



Bicycles for Refugees, p.7



Black History Month

Black Wellness, Finance Are Center of Month's Programs

by Lois Rosado

Enslavement began in North America when the White Lion landed in 1619 with Africans taken from Angola by English pirates and traded in Jamestown for supplies. The achievements of the descendants of those Africans have been nothing short of remarkable given their continued struggle for economic, political and social justice.

Black History Month is a memorialization of those who were

enslaved, as well as a celebration of their descendants, whose resiliency and determination contributed to the creation and growth of the United States of America. This annual recognition was started by Carter G. Woodson, who founded the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) in 1915. This year's theme, as chosen by

See MONTH, page 4

One of the FSA Photographers Lived in Greenbelt for a Time

by Deanna Dawson

Part 2 of 2

Greenbelt's construction and the early years of life in the community were well documented by photographers employed by the federal government's Resettlement Administration (RA) and the Farm Security Administration (FSA), which succeeded it. The Greenbelt photos are part of the FSA/Office of War Information (OWI) Photograph Collection, which documented American life between 1935 and 1944. After World War II, this photo collection was transferred to the Library of Congress for cataloging and preservation. Digital versions of the photos are available online at loc.gov/pictures.

The documentary photo project was launched and headed by Roy Stryker, a colleague at Columbia University of Rexford Tugwell who, as head of the RA, oversaw the planning and construction of Greenbelt. Among the photogra-



PHOTO BY JOHN VACHON, COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Students listen to their teacher in a school classroom in November 1937, weeks after the first families moved into Greenbelt.

phers initially hired by Stryker were Carl Mydans, Arthur Rothstein, Marion Post Wolcott, John Vachon and Russell Lee, all of

whom took photos in Greenbelt. Another photographer of See PHOTOS, page 6



PHOTO BY AMANDA LARSEN

Raphael (9th grade), Theo (4th grade) and Ole Larsen (1st grade) get ready to take Covid rapid tests distributed by PGCPs on Sunday, January 30. PGCPs requires that all students take a Covid test and report their results every Sunday.

NASA-owned Forest Sale Rejected by OMB for Now

by Timothy B. Wheeler

This article was previously published in the Bay Journal and is reprinted with permission.

The Maryland forest tract owned by NASA that's at risk of being sold to a developer has won a reprieve for now.

The White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) last week rejected a list of federal properties recommended for sale or transfer, which included a

105-acre parcel near the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt. It directed the Public Buildings Reform Board, the agency charged with identifying federal property to be sold off, to resubmit its recommendations by February 27 after assembling more information to justify the disposal of the NASA site and 14 other properties.

See FOREST, page 6

Judge Stops Redistricting Map; County Council Will Appeal

by Amy Hansen

On January 31, Prince George's County Circuit Court Judge William Snoddy ruled that the new district map created by the Prince George's County Council in November of 2021 was illegally accepted by the county council majority (6 to 3). According to the court order, "Prince George's County Council shall immediately withdraw the redistricting plan in CR-123-2021 and submit the Commission's plan ..." The Commission's

plan refers to the "least-change" map developed by the nonpartisan redistricting commission and submitted to county council last September.

Greenbelt remains in District 4 for both maps. However, in the map adopted by county council in November 2021, Greenbelt Park, which is within the city limits though a part of the National Park System, was put in a

See MAP, page 8

Community Input for ARPA Projects, Council Rules Occupy City Council

by Diane Oberg

At its January 24 regular meeting, the Greenbelt City Council received the consultant's implementation plan for a program to gather resident input regarding how to spend the money the city received under the federal American Rescue Plan. In addition, council heard a description of this year's Black History Month observations; adopted revised standing rules, including a change of time for council meetings to 7:30 p.m.; and supported state legislation that would allow the municipalities to install stop-sign cameras and other traffic control device monitoring systems.

Rescue Plan

There was a brief discussion

of the Community Engagement Plan Implementation document developed by Raftelis, the city's consulting group, after which council approved allocating \$5,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to implement "Bang the Table," a web portal by which the city can share information and gather comments from residents regarding possible uses of the \$22.88 million the city will receive from ARPA over two years. Bang the Table

incorporates a variety of tools including surveys, forums, idea boards and collecting comments on information posted on the site, along with quick polls, frequently asked questions and more. Council asked for examples of how other municipalities are using this tool.

The implementation plan calls for conducting three community engagement events at which

See COUNCIL, page 8

What Goes On

Monday, February 7 8 p.m., City Council Work-session: Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (GreenACES)
Wednesday, February 9 8 p.m., Council Work-session: Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center (stakeholder)

All meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at greenbeltdmd.gov for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.

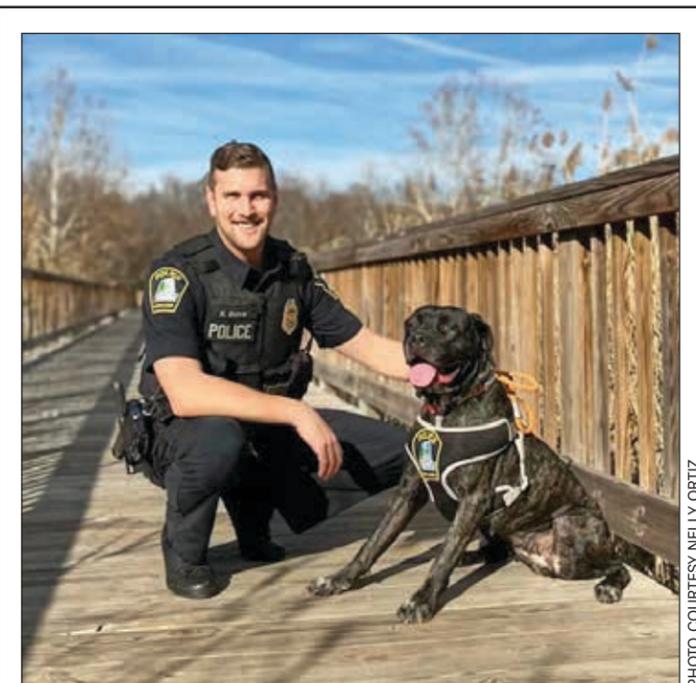


PHOTO COURTESY NELLY ORTIZ

Officer Keegan Dunn and Karma, from the Greenbelt Animal Shelter, spend a day together as part of the K9 for a Day program. See story, p. 9.

Letters to the Editor

Local Forest Granted A Stay of Execution

For now, the Office of Management and Budget declined to approve a package that included the \$2M sale of a 105-acre forest currently within NASA's Goddard campus boundaries. For locals in the know, this property is immediately adjacent to the Patuxent Research Refuge. The Refuge's manager has gone on record of the benefits of adding this forest to the Refuge for public recreation and wildlife habitat protection benefits galore. The only problem? The Refuge doesn't have \$2M to pay for it.

