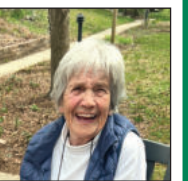


Greenbelt soccer, p.11



Jeanette Grotke: 90th, p.4

No Kings Protest on the Bridge



PHOTO BY NICK HALL

Protesters waving signs and flags crowd the approach to the Gladys Noon Spellman Overpass and the footbridge itself at the No Kings rally on Saturday, June 14. See story, page 12.

Greenbelt Museum to Expand In Space, Hours and Offerings

by Erica Johns

The Greenbelt Museum will expand to colocate all visitor programs and museum operations by creating a new Education and Visitor Center at the museum, with work expected to begin within the next 18 months. Museum staff hope to open the facility by Greenbelt's 90th anniversary in 2027. Museum Director Megan Searing Young spoke about the museum's plan for renovations at a June 12 event hosted by the Greenbelt Rotary Club.

Why Renovate?

The Museum house occupies a 1937 block Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) home at 10-B Crescent Road, restored to its 1937 to 1952 appearance, whose 836-square-foot size limits how many people can visit at one time. Young said it's challenging not having enough space to help people learn about the house, the museum's most important teaching tool. Staff manage by holding programs outside and at the Community Center. Difficulties include 10-B's 1937 second-floor bathroom requiring that mobility-impaired visitors use Community Center or Library bathrooms and leaving visitors unsure whether to go to the Community Center or 10-B.

The redesign will create an education and visitor center next door at 10-A Crescent Road, which the city purchased in 2016.



IMAGE BY OLD LINE ARCHITECTS

Architect's rendering of the Education and Visitor Center seen from Westway. Toward the right and behind the building is the playground and the underpass and path to the library.

The 10-A house will be renovated and its addition replaced. There will be a first-floor accessible entrance, orientation and exhibition room, hands-on learning lab and accessible restroom. The museum office, archives and storage will be upstairs. Exterior work will remove 10-A's siding and modify its rooflines to match its exterior to 10-B's 1937 block walls and roof. The 10-B historic house will not change except for a new HVAC system.

Consolidating all museum activity and moving staff from the Community Center will enable the Museum to open at least two to three days more per week. It is currently open Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.

New Uses

The Museum encourages careful touching of its collections, including summer camp programs for children with dressing up in period clothing and doing laundry by hand. Young said they look forward to using the hands-on learning lab for more such experiences, including teaching cooking using World War II ration points and darning socks to show how residents lived during the Depression and wartime.

They plan to convert 10-A's porch trash closet to a 24-hour information kiosk that will light up when the door opens.

The facility will also be the

See MUSEUM, page 8

PGCPS Superintendent Pushed Out; Controversial Interim Appointed

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On Thursday, June 12, Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Board of Education met in closed session to discuss the future of Superintendent Millard House II, a meeting precipitated by a vote of no confidence by the Prince George's County Educators Association (PGCEA) (see page 6 of the June 12 issue). That closed-door meeting resulted in House stepping down after only two years in the role. The next morning, on Friday, June 13, incoming County Executive Aisha Braveboy announced the appointment of Shawn Joseph as Interim Superintendent.



PHOTO COURTESY JOSEPH & ASSOCIATES LLC

Shawn Joseph was appointed Interim Superintendent of PGCPS.

Joseph was this district's Deputy Superintendent for Teaching and Learning from 2014 to 2016, before he became the Director of Schools (superintendent) for Metro Nashville Public Schools, a position from which he himself was ousted.

House's Departure

Following the closed meeting, PGCPS announced what it called a mutual agreement for House to leave effective June 18, 2025. House's contract was supposed to run through June 30, 2027. His

severance package has so far not been disclosed. The News Review requested information about the severance from PGCPS's office for media inquiries, the office of the Board of Education, Chair of the Board of Education Brandon Jackson and Greenbelt School Board Representative Jonathan Briggs. Briggs was the only person to respond to our

enquiries, saying that he was not free to talk about the agreement right now. On Monday, June 16, the News Review filed a Public Information Act request for that

See PGCPS, page 7

Conviction for Murder Of Greenbelt Teacher

On Tuesday, June 17, Harold Landon III was convicted of the murder of Mariame Toure Sylla, a Greenbelt woman and teacher at Dora Kennedy French Immersion School who went missing during her evening walk in Schrom Hills Park on July 29, 2023. Landon faces life imprisonment and will be sentenced October 17.

Advisory Groups Talk Processes, Referral Tracking, Absences, More

by Matthew Arbach

At the June 9 Greenbelt City Council worksession, after an update from all of the city's advisory groups (see article on page 6), there was a discussion about the operating process of these groups and how the city could best aid them to enhance their efficiency in providing the valuable guidance each one offers both council and the city. Prior to this, former councilmember and resident Konrad Herling urged council to be aware of a prevailing sentiment among many of the city's African American residents. Many feel a limited access to many of the city's offerings, such as transportation, recreation, the arts and education. The high cost of housing was also cited, he said. Herling said he gathered this information as part of his efforts with the Reparations Commission.

Collaboration Needed

Several on council remarked that there should be more collaboration among advisory groups, as many have agendas that overlap and ad-

dress a wide variety of issues. Many of the advisory groups felt a need for a clear and easily accessible record of the status of all of the referrals that these groups provide on a regular basis. Council was amenable to this, with many at the meeting hoping that the city's upcoming new website could have such a listing.

The consensus of the groups

See ADVISORY, page 6

What Goes On

Monday, June 23

No City Council Meeting, Maryland Municipal League Summer Conference

Wednesday, June 25

No Council Meeting, Maryland Municipal League Summer Conference

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltnmd.gov for more information.

Red Velvet Cake on Juneteenth

by Sandy Rodgers

On Juneteenth, African Americans and others across the United States gather to feast and celebrate as they have since June 19, 1865, the day that federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, and took control of the state to free the last enslaved people two and a half years after President Lincoln’s 1863 Emancipation Proclamation. The holiday was first observed in Texas, with festivities including parades, the reading of the Emancipation Proclamation and, especially, food. According to a June 19, 2018, article in Atlas Obscura, there were “charcoal-grilled meats, greens, black-eyed peas and teacakes, but also an assortment of foods and drinks with red hues.”

“Red velvet cake, red strawberry soda and red punch always made appearances,” said the article. “For a long time, relatives told young ones that the red symbolized the blood of the mil-

lions of enslaved people who had suffered and died. But the red foods and drinks may have had a longer history that began on the continent these people were taken from.”

“... The practice of eating red foods – red cake, barbecue, punch and fruit – may owe its existence to the enslaved Yoruba and Kongo brought to Texas in the 19th century,” explains the article, citing culinary historian and food writer Michael Twitty and his blog Afroculinaria.

“Red, in many West African cultures is a symbol of strength, spirituality and life and death. It’s possible this cultural legacy along with these groups’ distinct food knowledge of okra, beans, melon and many other food groupings – some red, some not – was brought across the Atlantic.” See the full article at atlasobscura.com/articles/what-is-juneteenth.



Greenbelt Cinema
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbeltcinema.org

Members Always \$6.50!
Member kids are always FREE!

