



ERHS Volleyball, p.11



Veterans Day ceremony, p.12

## FBI HQ Comes to Greenbelt, Finally

by Erica Johns

Greenbelt's City Council Room was full of jubilation and pride on the rainy morning of Friday November 10, when Maryland Governor Wes Moore led an extraordinary press conference to celebrate Greenbelt's selection as the location of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) national headquarters (HQ). The event followed the General Services Administration's (GSA) selection announcement on November 8, after 14 years of efforts to bring the FBI to Greenbelt, since the FBI began looking for a new home in 2009. GSA plans for the site include the secure FBI facility and a mixed-use commercial development at the Metro station.

### Celebration

Moore opened with a big "Good morning, y'all!" describing the rain as "tears of joy being spread all over the place." He said, "I cannot stress enough how big this is for Prince George's County. I cannot stress enough how big this is for Maryland. I can't stress how important this is for the American taxpayers. I

can't stress how important this is for law enforcement because there's currently an FBI building that just last weekend had a piece of concrete almost hit a person working inside the building. They need and deserve better, and in Maryland we will deliver that."

"Nothing Given, Everything Earned," emphasized Moore, speaking of the hard work and teamwork it had taken to have Greenbelt selected. Standing at the front of the room with Moore were individuals from all levels of government representing the City of Greenbelt, Prince George's County and the State of Maryland.

### Winning on the Merits

U.S. Representative Steny Hoyer opened his remarks with a joyful "Hello, Team!" and said Greenbelt won on criteria including transit, schedule, cost and equity. GSA noted that the Greenbelt site is located at a Metro and MARC station. It also chose Greenbelt for the quickest schedule, because the

See FBI, page 6



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks cheers at the podium in Greenbelt's City Council Room during the press conference on Friday, November 10. Behind her stand Comptroller Brooke Lierman, Attorney General Anthony Brown, Congressman Glenn Ivey, Lt. Governor Aruna Miller, Governor Wes Moore and Congressman Steny Hoyer.

## Greenbelter, LGBTQ+ Ministry Receive an Audience with Pope

by Melissa Sites



PHOTO COURTESY NEW WAYS MINISTRY

New Ways Ministry staff members pose with Pope Francis after their 50-minute meeting with him. From left, Matthew Myers, staff associate; Frank DeBernardo, executive director; Pope Francis; Sister Jeannine Gramick, SL, co-founder; and Robert Shine, associate director

Greenbelter Frank DeBernardo was received by Pope Francis at the Vatican, along with colleagues from New Ways Ministry, Loretto Sister Jeannine Gramick, Associate Director Robert Shine and staff associate Matthew Myers.

DeBernardo wrote to the Pope in April 2021 to explain the mission and work of New Ways Ministry, a group that "educates and advocates for equity, inclusion and justice for LGBTQ+

persons" in Roman Catholicism. New Ways Ministry was founded by Father Robert Nugent and Sr. Jeannine in 1977; they took the name from "new ways to communicate the truth of Christ," a phrase in Bishop Francis Mugavero's 1976 pastoral letter, Sexuality: God's Gift.

Pope Francis sent a handwritten note congratulating Sr. Jeannine on her 50 years of LGBTQ+ ministry, and has sent other hand-

written notes to DeBernardo and Sr. Jeannine, which they have found to be cordial and affirming. This fall, Pope Francis invited Sr. Jeannine to meet with him, and she requested that DeBernardo, Shine and Myers might come along. DeBernardo and Shine were already in Rome for the Synod of Bishops, because ministry to LGBTQ+ Catholics was among the topics being discussed by the bishops.

See POPE, page 4

### What Goes On

- Monday, November 20 7:30 p.m.**, City Council Worksession: Luminis Health Doctors Medical Center, Municipal Building
- Wednesday, November 22 7:30 p.m.**, City Council Worksession: Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Municipal Building
- Thursday, November 23 – Friday, November 24** City offices closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at [greenbeltmd.gov](http://greenbeltmd.gov) for more information.

## Water Tower Rehabilitation Set to Begin by Next Summer

by Diane Oberg

On Monday, October 30 representatives from WSSC Water (WSSC) updated the Greenbelt City Council on the Standpipe Rehabilitation Project expected to start next year. Councilmembers and nearby residents felt "blindsided," in the words of Mayor Emmett Jordan earlier this year, when they learned that WSSC had purchased the house closest

to the standpipe (water tower) at the corner of Ridge Road and Lastner Lane.

### 241 Lastner

The utility has purchased this property and will demolish the house, shed and retaining wall. Project Manager Christopher DeHerde said that details on the

See TOWER, page 9

## New Council Sworn in



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

On Monday, November 13, Greenbelt's new City Councilmembers were sworn into office. Pictured from left to right are: (standing) Rodney Roberts, Jenni Pompei, Silke Pope, Danielle McKinney and (seated) Ric Gordon, Emmett Jordan and Kristen Weaver. Jordan was unanimously re-elected as mayor by the new council and Weaver was unanimously re-elected mayor pro tem.

## Haiku Due Sunday

The News Review invites readers to write and submit a Thanksgiving-themed haiku for publication in the November 23 issue of the paper. Tell us what you are thankful for or what you like about this time of year. The News Review's 86th birthday is the day after Thanksgiving – on November 24 – so you could use the paper as a theme too, or instead.

Submit your haiku(s) by email to [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com) no later than Sunday, November 19, putting 'haiku' on the subject line. Entries must follow the three-line format for haiku: first line five syllables, second line seven syllables and third line five syllables. Be sure to also include the poet's name. Have fun!

## Letters to the Editor

### Congrats and Thanks

Congratulations, Rodney Roberts, on winning your 17th term on Greenbelt City Council. And thank you for your role in the creation of the Greenbelt Forest Preserve at its 20th year anniversary.

When both co-founder/co-chair Ruth Kastner and co-chair Rodney Roberts of the Committee to Save the Green Belt (CSGB) ran for Greenbelt City Council in 1989, both fell short of the votes needed to unseat an incumbent. But that did not deter Roberts when he ran again in 1991 and won a seat on council.

Serving on council, Roberts was a strongly vocal, uncompromising advocate of protecting and preserving Greenbelt's last 184 acres of the original Belt of Green, leading to the creation of the Greenbelt Forest Preserve in 2003 (which is now under threat by the proposed first leg of the maglev train project).

It's worth noting that Roberts also played a significant role in CSGB's fundraising efforts, working tirelessly year after year at its Keep It Wooded booth during the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival. We operated a food booth (strawberry frosty coolers) for seven years that raised the funds needed to finance our CSGB-sponsored children's Halloween Pumpkin Walks, plus funding many other awareness-raising endeavors in the fight to protect Greenbelt's treasured woodlands. And when CSGB's funds were running low in its latter years, Roberts paid out of his own pocket for our Halloween Pumpkin Walks which had become hugely popular.

Thank you, Rodney Roberts, for your hard work and unfaltering dedication.

*Yoni Siegel, Bill Rich  
Committee to Save the Green Belt*

See **LETTERS**, page 4

### Heads Up to Advertisers

The November 23 issue falls on Thanksgiving. Our printer requires us to print a day early, which means advertising deadlines are also a day early, with camera-ready copy and any required payments due by 6 p.m. Monday, November 20. Material needing hands-on attention should come in by Friday, November 17. There will be no office hours on Tuesday, November 21 and no ads will be taken that day.

Don't be a turkey! Get your ducks lined up.



Greenbelt Cinema  
129 Centerway  
301-329-2034  
[www.greenbeltcinema.org](http://www.greenbeltcinema.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:**  
**NOVEMBER 17th - 23rd**

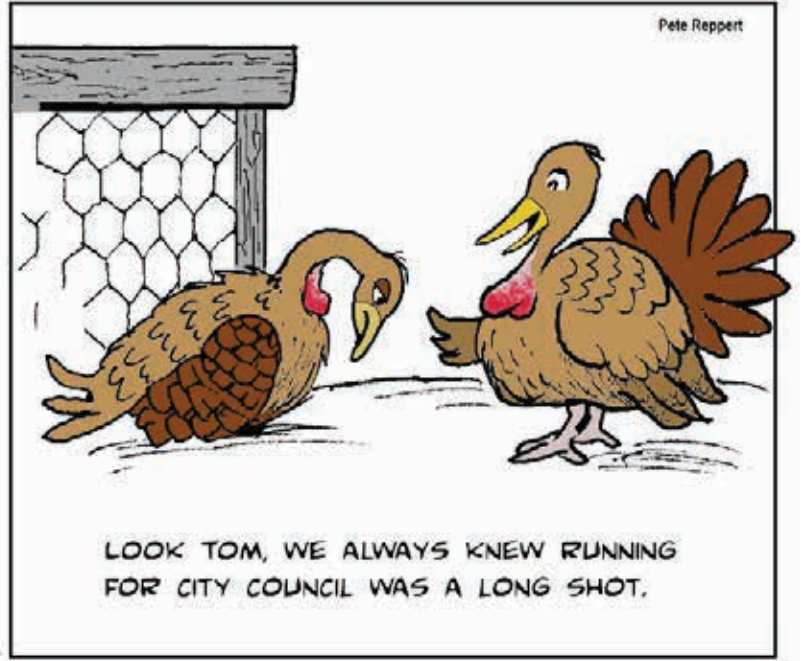
**The Holdovers (R) (CC) (DVS) (2023) (133 mins)**  
**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**  
Fri. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM  
Sat. 3:00 PM  
Sun. 2:00 PM (OC)  
Mon. 5:00 PM  
Tues. 7:00 PM  
**Screen 2 - The Screening Room**  
Sat. 5:45 PM  
Sun. 5:00 PM  
Mon. 2:15 PM  
Wed. 5:00 PM, 7:45 PM  
Thurs. 8:15 PM

