



MCF rebuilds house, p.12



No-mow helps bees, p.12

New Map Will Leave Greenbelt Out of Maryland's District 5

by Haley Kerby

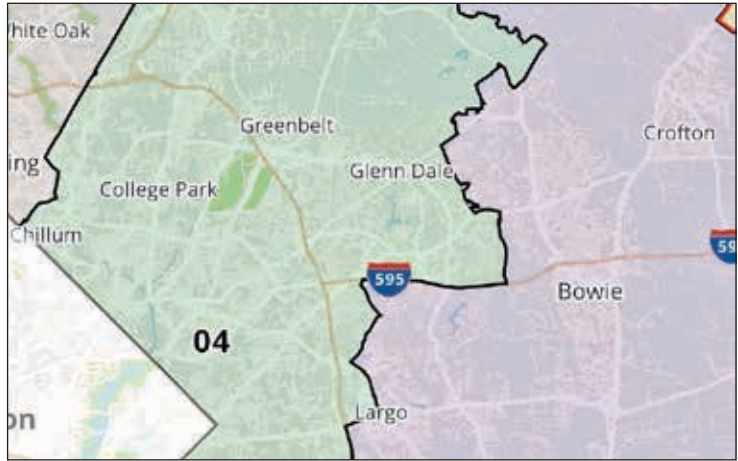


PHOTO COURTESY MARYLAND MAP PLANNER

Greenbelt will be in the new Congressional District 4.

Governor Larry Hogan signed the new redistricting plan into law on Monday, April 4. With a new congressional map in hand, Greenbelt will leave Maryland's 5th Congressional District and

become part of Maryland's 4th Congressional District. When the new map goes into effect in January 2023 at the beginning See **MAP**, page 8

Kyla Tours Greenbriar Park

by Kyla Hanington

The good people at Greenbelt Biota have been trying to take me on a tour of Greenbriar Park, at the corner of Mandan Road and Hanover Parkway, for nearly a year now, but for one reason or another we haven't quite managed to put it together. I finally met Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, environmental coordinator for the City of Greenbelt, there on Friday for this story for



PHOTO BY AMY HANSEN

Kyla Hanington, left, and Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll examine a local cherry tree.

the News Review. Greenbriar Park was recently added to the Greenbelt Forest See **PARK**, page 6

Covid-19 Update for March; New Deal Café Sees Cases

by Cathie Meetre

The message of this article is simple. Anybody feeling symptoms that could be attributed to Covid should both immediately get tested and should stay isolated until they know what's up. Covid-19 isn't over and even with vaccinations there remains vulnerability.

The story began on Friday, March 25, when an individual started feeling unwell. On Saturday, March 26, the New Deal held an event and this person, despite the New Deal's stated policies and all the advisories on the topic, nonetheless attended. The person tested positive for Covid-19 the next day, Sunday, March 27.

New Deal patrons received an

email and a series of Facebook updates last week acknowledging that attendees at the event had See **COVID**, page 8

What Goes On

Monday, April 11
7:30 p.m., City Council Meeting, Municipal Building
Wednesday, April 13
8 p.m., Council Worksession: GEAC (stakeholder), virtual

See the city ad on page 5 and the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for more information.

Final ARPA Discussion Session Held in Person in Greenbelt West

by Johanna Goderre

The City of Greenbelt continues to solicit feedback on how to spend the remaining \$21 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to remediate effects of the Covid-19 public health emergency. Residents' input on ARPA spending must be submitted by April 15 to the city website at engagegreenbelt.org so that city staff can review consolidated ideas with city council at a May 11 budget worksession.

The city's contractor, Raftelis, facilitated the final in-person engagement session on March 29 at Springhill Lake Recreation Center. It started much like the prior two sessions, but there were early signs this meeting would be different. High ceilings and the buzz of ventilation systems in the gym made it hard to hear Raftelis' explanation of ARPA.

During introductions, one resident persistently interrupted, attempting to focus instead on details of a March 28 city presentation about spending unrestricted ARPA formula funds. Acting City Manager Tim George had



PHOTO BY JOHANNA GODERRE

Dr. Lois Rosado (masked) and two other Greenbelt residents write ideas on post-it notes and organize them on easels during the exercise on Tuesday, March 29 at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

reported that a budget surplus for the 2022 fiscal year arose in large part from increased real estate tax assessments and ongoing efforts by staff to restrain city expenditures. For 2023, the city plans to recommend a variety of activities under the ARPA lost revenue formula, including replacing the Springhill Lake Recreation Center

air handler and carrying out a bus stop accessibility study.

After these interruptions, Raftelis and city residents returned the meeting to its agenda and began generating ideas for ARPA spending on post-it notes and easels around the room. This was the best-attended session,

See **ARPA**, page 9

Women's History

Women Played Important Roles In Shaping Life in Early Greenbelt

by Deanna Dawson

Household and shopping tips, recipes, introductions of new residents, society items, news of women's activities and organizations – these were some of the things covered on the women's page(s) in the Greenbelt Cooperator. The Mrs. Greenbelt section, which appeared in the first issue of the Cooperator (published November 24, 1937) and ran through June 20, 1941, aimed to connect and inform women in the brand new town, nearly all of whom had arrived in Greenbelt knowing no one outside their own family. The new residents quickly had to get to know one another, develop relationships, choose leaders and form the organizations that were needed for life in the new town. The weekly newspaper could provide more information and details than postings on the town bulletin board in the Greenbelt Food Store or leaflets delivered to doorsteps.

One of the first concerns addressed was "When will the furniture arrive?" with the promised furniture, built especially for Greenbelt's smaller homes, delayed again and again; some wives were waiting for the shipments to arrive before they moved to Greenbelt. By mid-December 1937, a bridge club and a choir for the Protestant Church



PHOTO BY MARJORY COLLINS, COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Mary Turner of the Potomac Electric Power Company gives cooking classes to Greenbelt women in 1938 to 1942, giving them tips for cooking on an electric stove, which most women hadn't used before moving to Greenbelt. About 60 women attend the session pictured, held on June 2 and 3, 1942, in the homemaking room of the elementary school.

Services were forming, and a group of mothers was making plans for both a kindergarten and a nursery school, having made a communitywide survey to get a count of the potential number

of students: there were then 46 children of the right age for nursery school and 28 kindergarten-aged children whose parents were

See **WOMEN**, page 8

Letters to the Editor

Thanks

The St. Hugh Food Pantry coordinators, The Ladies of Charity, would like to thank all our neighbors in Greenbelt for their continued support of the Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy \$5 Food Bag Donation Program. Co-op shoppers continue each week to provide 100 to 110 food bags to the St. Hugh Pantry. We would also like to thank all the volunteers who collect donated food from their neighbors through the PORCH Program coordinated by Robert Goldberg-Strasser. We would not be able to keep our shelves full without all this wonderful community support.

Mary Ann Tretler
President, St. Hugh
Ladies of Charity

No-mow Presents Problems for Lawns

This year the City of Greenbelt's No-Mow April campaign encourages residents to avoid mowing this month, in order to encourage flowering for bees. I'm pro-bee, too, but according to experts in lawn care, this practice can seriously damage healthy lawns. U. Maryland's

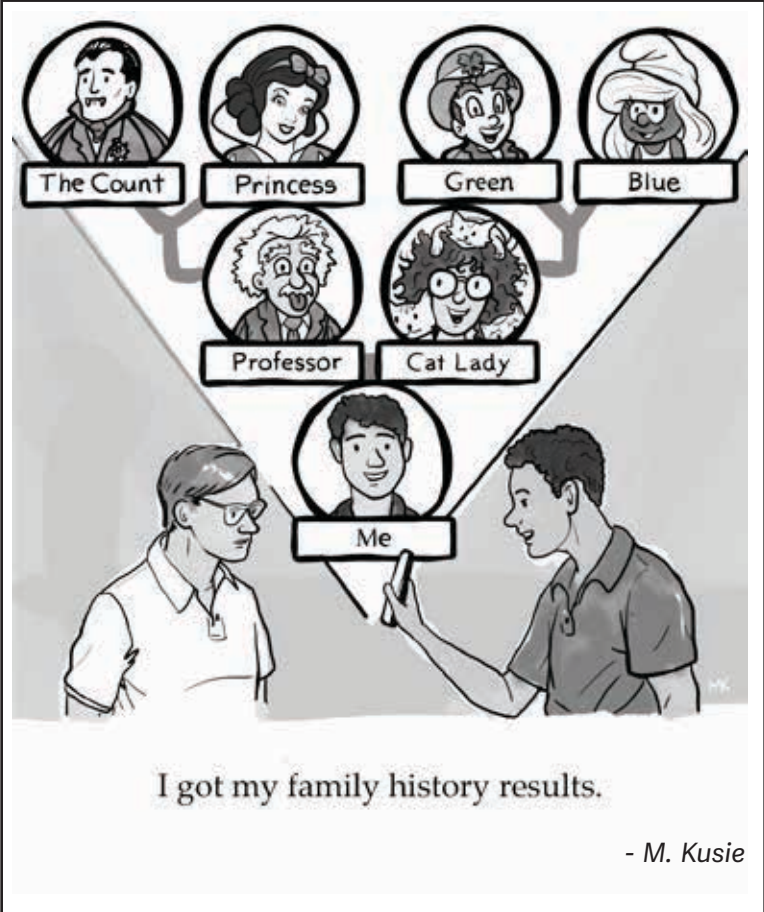
advice is typical and implicitly warns against waiting a whole month of strong growth to mow again: "Infrequent mowing allows the turf to grow too tall. Subsequent mowing removes too much leaf surface and may shock the plants. Weekly mowing may not be enough, especially during the peak period of leaf growth in the spring. Remove no more than one-third of the grass blade each time you mow. Removing larger amounts of leaf surface may result in physiological shock to the plant, cause excessive graying or browning of leaf tips, and greatly curtail photosynthesis reducing the health of the grass."

