

**GES**, p.16



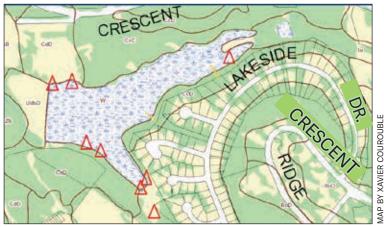
VOL. 86, No. 24

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

MAY 4, 2023

## Xavier Courouble Logs Litter At Lake, Calls for Change

by Anna Bedford-Dillow



The red triangles indicate hotspots for litter at the lake.

"Every day is Earth Day," says Xavier Courouble, a Greenbelt resident who is regularly engaged in caring for Greenbelt Lake, cleaning litter from the area and tackling invasive species there. From January to March this year Courouble spent more than two dozen hours removing trash from around the lake. His efforts yielded 12 trash bags of litter from the shoreline and walking path.

Since Courouble moved to Greenbelt in November 2021 he has volunteered around the lake, mostly removing invasive plants. It was while spending time as a "weed warrior," that he said he noticed the accumulation of litter on the shoreline. There-

fore, he began, once a week, to pick up litter left along the trail and over the water, "wherever my litter grabber could reach," he said. It recently took him 27 hours, spread over several weeks, to cover the total perimeter of the lake, a distance of 1.2 miles. Making a full circuit of the perimeter path over the span of two-and-a-half months gave Courouble insight into the amount and types of litter impacting the lake. He carefully tabulated his results, interested in a picture of the lake's overall health and the extent of the litter problem.

Types of Litter
The most prevalent item of

The most prevarent item of

See LAKE, page 16

## PGCPS Schools Grapple With Students' Mental Health

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

A two-part report

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and numerous studies show that anxiety and depression have increased among children over the last five years. For many the pandemic exacerbated both, as well as social isolation, academic struggles, grief and trauma, economic difficulties and caregiver stress, all while access to psychiatric care became more difficult and waitlists grew.

Many teachers, as well as parents, are struggling to support children through the increased mental health challenges they're facing.

During the public comment section of the March Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Board of Education meeting, parents and teachers testified to the need for more mental health services for the county's students.

#### A Father's Plea

One father of three county schools students, shared – at times tearfully – how his child's school had been without a school therapist for a prolonged period, before filling the position at what

would prove a critical time for his family. Just a month after the therapist joined the school, they alerted the parents to suicidal ideation and other concerns with their child. The school therapist called the student's parents, who took their child to Children's Hospital, where they spent 10 days in the psychiatry unit. Things have since improved for their child with medicine and therapy, the father told the board of education, but now the therapist has left the school and that position is once again vacant. Their family is fortunate to be able to pay for the therapy their child needs, he said, but not every family can. "I implore you to find a way to increase the psychological services in our schools. Figure out a way to screen for learning disabilities, anxiety, mental illness. And double the number of therapists in schools," pleaded the parent. "Or triple it!"

#### A Teacher's Testimony

Tammy O'Donnell, an English and media teacher at Chesapeake

See SCHOOLS, page 6

# Greenbelt Museum Wins Grant, Prepares to Join Recreation Dept.

by Erica Johns

The Maryland General Assembly has granted \$100,000 to the Greenbelt Museum for its expansion project, achieving \$360,000 of the \$550,000 estimate needed. This timing coincides with the July merger of the Museum with the Recreation Department, which will increase staffing support and visibility and outreach for the Museum. The July merger will give the Museum and Recreation Department staff time to integrate operations, plan for expanded museum hours and programs before the new Greenbelt Education and Visitor Center at 10-A Crescent opens to visitors.

10-A Until Now

The Museum was founded at 10-B Crescent Road by the

#### **Legislative Recap**



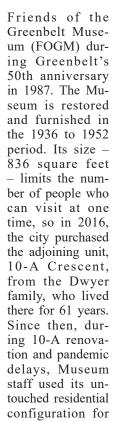
Senator Alonzo Washington

On Tuesday, May 2, State Senator Alonzo T. Washington, along with Delegates Anne Healey, Nicole Williams, Ashanti Martinez and Maryland Secretary of Transportation Paul Wiedefeld came to Greenbelt Middle School to give a 2023 legislative recap and take questions from District 22 constituents. Among the topics discussed were the status of the magley, anticipated completion time for the Purple Line, funding for healthcare and environmental projects, the passage of cannabis legalization, oversight for the PGCPS Board of Education, the Trans Health Equity Act, bills regarding reproductive rights and, of course, the location of the FBI building. See next week's issue for more.

#### What Goes On

Monday, May 8
7:30 p.m., City Council
Meeting, Municipal Building
Wednesday, May 10
7:30 p.m., Council Budget
Worksession: Green Ridge
House, Municipal Building

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



programs and an accessible visitor restroom.

FOGM and Museum Director Megan Searing Young worked with architects and



Museum Director Megan Searing Young stands outside the historic GHI house museum at 10-B Crescent Road.

Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) to design the renovation and expansion to ensure it met the

See MUSEUM, page 12

## Council Looks at Site Plan For Four-story Condominiums

by Deb Daniel

The Greenbelt City Council met on April 17 in a worksession to discuss the proposed Detailed Site Plan (DSP) for a senior condominium development submitted by Armory Place, LLC, the owner of 7010 Greenbelt Road. The condominiums are to be built on the site of the former Greenbelt Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, which was demolished in 2006. Councilmember Silke Pope noted this project has been in progress for a long time and, when the units are finally built, the development could be a showcase in Greenbelt.

Representing Armory Place, LLC at this worksession were Thomas Haller, Esq., of Gibbs and Haller; Michael Postal, manager, and Ian Black, project manager, both of Armory Place, LLC; Silvia Silverman, civil engineer, CV Inc.; and Lisa McCulley, market manager, NVR Inc. From the city, Terri Hruby, director of planning and community development, and Jaime Fearer, assistant director of planning, attended, and from the Advisory Planning Board (APB), Matthew Inzeo also

See COUNCIL, page 6



Lilacs in bloom on Gardenway

## **Letters to the Editor**

#### Proposed GHI Bylaws Amendment

I am very concerned about a proposed GHI bylaws change that, if approved during the May 11 annual membership meeting, would end members' ability to vote on large, multi-year contracts.

Under GHI's articles of incorporation and current bylaws, the board of directors has reasonable latitude to conduct business without additional member assent. Its rationale for change as outlined in the March 16 open board meeting packet does not justify expanding the board's authority at the expense of member involvement.

Whenever the board approves a contract, it binds me (and 1,599 other households) to terms and costs that must be honored and paid until the agreement expires. Dividing the potential cost by 1,600 does not make the obligation any less consequential once added to our existing co-op fees so I think it is entirely reasonable that members have the final say when the stakes are high. Even representative democracies hold referenda.

I encourage every GHI member to study the proposal, debate its merits, attend the May 11 membership meeting (or arrange a proxy) and vote.

Mo Hamilton



Emilia Loo performs at her piano recital in Bowie. Emilia is a student of Martie Harris, who is a piano teacher in Old Greenbelt.



On Screen at Old Greenbelt Theatre

## How to Blow Up a Pipeline A crew of young environmental activists execute a daring mis-

A crew of young environmental activists execute a daring mission to sabotage an oil pipeline in Daniel Goldhaber's taut and timely thriller that is part high-stakes heist, part radical exploration of the climate crisis. It is based on the controversial book by Andreas Malm. Said critic Adam Graham of the Detroit News, "Goldhaber fashions this feisty, incendiary political barnburner as a daring heist thriller, Ocean's Eleven with an agenda. And it definitely goes boom."

#### Wild Life

This documentary follows conservationist Kris Tompkins on an epic, decades-spanning love story as wild as the landscapes she dedicated her life to protecting. After falling in love in mid-life, Kris and the outdoorsman and entrepreneur Doug Tompkins left behind the world of the massively successful outdoor brands they'd helped pioneer – Patagonia, The North Face and Esprit – and turned their attention to a visionary effort to create national parks throughout Chile and Argentina. The film chronicles the highs and lows of their journey to effect the largest private land donation in history. "A warming, epic story that exemplifies how it's not too late to make big changes," said critic Nick Allen of RogerEbert.com.

Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret For over 50 years, Judy Blume's classic and groundbreaking

For over 50 years, Judy Blume's classic and groundbreaking novel Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret has impacted generations with its timeless coming of age story, insightful humor and candid exploration of life's biggest questions. In this big-screen adaptation, 11-year-old Margaret (Abby Ryder Fortson) is uprooted from her life in New York City for the suburbs of New Jersey, going through the messy and tumultuous throes of puberty with new friends in a new school. She relies on her mother, Barbara (Rachel McAdams), who is also struggling to adjust to life outside the big city, and her adoring grandmother, Sylvia (Kathy Bates), who isn't happy they moved away and likes to remind them every chance she gets. "Destined to become a classic ... an entertaining comedy that also happens to be a stunning evocation of the fear and yearning that come with standing on the precipice of adulthood," said Lauren Mechling of The Guardian.

#### Corrections

In our article last week celebrating the two Eleanor Roosevelt High School students who won Amazon Engineer Scholarships, we misstated where Yeabkhal Abeje has an internship. She works at Science Systems and Applications, Inc. (SSAI) in Lanham.





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: MAY 5TH - MAY 11TH

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium

## How to Blow Up a Pipeline

(R) (CC) (DVS) (2023) (99 mins)

Fri. 7:30 PM Sat. 5:15 PM Sun. 2:45 PM (OC) Mon. 5:00 PM Tues. 7:45 PM Wed. 5:45 PM

**Wild Life** (PG-13) (CC) (DVS) (2023) (93 mins)

Fri. 5:15 PM

Thurs. 7:45 PM

Sat. 7:45 PM Sun. 5:15 PM Mon. 2:45 PM Tues. 5:30 PM Wed. 8:00 PM Thurs. 5:30 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room

Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret (PG-13) (CC) (DVS) (2023) (111 mins)

Fri. 5:00 PM, 7:45 PM Sat. 5:00 PM, 7:30 PM Sun. 2:30 PM, 5:00 PM Mon. 2:30 PM, 5:15 PM Tues. 7:30 PM Wed. 7:45 PM Thurs. 7:30 PM



THEY WORK ON POLLEN, TOO.



#### **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.



## Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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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**

#### **GHI Annual Meeting** To Be Held on May 11

The Greenbelt Homes, Inc. annual membership meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 11 as both an online Zoom meeting and concurrent in-person meeting at the Youth Center Multipurpose Room. Due to limited capacity, members who wish to attend in person should register in advance with Member Services. All members are encouraged to arrive as early as 7 p.m. to ensure successful connection online, or to complete registration

#### The SPACE Has Free Comic Book Day

On Saturday, May 6 from 2 to 6 p.m., The SPACE Free Art For All will celebrate the annual Free Comic Book Day at Beltway Plaza. Join in for a comic book illustration lesson, a photo opportunity with a favorite superhero, cosplaying, Smash Bros. tournaments and a ton of free comics. The fun will begin in the former Big Lots location upstairs from 2 to 6 p.m. and in the TJ Maxx corridor from 4 to 6 p.m. The event is sponsored by Third Eye Comics and Superhero Support Volunteers. Visit FreeArtForAll. org for additional information.

#### **CHEARS Host Poetry** At Schrom Hills Park

Poetry in The Garden will take place in The Three Sisters Garden in Schrom Hills Park on Sunday, May 7 from 3 to 5 p.m. Attendees can read a favorite poem or enjoy listening to others. This is a diverse group in culture and age. For more details about this event, contact Effie at 443-415-1053.

#### State Delegation **Reports to Dems**

The Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club is holding its annual wrap-up meeting with its State Delegation on Sunday, May 21 at 3 p.m. at the Community Center, Room 201.

For many years, the club has held such sessions regarding the highlights, and lowlights, of what was accomplished in Annapolis over the last four months. State Senator Alonzo Washington and State Delegates Anne Healey, Nicole Williams and Ashanti Martinez will provide the report.

Key legislation that will be covered includes reproductive justice, gun safety and regulations, mail-in voting ballots, minimum wage, health care, licensing cannabis, horse racing and expanding offshore wind farms to address climate change.

