



Legion activities, p.7



Sparkle Mart thank-yous, p.12

## Co-op Describes Challenges, Future Plans at Annual Meeting

by Tom Jones



PHOTO BY TOM JONES

As the Co-op annual meeting concluded, members picked up a variety of food and cleaning supplies donated by Co-op suppliers.

On Saturday, November 12, Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative (GCC) held its first in-person annual meeting since the Covid-19 pandemic. GCC is better known as the Co-op independent grocery store in Roosevelt Center.

More than 100 people attended and were treated to fresh cantaloupe, pineapple, grapes, cake and coffee.

### Financial Report

The financial report from long-serving treasurer Joe Timer described 2022 as another unusual year. Covid-19 supply chain issues and significant increases in prices due to inflation, continued to impact the Co-op, as well as the implementation of a major accounting modernization. The Co-op also completed the first full fiscal year of operating the restaurant at the New Deal Café.

Total fiscal year sales were \$13,451,840, up 3.6 percent from

last year. But after subtracting expenses, the Co-op had a net loss of \$294,421. Due to the loss, no patronage refunds will be issued this year.

Significant positive one-time financial impacts included forgiveness of Co-op's Covid Paycheck Protection Program loan and a \$40,000 donation from the estate of a former member. The rooftop solar panels reduced utility bills by \$20,000 compared to 2020. Co-op's 5,328 members represented almost 80 percent of sales.

The largest negative impact came from the New Deal Café restaurant operation, which lost \$135,415, but is expected to perform significantly better next year. The Co-op also invested in a new security system with more cameras inside and outside the store.

See CO-OP, page 8

## Huge Crowd Welcomes Santa's Arrival in Center atop Fire Truck

by Gloria Walters-Flowers

Although there were many festive tree-lighting ceremonies in the region this past weekend, Greenbelt would not be outdone. If there was a contest, the city could easily have won Best Hometown Feeling during the 84th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 2. Set against a beautiful backdrop of a crisp early December evening, smiles and laughter could be seen and heard throughout Roosevelt Center. The holiday music and bright, festive lights strung throughout helped to set the mood for the crowd.

### A Welcome Return

After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, many gathered in the Center to mark the start of the holiday season. Friends and neighbors got the chance to socialize as they had before. Chris Cherry, performing arts coordinator at Greenbelt Recreation, who opened the program, said, "People are just so happy to be back doing communal events. The children are very excited to see Santa."

### Community-building

Mayor Emmett Jordan gave a holiday greeting and remarks, as he relayed updates on Santa's location and built the excitement. "The tree lighting brings



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

Santa arrives in the vintage fire truck on Friday, December 2.

us back to the traditional spirit of the holidays way back in 1937. Whatever tradition that you choose to observe in your household, whether it is Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or the winter solstice, let's all share this common gratitude for the moment," said Jordan. He encouraged viewers to make a point to meet and talk to someone they didn't know

"because that's what the season is all about, celebrating community; it is such a powerful thing." In keeping with the sense of community, Jordan and Councilmember Ric Gordon led the crowd in reciting the community pledge.

### Singing and Dancing

Jordan and Gordon led fellow

See SANTA, page 12

## 2021 Election Survey Results Are Impacted by Covid Effects

by Deb Daniel and Cathie Meetre

### Background

The University of Maryland Institute for Governmental Service and Research has tabulated the city's 2021 Community Election Survey and results are based on a total number of respondents (1,389) from a pool of 2,675 voters.

This questionnaire has been given to voters once every two years for the last 15 or so years, remaining essentially the same so that responses to the same questions can be compared year to year. The 2021 survey covers

See SURVEY, page 8

## Update on Indecent Exposure

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

The man arrested last week is the dean of students at a D.C. elementary school, a former Greenbelt resident and past Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) employee. Police are looking for more victims or witnesses who may have encountered him at the lake.

Greenbelt Police are asking anyone who has been at Buddy Attick Park and had contact with Jamie Lee White, the man recently arrested and charged with indecent exposure, to contact them. Last week Greenbelt Police swiftly arrested White after he indecently exposed himself to two women at the park on November 29 (see the December 1 News Review, page 9). Although he left the scene, police were able to stop his car and arrest him based on the descriptions a caller gave of White and his vehicle.

### School Administrator

White, who is 45 years old

and currently resides in Hyattsville, is dean of students at Bancroft Elementary School, a public school in Northwest D.C. As of November 29 he was placed on leave. He has numerous previous charges in Maryland, ranging from orders for child support to driving on a suspended license to a felony theft, to which he pleaded guilty. According to court documents from the time, in spring 1999, White was working for PGCPS and living in Bowie. The Communication Office at PGCPS did not respond to questions from the News Review about White's previous role with the school system.

### Resident Here

Later that year, in July 1999, court records indicate White was living on Hanover Parkway in Greenbelt and had begun working for D.C. Public Schools.

See EXPOSURE, page 9

In its meeting of November 28, the Greenbelt City Council discussed the results of the Election 2021 Community Questionnaire. Interim Assistant City Manager Debi Sandlin presented the results. The outcome closest to the News Review's heart was that the favorite pathway for residents to receive city news was this newspaper. It was more popular than email and postal service combined. Thank you, voters!

### What Goes On

**Monday, December 12**  
7:30 p.m., City Council Meeting, Municipal Building  
**Wednesday, December 14**  
7:30 p.m., Council Worksession: Compensation Study/Pre-Budget Meeting, Municipal Building

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



PHOTO BY PEGGY HIGGINS

News Review board member Pat Scully serves cake to twins Moira (left) and Thea McLaughlin and their father Buddy McLaughlin during the News Review 85th anniversary celebration on December 4.

Editorial

# Greenbelt's Craft Fair Sparkles

Greenbelt's holiday craft fair was once again spectacular. Each year we are reminded how lucky we are not only to be able to purchase unique, hand-crafted, local wares but also to live in a community of such talented and creative people. We're also fortunate that the City of Greenbelt has a team of people who can put together and pull off such a wonderful event.

"What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store." – How the Grinch Stole Christmas

For most of us the holidays involve some packages and boxes, ribbons and tags. In an age of mass-production, online shopping and two-day shipping, in Greenbelt we're blessed to be able to browse local art in person, alongside our neighbors and to support our local makers.

Congratulations and thanks to all involved.

## Our Carriers Bring Holiday Greetings

Each year, the News Review asks readers to reward their carriers for a year of faithful service. This year, some envelopes were



dropped December 1 with the newspaper delivery and some will come this week, December 8. Envelopes are addressed to the carrier who delivers your newspaper. The return address is the News Review at Suite 100, 15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt. The envelopes look a little different this year as they are not printed en masse.

Envelopes can be delivered to the carriers three ways.

1. You can hand-carry them to the carrier's home.
2. You can put a stamp on and

send through the mail.

3. You can drop the envelope at the News Review's office at the address above. We'll make sure it gets to the carrier.

We advise against putting cash in the envelopes given some of the recent publicity about mail thefts.

Write checks to the name of the carrier as it is printed on the envelope. Apparently gel pens are less easy to wash and forge over.

These young people are learning the rewards (and perils) of working and the tips help make the job worthwhile.

And thank you all for reading this newspaper. The news goes out to you in a spirit of love and companionship and is the work of many hands.

### Send Holiday Greetings

The News Review will publish holiday greetings in the December 22 issue. (There is a charge.)  
Contact ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com.)



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:**  
December 9th – December 15th

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium  
Screen 2 - The Screening Room

**Bardo, False Chronicle of a Handful of Truths (R) (CC) (DVS) (2022) (159 mins)**  
Spanish w/ English Subtitles

Fri. 4:30 PM, 8:00 PM

Screen 1

Sat. 4:30 PM, 8:00 PM

Screen 1

Sun. 1:30 PM, 5:00 PM

Screen 1

Mon. 1:30 PM, 5:00 PM

Screen 1

Tues. 6:00 PM Screen 1

Wed. 6:00 PM Screen 1

Thurs. 4:30 PM, 8:00 PM

Screen 1

**The Eternal Daughter**

(PG-13) (CC) (DVS)

(2022) (96 mins)

Fri. 5:00 PM, 7:45 PM

Screen 2

Sat. 5:00 PM, 7:45 PM

Screen 2

Sun. 2:00 PM, 5:15 PM

Screen 2

Mon. 2:00 PM (OC), 5:15 PM

Screen 2

Tues. 6:15 PM Screen 2

Wed. 6:15 PM Screen 2

Thurs. 5:00 PM, 7:45 PM

Screen 2

PETE REPERT



FOR CHRISTMAS, I WISH YOU WOULD MOVE TO GREENBELT!

### Drop us a Line!

Electronically, that is.

editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Cathie Meetre, president; Diane Oberg, vice president; Deanna Dawson, secretary; Tom Jones, treasurer; Pat Scully, Carol Griffith and Sandy Rodgers

#### 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.

## Letters to the Editor

### Good In-Tent-ions

On behalf of the Eleanor Roosevelt High School PTSA, I wish to thank you for your assistance with our tent dilemma. We had a very short timeframe in which to find a solution and thanks to your help in getting the word out, a community member put us in touch with an Ohio tent company that was able to take it off of our hands in the nick of time!

We truly appreciate everyone's help. Cheers to the power of community!