One expert I consulted about the No-Mow idea echoed that concern and added that "In urban situations many if not most of the blooming turf weeds aren't native and tend to be easily spread, many by wind. Encouraging pollination can exacerbate the situation, leading to more weeds and perhaps encouraging the homeowner to resort to chemical control. And many of these nonnative turf-invading plants can be kept in check by regular mowing."

Susan Harris

Arbor Day Celebration Plants Memorial Tree

On Saturday, April 9 from 10 a.m. to noon, join the Department of Public Works and members of the Advisory Committee on Trees as Greenbelt celebrates Arbor Day. Volunteers will work with Public Works staff to install a Satyr Hill holly as the Eleanor Roosevelt memorial tree in the front lawn of the Community Center. Participants will also be eligible to receive free native trees to plant in their yards to help increase the city's urban tree canopy, support wildlife and improve the environment. Trees will be handed out on a first-come, first-served basis to Greenbelt residents with proof of residency. Limit one tree per household.



Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

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 requests for the name to be withheld.



PHOTO BY VIJAY PARMESHWARAN

Vijay Parmeshwaran chalks Ramadan greetings to Greenbelt.



On Screen at Old Greenbelt Theatre

Coda

Seventeen-year-old Ruby (Emilia Jones) is the sole hearing member of a deaf family – a CODA, child of deaf adults. Her life revolves around acting as interpreter for her parents (Marlee Matlin, Troy Kotsur) and working on the family's struggling fishing boat every day before school with her father and older brother (Daniel Durant). But when Ruby joins her high school's choir club, she discovers a gift for singing and soon finds herself drawn to her duet partner Miles (Ferdia Walsh-Peelo). Encouraged by her enthusiastic, tough-love choirmaster (Eugenio Derbez) to apply to Berklee College of Music, a prestigious music school, Ruby finds herself torn between the obligations she feels to her family and the pursuit of her own dreams. Coda won the 2022 Oscar for Best Picture and Troy Kotsur won for Best Supporting Actor.

Rated PG-13, running time 111 minutes

The Worst Person in the World

(Norwegian with English subtitles)

Nominated for Best Foreign Language Film Oscar, The Worst Person in the World, directed by Joachim Trier, is a modern comedy about the quest for love and meaning in contemporary Oslo. It chronicles four years in the life of Julie (Renate Reinsve), a young woman who navigates the troubled waters of her love life and struggles to find her career path, leading her to take a realistic look at who she really is.

Rated R, running time 121 minutes



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
APRIL 8TH – APRIL 11TH
PLEASE NOTE WE NOW
HAVE TWO SCREENS:
SCREEN 1 (S1) -
MAIN AUDITORIUM,
CAPPED AT 100
SCREEN 2 (S2) -
THE SCREENING ROOM,
CAPPED AT 20

CODA (PG-13) (CC) (DVS)
(2021) (111 MINS)

FRI. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM S1
SAT. 5:30 PM, 8:30 PM S2
SUN. 2:00 PM (OC),
5:00 PM S1
MON. 2:30 PM, 5:30 PM S2

THE WORST PERSON IN
THE WORLD (R) (CC) (DVS)
(2022) (121 MINS)

FRI. 5:30 PM, 8:30 PM S2
SAT. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM S1
SUN. 2:30 PM, 5:30 PM S2
MON. 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM S1

Greenbelt News Review

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- 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

Theater Screening Of Emily or Oscar?

Hollywood film director Chris M. Allport, in connection with District of Columbia-Maryland-Virginia (DMV) arts and culture purveyors Barbara and Mark Rew, will present a free pre-release screening of the new, multi-film-festival-award-winning art house feature Emily or Oscar? at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 30 at the Old Greenbelt Theatre.

Hosted by DMV-area avant-garde filmmaker Jeff Krulik, the screening will include a Q&A with Allport immediately following.

Presented like a love letter to the golden age of cinema, Emily or Oscar? is a rom-com/movie musical, that will tantalize the imaginations of cinephiles and art house moviegoers as they take a tour through protagonist Sam Feldman's wild imagination. Feldman (portrayed by Allport) is a screenwriter who falls in love with the beautiful actress Emily Arthur (portrayed by Casara Clark). However, the ghost of Douglas Fairbanks (portrayed by the late Dutch filmmaker Ismaël Lotz) attempts to break the couple apart to save his own soul.

Those interested should RSVP to EorOrsvp@gmail.com by Friday, April 22, as seating is limited. Questions can be directed to the same email address.

Greenbelt PORCH Has Doubled

Greenbelt PORCH has rolled out P.A.L. – PORCH At Large – for those Greenbelters who are interested in the PORCH program but don't have a coordinator in their neighborhood. To participate, email Robert Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com by noon, Sunday, April 17, with the donation address. Leave donations, marked RUAK or PORCH, by the front door and visible from the street. Ensure donated items are not past their expiration date. Everyone throughout Greenbelt is welcome. Greenbelt PORCH's April schedule:

Sunday, April 10 – 1-8 Courts Ridge, 1-8 Courts Crescent and 1-2 Courts Westway by 11 a.m.; Woodland Hills by 3 p.m.

Sunday, April 17 – Boxwood Village and PORCH at large by 4 p.m.

Saturday, April 23 – 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill by 11 a.m.

Sunday, April 24 – 9 and 12 Ridge Road by 4 p.m.; Lakeside Drive and connecting courts by 5 p.m.

Volunteers who would like to expand Greenbelt PORCH 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 with Greenbelt PORCH, email Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com.

Candidate Will Meet, Mingle at New Deal

This Saturday, April 9, join Ric Gordon's Candidate Meet & Mingle at the New Deal Café from 2 to 5 p.m. Residents can come meet and ask questions of various county and state candidates in Greenbelt's districts County Council 4, School Board 2, Legislative 22 and countywide.

Art Reception Sunday At New Deal Café

On Sunday, April 10, Friends of the New Deal Café Arts is sponsoring a reception from 3 to 5 p.m. at the New Deal Café for artist Gaby Nobody, whose work is currently on display at the Café. Gaby Nobody's art focuses on depicting the journey of healing and returning to self.

Light refreshments will be provided. Mask wearing when not actively eating or drinking is encouraged.

Native Plant Workday To be Held Saturday

Help fight invasives and plant natives. The GHI Woodlands Committee is hosting a workday on Saturday, April 9 from 9 a.m. to noon. There will be planting of persimmon, milkweed and elderberry seeds in our new propagation area and removing large invasive shrubs. Meet at the picnic table between 8 and 10 Courts Laurel Hill Road. Work will commence next to the blackberry patch at the woodland edge.

What to bring:

1. A face mask for when in proximity to others. All participants are required to socially distance as much as possible for their safety and that of others.

2. Clothes that cover the skin. Wear leather gloves and thick pants to protect against scratches.

3. Bug repellent, hand sanitizer, etc.

4. Tools and equipment will be provided, but bring shovels, rakes or mattocks to facilitate other volunteers' involvement.

For more information, email SowingStrength2@gmail.com.

Golden Agers Hold April Activities

Again, Mother Nature sent cold and rainy weather to the Golden Agers who were not able to have their March meeting at Schrom Hills Park. They will try again in late April. The next two meetings will be via Zoom on Wednesdays at 11: April 13, Meet and Greet; April 20, Birthday celebrations.

Then, the Greenbelt Golden Agers will meet in person on Wednesday, April 27 at 11 a.m. at Schrom Hills Park. There was a great turnout when last they met in person. Water and snack will be provided. To join the Golden Agers email list or to obtain Zoom information, contact Becky Sutfin at rsutfin@greenbeltmd.gov.

Next Museum Walking Tour to Be Held April 9

The Greenbelt Museum's next free walking tour is scheduled for Saturday, April 9, starting at 10 a.m. Walking tours take approximately 90 minutes. Anyone interested should sign up via Eventbrite: eventbrite.com/o/greenbelt-museum-31069568151. Tours are limited to 12 people and take place outdoors. In the event of inclement weather, the tour may be rescheduled.

The Museum is also booking walking tours for small groups. These must be scheduled in advance by emailing Education/Volunteer Coordinator Sheila Maffay-Tuthill at education@greenbeltmuseum.org. There is a fee.

Composting Workday Volunteers Needed

On Saturday April 9, anytime from 9 a.m. to noon, enjoy an outdoor composting workday at the three-bin hot composting station behind Roosevelt Center, alongside the Aquatic Center. It's an opportunity to commune safely with others outdoors and enjoy learning about how to make compost using food from the Co-op Supermarket that would otherwise go to the landfill.

Elementary through high school kids are invited to join in. There's lots of work and snacks to keep volunteers going.

For those who like the idea of keeping food scraps from the landfill – where they produce methane, one of the worst greenhouse gases – and who are interested in learning more about composting, stop by on Saturday. Email NewDealWigglers@gmail.com for more information.



GCAN Discusses Community Solar

All are invited to the April meeting of the Greenbelt Climate Action Network (GCAN). It will take place via Zoom on Wednesday, April 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. The Zoom link is available at cheers.org/gcan.

Learn more about community solar as a way to reduce carbon emissions and fight climate change while saving money on electric bills without installing solar panels at home. Neighborhood Sun will be at the meeting to talk about how it works, the signup process, solar farms available and all the benefits.

Time will also be spent practicing how to explain the concept of community solar to friends and neighbors, in preparation for tabling at the upcoming Greenbelt Green Man Festival.