Adults \$9, Kids \$6,
Senior/Student/Military \$8

All shows before 5 PM:
Adults \$7, Kids \$5

OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
JUNE 20th - 26th

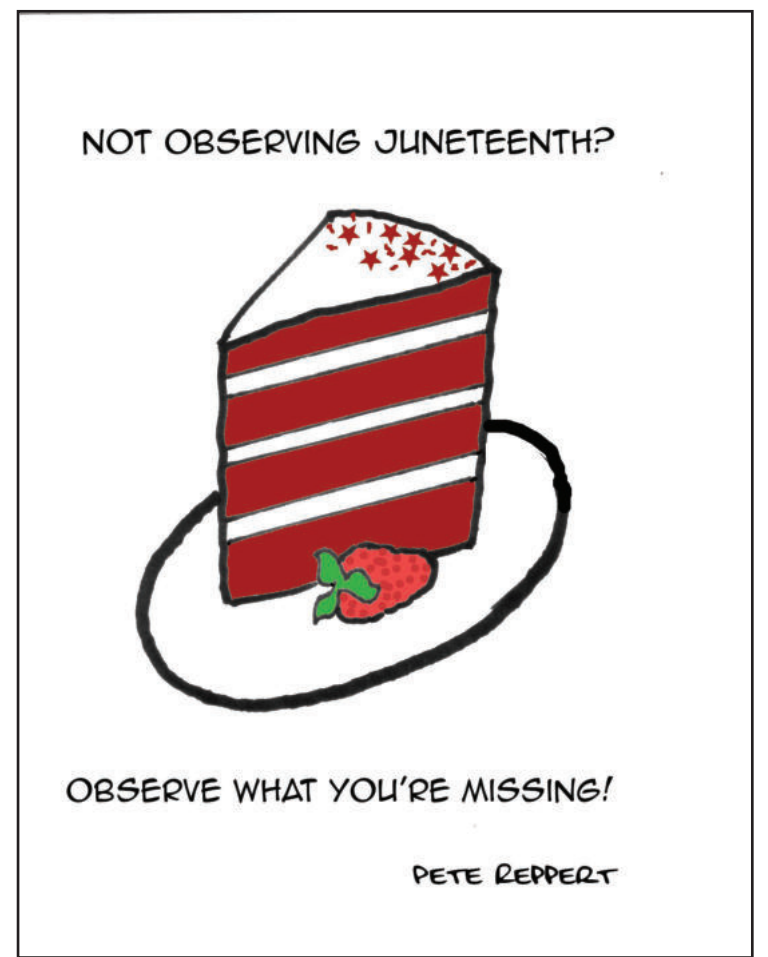
Materialists (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (109 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:15 PM, 8:00 PM
Sat. 7:45 PM
Sun. 2:30 PM (OC), 5:00 PM
Mon. 5:00 PM
Tue. 8:00 PM
Thurs. 7:45 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Sat. 5:00 PM
Mon. 2:00 PM
Wed. 7:00 PM

The Life of Chuck (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2024) (111 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 5:15 PM
Mon. 2:30 PM
Wed. 7:15 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 7:45 PM
Sun. 2:45 PM, 5:15 PM
Mon. 4:45 PM
Tue. 7:45 PM
Thurs. 8:00 PM

The Phoenician Scheme
(PG-13) (CC) (DVS) (2025) (105 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Tue. 5:40 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 5:00 PM
Sat. 7:30 PM
Thurs. 5:40 PM

Rustin (PG-13)
(CC) (DVS) (2023) (108 mins)
Free, thanks to the sponsorship of
The Greenbelt Black History and
Culture Committee and RUAK
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 1:00 PM

Up (PG) (2009) (95 mins)
School's Out! - FREE
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Thurs. 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

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 and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.

Letters to the Editor

Unreliable Cell Service Can Be a Safety Issue

What happens if in an emergency, we’re unable to make a simple phone call to 911 or to a friend/neighbor? What happens if, in lieu of the above, we’re physically unable to leave our homes to seek help or to reach a window to open it to call for help or summon neighbors by crying out or banging on a wall? What happens in this situation where minutes if not seconds can

make a difference between life and death?

A good 60 percent of the time, the bars on my phone are non-existent. Therefore, I can’t make or receive calls/texts to: conduct business, consult with and/or make or cancel appointments with my doctors or respond to calls demanding my immediate attention, often resulting in the callers thinking I’m ignoring them or being rude, etc. For the past

See **LETTERS**, page 4

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

Materialists

A young, ambitious New York City matchmaker (Dakota Johnson) finds herself torn between the perfect match (Pedro Pascal) and her imperfect ex (Chris Evans). Directed by Celine Song.

The Life of Chuck

Charles “Chuck” Krantz experiences the wonder of love, the heartbreak of loss and the multitudes contained in all of us in a buoyant and often wonderful adaptation of one of Stephen King’s more cosmically optimistic tales. The film is a departure for horror film director Mike Flanagan (Absentia, Oculus and Doctor Sleep). Said critic Odie Henderson of the Boston Globe, “This film feels like the coziest of blankets enveloping you in the theater. However, you should expect a few jolts of static electricity as you snuggle into that blanket. After all, this touching, beautiful film is based on a novella by Stephen King.”

The Phoenician Scheme

From director Wes Anderson (Asteroid City, The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar, The Royal Tenenbaums), the film tells the story of a family and a family business. Travis Hopson of Punch Drunk Critics calls the movie, “the most enjoyable and daring movie Anderson has ever done.”

Rustin

The architect of 1963’s momentous March on Washington, Bayard Rustin was one of the greatest activists and organizers the world has ever known. He challenged authority, never apologized for who he was, what he believed or who he desired. And he did not back down. He made history and, in turn, he was forgotten. Directed by DGA Award and five-time Tony Award winner George C. Wolfe and starring Emmy Award winner Colman Domingo, Rustin shines a long overdue spotlight on the extraordinary man who, alongside giants like the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., Adam Clayton Powell Jr. and Ella Baker, dared to imagine a different world, and inspired a movement in a march toward freedom.

Up

Carl Fredricksen (Ed Asner), a 78-year-old balloon salesman, is about to fulfill a lifelong dream. Tying thousands of balloons to his house, he flies away to the South American wilderness. But curmudgeonly Carl’s worst nightmare comes true when he discovers a little boy named Russell is a stowaway aboard the balloon-powered house.

Community Events

At the Library

All Prince George’s County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) branches will be closed Thursday, June 19, for Juneteenth. All regularly operating libraries, including Greenbelt’s, will reopen on Friday, June 20, at 10 a.m.

Greenbelt Library’s regular hours are Mondays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays noon to 8 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m.

Storytimes

Friday, June 20, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13509315.

Wednesday, June 25, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13509210.

Thursday, June 26, 10:15 a.m., ages birth to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13509255.

Bibliobop Dance Party

Saturday, June 21, 10:30 a.m., ages newborn to 5. Bust a move and shake the sillies out. Bring parents or caregivers and prepare to boogie and bop. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13494089.

Summer Prince George’s

Tuesday, June 24, 2 p.m., all ages. Kick off Summer Prince George’s at the Greenbelt Library. Drop by to register and enjoy other activities and prizes (while supplies last.) Register at pgcmls.info/event/13491952.

STEM-tastic

Tuesday, June 24, 4 p.m., ages 8 to 12. This month’s theme is Animal Tracks. Become a scientist by conducting hands-on, fun science activities using basic scientific principles. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13528410.

Wednesday, June 25, 6 p.m., ages 4 to 8. Juneteenth celebration with author Tricia Elam Walker as she reads from her exciting children’s books, Dream Street and Nana Akua Goes to School. These stories feature fun characters and important lessons about dreams, family and celebrating what makes us unique. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13344337.

Passport service

Greenbelt Library serves as a U.S. Passport Acceptance Facility. Applications are accepted by appointment only; schedule a 30-minute appointment by calling 240-455-5451 or visiting pgcmls.info/passport-services.

