



Free Comic Book Day, p.16



Firefighter for a Day, p.16

## Greenbelt Students Receive ACE Awards, Scholarships

by Anna Bedford-Dillow



PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF GREENBELT

ACE student awards recipients are recognized at a ceremony with City Council and delegates.

On May 3, Greenbelt's Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) held their 28th student awards ceremony. The ACE student awards recognize Greenbelt students who honor the city's traditions of citizenship, leadership and academic achievement. They complement the Educator Awards, which ACE presented to teachers and staff members from Greenbelt's schools in March (see the March 22 Greenbelt News Review issue).

The student awardees each received certificates of recognition from the city, the county and the state. ACE also presented each of the elementary and middle school students with a \$25 Amazon gift card and the graduating Eleanor Roosevelt High School winners with a \$2,500 scholarship. In addition, the honorees were invited to walk with ACE in the 2023 Labor Day Festival Parade.

### ACE Awardees

Members of ACE shared comments from the six Greenbelt schools as they recognized the awardees.

See ACE AWARDS, page 8

## State Officials, Delegates Discuss Transportation, Legislative Issues

by Deb Daniel

On May 2 Greenbelt Middle School hosted the District 22 discussion on the 2023 legislative session of the Maryland State Assembly with District 22 Senator Alonzo Washington and Delegates Nicole Williams, Anne Healey and Ashanti Martinez. Approximately 65 people attended from across the district, which includes Greenbelt, Hyattsville, New Carrollton, Berwyn Heights, East Riverdale and Riverdale Park. A broad range of legislative bills passed by both the Maryland State Senate and Maryland House of Delegates were covered, but what primarily interested the audience were transportation and cannabis (marijuana) issues.



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

Maryland Secretary of Transportation Paul Wiedefeld speaks at Greenbelt Middle School.

### Transportation Speakers

Maryland Secretary of Transportation Paul Wiedefeld spoke about projects such as the Penn Line tunnel, the New Carrollton Metro Station and the mag-

lev train, which is currently going through environmental review. Depending on that review,

See ASSEMBLY, page 13

## 2023 Farmers Market Preps For Mother's Day Opening

by Cathie Meetre

With the coming of Mother's Day comes also the siren song of the Farmers Market. It is fitting that the market should bring the bounty of spring's renewal to Greenbelt on the day that mothers – historically the nurturers of family – are celebrated.

The new season began for volunteers with a recent afternoon celebration at Schrom Hills Park to welcome them in anticipation of the new season. With fruit and home-baked cakes and goodies, it was an informal and fun opening to the season. New volunteers are always welcome. Sign up at the info booth or online at [greenbeltfarmersmarket.org/get-involved/volunteering](http://greenbeltfarmersmarket.org/get-involved/volunteering).

### Changes

This year sees one big change. The individual most familiar to many recent market-goers, Market Manager Frances Ippoliti, has moved on (though whether there are pastures greener than GFM is open to discussion). She had only one season under her belt when the Covid-19 pandemic almost brought the market to its knees in 2020. That year and the tricky times that followed, she overcame

the difficulties with energy, flair and courage.

The market will miss Frances, but welcomes a well-known face at the market who is stepping in as market manager: Julie Clare. Coffee aficionados will recognize her as the face of Zeke's Coffee during these last several seasons. Clare is familiar with the market and its culture and well qualified to keep crowds and vendors well-organized.

See MARKET, page 12

### What Goes On

**Monday, May 15**  
7:30 p.m., City Council Budget Worksession: Planning, Municipal Building  
**Wednesday, May 17**  
7 p.m., Council Budget Worksession: Recognition Groups/Friends of Greenbelt Theatre, Municipal Building

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

## Greenbelt Schools Aim to Meet Increased Mental Health Needs

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

### Part two of a two-part report

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. In connection with Prince George's County Public Schools Board of Education's concern that county schools need more mental health services, Greenbelt schools bring those is-

sues forward.

### Greenbelt Elementary

Greenbelt Elementary School (GES) welcomed a school therapist, Jasmine Stokes, in December. Kristin Cahalan-Hudson, the professional school counselor, told the News Review that she's

seen an increase in the need for mental health services for students as well as their families. Outside providers often have long waitlists, she noted, so it can be challenging to access support and services.

See SCHOOLS, page 8



PHOTO COURTESY OF GES PTA

Gretchen Schock of BeeYoga Fusion teaches students about marketing and pricing at a "Business Basics" assembly at Greenbelt Elementary School. See story, page 9.

# Letters to the Editor

## How Will Greenbelt Help School Children?

For several months now, the News Review has published articles that show students in PGCPS suffering from the aftereffects of the pandemic. It's time to move on from these reports to articles that show how Greenbelt plans to use its many resources to help.

Could Greenbelt CARES provide temporary counseling services in schools and aftercare programs? Could tutoring and ESOL services expand or improve?

Could the monthly food distributions at SHLRC move to a day and time when working families with children will be able to access this resource?

Could the recreation department offer services outside the city's core that would contribute to child and family well-being for those families who are most needy? Swim lessons in Franklin Park and Windsor Green? Free participation in under-enrolled summer camps for families who receive free and reduced school lunch benefits? A free shuttle to transport children safely from Franklin Park to camp, and back

home again? More systematic support to the SHLRC to expand its programming? Hiring bilingual staff that can offer summer enrichment to the children who are least likely to be able to afford enrichment, and most likely to benefit from it?

What can the Advisory Committee on Education do with thousands of dollars of unspent grant money earmarked for SHLES and Magnolia Elementary that would support students? If nothing else, Greenbelt could ensure that every low-income child in the city has necessary school uniforms.

I would like to see the city offer free preschool programs for the many low-income children in the city who are not lucky enough to capture seats in the county's prekindergarten classrooms.

It's not enough to keep telling us that there are problems.

*Leah Cohen*

**Editor's Note:** While we do not believe it is the role of journalism to suggest solutions to the issues we write about, we are glad our reporting can spur conversations and advance a search for such solutions.



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

**SHOWTIMES:**  
**MAY 12TH - MAY 18TH**

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium

**Book Club: The Next Chapter** (PG-13) (CC) (DVS)  
(2023) (107 mins)

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

**The Wizard of Oz** (G) (1939)  
(112 mins)

Sat. 1:00 PM

**The Breakfast Club** (R)  
(1985) (97 mins)

Thurs. 8:00 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room

**Polite Society** (PG-13) (CC)  
(DVS) (2023) (103 mins)

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

**Showing Up** (R) (CC) (DVS)  
(2023) (108 mins)

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

PETE REPERT



## Correction

In last week's article on the Greenbelt Museum's expansion, we described the red portion of an image as the planned addition. To clarify, that portion represents the rear of 10-A, where the non-original addition will be replaced with spaces including the new entrance. The Greenbelt Education and Visitor Center will include the red space and the rest of the 10-A house below it on the diagram.

In the April 27 issue the back-page article, Bees (and their Honey) Congregate Here at the Community Church, was accompanied by a photo of young Greenbelters trying their hand at beeswax candle making. The boys in the photo were Evander Crompton on the left and Will Wertz on the right.

## Letters Policy

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

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

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



## On Screen at Old Greenbelt Theatre

### Book Club: The Next Chapter

This sequel film follows four best friends (Diane Keaton, Jane Fonda, Candice Bergen and Mary Steenburgen) as they take their book club to Italy for the fun girls' trip they never had. When things go off the rails and secrets are revealed, their relaxing vacation turns into a once-in-a-lifetime cross-country adventure. Also starting Andy Garcia and Don Johnson.

### Polite Society

A merry mash-up of sisterly affection, parental disappointment and bold action, the film follows martial artist-in-training Ria Khan who believes she must save her older sister Lena from her impending marriage. After enlisting the help of her friends, Ria attempts to pull off the most ambitious of all wedding heists in the name of independence and sisterhood. Polite Society throws, kicks and punches the genre etiquette book out the window to deliver a fun film that blends Bollywood splendor and British wryness.

### Showing Up

A sculptor (Michelle Williams) preparing to open a new show must balance her creative life with the daily drama of family and friends, in director Kelly Reichardt's portrait of art and craft. Said critic Rendy Jones of Rendy Reviews, "A deceptively simple drama about the artist's life, Showing Up reunites Kelly Reichardt and Michelle Williams to absorbing effect."

### The Wizard of Oz

When a tornado rips through Kansas, Dorothy (Judy Garland) and her dog, Toto, are whisked away in their house to the magical land of Oz. They follow the Yellow Brick Road toward the Emerald City to meet the Wizard, and en route they meet a Scarecrow (Ray Bolger) that needs a brain, a Tin Man (Jack Haley) missing a heart and a Cowardly Lion (Bert Lahr) who wants courage. The wizard asks the group to bring him the broom of the Wicked Witch of the West (Margaret Hamilton) to earn his help.

### The Breakfast Club

Five high school students from different walks of life endure a Saturday detention under a power-hungry principal (Paul Gleason). The disparate group includes rebel John (Judd Nelson), princess Claire (Molly Ringwald), outcast Allison (Ally Sheedy), brainy Brian (Anthony Michael Hall) and Andrew (Emilio Estevez), the jock. Each has a chance to tell his or her story, making the others see them a little differently – and when the day ends, they question whether school will ever be the same.

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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#### PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

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

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.

Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.

GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the municipal building.

# Community Events

## GHI Bicycle Committee Event

Meet with fellow Greenbelt bicyclists for another in an ongoing series of GHI Bicycle Committee events. The program takes place on Saturday, May 20 from 1 to 3 p.m. (the day after Bike to Work Day) and will include: an update with Jeff Lemieux of Proteus Bicycles on the Greenbelt East Trail and other local initiatives of interest (for a primer, go to [proteusbicycles.com](http://proteusbicycles.com)); a brief presentation and invitation to join the Proteus Velo Club from PVC president Brooks Boliek ([proteusbicycles.com](http://proteusbicycles.com); click on events, then Proteus Velo Club); and on-site bicycle registration by the Greenbelt Police and, if time allows, a discussion and Q & A on bicycle safety. To register a bicycle, bring the serial number and \$10 cash for the registration fee.

The event takes place at the GHI Building, 1 Hamilton Place, adjacent to the bicycle repair station. Light refreshments will be available. And there will be swag.

The GHI Bicycle Committee wants to hear from you. Plan on attending, engaging and meeting with other local cyclists. Any of our committee members can take your questions regarding the committee and/or on how to join us. Email John Campanile, [jbelttower@yahoo.com](mailto:jbelttower@yahoo.com).



## Arts Mixer May 21

Artists, arts organizations and art enthusiasts are invited to attend an Arts Mixer on Sunday, May 21 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the New Deal Café, hosted by the Greenbelt Arts Advisory Boards (AAB) and Friends of the New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA). Participants will be invited to socialize, share and discuss arts programs in Greenbelt, as well as connect with other artists in the community. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP at [sugeni.us/4WGQ](mailto:sugeni.us/4WGQ) or email [alarsen@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:alarsen@greenbeltmd.gov).

## Woodlands Committee Table at Green Man

Visit the GHI Woodlands Committee table on Saturday, May 13 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Green Man Festival in Roosevelt Center. Learn about activities one can do to care for GHI woodlands and common green space.

## Environmental Shorts On May's Reel & Meal

This month's Reel and Meal at the New Deal Café on Monday, May 15 at 7 p.m., features three short environmental films with discussion. This is an encore presentation from our most recent Utopia Film Festival.

Featured first is an animation, *The Sprayer*, whose job is to destroy all plant life. This technically sophisticated and poignant film comes to us from Iran.

Next will be *Climate Emergency: Feedback Loops*. Narrated by Richard Gere, this film shows how nature's own systems may actually accelerate the process of global warming our fossil fuel burning has created.

*Trees: The Lungs of Our Community* documents local forest and tree loss in Hyattsville. Over 30 percent of their canopy has been lost in just the past few years to development and climate change. Filmmaker Matt Carl will be with us to discuss this significant loss and what is being done to restore this most vital part of the community.