Kudos to our congressional representatives and our city who have all insisted on not a sale, but a no-cost transfer from one federal institution to another.

OMB agreed and asked the Public Buildings Reform Board, who drafted the proposed sale, to take another look. That means addressing the shameful lack of stakeholder outreach in its initial decision-making process, among other things. They have until February 27 to do it.

Will NASA, whose satellites document the daily loss of forest and wetlands, stick to its space guns to demand money or else? Or will our local forest be saved to live long and prosper for future generations?

You can participate in this choose-your-own forest adventure by ensuring your congressional representatives know you agree that a no-cost transfer is the right stuff for our local forest.

Melissa Ann Ehrenreich

Downed Wires

We have been mostly satisfied, even impressed, with the services provided us by both the City of Greenbelt and GHI. But, overhead wires which came down during the snowstorm this December remain lying on the ground in a resident's yard, across a pedestrian sidewalk and on common GHI property (where children play) with one end attached to an old utility pole. They constitute a tripping hazard to the mostly older residents of the court. Despite complaints to GHI and the city offices, this hazard has not been removed. Whether the wires are electrical, Verizon or some other utility wire, the residents of 3 Court, Research Road are not responsible for removing this hazard. We pay city taxes and co-op fees. Why has this safety hazard not been dealt with and removed?

Cathy Abbott, Anne Dunne, Deborah Hartwick, Jan Godek on behalf of residents of 3 Court, Research Road



Ceramics on Display At Community Center



Ceramic sculptures fill the display case in the Community Center. Artwork by Sandra Dwiggin, Elisabeth Smela and Cynthia Swan will be available for viewing through February. Pictured at left are Jomon-inspired female figures, 2020, by Elisabeth Smela. At right: Old Men Watchers, 2020, by Cynthia Swan.

- Photos by Amy Hansen

On Screen at Old Greenbelt Theatre

Licorice Pizza

This comedy drama about navigating one's first love, from acclaimed director Paul Thomas Anderson, is set in the San Fernando Valley in 1973. Gary Valentine (Cooper Hoffman), an aspiring actor, and Alana Kane (Alana Haim) find themselves chasing their dreams and each other around Hollywood, falling in love as they grow up together and find out if what they have going on is something special. They first meet at his high school picture day: he's a 15-year-old student, she's the 25-year-old photographer's assistant. In their first acting roles, Hoffman, son of the late Philip Seymour Hoffman, and Haim give strong performances. Also starring Bradley Cooper, Sean Penn, Ben Safdie and Tom Waits. Johnny Oleksinski of the New York Post calls it the best movie of 2021, saying, "Licorice Pizza is a movie you will cherish for a long time after the lights come up. It's a totally unique and endlessly surprising coming-of-age tale that is carefully sentimental and knock-down, drag out funny."

Rated R, running time 133 minutes

The Women (Monday Matinee)

This 1939 comedy with an all-star cast is a scathing look at a group of Manhattan women and the scores of women who work for them. Mary Haines (Norma Shearer) can't believe her husband is having an affair with salesgirl Crystal (Joan Crawford). But when Sylvia (Rosalind Russell) and Edith (Phyllis Povah) deliver the gossip firsthand, Mary heads to Reno for a divorce. En route she meets Countess de Lave (Mary Boland) and Miriam (Paulette Goddard), who coincidentally is having an affair with Sylvia's husband. Once in Reno, the Countess finds another beau, Sylvia shows up for a divorce and Mary plots to win back her man. Directed by George Cukor, the film was called one of the funniest films of all time by one reviewer.

Not rated, running time 133 minutes

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥
 Six bucks hardly matters
 If your love is in tatters
 Rekindle the flame
 Will he remember your name?
 Sweetie Size at \$6
 See page 9 to get yours!



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
February 4th - February 7th
 Proof of COVID-19 vaccination OR negative PCR test (within 72 hours)
 AND matching photo ID required for admission.
 For more information call (301) 329-2034 or visit greenbelttheatre.org

LICORICE PIZZA (R) (CC) (DVS) (2021) (133 MINS)
 FRI. 5:00 PM, 8:15 PM
 SAT. 5:00 PM, 8:15 PM
 SUN. 2:00 PM (OC), 5:15 PM
 MON. 4:15 PM, 7:30 PM
 Monday Matinee: **FREE**
 THE WOMEN (NR) (1939) (133 MINS)
 MON. 1:00 PM

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

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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

At the Library

Prince George's County Memorial Library System continues to offer virtual events for the public. A full schedule of upcoming programs may be accessed at pgcmls.info/events.

Covid Tests

The Greenbelt Library is no longer receiving Covid tests for free distribution. The Laurel and New Carrollton branches are the nearest libraries to offer them, and they may also now have KN95 masks, but supplies are limited. Check pgcmls.info/coronavirus for updates.

Library staff are maintaining a Covid-19 Testing Resources guide that can help individuals source PCR and rapid-antigen testing from various local and online providers. Visit pgcmls.info/coronavirus for more information.

Immigrant Proud

Supporting the 200,000+ immigrants and refugees who live and work in Prince George's County has long been a Library priority. This winter, the Library launches Immigrant Proud, a campaign to highlight the rich resources available to immigrants.

Immigrant Proud showcases books and online resources to support language learning and legal needs, free citizenship bundles to support preparation for citizenship exams, as well as programs like English classes for English language learners, Kids Achieve Club virtual tutoring for students in grades 1 to 4, Leamos literacy classes for Spanish speakers, citizenship study groups and language conversation clubs for informal practice. An overview of resources is available at the Library's Immigrant Proud webpage (pgcmls.info/immigrantproud) and on displays in branch libraries.

U.S. Passports

The Greenbelt Library is a U.S. Passport Acceptance Facility. Applications are accepted by appointment; schedule a 30-minute appointment by calling 240-455-5451 or visiting pgcmls.info/passport-services. Families with multiple applicants must schedule separate appointments for each person.

FAFSA Help

Live assistance in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application is offered via Brainfuse HelpNow. This service provides students and families with personalized support as they navigate the process of applying to college and seeking federal financial aid. Tutors are available Mondays through Thursdays from 2 to 11 p.m. to assist students and parents with the FAFSA application at any stage in the application process.

Negro League Baseball Featured at Exhibit

On Saturday, February 5 and Sunday, February 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Springhill Lake Recreation Center will present an exhibit by the Hubert V. Simmons Museum of Negro Leagues Baseball, Inc. In addition to the traveling exhibit, Luther Atkinson, who played for the Satchel Paige All-Stars, and Geraldine Day, the widow of Hall of Famer Leon Day, will be present.

All participants must wear masks and maintain physical distancing.

GHI Seeks Member Input in Survey



PHOTO BY JILL STEVENSON

Stefan Brodd, GHI Board President (far left) and Bill Jones, Greenbelt Co-op Board Chair (far right) present gift cards to the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy to GHI members Chris Herman (left center) and Dana Cocchiarella (right center), rewarding their early responses to the GHI Transition Task Force's survey.

The Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) Transition Task Force is seeking members' help to assist GHI's preparation for a general manager leadership transition. Eldon Ralph, who has been the general manager since 2011, has indicated that he has begun to think about retirement.

The task force has prepared a short survey that asks members what they would like to see changed at GHI, what should stay the same and what are key attributes of the next general manager. This feedback will help the board of directors understand members' wishes for the leadership transition and inform the board of what types of candidates to look for and ultimately select.

The link to the Google survey form is: surveymonkey.com/r/WDF7LKM. Paper copies of the survey are available from the GHI administration office during business hours. Completed surveys may be returned to the office. Members are asked to complete online surveys and return paper surveys to the office before Wednesday, February 9. Complete only one survey per member.

To encourage members to participate and to thank those who do, six survey respondents will be randomly chosen to receive \$50 gift certificates to the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket. Two of the gift certificates have already been awarded – congratulations to Dana Cocchiarella and Chris Herman. To be entered into the raffle, name and address must be entered where indicated in the survey.

Meetings Training Corrected Date

Join the Center for Dynamic Community Governance on Tuesday, February 8, from 7 to 9 p.m., for the fourth and final virtual training session on Making Meetings Work for Everyone. This training session will be held on Zoom at us02web.zoom.us/j/7323013592. Note that this date is correct and differs from that published last week.

This series has focused on making hybrid meetings work for persons who are sighted, low-vision and blind while working on improving basic meeting governance skills. All are welcome, whether they have attended prior sessions or are eager to learn with this community. For more information, email aileen@dynamic-governance.org.

Greenbelt PORCH Expands Large

The generosity of Greenbelt PORCH, a food collection organization, was able to replenish the St. Hugh Food Pantry shelves which had been emptied over the holidays.

Greenbelt PORCH has rolled out P.A.L. (PORCH At Large) for those Greenbelters who are interested in the PORCH program but don't have a coordinator in their neighborhood. To participate, simply contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com with the address by noon on Sunday, February 20. Leave the donation, marked RUAK or PORCH visible from the street, by the front door. St. Hugh's cannot distribute expired food items; check the dates on all donated items.

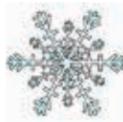
February food collection dates are as follows:

By 11 a.m. on Sunday, February 13 at the 1-8 Courts Ridge, 1-8 Courts Crescent and 1-2 Courts Westway. By 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 13, for Woodland Hills.

Between 2 and 4 p.m. on Sunday, February 20 for all of Boxwood Village. Between 2 and 4 p.m. on Sunday, February 20 for P.A.L. (PORCH At Large).

Between 9 and 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 26 for 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill Road.

Volunteers who would like to expand Greenbelt PORCH to additional neighborhoods in Greenbelt are welcome. 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.



GIVES Office Is Once More in the Office

The GIVES office has reopened and volunteers are taking calls each weekday from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. from people who need services. They are an all-volunteer membership organization that helps Greenbelt residents who need assistance to live independently in their own homes.

GIVES volunteers help transport people to medical and other necessary appointments, take care of pets during hospital stays or other times when seniors cannot, stay with members who can't be left alone so that their family can run errands, and pick up groceries or other items ordered online.

If you need help now or know someone who needs our services, call 301-607-6580 to receive a membership application form. Member requests are sent to volunteer providers to find a match. Applications are processed as quickly as possible to get services to those in need.

Because volunteers transport people in their cars, the group's insurance company requires that people receiving or providing services be GIVES members.

For more information about becoming a member, either to receive assistance or to volunteer to help others, call 301-507-6580 or email at givesoffice@gmail.com.

Golden Age Club February Activities

The Golden Agers will have two special presentations on Wednesdays this month. Karen Haseley, former Greenbelt city liaison, will be visiting us online. Then, at the end of the month, there will be a special presentation for Black History Month, organized by Joyce Bailey. All meetings are still held on Zoom. To join the Golden Agers email list and obtain Zoom information for virtual meetings, contact Becky Sutfin at rsutfin@greenbeltmd.gov.

February 9 – Ageless Grace (seated exercises to music) with Karen Haseley

February 16 – February birthdays celebration

February 23 – Black History Month Presentation: Patricia Tyson, president of the Military Road School Preservation Trust, will discuss the history and present activities surrounding one of oldest schools for Black students in D.C., from the Civil War era.



Washington Offers Scholarship

State Delegate Alonzo T. Washington is now accepting applications for his 2022 to 2023 Scholarship Award Program. Applications, open to current high school seniors or those seeking an undergraduate or graduate degree, are available online at tinyurl.com/WashingtonScholarship2022.

To be eligible, applicants must attend a college or university in Maryland and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Undocumented residents are eligible for funds and are welcome to apply. Those who have received Delegate Washington's scholarship in the past must re-apply this year.

For more information, email Alonzo.Washington@house.state.md.us or call 301-858-3652. The application deadline is Friday, May 20.

GCAN Legislative Update Via Zoom

Everyone is invited to the February meeting of the Greenbelt Climate Action Network (GCAN). It will take place via Zoom on Wednesday, February 9 from 7 to 9 p.m. The Zoom link is available at chears.org/gcan.

With the Maryland General Assembly in full swing, GCAN members will give legislative updates regarding the top bills the group is following. These include: the Climate Solutions Now Act, comprehensive legislation introduced by Senator Paul Pinsky; Reclaim Renewable Energy Act, to clean up our Renewable Portfolio Standards; Amendment for Environmental Human Rights, Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act; PFAs Chemicals: Prohibitions and Requirements; and Magnetic Levitation Transportation Systems: Prohibited Appropriations.

There will also be updates on the plan to build a Bureau of Engraving and Printing plant at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center as well as the status of the wooded land at NASA/Goddard that may be transferred to the Patuxent Research Refuge.

As always, the meeting will close out with an overview of upcoming events. This calendar will be updated prior to the meeting at chears.org/gcan/monthly-meetings/upcoming-events.

For more information, contact Lore Rosenthal at SimplicityGroupsMD@gmail.com or 301-345-2234 (landline, no text).



ERHS Students Hold Coat Drive

Help your neighbors and clean your closet by donating to the Eleanor Roosevelt High School Coat Drive now through Sunday, February 6. The coats will go to Roosevelt students who don't have good cold weather gear. Collection boxes are located at the Youth Center and Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket.