For more info, contact Lore Rosenthal at SimplicityGroupsMD@gmail.com or 301-345-2234 (no text).

GVFD Hosting Spring Fun Saturday, April 9

Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department & Ladies Auxiliary is hosting a day full of spring fun on Saturday, April 9 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department. There will be photos with the Easter Bunny from 1 to 3 p.m., a children's Easter Egg Hunt at 2 p.m. and a citywide Scavenger Hunt (registration for both events starts at 1 p.m.). All events are free. Get ready for an egg-citing day of fun. It's going to be a HOPPY good time.

New Deal Café Call for Artists

The New Deal Café is looking for artists to participate in the Green Man group Art Show. The theme for Green Man this year is Celebrating Nature. The exhibit will be on view May and June in the New Deal Café. Send submissions to artatnewdealcafe@gmail.com by Wednesday, April 27 for consideration. There is no limit on the number of submissions.

At the Library

Greenbelt Library hours: Mondays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m.

Health and Safety

Face masks continue to be required at Prince George's County Memorial Library System buildings for everyone ages 2 and up. The library appreciates customers' assistance with maintaining a safe environment for children who are not yet eligible for Covid-19 vaccines and for customers and staff who have high risk for Covid-19. These additional library safety measures are available: plexiglass shields at the service desks, hand sanitizer dispensers and single-use keyboard and mouse covers.

Events

The following events will be held outdoors, weather permitting, by the upper-level entrance. Outdoor programs will be canceled or rescheduled in the case of inclement weather. They will not be transferred indoors.

Weekly Storytimes. Wednesday, April 13, Ready 2 Read Storytime: ages 3 to 5, 12:15 p.m.; Thursday, April 14, Ready 2 Read Storytime: ages 2 to 3, 11:15 a.m. Come for stories, songs, finger-plays and more. All participants over age 2 must wear a mask to this event; this event may be subject to change depending upon updated safety guidelines.

Teen Action Group. Wednesday, April 13, 4:30 p.m., ages 13 to 18. Need to earn community service hours? Come make a difference in the community, gain friends from around the area and make your voice heard.

Poetry Contest

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System is proud to host the Third Annual Poetry Contest after some challenging times, join in to unfurl frustrations, stress and negativity – and focus on this year's theme: joy. What brings people joy? For more information and to enter your submission visit pgcmls.info/poetry.

Museum Hosts Lecture On Women in WW II

What famous TV chef worked in the WW II spy business?

What famous actress was a scientist whose inventions are still in use today?

What WWII-era Miss America foiled a plot to steal her property by shooting the perpetrators' tires out on their getaway truck at age 82?

Longtime Greenbelt Museum volunteer Donna Peterson will answer these questions and much more on Thursday, April 21 starting at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center, Room 201 (Multipurpose Room). This is a free in-person event, but attendees must register in advance via Eventbrite at eventbrite.com/e/women-of-world-war-ii-tickets-310799709297.

Peterson first came to Greenbelt in 1959 as her father was in the Army and was stationed at nearby Ft. Meade. She went to St. Hugh School and was married in the church there. After living in Virginia and raising a family, Peterson moved back to Greenbelt in 2012. Her interest in history was piqued when she began volunteering at the Dr. Samuel Mudd Museum in Waldorf. She volunteered there for 25 years and began lecturing with five different presentations on Women in the Civil War.

This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum and the City of Greenbelt.


Unplugged Events

This month has a lot to offer for anyone hoping to chill out, get out or get their game on.

Sunday, April 10, 1:30 to 3 p.m., Monthly Mindfulness; see the website for details at greenbeltunplugged.org.

Friday, April 22, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. (and every fourth Friday thereafter), in-person Game Night at the Community Center Room 114.

Sunday, April 24, 2 p.m., in partnership with The SPACE: Free Art for All, Kite Fun Fly at Northway Fields; bring kites from home and see what will fly.



Greenbelt Access Television

Apr 8, Fri – Apr 14, 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	Community Programming
8am	Democracy Now!	Yesterday's Syndicated Program
9am	GATE Classic Film • Comedy	Flying Dueces • 1939 • Laurel & Hardy
11am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
Noon	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
1pm	PGCPS Science Bowl	Allenwood v Dodge Park Elementary
2pm	Music at the New Deal	Campfire Sessions • Songwriters Listening Room
3pm	GATE Classic Film • Comedy	Flying Dueces • 1939 • Laurel & Hardy
5pm	PGCPS Science Bowl	Allenwood v Dodge Park Elementary
6pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
7pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
8pm	GATE Classic Film • Comedy	Flying Dueces • 1939 • Laurel & Hardy
10pm	Music at the New Deal	Campfire Sessions • Songwriters Listening Room
11pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
MN	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community 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



Ursula Dobson



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Ursula Hoffman Dobson

Ursula Dobson died peacefully on March 23, 2022, surrounded by family at home.

Ursula Margarete Paulina Hoffmann Dobson was born on January 27, 1926, in Rosen, Germany. The second oldest child of Fritz and Herta Hoffmann, she enjoyed life on the family farm with her brother Klaus and sisters Christa, Helga, Inge and Gisela, until her childhood was interrupted by World War II. The farm was destroyed and her family was scattered. Ursula was drafted into the German army at the age of 16 and survived many harrowing experiences, including several close calls on her life. When the war ended, she spent months travelling the country in search of her missing family members. Miraculously, everyone had survived the war and all were reunited thanks to her efforts.

Life after the war was hard for the Hoffmanns. Ursula became impressed by the American restoration efforts and was touched by the labels on food packages: PROVIDED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. She knew at some point she must meet the people who sent food to their enemies. She joined a dance group intended to unite people from Germany, France and England to heal the wounds caused by the war.

She was especially intrigued

by a documentary about Greenbelt, which cemented her decision to emigrate to the United States in 1954. She worked first as an au pair for a local family, armed with a cookbook and a will to learn English. Ursula became friends with the neighbors, who traded English lessons for German lessons, and she and the Bennetts became lifelong friends. She met William (Bill) Dobson through the Bennetts and they fell in love. Bill and Ursula were married November 30, 1957, and eventually settled in Adelphi, where they raised two children, Sandra and Norman.

The cookbook Ursula had used to learn English quickly became not only her profession, but also her love language for her family and friends. She worked in the Prince George's County school system for almost 30 years, starting as a baker and working her way up to the cafeteria manager at Hyattsville Middle School. She took pride in her work as the beloved "lunch lady," with kids and teachers enjoying her delicious cooking. At home, she and Bill loved hosting parties. They had a large group of friends, including many immigrants she befriended while taking citizenship classes. Nationality and religion didn't matter – everyone was accepted and welcomed. Ursula also invited her children's friends to stay for dinner, ensuring all were cared for and fed.

She was a beloved Oma to Theresa (Matt), Lindsey (Sean), Nick (Lizzy), Connor (Sarah), Gordon (Emma) and Matthew,

and Großmutter to Andalyn, Riley and Karalie. She loved spending time babysitting, playing with, listening to, feeding and loving all those kids, grandkids and great-grandkids.

In 2019 Bill died and Ursula moved to Greenbelt to live with Norman and his wife Dorothy. She enjoyed good German food till the end, even preparing her traditional New Year's Day feast of pork, sauerkraut and black-eyed peas at 95 years old. Ursula kept busy speaking with her sisters in Germany daily, playing games, talking to the neighbors and the neighborhood kids, and spending time with her family.

She was loved and will be greatly missed. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Karianne Zevallos

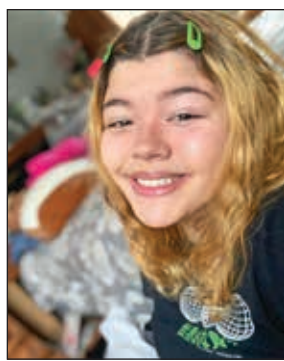


PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Karianne Zevallos

Karianne Adaline Zevallos, 19, of Greenbelt, died suddenly and unexpectedly on March 21, 2022. Her family is shocked and deeply saddened by her loss. Karianne was born on July 28, 2002, to Karen Zevallos. She graduated

from Eleanor Roosevelt High School in June 2020. Karianne had a large group of friends and family who loved her unconditionally. She is survived by her mother Karen, her older brothers Michael, Christopher, Eddy and Jonathan, and her older sisters Kimberly and Krystal.

Karianne loved gaming and making TikTok videos. More so, she loved giving out little surprises that she had seen at a store to brighten your day. She was the brightest and sweetest individual anyone could meet. Karianne also dedicated time towards taking care of her nieces, Madelyn and Karissa, whom she treated as her own. Anyone who knew Karianne knew that she was a very caring and generous person, and extremely adventurous. She wanted to make sure everybody had smiles on their faces, and didn't have to try too hard to get you to laugh. Her laugh was so contagious. She had an immense passion for traveling and trying new things, such as parasailing with her best friend in Ocean City. She loved listening to music, mostly Justin Bieber. Her family and friends will miss her more than words can say. Karianne will be dearly missed, but will live on in our hearts forever.

Condolences to the family and friends of Ursula Dobson, who lived her last years in Greenbelt after growing up and enduring World War II in her native Germany.

Our sympathies to the family and many friends of ERHS alumna Karianne Zevallos who died unexpectedly in March.

Congratulations to Eleanor Roosevelt High School and University of Maryland alumna Charlotte B. Francoeur. She has successfully defended her dissertation, The Ecology of Secondary Microbial Symbionts: Exploring the Diversity and Function of Bacterial and Viral Associations with Fungus-growing Ants, at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, earning her doctorate from the microbiology department. Charlotte hopes to come back to this area after six years in Madison. Her entire family is very proud of her.