Reel and Meal at the New Deal Café is a monthly educational film and discussion production happening the third Monday of every month produced by the Prince George's Peace and Justice Coalition, the Utopia Film Festival and other groups.

The film and discussion are free, in-person only. There will be no online attendance this month. There is a full menu available at the Café. Call Frank Gervasi at 301-467-2418 for more details about the event.



## Community Art Share On Friday, May 12

Teen and adult artists of any experience level are invited to join an Art Share at the Community Center on Friday, May 12 from 7 to 8 p.m. in Room 113. This event is part of a monthly, informal series, giving local artists the opportunity to get to know other creatives. Share and discuss one to three pieces of artwork (any medium) in a supportive group setting. Sign up to participate at [bit.ly/3IUILEK](http://bit.ly/3IUILEK).

Greenbelt Recreation's arts programs are supported in part by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council. For additional program information, visit [greenbeltmd.gov/arts](http://greenbeltmd.gov/arts).

## Chess Club Meets

Greenbelt Chess Club meets Monday, May 15 in the New Deal Café, from 6 to 8 p.m. The group welcomes all ages and skill levels. Teaching will be provided by our members as needed. If you have any questions, please call Effie at 443-415-1053.

## Honoring the Memory Of George Floyd

Join in Sunday, May 21 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center for the annual Greenbelt community gathering to remember George Floyd and others, and to continue working for a more equitable Greenbelt. May 25 is the anniversary of George Floyd's murder. Each year, residents come together in memory of the many tragic deaths and take stock of progress in advancing racial equity in Greenbelt. This, the fourth gathering – *Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges* – is on Sunday, May 21. The program includes speakers, remembering those killed and discussion of what has changed and needs to change to make Greenbelt a better community for all. For more information, see the announcement at [greenbeltraciaequity.org](http://greenbeltraciaequity.org). This event is sponsored by a coalition of local community organizations.

## Volunteers Needed for May 20 Compost Workday

"Methane, a potent greenhouse gas, whose climate warming power is more than 80 times that of carbon dioxide over the first 20 years." — The Washington Post, June 27, 2022.

Join The Wigglers on Saturday, May 20 from 9 a.m. to noon, for an outdoor workday at the three-bin hot-composting station behind Roosevelt Center, alongside the Aquatic & Fitness Center. High school students can earn volunteer hours while learning how to prepare food waste, diverted from the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket, for rapid hot-composting. Enjoy snacks and conversation while working.

Help pre-compost food for the red wiggler composting worms that live on the New Deal Café loading dock; there, red wigglers make vermicompost, a highly prized soil amendment and nutrient load for plants.

To learn more about how to do hot- and worm-composting, processes that turn food waste into a valuable resource used to grow plants and sequester carbon – instead of producing methane at the landfill – come by anytime between 9 and 11 a.m. on Saturday morning. For questions, email [NewDealWigglers@gmail.com](mailto:NewDealWigglers@gmail.com).



## Greenbelt Writers Meet on May 19

The Greenbelt Writers Group will hold its monthly meeting on Friday, May 19 at 7 p.m. in the Community Center. All Greenbelt writers are welcome to attend. Discussion will continue on organizing a critique group or devoting a meeting to critique. As always, there will be open, brief readings and anyone is invited to share any writing project in progress or published writing. For more information, email Barbara Ford at [barb.ford@comcast.net](mailto:barb.ford@comcast.net).

## Star Party Saturday

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will host a star party, free and open to the public, on Saturday, May 13 at the City Observatory located at Northway Fields. Attendees can expect to see Mars and deep sky objects such as galaxies, nebulae and star clusters currently high in the sky, viewed through the observatory telescope and astronomical camera. All are welcome and there is no charge. Visitors are encouraged to bring their own telescopes to set up on the hilltop.

Observing will begin at 9 p.m. and continue for two hours. Attendees are asked to park in the ballfield lot, not up on the hill, unless bringing a telescope. The star party will be canceled without notice if it is hopelessly cloudy.



## Music, Vendors, Crafts At Green Man Festival

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



More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

**The Children's Hour**  
Written by Lillian Hellman

**GREENBELT ARTS CENTER**  
May 19 - June 3, 2023  
Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm  
Sundays at 2pm

Tickets \$12 - \$24  
For tickets call (301) 441-8770  
or visit [greenbeltartscenter.org](http://greenbeltartscenter.org)

Directed by  
Pauline Griller-Mitchell  
and John Bartkowiak

Produced by  
Malca Giblin

Coming soon:  
The Patchwork  
Girl of Oz

\*Greenbelt Arts Center policy requires that all audience members be fully masked for all performances.\*

GATe

Greenbelt Access Television  
May 13, Sat - May 19, 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)  
**Royal Wedding (1951)**  
A musical comedy, starring Fred Astaire and Jane Powell, about love, family, and royalty against the backdrop of 1940s London.  
Music from the New Deal Cafe (2pm, 10pm)  
**Tom Prasada-Rao**  
Mr. Prasada-Rao brings much rich and soulful musical background to the stage, seamlessly blending acoustic folk with an R&B sound reminiscent of Motown's greatest hits.  
You won't want to miss this set!

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](http://Greenbelt Access Television on YouTube) for new video productions.

This Week at the New Deal Café

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

RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642

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Nourished by the Greenbelt Co-op

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD  
Hours: Monday – Thursday 8am – 9pm; Friday/Saturday 8am – midnight; Sunday 9am – 9pm

TH 5/11	FRI 5/12	SAT 5/13	SUN 5/14
<b>The HalFSmokes</b> 7-9pm Favorites from the glory days of WHFS	Piano Stylings of Peter Reppert, 6-7:30p  Honey Sol 8-11pm Funk, soul, rock n roll and R&B	<b>18th Annual Green Man Festival*</b> <b>10am - 6pm</b> Miles Gannett Band <b>SPECIAL TIME: 7-11p</b> Cosmic Americana	<b>This Could Go Boom!</b> Mother's Day Brunch Show* 10am - 12pm <b>18th Annual Green Man*</b> <b>11am - 5pm</b> Vibe Collective, 5-8pm
MON 5/15	TUES 5/16	WED 5/17	TH 5/18
<b>Chess Club</b> 6-8pm  <b>Reel and Meal</b> 7-9pm Monthly film series*	<b>Open Mic with Joey Campfire</b> 7-9:30pm <b>Express Yourself!</b> Sign-ins at 6:30pm	<b>Pub Quiz</b> 7-9pm <b>Come out and test your knowledge</b>	<b>The Brother Bill Quintet</b> 7-9pm Soulful, cool, sophisticated and funky jazz
MON - FRI			
<b>Happy Hour</b> 4-7pm \$1.00 off beer and wine			

It's time to renew your membership, or join NDC. Go to [www.newdealcafe.com](http://www.newdealcafe.com), click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."

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

**Greenbelt PORCH**

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

Sunday, May 14. By 11 a.m., 1-8 Courts Ridge, 1-8 Courts Crescent and 1-2 Courts Westway

Saturday, May 20. By 10 a.m., 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill

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

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

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

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

**GCC Hosts Concert Saturday, May 13**

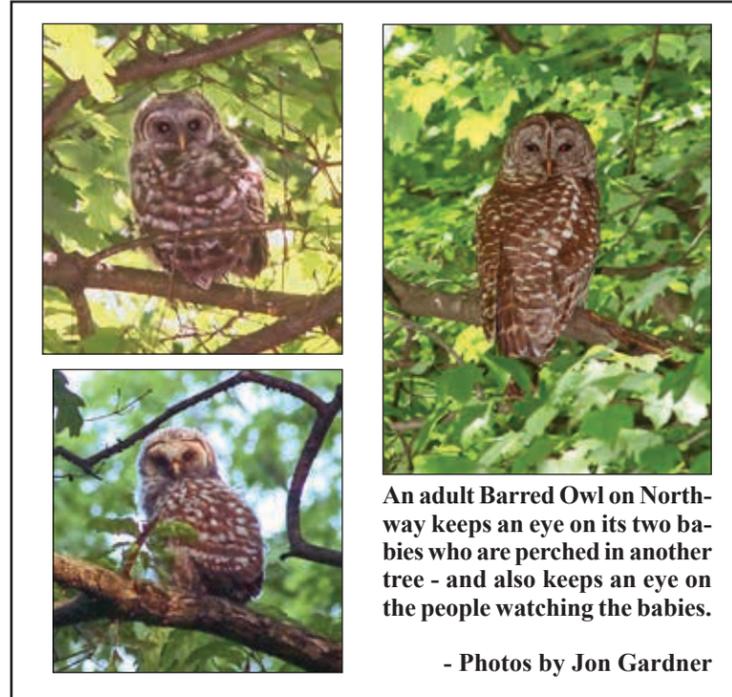
On Saturday, May 13 at 7 p.m., Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ will break out into song with the Spring Musical Spectacular. With talent from world-class performers in the congregation, the evening will feature classical, gospel and contemporary standards.

The concert is free; however, donations are encouraged. All donations will go toward various charities supported by the church. In honor of Mothers Day, there will be a tribute to all mothers. The church is located at 1 Hillside Road.



**Barbara Crammer Memorial Gathering**

Former Greenbelter Barbara Crammer died suddenly but peacefully at her home in New Jersey on April 26, 2023. Barbara is remembered fondly by many Greenbelters for her cheerful and generous spirit. A local memorial gathering will be held by her friends and her son on Saturday, May 20 from noon to 3 p.m. at the home of her longtime Good Samaritan Lutheran Church co-parishioners, Melissa and Mark Steiner, at 7036 Wood Thrush Drive in Lanham. For more information, call Melissa at 301-785-3651 or Joy at 301-801-2071.



An adult Barred Owl on Northway keeps an eye on its two babies who are perched in another tree - and also keeps an eye on the people watching the babies.

- Photos by Jon Gardner

**Obituaries**

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

"Trustworthiness is the greatest portal leading unto the tranquility and security of the people. In truth the stability of every affair hath depended and doth depend upon it."  
- 'Abdu'l-Bahá



**Greenbelt Bahá'í Community**  
www.greenbeltbahais.org

The Bible Says...

**Happy Mother's Day!**

Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain,  
But a woman who fears the LORD,  
she shall be praised.  
Proverbs 31:30



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



Our condolences to the friends and family of former Greenbelt resident Barbara Crammer, who died April 26, 2023, in New Jersey. A memorial gathering will be held May 20 in Lanham.

Condolences to Greenbelt resident Mara Hemminger on the death of her mother, Azora Hemminger-Swift, in Mt. Juliet, Tenn., on March 7. Azora was much loved for her kind spirit, gentle nature and sweet song.

Congratulations to William G. Donahue on completing 29 years of working at the Greenbelt

Co-op Supermarket as of May 4. Donahue started at the Co-op Supermarket on May 4, 1994 and has been a faithful employee ever since. Neither weather nor Covid 19 has stopped him going to work. The Donahue family has lived in Greenbelt since April 1957. He also is a member of St. Hugh's Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus Council #10885. Thank you, William: Job well done!

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](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](http://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](http://www.pbuuc.org)



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

May 14, 2023 at 3:00 pm

**Plastic on the Furniture**

Rev. Kim Debus with Worship Associate Carol Carter Walker

How do we preserve the past and still lean into the future? What do we do with our traditions and histories as we turn toward what lies ahead?

