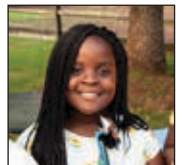




Spotted lanternfly found, p.7



National Night Out, p.12

## City Police Report Auto Theft Surge But Less Violence

by Cathie Meetre

At the quarterly update to the Greenbelt City Council on Monday, July 31 (main story published separately, see page 7), Police Chief Richard Bowers and Interim City Manager Tim George updated council on city policing.

On a lighter note, George began by stating that e-bikes are now in service, though the photograph presented to council did not show Bowers as one of the riders and councilmembers wondered why. George noted that the chief had, in fact, requested a horse. Councilmember Judith Davis remarked that the city did at one time have a horse – but George registered that he was “not in favor of the horse.”

Bowers reported that the police had offered a successful week-long camp for children to promote trust in the police and offer children a different perspective on law enforcement. They plan to repeat it.

Unfortunately, these two items

were perhaps the only light moments in a discussion that was otherwise a bleak outlook on a society that appears increasingly dystopian.

### Violent Crime Down

Bowers explained that despite perceptions, violent crime is down so far this year compared to last year, with carjackings decreasing by 50 percent. Domestic violence and assaults, however, are up. Councilmember Colin Byrd asked about accountability for domestic violence and Bowers noted the deployment of the crisis intervention team and provision of victim resources.

### Automotive Crime

Automotive crime has increased enormously over previous years – approximately 400 percent from last year to this year (and last year was already high). The catalyst for this seems to have been the decision by one major car manufacturer to remove

See **POLICE**, page 9

## Search for Missing Teacher Continues, Without Leads

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

“Madame Sylla is our dear sister, she is our dear colleague, as you can see exemplified by all the people that love her here,” said Dora Kennedy French Immersion (DKFI) principal, James Spence, at a vigil and canvassing event at Schrom Hills Park on Friday. The park was the last-known destination of Mariame Toure Sylla, who didn’t return from her walk on the evening of Saturday, July 29 (see the August 3 GNR issue). “We want to see her back, healthy and ready to continue to inspire our generation of French immersion learners,” said Spence.

DKFI teachers and staff members started looking for their colleague on day one, said Spence. “In the first hours we were getting texts that they were going to go out and search these parks and so I’m just extremely proud to be a part of the school,” he said. Spence expressed his and his staff’s appreciation for the



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

Mariame Sylla has been missing since Saturday, July 29. On Friday a crowd of friends and community members gathered in song and prayer and to canvass the neighborhood near Schrom Hills where she lived and walked.

number of people that came out to acknowledge and support. “It does not go lightly for me and the staff,” he said, appreciative of the community’s efforts. “Thank you to the News Review for doing a really powerful piece and helping to get the news out.”

John Enoch, who teaches at

DKFI, said he arrived at the school in 2007, one year after Sylla, when the school was still Robert Goddard French Immersion. Enoch has been Sylla’s colleague for 16 of the 17 years she’s been at the school. Sylla’s

See **TEACHER**, page 6

## Teens Come Up with Big Ideas For Achieving Greater Social Justice

by Anna Bedford-Dillow



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

Mischa raises the topic of Black representation in anime at the Social Justice Camp at the Library.

On Friday, July 14, Greenbelt Library’s auditorium was full of youths sharing their ideas on how to impact big societal issues to achieve greater social justice. They had project ideas that ranged from creating mentor programs, battling misinformation, addressing inequality in education and how schools are funded, to increasing Black representation in anime, fighting mass incarceration, and facilitating voting access and registration. Several had projects focused on combatting climate change, plastic and other forms of pollution and protecting the environment. Campers distilled their big ideas to address these complex topics into 60-second pitches before a panel of judges. This was the capstone event from a week of Social Justice Camp with Prince George’s

County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS).

The camp, which was open to rising ninth graders up to those just graduated from high school, drew teens from the north of the county. During the week the youths learned about social justice using various self-contained modules on topics that included an introduction to social justice, a history of social justice movements, research ethics, partnership resources, social entrepreneurship and public speaking, among others. The organizers presented definitions from a variety of organizations so the teens got a broad idea of social justice, and they focused on factual information, trying to remove their own biases, said Isaiah West, a teen services specialist with PGCMLS and an organizer of the

camp. Then they had campers define what social justice meant to them.

“I really liked how we talked about a bunch of stuff – racism, inequality, equality and equity,” said Angelica, a teen from Hyattsville. “I liked writing down what I learned. I learned small

See **JUSTICE**, page 8

### What Goes On

**Monday, August 14**  
7:30 p.m., City Council Meeting, Municipal Building

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

## Chef Lou Makes Plans to Reopen His Bakery Soon

by Lois Rosado

Greenbelt’s very own baker extraordinaire, Chef Lou Parker expects to have a grand reopening in a few weeks. His late wife, Denise (Niecey) Parker, will become part of the store’s name. Parker hopes to fill the store with Denise’s nurturing and kind spirit, making it an inviting place for customers to frequent in the community they both loved.

Over the past two years Chef Lou has experienced many trials and tribulations. He has lost his eyesight, his wife and his best friend. To make matters worse a tree fell on his house and the water heater in the store leaked, causing serious damage. Through it all his faith and the memory of Denise have sustained him. He is a man of great faith and an elder at Bible Way Church.

Chef Lou wants the Greenbelt community to remember that, as a volunteer, Denise helped



PHOTO BY LOIS ROSADO

Chef Lou stands outside his bakery in Roosevelt Center.

many women transition from incarceration and/or homelessness to more stable lives. She was a board member of the Community Crisis Service Center, worked in real estate in Greenbelt and helped people walk through the housing process, especially those with mortgage and other

See **CHEF LOU**, page 11

# Letters to the Editor

## Thanks, Wally!

On Tuesday, August 1, when hurrying to catch a 5:15 show at Old Greenbelt Theatre, I tripped and slammed onto the plaza in front of the New Deal Café.

Before I could move, a very kind stranger immediately knelt beside me. I was in great pain, with broken glasses, numerous scrapes, a broken wrist and internal bruising. The gentleman secured my purse and valuables as he gave calm emotional support and helped me gain composure and strength to rise. Two passersby got ice and a towel from the café to treat my wounds, and others stopped to offer assistance.

I was greatly moved by the immediate support from so many strangers. We do, indeed, live in a caring community. Thank you, everyone who quickly offered aid to this lady in distress – especially Wally, whose full name I didn't get. Your kindness lifted me up more than I can say.

L.R. Tokarz

## Decries BEP at BARC

It was most distressing to read in the August 3 News Review that construction of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) industrial facility on the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) early next year is practically a fait accompli. Now, Greenbelters can look forward to inhaling a load of diesel exhaust fumes from heavy trucks, on top of our current condition of PM2.5 air particles from the Canadian wildfires and Beltway air pollution. What ever happened to our pristine air of the past?

It seems that our elected officials have ignored the health and longevity of our population in favor of job creation and a larger tax base. Other options would accomplish much more.

Instead of an industrial facility which substitutes pavement and concrete for forest land, why not enhance this wonderful

See **LETTERS**, page 11



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:**  
AUGUST 11th - 17th

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium

**Shortcomings** (R) (CC) (DVS)  
(2023) (92 mins)  
Fri. 8:00 PM  
Sat. 5:30 PM  
Sun. 1:15 PM (OC)  
Mon. 5:00 PM  
Tues. 5:30 PM  
Wed. 5:30 PM  
Thurs. 5:00 PM in **Screen 2**

**Theater Camp** (PG-13) (CC) (DVS) (2023) (94 mins)  
Fri. 5:15 PM  
Sat. 8:00 PM  
Sun. 3:45 PM  
Mon. 2:30 PM (OC)  
Tues. 8:00 PM  
Wed. 7:45 PM in **Screen 2**  
Thurs. 5:30 PM

**Cat Video Fest 2023** (NR) (CC) (DVS) (2023) (73 mins)  
Sun. 11:00 AM

**Eric Clapton: Across 24 Nights** (NR) (2023) (115 mins)  
Wed. 8:00 PM

**Robin Hood** (G) (CC) (DVS) (1973) (83 mins)  
Free School's Out screening sponsored by Rad Orthodontics!  
Thurs. 1:00 PM

**The Big Lebowski** (R) (CC) (DVS) (1998) (117 mins)  
Thurs. 8:00 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room

**Barbie** (PG-13) (CC) (DVS) (2023) (114 mins)  
Fri. 5:00 PM, 7:45 PM  
Sat. 5:00 PM, 7:45 PM  
Sun. 1:00 PM, 4:00 PM (OC)  
Mon. 2:00 PM, 4:45 PM  
Tues. 7:30 PM  
Wed. 5:00 PM  
Thurs. 7:30 PM



Birdsong translated by Jean Newcomb - News Review, July 1, 2021

## On Screen at Old Greenbelt Theatre

### Shortcomings

Ben, a struggling filmmaker, lives in Berkeley, Calif., with his girlfriend, Miko, who works for a local Asian-American film festival. When he's not managing an arthouse movie theater as his day job, Ben spends his time obsessing over unavailable blonde women, watching Criterion Collection DVDs and eating in diners with his best friend Alice, a queer grad student with a serial dating habit. When Miko moves to New York for an internship, Ben is left to his own devices, and begins to explore what he thinks he might want.