Greenbelt Access Television Feb 4, Fri – Feb 10, Thu

Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77
(School Programming on Your Cable Guide)
Streaming on www.greenbeltaccessstv.org

THIS WEEK on GATe • Your Community Access Station

Time	Program	Program
7am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
8am	Democracy Now!	Yesterday's Syndicated Program
9am	Utopia Film Festival • Selected Film	Taking Root - The Vision of Wangari Mathai
11am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
Noon	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
1pm	PGCPS Science Bowl	Kettering v MLK Jr Middle
2pm	Music at the New Deal	Mama Moon & the Rump Shakers • Blues Fusion
3pm	Utopia Film Festival • Selected Film	Taking Root - The Vision of Wangari Mathai
5pm	PGCPS Science Bowl	Kettering v MLK Jr Middle
6pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming
7pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
8pm	Utopia Film Festival • Selected Film	Taking Root - The Vision of Wangari Mathai
10pm	Music at the New Deal	Mama Moon & the Rump Shakers • Blues Fusion
11pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
MN	Greenbelt Newsreel	Community Programming

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

MONTH continued from page 1

ASALH, is Black Health and Wellness. The Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee added Finance, because one's health and wellness are often determined by one's financial reality.

See the Negro League Baseball Museum Exhibit Saturday, February 5 and Sunday, February 6 at Springhill Lake Recreation Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Artful Afternoon features Dr. Schroeder Cherry's hands-on mixed media story books for all ages at the Community Center. Maryland is one of the few states that passed a Health Equity Law. Learn about the importance of using that law to maintain health and wellness on Thursday, February 10 at 7 p.m. from Delegate Joseline Peña-Melnyk. On Saturday, February 12, mobile buses, one from Luminis Health and the other from Kaiser Permanente, will offer free health screenings from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Beltway Plaza and in front of the Aquatic & Fitness Center. Marvin-Alonzo Greer will speak about foodways and medicines of enslaved people on Zoom on Saturday, February 19 starting at 2 p.m. Greenbelt's own Derrick Faison will offer a virtual exercise class and nutrition information on February 19 at 3:30 p.m.

On Tuesday, February 15 and Tuesday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m., two panel discussions with local Black entrepreneurs will discuss business startup and how to maintain your business, while promoting generational wealth. Dr. Otis Williams from the Department of Counseling at Bowie State; Darren Stephenson of Greenbelt CARES; Rev. Ray Raysor of Constituent Services for County Council Chair Calvin Hawkins; Camille Butler, founder of the Journey to Happiness Sickle Cell Trait organization; and Crystal Beck, Luminis Health, will focus on self-care, Black women's health, mental health challenges of youth and adults, the sickle cell trait and disability services on Saturday, February 26 at 2 p.m.

Delegates Nicole Williams and Alonzo Washington will share the history and impactful purpose of Black sororities and fraternities and entertaining cultural offerings via Zoom on Sunday, February 20 at 2 p.m.

On Monday, February 21 at 7 p.m. in collaboration with the Peace and Justice Coalition, the monthly Reel and Meal presents A Passion for Justice, a film about Ida B. Wells Barnett,



the pioneering journalist and anti-lynching crusader. Following the film, Nicki Mayo, the multimedia journalist who created Nicki Mayo News, LLC, will lead a discussion about Ida B. Wells Barnett.

All program and registration listings are available on Greenbelt Recreation's website at greenbeltmd.gov, at facebook.com/greenbeltmdrecreation and the Greenbelt News Review website, greenbeltnewsreview.com.

The Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee hope Greenbelt residents will learn and acknowledge Black American achievements through their support of these various enriching programs. To share in the celebration of Black History Month in Greenbelt, register promptly to improve your health and wellness as you exercise your mind and body. The Committee thanks Greenbelt Recreation for their continued assistance and support.

Lois Rosado is chair of the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee.



Our Neighbors

Our sympathy to the family and friends of Carol J. Lewis of Raleigh, N.C., who died January 7 at the age of 92. Mrs. Lewis, her late husband Jack and their children Mark and JoEllen were original residents of the Lakewood community. A funeral service at Arlington National Cemetery will be held at a later date.

Condolences also to the family and friends of Richard Backstrom who died January 25. A funeral Mass will be held on Wednesday, February 9 at 10 a.m. at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church, 135 Crescent Road. Masks are required due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

The Bible Says...

If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:9

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

Greenbelt Community Church

Whoever you are and wherever you are on your Spiritual journey, you are welcome HERE.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
God is still speaking.

This Sunday's Sermon on Facebook Live
Sunday at 10:15

The Deeper Waters & Unexpected Grace

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

ST. HUGH OF GRENABLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

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

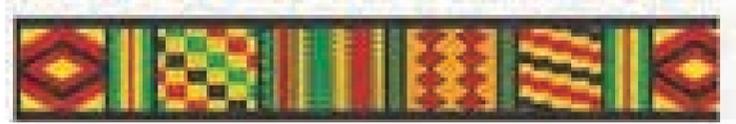
*Live-streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.

St. Hugh to Host Deaf Center For Sunday School and Mass

The Pope Francis Center/St. Francis of Assisi Deaf Catholic Church, located on the grounds of St. Mary's Church in Landover Hills, experienced a devastating fire in late 2021 and needed to find another home for their Sunday school and Mass. The Archdiocese of Washington reached out to Father Walter Tappe at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church in Greenbelt to see if there was available space for the Deaf Center to use. Mary O'Meara, director of the Office of Deaf and Disabilities Ministry, organized a group from the center to visit the St. Hugh school and church to assess how best to proceed with temporarily housing their School of Religion

at St. Hugh Church. They were pleased with the facilities and will start their first Sunday school and Mass at the new site on Sunday, February 6.

The Deaf Center School of Religion will hold classes on Sundays from 1 to 2 p.m. in the St. Hugh school and then celebrate Mass in the church, presided by Father Min Seo Park, the chaplain of the St. Francis Deaf Catholic Church and Gallaudet University Campus Ministry. The Mass will be livestreamed. The Center staff and Father Min expressed their gratitude to the St. Hugh Church community for their generosity in sharing the school and church space in the Deaf Center's time of need.



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.

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PHOTOS continued from page 1

Greenbelt, Marjory Collins, was hired later, when the FSA photo unit had been shifted to the OWI. All six became well known for their photojournalism and had varied and interesting careers. Charlotte Park also took some photos in early Greenbelt, including some aerial views from the Goodyear Blimp in 1936 when the town was under construction, but this reporter could learn little else about her.

Mydans, Rothstein and Post Wolcott were covered in an article in the January 20, 2022, issue of the News Review (greenbeltnewsreview.com/issues/GNR20220120.pdf). This week the focus is on Vachon, Lee and Collins.

John Vachon

John Vachon took far fewer photos of Greenbelt than the other FSA photographers, but he lived in Greenbelt for four years and, according to the Greenbelt Cooperator, was “one of Greenbelt’s few celebrities” (see greenbeltnewsreview.com/issues/coop19431008.pdf). Interestingly, Vachon’s wife, Millicent “Penny,” was mentioned more frequently in the Cooperator than he was because she was active in the Greenbelt Nursery School and was president of the Parents’ Board for a time.

