible editorial examination. The guiding rule for this newspaper has always been to not accept statements that would discredit another person. Whether in a letter to the editor, a reporter's story or an advertisement, that rule applies.

Below are Roberts' responses to our questions.

Question 1: What is the one thing the city council needs to accomplish in the upcoming term?

Recently, as I stood in line for the firehouse crab feast, I could hear a wonderful sound just beyond the trees and creek. A sound my childhood friends and I helped create and enjoyed many times. A rite of passage for generations in central Greenbelt. The sound was of children and adults enjoying Braden fields, a city park that includes several types of sports fields, youth center, indoor and outdoor pool, Community Center and the lake park. I could not help but think that there is a large part of Greenbelt where these sounds of joy have never been heard. Where generations of children have been denied the recreational facilities they deserve and need. It's time to acquire needed property and build a Greenbelt West park that all of Greenbelt can be proud of, so the children of Greenbelt West can become a part of those sounds of joy.

Question 2: How would you weigh the benefits, risks and costs of the city acquiring the former National Guard Armory?

How could there be any risk in accepting a valuable piece of land for free – FREE! Plus the valuable land has a beautiful, well built, versatile, valuable building that was renovated not long before closing. The property has never had any fuel pumps nor other storage tanks to worry about. Most importantly, our Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad wants to improve their ability to respond to calls in all parts of Greenbelt; to do that they need this property. Almost two years ago, city council passed a motion directing the city manager to take possession of this property. The only risk we face is the risk of losing this property due to inaction – this is unacceptable. The city council needs to take immediate action to take possession of this property. Also, part of this building would make a wonderful home for Greenbelt CARES, our social services department.

Question 3: Council meetings are routinely running past midnight and are frequently marred by council bickering. Is this acceptable to you? If not, what can be done to resolve these issues?

I believe that councilroom decorum is very important. I also believe if we do not adhere to the proper rules, procedures and laws, we end up with the kind of dysfunction that we see in the current city council. Add a little politics and we have meetings past midnight. I have noticed that when meetings go past 10 p.m., the few residents present dwindle away, leaving council in what seems to be a closed meeting. The few meetings that I have chaired as mayor pro tem went from 8 to 10 p.m.

CDCG to Host Blind Awareness Sessions

In recognition of Blindness Awareness Month, the Center for Dynamic Community Governance is offering a no-cost, city-sponsored two-hour virtual Train the Trainer program on Tuesday, October 26 from 7 to 9 p.m. Join Aileen Kroll, John Buck, Denna Lambert and Rev. Ray Raysor for an interactive session focused on sharing specific governance tools for anyone (and their allies) in the community who is blind or living with any type of visual challenge to ensure that Greenbelt community meetings and businesses are inclusive for all.

This is the first of four sessions. Participants can join for one, two, three or four of the training sessions. In subsequent sessions, trainees can join breakout rooms so that the trainers can simultaneously provide basic and more advanced skills training. Trainees are urged to come with any questions, concerns and issues they are facing in their organization, community group, workplace or family so that trainers can use real-life examples. Trainers will also attend follow-up meetings with anyone who has participated in the trainings and would like additional support.

Contact Aileen (aileen@dynamic-governance.org) for the Zoom link and for any resources or support needed.



Kids can "Trick or Treat" at the Customer Service window on Oct. 30-31!



TREAT YOURSELF TO SEASONAL FAVORITES!

Something for Everyone!

www.greenbelt.coop

Co-op has Delicious Autumn Flavors at New Deal Café



Warm Apple Cider



Maple French Toast Cupcake



Pumpkin Spice Latte

Open: Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Celebrate Co-ops in October

by Leta Mach

This is the second article in a series.

October is Co-op Month – a time to recognize cooperatives. This year's theme is Cooperatives Build a Better World, which highlights the many ways co-ops, including those in Greenbelt, are making an impact in their communities and around the world to ensure a better future for everyone.

Education

The principle of education, training and information is crucial to the continued success of cooperative businesses. Greenbelt co-ops provide this in many ways with a highlight being participation in the Greenbelt Cooperative Alliance to explain cooperative business to both co-op members and non-members. Greenbelt's cooperatives have been interviewed by Greenbelt Access Television (GATe) and these interviews can be seen on GATe during Co-op Month or on YouTube.

In addition to fulfilling its purpose of disseminating information, the Greenbelt News Review also works with college students to further their education in journalism. The Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy holds sampling of products events and offers consumer information including factsheets and recipes. Greenbelt Homes Inc. (GHI) sends out email and printed newsletters and holds town hall meetings on relevant topics. The Greenbelt Federal Credit Union has financial counseling and education for members through GreenPath Financial Wellness and in its quarterly newsletters.

The New Deal Café hosts the monthly Reel and Meal at the New Deal film series exploring vital environmental, animal rights and social justice issues followed by a discussion with experts and/or filmmakers on the subject of the film. Greenbelt MakerSpace

Cooperative holds regular sessions to help people learn how to repair equipment. The purpose of Greenbelt Nursery School is to provide an enriching educational environment for young children and their parents.

Economic Participation

Members of a cooperative build a better world economically by working together. Members of the Greenbelt Federal Credit Union receive dividends, bonus dividends and low loan rates. As not-for-profit organizations, credit unions generally offer better rates than for-profit banks. GHI offers affordable homes for members. 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 success of the paper. The volunteer work of Greenbelt Nursery School members helps the school provide high-quality early childhood education at a modest cost. Greenbelt MakerSpace Cooperative members save money by learning how to repair equipment.

Member Control

The principle that cooperatives maintain their autonomy and independence is closely linked to the principle of democratic control. Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. As such, they hold annual meetings and elect a board of directors to set policy. The Greenbelt News Review and the Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy hold annual meetings in the fall and they both have seven board members. The Greenbelt Federal Credit Union, GHI, the New Deal Café and the Greenbelt Nursery School hold their annual meetings in the spring.

The credit union has seven board members plus three credit committee members who are elected. GHI members elect nine board members, three audit committee members and five nominations and elections committee members. The nursery school board is comprised of seven committee chairpersons, four elected executive members and the schools' director and administrator. Members of Greenbelt MakerSpace Cooperative attend meetings, vote on policies and procedures to offer. Many co-ops, such as GHI, the Greenbelt Nursery School, the Greenbelt Federal Credit Union and the Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy, hire managers to run the day-to-day business of the co-op.



Porch Greenbelt Food Pickup Schedule

Porch Greenbelt Food Collection set a record for collecting food in the month of September – a total of 878.8 pounds. The next collection date is between 2 and 4 p.m. on Saturday, October 23 for 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill Road.

Place donations in a box or bag labelled PORCH or RUAK on the front porch or other location that can be seen from the street. Make sure to check the expiration date on all food items.

Volunteers who would expand Porch Greenbelt to additional neighborhoods in Greenbelt are welcome. Anyone with questions or who is interested in being a volunteer or starting a new neighborhood for monthly food collection may email Robert Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com.