**Priscilla (R) (CC) (DVS) (2023) (110 mins)**  
**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**  
Sun. 5:15 PM  
Mon. 2:30 PM (OC)  
**Screen 2 - The Screening Room**  
Fri. 5:15 PM, 7:45 PM  
Sat. 3:15 PM  
Sun. 2:15 PM  
Mon. 5:15 PM  
Tues. 7:15 PM

**Napoleon (R) (CC) (DVS) (2023) (110 mins)**  
**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**  
Wed. 4:45 PM, 8:00 PM  
Thurs. 8:00 PM

**The Room 20th Anniversary Tour (R) (2003) (91 mins)**  
with Greg Sestero live in person!  
**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**  
Sat. Event begins at 6:30 PM and movie begins at 8:30 PM

**Storytime on Screen - Free!**  
**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**  
Mon. 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM



- News Review, November 23, 2017

### Corrections

In last week's article on the city election we stated that the number of voters was up slightly from 1,458 in 2021. The number we gave was the number of in-person voters for 2021. The figures used for 2023 were the preliminary results available on election night. The count was finalized on Thursday, November 9, and saw an addition of 22 provisional votes. A final total of 2,685 people voted in this election, up 10 votes from 2021. The percentage of registered voters who voted was 17.8 in both years. The under-18 advisory referendum was on the 2017 ballot not 2021.

Also in last week's issue, we overstated the tenure of City Manager Josué Salmerón. He has been on the job for two months, starting shortly after Labor Day.

Last week's soccer article was mistakenly attributed to Ian Gleason rather than Patrick Gleason.



# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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CIRCULATION Circulation Coordinator: [circ@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:circ@greenbeltnewsreview.com)  
HOA information at: [www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution](http://www.greenbeltnewsreview.com/contact-us/distribution)

Published weekly since 1937 by the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc.

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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.

### On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

## The Holdovers

From acclaimed director Alexander Payne, the film follows a curmudgeonly instructor (Paul Giamatti) at a New England prep school who is forced to remain on campus during Christmas break to babysit the handful of students with nowhere to go. Eventually he forms an unlikely bond with one of them – a damaged, brainy troublemaker (newcomer Dominic Sessa) – and with the school's head cook, who has just lost a son in Vietnam (Da'Vine Joy Randolph).

## Priscilla

When teenage Priscilla Beaulieu meets Elvis Presley at a party, the man who is already a meteoric rock-and-roll superstar becomes someone entirely unexpected in private moments: a thrilling crush, an ally in loneliness, a vulnerable best friend. Through Priscilla's eyes, Director Sofia Coppola tells the unseen side of a great American myth in Elvis and Priscilla's long courtship and turbulent marriage, from a German Army base to his dream-world estate at Graceland, in this deeply felt and ravishingly detailed portrait of love, fantasy and fame.

## Napoleon

A spectacle-filled action epic, the film details the checkered rise and fall of the iconic French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte, played by Oscar winner Joaquin Phoenix. Against a stunning backdrop of large-scale filmmaking orchestrated by legendary director Ridley Scott, it captures Bonaparte's relentless journey to power through the prism of his addictive, volatile relationship with his one true love, Josephine, showcasing his visionary military and political tactics against some of the most dynamic practical battle sequences ever filmed.

## The Room 20th Anniversary Tour

Tommy Wiseau wrote, directed and produced The Room. He also stars in the lead role, co-starring alongside Greg Sestero, Juliette Danielle, Philip Haldiman and Carolyn Minnott. The movie is a romantic drama about a banker named Johnny (Wiseau) whose best friend Mark (Sestero) has an affair with his girlfriend Lisa (Danielle), leading to tragic consequences. Despite some serious subject matter, the film has also been treated as a dark comedy by its fans who are entertained by the acting and dialogue. Sestero, a star of the film and author of The Disaster Artist, will be there in person. There will be a Q and A before the film as well as a meet and greet opportunity for every ticket holder.

# Community Events

## At the Library

All county libraries will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 22, and will remain closed through Thursday November 23 for the Thanksgiving Day Holiday. The Greenbelt Library will reopen on Friday, November 24 at 10 a.m. Passport acceptance service will be suspended on Wednesday, November 22; Thursday, November 23; and Saturday, November 25.

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

### Bilingual Stories

Friday, November 17, 10:30 a.m., ages newborn to 5, at the Springhill Lake Community Center. Enjoy the wonderful world of storytelling. Friends and family welcome. Ven y disfruta del maravilloso mundo de contar cuentos. Amigos y familiares son bienvenidos. Hosted by the Greenbelt Library staff and Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness (RUAK). Register at [pgcmls.info/event/9202783](http://pgcmls.info/event/9202783).

### Storytimes

Friday, November 17, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/9192148](http://pgcmls.info/event/9192148).

Monday, November 20, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/9191102](http://pgcmls.info/event/9191102).

Wednesday, November 22, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/9191171](http://pgcmls.info/event/9191171).

### Stories on Screen

Monday, November 20, 10:30 a.m. Greenbelt Cinema is offering a free program of stories, songs and a short film. This program is best suited for children ages 1 to 5 and their caregivers; no unaccompanied children or adults. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/9202750](http://pgcmls.info/event/9202750).

### STEM-tastic

Tuesday, November 21, 4:30 p.m., ages 5 to 18. Experience virtual reality using the Oculus Quest system. Play together or independently in various logic-based games. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/9189093](http://pgcmls.info/event/9189093).

## Greenbelt Writers Group

The Greenbelt Writers Group will hold its monthly meeting on Friday, November 17 at 7 p.m. in the Community Center. All Greenbelt writers are invited to attend. Those who wish may read a brief piece that they have written. For more information, contact Barbara Ford at [barbara.ford@verizon.net](mailto:barbara.ford@verizon.net).



## Greenbelt Rotary Breakfast Club

The Greenbelt Rotary meets on Tuesdays at 7 a.m. in the Williams Room of the Holiday Inn for breakfast and guest speakers. The speaker for Tuesday, November 21 is Karen Harper. Harper is a resident of Bowie and president of Building Engineering and Science Talent (BEST), a nonprofit organization focused on broadening the participation of women and historically underrepresented minorities in STEM.

## Greenbelt Orchestra Free Concert Nov. 19

The newly formed Greenbelt Community Orchestra will give its first concert at 3 p.m. on Sunday, November 19 at the Community Center. They will perform music by Mozart, Weber and Elgar, as well as an original composition by one of the conductors. The concert is free and is expected to last about an hour. All are welcome. Visit [greenbeltorchestra.org](http://greenbeltorchestra.org) for more information.



## Foundation Fundraiser Sunday, November 19

The annual fundraiser for the Michael D. Maxwell, Jr. Foundation for Mental Awareness, postponed due to the pandemic, is scheduled for Sunday, November 19 at the Greenbelt American Legion from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. There will be great food, a live band, giveaways, silent auctions, the famous Face Paint Lady and an opportunity to visit with the community. Tickets (\$25 per person) can be purchased by contacting the Foundation at [michaeldmaxwelljr@foundation@gmail.com](mailto:michaeldmaxwelljr@foundation@gmail.com).

## Thanksgiving Food Box Giveaway, Nov. 20

CARES has partnered with Prince George's County Councilmember Ingrid Watson for this year's free Thanksgiving District 4 Community Partner Food Giveaway. The event will take place on Monday, November 20 starting at 10 a.m., at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

To RSVP, contact Brendy Garcia at 240-424-0302 or email [bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov).

For more information, contact Bria Archie at 301-952-3094 or email [BAArchie@co.pg.md.us](mailto:BAArchie@co.pg.md.us).

## GCDC Trails Update



THE NEIGHBORHOOD DESIGN CENTER

### Rendering of a widened sidewalk

The annual Greenbelt Community Development Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 19 from 2 to 4 p.m. in Room 202 of the Community Center. The featured speaker will be Jeff Lemieux talking about the Greenbelt East Bike Trail and the grants obtained for implementing it.

## Free Classes, Programs At The SPACE

René Hood, Maryland licensed therapist and yoga instructor, will lead Bloom with Intention: Yoga, Meditation, Flow at The SPACE: Free Art For All. Families are welcome for ages 8+ with caregiver. Classes are free; RSVP is recommended via the website, [FreeArtForAll.org](http://FreeArtForAll.org) or on Facebook.

Saturday classes will be from 10 to 11:30 a.m., twice a month starting November 18, December 9 and onward. Yoga mats will be provided and stored for convenience. Free Expressive Art classes will occur on alternating Saturdays November 25, December 16 and December 30, from 2 to 4 p.m.

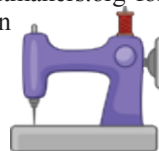
Additionally there is an ongoing Capoeira program on Thursdays, 5:30 to 6:20 p.m. See [FreeArtForAll.org](http://FreeArtForAll.org) to learn more. The SPACE is located at 6000 Greenbelt Road, Suite 13, in Beltway Plaza across from the AMC Theatre.

## Fire Dept. Bake Sale

The Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary is baking up a storm. Its members invite friends and neighbors to show their support on Sunday, November 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. by buying homemade baked items at the table on the Co-op Supermarket ramp.