### Theater Camp

Tony Award winner Ben Platt and Molly Gordon star in this new original comedy as Amos and Rebecca-Diane – lifelong best friends and drama instructors at a rundown camp in upstate New York. When clueless tech-bro Troy (Jimmy Tatro) arrives to run the property (into the ground), Amos, Rebecca-Diane and production manager Glenn (Noah Galvin) band together with the staff and students to stage a masterpiece and keep their beloved summer camp afloat.

### Barbie

To live in Barbie Land is to be a perfect being in a perfect place. Unless you have a full-on existential crisis. Or you're a Ken. Directed by Greta Gerwig and starring Margot Robbie, Ryan Gosling, America Ferrera, Kate McKinnon and Michael Cera. "Barbie first reactions: witty, impeccably designed, overblown fun," says Christopher Campbell of Rotten Tomatoes.

### Cat Video Fest 2023

This festival features a compilation reel of the latest and best cat videos culled from countless hours of unique submissions and sourced animations, music videos and classic internet powerhouses. A joyous communal experience, only available in theaters, it raises money for cats in need through partnerships with local cat charities, animal welfare organizations and shelters to best serve cats in the area.

### Eric Clapton: Across 24 Nights

In 1990 and in 1991 Eric Clapton played 24 nights at the Royal Albert Hall performing with different line-ups and sets featuring blues, rock, and a full orchestra. The performances have become legendary to Clapton fans. Over 30 years later this film, edited from the original footage and completely remastered in Dolby Surround Sound, captures for the first time the definitive performances across all the sets over both years.

### Robin Hood

Robin Hood is a 1973 American animated musical adventure comedy film produced by Walt Disney Productions and released by Buena Vista Distribution.

### The Big Lebowski

Jeff Bridges plays Jeff Lebowski who insists on being called "the Dude," a laid-back, easygoing burnout who happens to have the same name as a millionaire whose wife owes a lot of dangerous people a whole bunch of money – resulting in the Dude having his rug soiled, sending him spiraling into the Los Angeles underworld.

## Letters Policy

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

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

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



# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

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

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.  
Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.  
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the municipal building.

# Community Events

## Donate School Supplies For Springhill Students

Donate school supplies for kids in need. Both Greenbelt Federal Credit Union and the Co-op Supermarket are collecting school supplies for kids in need at Springhill Lake Elementary School. There are dropboxes at the Credit Union and the Co-op.

Donation boxes will be available until Wednesday, August 23. Cash donations will be accepted at the Credit Union. Make checks payable to SHLES.

## Blood Drive Here Friday, August 25

The American Red Cross has seen a shortfall of about 25,000 blood donations in the first two months of the summer. Right now, the Red Cross especially needs O-negative, O-positive, B-negative and A-negative blood donors, as well as platelet donors. The blood drive will be held at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, from 12:30 to 6 p.m. on August 25. Make an appointment to donate at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

## Senior Advisory Committee Seeking New Members

Greenbelt's Senior Citizens Advisory Committee (SCAC) is looking for new members who are Greenbelt residents. The committee's mission is to represent and make recommendations to city council concerning the needs of Greenbelt's senior citizens in areas such as recreation, social and cultural needs, housing, transportation, financial security, and physical and mental health concerns.

The committee sponsors two annual events. The Open Forum, where Greenbelters can share their concerns and ideas about issues in the city, will be held on Saturday, September 23 at 1 p.m. in the Community Center. The Not for Seniors Only seminar concerning current topics of interest is held the first Saturday in June.

SCAC meets on the last Tuesday of each month for approximately 60 minutes at the Community Center. There are no meetings in June, July and December.

As an incentive, advisory board members are eligible to receive a 50 percent discount on membership at the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center.

To find out more, all are welcome to attend the next meeting on Tuesday, August 29 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 114 of the Community Center. For more information or to volunteer, call 301-474-8000.

## Health Care Block Party

During National Health Center Week, CCI Health Services will host its third annual Block Party on Saturday, August 12 from noon to 3 p.m. at its Greenbelt health center, located at 9220 Springhill Lane.

In collaboration with the City of Greenbelt, the event encourages youth in the community to take control of their health. Highlighted will be CCI's services, including confidential and free resources such as dental services, and HIV and STI testing. Representation from other health, fitness, career and education organizations in the community will be included. Over 500 families participated last year. The festive block party will offer again this year food, prizes and haircuts to help kids get ready for the new school year.

## Steering Wheel Locks For Hyundai, Kia Owners

Hyundai and Kia owners who are residents of Greenbelt can pick up a free steering wheel lock at the Greenbelt Police Station on Monday, August 14 between 9 and 11 a.m. Those attending must bring their ID and vehicle registration to prove residency.

## Senior Nutrition Program Luncheon

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunch for seniors Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Community Center beginning at 11 a.m. Meals must be reserved one week ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208 ext. 4215.

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

## Star Party Saturday

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will host a star party, free and open to the public, on Saturday, August 12 at the City Observatory located at Northway Fields. 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.

## Charlestowne Village Hosts Food Truck

The Charlestowne Village Homeowners Association will host the Good to Da Bone food truck on Saturday, August 12 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Take Lakecrest Drive to Prince James Way – the entrance is on the left. More information is on the Charlestowne Village Condominium website.

## Last Run of Summer Thursday at Lake Park

The Prince George's Running Club will hold its last run of the summer on Thursday evening, August 10, at Buddy Attick Park. This free, fun, family-friendly event kicks off at 7 p.m. for a 1.75 (one loop) or 3.1 mile (two loops) run around the lake.

Race start is between the tennis courts and baseball fields on Braden Fields; arrive early to check in, turn in registration forms and receive a racing bib.

Registration is required, visit [runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/MD/Greenbelt/SummerSeries2016](http://runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/MD/Greenbelt/SummerSeries2016).



## Writers Group Meets On August 18

The Greenbelt Writers Group will hold its August meeting on Friday, August 18 at 7 p.m. in the Community Center. The group had a really successful meeting in July and for August authors were asked to go through their "bits and pieces" of unfinished work. Bring them to the August meeting to discuss or get them out and work on them and read your new work.

There may also be time for additional open readings and group discussions. We are always looking for more members, so join us on August 18. For more information, contact Barbara Ford at [barb.ford@comcast.net](mailto:barb.ford@comcast.net).

## GHI Gathers Thanks For Eldon Ralph

James Claggett began as the new GHI general manager on Monday, July 10. Eldon Ralph, departing GM, is continuing to serve by being available to orient Claggett to GHI and the position. There will be a board-staff thank you for Ralph in September.

GHI is inviting its members and friends in the community who want to express thanks to Ralph for his years of service to do so in several ways: Stop by the GHI office during business hours and add a short note and sign a Thank You Book at the reception desk.

Mail a note to Eldon Ralph, c/o Everett Hitchener, GHI Office, 1 Hamilton Place, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

Email a note to [EldonRalphFarewell@gmail.com](mailto:EldonRalphFarewell@gmail.com).

Record a short 10- to 60-second video message at [bit.ly/EldonVideos](http://bit.ly/EldonVideos). Anyone who is having difficulties with the technology can email [EldonVideoHelp@gmail.com](mailto:EldonVideoHelp@gmail.com) for assistance.

The Thank You Book, notes, emails and videos will be presented to Ralph at the September event. The deadline for all forms of Thank You is Thursday, August 31.

## Playground Plogging Labor of Love Spaces

On Labor Day Weekend, Friday, September 1 through Monday, September 4, Greenbelt Plogs, a RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) initiative, will be cleaning up around the many city playgrounds of Greenbelt, making them safe and sparkly. Those interested in participating should email Robert Goldberg-Strassler at [spreadruak@gmail.com](mailto:spreadruak@gmail.com) as to where you'll be plogging, or to ask where ploggers are needed, so as to coordinate efforts and spread the wealth of engagement.

## Books, Balls, Bubbles, Snacks: Have a Blast

On Friday, August 11 at 10:30 a.m. at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) with Prince George's County Libraries will present engaging lively stories and activities for young children and their caregivers to help build early literacy skills.

This monthly bi-lingual 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 the gym. Free children's books. Free healthy nutritious snacks.

Spread the word to friends and families.