Vanessa van der Have  
ERHS PTSA President

cent Road all the way up to halfway between Julian Court and Ridge Road. New asphalt paving was completed in both locations over six weeks ago. When you are driving down Ridge Road or Lastner Lane near sunset it is nearly impossible to see and it is dangerous for drivers when there are no centerlines to stay on your side of the road.

I work for a paving company that paves throughout Washington, D.C. for DDOT. D.C. requires that temporary line striping for travel lanes as well as crosswalks are in place before the roadway is reopened for use.

I inquired at Public Works and was told that one person complained and that is why there are no center lines. This is unacceptable. Where is public safety?

Greg Fisanich

### Unsafe Roads

Why are there NO yellow center lines on Ridge Road from Southway to Green Ridge House and on Lastner Lane from Cres-

### On Screen at Old Greenbelt Theatre

## Bardo, False Chronicle of a Handful of Truths

From five-time Academy Award-winner Alejandro G. Iñárritu comes Bardo, an epic, visually stunning and immersive experience set against the intimate and moving journey of Silverio, a renowned Mexican journalist and documentary filmmaker living in Los Angeles, who, after being named the recipient of a prestigious international award, is compelled to return to his native country, unaware that this simple trip will push him to an existential limit. The folly of his memories and fears have decided to pierce through the present, filling his everyday life with a sense of bewilderment and wonder. With both emotion and abundant laughter, Silverio grapples with universal yet intimate questions about identity, success, mortality, the history of Mexico and the deeply emotional familial bonds he shares with his wife and children. Indeed, what it means to be human in these very peculiar times.

## The Eternal Daughter

An artist and her elderly mother confront long-buried secrets when they return to a former family home, now a hotel haunted by its mysterious past. Featuring a towering, deeply moving performance by Tilda Swinton, acclaimed filmmaker Joanna Hogg's latest film is a brilliant and captivating exploration of parental relationships and the things we leave behind.

# Community Events

## Mindfulness Meeting

December's Mindfulness meeting is designed to help manage the hectic holiday season. Greenbelter Elizabeth Arnold will be sharing the wonders of Qigong (pronounced Chi-Gung), sometimes called Taoist Yoga. Qigong is an ancient Chinese practice combining conscious breathing and simple movement to restore and balance one's energy. Explore how these tools can bring relaxation and calm this holiday season.

This Mindfulness session will be done in-person in the Community Center, Room 103 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 11.

Arnold has a deep practice in the energetic arts and teaches Community Yoga for the city of Hyattsville.

For anyone who cannot join in-person, contact [events@greenbeltunplugged.org](mailto:events@greenbeltunplugged.org) to get the Zoom link.

## Greenbelt Chess Club

The chess club will meet Monday, December 12 at the New Deal Café from 6 to 8 p.m. All ages and skill levels are welcomed. Teaching will be provided as needed. Bring a chess set if possible.

## Bilingual Story Hour Friday, Dec. 9 at SHL

On Friday, December 9 at 10:30 a.m. at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) with the Prince George's County Memorial Library System will present engaging and lively stories and activities for young children and their caregivers to help build early literacy skills.

This monthly bilingual program is an introduction to reading aloud to children as a way to instill the love of literature. After the readings, the children can stay and play. Free children's books will be distributed and free healthy nutritious snacks will be provided.

As a parent said upon leaving, "It was a blast! Join us!"

## Chromatics Holiday Concerts at GAC

The Chromatics return to Greenbelt Arts Center for their annual holiday concerts on Saturday, December 10 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, December 11 at 2 p.m.; and Saturday, December 17 at 8 p.m. The popular Greenbelt-based a cappella group has long been a regular feature of the holiday season.

The Chromatics are a "Returning Presence" this December, and will entertain all with their unique combination of holiday tunes, covers from five decades of pop and rock music and their own twisted original songs of science, technology and modern life.

Come and get in the mood for the holiday season! Tickets can be purchased online at [greenbeltartscenter.org](http://greenbeltartscenter.org).

## Writers Group Holds Holiday Party Dec. 16

All Greenbelt writers are invited to attend an informal get-together with the Greenbelt Writers Group on Friday night, December 16. Exact time and venue are still being finalized.

Attendees don't need to be a member of the Greenbelt Writers Group. Members will be notified of details by email. Nonmembers who wish more information (or to get on the email list), contact Barbara Ford at [barb.ford@comcast.net](mailto:barb.ford@comcast.net).

## Golden Age December Activities

The Greenbelt Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in the second-floor meeting room of the Community Center. New members and visitors are welcome.

December will be a busy month. Dues collection for 2023 will start in December; a check is the preferred method of payment.

December 14 – Holiday Celebration and December birthday celebration. Bring finger foods to share for the holiday party.

December 21 – BINGO or other activity

December 28 – No meeting

## First Annual Greenbelt Krampus Fest Friday

The Greenbelt Honk! Situation will play Scarols, fun and freaky versions of familiar carols, on Friday, December 9 at Roosevelt Center at 6 p.m. For the nice: snacks, cider, treats. For the naughty: bells, chains, switches. Dress up as Krampus, St. Nick or an angel for monstrous fun!

Join the fun and beware the Krampus! Free of charge.

## At the Library

The Greenbelt Library's regular hours are: Mondays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. In case of inclement weather or other emergency, real-time updates to the Library's schedule are posted at [pgcmls.info/alerts](http://pgcmls.info/alerts).

### Weekly Storytimes

Wednesday, ages 3 to 5, 12:15 p.m. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/7390919](http://pgcmls.info/event/7390919). Thursday, ages 2 to 3, 11:15 a.m. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/7390896](http://pgcmls.info/event/7390896). Come for stories, songs, fingerplays and more.

### Student Art

The student art exhibit Expressing Your Superpower Through the Arts is on display through Friday, December 16 at the Greenbelt Library, showing works of art created by local students, grades seven through 11.

### STEM-tastic

Tuesday, December 13, 4:30 pm., ages 5 to 12. Become a scientist by conducting hands-on, fun science activities using basic scientific principles with Lego WeDo kits. (Register at [pgcmls.info/event/7396875](http://pgcmls.info/event/7396875).)

## Diverse Poetry

A poetry reading sponsored by CHEARS will be held Sunday, December 11 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Schrom Hills Park Clubhouse. This is a diverse group, and all cultural backgrounds are welcome. Poets may read in whatever language feels most comfortable and provide basic information about the poem.

## GAIL Caregiver Support Program

Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) is hosting a program both online and in-person for caregiver support groups. The group provides support for adult children, spouses, family or friends who provide care to a loved one.

In-person meetings begin January 2. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Community Center, Ground Floor East. The virtual session will be on the third Wednesdays from 2 to 3 p.m. Pre-registration is required and groups are limited to 10 participants. Contact Sharon Johnson, group facilitator, at 240-542-2029 or email [sjohnson@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:sjohnson@greenbeltmd.gov). A Zoom link will be provided to registered participants.



## Mentoring Groups Hold Open House December 10

On Saturday, December 10, from noon to 5 p.m. at the Youth Center, Boys to Men Mentoring Greater Washington and Girls to Women Mentoring Greater Washington will have an open house to sign up and share information about their programs. The holiday gathering will feature free food, gifts and games as well as useful information about this program.

Register early by text at 240-814-5659 or email at [shjpos@aol.com](mailto:shjpos@aol.com).

## For Food Donations Connect with Porch

Greenbelt PORCH is continuing its program to collect food in the month of December. On the scheduled monthly pick-up date leave donations, marked RUAK or PORCH, by the front door and visible from the street. Ensure donated items have not expired.

The schedule follows:

Sunday, December 11: by 11 a.m. at 1-8 Courts Ridge Road, 1-8 Courts Crescent Road and 1-2 Courts Westway

Saturday, December 17: by 10 a.m. for 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill Road

Sunday, December 18: by 4 p.m. for Boxwood Village and for P.A.L. (PORCH at large) members (including former Woodland Hill donors)

Sunday, December 18: by 4 p.m. for 9 and 12 Courts Ridge Road Courts and for 11 and 13 Courts Ridge Road Courts

Sunday, December 18: by 5 p.m. for Lakeside Drive.

Volunteers who would like to expand Greenbelt PORCH to additional neighborhoods in Greenbelt are always welcome. We are particularly looking for coordinators in Greenbelt East. Anyone with questions or who is interested in being a volunteer or starting a new neighborhood for monthly food collection with Greenbelt PORCH can contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at [spreadruak@gmail.com](mailto:spreadruak@gmail.com).

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.



## The Chromatics

*Returning Presence*

3 shows: December 10, 11 & 17. Tickets: \$12-\$24

[greenbeltartscenter.org](http://greenbeltartscenter.org)

Coming Soon: The Rude Mechanicals present The Belle's Stratagem, Feb 3-11.



## Greenbelt Access Television Dec. 10, Sat. – Dec. 16, 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

7am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
8am	Democracy Now!	Yesterday's Syndicated Program
9am	Classic Movies	Beyond Tomorrow • 1940 Harry Carey, Jean Parker
11am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
Noon	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
1pm	PGCPS Science Bowl 2022-23	Benjamin Stoddert v Benjamin Tasker
2pm	Music at the New Deal SEASON THREE	CAZ • Soul Rock, Reggae
3pm	Classic Movies	Beyond Tomorrow • 1940 Harry Carey, Jean Parker
5pm	PGCPS Science Bowl 2022-23	Charles Carroll v Robert Goddard
6pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
7pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
8pm	Classic Movies	Beyond Tomorrow • 1940 Harry Carey, Jean Parker
10pm	Music at the New Deal SEASON THREE	CAZ • Soul Rock, Reggae
11pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
MN	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming

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



\*\*\*2022 Washington City Paper Awards Winner\*\*\*  
**THIS WEEK AT THE NEW DEAL CAFE!**

The ONLY venue in Greenbelt with BOTH dinner and a show!  
Happy Hour! Monday - Friday, 4 - 7pm: \$1.00 OFF BEER & WINE!