The PGCMLS Ask-a-Librarian telephone reference service line is being phased out. Customers may call the Greenbelt Library directly at 301-345-5800 for their reference inquiries and to book passport service appointments during regular Library operating hours.

Volunteers Needed For Tool Library

The Greenbelt Makerspace seeks volunteers to staff the tool library and organize classes and other events. People are asking for more open hours. Help is needed for the tool library to expand. Sign up for shifts at signup.com/go/UNkLnqk or email us at staff@make125.org if interested in other times or jobs.

The Greenbelt Makerspace is accessed via the exterior stairs on the west side of the Granite Building at 115 Centerway.

22nd Annual Greenbelt Jazz Festival Saturday

The Jazz Festival will be held Saturday, June 21 from noon to 7 p.m. in Roosevelt Center and from 8 to 11 p.m. inside the New Deal Café.

Come out to Roosevelt Center and enjoy some great jazz music. Bring a chair and dancing shoes and have some fun.



Financial Literacy Class

Favor’s Table, a nongovernmental organization, will present a financial literacy class on Wealth Creation, Protection and Wealth Transfer on Saturday, June 21 from 3 to 3:30 p.m. The location is 6215 Greenbelt Road, Room 205 (the tall building next to McDonald’s).

This class is for adults who have not attended the class before. To sign up, text 202-468-2049 to sign up by Friday, June 20. Confirm attendance so bags of food can be prepared for each participant. Favor’s Table will be giving away food, clothes, bras and shoes at the end of class.

Friends of the Library Children’s Book Sale

The Friends of Greenbelt Library operates the Novel Endings bookstore inside the Library. Anyone can shop during Library hours and pay a suggested \$1 per book (50 cents for children’s books) in the blue cashbox near the front desk. Proceeds from book donations help pay for Library programming and supplies, and fresh books are stocked in the bookstore throughout the week.

There are a ton of children’s books in storage at the moment – everything from board books to graphic novels – and they’ll be bringing it all out for a special children’s book sale on Saturday and Sunday, June 21 and 22. Come on by during Library hours and stock up.

The bookstore is at the back of the Library, on the left as one enters from the main door. Those who have books to donate or are interested in volunteering may contact the Friends of Greenbelt Library by email at friendsofgreenbeltlibrary@gmail.com.



Clothing Swap
Out with the old in with the new
SUNDAY!!

New Deal Cafe
11A-2P

Music by
DAN HOVEY

Clothing Swap
Out with the old in with the new
SUNDAY!!

Music by
DAN HOVEY

Firefly Season is Here



PHOTO BY FER GREGORY

Fireflies

Firefly season is beginning. Connect with nature and enjoy the magic of fireflies this summer. Visit the Greenbelt Firefly Sanctuary. Park at the old St. Hugh’s School then cross Crescent Road to the Stream Valley Park. Follow the lighted path to reach the sanctuary. The later at night, the better the show. Do not use lights of any kind in the Sanctuary, as it disturbs the fireflies.

Fireflies are beautiful throughout Greenbelt. They favor dark wooded areas throughout the city. To encourage fireflies in your backyard allow leaf litter and plant debris to accumulate in a damp undisturbed area. Keep backyard lights out from mid-June to mid-July.

--MaryAnn Canter



Bayard Rustin Movie To Be Shown June 21

The Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee and the Greenbelt Cinema invite Greenbelt residents to attend a screening of Rustin, starring Coleman Domingo, on Saturday, June 21 at 1 p.m. Attendance is free and open to the public.

Bayard Rustin was the primary architect/organizer of the March on Washington in 1963 and was fiercely attacked for being a gay male. Civil Rights leaders had to decide if they were willing to work with him, as some of them held deeply prejudicial and homophobic views.

For further information contact blackhistoryandculturegb@gmail.com.

The SPACE Hosts Giveaway Saturday

The SPACE, Free Art for All, is hosting a giveaway this Saturday, June 21 from 1 to 4 p.m., at the Upper SPACE, Beltway Plaza (former Big Lots Store on the second level next to Shoppers World). Clothing (adults, children, baby), DVDs, housewares and more will be available. The SPACE wants to reduce its stored holdings as they vacate their upstairs location. Visitors should bring their own bag or box.



Chess Club Meets

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet next Tuesday, June 24, at the Greenbelt Youth Center from 6:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels. To be added to the club’s mailing list, complete the brief form at <https://tinyurl.com/yey2nz4m>. Direct questions to greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com.

Stamp Out Hunger Close to Home

Greenbelt PORCH will collect nonperishable food placed on porches as scheduled below.

Saturday, June 21 – by 10 a.m. for 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill.

Sunday, June 22 – by 4 p.m. for Boxwood Village; by 5 p.m. for Lakeside Drive, after 4 p.m. for 11-S Ridge Road, 14 and 16 Courts Ridge Road and 8 and 10 Courts Southway.

Many people will go on vacation and might miss the date for their porch pickup. They should contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at spreadruak@gmail.com to make alternate arrangements for participation.

Astronomical Society To Meet June 26

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will meet Thursday, June 26 at 7 p.m. in Room 114 of the Community Center. Note the earlier start time. The program will be a showing of NASA’s new documentary, Cosmic Dawn: The Untold Story of the James Webb Space Telescope. The meeting is free and open to the public. All are welcome. Children should be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Golden Age Club

The Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center.

The last June meeting is Wednesday, June 25, with bingo on the program.

The July meetings will include a birthday luncheon on the third Wednesday of the month, celebrating members with birthdays in July.

Greenbriar Yard Sale

Greenbriar Condominiums, located at 7600 Hanover Parkway, will host a community yard sale on Saturday, June 28 from 8 a.m. to noon.



Yarn Donations Needed

Gifts from the Heart is a group of knitters and crocheters meeting Fridays from 10 a.m. to noon at the Community Center. Every year they donate hundreds of hats, scarves, shawls, blankets, walker bags and baby items to schools, churches, nursing homes, Project Linus and other organizations. Donations of acrylic yarn are welcome and may be dropped off when the group meets or at the Community Center office during business hours.

This Week at the New Deal Café

Celebrating 30 Years in Greenbelt, 1995-2025!

BECOME A MEMBER!*

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD
Monday, 9am-9pm; Tuesday—Thursday, 9am - 10pm; Friday/Saturday, 9am – 12midnight; Sunday, 9am – 9pm

TH 6/19	FRI 6/20	SAT 6/21	SUN 6/22	
FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Classic Jam w/ the Low Rent Quartet 6:30-9:30p Old Bowie Town Grille jam now at the NDC!	The Highballers 8-11pm Hard-edged, rockin' country in the tradition of country's greats.	22nd ANNUAL JAZZ FESTIVAL in the ROOSEVELT CENTER 12 - 7pm Marianna Previti 8 - 11pm Award-winning jazz vocalist	ASL BRUNCH, 10:30a - 12pm CLOTHING SWAP, 11am - 2p Patsy's Honky Tonk w/ The Hall Brothers 6 - 8pm Classic country	
MON 6/23	TUES 6/24	WED 6/25	TH 6/26	New Deal Cafe
LIVE BAND KARAOKE w/ Mike Scott 6 - 9pm Show us what you got!	NDC Open Mic w/ Carla Monardes 6:30 - 9:30pm Sign-ups at 6:15pm Bring it to the NDC stage!	Kim's Grand Rounds 7 - 9pm Talented songwriters take turns performing	FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Isn't That So? 7 - 9pm A collective of DC musicians mining a mix of Americana	IT'S THE CAFE'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY! Visit our donations page to help fund our October celebration festival!