Fewer New Voters Register Than in Recent Past Elections

by Mary Moien

City Voter Registration (as of October 13, 2021)						number of new registrants	distribution of new registrants	distribution of all registrants
Precinct	October 2015	October 2017	October 2019	October 2021	Increase 2021			
03-Comm. Center	2,656	2,799	2,968	3,150	6.1%	182	45.6%	22.3%
06-Police Station	2,154	2,199	2,286	2,326	1.7%	40	10.0%	16.4%
08-Greenbelt West	2,045	2,886	3,421	3,358	-1.8%	n/a	n/a	23.7%
13-Greenbriar	2,422	2,585	2,739	2,851	4.1%	112	28.1%	20.1%
18-Schrom Hills Park	2,177	2,306	2,407	2,472	2.7%	65	16.3%	17.5%
TOTAL	11,454	12,775	13,821	14,157	2.4%	399	100.0%	100.0%

This year's city election on November 2 has several new candidates on the ballot and two incumbents choosing not to run, Leta Mach and Edward Putens. Despite this, the number of new voter registrations is significantly lower than in the last two elections (see table). There are only 399 new registrants; the number of new registrants in 2017 and 2019 in Greenbelt West alone topped that figure. It appears that the increase in registration in Greenbelt West, which was probably led by new residents in Greenbelt Station, has come to an end. In fact, Greenbelt West showed a small decrease in registration. Surprisingly, 46 percent of the new registrants reside in the area that votes at the Community Center.

As of early October, when registration ended, over 14,100 Greenbelters were registered to vote. According to the Prince George's County Board of Elections, 14,157 people are registered, an increase of 2.4 percent from the 2019 election. The overall increase is much smaller than the large increase of 11.5 percent in 2017 and the smaller 8.1 percent in 2019. Greenbelt West, which includes the Franklin Park Apartments and Greenbelt Station, represented 64 percent and 52 percent of new registrants in 2017 and 2019, respectively. There is a new apartment development nearing completion on Cherrywood Lane, so the next election may show increases in Greenbelt West again.

Precincts

Greenbelt is represented in five county precincts and data are summarized by precinct in the table. However, the city is not usually described by voting precincts, but by the location of residents within the city. People often think of Greenbelt as being in three sections, not five. Center City includes precincts 3 and 6; Greenbelt East includes precincts 13 and 18; and Greenbelt West is all in precinct 8. With that grouping in mind, Center City and Greenbelt East have virtually identical percentages of registered voters – 39 and 38 percent, respectively. Greenbelt West has 24 percent, down slightly from the 25 percent it had in 2019.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER STERLING

On Thursday, October 14, the City and Dementia Friendly America of Northern Prince George's County sponsored a Drive Thru Resource Fair for Caregivers. Attendees received a care package and information about resources for living with dementia and other issues.



PHOTO BY LLOYD HANNA

A Carpenter Bee enjoys a fall flower.

Beltway Plaza Mall is proud to have served the Greenbelt Community for more than 58 years.



For over 58 years Beltway Plaza Mall has served the Greenbelt Community. Since the Mall was originally developed in 1963, the Beltway Plaza Merchants Association and the Mall owner have supported the community with many charitable and community related activities.

We look forward to the exciting changes coming to the Mall in the future that will greatly enhance the shopping experience of our customers! You can rely upon Mall management for a Covid-19 secure environment and friendly customer service from Mall merchants and restaurants.

A few of the recent community and charitable related activities include:

- **National Night Out** - Our Annual event in conjunction with Franklin Park to build relations with the Greenbelt Police
- **Beltway Plaza's Wall of Fame** - Recognizes local heroes who have served the Greenbelt Community honorably
- **Rotary Club "Peace in the Park" Event** - Sponsorship and exhibitor at the "Peace in the Park" event
- **Greenbelt Labor Day Festival** - Participating in the Parade and providing free food
- **Voter Drives** - Beltway Plaza Mall has hosted voter registration drives at the Mall
- **Lions Club** - Annual Holiday Coat and Toy Drive
- **The SPACE: Free Art for All** - Proud supporter of Beltway Plaza's "The SPACE: Free Art for All" and Greenbelt Citizen of the Year Shaymar Higgs

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Wall of Fame Reception** - Honoring Billy Owens Smith, Jr., Fri., Nov. 12
- **Food Giveaway** - Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway, Sat., Nov. 20th
- **Halloween Celebration** - Beltway Plaza Mall Trunk-O-Treat and Spooky Fest in Partnership with Franklin Park, Friday, October 29



Beltway Plaza Mall • 6000 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt MD 20770 301-345-1500 • www.BeltwayPlazaMall.com

Like us on Facebook, Follow us on Twitter

Golden ID Program Brings Retirees Back to Campus

by Shannon Clark

A short bus ride away from their hometown, some Greenbelt residents are taking advantage of the University of Maryland's (UMD) Golden ID Program, a program built to provide retirees with the opportunity to attend college classes at a low cost.

"So many people say, 'I'm too old to be doing that, I can't go back.' Well, why not? The atmosphere and excitement of being on campus, and meeting new people with new ideas, I just love it," said Greenbelt resident Carol Griffith.

Maryland residents over 60 who are not employed for more than 20 hours per week are eligible to enroll in up to three courses per semester at UMD. With tuition waived, retirees are responsible for paying the \$263 Golden ID fee each semester. Additional costs including parking are tacked on, but can be avoided through riding the Shuttle-UM.

Griffith, who worked as both a nurse and a paralegal, discovered a passion for writing after landing a job editing law books. Now degree-seeking, Griffith takes one class a semester at UMD and is working toward her bachelor's in English.

"My boss [at the time] had said 'I can't wait to retire so I can go to the University of Maryland for free and get another degree,'" said Griffith. "I had already had plans to get an English degree so after I heard this I thought, 'Well why not?'"

While the Seasoned Adults Growing Educationally (SAGE) program is offered nearby at Prince George's Community College, Greenbelt resident Susan Harris emphasized the diversity of courses UMD offers.

"SAGE is more limited in courses. I wanted the campus experience and all the course offerings," said Harris.

A former court reporter now turned blogger for Greenbelt Online, Harris has been auditing history courses at UMD for the past three years.

Some people are looking for new information and some may be wanting to look into or catch up in their field," said Harris. "I'm just a total dilettante, so all of the courses I've taken so far are history courses like history of art, music, landscape."

Harris highlighted that UMD's large campus and populated student body have echoed reminders of her own time in college, while noting the generational changes that have occurred.

"I appreciate how diverse the student population is," said Harris. "It makes me aware of how little diversity there was at [Oberlin] even though it was the first co-ed and integrated college."

Stepping back into the classroom, Griffith noted she brings a new perspective to the classroom, having herself lived through some of the experiences her professors teach.

"My 21st birthday was the day Richard Nixon resigned," said Griffith. "I remember thinking, 'This day is supposed to be about me, and it's not. What is going on?' When we got to the things I have lived through, it was really interesting to hear the other [students'] take."

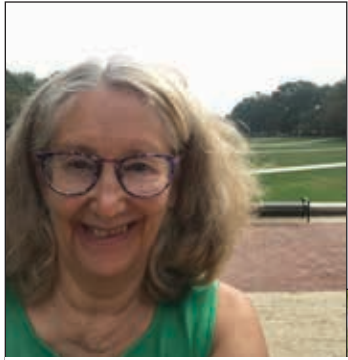


PHOTO COURTESY CAROL GRIFFITH

Carol Griffith on campus



PHOTO COURTESY SUSAN HARRIS

Susan Harris

While Harris and Griffith are still continuing their studies at UMD, Greenbelt resident Sven Allenbach-Schmidt completed his bachelor of history degree in December 2020 through Golden ID.

"I've always loved history and I had a teacher in high school who would use primary sources to teach history instead of textbooks," said Allenbach-Schmidt. "I wanted to go back now to finish up my degree."

Outside of classes, the Golden ID Student Association provides retirees an opportunity to meet fellow program participants, aiming to establish a community for Golden ID on campus.

"As a group we meet for lunch once a month and we have done other activities before like going to a museum," said Harris.

As the semester continues to roll forward, Griffith encourages those interested in Golden ID to embrace the challenges that returning to campus may bring.

"Keep an open mind and be willing to have new experiences. You can do it, push yourself – you don't know what you can do until you try," said Griffith.