Thursday, 12/8, Jim Morrison Birthday Tribute, 7:00 - 9:00pm;  
Led by Greenbelt Author Mark Opsasnick ("The Lizard King Was Here")

Friday, 12/9, KRAMPUSNACHT! 6:00 - 8:00pm

GREENBELT HONK SITUATION'S WEIRD TAKE ON HOLIDAY MUSIC!  
The HalfSmokes (WHFS-Inspired Music), 8:00 - 11:00pm

Saturday, 12/10, FILM PRESENTATION: "Santa Claus Conquers The Martians," 3:00 - 4:00pm;  
Hard Swimmin' Fish (Blues Quartet), 8:00 - 11pm

Sunday, 12/11, Deaf Brunch (Newcomers Welcome!), 10:30am - 12pm;  
THE NIGHTHAWKS (Legendary DC Band & New Deal Cafe Fav!), 6:00 - 8:00pm



Monday, 12/12, MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION NIGHT! 4:00 - 9:00pm  
Discounts on beer, wine & appetizers for NDC members!

Chess Club (Everyone Welcomed!), 6:00 - 8:00pm;  
Swing Gadjo, (Celebrating Django Reinhardt), 6:00 - 8:00pm



Tuesday, 12/13, Open Mic with Tom Woycheck-Gleason, 6:30 - 9pm

Wednesday, 12/14, Rae Radick (Rising Pop & Country Singer-Songwriter), 7 - 9pm

Thursday, 12/15, The Paulverizers (DMV Musicians; Hard-Driving Blues),  
Emceed by Greenbelt Author Mark Opsasnick ("Rock the Potomac"), 7:00 - 9:00pm

NEW DEAL CAFE GIFT CARDS MAKE GREAT GIFTS!

New Deal Cafe, 113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD 20770

"Nourished by the Greenbelt Co-op"

Mon-Thurs, 8am-9pm / Fri-Sat, 8am-12mid / Sun, 9am - 9pm

RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642

# Obituaries

## Doris Ann Roberts



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Doris Ann Roberts

Doris Ann Densham Roberts died in her sleep on November 30, 2022, at the age of 95.

Doris was born on April 9, 1927 in Morrisdale, Pa., to James and Edith Wilson Densham, the third of eight children. She moved to Washington, D.C., during World War II and worked as a secretary, first at the Federal Bureau of Investigation and later at the Department of Agriculture. A longtime resident of Greenbelt, she was a life-long Episcopalian and lover of family, dogs, books and all forms of life. Doris really enjoyed swimming with her friends at the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center and walking her dogs all around Greenbelt. She was well loved and will be forever missed and remembered.

A viewing and service will be held on December 10 at 11 a.m. at Chapel of the Good Shepherd, Hawk Run, Pa., with interment to follow at Allport Cemetery.

She was predeceased by her husband, Roger Joseph Roberts. Surviving is one sibling, Nancy (Ed), three children, Kay (Vin), Roger and Rodney (Tara), three granddaughters, Carey, Katy and April, and numerous nieces and nephews.

A service and celebration of Doris's life, to be held at St. John's Episcopal Church, Beltsville, will be announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to a favorite charity of the donor.

## Heri Farrell



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Heri Farrell

Lalherliani ("Heri") Sailo Farrell, 60, died peacefully October 24, 2022, after a long illness.

Ms. Farrell grew up in Pune, India, where her father served as dean of students for Spicer College.

After arriving in the United States from India in 1981, Ms. Farrell worked for many years as a budget analyst. She was an accomplished singer and musician who wrote many songs, primarily in the Christian music genre. Ms. Farrell moved to Greenbelt in 1996, married Mark Farrell on September 3, 2000, and remained in Greenbelt until her death.

While Heri's health allowed, she enjoyed watching movies at the Old Greenbelt Theatre and taking walks at Schrom Hills and Buddy Attick Lake Parks. Heri and Mark enjoyed travelling, and she and her husband had the good fortune to visit her ancestral home in Northeast India several times during the 2010s.

Heri is survived by her husband, Mark; her sister, Helen; her nephew, Joseph and many cousins, friends and loved ones.

## Frank Pearlman



PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG

Frank Pearlman

Frank Pearlman died on November 8, 2022. He was born in Baltimore on September 14, 1932. He had been a member of Mishkan Torah Synagogue for 62

See OBITUARIES, page 6



Condolences to the family and friends of Doris Ann Densham Roberts, who died November 30 at age 95. She was a long-time resident and the mother of Greenbelt City Council member Rodney Roberts.

Our condolences to the family and friends of musician Heri Farrell, who came to Greenbelt from afar and never left once she found our parks and community, except for extensive international travel with her husband Mark.

The News Review would like to thank Chris Brasel for his many years of service to Windsor Green in delivering the News Review throughout the community. He started the route while he was still in high school and kept at it through college and beyond, rain or shine.

Jerry Dancis, age 82, did a two-mile slow jog on Ridge Road as runner #5121 in the charity

run "UNITED BY BRAVERY," a fund raiser to purchase the "Shahed Hunter" anti-drone system to be used in Ukraine.



PHOTO COURTESY JEROME DANCIS

Jerry Dancis, 82, poses after his two-mile slow jog on Ridge Road.

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

### Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc

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



December 11, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

### Light One Candle

Rev. Ann Kadlecck with Liturgist Sabrina Jones

In this week before the beginning of the Jewish celebration of Hanukkah, we'll explore the history and meaning of this holiday in Judaism, and consider a few of the insights it might offer to us all.

"Blessed and happy is he that ariseth to promote the best interests of the peoples and kindreds of the earth."

- Bahá'u'lláh



### Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

The Bible Says...

For I (God) satisfy the weary ones and refresh everyone who languishes.  
Jeremiah 31:25



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

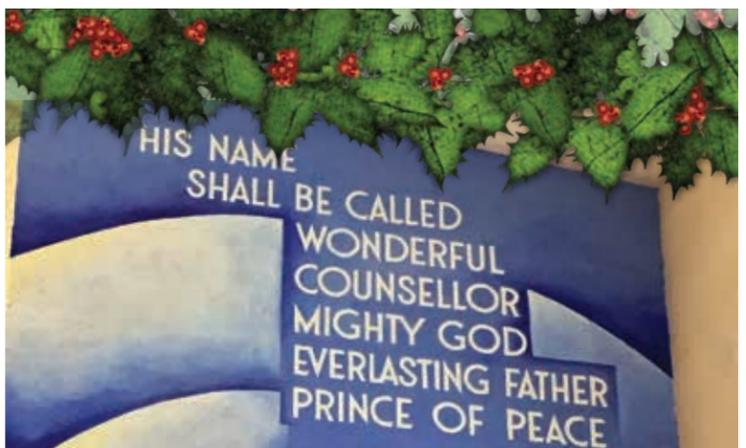
### ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- 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.

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

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

GET READY!  
CAROLS & WORSHIP 2022  
WORSHIP THE KING  
SUNDAY DECEMBER 18 | 22 5PM (EST)  
119 CENTERWAY GREENBELT MD 20770  
301-345-0007 info@rccrestorationcenter.org



### Please Join Us

- Advent Services Sundays at 10:15 a.m.
- Christmas Festival Sunday, Dec. 11, 3-5:00 p.m.
- Christmas Concert Sunday, Dec. 18, 4:00 p.m.
- Christmas Eve Service Saturday, Dec. 24, 7:00 p.m.
- Christmas Service Sunday, Dec. 25, 10:15 a.m.