Vachon had come to Washington from his native Minnesota to attend Catholic University and got a job as an assistant messenger for the FSA before being recruited to the photo unit by Stryker. His main responsibility there was to maintain the FSA photo file, but he became increasingly interested in photography, borrowed camera equipment, practiced some on weekends, got tips from Walker Evans and other FSA photographers and went along with Arthur Rothstein on his photo assignment in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Vachon’s first solo trip was to Nebraska in the fall of 1938, where he photographed FSA agricultural programs.

In the early 1940’s Vachon became a staff photographer for Standard Oil, which Stryker had gone to work for, and photographed oil refineries, pipelines and such. He served in the army in 1944-45 and after his discharge took more assignments for Standard Oil and for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. He then became a staff photographer, first for Life magazine and then Look magazine, doing freelance photography after the magazines folded. He won a Guggenheim fellowship in 1973, was a visiting professor at the Minneapolis Institute of Art and died in 1975 at the age of 60.

Russell Lee

Russell Lee took 18 photos in Greenbelt in February 1938; most were of the pre-fabricated Parkbelt homes. He did photographic studies of San Augustine, Texas, in 1939 and Pie Town, N.M., in 1940, and in 1942 was one of several government photographers who documented the internment of Japanese Americans. Lee served in the Air Transport Command during World War II, photographing all airfield approaches used by the ATC to supply the Armed Forces. He worked for the U.S. Department of the Interior in 1946 and 1947, taking thousands of photos of coal miners and their working conditions, while also taking



A member of the Greenbelt baseball team selects a bat before his time up in June 1942.

PHOTO BY MARJORY COLLINS, COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



Shoppers at the Co-op Food Store, February 1938

PHOTO BY RUSSELL LEE, COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

some public relations photos for Stryker at Standard Oil. Lee then moved to Texas and became the first instructor of photography at the University of Texas in 1965. He died in 1986 at the age of 83.

Marjory Collins

Marjory Collins began her photojournalism career in New York City in the mid-1930s, studying informally with avant-garde photographer Ralph Steiner and taking photos for PM magazine and U.S. Camera. She joined Stryker’s team of documentary photographers in 1941 and carried out nearly 50 assignments about American life and contributions of ordinary citizens to the war effort. Her Greenbelt photographs were shot in May-June of 1942 and included photos of the Cooperator staff, the Greenbelt Community Band, the community gardens, school activities and events, including the high school prom, and other aspects of Greenbelt life back then.

During the war, Collins worked closely with John Vachon and Gordon Parks in a photographic study of African Americans and her assignments often focused on women and on ethnic communities. Some of her photos were used in publications dropped behind enemy lines to let people there know that the U.S. was sympathetic to their plight.



Photographer Marjory Collins in 1943

PHOTO COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

After leaving her federal job, she did freelance work around the U.S. and internationally and worked as an editor and writer. She also participated in social and political causes including civil rights, Vietnam War protest and the women’s movement. She was doing research for a photo exhibition on women’s history when she died in 1985 at the age of 73.

Sources

The information in this article was drawn from the Library of Congress website (loc.gov) and from Wikipedia and other webpages about each of these photographers. Interested readers are encouraged to explore the photos by these and other FSA/OWI photographers in the Library of Congress digital photo collection.

FOREST continued from page 1

As part of a planned redevelopment of the Goddard campus, NASA has declared the mostly wooded tract, known as Area 400, to be “underutilized” and proposed that it be fast-tracked for sale. The space agency had tested rocket propulsion there decades ago but lately has been using the cluster of small buildings on site for “storage and support,” according to a spokesperson.

NASA’s move to sell the land has drawn protests from conservationists, who argue that the federal government should be preserving rather than selling off forested land. Members of Congress as well as state and even other federal agencies also have expressed concern. They have noted that the woodland absorbs climate-warming carbon dioxide from the atmosphere – which NASA has studied elsewhere. And they point out that the site is in the headwaters of the Anacostia River, where it helps soak up pollution from stormwater runoff.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has expressed interest in adding the land to the adjoining Patuxent Research Refuge, a 12,800-acre expanse of forest, meadow and woodlands where federal scientists conduct wildlife research. The refuge, which is open to the public, provides habitat for more than 200 species of birds and other wildlife and contains the National Wildlife Visitor Center.

NASA had proposed disposing of Area 400 under a law passed by Congress in 2016 that aims to decrease the federal deficit by identifying properties for accelerated sale. The space agency said it needs the income to help pay for demolishing the buildings on site and cover unspecified relocation costs.

The Public Buildings Reform Board had recommended that Area 400 be transferred to the wildlife service for inclusion in the refuge. But the board stipulated that the service should pay “fair market value” for the land or else it should be put up for public sale.

Late last week, OMB rejected the board’s recommendations

after determining that its report had failed to meet key criteria for deciding whether the properties should be sold. The budget office said the board had not submitted enough information on “stakeholder outreach,” for example, to determine the positions of affected members of Congress and the public, among others. It also said there wasn’t enough financial information to assess the costs of disposal involved with each property.

Jennifer Greiner, the Patuxent Research Refuge’s manager, said the wildlife service doesn’t have the money to purchase Area 400, which she estimated could be worth about \$2 million based on other property sales in the vicinity.

Maryland Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen and four of the state’s congressmen – including Representative Steny Hoyer, the House Majority leader whose district includes Goddard – wrote to the acting head of the OMB on January 20 urging the transfer of Area 400 to the Fish and Wildlife Service “in the most expedient manner possible.” They noted that conserved land helps keep pollutants out of waters that ultimately flow to the Chesapeake Bay.

The nonprofit Friends of Patuxent Wildlife Research Center and Patuxent Research Refuge urged the public buildings board to recommend a no-fee transfer of Area 400, “so that this forested tract can support regional air quality, clean water, wildlife habitat, human recreation and scientific studies on wildlife and habitat.”

The group also pointed out that the land is already owned by the federal government, saying, “we do not believe that there is any public benefit to be gained by requiring the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to pay NASA fair market value for the land.”

Tim Wheeler is the Bay Journal’s associate editor and senior writer.



NASA Goddard Area 400

PHOTO BY BAY JOURNAL



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Greenbelters Help Refugee Families Get Out and About

by Buddy McLaughlin

By the end of August, the U.S. had withdrawn its military forces from Afghanistan and with them came 75,000 Afghan refugees who fled during the collapse of the Afghan government in search of a safe home in the U.S. But the process of resettlement has been complicated by many factors, one of the most significant of which is that there are way more families than the system of refugee resettlement was meant to handle.

“There are thousands of families that need help getting resettled. The system was never designed to take in this many refugees all at once,” said Megan Flores, executive director of Immigrant & Refugee Outreach Center (IROC). For the last four months Flores has been working overtime to coordinate resettlement efforts in Prince George’s County and Fairfax County and has been trying to get Afghan refugees assistance, from requests for food and shelter to coordinating volunteers who can help get children enrolled in school and connect adults with housing, social services and employment.