Shannon Clark is a UMD graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.

City Council Miscellany

by Diane Oberg

From the September 27 regular meeting of the Greenbelt City Council:

Economic Development

Mayor Colin Byrd and Councilmember Silke Pope proposed establishing a nine-member Economic Development Advisory Committee to advise council on ways to foster a more vibrant local business community, enhance local amenities, support local entrepreneurs and small businesses and help the city's economy recover from the pandemic. Councilmember Judith Davis moved to postpone that item until after a council retreat to be held no later than November 30. She called the proposal premature (Pope and Byrd strongly disagreed) since there is no economic strategic plan yet and the normal details usually included in establishing a city committee – goals, number of members, its responsibilities – are not specified in the proposal. Davis' motion carried.

Financial Management

Council unanimously authorized the city staff to issue a

request for proposals for a new financial management system. The city staff is exploring the possibility of partnering with College Park to reduce costs.

Geography

Byrd moved to require that every city advisory body have at least one member from each of the city's regions (Greenbelt East, Central Greenbelt and Greenbelt West). This motion died for lack of a second.

Normally that would be the end of it. However, Byrd called the lack of a second "unfortunate." This spurred a lengthy discussion, that Jordan estimated as lasting 20 to 30 minutes on a motion with no second. All of his council colleagues who addressed the issue said council had worked to be inclusive but that people from the underrepresented areas are not applying. Byrd countered that the notion that the lack of representation is solely based on whether people from the unrepresented areas have applied is "an offensive stereotype."



PHOTO BY KATHRYN BEARD

A turtle dips its feet into the Lake.

SHRED DAY!
Drive-up Event
Saturday October 30th
9:00am - 12:00pm (or until the truck is full)
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Greenbelt FCU will be shredding your documents in the parking lot behind the credit union at 112 Centerway

Co-sponsored by the City of Greenbelt

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A Review

MAD Theater Offers Three Short A.A. Milne Comedies

by Melissa Sites

A. A. Milne, most famous for creating the beloved bear of very little brain, Winnie-the-Pooh, also wrote plays. Jon Gardner, who directed a terrific production of Winnie-the-Pooh at Greenbelt Arts Center, has now directed three of Milne's short plays on-line for NASA Goddard's Music and Drama Club (MAD Theater), each with its own genre and tone.

The production features beautiful hand-painted backgrounds by Millie Tansill, which draw the three different plays together.

The Princess and the Woodcutter has a fairy tale setting, in which a Princess (Mila Shapiro) seeks help from her friend, the Woodcutter (Talon Bevan), in evading marriage to one of three dull princes intended for her by her parents, the King (Randy Barth) and Queen (Cathy Barth). Because their seven-headed bull is no more, the King and Queen devise a new "test" for determining which prince deserves to marry their daughter. The Woodcutter cleverly rigs the test, and Barth does a great job as the Queen, reacting to the princes and the test. In this play, Penny Martin plays all three princes by adopting different high-toned accents and wearing different color hats – which just goes to show that the princes are pretty much all the same. Bevan and Shapiro portray a sweet and innocent friendship between the Princess and the Woodcutter, setting up the resolution perfectly.

In Wurzel-Flummery, the inheritance of 50,000 pounds is predicated upon taking the name indicated in the title. The characters seem shocked and horrified at the idea of rejecting their own names to take such a name, until they hear about the large sum of money. Ashley Greeley as Clifton does an especially good job with the snappy repartee of this piece.

The third play, The Red Feathers, is a light musical piece featuring three traveling musicians who are drawn to visit a cottage by the beautiful singing of The Daughter (Ashley Greeley) who lives there. Music director Susan Breon and Anne Gardner (The Fiddler) have arranged folk tunes for the music the performers play; for example, Morland Hill, sung beautifully by Jim Pasquale (The Singer) is set to the well-known folk melodies The Parting Glass and The Foggy Dew. Gardner, often involved behind the scenes as stage manager or in the orchestra pit, but not usually with lines of her own, brings a fun twist to the play's resolution. The third member of the traveling troupe, The Talker (Dave Buckingham), carries a tin whistle with him, upon which he plays his best note "G" and sometimes expands to two notes, indicating "cuckoo!" Buckingham does a wonderful job bringing humor and liveliness to The Talker's florid lines.

The three plays are available to view for free on YouTube via a link from madtheater.org. Donations are encouraged to help MAD continue to put plays online.



Cathy Barth plays the Queen in *The Princess and the Woodcutter*.



Ashley Greeley plays Denis Clifton in *Wurzel-Flummery*.



Dave Buckingham is the Talker in *The Red Feathers*.

- Screenshots by Melissa Sites

BILL ORLEANS FOR COUNCIL
and also
Byrd, Roberts, Gordon, Weaver, Zajac, and Inzeo
 Bill's whole bio from the 2011 *News Review* is at www.billorleans.com
 Ask him a question: 202-256-8678 or hack@billorleans.com
By authority of Becky Steele, Treasurer

FREE! *Monday Matinees* Audience limited to 75 people. Reserve tickets online ONLY- greenbelttheatre.org

Monday Nov. 1st - 1pm

Mrs. Miniver



Green = open Red = closed

Old Greenbelt Theatre
 129 Centerway
 Greenbelt, MD 20770
 301-329-2034

Distanced seating throughout.

PROOF OF COVID VACCINATION REQUIRED



Skeletons around a fire pit on Ridge Road

PHOTO BY HELENOR MESIAS



All manner of horrors await lakeside strollers, including some who didn't read the warning sign.

PHOTO BY KATHRYN BEARD

Brandon
 Vote Nov. 2nd "Ric!"
www.residentsforric.com
 Number 1 On The Ballot



Gordon
 for City Council


By Authority of Residents for Ric, James Cooper Jr., Treasurer

Notice of the Annual Membership Meeting

The Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 6, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. This will be a virtual meeting, entirely. (Details about registration as well as attending the meeting virtually will be forthcoming.)

The agenda will include:
 Reports by the Treasurer & General Manager
 Report on the Collaboration with the New Deal Café
 Election of two members for the Board of Directors
 Presentation of the Jim Cassels' Community Service Award.

According to the Co-op's bylaws, 25 members constitute a quorum. In the absence of a quorum, those present can schedule another meeting, which can proceed even in the absence of a quorum. Call 301-474-0522 with questions. Note: Voting members have \$100 or more in their member capital account.



New Firefly Sanctuary Benefits On National Public Lands Day

by Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll



PHOTO BY KEVIN CARPENTER-DRISCOLL

Volunteers Avery Gardner (left) and Nicole Shyong work together to install native plants by one of the interpretive signs in the Firefly Sanctuary on September 25.

Established in 1994 and coordinated by the National Environmental Education Foundation, National Public Lands Day is held annually on the fourth Saturday of September and encourages the public to volunteer to help restore, improve and celebrate public lands around the country. This year the day was observed on September 25 and the City of Greenbelt participated with a conservation stewardship event held in the recently established Firefly Sanctuary. Volunteers from Greenbelt and surrounding communities came out to work together to remove invasive plants and install native plants along the forest edge and around the interpretive signs located on either side of the sanctuary.

The day began cool and sunny, a reminder that fall had just begun, the perfect weather to be working outdoors. Seventeen volunteers attended, all eager to provide a service to the environment. Work began after a brief introduction by Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, the city's environmental coordinator, who identified the invasive species to be removed, the tools the volunteers would be using and the native plants they would be installing.

The volunteers worked for close to three hours on the proj-

ect and managed to remove approximately three cubic yards of invasive plants and put in over 40 new native plants. Their work will help to support biodiversity in the Firefly Sanctuary and improve habitat for the fireflies by providing large native meadow grasses to rest on during the day and serve as vantage points to see potential mates flashing their bioluminescent advances at night.