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



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.
Join all to sing The Psalms.



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

Palm Sunday

April 9 5pm Vigil Mass

(Live Streamed on FB)

April 10: 8, 9:30, and 11am

Sunday Masses

Wednesday of Holy Week

April 13

7pm to 8pm: Confessions

Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper

April 14 7:30pm

(Live Streamed on FB)

Good Friday

April 15

9am to 11am: Confessions

Noon: Living Stations

2pm: Traditional Stations of the Cross

7:30pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

(Live Streamed on FB)

Easter Sunday

April 16 8pm,

The Vigil of Easter

(Live Streamed on FB)

April 17: 8, 9:30, and 11am

Sunday Masses

Saint Hugh Catholic Church

Holy Week and the Paschal Triduum



"When a thought of war comes, oppose it by a stronger thought of peace. A thought of hatred must be destroyed by a more powerful thought of love." – 'Abdu'l-Bahá



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

The Bible Says...

I (Jesus) came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

John 10:10b



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

Greenbelt Community Church
One Hillside Road

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

Maundy Thursday
7:00 pm

Easter Sunday
10:15 am

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

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

April 10 10 a.m.

Signs of the Times

Rev. Ann Kadlecek with Worship Associate Tricia Most;

There are times when we know something big is happening, within us or around us. And, as best we can, we interpret all that's going on, so we can make meaning and prepare for the future. In Unitarian Universalism's Christian heritage, there is a long prophetic tradition of interpreting the signs of the times. On this Palm Sunday, let's explore together: what might this tradition offer to us in these eventful times?

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

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

City Notes

Public Works delivered 15 picnic tables to the Community Center lawn for a fully-booked Artful Afternoon, where Friends of Greenbelt Theatre led animation activities for all ages.

Street Maintenance installed 60 No Parking signs in Greenbelt West. Horticulture/Parks received 45 trees and 232 native plants for spring planting and Arbor Day (April 9) activities. Five volunteer Weed Warriors helped Sustainability/Environmental remove invasive species. Refuse/Recycling collected 27.03 tons of refuse and 10.54 tons of recyclables. Building Maintenance replaced motors for the Youth Center's boiler and for the Old Greenbelt Theatre's popcorn warmer.

The Community Center welcomed back the Concert Band, Unplugged and Girl Scout Troop 23007.

The pool hosted Boy Scout water assessments and Fire/EMS Department Special Operations water training.

City park rangers are now patrolling all day, seven days a week.

Therapeutic Recreation hosted a Golden Age meeting via Zoom. County meal packs were delivered to 23 seniors and two families received financial assistance.

Easter Sunrise Service Sunday, April 17

An ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service is planned for 7 a.m. on Sunday, April 17 at Schrom Hills Park. All are welcome. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket to sit on. Rain location is Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ, 1 Hillside Road and Crescent Road.

Easter Event at Mowatt

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church will sponsor an Easter Event on Saturday, April 16 from 2 to 4 p.m. The celebration will include storytelling, bubble fun, a special appearance from the Easter Bunny, an egg hunt, WAGS photo booth, chalk drawing and cornhole games. The egg hunt will be divided by age group. Sign-up for the Magical Egg Hunt in the Woods here at signupgenius.com/go/30E094AA4AD2CA4FE3-magical.

There will be a family clothing swap during the event. Bring gently used, clean clothes to Mowatt Memorial and place them in the plastic bin at the back door marked "Easter clothing swap" or simply drop clothes off between noon and 12:30 p.m. the day of the swap. Bring only clothes that you would pick for your family.

Many volunteers will be needed so come to 40 Ridge Road to help, if possible. For more information, call 301-474-9410.

The event is free and everyone is welcome.



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, April 11, 2022 at 7:30 pm

ORGANIZATION

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

COMMUNICATIONS

- Presentations
- Earth Day Proclamation
- Telecommunication Week Proclamation
- American Rescue Plan Act Engagement Update
- * Minutes of Council Meetings
- Administrative Reports
- * Committee Reports

LEGISLATION

- A Resolution To Authorize The Negotiated Purchase Of Professional Consulting Services For Configuring And Deploying Data Dashboards For Crime And Traffic Stops; *2nd Reading, Adoption*
- A Resolution to Authorize the Negotiated Purchase of a New Financial Management System from Edmunds GovTech at a Cost Not to Exceed \$100,000; *1st Reading*

OTHER BUSINESS

- American Rescue Plan Act Lost Revenue Designation
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
- * Reappointment to Advisory Board/Committees
- * Resignation from Advisory Group

MEETINGS

- Meetings
- Stakeholder

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

MEETINGS FOR APRIL 11-15

Monday, April 11 at 7pm, **SPECIAL MEETING - CLOSED SESSION, Acquisition of Real Property**

Wednesday, April 13 at 8 pm, **WORKSESSION - GEAC - VIRTUAL MEETING, Stakeholders**

Thursday, April 14 at 7 pm, **PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE, On the Agenda: Planning for the Upcoming PSAC Community Policing Forums**

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 meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at [greenbeltmd.gov](https://www.greenbeltmd.gov)

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION
Saturday, April 9 | 10 am - 12 pm

Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Join the Department of Public Works and members of the Advisory Committee on Trees as the City celebrates Arbor Day. Volunteers will work with Public Works staff to install a 'Satyr Hill' holly as the Eleanor Roosevelt memorial tree in the front lawn of the Greenbelt Community Center. Participants will also be eligible to receive free native trees to plant in their yards to help increase the City's urban tree canopy, support wildlife, and improve the environment. Trees will be handed out on a first-come, first-served basis to Greenbelt residents with proof of residency. Limit 1 tree per household.

For more information, contact Environmental Coordinator, Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll: kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov

GUIDED WALKING TOUR
Sunday, April 10 | 1 pm

Greenbriar Park
Hanover Pkwy and Mandan Rd
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Join members of the Forest Preserve Advisory Board for a walking tour of the newly acquired, Greenbriar tract. Board members will be available to answer questions, address concerns, and to give insight into this unique parcel.

For more information, contact Environmental Coordinator, Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll: kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov

Follow the City of Greenbelt on Facebook and Twitter @cityofgreenbelt! For City information and events visit www.greenbeltmd.gov

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(3) 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 Monday, April 11, 2022, immediately following the Regular Meeting, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, to discuss the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the acquisition of real property

** 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 Monday, April 11.*

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

FREE TUTORING PROGRAMS

Registration open for K-12

Thursdays 3-5:30pm
6101 Cherrywood Lane

Mathematics, English,
Science, Social Studies

For more information or special accomodation, contact:
(202) 710-6473
dayoku@greenbeltmd.gov

Greenbelt ARPA Funds Assistance Programs Update (as of 3/28/22)

Rent and Utility Assistance
· 260 Greenbelt Households were granted assistance totaling \$1,044,285.62

Mortgage and HOA Assistance
· 7 Greenbelt Households were granted assistance totaling \$13,999.27

ONLY ONE WEEK REMAINS TO MAKE YOUR VOICES HEARD!

Don't miss out on this opportunity to weigh-in on how the City of Greenbelt should use American Rescue Plan Act money to serve our great City. The deadline to get in your survey is **April 15!**

Visit www.engagegreenbelt.org to take this short 3 minute survey to better serve your family and your neighborhood.

Do you enjoy serving your community? Are you available every third Thursday of the month from 10am to 3pm?

COME OUT AND HELP AS A PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION VOLUNTEER!

To sign up, contact Flora Li at fli@greenbeltmd.gov or (301) 412-2480

34TH ANNUAL POTOMAC RIVER WATERSHED CLEANUP
Saturday, April 16 | 10 am - 1 pm

Indian Creek Trail off Cherrywood Lane
MUST REGISTER TO VOLUNTEER

Join the City of Greenbelt Department of Public Works and the Alice Ferguson Foundation for a stream cleanup event as Greenbelt participates in the 34th Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup. Volunteers are needed to clean up litter along Indian Creek.

Reminders: Bring a reusable water bottle, wear weather-appropriate clothing and closed-toe shoes, bring community service forms.

To register, contact Environmental Coordinator, Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll: kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov

WE ARE HIRING



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- *CAMP COUNSELORS
- *CAMP SPECIALISTS
- *INCLUSION COUNSELORS
- *CAMP INTERNS

*MUSIC & MOVEMENT TEACHERS



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- POOL MANAGERS
- AQUATIC INSTRUCTORS
- CUSTOMER SERVICE POSITIONS
- PERSONAL TRAINERS
- ART INSTRUCTORS & ASSISTANTS

*THESE SEASONAL SUMMER POSITIONS OFFER EMPLOYMENT FROM MID-JUNE THROUGH LATE AUGUST. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON JOB OPENINGS AND APPLICATION DETAILS VISIT: [WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV/JOBS](https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/jobs)



fun • fitness • friendship

GREENBELT RECREATION 2022 SUMMER CAMP GUIDE

Greenbelt Recreation's 2022 Summer Camp Guide has been posted! Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation for more information

LISTEN to the NEWS REVIEW

Visually impaired may listen for free Call Metropolitan Washington Ear 301-681-6636

No special equipment needed



FY23 Proposed City Budget Balanced with ARPA Funds

by Diane Oberg

Acting City Manager Timothy George presented the budget proposal, his first, to the Greenbelt City Council at its March 28 regular meeting. For Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23), which begins July 1, George is not proposing any change to the city's property tax rate, which is currently \$0.8275 per \$100 in assessed valuation. However, total assessed valuation has increased 5.24 percent with increases across all types of residences. The increase in valuation, even though the tax rate remains the same, will result in higher tax bills for property owners. According to City Treasurer Bertha Gaymon, the city's FY23 constant yield tax rate is \$0.7781. Council further discussed the overall budget at a worksession on March 30.