### Libros, Bolas, Burbujas

El viernes 11 de agosto 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 presentará interesantes historias y actividades animadas para niños pequeños y sus cuidadores para ayudar a desarrollar la educación temprana y 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! Aperitivos saludables y nutritivos gratis!

Corra la voz a amigos y familiares.

## Chess Club Meets

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Monday, August 14 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the New Deal Café. The group meets on the second, third and fourth Mondays of each month.

This group is for all ages and skill levels. For more information, call Effie at 443-415-1053.

## This Week at the New Deal Café

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

RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK.

### Nourished by the Greenbelt Co-op

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD

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

| TH 8/10  | FRI 8/11  | SAT 8/12  | SUN 8/13   |
|--|---|---|--|
| <b>Dar Stellabotta</b><br>7-9pm<br>One woman blues/rock band, <b>AND</b> Tossing and Turning Surf classics | <b>Dirty Soul</b><br>8-11pm<br>High-energy Swampy-Funk and Rhythm & Bluesy Soul | <b>Tie-Dye Dance Party w/ Greenbelt Honk! Situation*</b><br>6-8pm<br><b>Miles Gannett Band</b><br>8-11pm<br><b>Cosmic Americana</b> | <b>Deaf Brunch*</b><br>10:30a-12pm<br><b>Patsy's Honky Tonk Torch &amp; Twang</b><br>6-8pm<br><b>Classic country</b> |
| MON 8/14   | TUES 8/15   | WED 8/16  | TH 8/17  |
| <b>Member Appreciation Night</b><br>4-9pm<br><b>Piano Stylings of Peter Reppert</b><br>6-8pm               | <b>New Deal Open Mic w/ Joey Campfire</b><br>7-9:30pm<br>Sign-ins at 630pm      | <b>Pub Quiz</b><br>7-9pm<br>Bring your own team or form one!<br>Test your knowledge!  | <b>Reggie Right Eye &amp; the Missing Pieces</b><br>7-9pm<br>Blues, roots rock, a little country & unexpected covers |
| MON - FRI  |   |   |  |
| <b>Happy Hour</b><br>4-7pm<br>\$1.00 off beer and wine   |   |   |  |

Join or renew your membership. Go to [www.newdealcafe.com](http://www.newdealcafe.com), click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."  
\*For more information on these and other events, visit the **NDC CALENDAR** page on our website.

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### Greenbelt Access Television

**Aug. 12, Sat - Aug. 18, 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)

Angel and the Badman (1954)

John Wayne stars in this Western romance, directed by James Edward Grant, about growing from one's past and the sacrifices we make for love.

New This Month

Summer Filmmaking Class Films: Sam's Spectacular Gum and Mystery Film

Join us as we celebrate our most recent class productions as well as the students who made these stories come to life!

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

# Obituaries

## Jacqueline (Jacki) Nelson



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

**Jacki Nelson**

Jacqueline Nelson, 82, a long-time resident of Greenbelt and part of the early wave of “pioneers” who first moved to the town, died on July 18, 2023. The cause was sepsis from a blood infection.

“Jacki,” as she was universally known, was a familiar sight around town and was known for her outsize personality, infectious laugh and colorful storytelling. She possessed a lightning-fast wit and a charismatic candor that could be disarming at first, until one realized it was her secret charm. “Jacki says the things people think,” her husband Bob Nelson used to say, and it was true, although it could be argued that few people think quite as funny as Jacki told stories.

Jacqueline Schultz was born in New York City, the City That Never Sleeps, and neither did she, or so it could seem – Jacki being an inveterate night owl by nature and a prodigious drinker of coffee, her beloved beverage.

In the early 1940s, soon after Jacki was born, her family moved to the new town of Greenbelt. Her father, Jack Schultz, came to work as a White House photogra-

pher for UPI and other news organizations, a job he held “from Roosevelt to Reagan.” He was in Dallas when JFK was assassinated, taking some of the last color photographs of Kennedy, and travelled the world through eight administrations. Jacki grew up on Southway in a house full of presidential memorabilia: original paintings by Eisenhower, photos of LBJ hamming it up at his Texas ranch. It was as if a tiny slice of the West Wing had gravitated to Greenbelt.

Her mother Noreen worked as a secretary at the Patuxent Research Refuge and raised her four kids in the Southway home that the Schultzes occupied for more than 50 years: Noreen (known, for reasons lost to time, as “Snunny,” who later raised a family on Westway); James (who followed his father in news and later became CNN’s first White House Bureau Chief); Georgie (who died tragically young); and Jacki.

Bob Nelson lived across town in a GHI home with his parents, Lloyd and Bernice, he being a government cartographer, she a nurse.

Jacki met Bob when she was a teenager and used to see him rev his hot-rod cars down Crescent Road right past her house. She’d spot him turning into the Center, and she’d quickly ask her mom

if she could run down there and buy a gallon of milk. Her mom would oblige, and young Jacki, as she told the story, would go racing down to the Center, where she’d run into You-Know-Who. “Oh hiiii, Bob? What you doing? Just getting some groceries for my mom.”

The house was constantly overstocked with milk.

It was a love story straight out of a 1950s weepy. She was a beautiful and exuberant teenager. He was six years her senior, the gentle introvert to her extreme extrovert. They smoked the same cigarettes, which seemed like kismet. She was crazy for rock, doo wop, rhythm-and-blues: Buddy Holly, Fats Domino, the Platters, Roy Orbison. She’d get Bob to drive her to sock hops and local concerts to see Link Wray or Ray Charles. Late at night, they’d cruise the Beltsville farms in Bob’s souped-up Chevy, singing along to Earth Angel and Only You.

Bob and Jacki were married in St. Hugh’s Catholic Church and had their first child on the last day of the 1950s. Jacki turned her energies into raising their young family, first in Boxwood Village and then in what was then known as “the new side of town,” on Lakeside Drive, a house that Jacki would occupy

See **OBITUARIES**, page 11

## Celebrate the Holidays With Mishkan Torah



Mishkan Torah is excited to welcome all for High Holidays this year. Rosh Hashanah is from September 15 through 17 and Yom Kippur is from September 24 through 25. There is a full program of services and activities to ring in 5784 – in person at the synagogue in Greenbelt or on Zoom. Members and non-members welcome. Learn more from the synagogue’s information page, [mishkantorah.org/high-holidays](http://mishkantorah.org/high-holidays).

Our condolences to the family, fellow parishioners and friends of Jacki Nelson, a great Greenbelt personality and raconteur. A Greenbelter from infancy, she grew up here, married a local boy and raised her family here.

Congratulations to Samuel Stribling, Jr. who came fourth in the 11-year-old boys 200 meters at the AAU Track and Field Junior Olympics in Iowa last week.

Send details of your news to [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto: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



The principle of the oneness of humanity, “insists upon the subordination of national impulses and interests to the imperative claims of a unified world. It repudiates excessive centralization on one hand, and disclaims all attempts at uniformity on the other.” – Shoghi Effendi



**Greenbelt Bahá'í Community**

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

### Mishkan Torah Congregation



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

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family 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



August 13, 2023 at 3:00 pm

**Draw the Circle Wider Still: Musings, Music and Movement On Becoming More Welcoming**

Rev. Karen Lee Scrivo with Worship Associate Carol Carter Walker

What would it look like if we really practiced creating truly welcoming spaces for liberation, justice, and love in our Unitarian Universalist congregations and communities that included all of us? We draw on the power of stories, music and movement to explore this possibility in today’s Service.

Because we are experiencing some issues with our buildings, we are currently holding services at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Rd, Hyattsville, MD 20782. Our services begin at 3:00.

### 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.



Heavenly hidden treasure...  
The whole Bible is a revelation of the glory of YHWH in Messiah.  
<http://thywordisalamp.faith>

The Bible Says...

Wait for the Lord;  
Be strong and let your heart take courage;  
Yes, wait for the Lord.  
Psalm 27:14



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

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

**Greenbelt Community Church**  
One Hillside Road

We are an Open and Affirming Church

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

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

**ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am\*, Sat 9am\*
- Sunday Mass:
  - Sat vigil 5pm\*
  - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm – 4pm.