The City of Greenbelt and the Department of Public Works are grateful for the time and energy given by the volunteers who participated. Their continued efforts make it possible to conserve and restore natural resources in Greenbelt and make it a better place to live for people and our wildlife neighbors.

For more information about volunteering with the City of Greenbelt contact Carpenter-Driscoll at kdricoll@greenbeltdm.gov.

To learn more about the Firefly Sanctuary, visit greenbeltdm.gov/government/departments-con-t/public-works/green-steps-sustainability/firefly-sanctuary.

For more information about native plants, visit greenbeltdm.gov/government/departments-con-t/public-works/green-steps-sustainability/plant-native.



My Perspective

The Center Provides a Gathering Place for the Whole Community

by Konrad Herling

A couple of weeks ago I spoke at a rally at Roosevelt Center to support Ric Gordon's Common Ground Campaign. I talked about the positive efforts each councilmember and other citizens running for council have made to improve our quality of life and to help to bring our nearly 25,000 residents together.

The Center was an appropriate place to highlight common ground. You could see the Center, and the city, come back to life with the Blues Festival on the last weekend of September thanks to New Deal Café volunteers.

The Roosevelt Center, known to many simply as the Center, has been a place for cultural, commercial and community events over Greenbelt's 84 years. The Blues Festival was just the most recent event that reinforced the Center as the place to be. The recent collaboration between the New Deal Café and the Greenbelt Co-op Grocery Store shows how the Center's businesses cooperate. The Labor Day Festival's Information Day earlier in September and Labor Day Festival activities of over 50 years provide examples of the Center being the place where folks come together, even when we have had differences. Just being in the Center reminds us that there is more that we have in common than what may from time to time divide us.

In the early 1960s, when Congress deliberated civil rights and fair housing legislation, an incident occurred in the Center that many people do not know about. Members of the Klan came to the Center to urge Greenbelters

to oppose such legislation. This was also about the time when the group, Greenbelt Citizens for Fair Housing, caused a positive stir in the city. City Manager Jim Giese called my father, Al Herling, for suggestions about reducing the chances that there might be violence. Specifically, he asked him if he thought the presence of police might aggravate the situation. My father suggested that the city have a couple of plain-clothes police on site.

Since my sisters and I were still youngsters, we stayed at home. My father went, however, and when he returned home, he said it was peaceful. After a couple of minutes of the Klan's pitch to oppose both federal pieces of legislation, a few teen-aged boys with strong arms threw eggs at

them. The Klan got the message and left. While the Klan was there, the community spoke in clear opposition to their message of hatred.

Ultimately, Greenbelt sought a common ground in opposing segregation and in determining how to implement fair housing. Members of the community, including my parents, Al and Frances Herling, and the Greenbelt Citizens for Fair Housing, proposed that the city council create a Community Relations Advisory Board, which it then did. This is not to suggest that we don't still have roads to cross on this issue of full equity but our strong community spirit will be invaluable to us in the process.



MATTHEW INZEO for GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL



- » I will continue to work in opposition of the Maglev.
- » I will collaborate with state & local offices to ensure zoning rights.
- » I will work with the Boards of Education to improve our schools.

matthewinzeo.com

authority of treasurer Manzur Ahmed

Greenbelt Listings



14B Ridge Road
New price: \$140,000

This scrupulously maintained brick townhome's dining room has been converted to a private study, perfect for those who need a serious home office or studio. Newly refinished hardwoods upstairs, loads of storage in the kitchen.

Coming Soon

- 2 bedroom frame end unit, wide style
- 3 bedroom frame end unit with screen porch
- 3 bedroom brick with enclosed porch

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COMPASS

Hello again Greenbelters! While the candidate forum this week was a good opportunity for me to speak, I would love to have more of a conversation with you. Please join me for a virtual meet and greet on Saturday, October 23rd, at 2:00 pm.

Register to get the Zoom link:
<https://bit.ly/KristenMeetAndGreet>



You can also reach out via the contact form on my website, via my campaign Facebook page, or by texting or leaving a voicemail at (301) 615-2897.

Best, *Kristen*

www.KristenForCouncil.us

www.fb.com/KristenForCouncilGB

Markavitch Wins Girl Scout Silver Award Exploring Abuse

by Beatrice Marcavitch

According to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, “Every 9 minutes, child protective services substantiates, or finds evidence for, a claim of child sexual abuse,” and “one in nine girls and one in 53 boys under the age of 18 experience sexual abuse or assault at the hands of an adult.”

My name is Beatrice Marcavitch. Over this summer I finished my Silver Award project for Girl Scout Troop 27, led by Caitlin McGrath and Aaron Marcavitch. The Silver Award is the second of the three major awards that Girl Scouts can achieve. They are earned during the Cadet level, between 6th and 8th grade. Scouts must choose an advisor and a project, and work with members of the community to develop the content. Projects must have a community impact.

As a young woman, I am very aware and concerned about the topic of sexual assault and harassment, so I chose to focus on this important subject for my project. With my video I hope to help or raise awareness in my community, particularly with young women.

I interviewed two people in my video, Stacey Peterson, a manager of the SAFE Place at San Francisco State University,



Beatrice Marcavitch

PHOTO BY ANDREA MARCAVITCH



QR code for video by Beatrice Marcavitch

and Rebecca Wilson, a school counselor. They brought different perspectives to the subject. In the video, they delve into topics like how to find help for your friends, the psychological effects of sexual assault and resources for more information. This is an issue that will continue to be important into the future.

If you are someone between the ages of 12 and 15 or older and would like to know more about these topics, I hope you review this video. Scan the QR code above with your phone camera to watch the video. Content Warning: The video includes talk of sexual assault, sexual harassment and child abuse.



Homeschoolers have fun at Monday Meet Up, on September 13, Schrom Hills Park.

- Photos by Li'l Dan Celdran



RE-ELECT Emmett V. Jordan Greenbelt City Council

I've provided measured and practical leadership for the City during my time on Council. Many initiatives I have advocated for are taking hold, but much remains to be done.

Through my leadership as councilmember and mayor, we've reduced the City's long-term obligations by refinancing debt and developing policies to increase reserve funds. I am committed to avoiding tax increases this term.

Economic development activities I supported are now part of the City's work plan. Throughout the pandemic, our staff has engaged with local businesses to help them survive and keep their operations in Greenbelt. The quarterly "Business Coffee" gathering I initiated served as a starting point.

Our City is changing. I've worked to acknowledge and welcome Greenbelt Station and will continue to support efforts to strengthen connections between neighborhoods throughout the City. One recent change I don't welcome is the intrusion of outsiders and outside agendas into our local elections.

Another change receiving negative comment is the sometimes contentious Council meetings. We need to work better with each other.

The health and welfare of our residents is uppermost in my mind. I took the lead in pushing for funding to help homeowners avoid foreclosure and deal with deferred HOA & condo association fees. I will continue to ensure there is adequate funding and staffing to help residents avoid evictions.

Several years ago, I initiated a collaboration with Berwyn Heights and College Park around our shared sections of Greenbelt Road. This led to commitments from the State Highway Administration to make needed safety improvements. I will continue working with our neighbors to develop and implement a vision for the future of the Greenbelt Road corridor.

I respectfully ask for your votes, so I can continue to work on your behalf.



Eric Zhang

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate people of many cultures, faiths, and races living together. We pledge to foster a community which is respectful, safe, and fair for all people.