During the revenues worksession on March 30, Mayor Emmett Jordan pointed out that if the city wanted to reduce the city's real and personal property tax rate, it would need to cut expenditures significantly.

Fees for refuse collection and recreation programs will remain unchanged.

George is proposing creating several new positions: a diversity, equity and inclusion coordinator;

a full-time grants coordinator; an information technology security analyst and a crisis intervention counselor for the police department. George also proposes funding the assistant director for community development (an existing position that the city left vacant to save money when the pandemic hit); creating a new assistant director for information technology to replace the retiring network engineer; and increasing the public information specialist from half-time to full-time while eliminating the video specialist position.

Staff would receive a 2 percent cost-of-living adjustment under George's proposal and up to a 3-percent merit increase based upon their performance evaluation. In addition, the budget proposes a \$15-per-hour minimum wage for all non-classified employees.

Covid-19 continues to be an important influence on the budget as the budget anticipates a slow return to more normal operations and levels of economic activity. The budget also dips into the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds received from the federal government. George proposes using \$839,000 in ARPA

funds in the operating budget and \$3.5 million in ARPA money for capital projects, building capital reserve and replacement funds. Both of these amounts will be considered "lost revenue" under ARPA. Staff estimates that the city lost \$3.2 million in revenue over three years. To reduce the burden upon recipient jurisdictions, the Treasury Department's final rule regarding use of ARPA funds permits recipients to take a standard allowance of \$10 million for lost revenue. Taking this approach eases the city's record-keeping responsibilities and removes the restrictions on use of that portion of ARPA funds. Even after the expenditures George is proposing, the city will have roughly \$17 million in unallocated ARPA funds. George expects to have a report on the results of the ongoing community engagement exercise on the use of the ARPA funds in May.

The Numbers

The acting city manager's proposed budget calls for expenditures of \$33,188,200 (including ARPA funds) against revenues of \$33,352,800, increases of 6.34 percent and 5.12 percent, respectively, leaving net revenues of

See BUDGET, page 7

St. Hugh's Parish Celebrates 75th Anniversary with Feast

by Mary Moien

On March 31, members of St. Hugh of Grenoble Parish celebrated St. Hugh's feast day with a special Mass and wonderful international buffet. For a number of years, the parish has highlighted the true diversity of its members with foods from many countries and cultures. This year is the 75th anniversary of the parish and the dinner is one of many planned activities. Over 100 parishioners were in attendance to celebrate, with each family providing a special entree. A sampling of the won-

derful foods included koki corn from Cameroon, arroz con pollo from Panama, braised fish from the Ivory Coast, pancit from the Philippines, scones from Britain, Swedish meatballs and jerk chicken from Jamaica. There was also a huge table filled with desserts.

Father Walter Tappe, pastor, expressed delight with the wonderful evening. Later this spring, Cardinal Wilton Gregory, Archbishop of Washington, will be a special guest for the 75th anniversary celebrations.



St. Hugh's parishioners enjoy an international buffet.

- Photos by Mary Moien

PARK continued from page 1

Preserve (see the September 23, 2021 issue of this paper for more information on the council vote on that). Members of the Forest Preserve Advisory Board are hosting a walking tour of the park on Sunday, April 10 and, as I am not free that day, Carpenter-Driscoll agreed to meet me in advance to provide a preview for News Review readers.

I've been to the park before, as part of a park tour I did for the paper, but it was entirely different to go through it with a guide than it was to go through it with Dan last year, when we pretty much just whacked each other in the face with branches and got tangled in the many thorned vines that abound and from which, it turns out, the park got its name. "Watch out for the greenbriers," Carpenter-Driscoll said, holding a long vine out of my way.

"That's what they're called?" "Smilax rotundifolia, right?" said my friend, Amy, looking at Carpenter-Driscoll, who nodded. That probably meant something but it was all Latin to me, but I covered it up by nodding sagely and congratulating Amy for being right.

Greenbriar Park, at a petite seven acres, is particularly interesting. It remains as it was when Greenbelt was first developed in 1937, by which I mean it is a tiny portion of the city that has never been developed, or at least not developed during contemporary times. It has, therefore, unusual biodiversity, some of which Carpenter-Driscoll pointed out as we walked. There was a rare sweet birch tree, flowering cherries, fiddlehead ferns, crows chasing a raven, a nesting pair of red-shouldered hawks, mountain laurel, a lone swamp cabbage poking up its head and native sweetbay magnolia trees, among

many other delights.

To walk through any of the woods around Greenbelt with someone who knows the flora and fauna is to be transported into a far richer world than the one I experience alone. Alone I walk through the woods and think "plant, plant, that's a tree, green, don't trip, more green, different color green, eek that's a spider web in the face." But with a guide I am shown differently,

made to see the vibrant lushness that surrounds us. With a guide, I get excited about fungi. So it was with Carpenter-Driscoll on Friday.

You can learn all about the unique space that is Greenbriar Park on Sunday, April 10 at 1 p.m. on a guided tour provided by members of the Forest Preserve Advisory Board. To learn more, email Carpenter-Driscoll at kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov.



Father Walter Tappe, pastor of St. Hugh's (left) and JoEllen Sarff, member of the St. Hugh's 75th anniversary planning committee



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Easter Sunday
Store Hours:
9 am-2 pm.
The Deli
will be closed.



BUDGET continued from page 6

\$164,600. The budget is balanced through application of the ARPA money for operating expenses and by not making the customary transfers to the capital projects, building capital reserve and replacement funds. These transfers totaled \$1.735 million in FY22.

Expenditures

NOTE: the budget categories do not directly reflect city departments. For example, while the Public Works Department maintains city parks, those expenditures are accounted for in the Recreation and Parks budget category.

The large increase in non-departmental spending reflects an expected increase in workers compensation expenditures and the setting aside of \$250,000 toward expected increased costs in FY24 stemming from the compensation study to be conducted in FY23.

Revenues

As usual, real estate taxes remain by far the largest source of city revenues, this year accounting for 64 percent of total revenues. Charges for services include refuse collection fees and charges for Recreation Department facilities and programs, among others.

The large increase in fines and forfeitures reflects a partial return to pre-pandemic levels, especially for revenue from red-light cameras based upon higher than anticipated revenues experienced in the current fiscal year. The \$721,500 estimated in the proposed budget for total fines and forfeitures is still less than the \$956,459 collected in FY20. The increase in interfund transfers is the transfer of \$839,000 of ARPA funds into the general fund (operating budget).

While the "other taxes" category is beginning to rebound, the Admissions and Amusements tax is projected to yield just \$60,000, a fraction of the \$537,587 it generated for the city in FY20. The Hotel/Motel tax was also hit hard, falling from \$476,155 in FY20 to an estimated \$150,000 in the current year. The city is projecting a partial recovery to \$300,000 for FY23. Interest revenue has been devastated by the prolonged period of low rates: where \$114,893 was earned in FY20, staff is projecting just \$20,000 in FY23, down from the \$50,000 in the adopted budget for the current year (but up from the estimated actual receipts of \$10,000).

Focus

George pointed out three areas of focus in preparing the FY23 budget: improving efficiency and staff support, catching up on capital projects and appropriate infusion of ARPA lost revenues.

To that end, the city will soon contract for a staff compensation study, implement a new financial software system and implement decisions stemming from the space study currently underway. That study will include the Greenbelt Armory once the city takes possession of that property.

For capital projects, George is proposing spending \$1.39 million in the capital projects fund for things such as the pedestrian/bicycle master plan, a bus stop accessibility study, street resurfacing and concrete repairs, a street light pilot project, Greenbrook trails and an inclusive playground at Buddy Attick Park.

He is proposing \$1.67 million for improvements to city build-

Expenditures	FY23 Proposed (Thousand \$)	% of Total	% Change
General Gov't	4,577	13.8%	12.1%
Planning & Development	1,161	3.5%	14.7%
Public Safety	12,491	37.6%	18.9%
Public Works	4,047	12.2%	3.3%
CARES	1,501	4.5%	8.5%
Recreation and Parks	6,529	19.7%	1.6%
Misc	448	1.3%	2.9%
Non-Dept	1,364	4.1%	32.7%
Fund Transfers	1,070	3.2%	-61.4%
Total	33,188	100.0%	5.1%

Revenues		% of Total	% Change
Real Estate Taxes	21,382	64.1%	5.2%
Personal Property Taxes	1,837	5.5%	-0.6%
Other Taxes	4,159	12.5%	4.5%
Licenses and Permits	1,273	3.8%	-2.2%
Intergovernmental	1,240	3.7%	6.1%
Charges for Services	1,633	4.9%	-11.6%
Fines and Forfeitures	722	2.2%	26.8%
Interest	20	0.1%	-60.0%
Misc Revenue	248	0.7%	-0.4%
Interfund Transfers*	839	2.5%	2522.8%
Total	33,353	100.0%	6.3%

*Includes transfer of ARPA funds

ings, including replacing the police station's roof, implementing the space study recommendations and improvements to the environmental systems at the Municipal Building, Community Center and Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

Another \$459,000 in expenditures is planned from the replacement fund including purchasing an automobile for the administrative staff, a van with a cage for animal control, two dump trucks and a pick-up truck plus a fuel management system and a deep tine aerator for the Public Works Department for use in city parks.

Priorities

City staff will continue to focus on Covid-19 response, the retention and recruitment of staff after a large number of resignations and retirements, the retention and attraction of businesses to the city, and improvements to city facilities and ballfields.