One need that many families have is transportation. They need to get to appointments, they need to be able to connect to social services and they need to look for jobs. Since many families have come here with no possessions and no means to get a vehicle, one way to get around without volunteer assistance has been to use donated bicycles.

“IROC had reached out in November to OpenBarre in College Park, and OpenBarre was sponsoring a refugee family that needed all kinds of things including bicycles for the adults to commute to work. I saw that and I realized that there was a need and that we could do something to help that would have a real impact,” Paul Lemieux, co-owner of Proteus Bicycles said as he straightened out a wheel on a donated bicycle that would soon be going to a refugee family.



Proteus Bicycles employee Duncan Enerson repairs a donated bike that will go to an Afghan woman in Hyattsville.

PHOTO BY BUDDY MCLAUGHLIN



PHOTO BY MEGAN FLORES

An Afghan child tries out his newly donated bike.

Since December, Proteus Bicycles has been acting as a community partner for IROC and accepting donations of bicycles that are no longer used or would cost too much to repair. The bicycles are then repaired and tuned up by employees from Proteus who volunteer their time before and after their shifts to make the donated bicycles functional again. Parts and locks have been scarce and so some repairs take a bit of clever thinking and recycling to make them come right and be ready for their new homes.

“We are a professional shop but all of the employees here come from a mindset of community, and an incredible love of biking in this area,” said

Lemieux. “We wanted to pass that along as a token of our welcome to these families.”

Volunteers working with IROC then take the bicycles directly to families in Prince George’s County and Lemieux notes that he has seen them out riding when he himself is biking to work.

Together with his coworkers, most of whom are fellow Greenbelters, Lemieux plans to keep the repairs going and notes that there is also a need for kids’ bikes as well as those for adults.

“The need is great; there are many families out there that can use help getting up on their own two feet.”

Local Covid Update Shows Continuing New Case Decline

by Cathie Meetre

Courtesy of the Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center (LHDCMC), statistics for our local hospital bring encouraging news of the recent Covid-19 surge. Two weeks ago, the total number of Covid cases hospitalized at their facility was 99, last week was 68 and this week is 48. Intensive care unit (ICU) admissions and ventilator cases have dropped less sharply, as these sicker patients may have first become ill some time ago and their illness is lasting longer. One message continues to come across loud and clear: those who are unvaccinated or only partially vaccinated are considerably more likely to be hospitalized or to face very serious illness. This infographic shows that fully vaccinated individuals comprised only two of the patients hospitalized, none of the ICU or ventilator patients and neither of the two deaths.

County Cases Decline

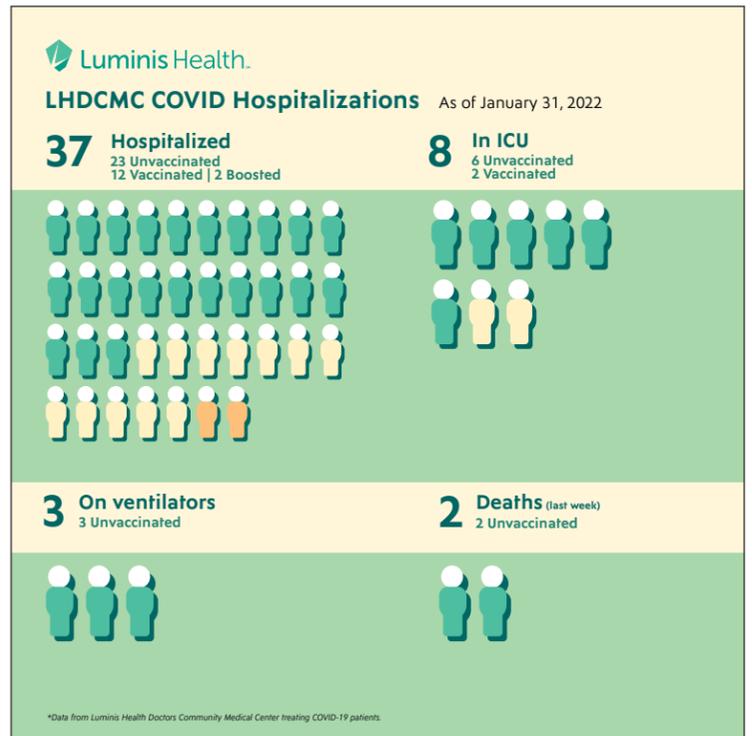
In Prince George’s County overall, percentages testing positive and cases per 100,000 have dropped, but were still in the Centers for Disease Control ‘critical’ range as of January 31 but

much closer to the boundary with ‘high’ than previously. Prior to the debut of the omicron and delta variants, the county had achieved a ‘low’ transmission rate. Countywide hospital admissions reflected LHDCMC’s, with the number of county beds occupied by Covid patients down from a high of 364 beds in early January to 165 on January 30.

ZIP code Cases Drop

ZIP code case data also shows the continuing downward trend. ZIP code 20770 had only three new cases on January 31, with the seven-day average at about 6.5 cases. The single-day peak on January 4 was 97.

Statistics used in this report come from Luminis Health and the Prince George’s County daily report obtainable from the Prince George’s County COVID19 Dashboard, which can be reached from princegeorgescountymd.gov/3397/Coronavirus by clicking COVID-19 Case Data; then click on the Current Status tab and the Daily Updates link (on the lower right). The ZIP code data is from coronavirus.maryland.gov/datasets/mdcovid19-master-zip-code-cases/explore.



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Democratic Club Celebrates Black History Month on Zoom

by Konrad Herling

The Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Club follows up its annual visit with our 22nd state legislative team in celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday with its annual Black History program on Friday, February 18 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be on Zoom. To access the meeting, go to rooseveltclub.com to have the link sent to an email address.

The Democratic Club's programming director, Katy Pape, reached out to the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, whose Prince George's County Truth Chapter will present one of its members, Marie Day, to speak about Black health and wellness.

Day is also a volunteer for the American Heart Association, so

her talk promises to be enlightening. The topic is of high concern as the Centers for Disease Control reported that the African American community suffers the highest risk and death rate from disease of all demographic groups in the country.

Next month, on Friday, March 18, the club will dedicate its program to Women's History Month. Additionally, the club is putting together a forum featuring our state's Democratic gubernatorial candidates on Sunday, April 3 at 3 p.m.

Stay tuned for more details on these events in the News Review, at the club's webpage, or give the club's president, Konrad Herling, a call at 301-345-9369 for more information.

MAP continued from page 1

different district than the rest of the city. Last fall, the Greenbelt City Council sent a letter to the county council urging them to accept the map of the nonpartisan redistricting commission which would keep the park with the rest of the city.

The circuit court ruling came after a suit was filed on January 24 by Robert E. Thurston, president of the Lakeland Civic Association, and other supporters of former councilmember Eric Olson (District 3). The November 2021 map put Olson in a different district.