Before the meeting starts, cards will be handed out to those attending so that they can indicate the one question they wish to ask. After the delegation's report, those questions will be asked of our state representatives, assuring that a good number of concerns can be discussed.

#### **GCC Hosts Concert** Saturday, May 13

On Saturday, May 13 at 7 p.m., Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ will break out into song with the Spring Musical Spectacular. With talent from world-class performers in the congregation, the evening will feature classical, gospel and contemporary standards.

The concert is free; however, donations are encouraged. All donations will go toward various charities supported by the church. In honor of Mothers Day, there

will be a tribute to all mothers. The church is located at 1 Hillside Road.



More Community Events are located throughout the paper.





#### Greenbelt Access Television May 6, Sat - May 12, Fri Verizon FIOS Channel 19 . Comcast 77

(School Programming on Your Cable Guide)

Streaming on www.greenbeltaccesstv.org

THIS WEEK on GATe . Your Community Access Station

Featured Film (9am, 3pm, and 8pm) Utopia Film Selections (2021)

Join us for three music documentaries from the 2021 Utopia Film Festival: Robert Johnson: The Making of a Legend, The Legend of Merv Conn, and On the Trail of Jack Thorp!

> Music from the New Deal Cafe (2pm, 10pm) Trust Issues

Shavon Hannah, Wes Kilgore, Duane Bullock, and Dajando Smith are each powerhouse musicians in their craft, and their band, Trust Issues, is the amalgamation of their hard-rock prowess

All this and more on the GATe channel this week! Check greenbeltaccessty.org for the full padcast schedule, and visit Greenbelt Access Television on YouTube for new video productions

#### **Magic Toy Shop** This Weekend

The Greenbelt Dance Performance Club presents an original, all-ages production of The Magic Toy Shop this weekend. Performances will be in the Community Center gymnasium/auditorium on Saturday, May 6 and Sunday, May 7 at 3:15 p.m. The show is directed by Lisa Pellittiere and Gabriela D'Andrea. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Community Center business office or by calling 301-397-2208. If available, tickets will also be sold at the door.

Additional activities will be taking place at the Community Center on Sunday, May 7. Guests can meet and mingle with Greenbelt Recreation's artists in residence, art instructors and other community artists at the semiannual Art Studio Open House and Sale from 1 to 4 p.m. Shop for fine art and beautiful functional wares. On the front lawn, make pocket puppets with Baltimore-based Black Cherry Puppet Theater from 1 to 4 p.m. in a free, all-ages, Artful Afternoon activity. Throughout the day, visit the gallery exhibit Water Sky featuring paintings by Kathy Karlson. Learn more about the day's events at bit.lv/3UwcUa0.

City of Greenbelt arts programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.

#### Golden Age Club **Hosts May Activities**

The Greenbelt Golden Age Club holds weekly meetings on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to noon in Room 201 of the Community Center. Scheduled activities are as follows:

May10, Nichole Rufin leads seated voga (bring socks); May 17, birthday celebrations (bring lunch and maybe a dessert to share); May 24, bingo; May 31, tea, cookies and fruit.

#### Greenbelt Chess Club Plant for Birds Meets at New Deal

The Greenbelt Chess Club will be meeting on Monday, May 8 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the New Deal Café. All ages and skill levels are welcome; players are encouraged to bring a chess set if possible. For questions, contact Effie at 443-415-1053.

#### **Greenbelt Park Hosts** Campfire Program

Greenbelt Park's campfire program on Saturday, May 6, is Stories and Songs of Bob Reilly. Come to the campfire to hear a storyteller-musician sing songs of travel and the experience of the open road. Guitarist Bob Reilly of Greenbelt will offer his folklore of travelling and the songs that make the trip an enjoyable experience.

Meet at the Campfire Circle in B loop at 7:30 p.m. in the Greenbelt Park campground. For more information, call 301-344-3944 or check the park's website at nps. gov/gree.

#### **Police Sponsor Public Safety Forums**

The Greenbelt Police Department is hosting two Public Safety Community Forums on Tuesday, May 16 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Community Center, Room 201, and Thursday, May 18, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

#### Recycle Used **Plant Pots**

Donate used plastic plant pots and flats to GHI's volunteer-run native plant nursery and support the GHI Woodlands Committee in growing thousands of wildflowers for our common spaces. Bring small and large plastic pots and rectangular flats to the drop-off box on the Co-op Supermarket ramp, or to the drop-off box at 8 Court Laurel Hill Road.

## **And Butterflies**

Hedgerows dominated by nonnative shrubs produce 96 percent fewer caterpillars - the food of baby birds – than do hedgerows filled with native shrubs. Help replace non-native shrubs with serviceberry trees and spicebush shrubs, which host over 105 species of caterpillars in Greenbelt. The GHI Woodlands Committee is hosting a workday on Sunday, May 7 from 3 to 6 p.m. The work site is near the Hillside Road underpass, which is between 13 and 19 Courts Hillside Road. Meet on the bike path by the underpass, just a bit uphill from the Firefly Sanctuary.

Bring a face mask for when in proximity to others and clothes that cover the skin. It is recommended to wear leather gloves and thick pants to protect against scratches, and to tuck pants into socks. Also bring loppers, pruning shears, trowels and shovels, if possible. For more information, contact SowingStrength2@ gmail.com.



#### **Repair Café** At MakerSpace

The next Greenbelt Maker-Space Repair Café is Saturday, May 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside the Granite Building, 115 Centerway. Come learn how to repair tired or broken stuff or help repair others' items (experienced and novice volunteers needed). Bring clothing, furniture, appliances, computers, jewelry, toys, etc. for the challenge of making it useful again. See greenbeltmakers.org/things to do/ repair-cafe for more information. Borrow tools and other things at the Tool Library on Saturdays, 10 a.m. to noon.

## This Week at the New Deal Café

SUPPORT Greenbelt's only venue with BOTH dinner AND a show!

RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK.

#### Nourished by the Greenbelt Co-op

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD

Hours: Monday - Thursday 8am - 9pm; Friday/Saturday 8am - midnight; Sunday 9am - 9pm

TH 5/4	FRI 5/5	SAT 5/6	SUN 5/7
Wolf's Open Blues Jam 6:30-10pm A bodacious boogie blues jam	Piano Stylings of Peter Reppert, 6-7:30p The Goodfellas 8-11pm Beatles tribute band	Community Drum Circle w/ Katy Gaughan 3:30-5pm The Roustabouts 8-11p Fresh take on the blues	Four Shillings Short 6-8pm Music from the Celtic lands on over 30 instruments

•		Fresh take or	n the blues	
MON 5/8	TUES 5/9	WED 5/10	TH 5/11	MON - FRI
Membership Appreciation Night 4-9pm Chess Club 6-8pm Shorty Slim, 6-8pm	Open Mic with Tom Gleason 7-9:30pm Express Yourself! Sign-ins at 6:30pm	Jan Knutson 7-9pm DC-based guitarist explores the wide range of the guitar	The HalfSmokes 7-9pm Favorites from the glory days of WHFS	Happy Hour 4-7pm \$1.00 off beer and wine

It's time to renew your membership, or join NDC. Go to www.newdealcafe.com, click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."

For more information, visit the NDC CALENDAR page on our website.

## **Obituaries**

#### Betty Ruth Harrison



#### **Betty Harrison**

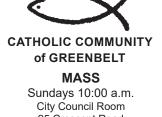
Betty Ruth Harrison died on April 23, 2023, at the age of 92. Betty was born in Hammond, La., on October 11, 1930, to Thomas and Rosa Heard. She had two older brothers, Tommy and Charles, and one younger brother, Gene. Her family moved to Baton Rouge, where she met her husband Floyd Harrison when they were members of the First Baptist Church of Baton Rouge. They were married in April 1951.

She arrived in Greenbelt in 1954 when Floyd was enrolled as a graduate student at the University of Maryland. They lived in the apartments just across from where the Greenbelt Library is now, at 6 Court Crescent Road and finally Julian Court in Boxwood Village.

Betty was an active member of the Women's Missionary Union at Greenbelt Baptist Church (GBC) and was also a Sunday School teacher and helped raise numerous GBC kids and other children in the Boxwood Village community.

Betty was the last known charter member of Greenbelt Baptist Church. She was an active member of the church until she and Floyd retired and moved to Virginia in 1992.

Betty is survived by her three children, Perry, Thomas and Amy; and by Perry's wife Robin



25 Crescent Road

**ALL ARE WELCOME!** 

OR - Join us on ZOOM! For ZOOM link:

#### 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





and their two children, Robert and Rosa Welt and Rosa's hus-

A private service for family is planned at this time.

#### Judith Moore Evans



**Judith Moore Evans** 

Judith M. Evans, age 82, died peacefully on April 13, 2023, in San Antonio, Texas. Judy was born on July 23, 1940, in Washington, D.C. In 1945, her family moved to Greenbelt, where she grew up and met her husband of over 60 years, Roger Evans.

Everywhere Judy went people loved her zest for life, her infectious laughter and her refreshingly candid sense of humor. Judy always created a welcoming, friendly home for herself and her family as they moved for Roger's career. In rural Mt. Airy, she learned crocheting, canning and pickling as she had fruit trees and a vegetable garden on their acre of land. In Austin, Texas, she livened up the Lockheed Ladies' bridge games by introducing wine to their gatherings. When they returned to their hometown in their 60s, Judy even taught Sunday School to children at the Greenbelt Baptist Church.

Judy was preceded in death by her parents, George and Madelyn Moore. She is survived by her husband, Roger; their children, Jack Evans (Nora), Terri Jacobson (Jake) and Edward Evans (Cindi); and their grandchildren, Clinton, Jessica, Blake, Justin and Travis. Judy is also survived by all her younger siblings: Brian Moore, George Moore, Marsha Gielen, David Moore and Pam Colby.

Judy's memorial service will be held in San Antonio at 11 a.m. (CST) on Saturday, May 6, 2023. Pastor Will Davis will officiate. The service will be livestreamed as well as archived for later viewing. To watch, go to porterloring.com/obituaries and search for Judith's name.

The family is sending out packets of forget-me-not seeds to be planted in Judy's memory. All are invited to visit the website, sign the Virtual Guestbook and record memories of Judy, leave condolences or pictures and request a seed packet.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (StJude.org).



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



Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc

301-474-9410

**Pastor Evelyn Romero** In-Person Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Come as you are

The Bible Says...

Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. Ephesians 4:32



**IN PERSON Sunday Worship Services** 10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School

MCFcc.org



#### ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE 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.



135 Crescent Rd. www.sthughofgrenoble.org



#### Lynwood Hastings III

Lynwood M. Hastings III (Lyn) of Stoney Beach, Md., formerly of Greenbelt, died on April 20, 2023, after battling the effects of dementia. Lyn was born December 3, 1942, to Linwood and Lois Hastings in Washington, D.C. After graduating from Suitland High School, Lyn began a career with C&P Telephone, where he worked until his retirement. At the same time he married the love of his life, Doris Jean. The couple had two children, Janet and Barbara. Lyn lived in Greenbelt for 50 years.

Lyn was predeceased by his parents, Linwood and Lois and by his wife, Doris Jean. He is survived by his daughters, Janet and Barbara (Phillip) and his four grandchildren, Alexander, Austen, Victoria and Nikita. There are no services planned at this time. Lyn and Doris Jean will be laid to rest together in West Virginia at a later date.



Our condolences to the family and friends of Lynwood Hastings III who died on April 20. He had lived in Greenbelt for 50 years.

Our Neighbors

We were also saddened to hear of the death of Betty Ruth Harrison at the age of 92. She had been active in Greenbelt Baptist Church and in the Boxwood Village community.

Condolences also to the family and friends of Judith Moore Evans, who grew up in Greenbelt and went on to live in several places before settling in Texas, where she died on April 13.

Birthday greetings to John Henry Jones who turns 95 on Saturday, May 6.

Send details of your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

#### Mona Schlossberg

Family and friends are invited to celebrate the life of Mona Schlossberg, a longtime Greenbelt resident (1964-2022) who died in June 2022. The memorial service will be held Sunday, June 11 from 4 to 6:30 p.m.at the Amani Event Center, 4216 Howard Road, Beltsville.