There are also some hopes for growth. The Motiva apartments had a ribbon cutting on April 4, the federal government

is again considering building a new headquarters for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the Washington, D.C., area, with the Greenbelt Metro Station being a bidder for the building. The city is currently developing and will subsequently implement a plan for using its ARPA funds. Jordan called the ARPA grant "generational funding," that the city can use for long-term projects at its discretion. It is currently gathering input for a proposed plan for ARPA fund use.

Public Comments

Bob Rand raised concerns about the city using ARPA funds prior to obtaining public comment. He stated that the focus in using these funds should be on people in need, not projects.

The List

Councilmember Judith Davis added the first item to the list of possible additions to the budget, which she specifically did not want to be called "council's wish list." She proposed increasing the grant to employees who pur-

chase a home in Greenbelt from \$2,000 to \$5,000. At least two other councilmembers appeared supportive of this suggestion.

Jordan raised the issue of council pay, which has not changed in several years but did not propose increasing it. Davis

confirmed that the budget did not include funding for use by the reparations commission (i.e., not for reparations themselves). George said he had not included such funds but they could be added.

Two Utopia Film Showings Will Aid Refugees from Ukraine

by Frank Gervasi

The Greenbelt Refugee Aid committee will host two encore screenings of Utopia Film Festival films beginning on Monday, April 11 at 7 p.m. at the New Deal Café.

These will be followed by a presentation of five short 2021 Utopia Film Festival films on Thursday, April 14 at 7 p.m. at the Old Greenbelt Theatre.

Monday's program features two short and one feature-length film. Laymun is a five-minute animation about a gardener living in a Middle Eastern war zone who fights the destruction around her with life-giving plants. A Quest for Peace is a 10-minute documentary featuring interviews with Arun Gandhi, the grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, and other religious leaders on how to end the violence and hatred that so plague humanity.

The feature-length, A Bold Peace, shows how Costa Rica has, since 1948, been able to exist peacefully while having no military. Through cultivated security relationship treaties, international laws, courts and organizations, they have been freed from the burden of military spending and have been able to invest those financial savings to better the lives of their citizens.

The Thursday program will feature Bicentennial Bonsai: Emisseries of Peace about the gift from Japan to the U.S. for its 200th anniversary in 1976. Featured also will be Sensei Fran Kicks Ass about an octogenarian martial arts master, snowboard instructor and world traveler. Filmmakers from both of these



films will be present for discussion after the screenings.

Thursday's screening will also include a 2020 Academy Award-nominated short, Feeling Through, an amazing drama about a transforming act of kindness. Two more shorts will also screen.

These programs are part of a series of Utopia Film Festival screenings planned to raise both awareness and funds to help refugees currently suffering from the atrocities occurring in Ukraine. The committee is dedicated to helping refugees from other areas as well.

Donations of any amount will be accepted at the door; they will go to help these people who are in dire need.

For more information call 301-467-2418 or email Greenbeltrefugeeaid@gmail.com.



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*apr = annual percentage rate. Rate subject to change without notice. Rate based on credit. Limited time offer.

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April 15th

Grant Application
Deadline



greenbeltfoundation.org

MAP continued from page 1

of the 117th Congress, Greenbelt will no longer be represented by Steny Hoyer.

“For more than 40 years, I’ve been proud to serve the people in Maryland’s 5th Congressional District. It is an honor to represent parts of Prince George’s County, and I’ve especially enjoyed advancing projects such as the new consolidated FBI headquarters, securing investments for initiatives at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and advocating on behalf of the Goddard Space Flight Center,” Hoyer said in a statement issued on April 4.

“While I am disappointed that the new 5th District does not include College Park – including my beloved alma mater the University of Maryland – Greenbelt, Hyattsville and other Prince George’s communities, I will continue to champion them in Congress on the issues that I’ve fought for throughout my career.”

In the primary on July 19, and in the November general election, Greenbelters will be asked to decide on the 4th District leadership. Democrat Anthony Brown is the current 4th District representative, but he is not run-



Greenbelt is in Congressional District 5 in the older map.

ning again. Tammy Allison, Angela Angel, James Curtis, Donna Edwards, Glenn Ivey and Jazz Lewis are running in the Democratic primary for the District 4 seat and Jeff Warner is running in the Republican primary.

The new Congressional map will go into effect in January 2023 when the 117th Congress is sworn in.

COVID continued from page 1

tested positive. The Café notes that it has at all times endeavored to keep its patrons safe and correspondents on its Facebook page state explicitly that they feel the Café bears no blame for an individual’s decision that risked the lives of others.

Exponential Growth

Discussion with New Deal President Michael Hartman indicates that there is more now known about the situation. Two Saturday attendees who had sat near the infected person reported their Tuesday positive tests to the Café on Wednesday and the New Deal notified its patrons, prompting several who were feeling not-so-great to get a test. Subsequently, as members reported in, a total of seven additional positive tests came to light – all connected with attendance at either the Saturday, March 26 or Tuesday, March 29 Café events.

Café patrons commenting on Facebook congratulated the Café on its openness, noting that many businesses would have just kept the problem quiet. The New Deal has reiterated its policies – en-

couraging masks and requesting those feeling unwell to stay home.

A Miniature Bubble

The progression of the cases, from one, to two more, to the seven additional cases known to the Café is a classic example of an exponential cascade of cases. It is an example in miniature of how one person’s indiscretion can, in a matter of a few days, create a bubble of cases. Fortunately, so far, the cases seem to be mild thanks to the vaccinated status of the affected individuals.

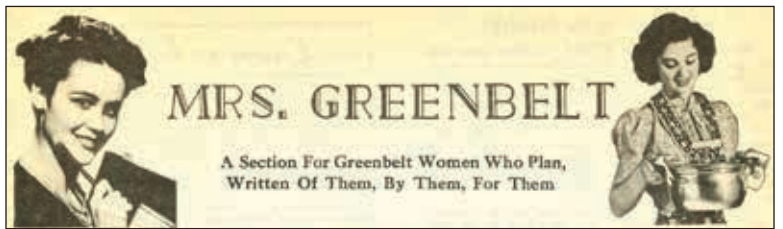
March Local Stats

March showed the lowest consistent new case values for our ZIP code and Prince George’s County since the disease first arrived with a vengeance about two years ago. For March, the daily counts of new cases varied between zero and two, though in the last few days of the month, the average of new 20770 ZIP code cases was trending upward slightly – with more two-case days than earlier. Whether this is a trend or merely a minor variation remains to be seen. In fact, the uptick may specifically be

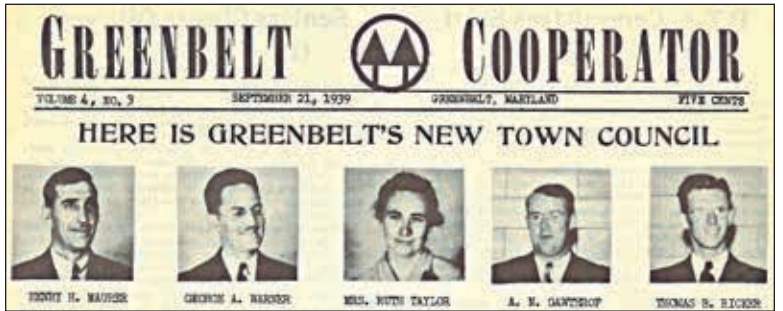
WOMEN continued from page 1

willing to pay a nominal fee – not more than 50¢ per week – for their schooling. Two mothers – Dorothy East and Ruth Hayes – agreed to serve as teachers at the rate of 50¢ per child, and Theodora Murray, who chaired the mothers meeting, appointed a committee to find other local teachers, raise funds for equipment and negotiate with the town administration for classrooms.

Women were also involved in other aspects of civic life. Louise Endsley had been elected to a six-month term as secretary of the Greenbelt Citizens’ Association (GCA) at its inaugural meeting on November 8, 1937. Ruth Hayes was soon appointed chair of the GCA’s Social Welfare Committee, Arja Morgan was appointed to the Transportation Committee and Velma Brewer, Ruth Falls, Bertha Maryn and Dorothy Reamy were appointed to the Advisory Committee on Cooperatives. This last group of women visited nearby stores, purchased a variety of items to compare with similar items sold by the Greenbelt Food Store and made suggestions on prices, quantity and quality to the store management so they could make



The Mrs. Greenbelt page(s) of the Greenbelt Cooperator ran under this banner from June through September of 1939.



Ruth Taylor was re-elected to council in this election, having first been elected in September of 1938. Starting in 1939, council terms were two years in length.

adjustments. Their efforts also led to the formation of consumer study groups that focused on such topics as product labels, meats (inspection and grading), milk (ordinance and regulations), eggs (grading), and food and drug laws. According to the Charter Day edition of the Cooperator (published June 1, 1938), “Greenbelt housewives agree with Mrs. Roosevelt when she says ‘I think that women as consumers should make it their business to know more about the quality of the goods which they buy, and to consider the conditions under which those goods are produced. If they do this, I feel sure that many changes could be effected which would be beneficial to the general public.’”

New committees kept springing up, spurred in part by women. In January 1938, Jessie Letkemann was elected to a committee – soon to become the Greenbelt Health Association – to draw up a plan for cooperative medicine, which Greenbelt residents had voted overwhelmingly in favor of (see Jeannette Connors’s article in the February 24, 2022, issue of the News Review to learn more about this). Also that month, Theodora Murray, chair of the GCA’s Dramatics Committee, called a meeting of residents interested in theater work, and then was elected president of the newly named Greenbelt Players.