*Join NDC! Go to [NewDealCafe\(dot\)com](http://NewDealCafe(dot)com), click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."

FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR.

Obituaries

Richard Marcus

The family of Richard (Rick) I. Marcus, Esq., mourns for the loss of their husband and brother, who died on March 28, 2025. He died after suffering from complications of Parkinson's disease. Rick was admitted to the District of Columbia Bar. While living in Greenbelt, he was in the practice of law with William (Bill) J. Howard for over 20 years in Riverdale. He and Bill represented some restaurants in Bethesda and had a general family law and juvenile practice. An avid reader of history and thrillers, Rick also became devoted to the practice of tai chi. For many years, he took weekly classes in Greenbelt with Larry



Richard Marcus in 1986

Fleming and later with Taj Johnson (Wu form). He was also a dog walker of his two Westies, Raffy and Sasha. Rick would give you the shirt off his back with no thought for personal fanfare. A genuinely nice guy. Rick was buried at National Memorial Cemetery in Falls Church, Va., on April 2, 2025. The ceremony was a traditional Jewish service. Rick is survived by his wife Pamela and sister Sherry. A Celebration of Life and Memorial will be held for Rick on June 23 at the Greenbelt American Legion from 1 to 3 p.m. To attend, RSVP to his wife Pamela at pgregory2@earthlink.net by June 21.

Letters cont'd from p.2

three months, I have had to leave my home to make a phone call elsewhere in Greenbelt or outside of Greenbelt! Unreliable cell service is, at best, inconvenient and at worst, dangerous. Note that many members of our community have given up their landlines and rely solely on their cellphones. And many are senior citizens. We now find ourselves in a cellular wasteland because someone has been asleep at the wheel. Susan L. Smithers

Who Should Be Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizen 2025?

Summer is still getting started, but the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival is just 10 weeks away. Since 1973, our local annual Festival includes recognizing an Outstanding Citizen: someone in Greenbelt whose unpaid volunteer efforts have made Greenbelt a better place. Volunteerism is the essence of our community. The committee of volunteers who select the Outstanding Citizen doesn't know everyone in town. Finding that special person in a city full of volunteers requires a full spectrum of community input. Tell us about someone you know who contributes to our Greenbelt community. Every successful nonprofit relies on a team of volunteers. Without volunteers, our many cooperatives could not function. Without dedicated citizens giving their time, the City of Greenbelt could not rely on vital input from advisory boards and committees. Volunteers run youth programs and make sports and scouting programs possible. Volunteers shuttle senior citizens to medical appointments. Nominate someone you know by completing the form on page 9. Describe their contributions to our community, their acts of kindness and their actions that make Greenbelt better – whether the whole city or a neighborhood or organization. Nominations are due Monday, July 28. This year's honoree will be the 51st since the award began in 1973. The honoree will also serve as Grand Marshal of our Greenbelt Labor Day Parade.

Condolences to the family, friends and fellow tai chi devotees on the death of Rick Marcus. Congratulations to Eleanor Roosevelt High School alumna Melissa Emessiene on her appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Congratulations to the Greenbelt Municipal Swim Team on their win at the first meet of the season. Belated best wishes to Jeanette Grotke, who turned 90 in late April. She celebrated the day with members of 5 Court Eastway.

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



St. Hugh Rummage Sale

St. Hugh's Annual Rummage Sale will take place on Saturday and Sunday, June 21 and 22, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. There will be great bargains on toys, books, linens, furniture, jewelry and more. Lunch and homemade baked goods will be available for purchase. Admission is free.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
6905 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770
www.myholycross.org
Sunday Worship: 9:30 A.M.
Bible Study: 11:15 A.M.

Thursday Thrift Store
10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Every Greenbelt resident knows someone providing outstanding volunteer service, often without the recognition they deserve. History indicates many Outstanding Citizens were nominated several times before their selection. The committee counts on nominations from the public to identify this person each year and to ensure Greenbelt's civic traditions grow and flourish into the future. Bob Zugby, co-chair, Outstanding Citizen Selection Committee

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)
301-474-5410
Pastor Evelyn Romero

Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
New Sermon Series - Campfire Stories

St. John's Episcopal Church
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One Hillside Road

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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



Jeanette Grotke

PHOTO BY RAJANI POLISETTY



DRAWING BY CLAIRE SEIBERT

On April 29, 5 Court Eastway had a birthday party to celebrate member Jeanette Groke's 90th birthday. In lieu of a group photo, Claire Seibert (age 7) provided this group portrait. The portrait is an impressive achievement, since people kept moving around. But she managed to include everybody who attended, carefully

approximating the colors of their clothing. From left, Claire Seibert, Jane Huffman, Jen Ruffner, Adam Grotke, Jeanette Grotke, Eric Dahlen, Jeff Jones, Casey Stoyell-Mulholland, Hannah Seibert, Melinda Seibert, Daniel Seibert, Chris Ruffner, Anna Dahlen, Ashley Dahlen, Sean Coxen, Rajani Polisetty, Melanie Griffin, Linda Bennett

"Close your eyes to racial differences and welcome all with the light of oneness." – Bahá'u'lláh

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
www.greenbeltbahais.org

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT

Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

COME TO OUR NEW LOCATION
Community Center Room 114
15 Crescent Rd
ALL ARE WELCOME!

A Roman Catholic Intentional Eucharistic Community

OR - Join us on ZOOM!
For ZOOM link:
[CCGI985+owneregroups.io](https://ccgi985+owneregroups.io)

The Bible Says...

Therefore, to the one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.
James 4:17

Sunday Worship Services
10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School (66 Ridge Rd.)
MCFcc.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
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Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

June 22, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.
(No in-person 3 p.m. service)
General Assembly 2025
"Revolution Begins With a Dream"
Rev. Dr. Nicole Kirk

Paint Branchers are invited to watch the live-streamed worship service from our denomination's annual meeting, the General Assembly. It will run from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and be available from this link: <https://www.uua.org/ga/off-site/2025>.

Embrace the electrifying spirit of the year's largest UU gathering, where we come together in unity for an awe-inspiring Sunday worship celebration like no other! It's a vibrant, communal worship experience that promises to uplift your soul and ignite your passion. Don't miss out on this extraordinary gathering of hearts and minds!

A YouTube video of the service will be made available shortly after the service if you prefer to view it later.

MDA Advises Mechanical Control of Spotted Lanternfly

Spotted lanternfly nymphs have been emerging around Greenbelt, sometimes in alarming numbers. The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) recommends using mechanical treatment to control them, as there is no chemical that targets this invasive species exclusively. The use of chemical treatments can cause unintended harm to nontarget species such as beneficial pollinators. Unfortunately, eradication is not possible once the population is established, so lowering the number of spotted lanternflies through mechanical means is encouraged while protecting native insects and plants. Physically removing, crushing or trapping spotted lanternfly can slow the growth of the population and lessen their impact on the area they’re feeding on.

MDA uses a variety of mechanical methods to treat for spotted lanternfly, including backpack vacuums, handheld nets or by hand with collection cups. With these efforts, thousands of spotted lanternflies have been collected, with follow-up surveys showing a decreased population over time. These methods can be easily replicated at home using a hand vacuum, a simple butterfly net or by hand. Spotted lanternflies can be captured by approaching slowly from the front, as they are less likely to jump away. Circle traps, a type of trap designed to catch spotted lanternfly nymphs, can be used to passively capture the insect, and can be purchased online or made from simple materials. Penn State Extension has a video tutorial on how to build a circle trap at <https://tinyurl.com/yuphmjms>. In the wintertime, adult spotted lanternflies die off, leaving only their egg masses behind to

City Notes

Economic Development attended a business community breakfast, visited three local businesses and attended Franklin Park’s open house. Planning approved six building permits and inspected 12 rentals.