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

**RESTORATION CENTER**  
A CHURCH WHERE HOPE IS RESTORED  
301-345-0007  
info@rccrestorationcenter.org

**FELLOWSHIP WITH US ON:**

- MORNING DEW (SUNDAY SCHOOL) @9am
- SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE @10am
- VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY ON Tuesday @ 7:30pm  
Zoom ID: 874-0017-0242  
Password: 828469
- FOOD BANK: WEDNESDAY @11am-1pm  
Sunday 12nd and 4th @12pm
- THRASHING FLOOR @9pm on 2nd Fridays

**We Care**  
LOVING GOD...CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER

CAN WE PRAY WITH YOU?  
prayer@rccrestorationcenter.org 240-467-1788

**119 CENTERWAY GREENBELT MD 20770**  
@restorationcentergreenbelt

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

11040 Baltimore Avenue Beltsville, MD 20704  
301-937-4292 [www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org](http://www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org)

The Reverend Joseph M. Constant, Rector  
Join us for In-Person Worship every Sunday at 10 AM  
Youth Sunday School 11:15 AM

To view services online:

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

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

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

**Greenbelt Community Church**  
One Hillside Road

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

We are an Open and Affirming Church

[www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD](https://www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD)  
[www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org](http://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.

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

**CELEBRATE WITH US**  
135 Crescent Rd.  
[www.sthughofgrenoble.org](http://www.sthughofgrenoble.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](mailto: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](http://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 CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at [greenbeltmd.gov/calendar](http://greenbeltmd.gov/calendar)



#### CLOSED SESSION MEETINGS FOR MAY 11 & 13

Thursday, May 11 at 6:30 pm, **SPECIAL MEETING / CLOSED SESSION (PERSONNEL MATTERS) (VIRTUAL)**

Saturday, May 13 at 8:30 am, **SPECIAL MEETING / CLOSED SESSION (PERSONNEL MATTERS) (VIRTUAL)**

#### MEETINGS FOR MAY 15-19

Monday, May 15 at 7:30 pm, **BUDGET WORK SESSION - PLANNING**

Tuesday, May 16 at 7 pm, **REPARATIONS COMMISSION**, *On the Agenda: Icebreaker, Report from the Facilitation Subcommittee, Report from the Education Subcommittee, Forming a Subcommittee to Research the Work of Other Reparations Groups, Forming a Subcommittee to Build Community Within the Commission, Administrative Items*

Wednesday, May 17 at 7 pm, **PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**, *On the Agenda: Council Liaison Update, Presentations, Recreation Department Update, Administrative Reports, Adjourn*

Wednesday, May 17 at 7 pm, **BUDGET WORK SESSION - RECOGNITION GROUPS / FOGT**

*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).*

#### GREENBELT MICRO GRANTS

The City of Greenbelt Micro Grant is a one-time, matching, reimbursable grant intended to be a resident-led initiative to build community and engage new people across neighborhoods. This is a one-time, reimbursable grant funded through the American Rescue Plan Act to help communities move beyond the COVID pandemic and to broaden Greenbelt's connections to all its neighborhoods and residents. HOA'S, Condominium Associations, Apartment Complexes, GHI Co-op, and Community Coalitions registered as 501 (c) 3 are eligible to apply for one of three types of grants, 1) Community Event Grant, 2) Neighborhood Communication Grant, and 3) Neighborhood Improvement Grant.

To learn more about and apply for the grant opportunities, please visit <https://forms.monday.com/forms/7575c04647a68ad4ff464c00401f684d?r=use1>

#### FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS GRANT PROGRAM

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

#### OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 6:30 pm virtually by Zoom, to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

The purpose of this meeting will be conducting the City Manager interviews.

\* The public may attend the Special Meeting prior to the closed session, and observe the vote of Council to move into closed session on Thursday, May 11, 2023.

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

#### OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Saturday, May 13, 2023, at 8:30 am virtually by Zoom, to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

The purpose of this meeting will be conducting the City Manager interviews.

\* The public may attend the Special Meeting prior to the closed session, and observe the vote of Council to move into closed session on Saturday, May 13, 2023.

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

#### NOTICE OF CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

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

#### OFFICIAL NOTICE The Greenbelt City Council PUBLIC HEARING Monday, May 22, 2023, 7:30 pm

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

#### GENERAL FUND BUDGET FY 2023-2024

REVENUES	
Taxes	\$28,927,600
Licenses & Permits	1,297,600
Intergovernmental	1,175,300
Service Charges	2,004,200
Fines & Forfeitures	544,000
Interest	100,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	247,900
Interfund Transfers	1,600,000
TOTAL REVENUES	\$35,896,600

EXPENDITURES	
General Government	\$4,881,400
Planning and Community Development	1,405,500
Public Safety	11,414,900
Public Works	4,573,400
Greenbelt CARES	1,712,500
Recreation and Parks	7,659,600
Miscellaneous	281,500
Non-Departmental	1,259,400
Fund Transfers	2,630,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$35,818,200

#### PROPOSED EXPENDITURE BUDGETS FOR OTHER FUNDS

Building Capital Reserve Fund	\$50,000
Cemetery Fund	0
Debt Service Fund	1,053,100
Replacement Fund	335,000
Special Projects Fund	494,900
TOTAL OTHER FUNDS	\$1,933,000

#### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS

Capital Projects Fund	\$1,500,000
Community Development Block Grant Fund	120,500
Greenbelt West Infrastructure Fund	2,700,000
TOTAL CAPITAL FUNDS	\$4,320,500

#### ENTERPRISE FUNDS

Green Ridge House	\$1,652,500
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The Public Hearing will be held in person at the Municipal Building and virtual via Zoom. Public attendance and participation are encouraged. All residents of Greenbelt will have a reasonable opportunity to provide written and oral comments and to ask questions concerning the entire proposed budget. If special accommodations are required to make this meeting accessible to any disabled person, please call (301) 474-8000 or e-mail the City Clerk at [banderson@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:banderson@greenbeltmd.gov) no later than 10 am on the meeting day. Copies of the proposed budget may be examined at the City Offices, 25 Crescent Rd., during normal operating hours. The proposed budget is also posted on the City Web site at <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov>. For more information, please call (301) 474-8000. Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

The Public Hearing will be cablecast live on Comcast Channel 71 and Verizon Channel 21.

#### GREENBELT ART EVENTS

Artists, organizations, and enthusiasts are invited to attend an Arts Mixer on Sunday, May 21 from 1 - 3 pm. RSVP by emailing [alarsen@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:alarsen@greenbeltmd.gov). Visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts) for other arts events!

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

Registration is open and free! [www.biketoworkmetrodc.org](http://www.biketoworkmetrodc.org)

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

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

Call (301) 474-8004.

#### FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

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

**Community Center:** 1 - 3 pm  
**Springhill Lake Recreation Center:** 12 - 1:30 pm, registration required. For Greenbelt West residents only; must live in: Verde at Greenbelt Station, Greenbelt Station Master Association, Franklin Park, Motiva. Register by emailing [bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov)  
**Volunteers needed for both locations.** Call (240) 542-2019.

#### CURRENT FREE CARES PROGRAMS

**FREE AGING SOLO SERIES (VIRTUAL CLASS) WEDNESDAYS MAY 17 - JUNE 21, 11:30 AM - 1 PM**  
Aging solo will allow you to reflect on your priorities, map out your support network, put plans in place.  
Call (240) 424-0302.

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

#### SENIOR PROPERTY TAX CREDIT

Effective fiscal year\* beginning July 1, 2023, Prince George's County will provide up to a 20% credit of the County portion of the property tax bill, inclusive of any Homeowners and Homestead Credit (total max of 20%), for up to 5 years.



Visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/news](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/news)

#### COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES:

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

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

# City Council Hears Legislative Report, Holds Budget Hearing

by Deb Daniels

On April 24, Mayor Pro Tem Kristen Weaver presided over the Greenbelt City Council in a short meeting to discuss the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 proposed budget as the first of two public hearings on the budget. Weaver also read the revised ordinance on the Early Voting Section 13 of Chapter 8 Elections of the Greenbelt City Code. A presentation by Councilmember Judith Davis on the legislation passed by both houses of the Maryland General Assembly in the recently ended 2023 session highlighted cannabis reform bills and family leave bills.

## State Legislation

Davis discussed legislation that passed or did not pass during the just concluded Maryland General Assembly 2023 session and the reactions from the Maryland Municipal League (MML) to the legislation. Of the 2,275 bills introduced in the recent session, MML supported 27 bills of which 26 passed, MML proposed amendments for 29 bills and 16 of those bills passed with MML amendments and MML opposed 32 bills and 29 of those bills did not pass.

Senate Bill (SB) 330, which is for the procurement and maintenance of body cameras, but not the storage of those body cameras, allows municipal governments to piggyback on the state purchase price for body cameras. SB287 also passed and specifies that the city clerk must report election results to the state, although Davis thinks that Greenbelt is already sending the election results in to the state. SB828 is an amendment of the Time to Care bill of last year (Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program – Modifications) and will not go into effect until October 1, 2024.

The Cannabis Reform Bill, Senate Bill (SB) 0516 and House (HB) 0556, soon to be signed into law by Governor Wes Moore, is a large bill of over 100 pages implementing the 2022 referendum approving adult-use legalization of cannabis. It will allow any adult over 21 to purchase marijuana in one of the licensed dispensaries. MML did support the bill, with amendments to get municipal governments a piece of the sales tax. One of the purposes of this bill is to benefit the legal trade in marijuana as opposed to the illegal trade in marijuana for recreational purposes (medical marijuana is already legal in Maryland).

Davis suggested that there might be lawsuits and further amendments to the bill. Right now, the sales tax will go to the counties which may or may not share with the local municipalities. A city or municipality cannot prohibit a licensed marijuana shop from being in their municipality but the city can assure that fees, permits and zoning laws are followed. A recommendation from MML is for a city to track detrimental effects of the law for future amendment.

The law states there is no marijuana smoking in public places (the same applies to regular cigarette smoking per the Clean Air Act). Greenbelt already has a medicinal marijuana facility which is awaiting licensing

to sell cannabis for recreational use. There will be a cap on the number of facilities to be licensed and the state will try to insure that “clustering” of marijuana sales facilities does not occur. Local governments can have setbacks in certain areas to control clustering.

More information on the 2023 General Assembly legislative session can be found at [mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Charts](http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Charts).

## Early Voting

The following ordinance to amend Article 1 “In General,” Section 13 “Early Voting” of Chapter 8, “Elections” of the General City Code was introduced for first reading (discussion will take place at second reading in a later council meeting). From the meeting agenda:

“Early Voting will take place on the last Saturday and Sunday prior to election day, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Early voting ballots may be cast in Greenbelt West (Springhill Lake Recreation Center), Greenbelt Central (Community Center), Greenbelt East (Schrom Hills Park Recreation Center), or such other locations in Greenbelt East, Central and West the city’s Board of Elections may designate. A voter may use any polling place, without regard to residence.”

## FY 2024 Budget

The FY 2024 proposed budget is scheduled to be adopted on June 5 at the council meeting. Council has held four worksessions where the budget has been discussed and has another five worksessions planned before June 5. Weaver then turned to the public hearing, the first of two required. The second public hearing will be held on May 22.

Resident Bill Orleans was

the first and only member of the public to speak on the budget. He discussed a request he had made to get a copy of the current budget book from Interim City Manager Timothy George. Orleans also asked for clarity on budget line items without identifying notations.

## Administration

George discussed plans to convert Greenbelt’s vehicles and equipment to electric power. The 10-year plan concerns converting the city vehicle fleet to electric vehicles and the five-year plan concerns providing charging stations for Greenbelt residents. George noted that conversion to electric vehicles will occur in stages within the five- or 10-year timeframe.

Weaver inquired if the work on the outdoor pool area is on schedule and George affirmed that the work is on schedule and the pool area sand filter will be replaced at the end of the season.

## Community Orchestra

The Greenbelt Community Orchestra has been granted recognition group status by the Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board. Council approved this report by consent agenda. The orchestra, started by Anne Gardner, hopes to provide opportunities for string players to perform in an orchestra. Unlike other local orchestras (for example, the Prince George’s Philharmonic), the Greenbelt Community Orchestra will not require auditions. All will be welcome.

## Municipal Clerks Week

Bonita Anderson, city clerk, and Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, assistant to the city clerk, received the proclamation of Municipal Clerks Week of April 30 through May 6 recognizing the dedicated service that municipal clerks provide to their organizations.