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Greenbelt Community Church  
One Hillside Road

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

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY of GREENBELT  
MASS  
Sundays 10:00 a.m.  
City Council Room  
25 Crescent Road  
ALL ARE WELCOME!  
OR - Join us on ZOOM!  
For ZOOM link:  
FDeBernardo@aol.com

Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH  
Christ-centered Biblical & Reformed  
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am  
Sunday School 9:15am  
Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm  
101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD  
www.greenbeltbaptist.org



# City 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, December 12, 2022 at 7:30 pm

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

**COMMUNICATIONS**  
**Presentations**  
- The Greenbelt News Review 85th Anniversary Proclamation  
- The Maryland Rental Stabilization Coalition  
\* Minutes of Council Meetings  
- Administrative Reports  
\* Committee Reports  
\* Senior Citizen Advisory Committee - 2022 Annual Open Forum Report

**LEGISLATION**  
- Comcast Franchise Agreement, 2nd Reading and Adoption

**OTHER BUSINESS**  
- Planning Personnel Discussion  
- Purchase of Alarm System Upgrades from Petibon Security  
- Purchase of Door Security System for Community Center and Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center  
- Council Activities  
- Council Reports  
\* Special Employee Holiday  
\* Meetings  
\* Stakeholders  
\* Reappointment to Advisory Boards/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](mailto:banderson@greenbeltmd.gov).*

**MEETINGS FOR DECEMBER 12-16**

Wednesday, December 14 at 7 pm, **PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD, Joint Meeting with Advisory Planning Board; On the Agenda: Council Liason Update, Presentation: Neighborhood Design Center - Greenbelt Station Greenspace Vision, Buddy Attick Park Master Plan - Draft RFP Review, Recreation Department Update, Approve November 16 Minutes, Adjourn**

Wednesday, December 14 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD, Joint Meeting with Park and Recreation Advisory Board - See Above**

Wednesday, December 14 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - COMPENSATION STUDY / PRE-BUDGET MEETING**

Thursday, December 15 at 5:30 pm, **BOARD OF ELECTIONS, On the Agenda: Approval of November Minutes, Presentation by Daniela VanVeghten Fort Orange Press, Election Processes for 2023 and Later Election Years, State of Maryland Vendor Information, Preparation for Council Work Session, Adjourn**

*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 [greenbeltmd.gov](http://greenbeltmd.gov).*

**COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES:**

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

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

**FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION**  
**¡GRATIS! DISTRIBUCION DE VERDURAS**

Thursday, December 15 1 - 3 pm	jueves, 15 de diciembre 1 - 3 pm
Greenbelt Municipal Building 25 Crescent Road	Greenbelt Municipal Building 25 Crescent Road

**Greenbelt ARPA Funds Assistance Programs Update (as of 12/5/22)**

Rent and Utility Assistance  
· 396 Greenbelt Households were granted assistance totaling \$1,958,253.04

Mortgage and HOA fee Assistance  
· 17 Greenbelt Households were granted assistance totaling \$61,856.17



**GREENBELT BUSINESS CONFERENCE**  
Wednesday, December 14  
8:30 - 11 am  
Municipal Building, 15 Crescent Road

Spend the morning together with Greenbelt business owners for a meet and greet. Greenbelt's Economic Development Manager, Kevin Simpson, will discuss upcoming departmental projects for 2023 over breakfast and coffee. This conference will present business owners with the opportunity to meet one another in a casual setting while sharing experience, stories, and knowledge to expand their business. The conference will include free breakfast for all attendees.

RSVP by December 12 by emailing [ksimpson@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:ksimpson@greenbeltmd.gov).

**FREE HOLIDAY FOOD BOX**  
**¡GRATIS! DISTRIBUCION DE VERDURAS**

<b>REGISTRATION DEADLINE</b> Friday, December 16	<b>REGISTRESE ANTE DE</b> viernes, 16 de diciembre
To register call Katherine Farzin (240) 542-2019	Llame Katherine Farzin (240) 542-2019
<b>Pick-Up</b> Tuesday, December 20 11 am - 1 pm	<b>Detalles de evento</b> martes, 20 de diciembre 11 am - 1 pm
Springhill Lake Recreation Center 6101 Cherrywood Lane	Springhill Lake Recreation Center 6101 Cherrywood Lane

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Greenbelt Board of Appeals – Case #22-008V**

Notice is hereby given that the Greenbelt Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 7 pm in the Greenbelt Community Center (Room 114), 15 Crescent Road, Room 103, Greenbelt, MD on the following variance application:

An application filed by Dana Tompkins and Thomas Aten for consideration of a request for a variance on premises located at 3 Forestway, Greenbelt, MD. The Applicants are requesting a variance from the front yard setback requirement to allow for a maximum 20-foot encroachment into the required 25-foot front yard setback for the purpose of renovating the existing dwelling, including reconfiguring the roof, and constructing an addition on the existing dwelling.

For more information, call (301) 345-5417.

**CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO ONE OF THE CITY'S CHARITABLE FUNDS**

*Agency Funds are managed but not financed by the City. All donations to the funds are used for the listed charitable purposes. The City of Greenbelt receives no portion of these funds nor does it charge an administrative fee for processing the donations*

**GOOD SAMARITAN FUND:** This fund provides financial assistance to Greenbelt residents facing food insecurity and financial difficulty in paying for utilities (Electric, Phone, Internet, Water and Gas).. This program receives funding from generous individuals, as well as Greenbelt faith communities and other civic associations. During the Coronavirus Pandemic, the Good Samaritan Fund is collecting monies to support the St. Hugh's Food Pantry and residents struggling to pay their utility bills.

**EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND:** Established to accept and disburse donations received to assist Greenbelt residents to pay rent to avoid possible eviction. Approximately a dozen individuals receive assistance from these funds each fiscal year.

**GREENBELT RECREATION:** Greenbelt Recreation receives contributions from various sources. The monetary donations are used to support camp scholarships, special events and other designated programs as specified by the donor. Monies are transferred to the General Fund to offset the program as appropriate.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION:** Contributions are made to the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE). These monies fund ACE initiatives such as its scholarship fund.

**NOW YOU MAY DONATE ONLINE AT**  
**WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV/DONATIONS**

*You can also mail a money order or check to: City of Greenbelt, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt Road 20770. Please notate which fund in the notes section of the check. You may also use the drop box on the flag side of the building. Receipts will be provided and mailed out to you.*

**RECREATION ACTIVITIES**

**NORTH POLE CALLING**  
December 13 - 15  
6 - 7:30 pm  
Chat with Santa! Thanks to Recreation, Santa will call children 10 and younger to chat about their holiday wishes. Email [kpacht@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:kpacht@greenbeltmd.gov).

**PRE-K STORY HOUR**  
Friday, December 8  
10:30 - 11:30 am  
**Springhill Lake Recreation**  
For more information contact [joseph.vincent@pgcmls.info](mailto:joseph.vincent@pgcmls.info).

**GREENBELT LITTLES PRESCHOOL PROGRAM**  
This program is for kids ages 3-5 years. Children must be fully potty-trained. Winter and Spring classes available. Call (301) 397-2200.

**WINTER ACTIVITY GUIDE**  
Recreation's 2023 Winter Activity Guide is now available. Register today!  
[www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide).



**DO YOU QUALIFY FOR A FREE LAPTOP?**  
**Connect Greenbelt Grant**

**Deadline to register is Friday, December 16 at 5 pm**

The City of Greenbelt is applying for the Connect Maryland Grant to provide free Chromebook laptops to income qualified families of incorporated Greenbelt that pre-register and qualify. If you would like more information and to see if you are potentially eligible, please use the QR code or link below.

Please note that by completing this pre-registration form it does not guarantee that you will receive a laptop. The City is competing against other jurisdictions and counties in the State of Maryland for the Connect Maryland Grant.

For more information please visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov) or call (240) 542-2019 or (240) 542-2012.

To pre-register visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/laptop](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/laptop) or use the QR code:

# Obituaries continued from page 4

years and a GHI and Greenbelt resident for more than 50 years.

Frank was a loving and devoted husband to his wife, Alice, and father to his son, Shimon. He was a proud veteran, a retired accountant, a true lover of the Greenbelt community and a wonderful, loving and involved member of Mishkan Torah for more than five decades.

Frank served in the Korean War in a listening outpost in Alaska and was proud of his service. He learned accounting and among his jobs were positions at Feld Brothers, the owners of Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus, and later at Cellar Door Productions.

Frank was a connoisseur of movies – he was practically unbeatable in movie trivia contests. He knew and loved Broadway and other music. Not merely a passive consumer of the arts, Frank acted in shows through Goddard Space Flight Center's MAD theater productions and in memorable roles in Mishkan Torah shows. His performances were enthusiastic and he was completely undeterred by having a somewhat less than melodic singing voice; in short, he was a joy to watch.

In addition to Mishkan Torah, Frank was active in the Golden Age Club, the Widowed Persons Support Group and Senior Advisory Committee. He remembered that he and Alice started coming to Mishkan Torah even before they moved to Greenbelt. He had never lived alone until Alice died. He said he was really scared to death: "And I didn't know how I could get along being all by myself. Then I found out that living in Greenbelt, you are not by yourself. You have a wonderful, big, big, large family in Greenbelt. Everyone in Greenbelt is your family."

*Parts of this article are from the eulogy by Rabbi Oresky and from a blog by Eric Zhang from 2012 on the occasion of Greenbelt's 75th anniversary and Frank's 80th birthday.*



## Community Church Christmas Festivities

Greenbelt Community Church will host an outdoor Christmas Festival on Sunday, December 11 from 3 to 5 p.m. Activities will include Christmas crafts, games, cookie decorating, storybook readings, caroling, a holiday photo booth and an audience-participation Nativity play.

The church will also be collecting donations of new mittens, gloves, hats and scarves during the festival for their Mitten Tree Project, to be distributed to area schools for children in need.

On Sunday, December 18 at 4 p.m. a Christmas concert will feature classical and contemporary Christmas standards during the first half and a rock 'n roll Christmas with local band, The Relics, during the second half. Baked goods and hot beverages will be sold during intermission, with proceeds going to various charities supported by the church.

## In Memoriam

### My Friend Tawanna Gaines

by Peggy Higgins

Tawanna Gaines died from cancer last month at the age of 70.

I met Tawanna 20 years ago when the Youth Services Bureaus across the state, of which Greenbelt CARES is one, were losing state funds for their community-based mental health services for youth and their families. Delegate Gaines, then our District 22 representative, was on the House Appropriations Committee and I was the chair of the Maryland Association of Youth Service Bureaus. She was an effective advocate for the Youth Services Bureaus and the families they serve and was successful in saving the funding.