Animal Shelter staff responded to 62 calls; 25 Dog Park permits are active.

Environmental/Sustainability Coordinators hosted a Kayak Cleanup where staff, Park Rangers and 15 volunteers removed litter from Greenbelt Lake via kayak.

Facilities Maintenance installed a new light and pole for the Braden Field tennis courts and poured concrete for the indoor pool deck.

At the Aquatic & Fitness Center, six participants attended a lifeguarding recertification class.

Arts and CARES hosted a benefit sale of donated paintings in the Gallery, raising \$3,700 for CARES emergency assistance fund.

Park Rangers helped Therapeutic Recreation with a Not For Seniors Only Mental Health Event.

CARES, Springhill Lake Recreation Center staff and community partners hosted an ice cream social where 20 teens explored the importance of good mental health.



hatch in the spring. This is the best time to reduce the population, as they are stationary eggs that can be easily crushed and scraped away. Each egg mass houses 30 to 50 eggs, so scraping as many as possible can significantly decrease the next generation of spotted lanternfly before they have the chance to hatch and spread out. Egg masses look like light grayish splotches of mud, cement or lichen and are typically ¾ inch wide. Egg masses can be found on tree trunks and the underside of tree branches from September to June. For more information go to mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/spotted-lantern-fly.aspx.

This article was drawn from information provided by the Maryland Department of Agriculture.



Spotted lanternfly eggs

- Photos courtesy Maryland.gov



Fourth instar lanternfly nymph



Side view of an adult lanternfly



Adult lanternfly

- Photos by Lawrence Barringer, courtesy Maryland.gov



Early instar lanternfly nymphs hatch from mid-April to June.



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

MEETINGS FOR JUNE 23-27

Monday, June 23, **NO MEETING - MML SUMMER CONFERENCE**

Tuesday June 24 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**, On the Agenda: Finalize Calendar and Activities for 2023-2024 School Year, Scholarship Account - Review and Write Up, 2024-2025 Grant Reports & Report to Council, 2025-2026 Grant Program, Promotion of ACE Activities and Scholarship, Labor Day Parade

Wednesday, June 25, **NO MEETING - MML SUMMER CONFERENCE**

In advance, the hearing impaired are 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. 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.

GREENBELT MUNICIPAL SWIM TEAM HOME MEET OUTDOOR POOL TO OPEN AT 1 PM, SATURDAY JUNE 21 Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center

This Saturday, June 21, will be the Greenbelt Municipal Swim Team will be hosting a swim meet at the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center. Please note that the outdoor pool will not open until 1 pm.

For more information, call (301) 397-2204.

FEATURED PET - JUNIOR Ready for Adoption? Call (301) 474-6124.

Six-year-old Junior has been in a foster home for almost a year and is still looking for a forever home! Junior (now affectionately nicknamed Juni) has insulin-dependent diabetes, but he doesn't let that slow him down. While administering an insulin shot might seem scary, Junior takes his medicine like a champ. Junior's foster says he's a gentle soul. He's super affectionate and loves to be wherever the household action is. His favorite activity is sitting by the door or window and watching the local wildlife and ongoing outside (he's a great neighborhood watch). He also gets along with everyone he meets — including his cat and dog foster siblings!



If you're interested in adopting jazzy Juni, call (301) 474-6124 or email us at animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov!

JOIN THE CHARTER REVIEW TASKFORCE

Are you passionate about shaping the future of our city? Do you want to have a say in how our local government operates? Now is your chance to make a difference!

The City of Greenbelt is forming a Charter Review Task Force to evaluate and recommend changes to our city's charter. We are looking for dedicated residents who are eager to contribute their time and expertise to this important process.

Submit an application at the following link: <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/boards-committees/application-for-appointment-to-boards-and-committees>.

For more information or to apply, please contact City Clerk at banderson@greenbeltmd.gov or (301) 474-3870.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

In the City of Greenbelt, we remain committed to embracing and celebrating the diversity of all. As our nation undergoes change, feelings of pride, uncertainty, and even fear may arise. Yet, we stand firm in the pledge that has defined Greenbelt since its inception and will not falter.

Learn more at <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/know-your-rights-immigration-resources>.

COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES VOLUNTEER TODAY!

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

Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

DFA Northern Prince George's County Presents FREE WEBINARS Thursdays at 7 pm, Zoom

Resilience & Coping Strategies for Caregivers. June 26. Join Miriam Galindo for a discussion on strategies for maintaining emotional and physical wellbeing while caring for a loved one with Dementia. Gain insights into practical tools, self-care techniques, and support resources that can help you navigate the challenges of Dementia caregiving.

GUIDE Model - Intro to Dementia Services. July 12 Join Miriam Rondepence, for a discussion on exploring the Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience (GUIDE) Model, designed to enhance care and support for individuals with dementia and their unpaid caregivers.

Strategies for Improving Communication with Alzheimer's Diseases. July 26. Join Dhurti Patel for a discussion on strategies to improve communication with individuals living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. This session will explore techniques to enhance understanding, reduce frustration, and support meaningful connection through person-centered communication.

For more information or to register, contact Brendy Maddox at (202) 670-6497 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

ARTS HAPPENINGS

Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts for more information and many other opportunities!

Fused Glass Knobs and Door Pulls. Sunday, June 22, starting at 11 am, *Greenbelt Community Center*. Make fun and functional pieces to decorate your furniture and more. Hardware included. No prior experience needed.

Linoleum Block Printing. Tuesdays, 7/1-8/5, 6:30-8:30pm, *Greenbelt Community Center*. Learn the tools and techniques needed to print your own block relief images. Over the course of the class, instructor Matthew McLaughlin will introduce and demonstrate the image transfer process, carving the block, inking, and printing.

MORE ARTS IN JUNE

- **Camp Encore** Starting 6/23. Greenbelt Arts Center, Ages 13-17. More info: www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts
- **Monoprinting Onto Clay** 6/24-7/1, 3:45-6:15pm & 6:30-9pm. *Greenbelt Community Center*
- **Sewing Hands-On History** 7/3-8/21, 6-9 pm, *Greenbelt Community Center*

CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH Saturday, June 21, 1 pm Greenbelt Cinema

Celebrate Juneteenth! Join us for a film: Rustin, PG-13. FREE.

Sponsored by the Greenbelt Black History & Culture Committee and Greenbelt Recreation.

A majority (or quorum) of Greenbelt City Council members may attend community organization meetings, but no official Council action will be taken at these meetings. Please note that meeting locations may change after being published. For information on how to join these meetings, contact the respective organization directly.

Council News

Advisory Groups Update Council

by Matthew Arbach

The Greenbelt City Council worksession on June 9 was a comprehensive update with all of the city’s advisory boards and committees. They shared their efforts over the past year and any upcoming projects, along with their current memberships. Council relies strongly on the guidance these groups provide.

ACE
The Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) was represented by Chair Janet Mirsky. The group has five members, out of a possible nine. In their yearly meetings with the city’s school principals and PTA presidents, there emerged an aim to provide more opportunities for student government leaders. The committee had a successful meeting with these students and plans to make this a yearly effort. ACE has presented two grants to schools this year and is looking to develop a school supply replenishment program, similar to one in College Park. It was decided to allow principals to submit grant applications in both August and October. ACE is looking for more funding in order to continue its scholarships to high school seniors.