The suit, which was heard in district court on Friday, January 28, claimed that the map was accepted illegally as a resolution instead of as a redistricting bill. In his ruling, Snoddy agreed with the plaintiffs.

County council spokesperson Karen Campbell responded Tuesday morning: "The Prince George's County Council is in

receipt of the Court Order in the matter concerning the validity of the council's 2021 Redistricting Plan and upcoming February 22, 2022, filing deadline to declare candidacy for the 2022 Councilmanic election. The decision will be appealed immediately."



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COUNCIL continued from page 1

attendees will receive information on ARPA funding, identify the city's focus areas and specific projects. The events will be designed to allow participants to actively participate and engage in the process.

There will then be four virtual focus group sessions, focused on key stakeholder categories. These sessions will broaden the range of insights and viewpoints that have emerged over the previous steps.

The implementation plan allows for either the contractor or city staff to conduct the community engagement sessions and focus sessions. To attract diverse and representative participation, these engagement sessions are expected to be held in neighborhood recreation or community centers so that transportation and location issues are minimized.

After the previous steps are complete, Raftelis will prepare a summary of the input received including issues raised and priorities. The implementation plan is to include an appendix including all ideas raised by residents to ensure that ideas are not lost. Council will then hold a work-session to review the summary and allocation opportunities after which a final engagement summary will be provided to the city.

The community engagement sessions and focus groups are expected to occur from late February through early April with the summary available by the end of April.

The cost to the city of having Raftelis conduct this community engagement work is \$48,500, plus the \$5,000 for Bang the Table.

Black History Month

Lois Rosado, chair of the city's Black History Month committee, described the program for this year. Most events will still be virtual aside from the Negro League exhibit at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center on Saturday and Sunday, February 5 and 6. The programs offered include

health screenings from Luminus Health and Kaiser Permanente, and a panel on starting up a business. Rosado said the committee included finance because residents need finance in order to have health and wellness.

The Black History Month brochure is available on the city's home page (greenbeltmd.gov - scroll down to the News section at the bottom of the page) and the News Review will include information on programs as they occur.

Standing Rules

Council unanimously approved changes to the standing rules governing council meetings. The main changes to the present rules are that 1) meetings will now start at 7:30 p.m. instead of 8 p.m., 2) councilmembers wishing to add items to the agenda will be required to furnish the city manager with a proposal in writing for council to enact or take action on along with all relevant background and supporting documents in time for inclusion in the printed agenda and 3) at virtual meetings all councilmembers must be visible for the majority of each meeting barring technical constraints or physical illness.

State Legislation

Council unanimously voted to support two pieces of state legislation.

Senate Bill 14/House Bill 100 would establish the sustainable Maryland Program Fund as a special non-lapsing fund to support Maryland communities in their efforts to achieve environmental, economic and social sustainability, and require the Governor to provide an annual appropriation of \$750,000 to the fund starting in Fiscal Year 2024. Greenbelt has received funding through this program in the past and has been Sustainable Maryland Certified since 2014.

House Bill 151, sponsored by Delegate Anne Healey, whose district includes Greenbelt, would allow municipalities to install

stop-sign cameras and other traffic monitoring devices on their streets. Failing to obey a traffic control device may subject a driver to a citation and civil penalty not to exceed \$40.

Forest Preserve

An ordinance implementing council's designation of Greenbriar Park as part of the Forest Preserve was unanimously approved. One concern is the prohibition of trail maintenance in the Forest Preserve, except as provided in the management and maintenance guidelines. Councilmember Judith Davis noted that there are currently a number of trees down obstructing the circular trail in the park. She noted that the Forest Preserve Advisory Board would have to consider whether these trees may be removed.

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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here are from January 24 through 30. Media advisories may be more recent and involve more serious incidents. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an enquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Note that the times provided are when they were reported: the incident described may have occurred earlier.

Homicides

On January 29 at 16:45 near 5900 Cherrywood Ter. Officers located a man suffering from what appeared to be a gunshot wound. Despite life-saving efforts, the man was pronounced deceased. The victim has been identified as 23-year-old Russell Jermaine Gaines of Greenbelt.

At approximately 8:55 p.m. on Tuesday, February 1, the Greenbelt Police Department received multiple calls reporting a shooting in the 7800 block of Mandan Rd. When officers arrived, they located two individuals with serious injuries from apparent gunshot wounds. Both were transported to a local hospital. A 15-year-old male has succumbed to his injuries and a 19-year-old male remains hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries.