## Greenbelt MakerSpace Sewing Machine Class

The Greenbelt MakerSpace is offering a sewing machine class on Sunday, November 19 at 1 p.m. in the Granite Building. Learn how to use a sewing machine. There will be some sewing machines available to use but bring your own for more individualized instruction. Participants are welcome to bring their own projects to receive help with them. There is a fee requested. Sewing machines (and other things) can be borrowed from the MakerSpace tool library, open Saturdays 10 a.m. to noon and Sundays 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Visit [tools.greenbeltmakers.org](http://tools.greenbeltmakers.org) for more information and registration.



## St. Gregory's Kolachi Carry-Out Event

St. Gregory's will hold its Kolachi Carry-Out Event on Sunday, November 19 from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. (after Sunday morning liturgy) and Saturday, December 9 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The traditional East European sweet bread will be available with walnut, poppyseed or apricot at St. Gregory's Byzantine Catholic Church, 12420 Old Gunpowder Spur Road, Beltsville. Pre-ordering is recommended at <https://stgregoryofnyssa.net>.

## Annual Craft Bazaar

The Greenbelt Unit #136 American Legion Auxiliary presents its Annual Craft Bazaar, including handmade items, raffles, refreshments and a bake sale. The bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 6900 Greenbelt Road. For more information contact Rusty Beeg at [rbeeg5908@gmail.com](mailto:rbeeg5908@gmail.com).



## Rotary Youth Environmental Summit

The Greenbelt Rotary will be participating in the Rotary Youth Environmental Summit in Urbana, Md., on Sunday, November 19 from noon to 4 p.m. The event is free and open to youths aged 11 to 18. Online registration has now closed but if you are interested in attending contact Vijay Kowtha at [kowtha@ieec.org](mailto:kowtha@ieec.org) or 202-423-0034.

## Senior Nutrition Program Luncheon

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunch for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. Note the updated start time. Meals must be reserved two weeks ahead so that enough food is ordered. Participants must complete a registration form in person at the Community Center office, on Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. There is a suggested donation. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215 with questions.

Two menu options, one vegetarian, will be offered for each luncheon. All meals, which provide at least one third of recommended dietary allowances for older adults, include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk.



## Golden Age Club

The Greenbelt Golden Age Club meets every Wednesday at 11 a.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center. There will be no meeting on November 22, the day before Thanksgiving when many members are cleaning and cooking. Greenbelt residents aged 60 years and older are eligible to join the club.

November 29, Dhruvi Patel, senior agent for Family and Consumer Services, University of Maryland, will discuss diabetes.

## 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.

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD

**Hours: Mon/Wed/Th 8am-9pm; Tues 8am-9:30pm; Friday/Saturday 8am – midnight; Sunday 9am – 9pm, UNLESS NOTED.**

TH 11/16	FRI 11/17	SAT 11/18	SUN 11/19
<p><b>The Potecasi Slide Experience</b> 7-9pm</p> <p>Funky soulful blues band with a touch of rock and GoGo</p>	<p><b>Miles Gannett Band</b> 8-11pm</p> <p>Cosmic Americana, bluegrass and rock and roll</p>	<p><b>POETRY OPEN MIC, 1-3pm</b></p> <p><b>The Grateful Allman Band</b> 8-11pm</p> <p>Grateful Dead, Allman Bros &amp; The Band</p>	<p><b>SPECIAL DRAG STORY HOUR WITH D'MANDA MARTINI, 1-2:30P</b></p> <p><b>Fez Tones Hafla</b> 6-8pm</p> <p>Middle Eastern music</p>
MON 11/20	TUES 11/21	WED 11/22	TH 11/23
<p><b>REEL AND MEAL</b> 7-9pm</p> <p>A monthly film series exploring social issues</p>	<p><b>Tuesday Tunes Open Mic with Joey Campfire</b> 7-9:30pm</p> <p>SIGN UP AT 6:30pm</p>	<p><b>Dan Ingham</b> 7-9pm</p> <p>Solo acoustic act from Baltimore</p>	<p><b>CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING</b></p> <p><b>HAPPY HOUR 4-7pm</b> \$1 OFF BEER AND WINE</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> \$1 OFF PER GLASS \$5 OFF A BOTTLE</p>

Join or renew your membership. Go to [www.newdealcafe.com](http://www.newdealcafe.com), click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW!"

**\*For more information on these and other events, visit the NDC CALENDAR page on our website.**

**FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR.**

**Greenbelt Access Television**  
**Nov. 18, Sat - Nov. 24, Fri**  
Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77  
(School Programming on Your Cable Guide)  
Streaming on [www.greenbeltaccessstv.org](http://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org)

**THIS WEEK on GATE • Your Community Access Station**

Featured Film (9am, 3pm, and 8pm)

**Orpheus (1950)**  
A French film, directed by Jean Cocteau, Orpheus is the contemporary, dreamlike, visually stunning retelling of the Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice.

New This Month

**What's New at Greenbelt Cinema**  
New films getting Academy Award buzz, cult and international classics, and much more! Caitlin and Sheila meet again to discuss the films coming to Greenbelt Cinema in November.

All this and more on the GATE channel this week! Check [greenbeltaccessstv.org](http://greenbeltaccessstv.org) for the full broadcast schedule, and visit [Greenbelt Access Television on YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) for new video productions.

# Letters continued

## Voting Made Easy

Kudos to the Greenbelt City Clerk, Bonita Anderson, and the Board of Elections for planning and executing a streamlined, effective and efficient voting process for Greenbelters. Opening voting locations to all voters, regardless of precinct; using paper ballots to simplify marking and recording; and reducing the number of locations and volunteers all contributed to a cost-effective, successful operation. Thank you for your hard work and due diligence.

Toni Mathewson



## POPE continued from page 1

The meeting with the Pope is important because it represents a new openness in Catholicism toward LGBTQ+ people. Pope Francis has condemned the criminalization of LGBTQ+ people wherever those sorts of oppression occur. In October 2020, he made his first public remarks in support of civil unions for same-gender couples. "It was a big thing," DeBernardo said. "We had this dark cloud of 'censure' hanging over us, that we should not be considered a Catholic organization." They were censured in 1999 by John Paul II and again in 2010 by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, for supporting legal civil marriage for same-gender unions. "And so I started to think, we were censured for a position that the Pope now holds," said DeBernardo. So I decided to write to the Pope, and I told him all about our work, and I told him about our history of criticism by the Bishops and the Vatican. I was very forthright. Much to our surprise he wrote back. The first letter we got was on official Vatican stationery. The rest of the correspondence has been hand-written notes."

DeBernardo, originally from Brooklyn, began volunteering at New Ways Ministry in the early 1990s while he was getting a master's degree in English from the University of Maryland. By 1996 he was executive director. He moved to Greenbelt from Hyattsville in 2004, and worships with the Catholic Community of Greenbelt. He decided to move to

**Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH**

---

Christ-centered  
Biblical  
& Reformed

---

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

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

## A Triple Whammy?

First, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in BARC land. Now, the announcement that the FBI's coming to Greenbelt, even though Director Wray says it wasn't his choice. I foresee traffic nightmares on Greenbelt Road, Cherrywood Lane, Edmonston/Kenilworth, the roads through BARC and others. And there still looms the specter of maglev destroying woodlands, and worse. Yes, these things may be good for the economy, create jobs and help business, but at a terrible cost. I fear if this triple whammy comes to pass, the very character of Greenbelt that we cherish will be damaged. I have never considered myself a NIMBY person, but I'm becoming one now.

Jack Wittmann

## Robert Baker



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

**Robert Baker**

Longtime Greenbelter Robert "Bob" Baker died peacefully on October 30, 2023.

Bob was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., on December 8, 1936. He served in the U.S. Air Force from

1954 to 1958 and was stationed in Hope, Ark., and Wichita, Kan. He returned to Pittsburgh where he met Mary Ann McGovern. In June of 1962 they married and soon after moved to Greenbelt.

Bob worked as a draftsman/mechanical engineer for many years. He enjoyed many interests and hobbies, including camping, hiking, kayaking, tennis, racquetball and running. He trained hard and completed the New York City Marathon in 1980. Bob really enjoyed traveling with his friends on the Mary and Barry bus tours. He loved history, spending time searching and finding many Civil War relics. Bob loved watching University of Maryland sports and, "when they were worth watching," the Washington Redskins. He enjoyed playing golf with many friends and was a member of the Paint Branch men's league. He was also a proud longtime member of the Greenbelt American Legion Post 136.

Bob was preceded in death by his sister Georgina "Dolly" and son Paul. He is survived by his wife Mary Ann; sons Rob (Brigid) and Ken (Elaine); daughter Lori; grandchildren Sarah, Ashlie, Autumn, Brooke, Andrew, Casey, Lisa, Todd, Maura and Devin; and great-grandson Nathan.

Per Bob's wishes, his body was donated to the Maryland Anatomy Board in support of Donate Life America. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.



Condolences to the family, friends, fellow Golden Agers and Legionnaires on the death of Bob Baker, a transplanted Pittsburgher who lived in Greenbelt since the 1960s.

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

## GILA Thanksgiving Will be Held Nov. 22

The Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association's (GILA) annual Thanksgiving Celebration will be held on Wednesday, November 22 at 7:30 p.m. at Mishkan Torah Synagogue, 10 Ridge Road. Goodwill donations for rental assistance and the Good Samaritan Fund will be collected.

Go to greenbeltinterfaith.org then Thanksgiving 2023 for more information, including the Zoom link for those who want to attend virtually.