PRAB
The Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) Chair Matthew Sickle said it has six members now, with three vacancies. The main focus of PRAB last year was its recommendations concerning the Buddy Attick Park (BAP) Master Plan, with Sickle expressing hope that council will begin its implementation. The board looks forward to providing similar guidance on the Indian Creek Park Master Plan, as well as the Armory site.

APB
The Advisory Planning Board (APB) is at seven members, with two vacancies. Chair Benjamin Friedman stated that APB weighed in on the city’s Strategic Wayfinding Plan and BAP Master Plan. The board was also involved in a traffic-calming study at Ridge Road, Lakeside Drive and Greenhill Road. In 2026, APB hopes to aid the Greenbelt Police Department (GPD) in the Vision Zero traffic-fatality initiative and to work with and support the efforts of the city’s Economic Development staff.

PSAC
The Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) Representative Laura Kressler said that the group convened three community meetings on radon, carbon monoxide and severe weather events. PSAC also advised GPD on its draft general order on License Plate Readers and video surveillance. The committee is planning community meetings in the fall of 2025 on recognizing and protection against frauds and scams. PSAC has seven members and two vacancies.

Green ACES
John Lippert, chair of Green ACES, reported that it has 10 members, with one vacancy. He explained that Green ACES is a council advisory body, while the Green Team has a more active charge, implementing sustainability initiatives in the city; he noted

that members and efforts between the two groups often overlap. Green ACES has been providing outreach on EVs and EV charging stations. It has recently promoted the Save-As-You-Throw solid waste disposal approach for the city and is exploring ways to continue the curbside food scraps pickup program, whose USDA grant funding expires in August.

AAB
The Arts Advisory Board (AAB), chaired by Tom Leamond, has seven core members and two vacancies. The board

has been active in developing the public art projects at the Motiva Apartment complex and Braden Field, as well as possibly at the Greenbelt Co-op and Greenbelt Cinema. This year AAB plans an Arts Open House at the Community Center.

BOA
Board of Appeals (BOA) Chair Steve Skolnik said that his three-member group has had no referrals this year, citing that this was due to exceptional efforts of its staff liaison Terri Hruby.

See **COUNCIL**, page 8

City Council Allocates \$30,000 To Emergency Assistance Fund

by Will Hammann

On Monday, June 2 the Greenbelt City Council approved a motion allocating \$30,000 of remaining funds from the Fiscal Year 2025 budget toward the city’s Emergency Assistance Fund.

Councilmember Danielle McKinney put the motion forward and said that although leftover funds could be carried over for the following fiscal year, “there is a need right now for residents who are very much in need of rental assistance.” The program is meant to assist Greenbelt residents facing eviction or overdue utility bills due to a situational crisis, offering households the chance to apply for a one-time payment with a limit of \$2,500.

In previous years, more than \$1,000,000 of funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) had been used to offer rental assistance to residents. With few funds remaining, the program has since been supported by Greenbelt residents and businesses who gave \$29,396 this fiscal year. Of those funds, \$29,240 were dispersed to 21 households mostly for rental assistance at an average of \$1,750, with a few smaller disbursements for food or utilities. “Essentially, every dollar that’s coming in is going out, and that’s on purpose,” said City Manager Josué Salmerón.

The Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association (GILA), which oversees the program in cooperation with the city and Greenbelt CARES, recently partnered with the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy for a round-up

donation program where shoppers are asked if they’d like to round their purchase totals to the next dollar and donate the difference to the emergency fund.

The Co-op agreed to commit to the partnership for two months, after which it plans to offer the round-up program in partnership with other organizations, in rotation.

Mayor Emmett Jordan initially proposed a motion to limit the city’s contribution to a \$10,000 challenge grant, but other councilmembers insisted that the full \$30,000 be allocated for the program. “I believe that this is a very prudent use of funds for community members that need it immediately,” Councilmember Amy Knesel said.

Will Hammann is a student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism interning with the Greenbelt News Review.

Kids Discovery Center At Patuxent Refuge

The Discovery Center at the Patuxent Research Refuge offers learning activities and crafts for children ages 3 to 10 with an adult, Wednesdays through Saturdays except on federal holidays. Sessions start at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon, lasting 35 minutes. June’s theme is Reptiles: Lizards & Skinks.

Registration is strongly recommended. Call 301-497-5760. Visit fws.gov/refuge/patuxent-research/patuxent-visitor-center for more information.

ADVISORY continued from page 1

was that each one would greatly benefit from an internal and frequently updated list of the contact information of each group’s members. All agreed that this should only be shared by the group, with a general city email address being available for the public. When asked by council how chairs are appointed, the common response was that the job usually falls upon the person most willing to take it on. Most reported that there wasn’t a precise instruction on the process.

Inactive Members
Attendance was a serious issue for the groups. Nearly all stated that, at some point, there were members who appeared at meetings infrequently, or not at all, with no explanation. This makes achieving a quorum difficult, affecting each group’s ability to provide reports. The representatives reported a sense of frustration when they would receive a reappointment letter for such a recalcitrant member, leading to the chairs all wishing to be part of the reappointment process. There was an acknowledgement that health issues are a valid reason for absences and that each member must be judged individually on how they participate, as each one has a unique circumstance or skill set. There was also a general feeling among all present that there should be a policy concerning the mandatory level of attendance and participation. Council advised the groups to be more forthcoming on reporting chronic absences to them and their staff liaisons as a solution for this problem, making the removing of delinquent members more immediate. Some groups had bylaws in place for this instance, but this was not universal.

Duties and Procedures
Laura Kressler, representing the Public Safety Advisory Com-

mittee, said that it would be very helpful to each new chair for there to be a clear document, laying out the duties for the position and the correct procedure for submitting feedback to council. Ben Friedman, chair of the Advisory Planning Board (APB), expressed the need for council to make appointments that provided the most valuable skills each group needs. Mayor Emmett Jordan responded that council makes choices from a variety of criteria, such as interest, abilities, geographic location and diversity. APB member J Davis added that in recent years the number of applicants has greatly decreased, which makes being more selective less of an option.

Jordan made a general request to all the chairs to share with council a summation of their operating processes. He felt there was a need to develop a general system that all groups could follow, along with an ability for each group to function in a way that works best for it.

Senior Nutrition Program Luncheon

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

Two menu options, one vegetarian, will be offered for each luncheon. All meals include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk.



St. Hugh's Annual HUGE RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday & Sunday June 21 & 22 9:00am – 2:00pm

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt MD 20770

Great bargains on toys, books, linens, furniture,
jewelry and more—something for everyone!
Enjoy lunch and homemade baked goods!
SHOP WELL, EAT WELL, LEAVE HAPPY!

Admission is Free



Featured Programming on Greenbelt Access Television + June 2025 +

Verizon FiOS Channel 19 • Comcast Channel 77 •
Streaming Online at GreenbeltAccessTV.org

New Productions

Greenbelt's Emerald City Pride Summer is off to a wonderful start!
Tune in to see our coverage of the Pride Flag Raising and PSA
highlighting upcoming Pride events.
We will also be airing new features: footage from the ACE Grant
Awards Ceremony and Free Comic Book Day, Meet the Greenbelt
Wind Ensemble, and much, much more!

Utopia Film Festival 2024 Selections

In light of Juneteenth, we invite you to tune in with us and
celebrate Black artists and filmmakers; Mon Afrique, Looking
Inward: Black History and the Arts, and Black Hair Love, all playing
during our Featured Film slots at 9am, 3pm, and 8pm.

School News

PGCPS continued from page 1

information.