Clematis flowers in bloom

PHOTO BY CHARLES JACKMAN



**Greenbelt**  
MAKERSPACE



**Repair Café**  
Toss it? No way!

**Greenbelt Makerspace Repair Café**  
**Saturday May 13 from 10 am - 2 pm**  
 outside the Granite Bldg, 115 Centerway

Come learn how to repair your tired or broken stuff or help repair others' items (experienced and novice volunteers needed). Bring your clothing, furniture, appliances, computers, jewelry, toys, etc. for the challenge of making them useful again. Repairs are not guaranteed.

[greenbeltmakers.org/things\\_to\\_do/repair-cafe](http://greenbeltmakers.org/things_to_do/repair-cafe)

**Tool Library Saturdays 10am-Noon**  
[tools.greenbeltmakers.org](http://tools.greenbeltmakers.org)



## Artful Afternoon

The Artful Afternoon on Sunday, May 7 at the Community Center featured an Open Studio where the Recreation art teachers and artists in residence displayed their work, as well as a community art share,

an outdoor art activity making puppets with Black Cherry Puppet Theater, and a dance performance by the Greenbelt Dance Performance Club.

- Photos by Anne Gardner



Anna Syzonoza (seated, left) and her daughters Anastasiia, age 8, and Mariia, age 6 who arrived in Greenbelt from Ukraine on Friday, May 5, sponsored by Frank Gervasi (left), show off the puppets they made at the Artful Afternoon.



Teaching artist Vanessa Zanin, right, encourages Nathan Miller, age 5, to try felting at the Community Center Open Studio, watched by family members Sarah Sisler, left, Mary Ann Baker and Laurie Baker.

# GREENBELT GREEN MAN Festival

## May 13 & 14

Great Bands
Live Music

Vendors
Crafts

Drum Circles
Family Fun

FREE! **Roosevelt Center** FREE!

131 Centerway Greenbelt, MD

[www.greenmanfestival.org](http://www.greenmanfestival.org)




# New Deal Café Leaders Plead For Community Help to Save It

by Mark Cheater

“This is the summer of consequence for the New Deal Café,” Café board president Michael Hartman told an audience of more than 50 assembled for the Café’s annual membership meeting on May 7. Like many similar venues, the Café has not yet recovered from pandemic-related losses and needs to turn things around quickly. “We have to be profitable by August, or we risk losing the Co-op” as the Café’s food and beverage manager, Hartman added, referring to Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket.

As Greenbelt’s award-winning music-and-arts venue and its unofficial “living room,” the Café signed a two-year agreement with the Co-op in June 2021 for Co-op Manager Dan Gillotte to take over day-to-day management of the Café, including payment of most of its bills. The two local institutions – both not-for-profit, member-owned cooperatives located in Roosevelt Center – hailed the agreement as a natural fit that would benefit both businesses and the community. Their respective boards expected the Café would quickly bounce back from its lengthy pandemic-related closure, and that they would eventually share Café-related profits.

But just as things seemed to be returning to normal, the first of several Omicron-related waves hit in the winter of 2021-2022. After that, customers were slow to return. In addition, recent pandemic-related supply and labor shortages, along with unprecedented inflation, resulted in a “bloodbath” for the restaurant business, Gillotte told Café members at the meeting. “Lots of businesses like ours are closing,” he said.

The Co-op Supermarket board has patiently waited for the Café to break even, but after racking up losses in excess of \$170,000 at the Café, it can’t afford to wait much longer. The Co-op board recently agreed to a short-term extension of the Café management contract, with the provision that the Café temporarily cover the rent and forego any profit-

sharing, Hartman announced. If the Café can’t turn a profit in the next few months, the Co-op will end the collaboration and the Café will be at risk of closing.

“This is the summer to save the New Deal Café!” Café treasurer Dorian Winterfeld said.

Hartman and Gillotte reminded the audience of the many benefits the Café provides to the community: an award-winning music program; an exhibition and performance space for local artists, poets and writers; a host, sponsor and organizer of several annual free community festivals; a host for Reel and Meal, the monthly documentary series; a space for various gaming and shared-interest groups to meet; a welcoming place for neighbors, families, friends and co-workers to gather; a business that offers locally-sourced, reasonably priced meals, snacks, drinks and desserts all day long, seven days a week.

“We need to keep the New Deal Café alive,” Hartman said. “It’s not just Greenbelt’s living room, but its dining room, entertainment room, family room, meeting room, game room, home office and more.”

### How to Help

Café leaders outlined several steps members, patrons, supporters and community members can take to save the Café. Most im-

portant, they encouraged people to come to the Café frequently and purchase meals and drinks. If they’re already regular customers, buy an extra drink, or bring friends, or buy a gift card and give it to a neighbor or co-worker. “We need sales to increase if we want the Café to be here in the fall,” said Winterfeld.

In addition, the Café’s music program also needs financial support. Café leaders reminded members and patrons that in addition to joining or renewing their Café memberships, they can also make direct donations to the music program by cash, check or on the Café’s website at [newdealcafe.com](http://newdealcafe.com). Hartman also announced that Cafe recently entered into a partnership with Fractured Atlas, an arts service organization, to act as a fiscal agent for the Cafe. This arrangement will allow the Cafe to receive tax-deductible donations from individuals and businesses, and governmental grants to nonprofits. (Details are available on the Cafe’s website.) He and Winterfeld asked community members to volunteer to help with grant writing and other efforts to provide crucial financial support for the Café’s music program. For more details, readers can email Café leaders at [boardofdirectors@newdealcafe.com](mailto:boardofdirectors@newdealcafe.com).



Emilia Loo and McKenna Lynch shop at Beltsville Garden Club plant sale in Roosevelt Center on the weekend.

PHOTO BY KEN LOO

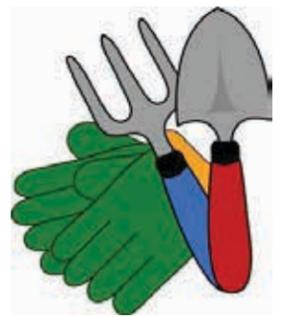
## Help Repot Wildflowers

Attention gardening angels: baby wildflowers need space. On Tuesday, May 16 and Thursday, May 18, weather permitting, come help thin pots crowded with baby wildflowers destined for woodland planting. The plants host butterfly eggs and caterpillars under the forest canopy, filling the woodlands with a blooming, fluttering beauty. This is a friendly weekday opportunity for those with a flexible schedule, including retirees and telecommuters. Make new friends while potting up native wildflower seedlings for future transplanting into Greenbelt’s common spaces. Meet in the small parking lot adjacent to 8 Court Laurel Hill Road, and work at tables set on the paved surface. Bring a pair of gloves, and if available, a card table and folding chair(s). For more information, email [SowingStrength2@gmail.com](mailto:SowingStrength2@gmail.com).

## Woodlands Committee Workday May 14

The GHI Woodlands Committee is hosting a workday on Sunday, May 14 from 3 to 6 p.m. to plant for birds and butterflies. Hedgerows dominated by non-native shrubs produce 96 percent fewer caterpillars – the food of baby birds – than do hedgerows filled with native shrubs. Help replace non-natives with serviceberry trees and spicebush shrubs, which host over 105 species of caterpillars in Greenbelt.

The work site will be near the Hillside Road underpass, which is between 13 and 19 Courts Hillside Road. Meet on the bike path by the underpass, just a bit uphill from the Firefly Sanctuary. Bring a face mask for when in proximity to others and wear clothes that cover the skin. Wear leather gloves and thick pants to protect against scratches and tuck pants into socks. Bring loppers, pruning shears, trowels and shovels. For more information, email [SowingStrength2@gmail.com](mailto:SowingStrength2@gmail.com).



## Recycle Used Plant Pots

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

## COME FOR THE RIDES AND GAMES STAY TO SUPPORT THE KIDS

Greenbelt Elementary School  
66 Ridge Road

GESPTA SPRING FAIR

SATURDAY  
MAY 13TH  
1-4 PM

GAMES  
BOUNCE HOUSE  
TOUCH-A-TRUCK  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP FAIR  
COMMUNITY GROUPS  
SUPPORTING STUDENTS  
ARTS AND CRAFTS  
PIZZA

[GREENBELTESPTA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:GREENBELTESPTA@GMAIL.COM)  
[HTTPS://SITES.GOOGLE.COM/VIEW/GESPTA/HOME](https://sites.google.com/view/gespta/home)

May 20th  
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**Community SHRED DAY!**

In parking lot behind Greenbelt Federal Credit Union, 112 Centerway  
Personal papers only up to 5 boxes.

Please arrive after 9 a.m. so trucks can set up and follow traffic pattern. Its a drive up event. Walkers may call the credit union for directions. 301-474-5900

**PRELIMINARY AGENDA**  
Meetings of the GHI Board of Directors on  
May 18, 2023

GHI Open Meeting – starts at 7:00 p.m. - open to members and visitors

- a) Certification of Election by Chair, N&E Committee
- b) Board Re-organization and Election of Officers
- c) Code of Ethics Acknowledgement
- d) Appointment of Member Complaint Panels
- e) Designation of GDC Stockholders
- f) Proposed Meeting Dates during the New Board Term
- g) Approve Minutes of Open Meeting held on April 6, 2023
- h) Establish a Date for a Work Session to Review GHI’s Proposed New Website
- i) Maryland Energy Administration Weatherization Grant
- j) Motion to Hold a Closed Meeting on June 1, 2023
- k) Requests to the P.G County Council to Amend Rent Control Bill CB-007-2023

GHI Closed Meeting – starts after the Open meeting adjourns – closed to members and visitors

- a) Approve Minutes of the Closed Meeting Held on April 6, 2023
- b) 2023 Contract for Parking Lot Repairs
- c) A Legal Matter
- d) Complaint Matters

Members and visitors who wish to attend the Open meetings must register in advance via the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUocOGgpjiG9dSX9Z8Zcl8xQms9q9rgov>

# School News

## SCHOOLS continued from page 1

Cahalan-Hudson said she was overjoyed to have another mental health professional in the building. “Her role at GES,” she said, “is to provide counseling sessions for students as a traditional therapist would normally do. This means that she provides a full treatment plan including goals and working collaboratively with the families.” Stokes is contracted to the school through an agency and sees about 20 students in regular weekly sessions as well as providing check-ins for other students who don’t see her regularly. She is a 12-month employee and remains available to provide services to students and families during school holidays.

Cahalan-Hudson, as a counselor, seeks to address the mindset and behaviors in the areas of learning strategies, self-management skills and social skills. She uses direct services and indirect ones to do so. Direct services include individual, crisis, classroom and small group counseling, as well as whole-school or grade-specific activities or assemblies, she explained. Indirect services include working with the school instructional team on academic, attendance and social needs, accommodation plans, attendance monitoring and the associated meetings and paperwork. They can also include distributing materials such as backpacks, coats, hats, holiday meals and gifts.

“The [American School Counselor Association recommends] a professional school counselor have a 250:1 ratio in order to best service the needs of students and their families,” said Cahalan-Hudson. “I am so thankful to now have another mental health provider in the building. However, [...] her caseload, in order for her to provide the best services she can, tops out at 20 students.”

### Eleanor Roosevelt High

Dr. Marisha Stewart, professional school counselor at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS), told the News Review, “There is a huge need for more mental health services within our community, county and state levels.”

“School counselors are often misinterpreted as therapists,” said Stewart, “but we do not have the credentials to meet the needs of post-pandemic issues. We have been overwhelmed with students in need of mental health services who need support outside of the building.” The county has provided the school with one social worker who meets with students each week. “But 1:2500 is still not enough,” said Stewart, who

also noted that Hazel Health has a limited number of appointments available for online counseling.