Murray clearly had emerged as a leader in town, and had stood as a candidate in the first town

council election in November 1937. Her platform: “Feels urgent need for recognition of women; is not suffragette; believes men do not know about problems of home making and marketing; sees need for feminine viewpoint,” as reported by the Cooperator (November 24, 1937) – did not get her elected, but another woman, Ruth Taylor, was elected to council in the next election in September 1938. By then, council candidates could tout their involvement in the various committees and organizations that had formed, and Taylor felt that women had an important contribution to make in community leadership. She was elected to a second term, but opted not to run again in the September 1941 council election. There then passed several years with no woman on the town council until Elizabeth Harrington was elected in 1947, and she became Greenbelt’s first woman mayor when she was the top vote-getter in the 1949 election. However, it would then be 20 years before the next woman was elected to council (Elizabeth Maffay in 1969). But, that’s another story



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AGENDA

Meeting of the GHI Board of Directors on April 14, 2022

GHI Special Open Meeting – begins at 5:30 p.m. (open to visitors and members)

- a) Presentation of the 2021 External Audit Report
- b) Proposed Agenda for the May 12, 2022 Annual Membership Meeting

To deter hacking, GHI requires persons who wish to attend the GHI Special Open meeting on April 14, 2022, at 5:30 p.m, to register in advance by accessing the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZAquqtqTojHNYa8fzwCB0ZZyxbrqDDw1v>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred from March 28 to April 3. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an enquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Note that the times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Missing Person

Byron Geovani Santos-Hernandez (born December 14, 2004), a Hispanic man, 5'8"-5'9", 168 pounds, was last seen on March 6 at 7 a.m. in the 6000 block of Breezewood Drive, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt with a yellow and red design, black jeans and white Adidas sneakers.

Assault

On March 28 at 11:12 a.m., a man assaulted Beltway Plaza security guards. On March 29 at 12:41 p.m., a suspect pointed a firearm at Beltway Plaza security guards.

Break In

On March 28 at 4:18 p.m. near 5800 Cherrywood Lane, personal property was stolen from an unlocked residence.

Loitering and Trespassing

On March 30 at 11:43 a.m. near 5700 Cherrywood Lane, a man was loitering on business property he had been banned from. On March 30 at 1:40 p.m. near 5700 Cherrywood Lane, a man from a previous call returned to a business and was arrested for trespassing.

DUI

A DUI arrest was made on March 28 at 12:15 a.m. near Greenbelt Road and Cipriano Road.

Vandalism

On March 30 at 10:27 p.m. near 9300 Edmonston Road, a residence window was shattered. On April 2 at 7:52 a.m. near 7400 Greenway Center Drive, a passenger-side window was broken, but nothing was taken.

Theft from Auto

On March 28 at 8:30 a.m. near 9100 Edmonston Road, four vehicles were broken into and handicap placards were stolen. On March 30 at 4:37 a.m. near 6200 Springhill Court, an airbag

was stolen from a 2013 Honda Civic. On March 31 at 9:52 a.m. near 9100 Edmonston Road, a handicap placard was stolen. On March 31 at 1:31 p.m. near 8300 Canning Terrace, personal property was taken from a vehicle. On March 31 at 4:32 p.m. near 9100 Edmonston Road, the driver-side window was broken and the handicap placard was stolen. On April 2 at 8:56 a.m. near 7200 Hanover Drive, officers located a purse that had been taken during an auto theft and returned it to the owner. On April 2 at 1:20 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a passenger-side rear window was broken and personal property was taken. On April 2 at 7:19 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a front passenger-side window was broken and personal property was taken. On April 2 at 7:27 p.m. near 6200 Springhill Court, a rear window was broken, and personal property was taken. On April 3 at 11:41 p.m. near 7800 Hanover Parkway, personal property was taken from a vehicle.

Commercial Theft

Commercial theft was reported on March 28 at 10:49 a.m. near 7400 Greenbelt Road; on March 29 at 11:22 a.m. near 7600 Greenbelt Road; on March 30 at 10:34 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road; and on April 3 at 11:16 a.m. near 7400 Greenbelt Road.

Fraud

Credit card fraud was reported on March 31 near 7800 Somerset Court. Identity theft was reported on April 1 near 6700 Village Park Drive and on April 1 near 9000 Breezewood Terrace. On March 31 near 6000 Greenbelt Road, an unknown person attempted to use credit cards from a lost wallet at businesses.

ARPA continued from page 1

with three children and over 20 adult residents from each region of the city.

An occupational therapist from Greenbelt East described how the Three Sisters Gardens kept neighbors together during pandemic isolation. She proposed enhancing and promoting the gardens to improve residents' mental health and connectedness. A few other residents, meeting for the first time, excitedly shared thoughts, going back and forth between easels to refine and add post-it notes.

Urgent Needs

Jorge Benitez-Perez, an organizer with the Latino and immigration advocacy group CASA, helped ensure concerns from Spanish-speaking Franklin Park residents were interpreted for Raftelis' report. Benitez-Perez was crucial to the meeting's success, translating between English and Spanish, and writing down ideas from speakers of both languages. Residents organized by CASA did not want to break into smaller groups – they felt safer in communion together and with Benitez-Perez. As the discussion progressed, it became clear they presented far more urgent needs than many other ideas submitted whether in person, on easels or online.

Franklin Park residents, wary of their full names appearing in publication, described their collective experiences of the challenges of being a renter during Covid. An inadvertent but complex web of rental policies, late fees, county delays and restrictions, gaps in program enrollment periods, online access requirements for submitting assistance applications and other administrative barriers traps them in a downward debt spiral with few options.

Ms. S's voice wavered as she told her story: her husband was a home health aide but died in August. He was proud of their son, on track to graduate next month from Eleanor Roosevelt High School. In photos at the hospital, the high school student is handsome but weighed down, openly mourning at his father's bedside. Ms. S's husband spent his final six months in the hospital, the last three in a coma

as one-by-one his organs failed. Her husband's death left her with a mountain of medical expenses; since his death, the family has accrued nearly \$14,000 in rent and fees owed to Franklin Park. On the day she left to bury her father – another Covid pandemic casualty – the sheriff's office came to evict them. "I do not want to rely on my child like this," she said, but on days when the sheriff might arrive, her eldest son stayed home to prevent their eviction.

She keeps every receipt of cash paid to Franklin Park or the sheriff and every email from the county Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP); she piled the documentation she needs to prevent becoming homeless on the table showing the latest eviction notice and her ongoing attempts to seek rental assistance. Ms. S tears up; she is ground down by worry, stress and trying to navigate their agonizing housing and financial situations. Evictions are not supposed to happen as residents wait for ERAP applications to process.

Franklin Park policies include a \$300 late fee every month a resident is behind in rent. Residents can't negotiate a new lease until their debt has been paid. With accumulated fees nearing \$3,000, Ms. B started a second job driving for Uber. She has paid those late fees and hopes to renew her lease, but still pays another \$300 fee every month for living at Franklin Park without a signed lease.

When reached for comment, Denise Knight, Franklin Park general manager, described their communication efforts. They held six rental assistance fairs and tried to reach residents through this newspaper, outreach emails and printed flyers posted in each building. Knight estimated Greenbelt CARES helped approximately 100 residents before the December 15 ERAP deadline, but was still overwhelmed by the response to the city's ARPA rental assistance before that program ended.

Since the county court system reopened, evictions are being processed faster than rental relief programs can respond. Franklin

Park is compliant with a new county rule to send out 10-day eviction notices. "We've had a lot of conversations with residents about what it means since it's a new document," said Knight. Franklin Park set up an office to walk residents through assistance

See ARPA, page 11

New Greenbelt Listings



UNDER CONTRACT
45 Lakeside Dr
\$525,000

Lakeside single-family home for sale! Roomy wintertime lake-view house backs to the woods and possesses many sustainable, energy-saving and water-conserving features.



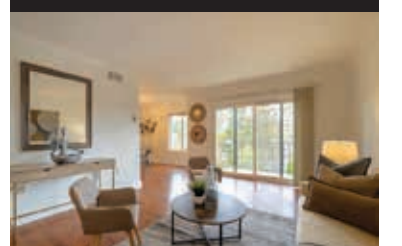
5J Eastway
\$275,000

Lovely 2-bedroom GHI home filled with thoughtful upgrades and additions. The kitchen and dining room have been combined and renovated with exposed brick and marble countertops, while the spacious sunroom provides tranquil additional living space.



UNDER CONTRACT
21A Ridge
\$300,000

Roomy 2-bedroom/1.5-bath GHI end unit with huge yard, small addition for half bath and laundry, combined kitchen and dining room with breakfast bar.



UNDER CONTRACT
6964 Hanover Pkwy #300
\$180,000

This 2-bedroom/2-bath condo in Greenbelt Hunting Ridge community feels bright and airy with its balcony, fresh paint, and new shower surround tile in the master bath.

Kim Kash

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BOXED: \$10.60/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15.90). 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.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

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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.

ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

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ARPA continued from page 9

applications, but they still must complete the application on their own. Many find the requirement for an online or written application an obstacle to working with the city or county. "We've had meetings with the corporate office to help residents get back on their feet with creative payment plans," Knight added. She estimates 10 percent of Franklin Park units are behind in rent but with tax refunds and increasing job opportunities that proportion is starting to go down. "Franklin Park is absolutely supportive of rental assistance moving forward with ARPA funds," she said.

Mr. D does not have much time to wait. With baseball cap pulled low, he spoke slowly, with sorrow, into his chest, "This is a heavy load to carry owing the money. Assistance would lift that off. That would be the biggest motivator to work harder and not fall behind. It is a huge pressure owing the money and thinking you will find your stuff in the street when you come home."