Sharon Natoli

- Experienced, Tested Leadership
- Collaborative Problem Solver
- Well-Informed and Prepared for Meetings
- Accessible and Engaged

**Respecting the Legacy,
Focused on the Future**

Jordan For Greenbelt

P.O. Box 471, Greenbelt, MD 20768

Volunteer or donate on my website: "jordanforgreenbelt.org"

Like us on Facebook: "Mayor Pro Tem Emmett Jordan"

By Authority of Peggy Higgins, Treasurer

Crime and Communications Are Topic of Chief's Briefing

by Diane Oberg

Greenbelt Police Chief Richard Bowers briefed the Greenbelt City Council on recent crime trends and upcoming changes in content and timing of reports to residents at its September 27 regular meeting.

Crime

Calendar-year crime statistics are up significantly since the same time last year, Bowers told council. Auto thefts largely reflect residents leaving running cars unattended, which is actually illegal in Prince George's County, as well as carjacking. Bowers attributed the increase to changes by the auto industry that have made it very difficult to start a car without the keys.

Carjackings are on pace to double over last year. Because county courts have been closed since March 2020, thieves and carjackers are being released to reoffend. The police department is working on some public service announcements reminding residents and delivery drivers to turn off their engines before leaving their cars unattended.

On the plus side, mailbox thefts have decreased with just two such thefts reported in September. Bowers said that the city detectives are working with postal inspectors on the mail theft problem. Together, they are making some headway, he reported. He noted that the postal service had mounted a surveillance camera on a mailbox but removed it after someone reported the camera on Facebook.

The pandemic coupled with the reopening of in-person schooling has increased police overtime. Given the shortage of bus drivers, more parents are driving their children to school, leading to traffic problems, particularly at the Dora Kennedy French Immersion School. The department is working with the school to establish a new traffic pattern that will not require direction by police. There are similar, though lesser, problems at other schools in the city. At Eleanor Roosevelt High School, the school resource officer and school security are trying to keep traffic moving. The congestion at the school is leading some parents to stop in the traffic lanes of Greenbelt Road and Hanover Parkway.

Bowers then described upcoming changes to the weekly crime report posted online and the basis for the News Review's Police Blotter feature. Bowers said that former Public Information Liaison George Mathews was spending three days a week preparing this report. With Mathews' retirement, Bowers wants to streamline the report. The report has typically been "information heavy." The new report will be a spreadsheet with rudimentary information.

To complement this bare-bones report, more serious crimes will be reported on Facebook and Twitter. This information will be available sooner than in the traditional report.

Several councilmembers expressed concern about the reduction in information being provided. The department will no longer identify offenders by location, race of suspects and names of arrested people. Bowers said that they stopped reporting names because if a suspect is found not guilty, the information about their arrest remains available on the internet. The department will no longer report offenders' race to avoid unnecessary stereotyping.

New public information officer Hannah Glasgow said that the weekly crime reports will no longer be based upon written reports but instead will be taken from the computer-assisted dispatch system. This will result in the loss of some information from the old format but will provide more accurate and timely information.

Officer-involved Incidents

Under a new state law (Anton's Law), the state Attorney General's (AG) Office will investigate shootings or other incidents involving the use of physical force by a police officer causing death or serious injury; the AG's office will also control the release of most information regarding such incidents. The Greenbelt Police, for example, will not be authorized to release body cam footage of such incidents. In addition, the law makes information regarding officers' disciplinary history accessible upon request where it had previously been treated as confidential personnel information. Although the state has not yet provided much guidance, Bowers said the department is ready to respond to requests for such information. The law took effect on October 1.



COUNCIL continued from page 1

was provided in the weekly city manager's report of that date. The report states the following: "Ten rental relief grants were provided via federal ARPA funds. This included support to: Greenbelt West (Franklin Park Apartments 7, Verde 1) and Greenbelt Central (Charlestowne North 1, Parkway Gardens 1). An additional application is pending further administrative review. This brings the total to 16 funded applications with one pending (17 funded applications total). At the end of the month, staff can present a city-wide chart of applications to date."

Mayor Colin Byrd was concerned that CARES had temporarily halted the distribution of applications to allow current applications to be processed and suggested that the acceptance of applications continue perhaps with caveats about anticipated processing delays. Ard stated that potential applicants are told their information will be kept on file and updates sent out. Counselors are available to discuss alternatives. Councilmember Rodney Roberts also wondered whether CARES had received any requests for assistance to homeowners.

The October 15 weekly report (after this council meeting) contained no update on whether applications are again being distributed, with the city's website referring interested parties to the CARES email and online page. The report did, however, note that, "In follow-up to councilmember questions, Dr. Liz Park confirmed that no inquiries were received regarding mortgage relief or fees affiliated with property associations (homeowners, condo, cooperative, etc.)."

Resident Lore Rosenthal commented that she felt the language announcing the current suspension of application distribution was confusing and may cause people to think the money had run out, especially if English is not their first language. She expressed disappointment that the anticipated part-time employees who were to process the applications weren't hired ahead of when they were needed and suggested clarifying the message

so people are reassured that the money has not run out and their applications will be considered in turn.

Councilmember Emmett Jordan also criticized the messaging, concerned that it was off-putting, and felt it would be preferable to send out the application to allow people to get to work on it, but letting them know there was a delay.

In response, Park relayed through Ard that 50 more applications had been issued to waiting applicants through Monday, October 11, and Ard noted that she relies on Park's expertise in these matters.

Armory Space Study

A seemingly innocent request to approve funding for a city space study (inner, not outer) stumbled into deep water when Roberts complained that the armory is not on the list of buildings that would be considered.

Roberts believed that failure to include the armory when considering utilization of space for city facilities would be to ignore the directive of council, two years previously, to move forward on acquisition of the building. Roberts noted that apparently the building had been renovated not long before the National Guard moved out and felt the long hold-up to inspect it (at a cost of over \$120K) was unnecessary.

Deputy Fire Chief Greg Gigliotti, highly motivated by the planned new firehouse and needing to plan for the current firehouse, was concerned that the city would lose the building. This concern was shared by Roberts, who noted that the delay may well have essentially rejected the offer of the building to the city. Gigliotti worried that, "If we don't go ahead and take that building, the federal government could give that building to anyone they wanted."

In response, Ard offered "some accurate information for folks" that the city had been in discussion with the owner and there was concern (echoed later by Councilmember Silke Pope) on accepting the handover of the building given what hazards it might contain and after the experience of the Community Center.

Ard also harked back to that earlier acquisition and not knowing what the hazards were. She said that council previously received a verbal report regarding the state of the building from Public Works regarding the armory.

Roberts reiterated that we don't own the property and that the city has not followed council's instructions. He felt that excuses about possible hazards were being used to delay acquisition of the property.

Gigliotti warned that the Prince George's County Fire Department has money to build firehouses. If they got the property, this might spell the end of the volunteer departments in the area as the county wants to consolidate fire services. He said that the Red Cross and other organizations also have their eyes on the property, which would put it out of reach for the city forever. He has spoken to the official handling the disposition of the armory, and she is anxious to divest the property. He was also concerned by his organization's limbo. Not knowing whether they will get a new firehouse makes it hard to plan for the current firehouse.

Councilmember Judith Davis had a different point of view. She wants to acquire the armory, but doesn't want the city or taxpayers to pay for a hazard that should be fixed by the federal government. Councilmember Silke Pope was also concerned at the risks involved.

The outcome after a rapid-fire and byzantine series of motion splittings, tablings and other Robertian maneuvers was the tabling of the request until the next meeting so that a worksession could be held on Monday, October 18 to develop a strategy and hear from Public Works on the status of the building.