“Greenbelt CARES is our main community agency that we refer our students [to] but they do not have the manpower to meet all the needs in the community,” shared Stewart. “Unfortunately, many parents have talked about waitlists, which is becoming a problem when our students need help now. Post pandemic we have seen an increase [in] students experiencing anxiety, school anxiety, depression, OCD, suicidal ideation and disinterest in school,” Stewart explained.

Stewart would also like to see support put in place for parents. “I believe parents feel overwhelmed, as well, in the process and they are forgotten. They do not have the help they need. As a result, we need parent workshops to help support parents and give them tools on how to raise a child who is experiencing mental health challenges,” said Stewart.

### Other Greenbelt Schools

Greenbelt Middle School confirmed that they have a professional school counselor for each grade level, a total of three. Dora Kennedy French Immersion School has two professional school counselors – one for students in elementary school and one for those in middle school. They also have various therapists who come in at different times, including an occupational therapist and two psychotherapists. Springhill Lake Elementary would not disclose what kind of support or staffing they have in place. Reached by phone, a representative said they “cannot answer any questions about anything,” and referred the News Review to Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) with any inquiries. Their website lists two school counselors and one school psychologist; however, no one responded to email inquiries and the psychologist’s email address was undeliverable.

“I see PGCPS heading in the right direction with the support they are putting in place for students,” said GES Counselor Cahalan-Hudson. “As with any large system, further growth and development of systems and services will only benefit future generations of Prince George’s County residents.”



## ACE AWARDS continued from page 1

### Inioluwa Isaac Ajakaye, Magnolia Elementary

Robert Snyder presented the award and described Inioluwa as kind, considerate and a team player. He is in the Talented and Gifted (TAG) program at Magnolia and plays the saxophone, drums, piano and guitar. He was the featured soloist at the Magnolia Elementary Winter Concert. He was also a speaker at the Men Make a Difference Day at the school. “Inioluwa is a team player and works as an active participant in the community and an active learner at school,” reported Snyder.

### Paula Justo Mendez, Magnolia Elementary

Paula Justo Mendez thinks beyond herself, often assisting classmates at school and her siblings at home when they may need help with assignments or projects, reported Snyder. She received the Mustang Award for the first quarter of the year, an award is given to a single student each semester for exhibiting citizenship and leadership, while reflecting “the Magnolia Way.” Paula is also a member of the Magnolia Star and of Boy Scout Troop 36, serves as a student government representative, member of the WMES news morning announcers and is a student ambassador, conducting student-led tours of the school building in Spanish to acclimate students to the school. “Paula is a true reflection of

citizenship and integrity,” read Snyder.

### Chrishaun Jackson, Springhill Lake Elementary

Korrie Johnson described Chrishaun Jackson as kind-hearted, honest, loyal and a good friend. He works hard to maintain good grades and shows kindness and respect toward others. Korrie serves as a peer mediator, helping other students learn to make good social choices. “Chrishaun is quiet-spoken but leaves a powerful impact on those fortunate enough to know him,” reported Johnson. “He is an excellent nominee for the Greenbelt Student ACE Award.”

### Ashley Tamayo, Springhill Lake Elementary

Ashley Tamayo has been at Springhill Lake from kindergarten to fifth grade. She is kind and thoughtful and described by her friends as honest, fair and generous, said Johnson. “Ashley began school as an ESOL student, and after learning English she became a tutor in the Reading Together program, helping other students improve their reading,” Johnson shared. Ashley is active in the school’s cooking and drama clubs and serves as a peer mediator. “In this role she encourages students to use dialogue and engage in mutual respect as a way to resolve differences,” said Johnson. Ashley also enjoys Sunday school and singing with the church choir. At home she

assists her mother with the house and with her baby brother and other younger siblings. “Ashley’s willingness to engage in school and home activities tell why she is an ideal nominee for the 2023 ACE student award,” concluded Johnson.

### Angelina Cole, Greenbelt Elementary

Angelina is a leader of Greenbelt Elementary School’s outstanding fifth grade class. Staff report that Angelina is always willing to help others and is a kind, strong advocate for other students. She was praised as a good role model and is a prudent decision-maker during group conflicts. Angelina also serves as one of the school’s safety patrols and works extremely well with younger students.

### Muhammed Hassan, Greenbelt Elementary

Muhammed Hassan has a GPA of 3.96. He is a school safety patrol, part of the five-member Greenbelt Elementary School Science Bowl Team that recently made it to the quarterfinals and is an exemplary student role model. When his bus arrives in a timely fashion, he assists in the Morning Announcement room. Teachers describe him as “always participating and willing to help others” and one who expends “so much effort to do his work.” He “asks great clarifying questions

See ACE AWARDS, page 9



## BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT & RECOVERY FUND ROUND III

APPLICATION LAUNCHES APRIL 17  
APPLICATION DEADLINE JUNE 16



### ABOUT

The Greenbelt Business Improvement Recovery Fund Round III, offers financial assistance to local small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This grant supports capacity building efforts, along with certain operating expenses related to business interruption, improvements and continuity. Applicants must meet eligibility guidelines and provide evidence of financial impact due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### ELIGIBLE USES:

Examples of eligible expenses include

- Advertising / Marketing
- Business Planning
- Capacity-Building / Organizational Development
- Information Security / Technology
- Online / Website Development or Improvements
- Professional / Workforce Development
- Technical Assistance
- Other (Rent, Utilities, etc.)

### AWARD AMOUNT:

Maximum award amount is \$30,000.  
Minimum award amount is \$20,000.  
No match is required.

### APPLICATION PERIOD:

April 17 - June 16.

### INELIGIBLE USES:

- Capital & Façade Improvements (Please see Capital Improvement Recovery Fund)
- Debt / Loan Repayments
- Property Maintenance / Construction Work
- Staff Compensation

**CONTACT:** Kevin Simpson, (240) 542-2044

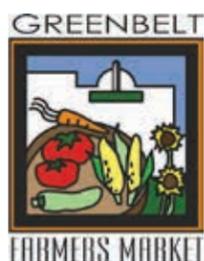
**WEBSITE:** [www.greenbeltmd.gov/BIRF](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/BIRF)

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To Learn More About Our 2023 Vendor Line-Up

Parking Lot at Southway and Centerway

# School News

## ACE AWARDS continued from page 8

and loves a good challenge,” said another teacher. One of his best attributes is his eagerness to assist and he often goes out of his way to do so, reported Johnson. “He is a positive individual and one that all of Greenbelt can be proud of knowing.”

### Lien Wheeler Gareri, Dora Kennedy French Immersion

Lien Gareri is a highly successful and driven student at Dora Kennedy French Immersion, reported ACE’s Chair Janet Mirsky. She is a 4.0 GPA student and a violinist of five years, having obtained the prestigious title of First Chair, is fluent in French and also able to speak Russian, shared Mirsky. Lien enjoys providing community service through the RUA-K-Porch food donation program and Girl Scouts, in which she has obtained the high status of cadet. Lien says she strives to do the best in all endeavors because it makes her feel good about herself and also it is a way to pay back her parents for the continuous love and support they have provided. She has been accepted into Eleanor Roosevelt’s Science and Tech program for next year, and after high school she hopes to attend the University of Maryland. Her hobbies include playing soccer, drawing and martial arts. “Dora Kennedy French Immersion salutes Lien and identifies her as a model student that all of our Greenbelt community can be proud of knowing,” said Mirsky.

### Irene Sirleaf, Dora Kennedy French Immersion

“Irene Sirleaf is a determined and focused student who lives by the phrase, ‘You only live life once, so make sure you live it to the fullest,’” said Mirsky. At Dora Kennedy French Immersion, she is a member of the environmental club, National Junior Honor Society and Student Council. She boasts an impressive 3.4 GPA. She is fluent in French, able to speak Russian and is a proficient five-year violinist. Outside of school, Irene enjoys lessons in dancing and tennis and participating in the Civic Voices program. A future entrepreneur, Irene has taken up bracelet making, a skill that she would hope to transition into a business. She gives credit to her proud Liberian heritage and to her heroes, her parents, for providing her with the support and foundation for her success. Irene intends to go to Eleanor Roosevelt High School and hopes to go on to study law, with the goal of becoming a criminal investigator, partly due to her mild obsession with crime investigation television shows.

### Nkeng “Mercy” Taxi, Greenbelt Middle

Mercy has continuously excelled in school, reported Stephe-

nie Arcido. Her teachers describe her as an avid thinker during discussions, whose writing is well-thought-out and who is eager to learn. She is also involved with community service as a member of a religious school, including providing food services to families in need. “Mercy is the exemplar of a Greenbelt Ace Award Student” reported Arcido.

### Mamadou Ba, Greenbelt Middle

Mamadou Ba is an honor roll student described by teachers as eager to learn and always inquisitive. He provides rich discussions and classroom experiences, they reported. In his free time, Mamadou loves to play sports. He is also a member of a religious community that provides service to families in need each week. “Mamadou represents Greenbelt Middle School very well in being an ACE Recipient,” read Arcido.

### ACE Awardees, Scholarship Winners

ACE’s Treasurer, Jenni Pompei presented ACE Awards to two students from Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) who also received college scholarships of \$2,500 each.

### Joy Victoria Reider, ERHS

Joy is in the Capstone program at ERHS, a pilot program jointly sponsored by the College Board’s Advanced Placement Program and Cambridge International Examinations. She has maintained a 4.02 GPA over the last six semesters and will have completed five AP courses by the end of the school year. Joy has also worked as a summer camp counselor with young children, assisting teachers and campers, and interacting with parents and campers. As business manager of the school newspaper, she develops fundraisers to aid in its printing and distribution. Journalism brought Joy out of her shell and made her more of an extrovert. She hopes to go on to study journalism in college.

As a mentor to Rising Raiders she helps them to navigate ninth grade and provides an opportunity for them to work on problem-solving and interpersonal and critical-thinking skills. Joy has also participated in the AEOP Gems Program (Gains in the Education of Mathematics and Science), an Army-sponsored summer STEM enrichment program held in U.S. Army Research Laboratories and Engineering Centers. She is a member of the African Student Union, a member of the Class of 2023 Class Council Social Media Committee and a member of the choir. Joy would like to major in biology and become an orthopedic surgeon, as well as minor in journalism.

See ACE AWARDS, page 10

# Young Entrepreneurs Learn Business Skills for Spring Fair

by Jill Connor

For the first time since 2019, the annual Spring Fair returns to Greenbelt Elementary School on Saturday, May 13 from 1 to 4 p.m. This year it will have a new entrepreneurial twist: an Entrepreneurial Fair for fourth- and fifth-grade students. Parent and Teacher Association (PTA) Vice President Kristen Hodge-Clark proposed the idea after learning of the success of a similar fair at her sister’s school in D.C. “I learned a lot of students were already making and selling items at school but in an impromptu fashion and I wanted to give them a more formal space to do so,” said Hodge-Clark. The idea was so popular that the annual Spring Fair was built around it this year.

Students applied for the entrepreneurial fair by filling out a form that doubled as their business plan. They had to come up with a business name, calculate their material costs and set prices to assure they were making a profit. They were also asked to assess what would signal to them that the business was successful. One answer to this question from the form was “If I sell more than one item,” another, “If I make \$5 or more after expenses, or I sell 3+ items.”

The students were given some restrictions on what they could and could not sell. Items such as Girl Scout cookies or fundraisers for other organizations were among those prohibited. Food items were also eliminated for health and safety reasons. Students were also urged that the goods should be made by the students themselves, with parents serving only as a resource and support for the planning and execution of the shop.

The PTA board and fair committee coordinated an assembly for the fourth- and fifth-grade students, as well as a marketing seminar, and their work will culminate in the Spring Fair on Saturday. In the seminar, the students learned about how to create posters and marketing materials to speak to their target audience,



PTA Vice President Kristen Hodge-Clark speaks at an assembly for fourth and fifth graders in April, explaining the fair and application process.

PHOTO COURTESY GES PTA

the Greenbelt community. They were also asked to think about questions their customers might ask so they are prepared with answers.