House's Tenure

House's brief tenure with PGCPS most notably saw an overhaul in transportation, including changes to school bell times and bussing, in an attempt to address chronic problems with buses and a driver shortage. He also led school safety measures such as clear backpacks and weapon detectors at high schools. On June 13, in the email announcing his departure, PGCPS also praised the board and House for "collaboratively" improving the school system, including increasing graduation rates to over 80 percent. That graduation rate improvement followed a grading policy reform that allows greater flexibility and opportunities for reassessment.

Under House, problems with communication and transparency continued, including, for example, a botched announcement of school bell changes and, locally, failure to inform the Dora Kennedy French Immersion school community of plans to move the school. The plans were announced by the News Review (see the February 1, 2024, issue). Also a subsequent hot mic comment that captured candid thoughts was at odds with a public presentation (see the February 14, 2024, issue).

Joseph's History

Newly appointed Interim Superintendent Shawn Joseph left his former position of director (equivalent to superintendent) of Metro Nashville Public Schools in 2019 when that board of education voted 5 to 3 to terminate his contract. The Tennessee State Board of Nashville also recommended suspending his teaching license following allegations he failed to report multiple serious misconduct cases, including sexual harassment complaints (as reported across numerous Tennessee news outlets). The recommended suspension was fought by Joseph and never finalized. On Monday, June 16, Joseph wrote to the PGCPS community as their new interim superintendent to address "the elephant in the room." "The reasons for my mutually agreed upon separation in Nashville were complex," he wrote. "Issues of class, race, expectations and change were all at play." Joseph's departure from that role came with a contract payout of \$261,250, \$10,000 to cover legal costs of defending his state teaching license and other benefits. He has since served as faculty in the School of Education at Howard University and has an education and equity consulting firm.

According to News5Channel Nashville and others, accusations against Joseph in Nashville included nepotism in hiring and pay, pay discrepancies and illegal or problematic contracts, including a no-bid contract with a company with whom he'd previously worked in Maryland, and a "piggy-backed" contract that violated procurement rules. A district audit found nine violations of procurement policies and board members said he had misled them, news outlets in Tennessee reported. In addition, he allegedly failed to report educator misconduct in multiple cases, several of which led to lawsuits, including

a lawsuit for unlawful retaliation by a member of human resources who said they tried to report a sexual harassment case, according to local news. The State Board recommended suspension of his license due to failure to report at least 12 educator misconduct cases, including extreme violations involving students, according to multiple news outlets. A NewsChannel 5 Nashville report outlined, in detail, sexual harassment cases that were not reported, what they called "questionable contracts," a teacher "morale crisis," pay disparities, including for his "friends or friends of his top staff," "misleading statements to school board," a "discipline crisis," "election meddling" and "lack of transparency." While some board members called for an independent investigation, others cautioned against unfair treatment of Joseph. He was the first African American to hold the position of CEO of the Metro Nashville School District. He denied wrongdoing.

During his tenure in Nashville, Joseph was credited with focusing on issues of equity, including initiatives to close achievement gaps and encourage culturally responsive teaching, and he oversaw increases in teacher pay.

Prior to the director position in Nashville, Joseph was deputy superintendent for teaching and learning for PGCPS for two years and before that, superintendent for the Seaford School District in Delaware for two years, from which he resigned mid-term due to "personal family reasons."

Asked about his thoughts on Joseph leaving both of his previous superintendent positions early, and past allegations of procurement violations and failure to report misconduct, District 2 School Board Representative Briggs said that though "past experience can provide some insight about what to expect ... people do change, adapt and grow." Though Joseph is serving only in an interim capacity during a national superintendent search, Briggs said, "I believe the opportunity we have allows us to try on for size a prospective superintendent candidate, while searching for others." PGCPS Superintendent prior to House (then called CEO), Monica Goldson, began her appointment as an interim.

Briggs told the News Review that Joseph's record in Nashville was "certainly concerning." "Some of the most effective leaders in history are those who have failed miserably," Briggs said, "therefore, I believe this provides an opportunity to understand better how Joseph will rise to the occasion and possibly meet this moment. I wouldn't want to write him off because of his past, but

I also agree that his past is an important factor for the board to gain more clarity about ... [W]hat I think is most important is the lessons he's learned from it and how that will shape his actions as an interim."

Sharon Taylor, director of communications for the county executive-elect, who selected Joseph, told the News Review that Braveboy believes Joseph is the right person at the right time. She also assured us that Joseph had been fully vetted and Braveboy and County Council Chair Edward Burroughs, along with stakeholders, all stood together in the recent press conference with confidence in Joseph. Asked about the violations of procurement policies and failures to report educator misconduct, Taylor said she couldn't comment on what happened in Nashville.

When Joseph left PGCPS for Nashville he was publicly praised by then-PGCPS School Board Member Edward Burroughs III. Burroughs was elected to Prince George's County Council in 2022 and was elected chair in March.



PHOTO BY JOHN APPIAH-DUFFELL

A fawn resting on a porch in 4 Court Gardenway in GHI. Mama deer will leave her young in a safe place for hours while she forages for food.



22nd Annual Greenbelt Jazz Festival

Saturday, June 21, 2025

Roosevelt Center ~Greenbelt,MD

12PM Susan Jones Quartet

1PM Swing 5

2PM Scotch & Soda

3PM The Seth Kibel Quartet with Flo Anito

4PM The UpBeets

5PM Paramount Jazz Orchestra

6PM The Rhythm Doctors with Valentina Maria

~Inside the Cafe~

8PM Marianna Previti Band

Sponsored by FONDCA ~ New Deal Cafe ~ City of Greenbelt

Kim Kash

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

MUSEUM continued from page 1

city’s visitor and welcome center, with information about citywide businesses and activities. Visitors can learn about Greenbelt history before exploring the city or taking a walking tour.

Museum docent Judy Parker has given tours to visitors she later encounters living in Greenbelt. She said people from out of town often visit the Museum to see what Greenbelt feels like. “It’s a big seller. So many of these families are looking for a different type of community. When they learn that I live here, they ask about my experience and want to know all about it,” Young said. “We can talk about all the things Greenbelt has to offer.”

What’s Finished, What’s Next
Museum staff incorporated community input, developed plans with a designer and architect and obtained GHI approval for the work.

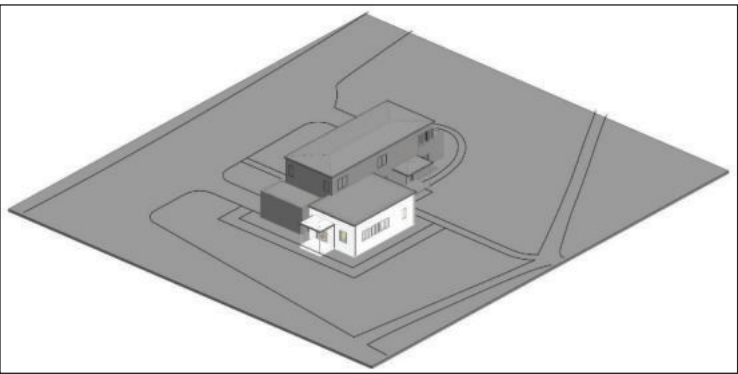
Grants, state bonds and donations have raised \$355,000 of the estimated \$550,000 cost.

Still to come is completing fundraising, selecting a project manager and general contractor, obtaining permits, removing the existing addition and building a new addition.

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Young described the redesign as important because early Greenbelt provides so many lessons about issues still relevant today, including affordable housing, green space and quality of life. “Greenbelt really is so indicative of so many major issues of the 20th century: the Great Depression, World War II, cooperatives, suburbs, urban planning and race relations,” said Young. “We’re looking forward to having a centralized space where we can explore those topics.”