Re-Elect



Vote #4 November 2

Judith F. 'J' Davis
for Greenbelt City Council

Serving you on City Council since 1993, 16 years as Mayor, 6 years as Mayor Pro Tem, now Council Member

Ensuring the environment, public safety, and essential services receive budgetary priority

Dispersing Greenbelt's American Rescue Plan Act funds equitably and efficiently with Community input

Tirelessly Networking with County, State, and Federal leaders to promote and protect Greenbelt's interests, such as opposition to the Maglev

Experienced, Knowledgeable, Dedicated
J Remains Committed To Community

Making Sure Greenbelt is Up-to-Date in an Ever-Changing World

Judith
Davis

By Authority: Debbie Cooley, Treasurer Photo: Barry Bordasi

GREENBELT
10-2 Sunday.
Parking lot
by Roosevelt
Center
Masks recommended.
Greenbeltfarmersmarket.org
We accept/match SNAP

Police Blotter

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

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

Assault

October 7, 6:30 p.m., 5500 Cherrywood Lane. A Greenbelt police officer witnessed the repeated and unprovoked punching of a person and arrested the man who did so.

October 8, 1:18 p.m., 7501 Greenbelt Road. A man saw another man urinating in the corner of a business and told him where the bathrooms are located. Upon hearing this, he struck the speaker and fled.

October 12, 11:59 a.m., 9100 block of Edmonston Road. One of two men who knew each other assaulted the other after he would not let him on his property.

October 13, 4:04 p.m., 6060 Springhill Drive. Officers responded to Springhill Lake Elementary School after the report of a fight and witnessed a mixture of adults and juveniles arguing. After separating the groups, it was determined there had been a physical fight between juveniles. Neither of them wanted to pursue charges.

Burglary

October 11, 6:30 p.m., 6200 block of Breezewood Court. The sliding glass door of an apartment was shattered and personal property was taken.

October 12, 5:10 a.m., 6000 Greenbelt Road. The glass exterior door of a business was shattered.

October 13, 5 p.m., 200 block of Lakeside Drive. Several items were stolen from a residence after a fire broke out the night before. The resident noticed items were missing when he returned that evening.

October 13, 7:31 p.m., 9300 block of Edmonston Road. A man observed that the screen on the sliding glass back door was broken and the back door was open. He then realized multiple items were missing from his home.

Vandalism

October 13, 5:50 p.m., 6100 block of Springhill Terrace. The balcony door to an apartment was broken.

Vehicle Crime

A vehicle hijacked in the 9200 block of Edmonston Road on October 7 at 1:03 a.m. was recovered approximately one hour later by Metropolitan Police.

A silver 2020 Honda CRV with Maryland tags 6EG5704 was stolen from the 5800 block of Cherrywood Lane on October 10.

An attempted auto theft occurred at 8010 Greenbelt Station Parkway after a red 2021 Chevy Corvette was located along an on-ramp, after it had been last seen in its parking space. Evidence indicated there had been an attempt to tow it, at which time the vehicle was damaged.

Front and rear license plates, Maryland 7AX6966, were taken from the 9100 block of Edmonston Road.

Windows were broken and personal property was taken from the 6200 block of Springhill Drive, 7800 block Mandan Road (three vehicles), 7640 Mandan Road, 9100 Edmonston Road and 5800 block of Cherrywood Lane.

Doors and a hood were scratched in the 9300 block of Edmonston Road.

POLICE continued from page 1

county municipal police departments that are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), which requires a rigorous review of a department's policies and record. Greenbelt continues to have a Tier One status, which was praised by council.

In spite of this, PSAC and council felt that there were still areas that could exceed the CALEA standards and that to wait a year for the state's legislation to take effect was too long; there are General Orders that could be modified now with minimal procedure.

Resident Ric Gordon voiced the sentiments of many participants as he said reform is necessary for a better organization, even as he praised and supported the efforts of the department.

Body camera use and its accompanying footage was a major point of discussion. All agreed that their use should be ubiquitous and that a clearer instruction on who is responsible for maintenance be established.

A time deadline for the release of footage is a sticking point. Bowers said that camera footage must undergo time-consuming

redactions of personal information unrelated to the event being investigated. As Greenbelt has only a single IT employee tasked with this responsibility, in addition to other IT duties, a realistic deadline is required. At the close of the council meeting debate, seven days was suggested as a compromise, yet this still awaits a final decision.

The fair and humane treatment of juveniles was a topic of concern, with PSAC member Peggy Higgins and resident Lois Rosado emphasizing the need for a parent or guardian during an interrogation, in line with international standards.

All present were anxious to confirm the lack of any racial bias in traffic stops and incidents of stop and frisk. At the moment, Greenbelt has no system to get the full demographics on these two concerns, something that all agreed needs to be remedied. The department is currently working with a UMD statistician to get a complete record of traffic stops.

Suggestions were made to mandate the department presenting all new General Orders before council and PSAC before implementing. Bowers explained that often orders undergo minor, more administrative type changes to wording, making a full review

each time beforehand laborious. He did agree that when it came to major changes, he was glad to give an update to council and PSAC. A compromise was recommended whereupon a new General Order would be sent for review upon enactment.

In an effort to bring the discussion out of the abstract, Byrd recounted a personal experience from 2016 when he was stopped by Greenbelt officers on the street at gunpoint for suspicion of wrongdoing. When he later filed a complaint and asked for release of body camera footage, his requests went unheeded.

Bowers expressed that while this debate had a contentious atmosphere at times, he believed they were all working toward the end goal of a professional, respectful and equitable police department.

Byrd clarified his aim to have a police policy based on his proposal's recommendations, many of which were derived from PSAC, voted in and applied to the General Orders, with an ordinance being sought later.

As there were many changes made to Byrd's proposal at the meeting, council voted 4 to 3 to forestall the vote until after another worksession where it can be discussed in detail with the public given a chance for input.

City Notes

Horticulture/Parks planted spring bulbs and five zelcova trees in Greenbelt East. Wood chips from stump grinding were delivered to the recreation centers.

Refuse/Recycling collected 25.74 tons of refuse and 10.11 tons of recyclables. Sustainability/Environmental held a Weed Warriors volunteer event and weeded around new plantings in the Pollinator Garden and Firefly Sanctuary.

Building maintenance installed wiring for internet service in the Animal Shelter and evidence rooms at the Police Station.

Springhill Lake Recreation staff facilitated CARES' education programs in the Clubhouse.

With two newly hired leaders in training, all shifts are covered at the Community Center, where a blood drive, a Covid-19 vaccine event, a flu clinic and a caregivers' resource event were offered.

The Aquatic & Fitness Center adjusted hours to offer more workout time.

Arts staff added a new YouTube video showcasing their exhibit in Council Chambers.

Park rangers provided support for HUG walkers to ensure a safe, healthy community experience.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Call 1-866-411-TIPS. People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.