Items made by the students for the fair include flavored lip gloss, various bracelets, magnets, sculptures, knitted products, hair accessories, mugs, decorative boxes and much more. Participants are excited about making money and starting their own business. “I want to buy things with my own money, like an Oculus,” said Alexander Connor.

At the fair, each child will have a table in the school cafeteria to fill with their goods and their marketing materials, including posters and flyers. The hope is this will become an annual event, as many of the younger students are already excited about their turn. “I just really, really want to do it but I can’t,” said Sara Connor, a first-grader with a brother in the Entrepreneurship Fair. There are plans to possibly expand into services and food products next year.

Other activities and aspects of the spring fair include: a bounce castle in the gym, a touch-a-truck space with Greenbelt Public Works, art activities with The

SPACE, games with Greenbelt Recreation, Fresh Neapolitan Pizza made on-site with a mobile pizza oven, an ice cream truck, popcorn and more.

The Greenbelt Elementary School PTA invites everyone to support the school and their community, especially the smallest entrepreneurs. For more information, email [greenbeltespta@gmail.com](mailto:greenbeltespta@gmail.com) or visit [sites.google.com/view/gespta/home](https://sites.google.com/view/gespta/home).

Jill Connor is president of the Greenbelt Elementary PTA.

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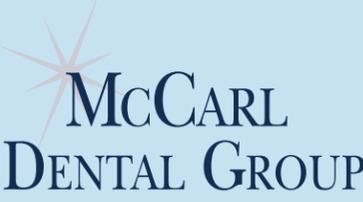
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# School News

## ACE AWARDS continued from page 9

"We cannot fully convey all of Joy's accomplishments but she is well-rounded and will be successful in whatever she pursues," conveyed Pompei. "Joy Reider is an outstanding scholar of exemplary character whose intuitiveness and self-discipline will lead her to great success."

"ACE is proud to present Joy Reider with a \$2,500 educational scholarship in recognition of her accomplishments and to contribute to her future endeavors," said Pompei.

### Sara-Ricole Ferguson, ERHS

ACE presented the second scholarship to Sara-Ricole Ferguson. Sara-Ricole is a dedicated, intelligent and diligent student, well-liked by teachers and peers, shared Pompei. She is a young woman of exceptional intellect with a wide variety of talents and interests, who has maintained a 3.70 cumulative GPA over six semesters.

Sara-Ricole is a member of the National Honor Society, and has completed honors coursework in chemistry, English and pre-calculus, and AP coursework in environmental science.

She has volunteered for Harper's Choice Community Association at Hope Christian Church with the church's food drive, for Southern Bethany Church Food Giveaway and at Tabernacle of Glory Apostolic Church Hospitality. She is a member of the African Student Union, the Korean Club, the Do Something Club and an art entrepreneur who created and sold art pieces over summer break.

Sara-Ricole has been accepted to Alabama A&M where she plans to study corporate law and business management, as she aspires to run her own café.

ACE formed in 1994 with an updated charter in 2007. It serves as a link between the community and the city council to promote high quality schools for Greenbelt. ACE members are Janet Mirsky (chair), Korrie Johnson, Jennie Pompei (treasurer) and Robert Snyder. Colin Byrd is the ACE liaison on the city council and Liz Park is the city staff liaison.



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## Springhill Lake Elementary Kids Bag-all for Cleanup



PHOTO BY DANIELLE TODD-JONES

Ms. Pope, Ms. Franco and Ms. Todd's fourth-graders helped with the first annual Schoolyard Cleanup for the pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and first-grade classes.

From left, back row: Adebosola Davies, Yarely Munoz-Bran, Bradley Quintana Salazar, Lawrence Bloomfield and Aaren McCoy; middle row: Melissa Davis, Jennifer Rodriguez Escobar, Stheisy Salgado Novoa, Lucas Arevalo Arevalo, Xiomara Abarca Hurtado, Luis Ventura Berrios and Joel Delgado Pineda; front row (seated): Deriam Gil Castellanos, Christopher Blandon Moreno, Vanessa Lifleur, Symone Williams and Stephon Reyes Ulloa

## Greenbelt Elementary Kids And Parents at Planting Day



PHOTO BY LIN ORRIN

Jill Connor, president of the GES PTA, and her daughter Sara dig in on Planting Day last Saturday as the new conservation landscape takes shape.

## At the Library

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

### Pre-K Story Hour

Friday, May 12, 10:30 a.m., ages newborn to 5, at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane. Enjoy the wonderful world of storytelling. Friends and family welcome. Hosted by Greenbelt Branch Library staff and Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness (RUAK). Register at [pgcmcls.info/event/8239711](http://pgcmcls.info/event/8239711).

### Storytimes

Friday, May 12, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at [pgcmcls.info/event/8239808](http://pgcmcls.info/event/8239808).

Monday, May 15, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at [pgcmcls.info/event/8239791](http://pgcmcls.info/event/8239791).

Tuesday, May 16, 6:30 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at [pgcmcls.info/event/8239797](http://pgcmcls.info/event/8239797).

### Health Care Exhibit

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

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

### Teen Action Group

Wednesday, May 17, 4:30 p.m. Register at [pgcmcls.info/event/8244709](http://pgcmcls.info/event/8244709).

### Film Screening

Wednesday, May 17, 6 p.m., ages 18+. Celebrate Jewish American Heritage Month with the Prince George's County Memorial Library System and WETA. Join in for a screening and discussion of the Ken Burns documentary The U.S. and the Holocaust. A panel of experts from the community will help explain America's role in the Holocaust and how that history is still reflected today. The presentation will also honor the Jewish culture that enriches communities and the country. The official trailer may be viewed on YouTube at [youtu.be/VCffe1USg18](http://youtu.be/VCffe1USg18). Register at [pgcmcls.info/event/8210474](http://pgcmcls.info/event/8210474).

### VolunTEENs

Prince George's County teens in grades 6 to 12 can earn student service learning (SSL) hours through participation in the Library's VolunTEEN program. Teens may submit the information needed for each VolunTEEN prompt in Beanstack via the link at [pgcmcls.info/teens](http://pgcmcls.info/teens). All of the necessary information must be provided to earn SSL hours through the VolunTEEN program up to a maximum of 12 SSL hours.

## Free Campfire Program Saturday, May 13

Enjoy a campfire under the stars at the Greenbelt Park campground. The City of Greenbelt will be featured on Saturday, May 13 at 8 p.m. Shelia Maffay-Tuthill of the Greenbelt Museum will talk about the creation of the Greenbelt as one of the three federal cities built after the Great Depression.

Meet at the Campfire Circle in B loop at 8 p.m. in the Greenbelt Park campground.

For more information, call 301-344-3944 or check the park's website [nps.gov/gree](http://nps.gov/gree).

# TREAT YOUR MOM THIS MOTHER'S DAY!

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## Spend Mother's Day at New Deal Café

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

# Police Blotter

Incidents reported here from May 1 through May 7. 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). Note that the times provided are when the incidents were reported.

### Arrests

On May 5 at 10:22 p.m. near 9100 Edmonston Court, a former tenant caused a disturbance at a residence and was arrested on an open warrant. On May 7 at 11:47 p.m. near 8000 Greenbelt Station Parkway, a 27-year-old man was arrested for indecent exposure. On May 7 at 2:32 p.m. near 5700 Cherrywood Lane, officers spotted a 16-year-old boy with multiple open warrants for first-degree assault, armed carjacking, and armed robbery, and arrested him. While searching him, officers found a stolen black handgun with an extended magazine.

### Break-in

On May 1 at 1:16 a.m. near 100 Centerway, officers responded to an alarm and observed the glass door broken with no one inside. Security camera footage showed a Black male throwing a rock through the glass door. He was wearing a blue hoodie with a white and red logo on the back, black jeans, black shoes, and a black mask. The video footage showed the suspect breaking into the store, running behind the cashier counter, stealing merchandise and exiting the store in under a minute.

On May 3 at 7:21 p.m. near 5200 Stream Bank Lane, a residence front door and garage were found locked but damaged with the key lockbox missing. On May 4 at 10:24 a.m. near 7900 Mandan Road, video camera footage showed two men forcing open a residence balcony door, entering the apartment, and stealing personal property.

### DUI Arrests

On May 4 at 10:31 p.m. near 6200 Springhill Drive and on May 6 at 12:02 a.m. near Ridge Road/Southway.

### Fraud

On May 2 at 3:13 p.m. near 5400 Stream Bank Lane, identity theft. On May 6 at 9:28 a.m. near 7100 Ora Glen Court, a victim wrote a check to a contractor for house remodeling and then was no longer able to contact the contractor.

### Theft

On May 1 at 3:09 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, commer-

cial theft. On May 1 at 4:28 p.m. near 9200 Edmonston Road, a juvenile's phone was taken by another juvenile. On May 2 at 4:02 p.m. and at 3:07 p.m., near 7500 Greenbelt Road, commercial theft. On May 2 at 9:44 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, commercial theft. On May 5 at 7:29 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, commercial theft. On May 5 at 10:22 a.m. and at 12:59 p.m. near 7500 Greenbelt Road, commercial theft. On May 6 at 7:32 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, commercial theft.

### Traffic Stop Arrest

On May 6 at 2:32 a.m. near 6000 Breezewood Drive, a traffic stop resulted in driver being arrested on an open warrant.

### Vandalism

On May 6 at 6:58 a.m. near 6100 Breezewood Drive, a patio glass door was broken by thrown rocks.

### Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles

On May 1 near unit Parkway a 2019 Hyundai Elantra was stolen and later located in Hyattsville with the front passenger window broken and the ignition damaged. On May 1 near 7800 Walker Drive, a 2013 black Hyundai; on May 3 near 6400 Cherrywood Lane, a 2019 Kia Forte (Md. plate 1EC6310); on May 4 near Unit Parkway, a 2015 silver Hyundai Elantra (Md. plate 6ET9313); on May 4 near 9000 Breezewood Terrace, a 2003 Ford E350 van (Md. plate 3EX6870); on May 5 near 6700 Village Park Drive, a silver 2017 Hyundai Elantra (Md. plate 9EM0553).

### Tampering

On May 4 near 6100 Breezewood Drive, a 2019 Kia Forte had the rear passenger-side window broken and the steering column damaged.

### Theft From Vehicles

On May 2 near 6100 Breezewood Court, a victim's two cars were vandalized and a front license plate stolen. On May 3 near 8200 Canning Terrace, a rear license plate was stolen. On May 3 near 6100 Breezewood Drive, a truck bed shell was pried open and tools were stolen. On May 5 near Kenilworth Avenue/Green-

belt Road, a rear tag was stolen. On May 5 near 7800 Mandan Road, a 2020 Kia Forte had the passenger-side back window broken, the ignition damaged, and personal property taken. On May 5 near 7600 Mandan Road, the front tag was stolen.

### Vehicle Vandalism

On May 3 near unit Southway, an unlocked car was rummaged through; nothing taken. On May 5 near 8000 Mandan Road, five cars were broken into and three had disability placards stolen. On May 6 near Greenbelt Road/Southway Road, a road rage incident ended with a driver kicking another driver's car window out.

## Police Sponsor Public Safety Forums

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



## Community Shred Day Saturday, May 20

Greenbelt Federal Credit Union will hold a Community Shred Day on Saturday, May 20 from 9 a.m. to noon or until the trucks are full. The Credit Union will be shredding personal documents, up to five banker-box-size per person. This is a drive-through event. Anyone walking to the event should call the credit union for guidance.

The shredding truck can accept no trash, batteries, plastic or unattended or contaminated paper.

The event will take place in the parking lot behind the Credit Union at 112 Centerway. Arrive at 9 a.m. or later so the trucks can get set up. Follow the traffic pattern. Call 301-474-5900 with questions. This event is co-sponsored by the City of Greenbelt.