"At the group level, a concern for justice is the indispensable compass in collective decision-making, because it is the only means by which unity of thought and action can be achieved." - Bahá'í International Community, 1995



#### 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

Friday evening services at 8:00pm

Saturday morning services at 10:00am

Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities

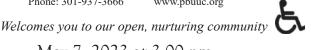
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

#### Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church



3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi

Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org



in the 21st century.

May 7, 2023 at 3:00 pm **Dancing Our Journey** 

PBUUC Chalice Dancers with Worship Associate Lula Beatty

We travel within, with others, and out into the world through dance.

Come and join in the Journey!

Streaming to our Facebook page, on Zoom and in person at 3:00 at: University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD

#### St. John's Episcopal/Anglican Church

11040 Baltimore Avenue Beltsville, MD 20704 301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org The Reverend Joseph M. Constant, Rector Join us for In-Person Worship every Sunday at 10 AM Youth Sunday School 11:15 AM

To view services online:

Go to https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsZionParish/Live/ Other services online via Zoom: Wednesday Noonday; Thursday Bible Study and Compline 7 PM via Zoom

Please contact the church office if you are interested in any of these resources.

Our Mission: To share God's love with everyone to bring hope and change lives.



## 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, May 8, 2023 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**

- Older Americans Month Proclamation
- National Police Week Proclamation
- Small Cities Month Proclamation
- \* Minutes of Council Meetings
- Statement of Record Closed Session, April 17, 2023
- Administrative Reports
- **Committee Reports**
- \* Advisory Planning Board Report #2023-01 7010 Greenbelt Road Detailed Site Plan

#### **LEGISLATION**

- An Ordinance to Amend Article I "In General", Section 13
- "Early Voting" of Chapter 8, "Elections" of the Greenbelt City Code, - 2nd Reading, Adoption
- Bring Your Own Bag Ordinance, 1st Reading

#### OTHER BUSINESS

- -7010 Greenbelt Road Detailed Site Plan
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
- \* Meetings
- Stakeholders
- \* Reappointment to Board/Committees
- \* Resignation from Advisory Group

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 MAY 8-12**

Wednesday, May 10 at 7:30 pm, BUDGET WORK SESSION -**GREEN RIDGE HOUSE** 

Wednesday, May 10 AFTER WORK SESSION, SPECIAL MEETING / CLOSED SESSION (UPDATE ON A LEGAL MATTER)

Thursday, May 11 at 7:30 pm, COMMUNITY RELATIONS **ADVISORY BOARD** 

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.

#### **COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES:**

- Advisory Committee on Education
- Advisory Planning Board
- Arts Advisory Board
- **Board of Elections**
- Community Relations Advisory Board
- Employee Relations Board
- Forest Preserve Advisory Board
- Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability
- Park and Recreation Advisory Board Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
- Youth Advisory Committee

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (301) 474-8000.

#### **BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT RECOVERY FUND, ROUND 3**

This ARPA program offers financial assistance to local businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Restrictions apply. To learn more, visit http://ow.ly/9OJ350NMfA8.

#### FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS GRANT PROGRAM

Find out more about the City of Greenbelt First-Time Homebuyers grant program today! The grant funds can be used for closing costs and/or down payment for FHA, VA, USDA, FNMA, or Freddie Mac loans. http://ow.ly/xlKZ50My327.

#### FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

#### MAY 18, 2023, TWO EVENTS/LOCATIONS

Community Center: 1-3 pm

Springhill Lake Recreation Center: 12 - 1:30 pm, registration required. For Greenbelt West residents only; must live in: Verde at Greenbelt Station, Greenbelt Station Master Association, Franklin Park, Motiva. Register by emailing bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov

Volunteers needed for both locations. Call (240) 542-2019.

#### **ENGAGE GREENBELT**

For all up-to-date ARPA program updates including mortgage assistance programs, scholarships, and more, visit  $\underline{\text{www.engagegreenbelt.org}}$ .

#### NOTICE OF CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION

At its regular meeting of April 11, 2023, the City Council adopted a resolution to amend the City Charter. As required by state law, this resolution will be posted in its entirety for 40 days, until May 21, at the Municipal Building, as well as on the City's website at www. greenbeltmd.gov. Copies may also be requested of the City Clerk. It will become effective on May 31, 2023, unless a proper petition to submit the amendment to the voters on a referendum is filed as permitted by law. As also required by state law, this notice is given to provide a fair summary of the resolution.

#### **CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION NUMBER 2023-1 RESOLUTION NUMBER 2105**

Charter Resolution of the Council of the City of Greenbelt, to amend §35, City Manager-Appointment; Qualifications; Term of Office; Removal; Acting City Manager, to provide the Council the Discretion to permit a City Manager to live outside the City of Greenbelt, and update gender references to the City Manager

Purpose: To amend the City Charter §35 City manager-appointment; qualifications; term of office; removal; acting city manager, TO PROVIDE THE COUNCIL THE DISCRETION TO PERMIT A CITY MANAGER TO LIVE OUTSIDE THE CITY OF GREENBELT.

For additional information, contact Bonita Anderson, City Clerk, at (301) 474-8000 or banderson@greenbeltmd.gov

#### **OFFICIAL NOTICE**

The Greenbelt City Council has scheduled a **PUBLIC HEARING** 

To be held during the Regular Meeting of Council Monday, May 22, 2023, 7:30 pm

CONCERNING THE PROPOSED BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND EACH OF THE OTHER FUNDS OF THE CITY.

This is the second of two Public Hearings on the proposed budget. The Public Hearing will be held in person at the Municipal Building and virtual via Zoom. Public attendance and participation are encouraged.

All residents of Greenbelt will have a reasonable opportunity to provide written and oral comments and ask questions concerning the entire proposed budget.

Copies of the proposed budget may be examined at the City Offices, 25 Crescent Rd., during normal operating hours. The proposed budget is also posted on the City Web site at http://www.greenbeltmd.gov. For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

#### **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, May 10, 2023, immediately following the Council Budget Work Session - Green Ridge House, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building: 1) to 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; 2) to consult with legal counsel regarding outstanding legal matters.

\* The public may attend the Council Budget Work Session prior to the closed session and observe the vote of the Council to move into the closed session on Wednesday, May 10, 2023.

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

#### **ART STUDIO OPEN HOUSE Sunday, May 7, 1 - 4 pm** Greenbelt Community Center

Mingle and shop with the Greenbelt Community Center Artists in Residence and other local artists. Free for all ages.

Visit https://bit.ly/3UwcUa0.

#### **ARTFUL AFTERNOON WORKSHOP** Sunday, May 7, 1 - 4 pm

Greenbelt Community Center

Make pocket puppets with Black Cherry Puppet Theater. Free for all ages.

Details: http://bit.ly/3KAiXpo.

#### THE MAGIC TOY SHOP by Greenbelt Dance Performance

Directed by Lisa Pellittiere and Gabriela D'Andrea, this original show features a range of styles including ballet, tap and contemporary, and features dancers

May 6 & 7 at 3:15 pm, All Ages, \$5

Call: (301) 397-2208.

Details: https://bit.ly/3UwcUa0

## **GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR**

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at greenbeltmd.gov/calendar

#### YOUTH CENTER GYM **CLOSED APRIL 10 - MAY 8**

Recreation's Youth Center Gym will be closed due to floor resurfacing.

#### **FINANCE & HR CLOSED MAY 10 FOR RENOVATIONS**

The Finance and Human Resources offices will be closed on May 10 for renovations and is scheduled to reopen the following day, May 11.

**BIKE TO WORK DAY GREENBELT PIT STOP GAFC PARKING LOT** FRIDAY, MAY 19, 6:30 - 8:30 AM

Registration is open and free! www.biketoworkmetrodc.org

**SHREDDING DAY** SATURDAY, MAY 20, 9 AM - NOON Greenbelt Federal Credit Union Parking Lot

Only 5 file boxes/bags per person. Personal records only (no businesses). No batteries, plastics, binders, contaminates.

Call (301) 474-8004.

#### **CURRENT FREE** CARES PROGRAMS

**FREE AGING SOLO SERIES (VIRTUAL CLASS) WEDNESDAYS MAY 17 -**JUNE 21, 11:30 AM - 1 PM Aging solo will allow you to reflect on your priorities, map out your support network, put

> plans in place. Call (240) 424-0302.

#### **DEMENTIA LIVE TUESDAY, MAY 9** 10 AM - 12 PM & 1 - 3 PM

This in-person experience will help you have a better understanding of what it's like to live with dementia, empowering you with the tools and techniques to improve communications. Call (240) 424-0302.

#### **EMERGENCY DIAPER PROGRAM**

The Greenbelt Nursery Program is supporting Greenbelt families in need of diapers. Greenbelt residents only, you must sign-up each month. Call (240) 542-2019.

#### **GREENBELT HOME ADVANTAGE FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS MEETING**

**Saturday, May 6, 12 - 2 PM** Greenbelt Community Center

The City of Greenbelt in partnership with the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development will be hosting a "Greenbelt Home Advantage First-Time Homebuyers\*" Community meeting to help residents learn more about how to apply for a grant for up to \$15,000 to put towards down payment or closing costs on the purchase of their first home in the City of Greenbelt using the Maryland Mortgage Program.

Visit: https://mmp.maryland.gov/ Pages/GreenbeltHomeAdvantage/ default.aspx

### COUNCIL continued from page 1

attended the worksession.

#### **Planning Memorandum**

Hruby discussed the proposed DSP mentioned in her staff memo of April 12. The memo states that Greenbelt Square will have four four-story apartment buildings consisting of one-level condominium units. At the request of the city, one of the projected 96 units in the southeast building will be replaced with a community meeting room, resulting in a total of 95 for-sale age-restricted units. All units are proposed to be two bedrooms and two bathrooms. Each building is served by one elevator and two staircases. The green area proposed, which includes a community garden, a pavilion, low impact exercise area, pickleball court and a sitting area, makes up approximately 60 percent (a slight increase from previous concepts) of the site. Access to the site is from an existing access road off Md. 193 that is shared with University Square apartments and the former National Guard Armory site.

Hruby and her staff are generally supportive of the proposed DSP as it provides a housing option that is not readily available in Greenbelt and will increase housing opportunities for Greenbelt's aging population. The current proposal is not without its issues, and staff and APB will be working with Armory Place, LLC to satisfactorily address any issues and have a report for council discussion at its regular meeting on May 8.

#### **Greenbelt Square**

Haller began his presentation with council's requirements that this development must be agerestricted senior housing, have an attainable value that Greenbelt residents can afford, be available only "for sale" and have onelevel living units and an elevator. Haller noted that a product which satisfied all these requirements could not be found until Armory Place, LLC partnered with NVR Inc. NVR markets and builds such products.

Haller talked about working with the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) regarding a median to improve traffic circulation and is waiting for the SHA determination on the median. He mentioned that LED and on-site lighting will be provided for the parking areas, the courtyard and the buildings. The DSP calls for dark sky lighting, which is designed to direct light to the ground, not up into the sky where it can contribute to light pollution. Councilmember Ric Gordon inquired if the pathways would be lit also. Hruby discussed how lighting is evaluated (foot-candles from a photometric plan) and will consider all lighting including the signage lighting.

Mayor Emmett Jordan asked how a resident would walk to Roosevelt Center. Hruby noted that that walk would be challenging at this point because of missing connectivity in front of the Armory. Haller noted residents could use existing crosswalks which would lead to Southway and into Old Greenbelt.

#### **Purchase Price**

Councilmember Rodney Roberts asked what the cost for a unit will be. Postal, of Armory Place, replied that the first building to be built, the southeast building, will be priced in the upper \$300,000 range as consistent with the county according

to other similar developments in Westphalia and Brandywine. Square footage of the units is 1600 to 1800 square feet.

#### **Parking**

One hundred and nineteen total surface parking spaces will be allocated by the condominium association. Postal noted that the Takoma Park project of Armory Place, LLC allocated one space per unit assigned initially plus some visitor and disability spaces.