Greenbelt after seeing the friendliness among its people. "I'd come to the movie theater and read the News Review and think, this seems like a great community to live in," he said.

As executive director, DeBernardo runs programs for New Ways Ministry, including education and advocacy, workshops for Catholic parishes, high schools and universities, retreats and spiritual development programs including ones for lesbian nuns and gay priests. Their website has a daily blog about LGBTQ+ news, opinion and spirituality that has run for 12 years without missing one day.

DeBernardo has been asked to write two books for Liturgical Press. Mychal Judge: Take Me Where You Want Me to Go (2022) is part of a series about contemporary Catholics. A Franciscan priest, Fr. Judge had min-

istered to AIDS patients, and as a fire department chaplain he died in the North Tower of the World Trade Center, the first registered death of 9/11; it was revealed after his death that he was gay. DeBernardo's 2023 book, New Ways and Next Steps: Developing Catholic LGBTQ+ Parish Ministry, is part of a series on contemporary parish leadership. "I just sat down at the computer and kept typing everything I've ever said at a workshop for the last 30 years," he said.

DeBernardo is one of eight siblings, and has a rescued Jack Russell/boxer mix he named Adonis, "Because I knew he was frightened and anxious, I knew he needed a big name and he was beautiful."



The Bible Says...

First of all, then, I urge that entreaties *and* prayers, petitions *and* thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.

1 Timothy 2:1-2

**IN PERSON Sunday Worship Services**  
10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School  
(66 Ridge Rd.)  
**MCFcc.org**

**Greenbelt Community Church**  
One Hillside Road

We are an  
Open and Affirming  
Church

**Join Us Sunday**  
**10:15 AM**  
**for Worship**  
**and Church School**

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

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

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

"Regard the world as the human body which, though at its creation whole and perfect, hath been afflicted, through various causes, with grave disorders and maladies ... The mightiest instrument for the healing of all the world is the union of all its peoples." – Bahá'u'lláh



**Greenbelt Bahá'í Community**

www.greenbeltbahais.org

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

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)

301-474-9410

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

**Mishkan Torah Congregation**

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm  
Saturday morning services at 10:00am  
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

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

November 19, 2023 at 3:00 pm  
**Abundant Blessings**

Rev. Ann Kadlecek with Liturgist Rene McDonald

Thanksgiving is traditionally a time for gratitude, when we gather with others and offer thanks for the abundance in our lives. But how might we pay attention on the other days of the year to all the blessings of this life? And what might be different if we truly believed that we have what we need to face our challenges?

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

**City Notes**

Economic Development, Public Information and the City Manager coordinated press conferences, interviews, press releases and announcements about the FBI headquarters selection.

The Community Center, Police, Recreation and rangers hosted or supported city elections.

Environmental, Rangers and seven volunteers removed six cubic yards of invasives and installed 20 native understory trees and shrubs. Curbside leaf pickup continues.

Facility Maintenance serviced HVAC at the recreation facilities, installed a water heater at Public Works and replaced carpet at the Police Station. Refuse and Recycling collected 26.82 tons of refuse and 9.95 tons of recyclables and Public Works offered 115 Greenbelt Connection rides.

The Community Center accommodated CARES, the Greenbelt Assistance in Living program, Co-op Supermarket's annual meeting, Concert Band, Golden Age Club, Community Orchestra, Scouts, Pottery, Interfaith Leadership, Greenbrook Estates and 10 rentals.

The Aquatic & Fitness Center repaired fitness equipment and park rangers assisted Arts with Raku storage at Schrom Hills Park.

The Animal Shelter hosts seven cats, nine kittens, four dogs and a rabbit.

**Monthly Reel and Meal Shows Caged Dreams**

On Monday, November 20, Reel and Meal at the New Deal Café will present the documentary Caged Dreams, recounting the stories of Johannes Favi, Beatriz Batres and Felipe Diosdado, immigrants who were previously detained in Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody and suffered long-lasting trauma due to their incarceration. The film weaves their personal narratives with evocative animation to create a vivid picture of the experiences that immigrants have in jail and the disastrous impacts on their mental health and their loved ones.

The discussion following the film will be led by Favi, the director, who serves as the inaugural Freedom Fellow with Detention Watch Network.



**Johannes Favi** is a group working to end the incarceration of immigrants while they await the determination of their immigration status. In 2021 there were nearly 250,000 people in approximately 200 jails across the country run by ICE. They are denied access to lawyers, separated from their families and subjected to severe medical neglect. Favi also serves as board member for the Illinois Community for Displaced Immigrants in Chicago and advocates for legislation ending immigration detention in the Midwest and Washington, D.C.

The film will be screened in-house at the New Deal Café and on Zoom, starting at 7 p.m. Those attending online can register at [tinyurl.com/ReelMealNov23](http://tinyurl.com/ReelMealNov23). There will be a drawing for a \$10 voucher to cover in-person meal expenses. For more information, contact Daniel Thies at [daniel@gmail.com](mailto:daniel@gmail.com) or visit Reel and Meal's Facebook page at [facebook.com/reelandmealNDC](https://facebook.com/reelandmealNDC).



# 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.*

**MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER 20 - 24**

Monday, November 20 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - LUMINIS HEALTH DOCTORS COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER**

Wednesday, November 22 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER (BARC)**

*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](mailto: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 [www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar).*



**SPARKLE MART: GREENBELT'S JURIED ART & CRAFT FAIR**  
Saturday, December 2, 10-5 pm & Sunday, December 3, 10-4 pm.  
*Greenbelt Community Center*

Find gifts for all occasions including pottery, wood crafts and textiles from almost 80 local artisans. Free admission. Live music.

Details and schedule: <https://bit.ly/477AG00>.

**COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES VOLUNTEER TODAY!**

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, the Youth Advisory Committee, or the Advisory Committee on Education, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Community Relations Advisory Board, Employee Relations Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, or the Park and Recreation Advisory Board** and make a difference in Greenbelt!

By dedicating your time and expertise, you will help shape the future of Greenbelt and create a community that values the voices of all its residents. Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

**GREENBELT ARPA GRANT PROGRAMS Applications Rolling Through December 29, 2023**

To better assist Greenbelt individuals, families, and businesses affected by COVID-19, Greenbelt's ARPA programs have extended deadlines through the end of the year for grants and other assistance.

To view grant programs, or to see how other ARPA programs are helping your community recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, visit [www.engagegreenbelt.org](http://www.engagegreenbelt.org).

**BRING YOUR OWN BAG ORDINANCE**

Effective January 1, 2024, the City of Greenbelt's Bring Your Own Bag bill aims to reduce single-use plastic bag waste and litter in our local waterways and tributary system.

The Bring Your Own Bag Bill will prohibit a retail establishment from providing a plastic carryout bag to shoppers and can charge at least 10 cents for each paper bag provided to a customer at the point of sale.

For more information on this bill, visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/BYOBO](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/BYOBO).

**2023 GOBBLE WOBBLE**

**2023 GOBBLE WOBBLE 5K FAMILY RUN & WALK**  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 9 AM  
GREENBELT YOUTH CENTER

Join us for the Gobble Wobble Family Fun Run & Walk, a Thanksgiving morning community tradition. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors. Participants meet at the Greenbelt Youth Center and the course takes them on the Buddy Attick Park lake path. Get some exercise before your Thanksgiving feast!

- Participants receive a Gobble Wobble t-shirt!
- Medals for top finishers.
- Medals for youth participants.



SCAN TO REGISTER

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION PRICING:** Individual: \$20; Family 4-Pack: \$70  
**ONLINE REGISTRATION ENDS NOVEMBER 22 at 5 pm**  
**REGISTER AT [WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV/GOBBLEWOBBLE](http://WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV/GOBBLEWOBBLE)**

Day of Race (8 - 8:45 am) Pricing: Individual: \$25; Family 4-Pack: \$90  
Race Packet Pick-Up is Wednesday, November 22, 9 am - 8 pm, at the Greenbelt Youth Center.

For registration assistance, please call (301) 397-2200.

Contact: Andrew Phelan at [aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov) or (240) 542-2194.



**HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

City Offices will be closed on Thursday & Friday, November 23 - 24, in observance of Thanksgiving holiday.  
**THE GREENBELT CONNECTION WILL NOT BE OPERATING.**

**REFUSE/RECYCLING SCHEDULE**

Week of November 20  
Monday Route – Refuse & Recycling Regular Schedule  
Tuesday Route – Refuse & Recycling Regular Schedule  
Wednesday Route – Refuse & Recycling Regular Schedule  
Thursday Route – Refuse collected on Wednesday - NO RECYCLING

*There will be no appliance, odd metals, hard plastics, or yard waste collections on Friday, November 24.*

**CURRENT CARES PROGRAMS**

CARES is happy to provide the following programs FREE of charge this fall: Emergency Diaper Program, Family and Unpaid Caregiver Resource Fair, Alzheimer's Awareness Month Webinar Series, Coffee & Conversations, two Free Produce Distribution events, Mental Health and Suicide Prevention in Older Adults webinar, Staying Strong webinar, and more.

For descriptions and information, visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/CARESprograms](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/CARESprograms).

**GREENBELT SAVE OUR SENIORS GRANT PROGRAM**  
**Are you homebound and need help with personal care?**

The Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program, in partnership with Pickett Fences Senior Services, has been awarded a grant to provide temporary home health support, bathroom safety assessment, and equipment to residents 60+ or 50+ with a disability, who reside within incorporated Greenbelt. During this time staff will work to identify and link residents with long-term support programs.