Assault: On 01/28 at 16:46 near 7500 Greenway Center Dr. Argument between former employee and current employees became physical. No arrests.
Assault: On 01/28 at 19:44 near 6000 Greenbelt Rd. Wb. Disagreement between customers turned physical, no arrests.
Auto Recovered: On 01/26 at 02:29 near 550 Crescent Rd. Stolen vehicle located.
Auto Stolen: On 01/27 at 09:10 near 7800 Hanover Pkwy. Left car running unattended. Returned and the vehicle was gone. Vehicle recovered later same day.
Auto Stolen: On 01/27 at 12:04 near 9100 Edmonston Ct. 2011 gray Honda civic stolen.
Auto Stolen: On 01/29 at 21:31 near 9100 Edmonston Ter. 2007 burgundy Chevrolet Suburban stolen after being left running unlocked and unattended.
Auto Stolen: On 01/30 at 06:19 near 9100 Edmonston Rd. Blue 2007 Ford F250 stolen.
Auto Theft: On 01/24 at 09:03 near 7700 Cloister Pl. Broken front passenger side window, vehicle rummaged through, nothing taken. 7800 block of Somerset Ct. Broken driver side window, personal property taken. 7900 Kara Ct. Broken front passenger side window, personal property taken.
Auto Theft: On 01/26 at 13:35 near 9000 Breezewood Ter. Broken front driver side window, handicap placard stolen.
Auto Theft: On 01/26 at 18:21 near 5300 N Center Dr. Vehicle rummaged through, nothing taken. No damage to vehicle.
Auto Theft: On 01/27 at 16:13 near 9000 Breezewood Ter. Passenger side front window smashed and handicap placard stolen from locked vehicle.
Auto Theft: On 01/28 at 18:04 near 6000 Springhill Dr. Items were taken from vehicle after it was left unlocked.
Auto Theft: On 01/30 at 09:22 near 7800 Walker Dr. Driver side window broken, personal property including a firearm stolen.
Auto Theft: On 01/30 at 09:52 near 7800 Walker Dr. Vehicle had doors unlocked and appeared rummaged through, personal property taken.
Auto Theft: On 01/30 at 13:40 near 6500 Lake Park Dr. Honda Accord has all four tires stolen.
Auto vandalism: On 01/28 at 13:48 near 8900 Edmonston Rd. Vehicle vandalized by spray paint and salt poured in gas tank.
Break In: On 01/26 at 14:30 near 7800 Walker Dr. Unknown individual pried open office door with ID card, claimed to be maintenance, fled when challenged.
Dispute: On 01/25 at 18:02 near 9200 Edmonston Rd. Verbal dispute over towing a vehicle.
Fraud: On 01/24 at 17:34 near 7500 Greenway Center Dr. Unknown individual attempted to use an individual's information to fill prescription.
Fraud: On 01/26 at 13:14 near 100 Tamarisk Ct. Check fraud.
Fraud: On 01/28 at 10:21 near 7300 Sunrise Ct. Individuals pretended to be from Publisher's Clearing House to give victim a million dollars. They asked for cashier's checks multiple times and but never presented her with a check.
Fraud: On 01/28 at 13:13 near 100 Westway. A resident attempted to contact a customer service number, the individual on the other end of the phone asked them to purchase gift cards and the victim recognized it as a scam.
Fraud: On 01/29 at 20:10 near 7500 Greenbelt Rd. Eb. Replica money was used to attempt to pay for items. The replica money was placed into evidence.
Robbery: On 01/28 at 01:53 near 7900 Good Luck Rd. An individual attempted to rob a business with a firearm but fled after other employees noticed. Nothing taken.
Shoplifting: On 01/26 at 16:41 near 5900 Greenbelt Rd. Wb. Undisclosed items taken.
Shoplifting: On 01/26 at 18:34 near 5900 Greenbelt Rd. Wb. Undisclosed items taken.
Shoplifting: On 01/29 at 13:27 near 7500 Greenbelt Rd. Eb. Commercial theft.
Shoplifting: On 01/29 at 17:57 near 6100 Greenbelt Rd. Wb. Commercial theft.
Theft: On 01/24 at 11:57 near 7600 Greenbelt Rd. Eb. Commercial theft.
Theft: On 01/24 at 15:53 near 7 Ct. Ridge Rd. Check stolen from residence, used fraudulently.
Theft: On 01/24 at 18:13 near 6200 Springhill Dr. Theft of package.
Theft: On 01/24 at 18:53 near 53 Crescent Rd. Personal property taken by known individual.
Theft: On 01/24 at 22:39 near 5900 Cherrywood Ln. Items taken after being left in rideshare.
Theft: On 01/25 at 13:19 near 6400 Ivy Ln. Items taken from work desk.
Theft: On 01/25 at 17:17 near 6200 Greenbelt Rd Wb. A bag left unattended at restaurant was stolen.
Theft: On 01/27 at 21:28 near 7600 Greenbrook Dr. Wallet taken after owner accidentally left it behind, credit cards used fraudulently.
Theft: On 01/29 at 17:14 near 6100 Greenbelt Rd Wb. Credit cards used in Greenbelt fraudulently after being taken in a theft from auto in Prince George's County.

* Eb. Eastbound, Wb. Westbound

Shelter Dog Gets a Break In K9 for a Day Program

by Julie Rapp

Dogs at the Greenbelt Animal Shelter can now spend a day with a Greenbelt Police officer by riding in a police cruiser as the officer goes about his day. Nelly Ortiz, Greenbelt's Animal Control supervisor, is responsible for managing the Animal Shelter, overseeing adoptions, events and outreach. "When a dog is available for adoption through the Greenbelt Animal Shelter, they are paired with a police officer who volunteers for the K9 for a Day program," wrote Ortiz. The dogs ride with the officer in their cruiser along with an animal control officer. Ortiz told the News Review that, "If an officer needs to leave for a high priority call, the animal control officer can take the dog for the time being. The dogs are chosen based upon their temperament, and the officer who volunteers usually has experience with dogs. The idea for Greenbelt's program was taken from an article about the New Smyrna (Fla.) Beach Police partnering with the local humane society in a similar program. The article was found via Fox 35 Orlando.

The shelter environment can be stressful for dogs and during the first K9 for a Day, K9 Karma came out to meet Officer Keegan Dunn and barked at him. Ortiz

explained further that this dog was a Cane Corso mix – a large dog – and her bark was loud and intimidating. "In that moment Officer Dunn regretted volunteering but by the end of the day they were good friends. The dog's sweet disposition was able to shine through in her interactions with Officer Dunn." Ortiz has found that the dogs encourage a greater connection between the officers and the community as well as spreading the word that the dog is available for adoption. So far, two dogs have spent the day with an officer and as soon as more dogs are available for adoption they too can ride with an officer.



Officer Julio Benitez and Hank

PHOTO COURTESY NELLY ORTIZ

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(See examples of lovenotes in this issue.)

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Sen. Pinsky and Del. Williams Talk about Greenbelt Issues

by Glenn Harris

Early in the Maryland legislative session, the News Review interviewed Senator Paul Pinsky and Delegate Nicole Williams to ascertain their views on issues that will challenge Greenbelt citizens in 2022. Interviews with Delegates Alonzo Washington and Anne Healey will be published in part two of this series.

Paul Pinsky

Senator Pinsky emphasized the continued spread of Covid in the state. He noted that, at the time of the interview, there were still 80 to 90 deaths per day in Maryland. He was critical of Governor Larry Hogan who, he asserts, has not been sufficiently supportive of mask and vaccine mandates.

A second issue that has adversely affected Greenbelters and will be challenging in the future, according to Pinsky, is the decline in the progress of reading skills among young students. He is quite concerned with this issue and wants to see parents read with children so that their word skills will improve.

Finally, Pinsky wants to assure that excess Goddard Space Flight Center acreage is protected from development. He would prefer that it be transferred to the Patuxent Research Refuge rather than sold.

Nicole Williams

Delegate Williams identified climate change as a threat to both current and future generations. She said that reduction of greenhouse gases, greater use of solar energy, the further development of electric vehicles and composting are essential.

Williams also mentioned that intelligent updating of its infrastructure is vitally important to Greenbelt. She believes that, as with climate change, solar panels need to be part of future infrastructure actions. She also noted that one possible use of federal infrastructure funds would be to revamp the I-495 interchange with the Greenbelt Metro Station to make it more easily accessible to commuters.

Regarding transportation, Williams commented favorably on legislation to expand the Maryland Area Regional Commuter (MARC) train service and to connect it with its Virginia counterpart, the Virginia Railway Express. She is strongly opposed to maglev and has introduced legislation to prohibit Maryland funds from being spent on the project. She notes that Pinsky is similarly against the project.



Senator Paul Pinsky holds the News Review.



Delegate Nicole Williams is seen holding the News Review with stained-glass windows in the background at the House Office Building in Annapolis.

- Photos by Glenn Harris



A House Finch puffs up to stay warm.



Northern Shoveler Duck at the Lake



Red-shouldered Hawk in a tree near the Lake

PHOTO BY HEATHER ETIUS
PHOTO BY CHARLES JACKMAN
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Examples of artifacts from the Collection of Regina Small.

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