For Councilmember Kristen Weaver's question of where else these plans had been built, Mc-Culley responded that a recent NVR project in Midlothian, Va., is very similar to what the Greenbelt project will look like.

#### **Green Buildings**

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is a green building certification program used worldwide. McCulley discussed NVR Inc's use of BuildSmart, a version of LEED green home practices, which are designed to be 30 percent more efficient in new NVR constructed homes compared to other newly constructed homes.

#### **EV Charging**

Gordon asked if electric vehicle (EV) charging stations will be available on the property. Postal had proposed two EV charging stations and Hruby had asked for four EV spaces. Postal then considered running four conduit lines to hold electrical wiring (one from each building) and letting a third party provide the EV charging stations as a more practical solution to expanding EV charging on premises.

#### **Trees and Wetlands**

Roberts asked how many of the original trees on the property would be left. Haller talked about stormwater management being added to the site and how that would call for a new landscaping plan. The original trees on site were of low quality and had grown up around the foundation of the old nursing home, so those trees had to be taken down to grade the site for stormwater management. The original trees which front the property will be retained and enhanced by landscaping with native vegetation to provide screening for the property.



#### **PTA Spring Fair** Saturday, May 13

The Greenbelt Elementary School PTA will be hosting a Spring Fair on Saturday, May 13 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the school.

The main feature will be an entrepreneurship fair where fourth- and fifth-grade students will sell their homemade goods, from jewelry to picture frames. The students will put together their business goals and learn about what it takes to make a successful business. Come to the fair to enjoy food and games, climb on a truck from Public Works and buy a handmade gift to support a young entrepreneur.

For more information, email greenbeltespta@gmail.com or visit sites.google.com/view/gespta/

### SCHOOLS continued from page 1

Math and IT Academy North High School and parent of an 11th grader, reported that their school had instituted Wellness Wednesdays, during which teachers take at least 10 minutes at the beginning of class to help students decompress, ease anxiety, refocus. "I use the entire class period," said O'Donnell. "We don't have a therapist at our school. We're not able to access the Hazel Health telecare services [a service introduced in PGCPS this year] because the grant did not include charter schools and this week alone I've had three students come to me with issues of depression, not feeling as if they belonged or wishing they could be someone else because they don't like who they are. We must have more mental health access in our school for our kids. My students are begging for it. You just heard parents begging for it. I'm begging for it."

O'Donnell brought letters from her students to the board members sharing their needs. One student wrote that "mental health days" - PGCPS' allowance of one excused absence each semester for students' mental health needs - haven't been explained well to parents, who think it's a way to "skip school and play video games." Another student

#### City Notes

Public Works staffers attended Miss Utility Onsite Damage Prevention Training. Horticulture/ Parks cut grass at city buildings and sports fields. Sustainability/ Environmental offered an electronics recycling/styrofoam event and Refuse/Recycling collected 28.89 tons of refuse and 10.17 tons of recyclables.

At the Community Center, Building Maintenance prepared and painted the costume room and installed a transformer for a kiln. Fleet Maintenance attended Takoma Park's EV Sweeper Open

The Community Center accommodated Cub Scouts, Concert Band, Golden Age Club, Arts Center, Astronomy, Greenwood Village, Unplugged and 14 rental events. At the Youth Center, the gym floor was painted for basketball and pickleball and the Aquatic & Fitness Center prepared to open the outdoor pool.

Arts staff presented a dance production, an Artful Afternoon and a Studio Open House. Creative Kids Camp is fully booked.

Therapeutic Recreation attended the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee meeting and park rangers hosted a CHEARS poetry reading at Schrom Hills Park.



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> Curated routes and trail maps: anacostiatrails.org

tal health days each semester instead of one.

#### **Hazel Health**

The online medical services through Hazel Health (my.hazel. co/pgcps/info), which began partway through this school year, can provide students with online access to medical appointments and online therapy. Students can access the service both at school and at home. However, there are a limited number of appointments available for therapy services and many students aren't enrolled in the program. One school nurse at a Greenbelt school suspected par-

thought there should be five men- ents didn't fully understand the Hazel Health offerings, whether they could sign up if they already had a primary care doctor (they can) or afraid costs will be incurred since the service asks for insurance information. Through the partnership with PGCPS, services can be accessed by those who are uninsured and those who have insurance will agree to have their insurance billed but have no cost to the family. The majority of students that Greenbelt school nurse saw were not signed up for the service as their parents had not opted in or completed the permission forms.



Lunaria annua (Money plant, herbaceous biennial) on Gardenway

## GREENBELT /

#### **CITY OF GREENBELT NOTICE** OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The City Council of the City of Greenbelt proposes to increase real property taxes.

- 1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2023, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 4.10%, from \$2,410,059,239 to \$2,508,967,350.
- 2. If the City of Greenbelt, Maryland maintains the current tax rate of \$0.8275 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 4.10%, resulting in \$818,465 of new real property tax
- 3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$0.7949, the constant yield tax rate.
- 4. The City is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The City proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$0.8275 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 4.10% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$818,465 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 22, 2023, in the City Council Room, Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 for further information.

## Greenbelt East Bike Trail Wins Park Service Grant

by Jeff Lemieux

The National Park Service announced last weekend that the Proteus Velo Club has been awarded a community assistance grant from the Recreational Trails Community Assistance program for the proposed Greenbelt East Trail. The one-year grant will provide in-kind community assistance and technical support for the trail's development. In particular, the grant would assist the development of a "protected, twoway shared-use trail that links the WB&A Trail and the Anacostia River Trail System, and supports future regional connections with the East Coast Greenway."

News of the grant award came

at the same time as a bike advocates meetup at Proteus Bicycles with Prince George's County Councilmember Eric Olson and Maryland State Senator Jim Rosapepe, who represent the College

As proposed, the Greenbelt East Trail would run along the north side of Maryland Route 193 (Greenbelt Road) between Eleanor Roosevelt High School and Good Luck Road. The trail would then cross to the south side of Route 193 and extend to the Glenn Dale Splash Park, which is a key trailhead for the WB&A trail. For more information, see greenbeltnasatrail.org.



From left: County Councilmember Eric Olson (College Park area), Jeff Lemieux of Friends of the Greenbelt East Trail, Laurie Lemieux of Proteus Bicycles and Seth Grimes of the Washington **Area Bicyclist Association** 

## From a Greenbelt Childhood To Counterterrorism to Writing

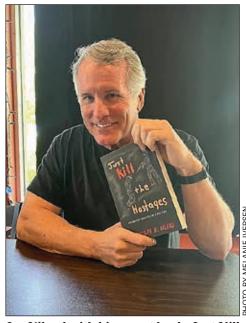
by Melanie Iversen

On a recent spring morning, Joseph Niland, formerly of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's counterterrorism division and a past resident of Greenbelt, sat down with the News Review to talk about his recent novel, Just Kill the Hostages. This work of historical fiction was inspired by real events and Niland's time hunting for hostages in Iraq, where he was deployed five times between 2006 and 2011.

uct of this unique Greenbelt community. He has fond memories of walking to school every day from second to sixth grade to the building that is now our Community Center. He graduated from Eleanor Roosevelt High School. Niland doesn't live here now but comes back often and is renewed in spirit with every visit. Friends wave, and he always feels like he is coming home. Growing up here grounded him in some foundational ways.

Niland is a proud prod-

From Greenbelt roots Niland established a career working with government agencies in an investigative capacity. Over the course of the last 27 years he has worked with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, FBI, the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the Central Intelligence Agency, the Department of Justice and the United States Army Special Forces (also known as the Green Berets due to their distinctive



Joe Niland with his recent book, Just Kill the Hostages

Niland's assignment to the FBI counterterrorism division was as accidental as it was destined. "I was fortunate that the lead agent on a particular hostage case in Iraq was looking for help. She brought me into the fold," Niland said. A prolonged assignment to the counterterrorism division was later influenced by an agent in Washington, D.C., who Niland worked with for several years.

After his long service, he's written about his amazing experiences in his first novel. Without divulging any top secrets, Niland has managed to share with his readers some of the ins and outs of his serious work, and he does it with direct clarity of information threaded through a story that draws the reader in immediately.

Based on true and very real events, this book is fiction, but feels more like creative nonfiction. He has gone to great lengths to respect the victims and families who have experienced horrific things. He brings a unique perspective to the subject, and his story is not only captivating but also remarkably moving. Though writing about a traditionally male-dominated realm, Niland includes a woman as one of his central characters.

Though Niland has an array of amazing experiences, he is also very easy to talk with. He is amusing, sharp and has thoroughly embraced the involved processes of self-publishing. Niland spent months researching the publishing process. After weighing the pros and cons of

various options, he elected to self-publish through Luminare Press, a woman-owned and operated publisher in Eugene, Ore. "I wanted to get it right from the beginning," he said. "Based on my research and real-world experience, I determined that the best chance I had for a successful book was to surround myself with smart, forward-leaning, forwardthinking women," he added. Niland currently lives in Maryland and West Virginia, and among his other creative outlets he is also an enthusiastic guitar player.

Scan for

Kim's latest

listing info

## Senior Homeowner Tax Credit Ben Cardin Will Not Seek Available for Next Fiscal Year

Beginning July 1, Prince George's County will provide up to a 20 percent credit of the county portion of some older residents' property tax bills, inclusive of any Homeowners and Homestead Credit (for a total maximum of 20 percent), for up to five years.

#### Eligibility

To be eligible for this credit one must meet all the following criteria: 1) be a homeowner aged 65 and over (by June 30); 2) own and reside in the property for at least the previous 10 years; 3) the assessed value of the property must not exceed \$500,000 as of July 1, 2023; and 4) applications must be received by October 1 of the fiscal year the credit is sought (for example, October 1, 2023, for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024).

#### **Property Assessed Value**

A prior year tax bill reflects the assessed value; however,

this value updates effective July 1 of each year as provided by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation. If one does not have a tax bill available, look up the account using the street address on the Tax Inquiry page at taxinquiry. princegeorgescountymd.gov/ TaxInquiry.aspx.

#### To Apply

Applications are available online at princegeorgescountymd. gov/426/Property-Taxes. An online portal to submit applications electronically will be available soon. The county intends to have at least two enrollment fairs to assist residents with the application process but the dates have not yet been announced.

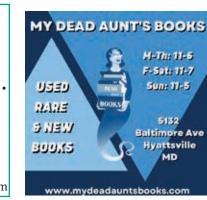
This article was created from Prince George's County government documents and informational publications from the county's Treasury Division.

## Another Term in the Senate

U.S. Senator Ben Cardin has announced he will not run for reelection in 2024. He has worked tirelessly for almost 60 years for Maryland as the youngest Speaker of the House in the General Assembly, then as a U.S. Representative and U.S. Senator representing Maryland on Capitol

A native Baltimorean and the grandson of immigrants, Senator Cardin has worked on national topics – foreign relations, finance, small business - and Maryland issues, including Chesapeake Bay restoration, education funding and healthcare access.











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## 2023 GHI Election: May 11-12

#### **Check your Email!**

GHI has contracted GetQuorum to host the 2023 annual meeting and online portion of the election. GetQuorum will send emails to all GHI member addresses on file, with a registration link for the May 11 Annual Meeting.

Check your inbox(es) and spam folders for a message sent from notices@getquorum.com

If you plan to join the online meeting or vote online and don't find this email, you must update your contact email address(es). Contact the GHI Member Services Department as soon as possible.

If you plan to attend the meeting in person, complete the form available at the GHI Office.



## Board of Directors

(5 of 9 positions up for election for 2-year terms)

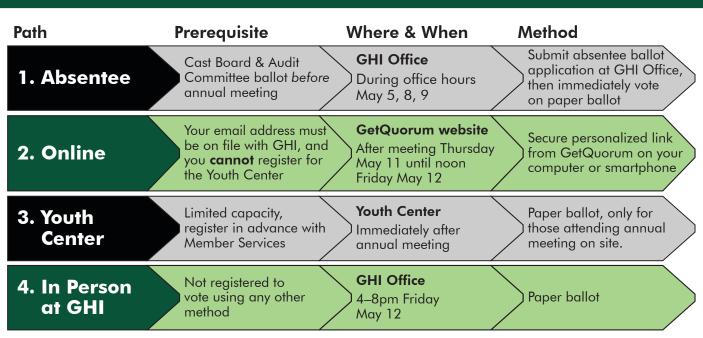
#### Sabrina A. Baron

2 Southway

GHI has been my home for 8 years, fulfilling a life-long dream of living in a historically significant community. Starting life on a KY tobacco farm, first in my family to attend college, earning a PhD, I have taught History at the University of Maryland for 21 years.