- Benefits:
- RN Assessment
  - Bathroom Safety Assessment and Equipment
  - Home Health Visits

Limited spots are available!

Please email Trinity Cephas, GAIL Student Intern, for more information at [tcephas@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:tcephas@greenbeltmd.gov) or call the Bilingual Health Caseworker, Brendy Garcia, at (240) 424-0302 or [bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov).



**NOVEMBER EMERGENCY DIAPER PROGRAM**

Greenbelt CARES is supporting Greenbelt families in need of diapers. Please note that you must sign-up each month and the date & time will be provided after signing-up.

Parents must present proof of Greenbelt residency displaying parent's name and residential address, state-issued photo ID, each child's birth certificate.

For more information call (240) 424-0302 or email [bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov).

**HOLIDAY FOOD BOX**  
**NOVEMBER 20, AT 10 AM**  
**SPRINGHILL LAKE RECREATION CENTER**

Greenbelt CARES has teamed up with Prince George's County Council Member Ingrid S. Watson to present this year's November Holiday Food Box! This giveaway will happen to the Monday before Thanksgiving.

Registration is now open. To register, call (240) 424-0302 or email Brendy Garcia at [bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov). For more information, contact Bria Archie via email at [BAArchie@co.pg.md.us](mailto:BAArchie@co.pg.md.us) or call (301) 952-3094.



**A December Holiday Food Box will be open for registration on December 1!**

**THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR, HOLIDAY INN GREENBELT**

Thank you to the **Holiday Inn Greenbelt** for their generous donation towards **GAIL's holiday programming for families.**

To find out how you can help, contact Katherine Farzin at (240) 542-2019 or email [kfarzin@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:kfarzin@greenbeltmd.gov).



**LEAF VACUUM SCHEDULE | FALL 2023-2024**

The City Public Works Department will again collect loose leaves from the following areas with the leaf vacuum from October 30, 2023 until January 2024. We remind residents to rake the leaves to the curb, but not into the street, and to remove all sticks and stones from the pile as these can damage the machinery. Areas to be collected will be posted as in past years. We also remind residents NOT to park in front of leaf piles.

**NOVEMBER 20 - 22**  
Lakeside

**DECEMBER 11 - 15**  
Woodland Hills

**NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 1**  
Lakewood,  
Greenspring I & II

**DECEMBER 18 - 22**  
Lakeside,  
Greenspring I & II

**DECEMBER 4 - 8**  
Boxwood

**DECEMBER 26 - 29**  
Lakewood

## FBI continued from page 1

landowners (Metro and the State of Maryland) are ready to sell at appraised value and the site has no tenants or buildings to be moved and demolished, while the Springfield, Va., site would require over three years to move tenants and demolish buildings. Cost estimates for site purchase and preparation are \$26M for Greenbelt, \$64M for Springfield and over \$100M for Landover. GSA also found Greenbelt has the most potential to spur economic opportunity in underserved communities.

### Local Impact

The City of Greenbelt has consistently supported bringing the FBI to Greenbelt (see statement by Mayor Emmett Jordan, page 7). Moore said the building will “bring over 7,500 jobs to the State of Maryland, will generate over four billion dollars of economic activity and will solidify our state as the tech and cyber capital of the United States.” Maryland State Delegate Adrienne Jones talked of public service career impacts on individuals: well-paid jobs, strong benefits and economic mobility, as well as purpose, lifelong skills and rewarding careers.

U.S. Representative Glenn Ivey emphasized issues of equity and history, saying, “I’m tired of the redlining that’s been here. This is a step moving away from that.” For more on the issues of equity as well as changes to criteria in site selection, see the November 10, 2022, issue of the News Review.

The GSA said economic benefits include both the direct impact of federal jobs and contracts, and the indirect economic benefit of job creation and spending by employed individuals in the local economy. The City of Greenbelt anticipates that the FBI’s presence will lead to improved public transit to support FBI personnel and benefit Greenbelt residents.

Prince George’s County Executive Angela Alsobrooks called it a “once in a generation” opportunity for investing in amenities, housing and offices and in schools “on the cutting edge for the FBI’s mission and attracting top talent from across the globe.” She said it “means so much more

than another building,” anticipating “a rising tide of opportunity that lifts all of us up ... [to] permanently reshape our community for the better ... and change millions of lives across the state and Prince George’s County.” She emphasized construction will be completed with a Project Labor Agreement (a pre-hire collective bargaining agreement with labor organizations).

### Virginia Reactions

Virginia officials challenged the decision in the media, with reactions including a joint statement from Governor Glenn Youngkin, U.S. Senators Mark Warner and Tim Kaine, and eight Virginia U.S. Representatives: “We are deeply disturbed to learn that a political appointee at the General Services Administration overruled the unanimous recommendation of a three-person panel comprised of career experts from the GSA and the Federal Bureau of Investigation concluding that Springfield, Va., is the site best suited for the new FBI headquarters ... Any fair weighing of the criteria points to a selection of Virginia. It is clear that this process has been irrevocably undermined and tainted, and this decision must now be reversed.”

### FBI Director Reacts

Similarly fierce was the reaction from FBI Director Christopher Wray, who claimed flaws in the site selection process, including GSA’s Site Selection Authority (SSA) not adhering to the recommendation of the Site Selection Panel (one FBI and two GSA employees recommended Springfield), and cited a conflict of interest by someone on the SSA who previously worked for Metro, which is expected to sell the site to GSA. [The sale could help Metro finances, which have been challenged in recent years by lower ridership levels, fare evasion and major rail line and rail car maintenance.] Wray’s letter to his workforce expressed concerns about “fairness and transparency in the process and GSA’s failure to adhere to its own site selection plan” and “the appearance of a lack of impartiality by the GSA senior executive given the executive’s previous professional affiliation with



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

State, county and city representatives celebrate the news on Friday, presenting Congressman Steny Hoyer, whom many credited with making it all possible, with a signed plaque: Maryland Home of the FBI.

the owner of the selected site.”

GSA noted the SSA has the authority to overrule selection panels and make an independent decision and previously did so to include Springfield for consideration against the panel’s recommendation. After GSA’s General Counsel found no legal reason to overturn the decision, GSA Administrator Robin Carnahan commented that, “We’re disappointed that the FBI Director is now making inaccurate claims directed at our agency, our employees and our site selection plan and process, [after] GSA and FBI teams have spent countless hours working closely together over many months ... any suggestion that there was inappropriate interference is unfounded.” She wrote to Wray, “The choice of Greenbelt, Md., is fully consistent with the decision-making process as well as all laws, regulations and ethical considerations. We stand behind the process, the decision and all of the public servants who carefully followed the process and made a good decision on behalf of the FBI and the public.” U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen admonished, “It is absolutely wrong of Director Chris Wray to impugn and question the character, the integrity and the independence of the site selection administrator.”

### Partnership

Speakers in Greenbelt emphasized that the decision was final and praised the 14 years of continuous bipartisan team effort across Democrats, Republicans

and across elections, remaining united as Team Maryland and Team Prince George’s. Hoyer noted, “It would not have happened if we didn’t have the unity of a team ... a team that was made up of every political group, every generation and every level of government.”

The effort spanned governors Larry Hogan (R) and Moore (D), county executives Rushern Baker and Alsobrooks (both D), U.S. Senators Barbara Mikulski, Ben Cardin and Van Hollen (all D), U.S. Representatives including Anthony Brown and Ivey (both D) and state senators and delegates. Speakers credited Mikulski for beginning to regularly put aside federal budget dollars in 2015 (a nest egg now at \$1.2B and still growing), and Hogan and Baker for their early advocacy.

Speakers consistently recognized Hoyer as the “ultimate champion,” “the visionary and the architect.” Moore said, “If you ever get a chance to have a conversation with Steny Hoyer, I guarantee you in the first 30 seconds: F-B-I!” Alsobrooks: “I can confirm the Congressman spoke one language, called FBI” and Lt. Governor Aruna Miller said that, “In Maryland, we spell tenacity S-T-E-N-Y!”

### Next Steps

GSA said this is the final decision according to the selection process and criteria jointly agreed on by the FBI and GSA. GSA will now begin purchasing the site (expected to take nine months) and coordinating with

Congress. Next steps will then include an environmental impact review, contracting with architects, choosing designs and letting a construction contract, all of which are expected to take three and a half years before construction can begin.

When a reporter asked about the possibility of losing construction funds, Hoyer reiterated the \$1B already set aside and the \$375M more proposed in the FY2024 appropriation bill. He added that the day before, Thursday, November 9, the House of Representatives rejected [by 273 to 145] a proposed amendment to eliminate the funding. (The amendment was proposed by Republican representatives interested in defunding the FBI and did not reflect disagreement with the Greenbelt site selection.)

### Bringing It Home

Greenbelters can look forward to the planned full Beltway interchange from the Beltway to Metro (current access is only from and to the west) and determining road access from the Greenbelt Station community to Metro, long deferred while awaiting the FBI decision.