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

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

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

**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](https://greenbeltmd.gov/calendar).



**GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING**  
 Monday, August 14, 2023 at 7:30 pm

**ORGANIZATION**

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

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- Presentations**
- \* Minutes of Council Meetings
  - Statement of Record - Closed Session - July 7, 2023
  - Statement of Record - Closed Session - July 31, 2023
  - Administrative Reports
  - \* Committee Reports

**LEGISLATION**

- A Resolution to Repeal Resolution 2067 and to Establish Admission Fees and Pass Rates for the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center, Effective September 5, 2023 - 2nd Reading, Adoption
- A Resolution of the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, Providing for a Referendum to be Held at the Regular Municipal Election on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, to Submit to the Voters of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, the Question of Amending the City Charter and Code to Allow Voting by Noncitizens for City Election - 1st Reading
- A Resolution to Authorize the Negotiated Purchase of Certain Goods and Services from Various Vendors as Enumerated Herein When Total Fiscal Year Purchases from Each Vendor Exceeded Ten Thousand Dollars - 1st Reading

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- Forst Preserve Advisory Board Report #2023-04 - (Greenbelt Forest Preserve Greenbriar Maintenance Request)
- Pepco Tree Trimming Plan
- Board of Elections Report #2023-06 - (Mail-in Ballot Applications for Out-of-City Voters)
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
- \* Meetings
- \* Stakeholders
- \* Greenbelt Middle School Letter of Support
- \* Campaign Signs on Public Property
- \* Appointment to Advisory Board
- \* Resignation from Advisory Group
- \* Reappointment to Advisory Board/Committee

*In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email [banderson@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:banderson@greenbeltmd.gov).*

**MEETINGS FOR AUGUST 14 - 18**

- Monday, August 14 at 7:10 pm, **ADVISORY BOARD INTERVIEW**
- Monday, August 14 at 7:30 pm, **REGULAR MEETING**
- Wednesday, August 16 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD**, On the Agenda: Approval of Minutes of June 14, 2023, ARPA Draft Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan Implementation Project List, ARPA Draft Bus Stop Accessibility Project List, Review Final Site and Building Plans for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Staff Updates
- Wednesday, August 16 at 7 pm, **REPARATIONS COMMISSION**, On the Agenda: Agenda/Minutes Review, Facilitation, Educational, and Historical Subcommittee Updates, Steering Committee Update

*In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email [banderson@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:banderson@greenbeltmd.gov). This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar](https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar).*

**COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES:**

- Advisory Committee on Education
- Advisory Planning Board
- Arts Advisory Board
- Board of Appeals
- 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.**

**MICRO GRANTS, ROUND II**

The City of Greenbelt Micro Grant is a one-time, matching, reimbursable grant intended to be a resident-led initiative aimed at building community and engaging new people across neighborhoods. For more information about the Greenbelt Micro Grant including guidelines and application, visit [www.engagegreenbelt.org/grants](https://www.engagegreenbelt.org/grants).

**CURRENT FREE CARES PROGRAMS**

**BACK TO SCHOOL FAMILY HEALTH FAIR**

August 22, 10 am - 3 pm  
 Sign-up required. To register: <https://forms.gle/AoXwyNna5XcHNYbU8>.  
 Contact Brendy Garcia at (240) 424-0302 or [bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov)

**EMERGENCY DIAPER PROGRAM**

Supporting Greenbelt families in need of diapers. Greenbelt residents only, you must sign-up each month.  
 To register: <https://forms.gle/xMhpkL765xGdN2W56>.  
 Questions? Call (240) 542-2019.

**NURSING PROGRAM**

Starts in mid September

Services include bathing assistance, medication management, and more. Contact Sharon Johnson at (240) 542-2029 or [sjohnson@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:sjohnson@greenbeltmd.gov).

**MY GROCERIES TO GO**

Limited slots available. Participants 60+ will receive a monthly grocery box. Contact Brendy at (240) 424-0302 or [bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov).

**POWERFUL TOOLS FOR CAREGIVERS**

Session 7 - September 19 - October 31

This 6-week class series helps caregivers take better care of themselves while caring for a friend or relative.

**HELP LOWERING HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES**

Need help lowering household expenses? Call or email to see if you qualify to apply for Energy or Water Assistance, Renters', Homeowners', Senior or Home Modification Tax Credit programs. We will help you complete the program applications and mail them off.  
 Contact Dominique Kheav [dkheav@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:dkheav@greenbeltmd.gov) or (301) 615-1225.

**STRESS SURFING**

Three weekly session programs focus on the science of stress and stress management techniques that can be utilized in daily life to enhance overall well-being. To register, <https://forms.gle/K1ipaZusd5zPdW1L7> or call (240)424-0302.

**PEACE PROGRAM**

The PEACE program is geared toward helping individuals with chronic pain and their caregivers by using evidence-based strategies to self-manage pain that can be supplemental to existing prescribed pain management treatment received from healthcare professionals. To register, <https://forms.gle/qDGjWqBryJPeyNFL8> or call (240) 424-0302.

**JAMES HENDERSON GENERATIONAL LEGACY PLANNING**

The presentation will allow the audience to understand what the generational transfer of assets, values, and goals is, which is not a natural process but requires planning. The presentation will also discuss (1) defining family culture, (2) setting family goals, (3) learning key financial concepts, and (4) preparing beneficiaries for their inheritance.  
 To register: [bit.ly/3DKJKfx](https://bit.ly/3DKJKfx) or call (240) 424-0302.

**DEALING WITH BEHAVIORAL ISSUES OF DEMENTIA SEMINAR**

You will learn to identify many of the underlying causes of dementia-related behaviors. Acquire the tools needed to respond in ways that are helpful. Develop a plan to address the issues.  
 To register: [bit.ly/3OJxT7V](https://bit.ly/3OJxT7V) or call (240) 424-0302.

**STAGING COGNITIVE DECLINE**

Join us as we look into the different staging scales and what this means we can expect (or not expect!). What stage is my loved one at? Understanding more about the stages of Alzheimer's disease and what to expect can help us provide better support to meet our loved ones' needs. To register: [bit.ly/440Z4j1](https://bit.ly/440Z4j1) or call (240) 424-0302.

**FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION**

**AUGUST 17, TWO EVENTS/LOCATIONS**

- Community Center: 1 - 3 pm
- Springhill Lake Recreation Center: 12 - 1:30 pm, Must live in: Verde at Greenbelt Station, Greenbelt Station Master Association, Franklin Park, Motiva. Register by visiting <http://ow.ly/uGnV50OgTN>.

**BUDDY ATTICK PARK MASTER PLAN COMMUNITY MEETING**

Thursday, August 17, 7 pm  
 Greenbelt Municipal Building, Council Chambers  
 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt MD 20770

The City has contracted with Mahan Rykiel and Associates to update the 1992 Buddy Attick Park Master Plan. The City invites community input in developing a system wide approach in evaluating Buddy Attick Park in order to determine goals, policies, guidelines and achievable strategies. The Buddy Attick Park Master Plan is meant to create a vision for the future utilization of the park in order to guide the City regarding the implementation of desired improvements in the future while remaining sensitive to the natural environment.

**CITY ELECTION INFORMATION**  
**Nominations for 2023 Regular City Election**

In accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter, a regular election will be held in the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, to elect the seven members of the City Council.

Any qualified voter of the City may be nominated for the office of Member of Council upon filing a nomination petition with the City Clerk (signed by not fewer than 50 Greenbelt resident voters), a written acceptance of the nomination, and other statements that are required by the City Charter or by law. Required forms and information are available at 25 Crescent Road, beginning Monday, August 21, from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm.

NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM MONDAY, AUGUST 21 THROUGH TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2023.

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

**CHANGES TO FREE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION!**

To better serve our community, we are transitioning to Service Insights, a paperless intake system. **You will need to have a card in order to participate in future Produce Distribution, starting September 21, 2023.**

**How do you get a card?** Attend ONE of the events below to pick up your card:

- August 29, 2023, 10 am - 3 pm.** Spring Hill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane
- September 6, 2023, 12 - 6 pm** Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Rd, Ground Floor East
- September 7, 2023, 10 am - 3 pm** Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Rd, Ground Floor East

**CITY ELECTION INFORMATION**  
**Dates & Deadlines for 2023 City Council Elections**

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| First day to receive papers and file nomination petition                     | 8/21  |
| Last day to file nomination petition (5 pm)                                  | 9/26  |
| Date of drawing for placement on ballot (7:30 pm)                            | 9/26  |
| First interim Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (by 12 pm)        | 9/29  |
| First day to send out mail-in ballots  | 10/06 |
| Last day to register to vote (must be received by 4:30 pm in Upper Marlboro) | 10/09 |
| Second interim Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (by 12 pm)       | 10/27 |
| Early voting begins  | 11/04 |
| Training session for election judges and clerks                              | 11/06 |
| Election (7 am - 8 pm)   | 11/07 |
| Mail-in ballots must be received (by 6 pm)                                   | 11/07 |
| Final Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (12 pm)                   | 11/10 |
| Charter meeting for swearing-in (7:30 pm)                                    | 11/13 |

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

# Creative Kids Hold Final Performances of Musical

by Rebecca Squire

This week is the last week of Greenbelt Recreation's Creative Kids Camp (CKC) and this Friday all the campers, ages 6 to 12, will be participating in the final two performances of Hidden Lands, the original musical written and directed by Performing Arts Coordinator Chris Cherry.

Community members are invited to attend these free, family-friendly performances. Join the campers as they journey to a fantastical island full of pirates and exotic creatures where they learn the importance of imagination and inclusion.