As a GHI Member, I served on the Architectural Review Committee as well as the Zoning and Records Retention Task Forces. I was also a member/VP of the Friends of Old Greenbelt Museum board. Living in Takoma Park over 10 years I was President of a local preservation non-profit; also served on the city's Facade Advisory Board, and the boards of the Old lakoma Business Association and Montgomery Preservation, Inc., as well as a wide variety of subcommittees in these contexts. At UMD, I have served numerous terms in the University Senate (Senator, committee chair/member, including the Executive Committee). I have also given service to my college (member Collegiate Council), as well as the Department of History (fivetime Executive Committee member, subcommittees, review committees, plan of organization committees, task

Actively serving my communities is a priority for me. Serving on GHI's Board would allow me to do that for GHI in a more significant way than I have thus far. My extensive committee and board experience as well as my knowledge base, gives me the tools to work collaboratively, looking for the greatest benefit and inclusion for everyone. I love this community and want to help give it a thriving future.



#### Choose your path to vote!

The May 11 annual membership meeting sign-in opens 7:00pm for the 7:30pm meeting; members can participate online or in person. The election for Board and Audit Committee begins when the meeting goes into recess; members can cast ballots online or in-person.

Please see the official meeting announcement mailed to every member for more information.

## Candidates for GHI Election

The following GHI members have formally indicated their agreement to serve if elected, and provided these biographical sketches to the Nominations & Elections Committee. GHI Members will elect Nominations & Elections Committee members during the annual meeting. The separate election for Board of Directors and Audit Committee will be held by ballots cast online and in-person, described in the graphic above. Members of our 9-member board are elected to staggered 2-year terms, with 5 positions elected in odd years and 4 in even years. There are 5 open Board positions this year, and each will be elected to a 2-year term.

#### Nancy Boyd

3 Ridge

When I decided to purchase a home in 2009, it had to be in the GHI community. My sister lived here and I already loved the walkways, the woodlands, the Roosevelt Center, and the friendliness of the residents and their engagement in cooperative living.

Since retiring and adopting my dog, Gus, I've made more friends and increased my appreciation for living here. I've also become aware of issues I believe I can help improve and resolve.

My professional experience includes demonstrated service leadership as an administrator and executive assistant at the National Geographic Society, the Society for Science and the Public, and the National Women's Law Center. At NatGeo, I managed Passport Fridays (hailed by the Post as "one of Washington's Hidden Treasures") featuring presentations by local artists, storytellers, musicians, and animal groups.

Prior to moving to the DC area, I worked in North Carolina as a lead teacher and curriculum writer in the Wake County Public Schools. I also served as a contract archaeologist for the Cultural Resources Division of the NC state government.

My volunteer efforts included work with Scales & Tales, focusing on birds of prey and reptiles, as well as work with horse and parrot rescues. I have also served on several nonprofit boards.

My education includes a bachelor's degree in History from East Carolina University and a Masters in Nonprofit Administration from Trinity Washington University.

It would be my privilege to work for you on the GHI Board.

#### **Zachary Conron**

65 Ridge

I am running for Board of Directors because I love GHI and I always feel most fulfilled in life when I am serving others. My wife Sarah and I moved here in 2018 for several reasons. We love the close and collaborative nature of the community. We love living next to all the things that put the "green" in Greenbelt, especially the preserved Woodlands. And unlike many other parts of the DC metro area, we could afford to buy here.

I have a Bachelor's in History. For many years I have been responsible for the care of my ailing mother, who recently passed. Before that I had a diverse career, mostly working on political campaigns or in the service industry.

Here in GHI I joined the Woodlands Committee when invasive bamboo started to take over our yard. For several years now I've helped to mobilize neighbors to maintain trails, remove invasive species, and plant native trees and bushes with the Committee. You may have seen some of our handiwork in the Parcel X woods between Laurel Hill and Research Rd. We've made good progress, but there's more work to be done!

I hope you vote for me for Board of Directors. I believe in GHI's mission and will do my best to serve my fellow members and future generations in our community.

#### **Chuck Hess**

42 Ridge

Chuck Hess has lived in GHI for 40 years. He is a CPA specializing in Income Taxation. He has been active in GHI, being elected to both the Audit Committee and Board of Directors and serving on the Buildings, Finance, Investments, and many other

Committees. He is the Chair of both the Finance, and the Investments Committees, both which are tasked with oversight of the \$16 million budget and about \$40 million in Audited

He has served on the Board of Directors for 30 years, most of them as Treasurer.

He served on the Board of Directors and the Building Committee through the \$25 Million HIP program without any borrowing, because of the Replacement Reserve program he helped create. He is looking towards the upcoming Plumbing replacement program. He is determined to see that it is done professionally with as little disruption as possible to our daily lives.

His knowledge arid efforts in revising GHI's Investment policy has earned millions in extra income over the prior practice.

He believes that GHI is among the best co-ops in the world, and appreciate the new ideas and views of the new members of the Board and also believe that his institutional memory and financial knowledge will help will help the co-op maintain high standards for providing an honest, well-run, efficient, and compassionate home for all its members

#### Claudia Jones

7 Laurel Hill

Claudia Jones brings to the cooperative a tenacious spirit of standing up for what she believes in, even against opposition, if it's for the benefit of all. Community involvement, keeping GHI solvent, and transparency are very important to her.

A lifelong Prince George's County girl (and proud of it), she has lived in GHI since year 2006, and regularly attends the GHI meetings.

Claudia graduated from ERHS and spent most of her high school years

## Candidates for GHI Election

(continued)

in Old Greenbelt with her high school sweetheart. When the opportunity presented itself, she bought a GHI

GHI is a unique community surrounded by nature. She cherishes the sense of community connected with nature and was part of saving what is now the Greenbelt Forest Preserve. During this time, she would attend City Council meetings at the municipal center with her baby in tow to show her support to save the woodlands.

Claudia will work hard to uphold GHI's mission to foster, protect and maintain our cooperative while encouraging member involvement, diversity, and keeping GHI solvent with the help of other members. She believes each GHI member is important to the cooperative no matter who they are, as we are keepers of our cherished member-owned and member-occupied community. Each GHI member has the right to expect that all members will act responsible to protect what we own and treasure together.

Claudia hopes that you will consider electing her to the GHI Board of Directors.

#### **Paul Kapfer**

6 Hillside

Paul Kapfer has been a practicing attorney nearly 30 years—20 as a Navy JAG and currently as General Counsel for an affordable housing developer headquartered in Chicago. He works there and remotely from his GHI unit whenever possible. He became a GHI member in 2013.

Paul served on the Audit Committee from 2015–2017 and as a GHI Board member in 2017–2018 while attending the University of Maryland's Real Estate Development program. As his final degree requirement, he conceived and modeled a combination affordable-market rate building for a site in Silver Spring and briefed the design to county planners. In his present position, Paul has focused on workforce housing and the operation of 5 affordable multifamily communities in two states, including an assisted living facility.

As a Woodland Committee member, Paul negotiated renewal of GHI's conservation management agreement with the state of Maryland. On the GHI Zoning Task Force, he wrote the initial draft of a proposed neighborhood conservation overlay protecting GHI's unique design, key components of which were in the final version approved by Prince George's County Council. Paul hopes to continue the evaluation of member fee growth he began with GHI's Long Range Planning Committee. He wants to digitize and preserve the irreplaceable historic documents GHI maintains. He believes maximum Board transparency promotes member involvement.

Paul enjoys maintaining the yard and a garden at his unit. He is an avid hiker and heads for Shenandoah National Park with his wife Marianne at every opportunity.

#### **Philip Larkin**

19 Ridge

I am a lifelong Greenbelter and have lived in GHI, on and off and at three different units, for 18 of the last 28 years. I'm a civil servant Technology Development Manager at NASA, where I have experience managing programs and projects, leading strategic planning activities, and overseeing contracts. I've also worked on the side as a handyman and have significant experience with building trades and GHI home construction.

I tend not to volunteer for boards, preferring instead to contribute through more ancillary roles. That said, I served on the Greenbelt Parks and Recreation Advisory Board in the late 1990s as well as two private school boards in the 2000s. Within GHI, my most visible contribution is probably our tagline: "A Community for People Who Value Community."

I see this moment—post HIP and before plumbing overhaul—as an important time to step up.

As a potential board member, I am focused on three intertwined questions:

- 1) Resiliency: Building upon the work of prior boards, how do we enable durable solutions (practices, materials, etc) that reflect the careful planning of Greenbelt's founding?
- 2) Efficiency: More than just about saving money, are there processes or functions that GHI has taken up over the years on our behalf that can be modified? Are we drifting toward a condominium model of owner responsibility?
- 3) Engagement: How do we temper the sometimes-adversarial relationship between members and GHI and renew collective commitment to our Co-op?

### Audit Committee

(All 3 positions up for election for 1-year terms.3 candidates were nominated, but 1 then withdrew, leaving 1 expected vacancy)

#### **David Benack**

2 Southway

My family moved to GHI from Silver Spring in summer 2019. We are so grateful for the neighborly community we have found here in Greenbelt, and we look forward to being here for a long time. I would like to continue to serve on the Audit Committee, and I am asking for your vote! I am currently a stay-at-home parent, with all the joys and challenges that entails. I am also a member of Greenbelt's Ethics Commission. My most recent paid occupation was as a Program Manager for an educational nonprofit that provides professional and cultural exchange programs to international visitors. I am confident that I can fulfill the duties and responsibilities of a member of the Audit Committee, should you choose to reelect me. Thank you for your consideration!

#### **Bill Jones**

15 Ridge

Bill Jones is a retired math and computer science professor. He moved to GHI with his wife Ginny in 2004. He served on the GHI Board for ten years, 2011-2021, and he has served for 15 years on the GHI Finance Committee and Investment Committee, so he brings a lot of historical knowledge to the Audit Committee. He is currently serving on the GHI Audit Committee. His primary interest is in helping maintain the long-term financial stability of GHI, so future generations have the opportunity to live here.

He has been involved in many volunteer activities in Greenbelt, such as tutoring first graders in reading at Greenbelt Elementary, helping people fill out their income tax forms, and acting in plays at the Greenbelt Arts Center. Currently he is on the Board of Directors of the Greenbelt Co-op Grocery, is the Treasurer of the Greenbelt Refugee Aid Committee, and is the Membership Committee Chair for the New Deal Cafe.

## Nominations & Elections Committee

(All 5 positions up for election for 1-year terms)

#### **Dan Gillotte**

10 Hillside

Dan Gillotte is a long time cooperator having first become a member of a food co-op in Maine in 1992. Dan has been the manager of food co-ops since 1998 and moved here (and became a member of GHI) spring 2020. Dan has served on numerous boards over the years including:

- National Co-op Grocers (6 years total and 3 years as board chair)
- Co-op Grocers Information Network (7 years total, as president for 5 years)
- AHB Community School (3 years total, as chair for one year)
- Austin Independent Business Alliance (for more than a decade as a founding member)

Dan has worked for boards for his whole adult life and understands the importance of board perpetuation for successful organizations. He loves living in this cooperative community of GHI and Greenbelt and is happy to serve if elected on the small but mighty nominations committee.

#### Theresa R. Henderson

1 Laurel Hill

Theresa was born and raised in the Washington, D.C. area. She has lived in GHI since 1983. She currently enjoys living on Laurel Hill Rd. with her husband Steve, their adult child Maddy, their three cats and a bird. She is currently employed at the USDA Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center as a Support Scientist/ Biochemist. She is presently serving on the Nominations and Elections Committee for her ninth term and has been delighted to work with the other committee members, the GHI Board and the GHI staff. She would be honored to serve this cooperative on this committee for another term

#### **Tom Jones**

1 Woodland

Tom has served on Nominations & Elections for 9 years, including the past 8 years as chair. Tom grew up on Northway and has been a GHI member since 1997. His grandparents moved to 11 Court Southway in May 1942.