Maryland Comptroller Brooke Lierman and Greenbelt’s Economic Development Manager Kevin Simpson brought it home to Greenbelt. Lierman noted that in 1908 President Theodore Roosevelt approved the investigative unit in the Department of Justice that became the FBI, and that President Franklin Roosevelt and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt were personally involved in creating Greenbelt. Simpson said, “I think it’s very fitting. You know, we often talk about Greenbelt as a New Deal community, but it was the BEST DEAL for this investment with the FBI Headquarters.” Many of the day’s speakers made a point of welcoming the FBI to Maryland, but Moore and Miller may have been the most eloquent. Moore said “To everybody in the FBI: We’re excited to work together with you and make sure – we’re not just going to get it right – we’re going to make you proud as well.” In closing, Miller said, “Welcome to Maryland, FBI. We’ve been waiting for you for a long, long time.”

## THE CLARICE presents

**Baltimore Symphony Orchestra:  
Beethoven’s Symphony No. 4  
Jonathon Heyward, Music Director**



Fri, Nov 17, 8PM  
The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center  
at the University of Maryland, College Park

THECLARICE.UMD.EDU • 301.405.ARTS

THE CLARICE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

HAPPY  
THANKSGIVING

**Greenbelt Federal Credit Union**

112 Centerway, Roosevelt Center

History

# FBI HQ Selection 2009-2023: Starts, Stops and Obstacles

by Erica Johns

The effort to find a new FBI location began around 2009 as alarm bells were raised when concrete began falling from its national headquarters on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. Chunks continue falling to this day, caught by netting attached to the building. It is also consistently reported that the building, opened in 1975, can no longer effectively support the missions and operations of today's FBI, or provide adequate security in today's environment.

In 2015 Barbara Mikulski, then U.S. Senator, began using congressional appropriation processes to regularly set aside funds for the project, building a nest egg that has since reached \$1.2 billion and is still growing.

The General Services Administration (GSA) is responsible for federal real estate and construction and choosing the new FBI site. In 2014 as candidate sites were being identified, the site selection panel of FBI and GSA personnel recommended not including Springfield, Va., in the "long list" of candidate sites. GSA's Site Selection Authority overruled them and added Springfield for consideration. By 2017 a "short list" of three sites was chosen to compete, one in Springfield and two in Prince George's County – the Greenbelt Metro station and the former Landover Mall. Selection factors included transportation access, development schedule and flexibility, equity for underserved areas and cost.

The site selection process was paused during the Trump administration. Some believe – as mentioned at Friday's press conference and reported in a July 30, 2018, article in the Washington Post – that this was because vacating the FBI's D.C. site could



2014 artist's rendering of the site, with FBI buildings at the bottom and Metro and mixed-use developments above, with rail tracks and Hollywood to the west and Greenbelt Metro Access Road and the Beltway to the north.

PHOTO COURTESY RENARD DEVELOPMENT/GENSLER

allow construction of a hotel that would compete with the Trump International Hotel, then located in the nearby Old Post Office Building.

The process resumed during the Biden administration, when FY2022 Congressional spending bills directed GSA to proceed with selecting one of the three sites. In September 2022, GSA issued the site selection plan and selection factors. There was a new obstacle for Maryland in these documents: GSA had added a factor for proximity to the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va., with a 35 percent weight and reduced the weights of the cost and equity factors. Maryland officials cried foul on what they called an 11th hour change after 10 years of coordination. They argued the new proximity factor prioritized convenience over more meaningful factors. Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks said, "This is an abrupt change that clearly favors Springfield and puts our county at a disadvantage."

Maryland's Governor-elect Wes Moore challenged the Biden administration to stand by its commitments to equity in historically underserved communities, and

U.S. Representative Steny Hoyer added language in the FY2023 federal spending bill requiring GSA to review its selection criteria. In July 2023, GSA lowered the proximity factor to 25 percent weight and raised the cost, equity and transportation factor weights to 20 percent each.

The selection of Greenbelt was officially announced on Wednesday, November 8, 2023.

## Mayor's Statement about FBI November 11, 2023

We welcome the GSA's selection of the Greenbelt Metro Station site for the relocation of the consolidated FBI Headquarters. The state-of-the-art complex will encompass 61 acres adjacent to our protected wetlands and is expected to bring several billion dollars in investment to the region.

Thousands of new jobs are anticipated for Greenbelt and Prince George's County, both during construction and as part of the FBI's ongoing operations.

We foresee numerous economic opportunities for local businesses, with contractors and ancillary service businesses filling our underutilized office spaces. New retail and hospitality services are expected to locate here.

Given the 24/7 transit needs of FBI employees, we anticipate more and improved public transportation options for the residents of Greenbelt.

We are grateful to Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-05) and Glenn Ivey (MD-04), U.S. Senators Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), Governor Wes Moore and Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks for their sustained focus on bringing the project to Maryland.

I would like to extend special thanks to Terri Hruby, Greenbelt's director of Planning and Community Development, for her dedication and efforts related to this project over many years.

Final Evaluation					
#	Criteria	Weight	Springfield Color Rating	Greenbelt Color Rating	Landover Color Rating
1	FBI Proximity To Mission-Related Locations	25	Blue	Yellow	Green
2	Transportation Access	20	Green	Blue	Yellow
3	Site Development Flexibility & Schedule Risk	15	Blue	Blue	Green
4	Sustainable Site & Advancing Equity	20	Yellow	Blue	Blue
5	Cost	20	Green	Blue	Yellow

CHART BY GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

GSA's rating of the selection criteria for each site. (Colors: blue is best, green is second best, yellow is third best.)

**NR** Don't be a doormat!  
Be *ON* one.  
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## Greenbelt Listings



**19C Hillside**  
**\$230,000**

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**7J Southway**  
**\$190,000**

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**19E Hillside**  
**\$259,000**

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or email: rbeeg5908@gmail.com

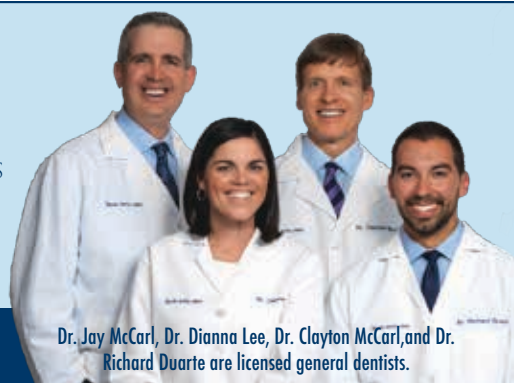
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# School News

## Volunteers Sought for ACE

by Janet Mirsky, Robert Snyder, Stephenie Arcido and Jennifer Pompi

Are you interested in the education of our young people? Are you a retired educator? Maybe you have children in school or will soon have them entering school. Are you concerned about declining test scores and ACT results over the past five or six years?

Do you feel our public schools need more funding? School boundaries reexamined? More parental involvement? More safety policies implemented?

These and other issues impact our children's and students' education. The City of Greenbelt has about 14 committees and advisory boards, including the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE). ACE was first chartered in 1994 by the Greenbelt City Council for the purpose of encouraging and supporting educational excellence for students attending schools in Greenbelt. ACE is designed to have nine citizen members on its committee and currently has only three.

ACE engages and meets with the principals and PTAs of each of the Greenbelt schools to discuss and address goals, challenges and issues that impact students. ACE organizes and initiates annual awards events for outstanding teachers and students from each Greenbelt school, including scholarships for college-bound seniors from Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

This past year, ACE worked with council in using American Rescue Plan Act funds to provide scholarships to more than 20 students for post-secondary education. Finally, ACE administers block grants to each Greenbelt school to provide enrichment materials and experiences not included in the Board of Education budget.

Any Greenbelt citizen is welcome to attend ACE's open monthly meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Come and see what we do.

*Mirsky, Snyder and Arcido are members of the Advisory Committee on Education. Pompi was previously a member but stepped down following her election to the Greenbelt City Council.*

*Mirsky, Snyder and Arcido are members of the Advisory Committee on Education. Pompi was previously a member but stepped down following her election to the Greenbelt City Council.*

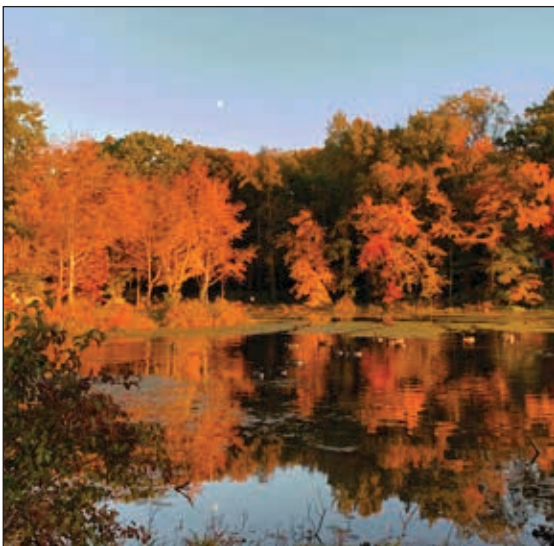


PHOTO BY EDITH BEAUCHAMP

The nearly full moon rises over Greenbelt Lake on October 24.

## PORCH Makes Giving Easy: On the Doorstep

The year-round opportunity provided by RUAK and PORCH continues to collect donations of nonperishable food items and hygiene products for Greenbelt's interfaith food pantry throughout November.

Upcoming collection dates:

Sunday, November 19, by 4 p.m. for Boxwood Village and P.A.L. (PORCH at large) members (email Robert Goldberg-Strassler by noon on November 19 at spreadruak@gmail.com; he will come to any porch); by 5 p.m. for Lakeside Drive.

Sunday, November 26, by 4 p.m. for 9, 11, 12 and 13 Courts Ridge Road.

Leave donations by the front door marked RUAK or PORCH, visible from the street. Make sure donated items have not passed their expiration date.