Performances will take place at 10 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. in the Community Center gym on Friday, August 11. Before and after

the morning show, enjoy short bonus presentations by the participants in CKC's Summer Dance Party and Circus Skills classes. Following the afternoon show, enjoy a ceramics studio open house with the campers and a display of their visual arts and STEAM projects in the art gallery.

For free tickets, visit the Community Center business office or call 301-397-2208. City of Greenbelt arts programs are supported in part by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Maryland State Arts Council. For additional program information, visit [greenbeltmd.gov/arts](http://greenbeltmd.gov/arts).



PHOTO BY REBECCA SQUIRE

Alfred and his schoolmates sing in Hidden Lands.

## Teen Shakespeare



The Teen Summer Shakespeare Intensive program at Greenbelt Arts Center put on three performances of *The Taming of the Shrew* (set in the Wild West) in July. Directed by Kate Magill Robinson, Greenbelt area teens participated as cast members and tech crew.



Linda Kelly, left, plays Kate and Z Larsen plays Petruchio in *The Taming of the Shrew*.

- Photos by Kate Magill Robinson

# TEACHER continued from page 1

now-adult son, who until recently was living in another state, would call to talk with Enoh regularly, he said. "He's the one that called me to tell me, 'My mom disappeared,'" said Enoh. According to Sylla's colleague she left at 6 p.m. for her usual walk, and when she hadn't returned by 9 p.m., her son tried to reach her by phone but it went straight to voicemail. Enoh said Sylla's son went to the park to look for her when he couldn't reach her by phone and met people who said they hadn't seen her. He then went to the nearby Safeway in case she'd gone there and, not finding her, called an aunt, Dougo Nana Sidibe, who was interviewed by the News Review in last week's issue. Sidibe then called the police.

"It really hit home when I came here and saw all the teachers looking devastated," said John Appiah-Duffell, parent of a child at DKFI and a regular volunteer at the school. "We'll keep praying for the situation," said Spence, "and especially for you all that have known her a lot longer than I have. I know it's heavy. I know it's heavy." Parfait Awono, who was principal of the school from 2016 to 2019, was also among the crowd. Sylla was planning to retire in a couple of years and was looking forward to retiring to the Ivory Coast in Africa, where she had a home she'd shared pictures of with her colleagues. "She was getting ready for next year," said Spence. "She was talking about the things she wanted to do from an academic standpoint." He said it would be hard to believe she'd disappear of her own volition "because she was so ready to start the year off."

Police Chief Richard Bowers was present along with other Greenbelt police officers. Speaking at the gathering, he said the missing person investigation is still ongoing. In response to questions, he wouldn't comment on what Sylla did and didn't have with her when she headed out for a walk, but he did confirm that "her usual routine would have brought her home prior to sunset."

Greenbelt City Councilmember Ric Gordon spoke to the gathering, calling on people to have faith in God. "If something happens to one of us it happens to all of us," he said.

"This hits all of us," said Donna Christy, president of the Prince George's County Educators' Association, who offered support and connections to other educators in Maryland and Virginia. "Our 10,000 are all out there putting positive energy into the universe to bring her



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT POLICE

Mariame Toure Sylla disappeared on July 29.

Taz McCoy Wilson, one of the organizers of the vigil, with her child, a Dora Kennedy student



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

home, praying and thinking, and sending every thought. Keeping their eyes wide open, spreading the word, our 10,000 are all out there willing Madame Sylla to return to us. We're here and they stand ready if there's a location that the police say needs to be searched, we're ready to organize and do that." Theresa Mitchell, vice president of the Maryland State Education Association, attended and offered support, as did Alonzo Washington, Maryland State Senator for District 22, who was among the crowd. Grief and crisis counselors were also present at the vigil.

A large group of volunteers, including teachers and Sylla's students, canvassed the neighborhood surrounding the park and outside Safeway before regrouping at Schrom Hills. As candles were lit the crowd sang *Amazing Grace*. Jodi-Ann Price, a parent at the school and one of the organizers of the event, led a prayer, after which the imam from Sylla's mosque led a prayer to Allah for protection and peace. The gathering closed with words on behalf of Sylla's family and her family in Africa. They expressed their thanks for the heartwarming support and for prayers from all denomina-

tions. "This is testament to how wonderful she is and we love her very much. We are really close to her and we miss her very much," said a close friend of Sylla, who is in contact with her family. Former and current students, including young elementary students, shared stories of Sylla's kindness and teaching. "Madame Sylla was a good teacher - is a good teacher," said one young boy. "I know she's going to come back soon," said another. The French immersion community is like a family, said one parent, especially if you have multiple children go through the school. Taz McCoy Wilson, a parent and organizer of the event asked people to "treat this personally, because it is personal." "We need her back to her family, we need her back to her friends, we need her back for these children and we need her back safely for herself," said Wilson. Price led a final call and response with the crowd: "We are one." "We are loved." "She is ours." "And blessed."

Anyone who comes into contact with Sylla or has information is asked to contact Detective Davis at 240-542-2134, [ddavis@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:ddavis@greenbeltmd.gov), or the Greenbelt Police Department at 301-474-7200.

**ANACOSTIA TRAILS HERITAGE AREA, INC.**

Explore the History, Culture, Arts and Nature of Prince George's County!

Curated routes and trail maps: [anacostiatrails.org](http://anacostiatrails.org)

Loan Special  
Rate as low as  
7% apr\*

**BACK TO SCHOOL**

**Greenbelt Federal Credit Union**  
112 Centerway  
Talk to our loan specialist at 301-474-5900  
Easy application online at [www.greenbeltfcu.com](http://www.greenbeltfcu.com)

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

# Invasive Spotted Lanternfly Found on Tree in Greenbelt

by Kathleen Bartolomeo

The arrival of the invasive spotted lanternfly, an insect native to Asia, has been anticipated in Greenbelt for several years. While removing the bark from an *Ailanthus altissima* tree, or Tree-of-Heaven, on August 4, a volunteer found a lanternfly. *Ailanthus* trees are the preferred plant hosts of lanternflies, and as such are being debarked in order to protect Greenbelt forests from the worst of the damage that lanternflies can cause.



PHOTO BY KATHLEEN BARTOLOMEO

If you find a Spotted Lanternfly, photograph it – and then kill it by crushing it with a gloved hand or other object. Bag the lanternfly and any egg masses that you find and dispose of them in the trash. Residents are strongly requested not to use insecticides to kill the insects. Insecticides will inevitably also kill highly valued and greatly

## Spotted lanternfly

imperiled native insects, which need our protection.

For more information, and to report sightings of spotted lanternflies to the Maryland Department of Agriculture, visit [mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/spotted-lantern-fly.aspx](http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/spotted-lantern-fly.aspx).

# Registration, Card Required For Free Produce Distribution

by Bonnie Schrack

The free produce distribution held every month by the City of Greenbelt will be transitioning to a new system that will require recipients to register and receive a card before the September 21 produce distribution. The new system is being instituted by the Capital Area Food Bank for all their local partners. According to Katherine Farzin of Greenbelt CARES, having a card will allow people to spend much less time waiting in line, in comparison with the current system, which requires everyone's information to be recorded on paper when they receive the food.

To get a card, users will need to come to one of three registrations sessions: Tuesday, August 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center; Wednesday, September 6 from noon to 6 p.m. at the Com-

munity Center; or Thursday, September 7 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Community Center.

Thursday, August 17 will be the final produce distribution for which a card will not be required. Everyone who participates that day will receive a flyer with information on how to register, said Farzin. Registration will require a name, address and information on the number of people in the household and their ages, whether they are receiving food stamps, whether they have any special dietary needs and, optionally, their race and ethnicity. None of this information will disqualify anyone from receiving food; it is for the program to better understand the population they are serving and their needs, explained Farzin.

For questions or more information, email Katherine Farzin at [kfarzin@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:kfarzin@greenbeltmd.gov).



PHOTO BY KIM TAE WALSH

The produce distribution at the Community Center in June



# City Manager Updates Council On A Busy Second Quarter

by Cathie Meetre

At a Greenbelt City Council worksession on July 31, Interim City Manager Tim George and his staff described a wide range of activities during the prior quarter. A discussion on crime and policing that took place at the meeting is contained in a separate story (see page 1).

## Public Works

Public Works Director Willis Shafer recounted that the outdoor pool was prepared for the season, and the sand filter will be replaced this fall as part of an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) investment. Public Works used its new street striping machine on over five miles of lines and drew praise from Councilmember Judith Davis for the Fire Department's new parking layout. Public Works planted 61 trees, many replacing trees blown down in severe storms, particularly in Greenbelt East.