Tom has a Physics degree from New Mexico Tech and an MBA from Loyola University Maryland, and works as a Software Technical Program Manager at the University of Maryland Center for Advanced Transportation Technology Laboratory (CATT Lab) within the Civil Engineering department.

In 2010, Tom chaired the GHI Finance Report Subcommittee that drafted revisions to make each year's report easier to understand. In 2011, he chaired the GHI website redesign committee resulting in the current ghi.coop site (soon to be replaced). He also served on the GHI Information Technology task force. In 2021 Tom and his wife Johanna proposed comprehensive GHI permit reform.

For other Greenbelt-founded cooperatives, Tom has served on the News Review Board of Directors since 2014. In prior years, he served on the New Deal Café Audit Committee for 5 years and the Rapidan Camps Board of Directors for 22 years, including 15 years as president.

Tom also manages the website and photography team for the Baltimore Kinetic Sculpture Race.

#### Joe Ralbovsky

62 Ridge

Joe Ralbovsky saves 5-10% per month on his electricity bill as a result of signing up for Community Solar. If your residence isn't a good candidate for solar panels, and you haven't already signed up for Community Solar, please throw this Newspaper on the counter and run, don't walk, over to your nearest internet-connected device to get started. Neighborhood Sun made Joe's sign-up easy, but if you are having a difficult time figuring it out, please persevere because literally everything depends on the rapid scale-up of low carbon energy sources. This is your chance to have a lasting positive impact for thousands of years after you are gone, don't miss it. This is not sponsored by Neighborhood Sun, a Maryland company and Certified B-Corp, (neighborhoodsun. solar) nor is this bio coordinated with anyone affiliated. Joe is 68% water.

#### Luisa Robles

32 Ridge

I have lived in GHI since the spring of 2001 (22 years!).

I bumped into GHI while pursuing my PhD at UMD. I came to see a movie at the theater and fell in love with the Roosevelt Center, and the layout and walkability of GHI. I knew several people that studied at UMD and lived in Old Greenbelt. My degree was in environmental sciences and sustainable development and I am now the Sustainability Coordinator for the City. I have served on the Board of Directors and the Woodlands Committee for GHI, and on the Forest Preserve Advisory Board for the City.

## Travels with News Review



Greenbelter Margaret Benefiel shows off the News Review in front of the Basilica of St. Francis during a recent visit to Assisi, Italy. Margaret is executive director of the Shalem Institute and was in Assisi to co-lead a Shalem pilgrimage, In the Footsteps of St. Francis and St. Clare.



The News Review traveled with Linda Curtis on the plane from Poland to the USA.



Eleven-year-old Sam Winternitz, left, with his sister Mary Winternitz, 9, hike in Death Valley National Park during spring break, wearing their Greenbelt Is Great shirts.



Lois Rosado took her News Review to Puerto Rico.

#### Annual CROP Walk Happens This Sunday

Each year Greenbelters and others throughout the country participate in CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) walks. Funds raised are distributed by the ecumenical Church World Service which since 1946 has aided refugees and victims of natural disasters.

This year's local walk will be held on Sunday, May 7 from 1 to 4 p.m. The walk around Lake Artemesia will begin at 5211 Campus Drive. Free parking is near the Ellen Linson Pool in College Park. Participants walk for those persons in the world who must walk for all of their basic necessities.

Walkers often obtain sponsors who contribute to the walk that they complete. Recent funds raised have been used to meet several critical needs. East Africa has recurring droughts which affect all, but especially women and girls who must travel for hours a day bringing home large containers of water on their heads. Projects are funded to dig wells and retaining ponds. Clean water is an issue in West Timor, Indonesia. Donations have been made to the Timor Zero Hunger program which helps residents build protected wells with raised walls and simple roofs to keep out animal waste, leaves and loose dirt.

To help locally, 25 percent of donations raised will go to Help by Phone of Prince George's County, an organization that helps those with urgent needs for food or temporary assistance through a combination of compassion and social support.

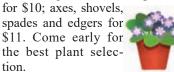
For more information about participating in the walk or to make a donation, email Lyn Doyle at lynbob20770@yahoo.com.

## Roosevelt Center Set For Green Man Fest

Join the fun at the annual Green Man Festival on Saturday, May 13, and Sunday, May 14, at Roosevelt Center. Great bands will be playing all day, including the Allman Others Band, KIVA, Kindred Crow, Crush Funk Brass band and our local Greenbelt HONK! band. Drum Circles by Katy Gaughan and Trevor Siegel start the day with much joy. There are over 40 vendors, crafts for kids, info booths, a Green Man Parade, food, face painting and family fun both days. Bring family and friends to this free event. For more information: greenmanfestival.org.

#### Garden Club Plant Sale in Center

The Beltsville Garden Club's (BGC) popular yearly plant sale returns to Greenbelt on Saturday, May 6 from 9 a.m. to noon. The municipal parking lot behind the New Deal Café will be blooming with affordable, healthy plants to bring beauty to the garden and healthy flavors to the table. All plants are grown by BGC members (including many Greenbelt gardeners) and include vegetables, herbs, houseplants, annuals, native perennials and shrubs. Plants grown by BGC members at the Duckworth School greenhouse will be sold to benefit the school. New this year: The Roaming Stone will provide tool sharpening services at reasonable prices, for example, straight edge and serrated knives for \$7; scissors, hedge shears and pruners for \$10; axes, shovels,







## **Police Blotter**

Incidents reported here from April 24 through April 30. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Note that the times provided are when the incidents were reported.

#### Assault

On April 27 at 5:01 p.m. near 6900 Hanover Parkway, juvenile fight.

#### **Armed Robbery**

On April 26 at 9:27 p.m. near Hanover Parkway/Ora Glen Drive, officers responded to a report of an armed robbery. The victim was walking when a white Nissan sedan pulled up next to him and two men wearing all black and black face masks exited the car, one with a firearm, and demanded the victim's property. The men got back into the car and drove away. Officers searched the area but did not locate the suspects; the victim was not injured.

#### Bank Robbery

On April 28 at 3:49 p.m. near 7500 Greenbelt Road, officers responded to a report of a bank robbery. Employees reported that a Black man wearing a blue-and-black jacket, white N95 mask, light-colored jeans and sunglasses entered the store, pointed a handgun at them and demanded money. The suspect then ran away from the bank. No one was injured.

#### Break-in

On April 30 at 9:04 p.m. near 9200 Edmonston Road, victim reported she was inside her home when she heard someone trying to enter her house and hit the door hard enough to activate her alarm system. The person then ran away; officers did not locate a suspect and did not observe any damage to the door.

#### Break-in Report

On April 28 at 10:09 p.m. near 9100 Springhill Lane, third floor balcony sliding door shattered and personal property stolen

#### **DUI Arrest**

On April 24 at 2:33 a.m. near Hanover Parkway/Good Luck Road, on April 25 at 12:24 a.m. near Greenbelt Road/Greenbelt Station Parkway, and on April 30 near 6000 Greenbelt Road.

#### Fraud

On April 25 at 12:33 p.m. near 8100 Lakecrest Drive, check fraud. On April 27 at 2:22 p.m. near 6000 Springhill Drive, a CashApp account was hacked. On April 27 at 7:54 a.m. near Research Road, identity theft.

#### **Missing Person**

On April 27 at 7:26 p.m. near 100 Westway 15-year-old Richardo Fox reported missing after leaving his home in the 100 block of Westway at 3:04 p.m. Fox is described as a Black male with medium brown skin, approximately 5'11, 160 lbs., with shoulder length dreadlocks, wearing a black-and-white hoodie, grey pants, and black-and-white shoes.

#### Shoplifting

On April 25 at 6:59 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, commercial theft.

#### Theft

On April 24 at 1:03 p.m. near 7400 Greenway Center Drive, victim reported she was checking out of her hotel room when a man wearing a maintenance uniform asked if she needed assistance walking her dog, a white three-month-old Bolognese, and she let him take the dog. The man never returned with the dog. On April 25 at 12:10 p.m. near

7800 Walker Drive, personal property was stolen from a backpack. On April 26 at 5:30 p.m. near 7500 Greenbelt Road, commercial theft. On April 27 at 1:39 p.m. near Hanover Parkway/Ora Glen Drive, commercial theft. On April 28 at 6:12 p.m. near 8000 Mandan Road, package theft. On April 30 at 4:25 p.m. near 8100 Miner St., package theft.

#### **Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles**

On April 26 near 9100 Edmonston Terrace, a brown 2016 Kia Soul (Md. plate 6FE8582) was stolen, later located in Hyattsville with a broken rear window and a damaged ignition. On April 29 near 7800 Mandan Road, a 2020 silver Kia Sportage (Md. plate 7CB9149) was stolen. On April 30 near 5900 Cherrywood Lane, a black 2015 Hyundai Sonata (Md. plate 7ET6572) was stolen.

#### **Suspicious Auto**

On April 25 near 7900 Mandan Road, a 2016 Hyundai Sonata was found with the rear driver-side window broken and the ignition damaged.

#### Theft From Auto

On April 24 near 500 Crescent Road, a utility trailer license plate was stolen and near 9100 Edmonston Court, lawn equipment was stolen from an unlocked car. On April 25 near 6400 Cherrywood Lane, all four tires were stolen from a 2021 Acura; near 8000 Greenbelt Station Parkway, all four tires were stolen from a 2020 Honda CRV; and near 5800 Cherrywood Terrace, a front license plate was stolen. On April 26 near 5800 Cherrywood Terrace, a rear license plate was stolen. On April 28 near 100 Centerway, a rear license plate was stolen. On April 29 near 6100 Breezewood Court, a vehicle tool chest located in the bed

of a pickup truck had been pried open and tools stolen. On April 30 near 7400 Greenway Center Drive, all four tires were stolen from a 2021 Honda Accord and near 6400 Ivy Lane, a Toyota Camry had lug nuts removed from three of the four rims and left near the vehicle.

#### Vandalism to Auto

On April 24 near 7900 Mandan Road, a front windshield was smashed. On April 25 near unit Ridge Road, a car was rummaged through: nothing taken, no signs of forced entry, and near 5800 Cherrywood Terrace, a 2013 Hyundai Elantra had both headlights broken with scratches on the hood and damage to the front bumper, and the front passenger door had damage consistent with someone attempting to force it open. On April 26 near 100 Westway, a car window was broken.

#### Vehicle Theft

On April 25 near 8000 Mandan Road at approximately 10:26 a.m. officers responded to the report of two males wearing ski masks breaking into a red Hyundai. After a short foot chase, the officers were able to arrest a 17-year-old boy and a 15-year-old boy for attempted motor vehicle theft and malicious destruction of property. The teens had tools commonly used to steal cars and property from the car, which was returned to the owner.



## Worksession Hears Ambitious Plans for Business Interaction

by Cathie Meetre

On Monday, March 20, the Greenbelt City Council met in a worksession in which Economic Development Coordinator Kevin Simpson, with Interim City Manager Tim George, presented plans for and the status of the city's relationship with businesses. Simpson stated that planning was based on the principles originally set in August 2018. He spoke of core values, with the highest priority being retention of existing businesses given that it's more cost-effective to help those existing to remain in the city than to recruit new ones. During the meeting, Mayor Emmett Jordan stated his concern that the residential tax base is carrying the weight of the whole city budget and that the city needed to expand its commercial base to ease the load.

Also key to Simpson's presentation was the building of connections with and among local businesses and encouraging cooperation and diversity in the business base of the city. He felt that the city could assist in helping local businesses acquire the workforce and operational capacity to be increasingly competitive, as well as helping them with guidance and resources for dealing with bureaucratic issues in areas such as obtaining permits and conforming to regulations.

#### **City Businesses**

Simpson spoke of the city's present business base. With 440 businesses of a variety of sizes, the two largest sector classifications in March 2023 were Professional, Scientific and Technical (157) and Health Care and Social Assistance (96). The smallest category was Arts, Entertainment and Recreation (3).