Over the years, we became good friends. In our times together, I saw firsthand instances of the quiet, effective way she worked on behalf of others. A dedicated public servant, she was a fighter and steadfast advocate for the needs of her constituents, always working to put the people and community first.

As her constituents, we never had a full understanding/picture of her accomplishments because she didn't highlight them. This included her unfailing support of local businesses, both as a state legislator and a patron. As a former mayor of Berwyn Heights, she well understood the issues municipalities face.

Tawanna's service to her community began at St. Hughs and Holy Redeemer schools' parent advisory boards, then president of Berwyn Heights Boys and Girls Club, a Girl Scout leader, town librarian and co-president of the town's Park and Recreation Council.

She was elected to serve on the Berwyn Heights town council in 1998 and was mayor 2000 to 2001. It was as mayor that she was able to get the U.S. Post Office to recognize Berwyn Heights as its own jurisdiction. Previously, it had been referred to as College Park.

In 2001, she was selected to fill a vacant state delegate seat and subsequently elected as District 22 state delegate for five additional terms. In 2001, she was also named Prince George's Parks and Recreation volunteer of the year.

As a delegate, Tawanna served on the House Appropriations

Committee for 16 years, the last four of which she served as vice chair. In 2015, her contributions were formally recognized as only one of 22 legislators awarded the House Speaker Casper Taylor, Jr. Founder's Award that is presented to "one house member for steadfast commitment to public service and the integrity of the House of Delegates."

In response to her death, others who know firsthand the quality of her legislative work have written consistently speaking of how profoundly effective, selfless and quietly, she utilized her power and authority and of her mentoring of others. In fact, it was Tawanna who encouraged me in 2010 to run and serve on the Prince George's County School Board.

A sample of their comments include: "Tawanna was a dear friend and mentor to me when I served under her leadership."

"The commitment that your mother gave to Prince George's County was unwavering. She was a staunch advocate."

"Tawanna was hands down one of the best legislators I've ever known. I admired how skilled she was as a legislator. You could depend on Tawanna to keep her word and 'go to the mat' to fight when necessary. She was effective. She was special. She was kind."

"I'm deeply saddened by the passing of former Maryland lawmaker Tawanna Gaines. She was and will always be the one of the most trusted, honorable and selfless colleagues."

"She was hard working, thoughtful and devoted to both her family and her constituents. The world was a better place with her in it, and she is already missed."

Rest in peace, dear friend.

The funeral service of former Del. Tawanna Gaines will be on Saturday, December 10 at Jenkins Funeral Home, 7474 Landover Road, Landover. The viewing is from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and the service is from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. There will be a Repast from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at St. Jerome's Catholic Church, 5205 43rd Avenue, Hyattsville.

## A Tribute to Tawanna Gaines

by John A. O'Brien

The recent passing of former Delegate Tawanna Gaines brought a flood of memories about her tireless efforts to improve the quality of life for many in Prince George's County. For me, the highlight was her work to replace the old Prince George's Hospital Center in Cheverly with the new first-class hospital in Largo.

Many residents of Prince George's County are today more mobile, financially secure and healthier because of Tawanna Gaines. She was a highly respected and productive legislator. She knew the rules and used them to baffle detractors and benefit our people. While in the Maryland House of Delegates, she led on big issues like improving the Port of Baltimore, building the Purple Line commuter rail and building a desperately needed new hospital in the central county. The old Prince George's county-owned hospital had been in financial distress for 50 years when Tawanna saw the opportunity to fix it.

Tawanna had earned the confidence of the O'Malley and Hogan administrations and legislative leaders in both the House and Senate. Senate President Mike Miller and Speaker of the House Michael Busch knew Tawanna was the one who could best represent Maryland's interests in making the project happen. She had a record of building alliances for success around the state. All agreed that she was the one who could get the facts and build support for a hospital solution that Maryland's government could accept. Tawanna served as chair of the Prince George's Hospital Center board of trustees at a critical time. She made reliable reports on progress that gave our state the confidence to work with the county and commit to the plan to replace the old Cheverly facility. The new hospital, the University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center in Largo, opened last year. While it took the cooperation of many to make this a reality, Tawanna Gaines played a pivotal role in securing the confidence and backing of our state government. As chair of the hospital board, she took

an active interest in assuring that the old hospital built up its abilities to safely serve patients until it closed.

Working with Tawanna was one of the most rewarding and educational times of my hospital administration career. She was energetic, professional, knowledgeable and profoundly dedicated to our county. She was enthusiastic to serve, modest and selfless in every respect. Tawanna was always well-prepared with the necessary information. She cultivated community leaders throughout the state as she mentored new legislators and young talent in service organizations. Tawanna was always prepared with useful ideas, yet was never concerned with getting credit, no matter how well-deserved. Maryland is blessed with many talented leaders. Tawanna was certainly one of the most effective. The new hospital in Largo is her memorial. The title "honorable" is due to those who have been elected by the people to represent their interests and to make the community better. No one who has ever been in public service is more deserving of the title "honorable" than our former delegate, Tawanna Gaines.

*John A. O'Brien, now of Denver, Colo., was president of Prince George's Hospital Center from 2005 to 2015.*



## Hanukkah Party At Mishkan Torah

Join Mishkan Torah for an in-person Hanukkah Party on the first night of Hanukkah, December 18, 5 to 7 p.m. The event will feature a community candle lighting, latkes with fixings and gelt, and a Hanukkah play by Karp Family School students. All ages are welcome, and members and guests are welcome to attend. An RSVP is appreciated at [mishkantorah.org/learning/childrens-education](http://mishkantorah.org/learning/childrens-education).



## Send Holiday Greetings

The News Review will publish holiday greetings in the December 22 issue. (There is a charge. Contact [ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com).)



Season's Greetings  
from  
Mary Lou  
Williamson



## Listen to Eleanor!

The **GREENBELT News Review**  
Needs YOU!

The Greenbelt News Review has immediate openings for paid carriers serving the paper to Windsor Green homes. Students or family groups welcome.

To apply or for more information Email [circ@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:circ@greenbeltnewsreview.com)

# Utopia Film Festival Inspires Viewers to Seek a Better World

by Debra Cope



PHOTO BY DEBRA COPE

From left, Connie Davis (seated at desk), Chris Haley (festival director), Nathaniel Hoff and Jillian Speece (directors of State of the Unity) pose inside the Old Greenbelt Theatre during the Utopia Film Festival.

Greenbelt's 18th Annual Utopia Film Festival attracted enthusiastic audiences. The festival's purpose is to use film to uplift, inspire and instruct viewers as seekers of a better world. When attendees asked, "is there a way forward?" the festival's 34 films respond to this question with a resounding, "YES!"

Each of us can contribute to the unfolding narrative of our shared future. Based on the messages of these films, here are some things one can do right away to be the change we wish to see:

### Seeking a Better World

**Wild in the Garden State** – After a retired couple moves from their New York City apartment to a suburban home in New Jersey, they record the 10-year transformation of their ordinary lawn to a garden paradise, filled with native flora and fauna. Here's a delightful "can-do": garden with native plants that wildlife depend upon for food and shelter, from birds and bees to salamanders and shrews.

**Climate Emergency: Feedback Loops** – Twelve leading climate scientists explore how our emissions are triggering nature's warming loops. Next time one gets stuck in overthinking, consider this can-do: Despite uncertainty and incomplete information, we know enough to take action now to protect our planetary home.

**Forest Her: The Next Wave of Conservation** – Exploring the roles women have been fulfilling to protect their communities through scientific forest management, one can do this: Plant

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Register Today 301-215-2200 or www.evolutiondances.com/register

trees and support forest growth. An important feedback loop, trees reduce the effects of climate change and help maintain nature's balance.

**Her Name Was Hester** – After inheriting her family farm that once held slaves, Stacie Marshall seeks to make amends for the past by working closely with African American friends and neighbors to create something new. A heartfelt can-do: to heal your own world, heal your past. Once we break the negative patterns of our past, they are put to rest forever.

**The Sprayer** – In this dystopian film, no one is permitted to grow plants of any kind. But when a "Sprayer" soldier finds a seed, a miraculous transformation begins. What each of us can do: Sow seeds literally and figuratively. This theme is echoed in Forest Her, Wild and Hester.

Huni describes an indigenous Amazon tribe whose members  
See **UTOPIA**, page 11

# Legion Remembers Pearl Harbor, Talks Emergency Preparedness

by Butch Hicks

Each year Greenbelt American Legion Post 136, other American Legion Posts and veterans' organizations hold ceremonies on National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. The organizations honor and keep the memory of the 2,400 military personnel and 64 civilians who died because of the December 7, 1941, Japanese attack on the American fleet at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. It was a day President Franklin Roosevelt said "will live in infamy." More than a million people visit the site of the USS Arizona Memorial each year to pay their respects to the sailors and Marines entombed within its wreckage and to others who perished that day.

Locally, in addition to Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance services, the American Legion Post 136 event features a guest speaker each year. Past speakers have included community and federal government leaders, journalists and historians, among others.

### Emergency Preparedness

This year's topic was emergency preparedness. The American Legion encourages Americans to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and communities. Bob Ouellette, Department of Maryland vice commander, and one of this year's speakers, said American Legion Posts and communities are encouraged to take simple steps to prepare for disasters: get a kit, make a plan, be informed about different types of emergencies and appropriate responses to them and, just as importantly, get involved.