## Electrification

The city has \$150,000 for new charging stations to support the increasing proportion of electrically-fueled equipment and has a citywide group working on city electrification, including charging stations and vehicles. They already have an all-electric front loader. Depending on the source of funding, some charging stations will be public facing and some for city use.

## Hot Weather Effects

Davis asked about the effect of extreme heat. Shafer replied it had caused no infrastructure issues, but it had affected staff and particularly trash and recycling crews whose duties are physically demanding all day. Wherever possible, Public Works starts early and switches staff to less labor-intensive tasks later. They are also planting trees to preserve and increase the tree canopy and gradually replacing Bradford pear trees with more desirable native species. Shafer said Pepco is getting ready to do their annual tree trimming.

## Speed Bumps

Mayor Emmett Jordan asked

about the temporary speed bumps on Ridge Road. George replied that results were inconclusive, and they are considering engaging a contractor to establish criteria and assess city needs. George noted that speed bumps are both desired and disliked, and consistent criteria must be used to justify and place them judiciously. Councilmember Kristen Weaver requested the city inform the public of the justification for choices made.

Shafer said the city was getting cost estimates to replace the Youth Center roof and considering metal roofs like on the nearby Aquatic Center. Though the roof doesn't look great, he said, it is sound. Jordan suggested considering mounting solar panels.

## Human Resources

In a busy quarter, Human Resources Director Dawane Martinez said HR had onboarded 70 camp staff and implemented a new salary scale and job grades based on a recent study. His team had also implemented a new citywide telework policy.

In the reclassification, each employee received an individualized letter (approximately 250 letters) and had the opportunity to meet with Martinez, who felt the individualized communication was critical to the transition's success. He confirmed staff can see their individual benefits and salary in a portal which also provides videos on, for example, co-pays, reducing the burden on HR staff in explaining benefits. He said the portal was well-used.

Martinez explained that the new work-from-home policy examines job requirements and establishes criteria for working from home after an initial employee probationary period onsite.

He described using LaserFiche software to scan old employee records and Director of Information Technology Dale Worley explained that LaserFiche was a wide-ranging solution supporting workflows. He confirmed it could be integrated with other systems.

## Finance

City Treasurer Bertha Gaymon reported that the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report is underway with the new auditor, saying it was reassuring that many of the personnel from the prior firm were with the new auditor and already knew their way around the city's finances.

## Economic Development

Economic Development Director Kevin Simpson reported that ARPA funding is going well, with many applications for grants and numerous visits to businesses. The business community is responding well; for example, approximately 100 representatives signed up for an early August session at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Business Retention and Expansion meetings help to assess business needs – and address issues with which the city can help.

Simpson reported that they have separate grant funding for developing a business directory since there is not currently an accurate city inventory. Davis asked about capturing home-based businesses and Simpson acknowledged they were harder to identify. He noted that there are over 600 known businesses currently operating in Greenbelt.

## Public Information

George noted that the Public Information Office's Director Chondria Andrews and Public Information Specialist James

See COUNCIL, page 8

Scan for Kim's latest listing info



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# JUSTICE continued from page 1

stuff every day and I liked writing it down to remember," she told the News Review at the end of the week.

The idea for a social justice summer camp grew out of brainstorming unique ideas to "get teens in the door," so they could have a safe space with engaging activities during the summer, West told the News Review. Social justice was an idea for a topic on one of the days of a teen camp but the organizers realized they really wanted to offer teens the chance to look at topics through the lens of social justice rather than include it as one of an array of topics. The goal of the camp began as providing a safe space for teens to engage in some social justice ideas and has grown to include getting teens to recognize injustices in their community and empowering them to create change by connecting them with resources.

Last year PGCMLS ran five social justice camps and there were a lot of teens who got something out of them, shared West, but they weren't necessarily interested in engaging in social justice projects the way this year's teens were, he explained. Perhaps some were signed up by parents rather than intrinsically motivated or interested in social justice, he suggested. This summer there were only two camps instead of five, in part because the staff were spread thin by five weeks of summer camp last year and five weeks away from their regular jobs and duties, said West. This year, however, organizers combatted parents signing up children who didn't have a particular interest by a more probing application process and selection that wasn't based on the first-come-first-served model of most summer camps. The application asked the teens about their previous experience with social justice or community service and, most importantly, why they wanted to attend and what they hoped to learn. There were 76 applicants for 55 spots. The camps were hosted by Greenbelt Library and Spauldings Branch Library in District Heights, both of which were hosts of social justice camps last year. The teens came from different areas and communities and didn't know each other at the start of the week. "We saw a lot of friendships blossom that weren't there before camp," said West, who enjoyed watching the shyer youths begin laughing and connecting on day two.

Though West couldn't choose just one favorite part of the week, the elevator pitches at the end were definitely one of the highlights. Prior to their presentations



At the end of the presentations the panel of judges distributed their paper dollars based on what they'd like to see funded. Here one of the judges, John Pfeifer, donor engagement and grants officer with PGCMLS, allocates his money.

- Photos by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Meren and Cole tie for the most funding.



some of the teens were visibly nervous and during the week some had engaged in behavior that was not age-appropriate and led West to worry a few might not be getting out of it everything the organizers hoped. "But then some we were worried about got up there and blew us away," he said.

"I'm very happy with the reception we've received," said West, who recently presented the work of PGCMLS to welcome teens at the American Library Association conference in Chicago. He'd like to see more funding for staffing and expansion in the future. West says he's grateful for the major part-

nerships and support from the Prince George's County Office of Human Rights and their Leadership Academy, from the global organization Youth by Youth, as well as Mighty Minds Africa and the Center for Technology Access and Training. He plans to keep in touch with the camp participants and hopes to add a symposium or conference element in the fall. Given encouragement, confidence and the connection to resources he's hopeful the teens can take their ideas for social justice further than the camp.



# COUNCIL continued from page 7

Wisniewski had reached out successfully to local media outlets to get them to run "the stories that we want them to," citing coverage in the Washington Post and WTOP/DC News Now, among others. He noted that the live stream studio has been updated from 480 to 1080 pixels to provide better resolution on meeting videos.

## Planning and Community Development

Planning and Community Development Director Terri Hruby mentioned that the Beltway Plaza project is on hold but that the cause for the delay did not seem to be a regulatory issue. Hruby congratulated Michael Day on achieving his inspectors' certification in record time.

Davis inquired about Franklin Park and Charlestowne North, which has a new owner. Hruby responded that she was pleased with inspections of Franklin Park, which has revised how it is managing complaints, and the city has inspected some 50 percent of its units. Regarding Charlestowne North, Hruby speculated that a number of concerns raised might be an ownership issue and confirmed there were some outstanding violations remaining unresolved at that time.

Hruby also reported that there are two approved short-term rentals in the city.

In reference to the Greenbelt sign on Southway, Hruby thought replacement of the sign should start in early August but that the activity also required attention to bus stop placement. In this context, she referred to \$300,000 in ARPA funds for Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility at bus stops, and noted that this in turn depends on the proposals to alter bus routes which may change the location of stops.

Responding to Weaver, Hruby said that celebrations are planned for the completion of the Buddy Attick parking lot redesign and referred to a few details still to

be completed.

Weaver (a Goddard employee) said that plans seem to be proceeding on the reconstruction of the employee entrance ramp and bridge on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway just north of the Greenbelt Road ramps. She mentioned that the possibility of bike lanes to connect to Ridge Road via Northway (which aligns with the ramp) had come up, but cost and other considerations would influence such a decision. In previous years, a strategic hole in the Northway fence and a scramble down a steep bank had given the more intrepid Greenbelt cyclist a fast way to work.

## IT Security

The city has onboarded its first IT security specialist and is using KnowB4, a training program that sends phishing emails to staff to see if they'll click on them. The number that clicked (about 10 percent) was less than half the national average, but training will follow to reduce that further. IT Director Worley also announced a new button on city computer and phone emails that staff can use to send incoming suspicious emails directly to IT for analysis.

Worley confirmed he is working with the police department to add cameras at intersections identified by the Public Safety Advisory Committee. These cameras also do tag detection/reading. The feeds are cellular and separate evidentiary information from other video feeds.

## Recreation Department

Director Greg Varda responded to several questions about Greenbelt's pools, reporting that the outdoor pool was closed due to air quality concerns (e.g., smoke from the Canadian wildfires), occasionally for weather and once briefly for a malfunction. A proposed teen program for lifeguarding failed to materialize because of a staffing shortage. Varda told council that the Maryland-

See COUNCIL, page 9



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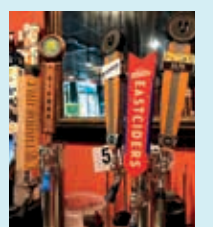
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# Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred July 31 to August 6, 2023. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email [pd@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:pd@greenbeltmd.gov). Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Greenbelt Police Department reported three domestic disputes and two mental health diversions.