Across the table Mr. R added, "It's not as easy as you hear on TV. You can't just wake up and fix everything and make it okay. It's impossible with the fees. Help us get to zero to start our life all over again." After losing his job, he pawned a gold chain and a watch to pay rent, but sees no chance at having money to buy back those family heirlooms since all his money goes to rent. He also sought private lenders, but found they charge as much as 20 percent interest on a \$2,000 loan. "I would have nothing in my bank account just from the interest."

One woman is working two jobs and pawned every gold item in her possession. Sitting next



Donna Hoffmeister (left), Jorge Benitez-Perez (4th from left) and Franklin Park residents participate in a session on Tuesday, March 29.

to her, another woman said, "I took out all my savings, sold my car, and now I have no car. I still owe rent and I don't have a lease."

It is estimated that roughly 5 percent of the \$21 million in ARPA funds could wipe out all the debt of the nine households at the table and many other families as well, enabling them to leave for work each day without fear of eviction and homelessness. It could change the lives of Greenbelt residents. Benitez-Perez emphasized that rental assistance programs must have a phone number to call, saying, "They can't do a QR code. Some don't have email addresses. The ARPA program is a failure if the only way to apply for rental assistance or to provide feedback is through email or a website."

Ms. L looked into the distance, her eyes peeking over her face mask, large with worry, "No one wants to be in this situation. Everyone here is hardworking but it's hard to get back up when you owe that much money. [Rental assistance] would be a new start, a breath of fresh air. We can't eat ... food doesn't taste the same when facing eviction."

Sports

Greenbelt Spirit Soccer Returns To the Field with Two Teams

by Patrick Gleason



Azaria Muhammad attacks amid a sea of defenders in the opening season victory for the Greenbelt Spirit Green roster.

Last spring, the Greenbelt Spirit returned to the soccer field after missing a year due to coronavirus closures. This spring, the Spirit has returned even stronger, sporting two teams in the Soccer Association of Columbia's 9v9 girls high school recreation league. The two rosters, competing for the Greenbelt Soccer Alliance, are comprised mainly of players from Greenbelt, Hyattsville and Laurel looking to refine their game after playing their fall high school seasons.

Both teams participated in their first games on Sunday, April 3, with the Greenbelt Spirit Green roster asserting itself in a 5-1 victory with goals from Azinwi McKinney, Ameena Khan, Claudia van der Have and Azaria Muhammad. McKinney's goal highlighted the game as she struck from beyond midfield

before moving in to goal for the second half. Nicole Lilja tamed the opponent with a solid first half in goal.

Although the Greenbelt Spirit Black roster controlled their match against the EriStars, it ended in a 1-1 tie after Ellen Morrell's second half goal. The Spirit dominated possession but struggled to put away chances on the packed-in EriStar defense. Despite an injured ankle, Gabriella Martinez offered solid defense in goal, while Rayhanna Mani continually attacked on the wing for the Spirit offense.

Both teams will look to compete for the top spot in the league, after the 2021 Spirit ascended to the top of their division. After taking two Sundays off due to Spring Break, they will return to action on April 24.

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One Bedroom GHI townhome Upper level unit with opened, modern kitchen. Corner unit with extra windows and lots of light. Remodeled throughout.

Addition With Full Bath Downstairs 2 BR GHI townhome with large family room/bedroom on main level. Completely remodeled - opened kitchen.

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3 BR Townhome New SS appliance package, tile flooring and granite counters. Sep. DR with built-in glass cab. &



buffet. Mini-split heat pump & AC syst. Two Additions! Full bath with shower on main level. Sunroom addition with skylights. Opened kitchen & dining area. Large, fenced corner lot with shed.

Brick Townhome with Addition Full bath on main level. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Central AC, refinished hardwood flrs., shaded & fenced backyard.

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

Townhome w/ 2 Additions 2 bedroom GHI townhome with large corner lot. Large family room addition in back, extra storage in front. Central HVAC.

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

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 w/ Addition GHI townhome remodeled throughout. Modern kitchen with s/s dishwasher. Hardwood flooring on both levels.

Upper Level Addition GHI home with full bathroom, laundry room in separate laundry room. Refinished 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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MCF and Greenbelt Residents Rebuild Home in S. Carolina

by Jeff Warner

As part of their annual tradition, Pastor Jeff Warner from MCF Community Church takes University of Maryland students and members of his Greenbelt church to some of the poorest regions around Myrtle Beach, S.C., for Spring Break.

Many are familiar with the Myrtle Beach area's affluence, yet if one travels 30 to 40 minutes inland, severe poverty exists. Pastor Jeff leverages the allure of the beach with service projects to change lives.

This year, MCF served a family of four generations living in a small double-wide trailer. Five years ago, a hurricane severely damaged the trailer and its roof. Since then, the family has had water invading their home whenever it rains.

In three days, MCF placed a new roof on the home, painted three of four sides of the home, installed two new windows and a porch railing with pickets and new steps.

The night MCF finished installing the new roof, a severe

storm came through. For the first time in five years, the family's house stayed dry. MCF believes that, as followers of Jesus, we need to put our faith into action. This is just one small way that we do that.

Participating Greenbelt residents are Becca Hartman, Mya Perkins, Jim and Alondra Thompson, and Pastor Jeff Warner.

Consider what took place. The homeowner had prayed for years for help. That prayer was answered through a small group of people, over 550 miles away, who paid to cover their costs and sacrificed a coveted week off to make a difference for someone they had previously never met. While we may not know why it took so long for that prayer to be answered, we do know that there is now a beautiful story that will not be forgotten, impacting not only this one family, but the local community and all who hear of this wonderful event. Faith must be displayed for others to see. It is truly an honor and privilege to serve.



MCF Community Church takes seven UMD college students and seven members of the church to an impoverished area near Myrtle Beach, S.C. for Spring Break.

- Photos by Jeff Warner



Members of MCF Community Church work on a roof for a house in need of repairs.

Art Gallery Exhibit Now Open to Public

The new exhibition in the Community Center Art Gallery is now open. Oh, Heart, Here is Your Healing features paintings by Jessica Damen and Pamela Phillips, and sculpture and monoprints by Judith Kornett. Meet the artists at a reception on Sunday, May 1, from 1 to 3 p.m., in conjunction with the upcoming Art Studio Open House. Read about the exhibition in the March 24 issue of the News Review (greenbeltnewsreview.com/issues/GNR20220324.pdf). The gallery is open Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.



Shaman #2 by Pamela Phillips is on display in the Community Center art gallery.

PHOTO BY JOSEPH HYDE

No Mow Month Starts Feeding All the Bees We Cannot See

by Amy Hansen

Purple deadnettle blooms early in the spring. The flower, which looks orchid-like with its top hood-like petal, invites hungry bumble bee queens in for a quick sip as they wake up from winter.

Purple deadnettle and its look-alike, equally bee-friendly henbit, are usually considered weeds and are one of the reasons Greenbelt, as a Bee City, is joining the No Mow Month for April, an idea promoted by the Pollinator Circle, a sub-group of the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES). The city has designated no-mow areas on city property, and No Mow signs are sprouting up on lawns around town.

But the No Mow regime isn't only for the bumble bee.

"The average bee is no bigger than a grain of rice," said bee expert Sam Droege, who works for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and has a laboratory on the Patuxent Research Refuge.

There are about 4,000 native bees in North America, 450 of which live in Maryland.

"Each bee species has a relatively low number of species of plants that it will visit," Droege explained as he walked toward his greenhouse.

Droege, who has been working for the USGS since 1978 and focusing on bees for the last 20 years, explained that the honey bee concerns that have made headlines for the last several years are not the whole story.

The greenhouse holds flats of plants which have been nicely labelled, but are clearly growing too close together. Soon he and recruited volunteers will separate the seedlings and eventually re-plant them in the lab's observation garden. Then they will watch. Droege wants to know which plants attract which pollinators.

The baby plants are not all traditional flowers, native or not, but include veggies such as okra and lettuce. "We want to know what happens with the wild lettuce, but also the tame," he said. "Maybe we'll find that gardeners should leave the bolted [vegetables]. Maybe not."

The work of observing is monumental, and complex. For now, it will still require watching plants and identifying squash bees, sweat bees, mason bees, wasps, butterflies, moths, beetles, flies, hummingbirds and so on.

But Droege's colleague Jonah Bregstone is working on a project to automate some of the observation by using old cell phones that still have a working camera. The phones will take several hundred pictures a day; then he hopes to train a computer to recognize when there is an insect in the photo and when the photo has just a plant. Humans would probably still be needed to identify the insects.

The ramifications of this work are both global and local. For example, Droege said it is common understanding for farmers that soy beans pollinate themselves, which they do. But they have a much better yield if bees are around. So if farmers or gardeners plant bee-friendly plants very locally – that is along the edges



Sam Droege holds a collection of native bees and wasps. Most of the bees are so small it is hard to see them.

- Photos by Amy Hansen



Sam Droege calls redbud a party tree for pollinators, including the mason bee in the photo. Redbud, along with other flowering spring trees, are a good source of food for a short time.

of the plots – the crop yields will increase, along with the number of insects.

Which is, of course, one of the goals for Greenbelt's No Mow Month. Even without knowing specific species, the scientists are sure that more native flow-

ers mean more pollinators – and more long-term healthy plants.

More information on native bees and bee-friendly plants is available at usgs.gov/centers/eesc/quick-background-mid-atlantic-regions-native-bees.

April Artful Afternoon



PHOTO BY ADAM CAMPANILE

From left, Sara and Jill Connor work on creating a flashlight projection at the April Artful Afternoon, hosted by Greenbelt Recreation Arts in collaboration with Old Greenbelt Theatre. Greenbelt Recreation Arts holds Artful Afternoons on the first Sunday of the month. Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts for more information and to register.

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