### Response Trainings

Greg Gigliotti, commander of American Legion Post 136 and career Prince George's County



PHOTO BY BUTCH HICKS

Participants in the Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day program from the American Legion Department of Maryland are, from left, National Security Commission Chair Joseph Pruden Jr., Department of Maryland Vice Commander Bob Ouellette and Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 Commander Greg Gigliotti.

firefighter, was another of this year's speakers. During his presentation he highlighted how the Post assists residents of Greenbelt and surrounding communities in preparing for emergency events. Gigliotti said the Post not only takes care of its members but also works with the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad to conduct Community Emergency Response Training (CERT). The program offers a consistent, nationwide approach to volunteer training and organization that professional responders can rely on during a disaster situation. The CERT certification program advises members of the public to search for a program, register your group and stay connected in your neighborhood.

### Other Trainings

The Legion also offers Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) trainings to prepare individuals to assist during cardiac emergencies, and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) techniques to address cardiac/breathing emergencies. "The training and preparation will serve us preparing individuals or helping communities recover from nature's disasters such as storms, floods or fires," Gigliotti said. These trainings are offered regularly and open to all community members. Anyone interested in getting involved should keep an eye out; announcements of upcoming emergency preparedness trainings will appear in the News Review.

**PRELIMINARY AGENDA**  
Meetings of the GHI Board of Directors on December 15, 2022

**GHI Closed Meeting – starts at 7:00 p.m. - closed to members and visitors**

- Approve Minutes of the Closed Meeting Held on November 3, 2022
- Consider Approval of the Following Contracts:
  - 2023-2025 Pest Control Contract
  - Contract with an Audit Firm for the 2022 External Audit
- Complaint Matters

**GHI Open Meeting - starts at 7:45 p.m. - open to visitors and members**

- Statement of a Closed Meeting of the Transition and Search Committee Held on December 5, 2022
- Statement of a Closed Meeting of the Board of Directors Held on December 15, 2022
- Approve Minutes of the Closed Meeting Held on November 3, 2022
- Contract for 2023 Property and Business Owner's Insurance Coverage
- Transition and Search Committee's Interim Report, Position Profile for the GM Position and Search Plan
- Dates for Meetings During January to May 2023
- Floating Holiday for Staff in 2023
- Motion to Hold a Closed Meeting on January 6, 2023

Members and visitors who wish to attend the Open meetings must register in advance via the following link:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvdumrjwHNY6cSAEJl5YAR3Kq8PP8kO%2%A0>

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

COMPASS  
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Happy Holidays

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Dr. Jay McCarrl, Dr. Dianna Lee, Dr. Clayton McCarrl, and Dr. Richard Duarte are licensed general dentists.

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## SURVEY continued from page 1

provision of city services across the board and also community use and support of the city's website, services and departments and use of increased taxes.

### Survey Results

Graphic layouts in the Election 2021 Community Questionnaire Report were designed by Public Information Specialist James Wisniewski to help residents understand the underlying data in the questionnaire. For example, the largest percentage of questionnaire responses (36 percent) came from those using early voting (precinct unspecified) while the smallest (4 percent) came from precincts 13 and 18 which together compose Greenbelt East. Councilmembers questioned these dwelling location statistics and Sandlin will double-check them. Sandlin also noted that the effect of the pandemic can be seen in the low ratings for services like "tutoring" whose provision was much curtailed during the pandemic period immediately preceding the survey.

Councilmember Judith Davis noted the survey contained respondent's written comments which would be helpful for council to review. Councilmember Kristen L.K. Weaver noted a lot of "No Response" selections which may mean "No experience with this question or service." Councilmember Ric Gordon noted that the survey could be shortened to get a better response rate but Interim City Manager Timothy George noted that the attempt to keep the data consistent with prior survey years constrained the flexibility.

### Survey Demographics

The number of respondents was the highest in all 15 years of the survey, with the percentage responding staying much the same but the overall number of voters increasing. The highest percentages of respondents (61 percent) came from residents in single-family homes or in GHI, with 14 percent each from townhomes or apartments and 11 percent hailing from condominiums. While slightly over 50 percent of those responding were over age 60, the 18-to-60 age group was well-represented and nearly half of respondents had lived in Greenbelt for 21 years or more. There is no data on racial or gender demographics.

### Work Location

The location of work for those

employed was an almost even split among Greenbelt, Prince George's County (but not Greenbelt) and somewhere else. Despite Greenbelt's excellent connections to major transportation routes, working close to home appears to be a favorite factor in living here.

### City Services

Residents were most pleased with city services relating to camp programs, fire and rescue, arts and special events/arts programming. Areas with less satisfaction were mostly related to activities affected by the pandemic. The city's website was used by 53 percent of respondents with over half noting that they used it mostly for the calendar.

### Election Questions

Some new questions on the survey related to elections, with a majority continuing to support the at-large election of council and most respondents being pleased with extended voting options. In responding to a question about allowing non-citizens to vote in city elections, just over 50 percent were in favor and approximately 40 percent against.

### Police

Of those responding to questions about contact with the police, about 83 percent found the police polite and courteous. Of those answering who had specifically requested assistance, 76 percent found the aid they received satisfactory. (Note: the statistics given in the report itself are confusing – these values were confirmed by the city).

### Schools

Of those responding to the schools questions, Dora Kennedy French Immersion eclipsed other local schools with a positive rating of 4.26. Greenbelt Middle at 2.75 and county schools in general at 2.87 fared considerably less well (scores presumably out of five though not noted).

### Value for Money

The rating for value of city services against their cost in tax dollars was, by a small margin, lower than at any time since the first survey (2007) at 3.97 out of 5. Residents were most satisfied with a score of 4.21 in 2011. Notwithstanding that, most respondents were willing to view a tax increase positively if it related to fair wages, increased services or investment in green alternatives. Only 28 percent of respondents wanted city services to remain the same.

## CO-OP continued from page 1

After retirement of its long-time assistant manager and acting financial officer, Dave Brinks, the Co-op hired a new auditor and accounting firm. The accounting modernization cost \$50,000, but has already yielded dramatically improved real-time tracking of expenses and payments and enables financial statements on a monthly basis instead of quarterly.

One issue highlighted by the new system is long-accrued shortfalls in payments from prescription benefit programs like Caremark and CVS, which have charged extra fees to process prescriptions filled at the pharmacy. Many years of accumulated small charges resulted in a one-time \$80,000 write-off this year. Even with the net loss, Co-op's primary lender had enough confidence in Co-op's financial health to offer the store an unsolicited \$100,000 line of credit.

### Manager's Report

General Manager Dan Gillotte reported how the Covid pandemic still is having an impact on the Co-op and New Deal Café. Supply chain disruptions mean the availability of wholesale orders was much less predictable, forcing staff to spend a significant amount of time finding alternate suppliers. Hiring new employees was reported as very challenging, despite pay raises for current and new staff. Suppliers' prices have increased dramatically due to inflation and the Co-op attempted to delay passing price increases onto customers for as long as possible. Crowds at the Café were significantly reduced due to Covid, but in recent months have been recovering to 2019 levels.

Gillotte listed planned improvements that include a new cash register system which will make it easier to enroll new members. When the Co-op implements self-checkout, Gillotte pledged no reduction in staff positions and that staffed checkout lines will always be available.

The Co-op also increased professional development opportunities for managers through its membership in the National Cooperative of Grocers (NCG). NCG also provided an analysis of sales and implemented a store reorganization.

Members submitted questions before the meeting that were answered at the end. One member asked if Co-op could offer



PHOTO BY TOM JONES

**Beth LeMond (center, in green) describes how the Greenbelt Wigglers will share the Jim Cassels Award grant. Also shown are, from left, Co-op President Bill Jones, Jeff Cassels, Hally Ahern, Stephanie O'Brien and Donna Hoffmeister.**

more benefits as an incentive to increase membership. Gillotte replied that a whole package of new member benefits will be rolled out in coming months.

### Voting

There was confusion about who was eligible to vote. While anyone can become a member for \$10, Co-op bylaws state only members who have accumulated \$100 in their account are eligible to vote.

### Jim Cassels Award

Each annual meeting also includes presentation of the Jim Cassels Community Service Award. Donna Hoffmeister and Jeff Cassels announced the 2022 winner: the Greenbelt Wigglers. This program converts local food waste from the Co-op, the New Deal Café and other sources into compost using worms which is then made available at the Greenbelt Farmers Market. Program representative Beth LeMond announced the Cassels grant will enable the Wigglers to conduct vermiculture outreach at Greenbelt schools and post signs at the worm and compost bins explaining the project.

On behalf of last year's recipient, Frank Gervasi reported the Utopia Film Festival used their award to support a film about the 2020 election in Georgia.

### Gallery of Values

Gillotte highlighted that cooperatives are different from other kinds of businesses or chain stores and that the Co-op values should be reflected in how it operates. The meeting opened with an activity called the Gallery of Values. Blank posters lined a wall, listing each of the 10 cooperative values – self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, solidarity, honesty, openness, caring for others and social responsibility.

On each poster, members wrote how the Co-op demonstrated those values. For instance, participants wrote that the Co-op demonstrated social responsibility by working with local merchants.