### Assault

On July 31 at 9:57 a.m. near 5700 Cherrywood Lane, a man approached a woman with a broken glass bottle yelling in Spanish before leaving. The woman did not wish to pursue any charges but wanted the incident documented.

### Robbery

On August 1 at 11:28 a.m. near 7500 Greenbelt Road, a man was walking near the shopping center when two unknown men attacked him and stole his money and property.

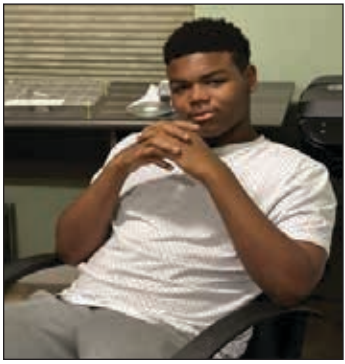
### Break-ins

On July 31 at 5:29 a.m. near 6200 Greenbelt Road, someone broke into a business. On July 31 at 6:37 a.m. near 7500 Greenbelt Road, a glass door was shattered at a business. On July 31 at 6:38 a.m. near 6200 Greenbelt Road, there was an attempted break-in.

On August 3 at 2:21 a.m. near 217 Lakeside Drive, a juvenile entered a vacant apartment and damaged it, and officers took him into custody. On August 3 at 9:56 a.m. near 32 Crescent Road, video footage shows a man reaching into the door slot of the leasing office and taking something from the rent box.

### Missing Person

On August 1 at 12:04 p.m. near 5300 Settling Pond Lane, a father stated that he dropped off his son, Aaron Lovett, Jr., (born June 4, 2009) and when he returned back home a few hours later he was missing. The son was last seen wearing a black shirt with blue sweat pants.



Aaron Lovett Jr. was reported missing on July 30.

### Missing Person Located

On August 1 near 9100 Springhill Lane, a daughter reported her father missing and after a search he was located and returned home safely.

### DUI

On August 6 at 2:17 a.m. near Greenbelt Road and Southway, an officer observed a vehicle crossing over the lanes. Upon contact with the driver, the strong odor of alcohol was present. The driver stated they had had a few drinks and the officer administered a field sobriety test. After displaying multiple signs of impairment, the driver was arrested on suspicion of DUI.

### Fraud

On July 31 near 7200 Mandan Road, a victim was contacted online and scammed for money. On August 2 near 7500 Mandan Road, credit card fraud occurred. On August 6 near 5440 Stream Bank Lane, a credit card had unauthorized transactions. On August 4 near 19 Hillside Road,

a victim noticed an unauthorized wire transfer on a bank account. On August 4 near 9100 Edmonston Road, someone opened a fraudulent cell phone account using the victim's information. On August 6 near 7900 Mandan Road, a victim was contacted online and the scammer used a program to access and lock her computer, then charged her to unlock it.

### Theft

On August 2 at 5:03 p.m. near 6400 Cherrywood Lane, personal property was stolen. On August 3 at 7:28 p.m. near 6000 Springhill Drive, a package was stolen.

Commercial theft occurred July 31 at 1:14 p.m. near 7500 Greenbelt Road, at 4:17 p.m. near 7400 Greenbelt Road and at 7:51 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road; on August 4 at 6:42 p.m. near 7500 Greenbelt Road; and on August 6 at 12:12 p.m. near 5900 Greenbelt Road.

### Vandalism

On July 31 near 7500 Greenbelt Road, a business's glass door was shattered.

### Vehicle Crimes

#### Stolen Vehicles

Vehicles stolen include a 1993 white Honda Civic hatchback (MD 5AW1560) July 31 near 7 Crescent Road; a blue Chevy Colorado (MD 3FC4934) July 31 near 24 Ridge Road; a black Yamaha R6 motorcycle August 1 near 8000 Greenbelt Station Parkway; and a black 2016 Kia Forte (MD 8CK3158) August 2 near 200 Lakeside Drive.

#### Stolen Vehicles Recovered

Hyundai Elantras were found with damaged window and ignition July 31 near 7900 Mandan Road and August 1 near 9 Parkway. On August 2 a 2016 Kia Soul, stolen from 7200 Morrison Drive, was recovered by Maryland State Police near Central Avenue; near 22 Ridge Road, a 2012 Honda Civic was used without authorization; and near 8000 Mandan Road, a Kia Optima was found with damaged window and ignition. On August 3, a 2013 Hyundai Elantra near 151 Westway, and another vehicle near 211 Lakeside Drive, were found with damaged window and/or ignition. On August 4 near 6200 Springhill Drive, a 2019 Nissan Maxima reported stolen was discovered to be impounded. On August 4 near Springhill Drive and Cherrywood Lane, officers located and attempted to recover a stolen Kia Sportage, but it fled the scene and was recovered by Prince George's Police.

#### Theft from Auto

On August 1 near 200 Lakeside Drive, items were stolen from a parked 2018 Ford Explorer.

On August 5 near 6300 Golden Triangle Drive, all four tires were stolen from a 2021 Toyota Corolla, with the bolts and screws left on the ground.

#### Auto Vandalism

On August 2 near 8000 Mandan Road, a tire was damaged on a 2024 Ford Focus.

#### Stolen Tags recovered

On August 6 near 6100 Breezewood Court, stolen tags were recovered.

## POLICE continued from page 1

from its vehicles even the simplest of deterrents to theft. The cars are easy to start and drive away, and information on how to do so is freely available on the web. Bowers said that 85 percent of car thefts involve this make of vehicle. Though the manufacturer offers a software fix available free at the dealership and the police have given away steering wheel locks, owners of the cars are not fully availing themselves of available protections.

The thieves are generally younger teenagers, under 16 and students in middle school or the first year of high school. Arrests of these youngsters have tripled from about 20 per year in previous years to about 60 per year currently. Many are arrested multiple times, with no apparent consequences from the judicial system. Bowers mentioned one local boy whom they have now arrested four times.

### Breaking the Cycle

Bowers and his team are pondering ways to break the cycle. One suggestion hinged on bringing structure to the young offenders, for example a police officer who focuses on under-16 offenders, to support them. Bowers said that these young people commit crimes because they don't think they have a future – and typically they have an inadequate home life that predisposes them to do poorly in school and to be engaged in anti-social activity. Bowers proposes a cross-services person to lead this effort to bring together other city services in support, for example CARES. He mentioned the earlier Explorer program which they hope to restart working in conjunction with the city's recreation department, a half-time police officer and the school resource officers.

### A Pessimistic View

Councilmember Judith Davis, herself a former teacher, described how teachers know, U.S. wide, that students are not optimistic about their lives and futures – that they see only doom and gloom ahead. She said that it wasn't merely economic, it was a general atmosphere resulting from the negative impacts of climate change and the world situation. She told how when summer school students get to Eleanor Roosevelt High School, within 15 minutes of arrival many of them form 'little gangs' and head away from the school. She noted social media posts that suggest, inaccurately, that Greenbelt is the sixth most crime-ridden municipality in the state, and she was concerned that these perceptions would lead to an exodus.

### Wild Driving

Councilmember Rodney Roberts complained about the lack of enforcement of traffic rules and described the dangerous driving that has become characteristic of major highways, with drivers dodging in and out of moving traffic at high speeds. Bowers

responded that police don't chase down these offenders because such pursuits have what he described as 'bad outcomes,' in terms of collateral damage from crashes involving police or other road users.

Bowers pointed out that there are only a few state troopers to cover miles of state highways and that there are more people, more cars and fewer policemen in proportion. He said that the individuals doing this driving know well that they will not be caught or prosecuted.

### Bodycam Footage

Byrd asked about release of bodycam footage. Bowers said that the department was not opposed to transparency but in releasing bodycam footage, on a case-by-case basis, the police took into consideration the persons involved. In some cases, the footage could be released via email but in others, the material would be made accessible only at the police facility. He felt that the police must decide whether there is risk or benefit to the public in seeing the video and whether individuals involved should be protected from exposure on the internet.

### Community Outreach/ Information

A promised online dashboard giving near real-time reports on traffic and crime in the area was expected to already be operational. In testing, however, it was discovered that the upload from the department's database was not accurately implemented and further work and testing is required. Bowers expected the dashboard to come online within a few weeks of the meeting.

In terms of community engagement, Bowers said the department was planning three community forums this fall in Greenbriar, Windsor Green and Greenbelt Station (hopefully hosted at the Verde apartments).

### Staffing

Bowers reported that the department was at full complement of 53 officers now that the most recent academy graduates are joining the department. He anticipates a few departures in the fall, and anticipates an academy class late in the year. He hopes to bring back the bonus for new applicants (experience shows that no bonus equals no applicants). Bowers confirmed that there was still a dispatcher vacancy.