In the comments section later, resident Bill Orleans spoke of the importance of empowering Greenbelters to own businesses in

the city, noting that most business owners were not local individuals.

#### **Occupancy Rates**

Simpson revealed that in a comparison of last year to this year, office space vacancies had increased from 23.1 to 26.3 percent in square-foot terms, while retail vacancies grew from 8 to 13.6 percent by square footage.

In both cases, the effect of Covid had likely been pronounced, with work from home, originally for expediency, having been so effective that office space was less in demand. The initially temporary closing of many restaurants had become permanent.

George saw little or no increase in current rental rates for commercial space given that demand was low and empty space plentiful. With most office leases running from three to five years, some effects of Covid likely still remain to be seen as ongoing leases are not renewed.

#### Incentives, Assistance

Simpson expected that much of his effort for this year would go to ensuring the allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grants slated for business assistance before the funds expire. He noted several programs available to assist businesses – especially small ones – in a variety of ways, including physical plant improvements to make their premises more attractive or their operations more efficient.

This provoked a strong objection from Councilmember Rodney Roberts who felt that spending public money on facades and the refurbishment of businesses would end up raising city taxes and making Greenbelt unaffordable for ordinary people to live in. He felt that landlords should be responsible for this type of expenditure. His council colleagues

See WORKSESSION, page 12







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Day with

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#### Spend Mother's Day at New Deal Café



Come visit us on Sunday, May 14 for a lovely time on the patio and enjoy a Mom-osa!

### MUSEUM continued from page 1

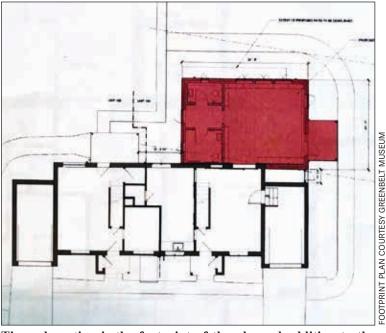
Neighborhood Conservation Overlay Zone requirements as well as GHI requirements. Young emphasized that the city, as 10-B and 10-A owner, strives to be a conscientious GHI member and a good neighbor.

#### **Visitor Center Plans**

The unit at 10-B will retain its historically accurate residential configuration and restoration, while 10-A will be transformed from a 2016 GHI residence into a learning facility for multiple services and flexible programs, such as school groups, handson activities, lectures, exhibits and archives. Its footprint will approximate the current house which includes a bathroom, sunroom and garage and will extend as far as the existing patio on the garden side. The siding will be removed, for an exterior complementary to 10-B's 1937

The completed Greenbelt Education and Visitor Center will have an accessible main entrance from Westway (minimizing disruption to 1 Westway neighbors), with reception, program spaces, a gift shop and accessible restrooms on the first floor and archives and office space on the second floor. A garden will continue to surround the building with new plantings. The completed 1,783-square-foot building will more than double the space in the 10-B historic house.

The Center will house all Museum operations for the first time: Museum house, visitor operations, staff office and archives. Increasing its size and staffing (see Merger below) will enable it to serve as a visitor center for the City of Greenbelt. Young said, "We're excited to make the Museum a starting place to explore Greenbelt. Our goal is that the Museum is not just a place, but to interpret the whole community. We conduct walking tours, lectures, special events, all across the community. To have a spot where people can come to learn about what else is in Greenbelt, is really important. That way people can come



The red portion is the footprint of the planned addition to the Greenbelt museum.

here and learn about the 'historic campus' and all of Greenbelt – its businesses, restaurants and other sites." She also envisions expanding opportunities for high school students to serve as junior docents and earn community service hours and with FOGM a sponsored paid internship for undergraduate and graduate students

#### **Visitor Center Timeline**

Museum staff will begin review and permit processes in May with GHI, the city and county and will select a contractor. They hope to begin the physical work by September, starting with removing the first-floor non-original bathroom, sunroom and patio slab, and addressing dampness and HVAC and possible asbestos abatement. Barring unforeseen circumstances, opening is planned for summer 2024.

FOGM will soon initiate major fundraising to raise the final \$200,000 to complete the Center. Its fundraising will also seek additional funds to invest in online and in-person educational programs, including preserving and digitizing the museum's collection of original Greenbelt artifacts. They also hope to add technolo-

gies to engage new audiences, such as a virtual tour and making the artifacts viewable online. FOGM plans to approach funding sources including private individuals, private foundation grants and naming opportunities (upon city council approval) such as the garden and accessible walkway around the property.

#### Merger

Young and Recreation Department Director Greg Varda first recommended the merger to city staff and council in 2021. They cited benefits including expanding existing shared programs, marketing each other's programs and supporting museum operations with Recreation's part-time staff. Varda said the Museum was not a natural fit in administration under the city manager, whereas both Recreation and the Museum deliver cultural and arts programming.

City advisory groups concurred, including the Park and Recreation Advisory Board and the FOGM Board of Directors, as did city staff and council. The

See MUSEUM, page 13

### WORKSESSION continued from page 11

pointed out that this was federal money, not city funds, but Roberts remained unappeased.

#### Expansion

Simpson spoke of his intention to expand city services to and interactions with local businesses. He proposes to include a more business-to-business approach where businesses cooperate to overcome common issues like permitting. He also anticipates increasing opportunities for business leaders to interact with both the city and each other. Funds are committed for a number of grant programs to aid business, including a small business assistance project (\$1.2M) expected to launch Tuesday, April 4.

#### Approach

Simpson plans to increase the number of one-on-one visits, business walks and business surveys and produce an annual development report based on increased access to data. He proposes a wider variety of business-oriented initiatives, including business spotlights, briefs and awards.

Also planned are a comprehensive city business directory, with basic business data and additional material on diversity of ownership, size, local or national, owner or franchisee and number of employees. Quizzed on the timeline for these forward-looking initiatives, Simpson said that they were in the planning stages for next year and beyond, and that his primary current focus was ARPA.

Simpson's overall view was that business expansion and retention need a team approach that involves businesses and the city. He stressed the value of connection and cooperation among participants, especially for promotion and support activities.

In a dialog with councilmembers, Simpson clarified that he proposes a business-oriented group - not an advisory board targeted at helping businesses remain in Greenbelt in a businessto-business framework, where businesses are ambassadors to other businesses in those areas where their concerns are shared (like permitting, financing and regulatory compliance) and not where they compete. In an aside, George noted that the city already has 17 advisory boards and is having difficulty keeping them staffed.

Councilmembers seemed to envisage that these plans would have an effect on the budget apportioned to economic development but decided not to delve into that as budget discussions were about to start anyway.









## SNAP Is Ending, Aid Greenbelt Porch

Greenbelt PORCH is continuing its program to collect food as scheduled below:

Sunday, May 14. By 11 a.m., 1-8 Courts Ridge, 1-8 Courts Crescent and 1-2 Courts Westway Saturday, May 20. By 10 a.m., 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill

Sunday, May 21. By 4 p.m., Boxwood Village and P.A.L. (PORCH at Large) members (including former Woodland Hill donors); by 5 p.m., Lakeside Drive

Sunday, May 28. By 4 p.m., 9 and 11-13 Courts Ridge Road.

If there is no monthly food drive in the neighborhood, help through P.A.L. To participate, contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com by noon with address on the scheduled monthly pickup date and leave a donation marked RUAK or PORCH by the front door and visible from the street. Ensure the "use by" date on items has not expired.

Volunteers who would like to expand Greenbelt PORCH to additional neighborhoods in Greenbelt are always welcome, particularly in the Greenbelt East area. Anyone with questions or who is interested in being a volunteer or starting a new neighborhood for monthly food collection with Greenbelt PORCH, contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com.



#### Boxwood Village Scholarship Open

The Boxwood Village Civic Association offers an annual \$500 scholarship to a current Boxwood Village resident. It is available to graduating high school seniors and full-time (at least 12 credit hours per semester) undergraduate students. The scholarship is partially funded through the proceeds from the Boxwood booth at the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival, the annual Boxwood yard sale and other activities.

The application form should be completed and returned by June 30. For further information or to pick up an application form, email Pat McAndrew at pmcandrew@mzmlaw.net.

## Bicycle Committee Planning Event

Save the date: GHI Bicycle Committee Event, Saturday, May 20 from 1 to 3 p.m. In the planning are updates from Paul Lemieux of Proteus Bicycles on the Greenbelt East Trail and other projects, a brief presentation on the Proteus Velo Club by Brook Boliek and on-site bicycle registration by the Greenbelt Police.

The event will be held on GHI grounds, 1 Hamilton Place, adjacent to the bicycle repair station, on the day after Bike to Work Day. Light refreshments will be available and there will be swag.

The GHI Bicycle Committee wants to hear from you. Plan on attending, engaging and meeting other local cyclists.



Myriad tulips bloom at the Lake in April.



## MUSEUM continued from page 12

merger will take effect in July, with the beginning of the 2024 fiscal year. The merger moves existing museum budget and staff, without increasing them, from under the city manager to the Recreation Department.

"Recreation is a more natural spot for the Museum to more easily participate in all areas of Greenbelt," said Young. "Rather than doing a program on our own with our small staff, we can partner with Recreation, like the Celebration of Spring coming up at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. It makes much more sense to have a table at those events vs. doing it on our own, and we get awareness to those attendees." The Museum will leverage Recreation Department marketing, such as its customer database, seasonal activity guides and Recreation's registration services. The merger will enable more people to know about and participate in Museum programs and help it contribute more to Recreation offerings, such as spring and summer camps, Springhill Lake Recreation Center programs, senior programs, Artful Afternoons, research materials for artistic projects and classes.

Incorporating the Education and Visitor Center as a fully functioning city facility will benefit from Recreation staff who already manage multiple city facilities and Young will provide guidance specific to Museum environments.

The Museum was regularly open for tours only on Sunday afternoons, with lectures, walking tours and other events at varying times, and struggled to staff these hours and events with one full-time employee (Young), one part-time employee and volunteers. It reopened after the pandemic with reduced Sunday hours and timed tickets to ensure sufficient volunteers. Recreation staff will significantly help fill these gaps and support increasing museum hours beyond Sundays, adding

List Price: \$162,500

programs and tours, and allowing more visitors. Young envisions expanding regular hours from Sunday to four days a week, with possibly more days later.

Cross training Recreation staff for the Center will be useful across the department and to residents and visitors throughout the city. Since Recreation's part-time staff serve multiple functions and sites, their increased knowledge of Greenbelt history will improve service to all their customers. Young said "We are really looking forward to training them in Greenbelt history, so they can use the knowledge at the visitor center and wherever they work in the city."

"Adding Museum content to the Recreation Department's current offerings addresses Greenbelters' (and others') expressed desire for cultural diversity and equitable programming," wrote Varda. For instance, Young said, "We have a real emphasis on people understanding that Greenbelt was segregated. We have to make sure people know this was an amazing project built by the federal government, but only for White families. Having a space like [10-A] will allow us to make sure that narrative is front and center when we have people come in. It will be nice to have some technology so people can access primary sources, like Angie Williams. She and her family were the first family of color to move into GHI in 1967 and we have this whole interview with her. It would be so cool to have that set up so people could view it while waiting for a tour."

"Greenbelt really is so indicative of so many major issues of the 20th century: the Great Depression, World War II, cooperatives, suburbs, urban planning and race relations," said Young. "One of the things we're most looking forward to is having a centralized space where we can explore those topics." She and Varda noted that integrating the Greenbelt Museum and history into citywide Recreation programs will address Greenbelt residents' wishes and greatly expand the reach of the Greenbelt Museum in the community.



to search area listings: MelanieCantwell.com

A possum spotted in a backyard on Hillside



# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

HELP WANTED

GTM ARCHITECTS is seeking an Architectural Designer for their office in Bethesda, Maryland. Job duties include designing technical solutions for projects and working from designs of others and creating designs as well. Will perform routine and limited architectural and design assignments using prescribed methods. Must have two years' experience or a Master's degree in Architecture. Send all resumes and samples to Samantha Klein at PLCP\_ Applicants@gtmarchitects.com.