## Don't Get Scammed Presentation on June 3

The Senior Citizens Advisory Committee is presenting Don't Get Scammed on Saturday, June 3 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Community Center. This is not a seminar for seniors only, as scams affect all ages. The presentation features Karen Morgan, J.D., from the AARP national speakers bureau and Officer Raki-bur Rahman, from the Greenbelt Police Department.

Morgan will provide an inside look at how scammers think, how to safeguard against identity theft and fraud, first-hand accounts from victims and what victims or someone who knows a victim should do. Rahman will speak to the most recent scams affecting local citizens and how officers handle scammers and reports.

Seating in the Multipurpose Room (Room 201) is limited to 50 people. All ages are invited. To reserve a seat, email [ahall@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:ahall@greenbeltmd.gov) or call 240-542-2056.



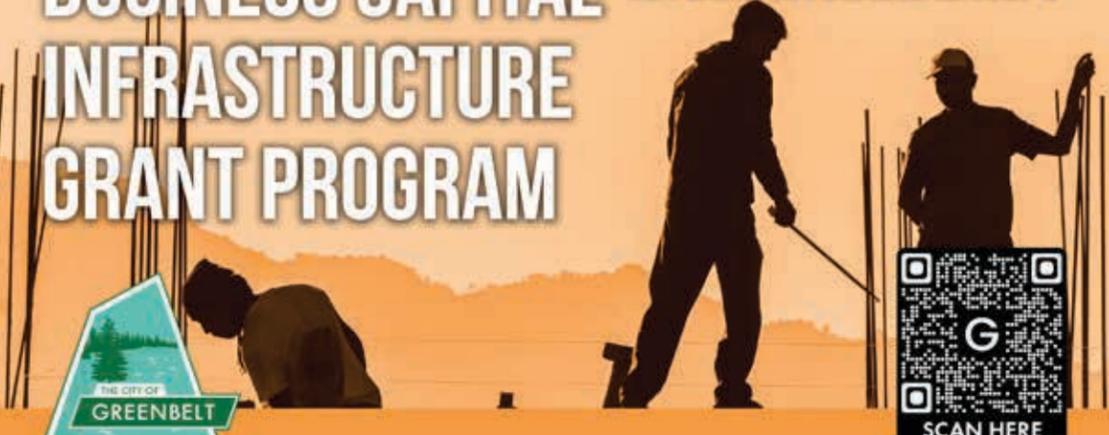
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## BUSINESS CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM

APPLICATION LAUNCHES: MAY 3  
APPLICATION DEADLINE: JULY 3






### ABOUT

The Greenbelt Business Capital Infrastructure (GBCI) Grant program offers financial assistance to local small businesses and property owners impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This grant supports business recovery efforts related to business interruption, improvements and continuity. Applicants must meet eligibility guidelines and provide evidence of financial impact due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### ELIGIBLE USES

Examples of eligible expenses include

- Exterior / Interior Components and Fixtures
- Façade Improvements
- Facility / Technological Upgrades
- Equipment
- Interior Alteration / Expansion
- Architectural, Engineering, Planning, or Permitting Fees

### AWARD AMOUNT:

Maximum award amount is \$50,000.  
No match is required.

### APPLICATION PERIOD:

May 3 - July 3. Sixty (60) days from launch date.

### INELIGIBLE USES

- Business Operating Expenses
- Building Foundations
- Landscaping / Hardscaping
- Debt / Loan Repayments

**CONTACT:** Kevin Simpson, (240) 542-2044

**WEBSITE:** <https://smr.to/p89185>

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

# MARKET continued from page 1

The board also has a mix of veteran and newer members. Board President Terry Kucera, Treasurer and SNAP Manager Carissa Ralbovsky are the longest serving, followed by Government Coordinator Jeff Lemieux and Vendor Coordinator Scott Fifield, Vice President/Communications Coordinator Tanea Manning and Board Member Billy Kennedy.

### Who's There?

Most of the market's old friends are back this season with new vendors Puzzle Pieces (plant-based dining), Ruby Roo (dog treats) and Plexus Herbs. A range of choices is open to customers in almost every dimension: fruits, vegetables, baked goods, prepared foods, beverages and lotions and potions. Represented are farms and producers from around the region, from right here in Greenbelt and stretching out to produce vendors within 100 miles or in Maryland. Imagine, determined vendors drive nearly 100 miles to bring food just so Greenbelters can eat it up. Residents are encouraged to support this generosity of spirit.

### SNAP Matches

The SNAP program will once again be operating, and funding is available to match the first \$30 of purchases for eligible participants. Start at the information booth to get tokens and then spend them on approved purchases at any vendor in the market. Blue plastic SNAP tokens from 2022 are still valid at this time but those holding them should hurry up and use them.



PHOTO BY CATHIE MEETRE

**Greenbelt Farmers Market Volunteers celebrate the new season. From left: Scott Fifield, Mary Denise Smith, Anne Marigza, Bob Ziegler, Tanea Manning, Katrina Boverman, Carissa Ralbovsky, Ray Zamamoto, Julie Clare, Leon Strauss, Jane Huffman, Stephanie O'Brien and Terry Kucera**

### Time and Place

The market begins Sunday, May 14 at 10 a.m. and runs to 2 p.m. every Sunday until the week before Thanksgiving, with the exception of Labor Day when the space normally devoted to the market is given over to the Labor Day Festival. The first Sunday in December then sees the Holiday Market, a free-and-easy celebration that coincides with the Arts and Crafts sale in the Community Center. For more information, visit [GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org](http://GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org).



PHOTO BY LETTY WILSON BONNELL

**A spring violet pops up in a Greenbelt yard.**



PHOTO BY MELISSA SITES

**A volunteer pansy grows in Centerway between the Sunoco station and the theater building.**

## City Notes

Street Maintenance/Special Details removed two concrete benches at the pool, installed a headstone at the Cemetery and provided event furnishings at the Community Center and Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Horticulture/Parks planted 18 trees and Refuse/Recycling collected 24.59 tons of refuse and 9.97 tons of recyclables.

Building Maintenance serviced boilers/HVAC at six city facilities and installed bike racks at the Co-op, Step Club and Arts Center. Fleet Maintenance inspected three new vehicles and decommissioned two vehicles.

Springhill Lake Recreation Center hosted a youth workforce development meeting. The Community Center accommodated Cinco de Mayo festivities, a first-time homebuyers presentation, Girl Scouts, Concert Band, Golden Age Club, Public Safety Advisory Committee and 13 rentals. An Artful Afternoon featured puppet-making, and park rangers welcomed Goddard Running Club's Annual 10K on the lake path.

CARES staff provided crisis intervention team training for county first responders and presented at Bowie State University's Mental Health Expo.

### Crisis Hotline's Number is 988

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline dialing code is now 988 and is available for phone calls and text messages.

Calls and text messages are confidential and free.



## Our Nurses Make a Difference

Thank you to our nurses. Your strength and compassion change lives every day.



Join our team and make a difference in the community by visiting [LuminisHealthCareers.org](http://LuminisHealthCareers.org)

We are accepting applications for our June 2023 Student Nurse Externship program! This role is a paid externship for nursing students expected to graduate in 2024.

Anne Arundel Medical Center

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100+ Primary and Speciality Care Locations

ASSEMBLY continued from page 1

maglev will either proceed or be cancelled, but nothing will be known until after the review is finished.

Tim Smith, currently the administrator for the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) State Highway Administration (SHA), spoke about current projects including the road widening near Md. 410. Smith was accompanied by Derek Gunn, transportation engineer manager.

Matthew Pollack, executive director at Maryland Transit Administration, spoke about the Purple Line, a 16.2-mile light-rail line being built to link Bethesda, Silver Spring, College Park and New Carrollton, which has been long awaited. Slated to open in late 2026, the line will also enable riders to move between the Maryland sections of the Red, Green and Orange Metro lines without riding into Washington, and between all three lines of the MARC commuter rail system.

**FBI and Transportation**

Washington reiterated county and state leaders' determination that the FBI headquarters should not be in Springfield, Va. Pointing out the disproportionate investment in Virginia, "They knew we were going to win," said Washington, who again noted that "they've moved the needle" by the late addition of proximity to Quantico as a consideration in site selection. Washington highlighted that Maryland has put \$100 million in the budget to invest in the FBI relocation and the community around it, whether that's Greenbelt or Landover. "That's just the start," said Washington, who emphasized they are "really serious." The FBI's relocation would bring more federal jobs to Prince George's County and is an issue of equity of investment for many (see FBI Headquarters: Politicians Rally at Metro Station To Challenge Criteria Changes in the November 10, 2022 issue of the News Review).

Mayor Emmett Jordan noted that some transportation issues may need resolution, especially if the FBI relocated to Greenbelt. Bus service between the Greenbelt Metro Station and Baltimore Washington International (BWI) airport should be resumed, he suggested, and improved service on the MARC trains would make a trip between Washington and Baltimore as efficient as the proposed maglev. These suggestions drew applause from the audience.

**Greenbelt Road**

Katrina Dodro, mayor elect of New Carrollton, spoke about driving her daughter to school at the Dora Kennedy French Immersion School in Greenbelt and the difficulty in navigating the short traffic light at Greenbelt Road and Kenilworth Avenue. Gunn noted that MDOT was aware of the problem.

**Biking and Walking**

Jeremiah Lowery, advocacy director of the Washington Area Bicycle Association, spoke from the audience about alternatives to automobile transportation for people who walk, ride bikes and take buses. Lowery pointed to Kenilworth and Old Baltimore Pike as dangerous to bikers. Smith suggested contacting MDOT's District 3 office, which is in Greenbelt, to report unsafe driving issues and litter issues. The District 3 website (roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/



Delegate Ashanti Martinez speaks about health care.



Delegate Nicole Williams speaks about cannabis legislation.

- Photos by Anna Bedford-Dillow

districts.aspx?did=d3) instructs residents to: "Report highway emergencies, such as traffic signal outages or sinkholes to our Statewide Operations Center toll-free at 1-800-543-2515 or locally at 410-582-5650. For routine service requests involving a state route, the most effective method of contact is MDOT SHA's Service Request form."

**Marijuana Concerns**

Audience member Jemeel Aalim-Johnson spoke about the recent bill concerning recreational marijuana use passed by the Maryland State Assembly (use of marijuana for medical purposes has been in effect since June 1, 2014). Aalim-Johnson was concerned that marijuana dispensaries would degrade the community as liquor stores have in minority communities. His concerns resonated with the audience and were met with further comments and applause. Delegate Nicole Williams spoke about the provisions in the bill to prevent "clustering" of dispensaries and over-saturation. The bill also tries to keep the sales tax as low as possible in the hope of eradicating the illegal sale of marijuana.

Delegate Healey noted that a majority of Marylanders had already voted for the ballot issue that legalized marijuana, which goes into effect on July 1. This marijuana bill is an attempt to ensure that Maryland profits from legalization in a fair, safe way. Localities are not allowed to prohibit the sale of marijuana; the dispensaries have to be everywhere and not clustered. Williams said the first round of licenses will consider equity, to benefit communities most impacted by its criminalization, and will go to graduates from Historically Black Colleges and Universities, for example. An equity fund will be available to those who wish to open a business.



# Public Safety Worksession: Police Populated, Cars Lag

by Cathie Meetre

In the absence of Mayor Emmett Jordan, Mayor Pro Tem Kristen Weaver called the May 1 Greenbelt City Council worksession to order.

**Volunteer Fire Department**

Fire Department Chief Thomas Ray described the fire department's status and promised a more detailed written report to council. He noted that the department's equipment was in good shape except for a nearly 20-year-old utility vehicle scheduled for replacement. The firehouse itself has new HVAC equipment but has difficulty in balancing the temperature in different areas of the building. Other parts of the physical plant are also in good shape, with the exception of ceiling tiles, and the new security system has been installed.

Recruitment for the department is partly done by the county along with other opportunities to meet potential volunteers. The department has been successfully recruiting, although not all have completed the rigorous training, including EMT certification. Training takes 18 months to two years to complete and not all candidates finish. The firehouse currently has two live-in volunteers, one of whom is responsible for the building.