During the meeting, members were also asked to imagine headlines projecting what the Co-op would be doing in 2040. Attendees saw the Co-op winning an award for best workplace, providing translation services to support growing diversity among customers, expanding parking, leading the fight to keep independent pharmacies alive, opening a new store in Franklin Park and installing a state-of-the-art refrigeration system to reduce climate change. Finally, one member foresaw Co-op in 2040 would repeatedly sell out of levitating chocolates.



PHOTO BY MARC MANHEIMER

**A green-winged teal, an infrequent visitor at the Lake**

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# Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred November 28 to December 4. Media advisories may be more recent and involve more serious incidents. 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](mailto:pd@greenbeltmd.gov). Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

## Shooting

On December 2 at 12:23 a.m., officers responded to the 6000 block of Breezewood Drive for a shooting. Officers located a 19-year-old man with non-life-threatening injuries. The suspect was described as a man wearing all gray with a hood and a black ski mask in a white four-door sedan. Officers were unable to locate the suspect. At this time, it appears this is an isolated incident.

## Firearms Arrests

On November 30 at 9:15 p.m., officers conducted a traffic stop at Crescent Road and Southway after a car rolled through a stop sign. The driver, a 23-year-old man, was arrested on four firearms-related charges after a concealed handgun was located.

On December 1 at 4:24 p.m., officers noticed a car with no front license plate and illegal tint. They conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Cherrywood Terrace and Breezewood Court. During a search of the car, officers found illegal amounts of a controlled substance. The passenger, 22-year-old Cheyan Trey Omar Pottinger, was arrested for illegal possession of a firearm and possession of cocaine. Pottinger also had 10 open warrants in Virginia for auto theft and theft from auto charges. He was taken to the Upper Marlboro Department of Corrections.

On December 4 at 8:46 p.m., a Greenbelt Police officer observed a car with an unknown license plate and illegal tint and conducted a traffic stop. A man ran from the car and the officer pursued on foot. The officer detained the man, and located a semi-automatic handgun and ammunition. Based on the man's statements and behavior, he was

taken to a local hospital for a mental health evaluation. The man is prohibited from owning firearms due to prior convictions and is charged with five firearms-related charges.

## Assault

On November 29 at 7:24 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a dispute between a customer and employee turned physical.

## Break-in

On December 1 at 8:22 a.m. near 7300 Hanover Parkway, someone threw a brick through the front window and entered the business but did not take anything.

## Disorderly Conduct

On November 30 at 10:08 a.m. near 9200 Springhill Lane, a woman was arrested for disorderly conduct and trespassing after refusing to leave a business.

## DUI Arrest

On December 4 at 12:25 a.m. near Greenbelt Road and Mandan Road.

## Traffic Complaint

On November 30 at 8:12 a.m. near 550 Crescent Road, a handgun was displayed during a road rage incident.

## Theft

On December 2 at 1:20 p.m. near 7400 Greenbelt Road, a lock was stolen off a locker.

Commercial theft occurred November 28 at 3:28 p.m. near 7400 Greenbelt Road, November 29 at 5:02 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, and December 4 at 4:22 p.m. near 7600 Greenbelt Road.

Packages were stolen November 28 at 5:40 p.m. near 7300 Morrison Drive; November 30 at 3:48 p.m. near 6000 Springhill Drive; December 2 at 10:17 a.m. near 8300 Miner Street; December 3 at 10:25 a.m. near 7800 Hanover Parkway; and December

4 at 5:03 p.m. near 6000 Springhill Drive.

## Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles

On November 28 near 6100 Breezewood Court, a gold 2012 Nissan Murano (Md. plate: 6FE0854). On November 28 near 5300 Settling Pond Lane, a silver 2015 Chevrolet Silverado (Md. plate: 9EV6507); the car was unlocked and unattended with the key inside. On November 29 near 6200 Breezewood Drive, a 2010 silver Toyota Prius (Md. plate: 8EX7774). On December 2 near 6100 Breezewood Court, a white 2007 Kia Optima (Va. plate: UEE6730). On December 3 near 9100 Springhill Lane, a Chevrolet Express (Md. plate: 3EK2562).

## Thefts and Vandalism

On November 28 near 6100 Breezewood Court, and twice on December 1 near 6200 Springhill Drive, car windows were broken, cars rummaged through, but nothing taken. On November 30 near 6000 Springhill Drive, a car was intentionally scratched. On December 2 near 9100 Edmonston Road, a car window was broken and property stolen. On December 3 near 9100 Edmonston Road, a car window was broken.

On November 29 near 6400 Cherrywood Lane, passenger- and driver-side windows were broken and the instrument panel pulled out. On December 1 near Parkway, the catalytic converter was stolen from a 2012 Toyota Prius. On December 2 near 8000 Greenbelt Station Parkway, front and rear license plates were stolen. On December 3 near Crescent Road and Parkway, a rear license plate was stolen.



# EXPOSURE continued from page 1

## Contact GPD

Greenbelt Police are asking anyone who has had any contact with White at Buddy Attick Park to call 301-474-7200 or email [greenbeltpd@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:greenbeltpd@greenbeltmd.gov).



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT POLICE

**Jamie Lee White is currently charged with two counts of indecent exposure at Greenbelt Lake. Police are asking other witnesses to come forward.**

# Christmas Tree Fire Safety

*Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department shares the following tips for Christmas tree fire safety advice:*

## Placing the Tree

Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk so the tree can absorb water. Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights. Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit. Add water to the tree stand daily.

## Lighting the Tree

Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use. Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read the manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect. Never use lit candles to decorate the tree. Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

## After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage or placed outside against the home. Store outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

*Greenbelt Public Works will collect Christmas trees for recycling from December 26 to February 11 at sites throughout the city. Remove all ornaments and lights. Trees will be processed through a wood chipper to be used as mulch.*



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

**The Berwyn Heights volunteer fire department sells Christmas trees, a hugely popular annual fundraiser and decades-old tradition.**

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 8) Their commitment to and pride in Greenbelt and its historic significance.

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<b>6J Research Rd</b> \$114,900 Greenbelt, MD 1 Bedroom/ 1 Bath Remodel	<b>10E Plateau Pl</b> \$155,000 Greenbelt, MD 2 Bedroom/ 1 Bath Original Hardwood	<b>11J Laurel Hill Rd</b> \$169,000 Greenbelt, MD 2 Bedroom/ 1 Bath Remodel	<b>8P Plateau Pl</b> \$165,000 Greenbelt, MD 2 Bedroom/ 1 Bath Mini Split	

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# Sports

## Positive Steps in the Pool; Now Comes Aqua Mania!

by Susan Taylor



PHOTO BY SUSAN TAYLOR

**Aqua Mania fitness instructor Trevin Green fills the pool with positive energy.**

“We are leaders!” exhorts Trevin Green, developer and instructor of Aqua Mania at the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center (GAFC). He smiles widely, shouts and points to a member of the class, challenging the others with, “Seventy-nine! Seventy-nine! Seventy-nine!”

### Ten Thousand Steps

The music pounds, matching the pumping legs of participants who gather around to support one of the eldest members of the class. Seventy-nine, indeed. The water is swirling and splashing, and faces are aglow with the power of their confident movement. Ten thousand daily steps have never been so fun.

Green designed Aqua Mania over 10 years ago and brought it to Greenbelt recently. He had been an injured swimmer who thought water fitness was, “Just for little old ladies ... until the day I had to take one of those classes. Every day I took the class my back got better.” Appreciating the strength-building qualities of water resistance, he wondered if, “I could incorporate a little more intensity, but keep it in the water.” Intensity, plus music, plus motivation and Aqua Mania was born.

### Resistance, Motivation

“Water can be calm, or water can be raging. Look at a hurricane. Water is 10 times heavier than weights. I push them to become wind.” Green, 51, hopes to educate folks in the community.

He’s been training for more than 30 years, and his current fitness routine is almost exclusively water-based. “This is something you can do until the end of your days.”

Green combines encouragement and motivation in his early-morning class. You will hear in every class, “Faster! Faster! More steps!” and “We are healing ourselves!” His belief in the power of water-based self-care is contagious. Laughter spills out of the hot tub after class as members bond, sweat and relax together.

### Building the Program

Being pleased with the response to Aqua Mania isn’t enough. Growing the water fitness program means engaging Greenbelt residents. Green explains, “We’re just trying to build. We’ll put our ear to the community and see if we can make this better” for our tight-knit city.

Currently, this group class meets on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Aqua Mania is open to adult residents and non-residents 16 and older. For more information and to register, contact the GAFC at 301-397-2204.

### Call for Sports News

Do you have Greenbelt sports news to share?

We welcome your photos and stories at [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com).

## UTOPIA continued from page 7

use Ayahuasca in a weekly vision quest. Train to Budapest documents a critical destination point for Ukrainians fleeing Russian invaders. Both films offer this can-do: We are beings of love, harmony and beauty. Act from this awareness.

State of the Unity – Members of Brooklyn’s popular Bergamot Band seek to unify a polarized nation with music and their station wagon covered in signed well wishes from audiences in all 50 states. Here are just a few of their many can-do messages: Understand people as they are, not as we want them to be. Know that everybody everywhere wants the same things – to be loved, to have enough and to know their children are cared for. Create opportunities for dialogue, especially with those who see the world in a different light.

The Wandering Jew – In this provocative exploration of the archetypal myth of the Wandering Jew, each of us is asked to ponder, “Why am I here?” And when things get rough, turn to art, music, poetry and nature to awaken us to wonder. This we can do.