CASTLEWOOD BUILDERS is seeking an Architect for its Bethesda, Maryland location. Duties to include: develop construction plans to include aesthetic representations of structures for construction, prepare scale drawings or architectural designs, and meeting and consulting with clients. Minimum requirements are two years experience and a Bachelor's degree in Architecture, or foreign equivalent degree. Please send resumes to Rachel Hunter at rachel@toddwood.com.

#### MERCHANDISE

VHS Library of about 300 films for sale, preferably in bulk - classics including Dean Martin, Zorro, Miss Congeniality and many others. Contact 410-320-4481 for more information. Seller located in Greenbelt.

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FREE EXERCISE! Women and men welcome - casual pickup ultimate frisbee, 5pm Sundays at Northway Fields, weather permitting. Run and have fun! www.spril.com/disc.

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Without Carlson to show them how, They're running, screaming out loud. As the grifter-in-chief picks their pockets so proud,

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#### YARD/MOVING SALES

COMMUNITY YARD SALE - Boxwood Village (Greenbelt), Saturday May 13 and Sunday May 14, 9 a.m. to noon. Maps with the addresses of participating families will be provided at the playground at the corner of Lastner and Ivy Lanes in Greenbelt starting at 8:30 a.m.

ANNUAL SPRING YARD SALE Saturday, May 13, 7a-2p, at St. John Lutheran Church, 5820 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park. Vendor space is available in the parking lot. 301-927-4100.

TREASURE HUNT - Indoor/Outdoor Yard Sale. Saturday, May 20, 10:00-1:00, Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, 20705. Table rentals \$20.00 call church office 301-937-7114.

#### **Continental Movers**

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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: \$10.60/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. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.

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

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.

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.

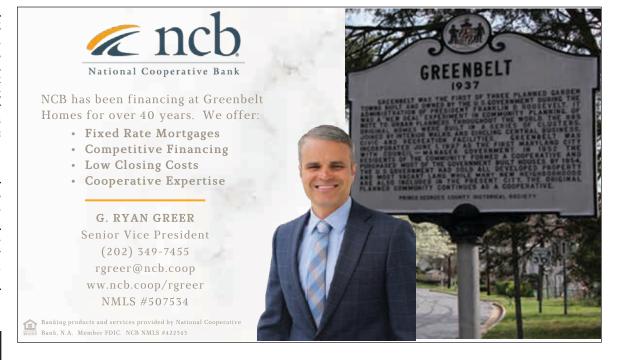
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## **More Community Events**

#### At the Library

All county library branches will open late, at 2 p.m. on Thursday, May 4.

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

#### **Storytimes**

Friday, May 5, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls. info/event/8239807.

Monday, May 8, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/8239790.

Tuesday, May 9, 6:30 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls. info/event/8239796.

#### **Health Care Exhibit**

For All the People: A Century of Citizen Action in Health Care Reform/Para todo el pueblo: un siglo de acción ciudadana en la reforma de la atención de la salud, a bilingual national touring exhibition on the history of healthcare reform in the U.S., is at the Greenbelt Library through Thursday, May 18.

The 12-panel exhibit, suitable for ages 5 and older explores the history of citizen-led healthcare reform in the U.S. and is accompanied by a companion digital gallery (English only). It is on display on the second (upper) floor of the Greenbelt Library during regular branch operating

#### Teen Action Group

Wednesday, May 10, 4:30 p.m. Register at pgcmls.info/ event/8244708.

#### **VolunTEENs**

Prince George's County teens in grades 6 to 12 can earn student service learning (SSL) hours through participation in the Library's VolunTEEN program. Teens may submit the information needed for each VolunTEEN prompt in Beanstack via the link at pgcmls.info/teens.

#### Chromebooks

Online 2Go Chromebooks may be borrowed from the Library by those 18 and older with library cards in good standing, one device per customer. No LINK or student accounts are allowed. Further information is available at pgcmls.info/borrow-technology.

#### Theater Volunteer **Training Session**

On Sunday, May 7 at 2 p.m. the Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC) will hold a training session for people interested in volunteering to work as box office cashiers and front-of-house ushers. The training will be held at GAC, 123 Crescent Road, and will include a tour of the theater. Anyone 18 or older who is interested in this volunteer opportunity is invited.

The main job for these volunteers is to provide a good experience for those attending the theater. Cashiers greet patrons when they arrive at the box office, check patrons in, sell tickets and distribute playbills to patrons. Ushers manage the patrons in the lobby pre-show and during intermission, reserve seats for people with disabilities, greet patrons at the theater door and seat latecomers. Volunteers in both positions must enjoy working with people and be flexible in their work.

Each position works a twohour shift on a Friday or Saturday evening or a Sunday afternoon for one to two performances per show. GAC shows, both regular and musical, usually run over three weekends for nine performances. Scheduling of volunteers is done using the online program SignUp Genius. Each volunteer can earn one complimentary ticket for each show worked.

If interested, register by emailing your name, address and preferred telephone number to boxgac@greenbeltartscenter.org.



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#### Bird Walk in the Forest Rescheduled to May 6

Due to rain on April 30, the Bird Walk in the Forest with Holly Brevig has been rescheduled to Saturday, May 6 at 8 a.m. Enjoy the morning bird songs of the Preserve. The group will set out early to hear and see the beauty of local winged friends. Dress for possible mud and ticks and prepare to climb some steep hills on the trail. Bring binoculars if available. There may be a few extra pairs to borrow.

Dr. Holly Brevig is a Maryland Master Naturalist Volunteer, leads bird walks for Nature Forward, has taught Introduction to Ornithology to Maryland Master Naturalists and is a volunteer for the Montgomery Parks Bird Community Index Project led by the M-NCPPC. She has a bachelor's degree in biology and a doctorate in biomedical science.

New to Birding? Check out these links for hints and apps: ny.audubon.org/news/birdwatching-101-guide-beginners, backyardchirper.com/birdinfo-229.html and opticsmag.com/ best-season-birdwatching.

Group size is limited so RSVP to suzanbwild@gmail.com. Event location will be sent to those who RSVP. As always, refreshments will be provided fol-

lowing the walk in the tradition of the Committee to Save the Green Belt.



#### **S&A Plumbing Service Inc.**

24/7 plumbing service needs Garbage disposal, dishwasher Leak, clog, faucets, etc. Please call me. Independent and local. Prices reasonable. Give me a call 240 988 8908 Time bank members receive great discounts!

#### Open Studio, Sale At Community Center

The Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program is hosting an Art Studio Open House and Sale on Sunday, May 7 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Community Center. Guests are invited to mingle and shop with the center's artists in residence and other local artists. Tour the studios and learn about different media and processes. Try throwing on the pottery wheel.

Guests of all ages can also participate in a free Artful Afternoon activity, making "pocket puppets" on the lawn with Black Cherry Puppet Theater (reservations recommended). See an exhibit of paintings by Kathy Karlson in the art gallery. Attend the Dance Performance Club's original production, The Magic Toy Shop (tickets required). Learn more about all the day's events at http://bit.ly/3UwcUa0.

The Community Center is located at 15 Crescent Road. City of Greenbelt arts programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts

Council.



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### LAKE continued from page 1

litter Courouble picked up was plastic bottle tops (approximately 270); a close second was tennis balls (247) and, third, plastic water bottles (236). There were also miscellaneous items of which there were fewer than 10 that he noted but didn't include in the table. The miscellany included baseballs, fishing floats, dog poop bags, plastic items like children's toys, shoes, socks, a Public Works cone and even a desk chair.

#### **Curbing Tennis Balls**

Courouble would like to see Councilmember Rodney Roberts reiterate his April 2007 request for "city staff to look at ways to keep stray balls out of the stream that eventually flows to the lake," he shared. Though there are trash and recycling bins at the tennis courts, the surrounding area is frequently littered with tennis balls. He also thinks it might help to display visible signage reminding visitors to the courts to dispose of their trash and perhaps have an educational campaign to make people aware of the impact of littering. He also thinks doors could be installed along the tennis courts to enable players to more easily retrieve their balls from the watershed area.

Courouble points out that the 2019 Recreation and Park Facilities Master Plan states in its assessment of Buddy Attick Park that "it does not appear that the current level of maintenance at the site is sufficient to abate the high level of wear and tear the grounds and facilities receive through consistent heavy use." The plan records that the popular park "is being loved to death." Courouble is concerned that the master plan doesn't address the presence or protection of wildlife and plant habitat in the area.

#### **Food Containers, Utensils**

"[P]lastic, glass and aluminum items from the restaurant and food services industry are ending up in disproportionate numbers in our lake, thus posing a variety of health and environmental hazards," says Courouble. Buddy Attick Park is a popular picnicking and grilling area and Courouble would like to see legislation address the pollution from discarded food items and utensils.

He'd also love to see more volunteers, a biannual sweepthe-lake event and regular weed warrior group activity in the area.

	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5	Zone 6
Plastic bottle tops	30+	115+	50+	20+	30-	25+
Plastic water bottles	25	70+	60+	9	12	60+
Rubber/nylon tennis balls	41	85+	60	26	29	6
Plastic cigarette filters	20+	40+	25+	4	5	10+
Plastic cups and lids	15+	30+	50+	4	5+	50+
Plastic soft drink bottles	20-	25-	40+	10+	8	35+
Aluminum soda cans	20+	15+	25+	3	4	10-
Glass beer bottles	10+	10-	7	3	-	4
Candy wrappers	15+	25+	20+	10-	20+	25+
Plastic straws	10-	10+	12	-	4	8
Glass hard alcohol bottles	6	10-	10-	2	1	2
Chips bags	10-	6	15+	4	5-	10-
Plastic carryout bags	10+	10+	30+	5+	4	20+
Lighter	4	5-	15-	2	3	3
Polyethylene bags	3	5-	3	1	-	10-
Food plastic containers	3	5-	8	2	-	3

A breakdown by type of items found in the lake cleanup

Zone 1: Trail marker 1 to 4 (North Side) Zone 2: Trail marker 4 to 8 (Lakeside)

**Zone 3: Trail marker 8 to 10 (Lakecrest)** Zone 4: Inlet

Zone 5: Dam

Zone 6: Forebay (inlet) and forebay (Lakecrest)



Cleanup at the lake dam

- Chart and photo by Xavier Courouble





A red-flecked pink azalea

#### **Help Repot Baby** Wildflowers

Baby wildflowers need space to grow. On Tuesday, May 9 and Thursday, May 11 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. weather permitting join Gardening Angels to repot wildflowers. Insect populations are plummeting because the native host plants they require are missing from our landscapes. This is a weekday opportunity for those with a flexible schedule, including retirees and telecommuters. Help is urgently needed to pot up thousands of native wildflower seedlings for future transplanting into Greenbelt's common spaces.

Meet in the small parking lot adjacent to 8 Court Laurel Hill Road, and work at tables set on the paved surface. Bring a pair of gloves, and if possible, a card table and folding chair(s). For more information, contact SowingStrength2@ gmail.com.

## Community Helps Create Conservation Landscape



Volunteers Lily Chonczynski, Peter Chonczynski, Kristen Maul and Gloria Rytting work on conservation landscape across from **Greenbelt Elementary School.** 

Volunteers Lily Chonczynski, Peter Chonczynski, Kristen Maul and Gloria Rytting helped install burlap to cover crescent-shaped berms to slow stormwater at the conservation landscape being constructed across from Greenbelt Elementary School. Native trees, shrubs and other plants will be added soon. The work was organized by the Parcel X woodlands team with a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust, Prince George's County Department of the Environment and Prince George's County, plus support from Greenbelt Homes, Inc.

The goal is to "mitigate storm event erosion issues at the source and provide education to the community, including both students and nearby Greenbelt residents. This project will be used as a demonstration site for conservation landscapes, berms and native plants." The location is a high-traffic and highly visible area, where middle school students wait for the bus and elementary school students and their parents cross the street to the school.

### Spotted in Greenbelt



It was dusk and time for this raccoon in a backyard tree on Hillside Road to start thinking about breakfast. As development in our area soars, habitats for wildlife are either destroyed or fragmented into small spaces that can't provide the resources or territory many species need to survive. Raccoons seem to be among those that find a way, and, on this day, this little fellow found accommodations for a long rest before starting his night's work.