**Police**

Police Chief Richard Bowers introduced several of his officers, Captains Tim White and Mark Sagan and Lieutenants Mike Apgar and Mike Parsley. As a highlight, he mentioned the new Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), which has two clinicians with back-up at the county level. He reported hiring of 11 police officers who are entering the roster as they graduate. Bowers told council that the generous sign-on bonus stopped in January but bonuses to employees for referral of potential officers remain and

are fruitful. The force is at full strength for officers (53) for the first time in a decade, but is short by one communications staff, one half-time animal control and one half-time parking position.

In-car camera systems ordered 10 months ago have still not been delivered. These will complete a system that allows geographically-based public viewing of crime information (updated daily) and traffic data (updated monthly).

**Future Staffing Levels**

In response to a question by Councilmember Ric Gordon about additional officers, Bowers suggested a wait-and-see approach as they come up to a full complement before making decisions. He noted that with continued development in the city, especially the build-out of Beltway Plaza, it may be necessary in the future, especially if calls continue to increase as they did last year from ~25K to 30K. From last year's figures, the cost of a new officer was \$151,311.

In response to questions about specific officers, Bowers noted that the School Resource Officer reimbursement had been renegotiated with the county from \$80K to \$140K and the process of replacing the Franklin Park community officer was under way – for whom the development pays about half the cost.

Starting soon, state law will require that every police officer have a mental health screening every two years. This will result in a recurring cost to the budget of about \$20K to \$25K. In terms of staffing, Bowers also noted he was anticipating retirements. Training time is up to a year and succession planning is underway because in the next two years, most of the department's senior staff are eligible to retire.

**Executive Level Program**

Promoted officers take a 10-week program preparing for execu-

tive-level demands that include budgets, reports, employment law and other managerial skills. The class, which is academically challenging, is located in Sykesville, Md., where Captain Jermaine Gullede is currently completing the program.

**Vehicles**

Last year, the department was funded for 10 additional vehicles, only three of which have arrived 10 months later. When the department was short on staff, it could lag in number of cars but at full complement and as services are added (e.g. the CIT team vehicles) the shortage becomes more serious. Weaver asked about adding electric vehicles to the fleet and having charging infrastructure at the police department. Bowers noted that many of the vehicles go home with the officers and that would necessitate charging facilities at their homes, which is not always feasible. He said that they were evaluating EVs for cars that stay within the city, for example parking enforcement and animal control – so that they would need infrastructure only at the police department. Councilmember Rodney Roberts commented that he didn't think electric vehicles would save the planet, but that the police department needed to figure out a strategy because in 10 years, they'd not be able to buy a gasoline-powered vehicle.

Councilmember Judith Davis asked about the desired additional 10 new vehicles above those now ordered. Interim City Manager Tim George responded to say that he anticipated that these could be funded by some American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and some funds from last year's budget surplus. With pool refurbishment coming in under budget, there will be money left over to

See SAFETY, page 15

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

## Petition to Referendum to Revoke Charter Amendment Resolution 2023-1/Resolution 2105

Greenbelt's City Charter Section 35 currently requires that "during his tenure of office he [the City Manager] shall reside within the city".

On Tuesday, April 11, the Greenbelt City Council by a 4-3 vote, passed Charter Amendment Resolution 2023-1/Resolution 2105 changing the language so that the City Manager "may reside outside the city while in office only with the approval of the Council." This language becomes effective on May 31 unless this petition succeeds.

We, the undersigned registered voters residing in the City of Greenbelt, petition that Amendment Resolution 2023-1/Resolution 2105 be revoked, restoring the original requirement that the City Manager live in the city during his tenure.

If this referendum petition is successful, we subsequently advocate for a referendum to offer residents the choice as to future City Manager residency requirements.

**Major Concerns:**

- 1) Council's amendment allows Council to either require or to waive residency on an applicant-by-applicant basis with no predictable, fair approach to all applicants, resulting in potential legal liability.
- 2) Since its posting in December, the city's official city manager advertisement has not contained a residency requirement although residency was then and still is required by the City Charter. (<https://bakertilly.sharefile.com/share/view/sdf72c3803ceb4f7c94e9069542e8ae91>)

**PLEASE PRINT AND WRITE LEGIBLY SO CAN BE READ**

Printed Name	Greenbelt Street Address	Date	Signature

Please note: Cut out this petition and sign it. Use your official name as registered to vote. The signed petition can be put in the mailbox next to the big Nutcracker on the porch of 166 Research. (Not in the USPS box at the street). This referendum is NOT about where the city manager lives, but protests council's action in giving the choice to itself, on a case-by-case basis. The residency requirement should be for voters to decide.

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**YARD/MOVING SALES**

**YARD SALE** – Saturday, May 13, 9a-1p. 22 Ridge Road. Three homes, across fr/GRH. White rattan dresser w/mirror, many items. Rain date 5/20.

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

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

**CARPOR SALE** – Saturday, 5/13, 21 Lakeside Drive, 8-12/rain/shine. Bike rack, art, vintage metalware, hummingbird food/feeder, lumbar pillows, household items, hedge trimmer, freebies.

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



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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.  
DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).  
OVERPAYMENTS: To properly account for overpayments too small to warrant refunding, the News Review accumulates overpayments of less than \$1.00 and periodically contributes the funds to a registered charity. Once the office reopens, this policy will not apply to payments made in person.  
ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.  
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# SAFETY continued from page 13

reprogram, but exactly what will be possible is not yet determined. Animal Control's large van is out of service and will be retired in favor of an SUV as the larger vehicle is needed only rarely and the county will share its large van if needed. It is likely that the department's first EV will be assigned to Animal Control.

### Crime Trends

A discussion on crime trends in the city began with resident Susan Walker asking why the percentage of crime had increased so much in the center city area. Bowers noted that it's a percentage increase and with the relatively low amount of crime originally in that area, a small increase in numbers has a disproportionate effect on the percentages. He observed that much of the crime in the center area is spread out along where Route 193 borders the city but that vehicle-related crimes like auto thefts are spread evenly throughout. An additional clustering of incidents around Roosevelt Center – usually fights – seems related to an overall increase in juvenile crime.

He remarked later that the increase in violent crime seems to have lessened (down about 9 percent), though vehicle crime remains at very high levels – as it does nationally.

Aggravated assaults had increased citywide, sometimes domestic-related, and Greenbelt West, particularly Franklin Park, had a lot more incidents than other parts of the city. Weaver remarked that Greenbelt West is also the home of over 40 percent of the city's population at her best estimate, and thought if statistics were stated per capita per area, rather than just per area, trends would be more comparable.

Another question related to the legalization of marijuana. Bowers noted that 40 percent of the guns found in cars up to now are the result of traffic stops where police smelled marijuana, giving them the power to search. With its legalization shortly, the police will no longer have a justification for searching a car on this basis. He was also concerned about increased traffic accidents from marijuana intoxication, whose symptoms are different from alcohol and more difficult to test. Bowers noted that the increase in traffic stops is a direct result of having additional staffing, allowing more pro-active policing.

### Crisis Intervention Team

Bowers characterized the CIT as the bridge between law enforcement and mental health services. There are now two positions and the unit serves people who haven't committed a crime but need mental health services. CIT staff work 40 hours a week as well as being on call and in constant contact with officers. Team Lead Rachel Tobin said that from July 2022 through April this year, the team made 147 assessments (first initial contacts) and 62 follow-up visits as well as dealing with 1,500 hundred phone calls and emails. City resources of CARES and GAIL also helped, particularly with elderly clients. Davis, expressed her pleasure with having the team – instead of placing police officers in inappropriate situations – and Bowers noted that the CIT was unique to Greenbelt within the state. When CIT team members go out initially, it's with a police officer for safety until the situation is stable.

### Kudos for Officers

Resident Justin Baker, in saying that most officer deaths result from domestic disturbance calls, hopes that the Greenbelt community understood these calls are dangerous. He gave kudos to five officers he saw trying to arrest an individual at a local gas station and wanted to publicly commend the police department for its professional and respectful approach. Baker wants the department to be promoted as a positive factor in the community. He also stated the concern that violent criminals are not getting appropriately dealt with by the court system.

### Dog Park

Davis was concerned that dog park registration wasn't working, with permits not being renewed. Bowers characterized enforcement as a problem – concerned that providing police surveillance and intervention in dog-walking crime could escalate into unnecessary confrontations. Councilmember Silke Pope suggested that maybe a card system and electronic lock to control entry would help.

### 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).

## Pre-K Bilingual Story Time/Stay and Play

On Friday, May 12 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 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 with balls in gym. There are free children's books and free healthy nutritious snacks. As one parent said upon leaving, "It was a blast!"

### Libros, bolas, burbujas, bocadillos

El viernes 12 de Mayo a las 10:30 a.m. en el Centro Recreativo del Lago Springhill, RUAK (Random Acts of Kindness) con el sistema de bibliotecas conmemorativas del condado de Prince George's presentarán interesantes historias y actividades animadas para niños pequeños y sus cuidadores para ayudar a desarrollar habilidades de alfabetización. Este programa bilingüe mensual es una introducción a la lectura en voz alta para los niños como una forma de inculcar el amor por la literatura. Después de las lecturas, los niños pueden quedarse a jugar con pelotas en el gimnasio. Libros infantiles gratis y aperitivos saludables y nutritivos gratis. Como dijo un padre al irse, "Fue muy divertido!"

## Woodlands Committee Has Walk-through

On Sunday, May 14 from 10 to 11:30 a.m., join the Woodlands Committee for a walk-through on ecological restoration options in GHI Parcel I. Meet by the playground next to McDonald Field. Observe and discuss questions and options for removing wisteria and other invasive species and for ecological regeneration in GHI Parcel I, which is located between Courts 7, 9 and 11 Southway, McDonald Field and the B-W Parkway. For information, email [bryanbruns@yahoo.com](mailto:bryanbruns@yahoo.com).



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# The SPACE Brings Superheros And Comics to Beltway Plaza

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On Saturday, May 6, The SPACE Free Art For All celebrated Free Comic Book Day at Beltway Plaza with art, games and, of course, free comic books. Activities began in their new, additional, larger location, which used to house Big Lots. The SPACE has already expanded to use the vast upstairs room for some of its programming and has plans to host summer camps and activities there and possibly rent it for events.

Comic book fans were joined by superheroes from the non-profit Superhero Support, which lends their enthusiastic volunteer "causeplayers" to bring visibility and boost morale for good causes in Maryland. After a couple of hours they relocated to a central area in the mall, with a table of free comics, to attract passing shoppers.

Melissa Sites is a new board member for The SPACE. "If we really care about young people, teenagers and middle school kids in Greenbelt, this kind of arts programming is what we need more of - arts outreach and education in Beltway Plaza Mall," she told the News Review.



PHOTO BY MELISSA SITES

Six-year-old Kevin (left), beside Shaymar Higgs, executive director of The SPACE, and Councilmember Ric Gordon, with wife Carla (right of center), pose with superheroes from the nonprofit Superhero Support.



Mall visitors stop at the table of free comics.



Six-year-old Kevin, six-year-old Christopher and 10-year-old Evelyn play video games after checking out the comics.



Kevin (right) plays hula hoop with Wolverine.



Mall visitors stop at the table of free comics.



## Firefighters for a Day



PHOTO BY CARLA GORDON

Councilmembers Kristen Weaver and Ric Gordon were honored at the 68th Annual Greenbelt Fire Department Banquet Awards for their participation in the inaugural Firefighter for a Day Training on April 28. They are flanked by Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department EMT Lisa Hegwood and the president of the Volunteer Firefighters Association Jeramie Jordan.



Weaver and Gordon don firefighter garb.



Gordon attempts to control a fire hose.

- Photos by Susan Franklin



Gordon learns how to pry open a car to release a person trapped inside while another firefighter and Weaver look on.