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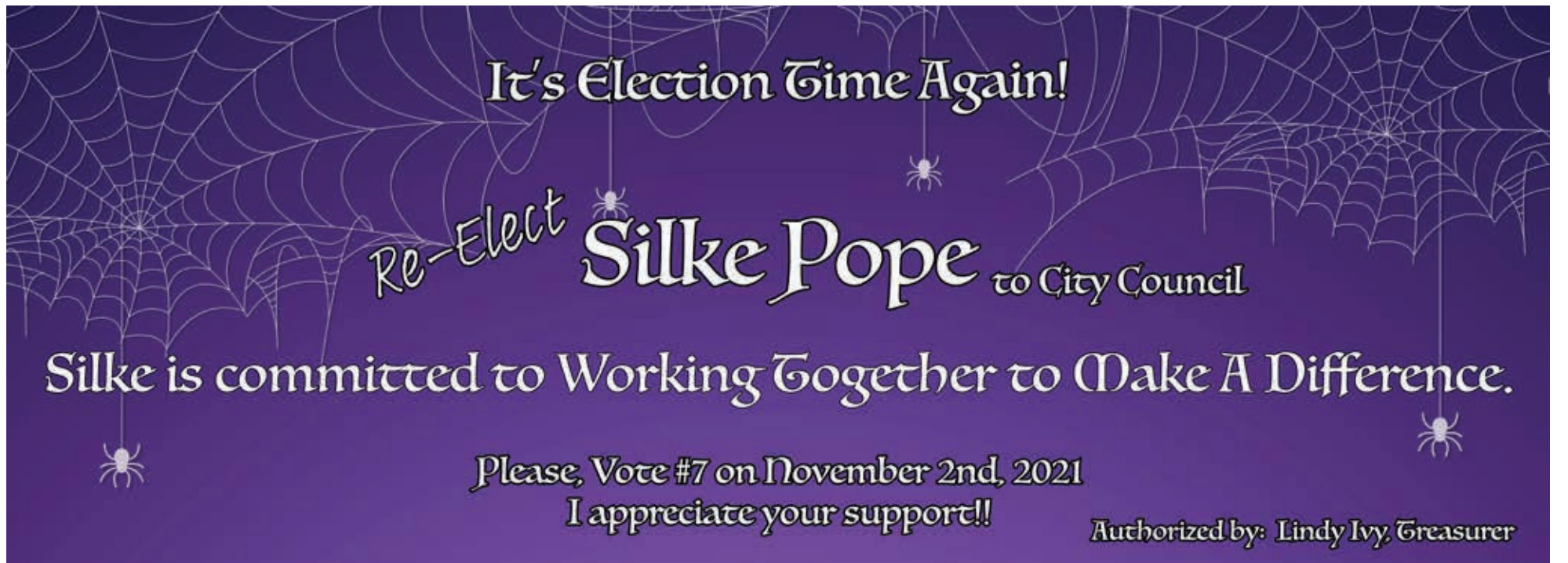


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YARD/MOVING SALES

RUMMAGE SALE OCT. 23. – St. John's, 5820 Riverdale Rd., 9a-2p. Rain or shine. Outside spaces available for \$25. Sale inside too! Clothes, shoes, jewelry, toys, games, books, DVDs. Call 301-927-4100.

HUGE YARD SALE – Saturday, October 23, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Across from Green Ridge House, 22 Ridge Road. Household goods, jewelry, pocketbooks, clothing, plus sizes XX XXX, designer "Chico" jackets, books, DVDs, CDs, Christmas items (optic tree, reindeer picture), vases, furniture, wooden TV trays, antique clock (1950), antique lamp, table lamp, floor lamp.

YARD SALE, multi-family, 10/23/21, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 118 Rosewood Drive, Greenbelt

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CLASSIFIED: \$3.00 minimum for ten words. 15¢ for each additional word. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 6 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 5 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

BOXED: \$10 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads.

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DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

OVERPAYMENTS: To properly account for overpayments too small to warrant refunding, the News Review accumulates overpayments of less than \$1.00 and periodically contributes the funds to a registered charity. Once the office reopens, this policy will not apply to payments made in person.

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Sports

ERHS Raider Soccer Offers Varsity Redemption and JV Domination

by Patrick Gleason

Only two minutes into their Thursday, October 14 contest against the Bladensburg Mustangs, the Eleanor Roosevelt High School Raiders led 1 to 0. Senior Sophie Swart wasted no time in erasing the disappointment the Raiders harbored since a loss at Bowie High School on Monday, October 11.

Swart infused the Raiders with energy all afternoon en route to a 7 to 0 victory over Bladensburg, despite the Raiders entering the game without starters Mia Hamilton and Sarai DeSouza, who are nursing injuries after the physical matchup earlier in the week. Seniors Briana Aguilar Reyes and Meegane Konchou solidified the defense and helped minimize Bladensburg's playmaker, Dayana Rivera. Juniors Julia Beckmann, Alexis Casey and Charlesima James added to the Raiders' tally, while freshman Jada Savage and Sadie Swart also found the back of the net.

The Raiders finish their regular season on Friday, October 22 with a visit to Beltsville to face the High Point Eagles. Then they will hope to prepare for a playoff rematch with Bowie. The Raiders and Bulldogs played an evenly matched contest in which the Raiders led at halftime thanks to Sadie Swart's successful penalty kick conversion, after sister Sophie drew a foul in the

box. However, the Bulldogs responded with a second-half goal on a corner kick and the winning goal less than five minutes later. Roosevelt's record stands at 6-3-1 and the loss against their archrival is surely motivation for a strong finish to their season.

JV Team

Meanwhile, the junior varsity squad has run off seven straight victories and now boasts a 7-1-1 record. Freshman Alena Beckmann has been on a goal-scoring tear, with four goals alone – one shy of Hannah Thomas's JV single-game record from 2013 in the Raiders' 5 to 1 victory over Bowie. Classmate AG Higgins added the final score of the night in a game where the outcome was never in question, thanks to the speed of Beckmann and the impressive ball movement of an ever-improving Roosevelt squad.

Freshmen Keiry Salmeron and Gabriella Martinez helped apply constant pressure on the Bowie defense, while sophomores Nuri Guevara and Fatima Ortega thwarted any attacks the Bulldog offense mounted and freshman Nikki Lilja played aggressively from goal as the Raiders helped avenge the varsity team's setback.

Although the varsity team will graduate seven seniors, the strong showing from the junior varsity offers plenty to look forward to.



Keiry Salmeron dribbles past a defender in the Roosevelt junior varsity's victory over Laurel on Monday, October 4.

- Photos by Bill Swart



Freshman Rayhanna Mani defends as sophomore Riley Rios looks on for the Roosevelt junior varsity whose record now stands at 7-1-1.



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

Townhome with 2 additions 2 bedroom GHI townhome on corner lot. Large fenced backyard, shed, back, extra storage in front. Central HVAC.

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

Charlestowne Village Single-level 1-br condo in Greenbelt - no stairs! Parquet flooring throughout. Remodeled kit. With Stainless Steel appliances.

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

Brick Townhome 2 Bedroom GHI townhome w/ hardwood flrs. throughout. Modern kitchen w/ stainless steel washer. Hardwood flooring on both levels.

Upper Level One Bedroom GHI home with full kitchen, washer & dryer in separate room. Hardwood finished hardwood flooring throughout. Nice!

2 BR Townhome Remodeled GHI home w/ new carpet fresh paint & ceramic bath. Don't miss this one!

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Fall Family Fun Week Draws Families, ERHS Volunteers

by Lesley Kash

Greenbelt's first of three Fall Family Fun Week events took place in perfect autumn weather on Braden Field on Tuesday, October 19 from 4 to 6 p.m. The series continues on Thursday, October 21 from 4 to 6 p.m. at Springhill Lake Recreation Center and on Saturday, October 23 from 10 a.m. to noon at Schrom Hills Park. Covid-19 safety measures include designated household spaces, masks, distancing and health screening upon arrival.

Recreation Program Supervisor LaToya Fisher said, "It's great to be back for a festive, in-person community event despite all the Covid challenges."

Volunteers from Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) added to the fun, assisting families with a wide variety of fun games and activities including gourd decorating, wreath decorating and Tree Basket Toss game. Volunteer Henry Couch said, "I am glad I am getting a chance to help out the community!"



Recreation staffer Taylor Koebler and Roosevelt volunteers provide wreath makers with bountiful seasonal decorations at the Fall Family Fun event at Braden Field on Tuesday, October 19.