Volunteers who would like to expand Greenbelt PORCH to additional neighborhoods in Greenbelt are always welcome. Email Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com.

## Councilmembers Recognized



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

Mayor Emmett Jordan, left, presents plaques to Judith "J" Davis, center, and Konrad Herling.

At the start of Monday's council meeting, during which the new council was sworn in, Judith Davis, longtime councilmember and former mayor, was recognized for her 30 years of service on the council. Konrad Herling, who had been filling the seat vacated by Colin Byrd in August, was also recognized for his service to council, which includes not only recent months but also 2003 to 2017.

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# A LOCAL THANKSGIVING



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# Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred November 6 - 12, 2023. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an enquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email [pd@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:pd@greenbeltmd.gov). Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Greenbelt Police Department reported two domestic disputes including one leading to an arrest, and one death report. On November 6 near 6 Plateau Place, a woman was taken to the hospital due to a serious head injury from a fall. A missing person case from November 11 near 9000 Breezewood Terrace was resolved.

### Assault

On November 6 at 9:41 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man was cut underneath his left armpit area causing a non-life-threatening injury.

On November 6 at 7:46 a.m. near 7400 Greenway Center Drive, a hotel employee was assaulted by a female guest, who was removed and banned from the property.

On November 9 at 3:18 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man threatened to harm employees with a knife. Employees recognized the man as the boyfriend of a recently terminated employee.

### DUI Arrests

On November 11 at 11:29 a.m. near 6915 Hanover Parkway, an officer observed a vehicle drive up onto the median. When officers approached the vehicle, there was a strong odor of alcohol and the driver was slumped semi-responsive over the driver's wheel. The driver was arrested for DUI.

On November 12 at 1:44 a.m. near Greenbelt Road and Mandan Road, a vehicle was swerving in the roadway. The driver was taken to the station and consented to a breath test; he failed and was charged with related DUI offenses.

### Theft

On November 8 near 43 Ridge Road, a package containing a camera went missing, despite a note from the driver of a receptionist signing for it, but there was no receptionist at the house. On November 11 at 3:50 p.m. near 7455 Greenbelt Road, a wallet was stolen from a shopper. On November 12 near 7700 Hanover Parkway, a delivered package was stolen.

### Commercial Theft

On November 6 at 8:27 a.m. near 5700 Cherrywood Lane, a man drank a soda and took a bag of chips without paying; and at 5:10 p.m. near 5900 Greenbelt Road, cosmetics were stolen. On November 7 at 4:41 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a known juvenile had been shoplifting over a period of time, and the store provided an itemized list of the stolen items. Charges will be filed. On November 7 at 3:31 p.m. near 5700 Cherrywood Lane, a man stole a case of beer; and at 6:50 p.m. near 5910 Greenbelt Road, a man and wom-

an stole multiple items, then fled on foot toward Greenbelt Station Parkway. On November 10 at 12:52 p.m. near 5900 Greenbelt Road, three people stole hygiene and beauty products. On November 11 at 5:28 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a cart full of merchandise was being stolen by two men; the merchandise was recovered, and one man fled on a moped, then crashed and fled on foot. The moped was reported stolen from New York City. On November 12 at 7:55 p.m. a defendant was identified, charged with a criminal citation for theft and banned from Beltway Plaza. On November 12 at 1:08 p.m. near 7600 Greenbelt Road, a man stole some items.

### Vandalism

On November 9 near 7900 Mandan Road, a bedroom window was damaged by a BB gun; on November 10 another window was shot by a BB gun.

### Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicle

On November 10 near 5800 Cherrywood Lane, a black 2021 Toyota Rav4 (Md. 6FJ3262) was stolen.

### Stolen Vehicles Recovered

On November 7 near 157 Westway, a 2013 Hyundai Elantra stolen in Prince George's County was found with a broken window and ignition damage. On November 11 near 120 Westway, a stolen 2011 Honda Civic was recovered.

### Attempted Theft of Vehicle

On November 9 at 10:59 a.m. near 9100 Springhill Lane, three juveniles (two boys and a girl) attempted to steal a Hyundai. On November 11 near 7500 Mandan Road, a Hyundai's window was smashed and a screwdriver was found on the driver's seat; and near 6000 Springhill Drive, a Hyundai Santa Fe had a damaged rear window and ignition.

### Theft from Auto

On November 11 near 7700 Hanover Parkway, a vehicle window was broken and a bag of documents was taken; and near 6200 Springhill Drive, a window was broken and tools were taken. On November 12 near 7200 Hanover Drive, a 2019 black Mitsubishi was broken into but nothing of value was taken; and near 7400 Greenway Center Drive, a 2012 Porche Panamera had a damaged window and a laptop stolen.

### Vandalism to Auto

On November 12 near 7800 Walker Drive, a 2021 Jeep Grand Cherokee had a broken window; and near 11 Parkway, a 2011 Kia Soul passenger window was broken.

## TOWER continued from page 1

demolition will not be known until WSSC has engaged a contractor, but he expects that to occur early in the construction phase.

WSSC will construct a new access drive using the former house's driveway.

DeHerde said that he did not think any trees would be removed from the property although the shrubs and other vegetation will be. Later in the meeting, however, nearby homeowner Thomas Zeller told council that on July 21, a WSSC contractor entered the property and cut down some mature trees. Zeller also wanted to know if the house contained lead paint and if so, how WSSC planned to protect nearby residents during demolition.

### Scope and Schedule

The work will include structural improvements, including structural steel upgrades, foundation repairs and upgrades to railings and ladders in compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements. In addition, the interior and exterior will undergo abrasive blasting to remove the old paint. A new epoxy-based coating will be applied to protect against corrosion. WSSC will also install a six-foot fence around the combined property.

Project design is now 70 percent done, with completion expected in early 2024. Construction is expected to start next summer and work should be completed in about two years.

Councilmember Judith Davis asked about the fence, which appears to be on or very close to

the property line. She asked that it be pushed back a bit with some screening vegetation to make the site more compatible with the residential community surrounding it rather than looking like an industrial site. Customer Advocate David Wilkins said that he would have to take that issue back to the design team.

Specific work hours were not provided but the WSSC says it will abide by the city's noise ordinance. It will install a silt fence and a stabilized construction entrance to provide soil and sediment control. Deliveries to the site will occur outside of school pickup/drop-off hours.

There should be no impact to customers' water service, either outages or water pressure, except for a day or two to tie into the water main.

Wilkins said that the tank is deteriorating. He said he has seen tanks that have started to leak, the results of which can be catastrophic. DeHerde said that noise levels during the abrasive blasting will be monitored. However, the noise will be mostly from the air compressor used rather than the actual blasting. In response to residents' concerns that the debris from the blasting would likely include harmful substances, DeHerde said that a containment system would be used to prevent the debris from spreading.

He said that the new coating should last 15 to 20 years. The next work WSSC should have to do would be simple painting.

Once construction begins, residents will be able to view updates on the project at [wsscwater.com](http://wsscwater.com).

### Next Update

Wilkins said that WSSC would provide another update once the design is complete and a contractor has been hired. Until then, the answers to some of the city's questions will remain unknown.

### GHI Pipes

Jordan brought up the long-standing issue where WSSC wants to move the meters in the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) area out to the street. This would transfer the responsibility for maintaining the pipes between the street and each GHI unit to GHI. He said that the city stands 100 percent behind GHI, and noted that WSSC signed an agreement in 1958 with GHI to maintain the pipes up to the existing meter locations. Jordan noted that pipes are breaking with increasing frequency, driving up costs for all three parties. While it looked like parties were starting to make progress, that stalled 10 years ago. They need to resolve this issue now, he said.

Wilkins said this was above the level of the people working on this project and said the city should work with Government Affairs Manager Monica Marquina, who was not able to attend this meeting, to set a meeting with upper management.

### Fun Facts

According to the WSSC PowerPoint, the standpipe holds two million gallons of water and stands 63 feet tall and is 69 feet in diameter. It was built in 1936, which WSSC noted was roughly 30 years before the surrounding houses were constructed.



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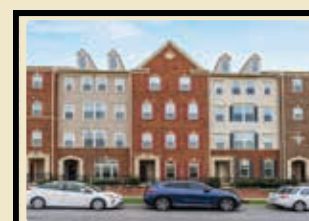
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The weather people predict this winter will be wet cold and wild – the mid-Atlantic region will finally see snow arrive; there may be heavy grey clouds in the sky promising to give us more snow than we've had in a while. So instead of cursing the snowy sky, let's relax, close the schools, and take a long sleigh ride.

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**Heads Up to Advertisers**

The November 23 issue falls on Thanksgiving. Our printer requires us to print a day early, which means advertising deadlines are also a day early, with camera-ready copy and any required payments due by 6 p.m. Monday, November 20. Material needing hands-on attention should come in by Friday, November 17. There will be no office hours on Tuesday, November 21 and no ads will be taken that day.  
Don't be a turkey! Get your ducks lined up.




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**BOXED:** \$10.60/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15.90). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.