A final golden reveal, Kharkiv, Ukraine prompts viewers with this vital can-do question, “What do you want to do to be human and make a difference?”

### Your Turn to Show Up!

The resounding message of this year’s Utopia Film Festival is to Show Up! As Jillian

Speece, co-director of State of Unity, said in her live Q&A on Saturday, “We are just souls on the planet, and we need more people showing up.” To volunteer for next year’s festival as a film reviewer, contact Frank Gervasi at [utopiafilmfest20770@gmail.com](mailto:utopiafilmfest20770@gmail.com).

### City Notes

Holiday tree-lighting set off the annual Festival of Lights, featuring the Sparkle Mart Juried Art and Craft Fair, hosted by Arts and Community Center staff.

Public Works installed lights, banners and parking control equipment at Roosevelt Center, set up viewing platforms and installed and decorated the holiday tree. The Museum hosted Deco the Halls, an annual evening open house, and the Old Greenbelt Theatre offered a free holiday film.

With several stray cats impounded and three kittens adopted, the Animal Shelter hosts 11 cats, three kittens, a dog and three bunnies.

At the Pool, the last fall water exercise session began, but aqua fitness was canceled for lack of an instructor. Therapeutic Recreation facilitated senior programs and meal delivery.

Horticulture/Parks continued curbside leaf vacuuming and removed trunks and fallen trees near the lake peninsula and Greenbelt Middle School. Refuse/Recycling collected 27.65 tons of refuse and 12.22 tons of recyclables.

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Welcome to 7W Research! This 2 bedroom interior frame is nestled into the far corner of the GHI Coops, just on the edge of the rolling hills and wildlife refuge known as the Beltsville farms.

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**Charlestowne Village** 2 Bedroom townhome on Corner Lot. Remodeled kitchen w/ modern cabinets and appliances. Half bath on main level. Nice! **Addition With Full Bath Downstairs** 2 BR GHI townhome with large family room/bedroom on main level. Completely remodeled - opened kitchen.

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**Two Additions!** Full bath with shower on main level. Sunroom addition with skylights. Large fenced area. Large, fenced corner lot with shed.



**COMING SOON** Beautiful Lakefront property with deck and large, fenced backyard. Large solarium with cathedral ceilings & skylights. Amazing!



**3 BR Brick Townhome** Completely remodeled; more than \$80K in renovations. NEW opened kitchen, bath, flooring, paint & more. It's a showplace!

**Charlestowne Village** Single-level 1-br cond. on the edge of the hills! Parquet flooring throughout. Remodeled kit. With Stainless Steel appliances.



**Townhome With Garage** 2 BR GHI with attached garage just steps away from Roosevelt Center. Large 11'x17' MBR. Fenced backyard and more.

**Brick Townhome** 2 Bedroom GHI townhome remodeled throughout. Modern kitchen with s/s dishwasher. Hardwood flooring on both levels.

**Coming Soon!** True Greenbelt Lakefront. Call now for more information.

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# A Great Big Thank You to All From Greenbelt Recreation

by Nicole DeWald



PHOTO BY JON GARDNER

**Damien Ossi, left, talks with customers about his carved wooden spoons at the Sparkle Mart craft fair on December 3.**

The Greenbelt Recreation arts staff thanks all of the colleagues, volunteers, artists, community partners, special guests and revelers who helped to make the Winter Lights Festival opening weekend merry and bright.

Thanks to Santa for joining us at the Tree Lighting, for visiting the Youth Center and for checking in with local children in the North Pole Calling program later this month. Thanks also to Mayor Emmett Jordan and Councilmember Ric Gordon for opening the celebration. Thanks to the Greenbelt Concert Band for the Brass Choir performance at the Tree Lighting and the full band Holiday Lights concert coming up on Sunday, December 11.

Thanks to Megan Searing Young and the Friends of the Greenbelt Museum for welcoming revelers to the Museum house after the Tree Lighting for the return of Deco the Halls, showcasing a special holiday installation. Thanks also to Caitlin McGrath and the Old Greenbelt Theatre for hosting a free screening after the Tree Lighting. Thanks to Mary-Anne Fonka and Angel's Touch Skincare for helping to facilitate the lighting of the event, and to Green ACES and the Zero Waste Team, who made sure that all of the refreshment debris made its way to the composting station.

We commend our colleagues at the Department of Public Works, who did a spectacular job of decking the trees and hedges in Roosevelt Center with thousands of lights and who also provided the living tree, which will be planted after the holiday season is over. (For those wondering why Greenbelt's community tree is a small one, it's because it's alive, unlike the large cut trees that many venues display and then discard.) Thanks to the crews who assisted with setup, banner installation, parking management and facility maintenance.

Thanks also to the Departments of Public Safety, Public Information and the Fire Department for their support.

Thanks to Gaye Houchens, Cathy Pracht, Caroline Soter and all of the crew who welcomed Greenbelt kids as honorary elves at their weekend crafting extravaganza. Crafts were also in abundance at the Community Center, where 82 fine artists, artisans and local authors participated in Sparkle Mart. We celebrate their creative vision, and thank them for the countless hours of work that they invested in their preparations for the show.

Recreation staff contributing to these events have included: Henry Brittan-Powell, Adam Campanile, Leah Cohen, Debra Cope, Anthony Edwards, Hallie Eggleston, Ana Fernandez-Napp, Jan Goldberg, Judy Goldberg-Strassler, Abby Jorgensen, Aidan Larkin, Amanda Larsen, Mecca Lartigue, Patrick Mullen, Jamoni Overby, Carol Petrucci and Priyata Rahaul. Special thanks to Anne Gardner, arts education specialist, who managed our extensive social media promotions and served as the point of contact for all Sparkle Mart applicants throughout the year.

Volunteers have included: Adesola Adekoga, Madifa Ambe, Allyse Andrews, Asia Andrews, Elizabeth Andrews, Marco Assam, Joseph Bailor, Analise Barton, Councilmember Judith Davis, Madison Davis, Peggy Eskow, Reyna Farley, McKayla Guthrie, Tashane Freckleton, Zora Heneghan, Ameda Jalloh, Ylana James, Arrey Mbutambe, Alena Noonniwal, Joy Reider, Mila Shapiro, Drew Van Der Have, Asha Verma and Julianne Wakefield. Thank you for being such wonderful and welcoming ambassadors.

Keep that sparkle in your eye, and we'll see you at the next celebration.



PHOTO BY JON GARDNER

**Vendor Mercy Miller and her husband pose at their booth.**

# SANTA continued from page 1

carolers in a rousing rendition of Jingle Bells as the crowd waited for Santa. The Greenbelt Concert Brass Choir serenaded the crowd with Christmas carols. Families happily belted out Deck the Halls and Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer while little children skipped, played tag and laughed out loud.

## Santa's Arrival

An antler-clad Greenbelt Police patrol car had the honor of leading the way, while classic vintage cars heralded the much-anticipated arrival of Santa. Children, and even some adults, jumped up and down in excitement at the sight of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department Engine, the chosen chariot for good old Saint Nick. Amid the shouts and cheers and a few "ho, ho, hos," Santa made his way to the stage and greeted onlookers. He joined Jordan in the tree-lighting countdown and handed out candy canes. Marcia Harrington, a new transplant to Greenbelt, said, "it's exhilarating and moving to see the kids so engaged, and the energy here is so high." "It's a great way to start the holiday season," said Michael Brown.

## The Grinch Returned

To complete the festivities of the evening, the Old Greenbelt Theatre featured a free showing of the original Dr. Seuss classic, How the Grinch Stole Christmas, as it has done annually until the tree lighting was suspended for Covid. The family movie was an excellent way for different generations to connect.

## Historic House

The Greenbelt Museum's Deco the Halls exhibit displayed vintage 1930s-style decorations at its open house. Visitors were transported back in time as docents shared stories of how the first Greenbelt residents would have spent their first Christmas. Museum Director Megan Searing Young was knowledgeable and willing to share the early history of Greenbelt living and how the community has become more diverse over the years.

## Sustenance for Revelers

Volunteers served up hot chocolate, ginger cookies, peppermint and clementines near the tree. The oranges were in keeping with the tradition of the original first Greenbelt tree lighting when the gifts of fruit were considered special. The New Deal Café, Generous Joe's, Cedars of Lebanon and DMV Pizza all were packed with hungry patrons, while the Beijing Chinese restaurant was able to accommodate a large crowd, who were treated to a great view of the classic cars that had escorted Santa. Public Works Department and the Zero Waste Team were on hand to ensure no waste was left behind, and much was recycled or composted. A phenomenal job was done, as Roosevelt Center was spotless shortly after the event ended.

At last check, Santa had safely made it back to the North Pole and the children of Greenbelt were nestled in their beds.



PHOTO BY JON GARDNER

**Santa receives hugs, gives out candy and high-fives at the tree lighting.**



PHOTO BY GLORIA WALTERS-FLOWERS

**Mayor Emmett Jordan, right, and Councilmember Ric Gordon entertain the crowd with Jingle Bells.**



PHOTO BY JON GARDNER

**Santa's elves (Hallie Eggleston, left, and Mecca Lartigue) pose by the Christmas tree.**



PHOTO BY JON GARDNER

**A family takes a selfie with Santa.**



PHOTO BY GLORIA WALTERS-FLOWERS

**The Greenbelt Concert Brass Choir plays merry tunes for the crowd.**

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