- Photos by Lesley Kash



Recreation Program Supervisor LaToya Fisher and Eleanor Roosevelt High School volunteers run the Tree Basket Toss at the Fall Family Fun event on Tuesday, October 19. More events will take place on Thursday, October 21 at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center and on Saturday, October 23 at Schrom Hills Park.



PHOTO BY CATHERINE PLAISANT

Barred owl on Laurel Hill Road

PARKBELT continued from page 1

So, you might ask, how did this privately-owned Chicago-based company end up with a government housing contract in this new garden city springing up in rural Prince George's County?

By the time of his Greenbelt commission, Fisher was already well-known as one of the pioneers of steel-frame prefabricated houses in the late 1920s and early 1930s. In stark contrast to the pre-cut wooden balloon-frame kit houses in traditional 19th century residential styles marketed by such companies as Sears Roebuck, Fisher was interested in combining the science of industrial manufacturing with the aesthetics of streamlined architectural design. With this ideal in mind, he developed General Houses, Inc. in 1932, described as: "...the last word in smartness, comfort, beauty, simplified living, efficient equipment. GH is tomorrow's house today." He promoted the use of mass-produced industrial building materials sourced from a variety of vendors that could be easily and quickly assembled, delivered to a building site and then put together in a week or two. Unlike the Sears houses, his designs incorporated more modern features, such as long unadorned horizontal facades with flat roofs. Casement windows packed in tight groups - often extending around corners - created a decorative ribbon effect around the façade.

The event that really put Fisher's houses in the spotlight was the Chicago Century of Progress Exposition in 1933-34. As part of the Home and Industrial Arts Group, two of Fisher's General Houses model homes were on display, along with 11 other modern homes, each designed by a different architect. The exposition planners envisioned four major criteria to be met by houses on display in this group: durability, convenience, livability and cost-efficiency. Of the 13 houses on exhibit, Fisher's came closest to expressing these standards; the popularity of his homes among visitors to the exposition may have been one way that General Houses, Inc. came to the attention of the Greenbelt planners and architects, who from the beginning of planning and construction in the city, actively sought out new building materials and processes.

A 1949 plan of the houses on Forestway displays how each one was positioned on its third-of-an-acre plot. Although the floor plans are identical, some were flipped in orientation or set at different angles on the irregularly-shaped lots, perhaps to give a bit more individuality to each one.

Greenbelt's Parkbelt houses seem to be a smaller, modified version of the Elmhurst-type home that Fisher exhibited in Chicago, based on floor plans illustrated in General Houses marketing materials from around the same time. Like the Elmhurst example, the Parkbelt house is flat-roofed and single storied, with five rooms: two bedrooms, dining room, living room and kitchen, plus a full bathroom and a laundry/utility room. A small porch at the entry corner includes an openwork vertical steel support, adding a simple decorative touch to the exterior of the Parkbelt homes. A 1933 postcard of one of Fisher's General Houses model homes from the Chicago exposition, showing additional



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT MUSEUM

A completed Parkbelt house on Forestway, 1938

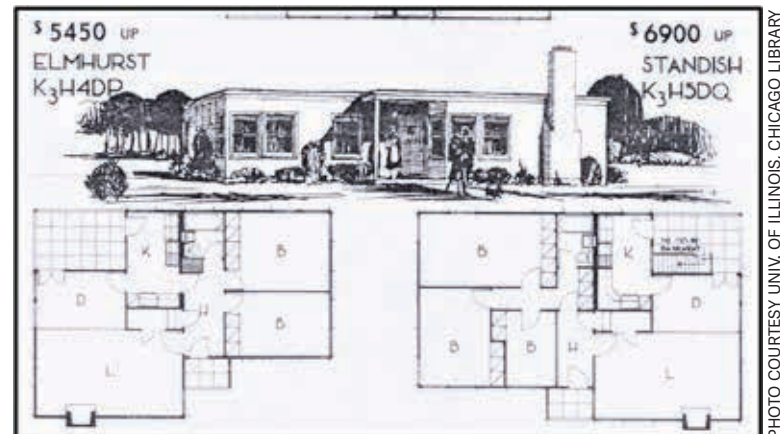


PHOTO COURTESY UNIV. OF ILLINOIS, CHICAGO LIBRARY

Mid-level prefabricated steel frame house plans detail from 1930s sales brochure, General Houses, Inc.

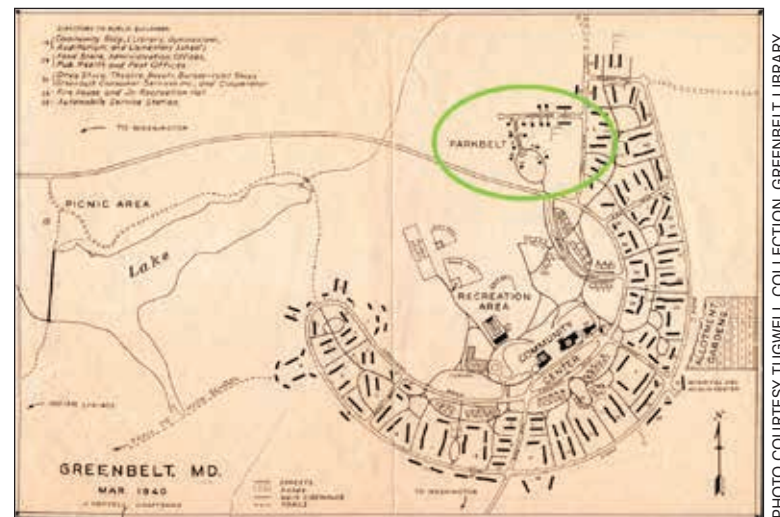


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1940 map of Greenbelt showing the 10 Parkbelt houses along Forestway Road

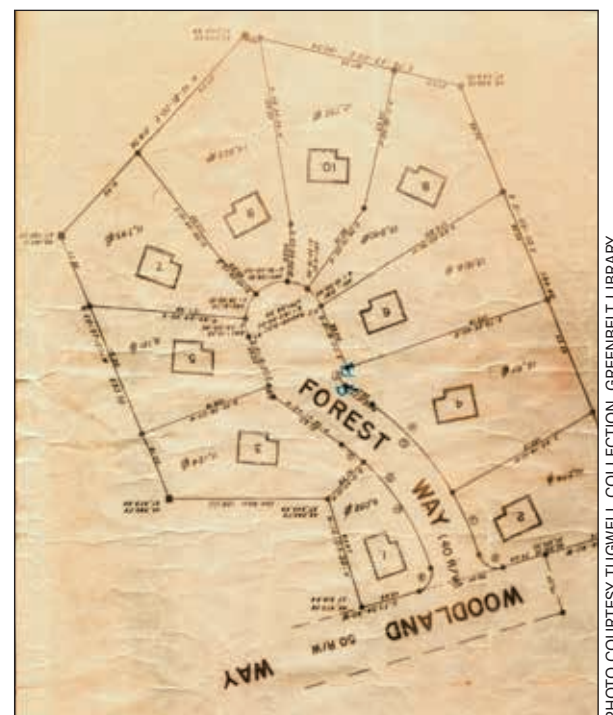


PHOTO COURTESY TUGWELL COLLECTION, GREENBELT LIBRARY

Plat of conveyance map, Parkbelt Homes, 1949

landscaping, makes a colorful comparison with black-and-white photos from 1938 of completed Parkbelt homes on Forestway. A Parkbelt Homes prospectus in the Tugwell Collection in the Greenbelt Library ends with this

statement: "Residence in Parkbelt Homes will afford a kindlier and more desirable way of living in an exceedingly attractive environment," a sentiment that perfectly embodies the foundational ideals of New Deal era Greenbelt.

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