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

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<b>SOLD</b> 4E Laurel Hill Rd. \$128,000 1 bdr / 1 bath End Unit/Fenced yard	<b>SOLD</b> 1601 Katheryne Vlg Sq. \$475,000 3 Bdr / 3 Bath Renovated!	<b>SOLD</b> 2 J Westway \$324,900 3 bedroom Beautiful Front Garden	<b>UNDER CONTRACT</b> 39 C Ridge \$304,900 3 Bedroom/ 1.5 Bath Large fenced yard/End Block

**301.441.1071 #1 in Sales for Greenbelt in '19, '20, '21 & 2022**

# Sports

## ERHS Girls Volleyball Team Finishes Season, Wins Regional Championship

by Scott Fifield

The Eleanor Roosevelt High School volleyball team had a busy last two weeks of the season. On Halloween, the team represented the county's 4A League in the county championship against Oxon Hill, the 3A/2A/1A League winner. Oxon Hill served aggressively and accurately all night which meant that the Raiders couldn't run their offense often enough. Oxon Hill won three sets to one, winning its third consecutive county championship. Perhaps the Raiders will take some solace in being the only county team to win a set from the Clippers this season.

On to last week and the regionals. Before this school year, the state refreshed the schools that were in each region, so Roosevelt avoided a rematch with Bowie (the Bulldogs moved to the East region). After a dominant (some might say ruthless) win over Parkdale in the region semifinals, the Raiders visited number one seed Flowers for the 4A South II region championship. Roosevelt's 2022 season ended at Flowers, but after losing a lethargic first set in 2023, the Raiders regrouped and won the last three sets to win the team's first region championship since 2019.

On Friday November 10, the state playoffs began and the Raiders received the third seed in the 4A bracket. Sixth-seeded Reservoir visited Greenbelt and simply outplayed Roosevelt. It felt a little like the Oxon Hill match where the Raiders simply couldn't run their offense often enough and missed a few key opportunities to

The ERHS volleyball team displays the trophy for winning the 4A League regular season championship.

- Photos by Tameika Hollis



The ERHS volleyball team poses after the 4A South II Region championship.

break up clusters of points by the Gators. So, the Raiders' season ends with a 14-5 record.

The team will graduate seven seniors. With three dangerous hitters returning in 2024, the challenge will be finding a setter who can run a dynamic offense like the one Aniya Kittles ran this season and a libero who can pass and cover the middle of the court the way libero Aaliyna Patel did in 2023.



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### GCDC ANNUAL MEETING ON GREENBELT EAST TRAIL

Greenbelt Community Development Corporation's Annual meeting - **Sunday, November 19, 2023** from **2:00 - 4:00 PM** at the **Greenbelt Community Center** in room 202.

Jeff Lemieux of the Friends of the Greenbelt East Trail will talk about the grants and plans for getting the trail designed and built.

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# Greenbelt Community Thanks Veterans for Their Service

by Butch Hicks

This Veterans Day, more than 80 residents of Greenbelt and other communities joined veterans and listened to speakers share their words of gratitude, acknowledging veterans who answered the call of duty for their country.

The annual ceremony began with the audience standing to honor America with the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem. After honors, Mayor Emmett Jordan introduced city councilmembers and then presented the city's Veterans Day Proclamation to Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 Commander Greg Gigliotti. In his proclamation Jordan said, "Veterans represent the very best of America, as they have bravely answered the call to serve in the finest military force in the world ... On Veterans Day, we acknowledge these heroes for their valor, loyalty, dedication and encourage all Americans to recognize the fortitude and sacrifice of our veterans through public ceremonies and private thoughts and prayers."

Ingrid Watson, 4th District Prince George's County Council member, sent a Veterans Day proclamation presented by Councilmember Kristen Weaver: "Our veterans willingly put themselves in harm's way to protect the ideals of freedom, democracy, the personal rights of every citizen of our nation and we should pay tribute to and observe the many contributions over the years that veterans have provided to and for this great nation ... The Prince George's County Council would like to recognize the exceptional, honorable military service of all the veterans who called the City of Greenbelt, Council District 4 and Prince George's County their home." Prince George's County has been forward-thinking in supporting veterans. The county executive's office established the Office of Veterans Affairs, the first of its kind in the state, to ensure the county's 60,000 veterans receive the resources they deserve.

Observing the commentaries and proclamations appreciating their sacrifices defending our country, veteran representatives were lined up along the walls of businesses overlooking Greenbelt's War Memorial Center. Greenbelt resident Woodrow Wines, Jr., who served with the 82nd Airborne in Vietnam, said observing the American flag among the various service's colors reminded him of the day he was presented the American flag at his Army veteran uncle's interment in the Cheltenham Memorial Veterans Cemetery. Wines' father, who served with the 2nd Army, 9th Division in WWII and lived through the Bastogne conflict, among other enemy engagements, finished his Army obligation, returned home and started his family.

Though not a veteran, Greenbelt resident Richard Perry, 72, has attended every Greenbelt Veterans Day ceremony. Perry said he believes the ceremony is to ensure that, no matter how many years go by, veterans' service to their country is never forgotten. "It's a reminder of why we're free," he said.

The day's last proclamation



Members of the Greenbelt City Council acknowledge Maryland Veterans Commission Vice Chairman Mike Moore presenting the State of Maryland Veterans Day Proclamation to Post 136 Commander Greg Gigliotti on behalf of Governor Wes Moore.

- Photos by Butch Hicks



Concert viewers stand as the Greenbelt Concert Band plays the national anthem at Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 as part of the post's commemoration of Veterans Day. The Greenbelt Concert Band, shown with conductor Joan Rackey, has been in existence since 1940, three years after the founding of Greenbelt. The band has played 11 concerts so far this year and has an additional six holiday concerts scheduled.

was a presentation by Mike Moore, vice chairman of the Maryland Veterans Commission. Moore, on behalf of Governor Wes Moore, shared the Maryland Veterans Day Proclamation with the audience, saying, "The freedom we enjoy as citizens of the United States is guaranteed by the men and women who have valiantly served in our nation's uniformed services ... Maryland is home to more than 350,000 veterans who honorably served in our nation's uniformed service."

For more information about veterans' programs and support, visit the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (veterans.maryland.gov) and the Prince George's County Office of Veterans Affairs (go to princegeorgescountymd.gov and search for Office of Veterans Affairs). To see a one-pager about benefits and assistance for Maryland veterans, use a web browser to search for MDVA-2022-One-Pager.pdf.



## Rotary Club Food Collection



The Greenbelt Rotary Club was at Beltway Plaza with its Interact AirTigers Club students to collect food that was boxed after the Rotary's Tuesday, November 7 meeting. (Interact is a Rotary youth program.) This week they will pack approximately 100 boxes of food to donate to Springhill Lake and Greenbelt Elementary School families, which will also contain \$20 gift cards for the purchase of perishables for Thanksgiving dinner. Pictured, from left, are Steve Kemp, Danny Castano (secretary of the AirTigers), Josue Sagastume-Lemus, Eric Aguilar, Mark Fuerst and Geby Jaff (president of the AirTigers).

PHOTO COURTESY VIJAYANAND KOWTHA

## Shop Local, Handmade Crafts At City's Annual Sparkle Mart



PHOTO BY KAYLA REARDON

Rock Creek Revival (bluegrass) will perform from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, December 3 at Sparkle Mart.

Sparkle Mart, the City of Greenbelt's annual Juried Art and Craft Fair, will take place at the Community Center on Saturday, December 2 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, December 3 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Shop and mingle with nearly 80 participating fine artists, artisans and authors on three floors of the building, which are all ADA accessible. Participating artisans will offer a wide range of handmade goods that make perfect gifts for any occasion, including housewares, clothing and accessories, bath and body products, toys, seasonings, books and more. Greenbelt Museum and Greenbelt Cinema merchandise will also be available.

Enjoy live music on the gym stage on both days of the show, from 1 to 3 p.m. On Saturday, Seth Kibel and Friends will play their lively klezmer tunes. On

Sunday, Rock Creek Revival will play upbeat bluegrass.

Also on both days of the show, enjoy refreshments from the Good to Da Bone food truck, benefitting the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee. The truck will be located at the traffic circle by the Ground Floor East space, from 11 a.m. until the show closes.

All booth spaces for this show are booked. Vendors interested in applying in 2024 are invited to provide their email address to Anne Gardner at [agardner@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:agardner@greenbeltmd.gov).

The Community Center is located at 15 Crescent Road. Ample free parking is available. Admission is free. City of Greenbelt arts programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council. For more program information, visit [greenbeltmd.gov/arts](http://greenbeltmd.gov/arts).

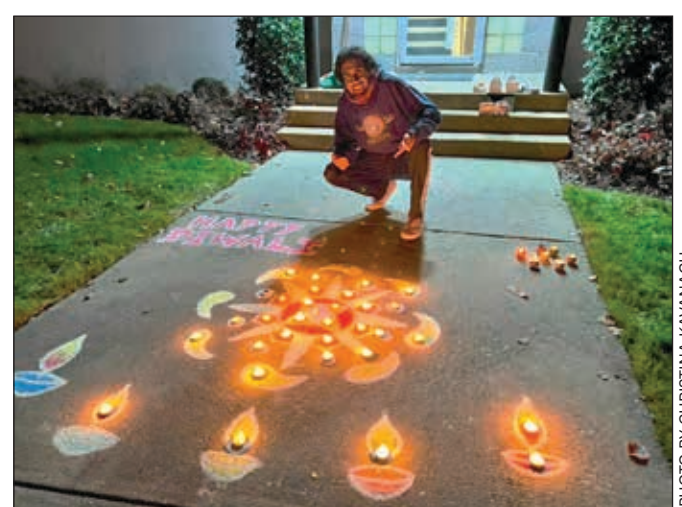


PHOTO BY CHRISTINA KAVANAGH

Vijay Parameshwaran celebrates Diwali with his chalk art.



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