## COUNCIL continued from page 8

National Capital Park and Planning Commission shuts some pools in the afternoons because of lifeguard shortages, and D.C. pools aren't open every day either. He said that the shortage of lifeguards is a regional/national problem.

Jordan asked whether the Community Center's commercial kitchen could be tied into an entrepreneurship program and Varda agreed it could. Jordan also asked about the next step on tennis court resurfacing and Varda responded that they were getting legal advice on the contract status.

In response to a question by Davis, Varda announced that the Teen Takeover at the Community Center will expand to Springhill Lake Recreation Center for the coming school year.

Varda said the senior lunch program has expanded to three times a week and is serving 15 to

20 seniors. He said it will go to five days a week after Labor Day.

### Museum

The Museum is back to pre-pandemic levels for tours and visit statistics and the passing of the bond bill assures all but \$200,000 of the funding to finish the conversion of 10-A Crescent. Varda confirmed work can start before full funding is obtained.

### City Administration

George listed multiple ongoing activities and described an automated system to accept and track Maryland Public Information Act (the state equivalent to FOIA) requests. He confirmed that the majority of requests are generated by a few individuals.

Davis and Jordan both suggested the possibility of the city hiring a lobbyist (apparently College Park already has two) and requested a draft request for a quote for such services.

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# Obituaries continued

for more than 50 years.

Three kids came in fast succession. Randy (a healthcare director who now resides in Delaware with his wife Lacey and their daughter Mya); Christine (a former Washington, D.C. lobbyist, who resides in Bowie); and Jim (a journalist and the former editor-in-chief of GQ Magazine, who lives in Berkeley, Calif.).

Exhausted by childbirth ("And who wouldn't be?" she'd crack), she took a break. Their fourth child, the Bicentennial Baby, Susie (now a server and bartender in Bethesda) was born 13 years later, or, as Jacki called her, the little caboose who arrived at the end to cheer on the rest.

Life wasn't all storybook. Bob and Jacki separated and divorced in the late 1980s, but like star-crossed romantics, they found their way back to each other, reunited and were married again in the late 1990s. Sometimes kismet strikes twice.

Although she spent most of her life as a homemaker, Jacki

worked for several years as a receptionist at the doctors' offices in Greenbelt Center, where her good cheer and playful wit were a welcome respite.

Jacki loved the Greenbelt life and never tired of the communal spirit of the town. She sent her kids to the same school she'd gone to, St. Hugh's. She played bingo at the church with a religious fanaticism – Tuesdays, Thursdays, any time the game was on. Half of her kids' nutritional intake as children, they swear, was from pizza at Generous Joe's. For many years, when the High's convenience store was the center of the Center, Jacki would be there holding court, spending hours "getting a cup of coffee," which somehow had turned magically into Jacki's Greenbelt Story Hour, as she ran into and regaled friends, old schoolmates and fellow caffeine lovers. Her best friend of decades, Patty Lauer of Ridge Road, was often by her side, and remained her bestie until the end.

Jacki was buried next to Bob (who died in 2010) at Gate of Heaven Catholic cemetery. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her. She is survived by a pack of cigarettes, a giant pot of coffee, still brewing, and her children, who adored her. She is believed to be up in Heaven telling one story after another.

## City Notes

Recreation continued the pilot program addressing language challenges in programs and facilities. The Community Center accommodated the Golden Age Club, Labor Day Festival Committee, Community Orchestra, Honk! Situation, Prince George's Peace & Justice Coalition, Concert Band and 14 rentals.

At the pool, Public Works made HVAC repairs and Aqua Mania returned to the outdoor pool. Arts staff visited the studio of an artist who will exhibit at the Community Center in the fall.

Therapeutic Recreation and Public Works coordinated bus availability for senior trips in the fall.

Street Maintenance/Special Details replaced all three flags at the Municipal Building and Horticulture/Parks collected refuse and cut, trimmed and edged grass at city buildings and sports fields.

Building Maintenance installed a new portable air conditioning unit in the Museum. Fleet Maintenance started installing first aid kits and bloodborne pathogen kits in vehicles. Refuse/Recycling collected 27.52 tons of refuse and 11.94 tons of recyclables.



## Information Day: Register by August 18

The Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Information Day will take place on Saturday, September 2. Organizations, clubs and other groups will gather in Roosevelt Center to share information with the public from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. No sales are permitted. The deadline to register is Friday, August 18. For more information, visit [greenbeltlaborday.com/get-involved/information-day/](http://greenbeltlaborday.com/get-involved/information-day/).

All spaces for the crafter booths on Sunday and Monday have been booked already.

## CHEF LOU continued from page 1

housing issues. To continue Denise's legacy, Chef Lou will add a few new baked goods, in addition to his usual delicious cakes, cookies and pastries.

He will continue serving ice cream and his carrot cake will remain a staple. He also plans to offer seniors special discount days.

Currently the store is under renovation – he is replacing the water heater and installing a new floor. Chef Lou believes these renovations will help to create a more welcoming atmosphere for customers and enable him to fulfill his vision to engage in and uplift the community of Greenbelt.

Welcome Back, Chef Lou!



PHOTO BY AMINA KHALIFA

Chef Lou eats lunch with friends at the Cedars of Lebanon.

## Greenbelt Elementary Seeks Used Books

Greenbelt Elementary School PTA's biggest fundraiser of the year is approaching and help is needed. Every year, the PTA sells used books over Greenbelt's biggest four-day weekend at the Labor Day Festival. All proceeds support Greenbelt Elementary School.

Books may be dropped off at Beltway Plaza on Saturday, August 12, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., entering via the upper-level parking deck next to the Laugh Out Loud Stations. The address is 6250 Greenbelt Road.

Do not take books to Greenbelt Elementary School or to the Co-op Supermarket. Middle school and high school students can earn service-learning hours by volunteering with the book sale. For more information, email [greenbeltespta@gmail.com](mailto:greenbeltespta@gmail.com).

## Letters continued

resource of BARC towards the goal of maintaining agricultural food production in our new era of erratic and extreme weather. Droughts, floods and fierce heat seem to have become our new norm, making crop harvests unpredictable and often useless. In the long run, we would provide more jobs, increase our tax base and simultaneously help secure future food production.

Let's put a hold on the construction of the BEP facility and aim our efforts towards a more livable future.

Shalom Fisher

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**One BR Townhome** With separate office space. This was **SOLD** along with the installed dryer. Value!

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In Roosevelt Center**

# National Night Out in Greenbelt



PHOTO BY LESLEY KASH

A dance contest at Beltway Plaza with Officers Rahman and Alvarez draws cheers.

On Tuesday, August 1, Greenbelt held National Night Out events at four locations throughout the city: Beltway Plaza, Schrom Hills Park, Hunting Ridge and Windsor Green.

Greenbelt police officers greeted community members, and Officers Rahman and Alvarez entertained the large crowd at Beltway Plaza with a dance competition, to much laughter and cheers. McGruff "The Crime Dog" did his part to welcome community members, too. Park Police arrived with a helicopter and Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department brought their vintage engine and hats to share with young fans. At Schrom Hills Park the DuVal High School Air Tigers Robotics Team demonstrated their skills. At Hunting Ridge residents and even their dogs enjoyed the good weather, good food and company.



PHOTO BY PEGGY HIGGINS

Enjoying National Night Out at Hunting Ridge are, from left, Jennifer Hatcher with her dog Ayla, Delores Reese and Angela Owens with her dog Gypsy.



PHOTO BY LESLEY KASH

Volunteer firefighters Alex and Andy interview a future firefighter at Beltway Plaza.



PHOTO BY PEGGY HIGGINS

Kelvin and Habsibha, members of DuVal High School Air Tigers robotics team, give a presentation at Schrom Hills during National Night Out.



PHOTO BY LIL' DAN CELDRAN

Gabriel Vega, left, and Danzson Celdran-Taylor pose with McGruff the Crime Dog at Beltway Plaza.



PHOTO BY PEGGY HIGGINS

Fun and games at Schrom Hills Park



PHOTO BY PEGGY HIGGINS

Residents and dogs enjoy National Night Out at Windsor Green.

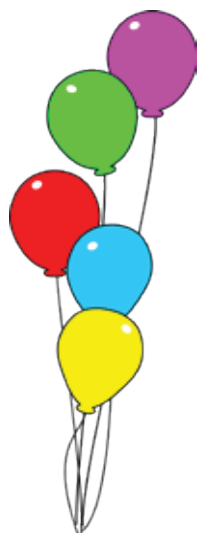


PHOTO BY PEGGY HIGGINS

From left, Soriba Yansaneh, Queen Yansaneh and Mirabelle Sesay enjoy National Night Out at Schrom Hills Park.

Former City Councilmember Ed Putens, Greenbelt Fire Chief Tommy Ray and Lisa Hegwood participate in National Night Out at Windsor Green.



PHOTO BY PEGGY HIGGINS