Community Support
An audience member asked how the Greenbelt community can support its museum. Young recommended talking about the project, visiting the museum, subscribing to its newsletter and, if one’s budget allows, making a tax-deductible donation to the 501(c)(3) nonprofit Friends of the Greenbelt Museum for the project. Young said, “We hope you’ll be inspired to work alongside us to make it happen.” Learn more about the expansion and donate at greenbeltmuseum.org/donate, entering “10-A” in the Comments section.



Bird’s eye view of the completed facility. The 10-B and 10-A houses and 10-A garage are shown in gray, with the new 10-A addition in white. Crescent Road is the upper left edge and Westway is the bottom left edge.

Greenbelt Rotary Club Service to Residents

At the end of the Museum talk, Greenbelt Rotary Club President Jennifer Dudley described the club’s programs that serve diverse needs across Greenbelt. They include:

- Sponsoring the Greenbelt Pumpkin Festival and Greenbelt Outstanding Citizen Award
- Thanksgiving food collections and other services for families and unhoused children at Springhill Lake Elementary School (SHLES) and Greenbelt Elementary School
- Funding school store items used in SHLES’s Positive Behavior Incentives Program
- Assisting the Greenbelt Grows and the Great Food Transition programs to share food and build community
- A Driver Education Program to fund learner’s permit driving for residents without access to a car and a licensed driver for their practice hours, and without the funds to pay for driving school instruction.

Dudley said the club welcomes new members interested in helping deliver these programs, or who have ideas of their own. The Club meets the first, third, fourth and fifth Thursday of each month at the Greenway Center IHOP at 8 a.m. First-time attendees receive a free breakfast.



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COUNCIL continued from page 6

BOE

The Board of Elections (BOE) is at five members with one vacancy. Member Nicole Shyong said that the group is highly focused on the imminent city election, ensuring that all aspects run smoothly, and increasing voter participation. BOE is set for a council worksession addressing voting issues such as the use of districts, council terms and ranked choice voting.

CRAB

Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB) Chair Chalya Lar spoke about the group’s efforts for city welcome signs at the city’s three entrances – Center, East and West – or at the city’s two major parks, in three to four languages. CRAB has convened meetings to provide immigration-related advice to city residents. A major goal is to create a better sense of unity among the city’s three sections. CRAB has seven members.

ERB

Bob Rudd, chair of the Employee Relations Board (ERB), said that “no news is good news” with this group. He explained the court-like process of ERB, which conducts hearings concerning employee appeals and grievances and includes lawyers and sworn testimony, citing the group’s confidentiality and private hearings, if requested, with its goal of unanimous decisions. The board has five members.

EC

The Ethics Commission (EC), chaired by Isiah Horton, meets in an election year and is charged with reviewing financial and candidate disclosure forms for all elected and appointed officials. Horton hopes that the work of this year’s session can be condensed into a single meeting.

FPAB

Thomas Doggett, co-chair of the Forest Preserve Advisory Board (FPAB), now at seven members and two vacancies, stated that the FPAB has completed

the trail maintenance and reroute of the Canyon Creek Trail. The group continues to manage invasive species, like bush honeysuckle. The board is working with GHI on the effects of the recent woodland fire at Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

SCAC

The Senior Citizens Advisory Committee (SCAC), represented by chair Carol Shaw, has identified a number of priorities for the city’s seniors through their fall open forum and outreach efforts. Senior and affordable housing was cited. Safety was a prime concern, specifically on the steps between the Community Center and the Library parking lot, the intersection of Hanover Parkway and Greenbelt Road and the intersection of Lakecrest Drive and Legion Drive.

Reparations Commission

Bob Rand, a member of the Reparations Commission (RC), explained that this group continues its charge of researching the best way forward toward possible reparations for the city’s African American and Native American residents. Key to the process was the use of public meetings, interviews, surveys and convening with other reparation and educational entities, like University of Maryland and Howard University, throughout the state and country, with the commission focusing on acquiring more guidance concerning Native Americans. The RC has 19 members.

ACT

The Advisory Committee on Trees (ACT), represented by chair Charles Jackman, helped facilitate the Arbor Day celebration on April 12 with tree planting, alongside the Public Works Department. Preserving the city’s tree canopy, at 62 percent, is a major focus.

Discussion between committee members and councilmembers after the committee reports will be covered in a separate article.

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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred June 9-15, 2025. 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@greenbeltnmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Incident Summary

Greenbelt Police reported three deaths, four mental health diversions with two involving attempted suicide and four domestic incidents with one resulting in arrest. Two missing persons were found safe.

Shots Fired

On June 12 at 7:35 p.m. near 5803 Cherrywood Lane, security witnessed a drive-by shooting. Suspects were in a black sedan and were believed to be shooting at three other males, but no victims have been located. Officers found shell casings.

Assault

On June 10 at 8:52 a.m. near 7816 Vanity Fair Drive, a man was assaulted by one of his neighbors.

On June 12 at 10:25 a.m. near 7600 Ora Glen Drive, a post office employee was assaulted by another employee, with no injuries reported.

On June 13 at 5:59 a.m. near 7480 Greenway Center Drive, a man and a woman were arguing; the man assaulted the woman, then stole her car and fled.

Robbery

On June 11 at 11:08 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a boy was assaulted by a group of juveniles who stole his book bag and shoes.

On June 13 at 10:11 a.m. near 7601 Hanover Parkway, two students were approached by two men wearing ski masks; the men displayed a weapon and took the students' property.

On June 15 at 6:49 p.m. near 6198 Greenbelt Road, four juveniles attacked two others in the rear of Beltway Plaza and tried to take their possessions. One suspect was caught after a foot pursuit; the others evaded arrest.

Break-in

On June 14 at 2:18 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a restaurant was broken into.

Indecent Exposure

On June 13 at 1:05 p.m. near Hanover Parkway and Greenbelt Road, a witness observed a man exposing himself; at 3:01 p.m. near 5707 Cherrywood Lane, a man exposed himself. Officers confirmed his identity through MVA records. Charges will be filed.

Fraud

On June 9 near 5809 Cherrywood Terrace, a man discovered that someone had filed taxes in his name.

On June 11 near 5910 Greenbelt Road, a man was notified by his bank that his credit card was being used to make unauthorized

purchases.

Theft and Shoplifting

On June 9 at 10:54 a.m. near 5910 Greenbelt Road, a security officer witnessed a male leave the store without paying for merchandise; at 4:08 p.m. near 6301 Ivy Lane, someone stole a purse and used the stolen credit card.

On June 10 at 9:57 p.m. near 7455 Greenbelt Road, a man was cutting tags off clothes. He was arrested and all items were returned.

On June 10 at 10:56 p.m. near 7455 Greenbelt Road, a woman's purse was stolen from her office.

On June 11 at 10:09 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a man was stopped after stealing merchandise. He was released on a criminal citation and banned.

On June 12 at 2 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a man was arrested after stealing merchandise.

On June 12 at 2:07 p.m. near 7607 Greenbelt Road, a customer snatched his prescription medications from the pharmacy and fled. Officers obtained his name.

On June 12 at 2:34 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a woman was arrested for shoplifting.

On June 13 at 4:02 p.m. near 8112 Mandan Terrace, a delivered package was stolen from the front porch.

Vandalism

On June 12 near 161 Centerway, graffiti was located in the underpass and documented. Public Works was notified for removal.

Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles

Five vehicles were stolen: on June 10, near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a red 2013 Hyundai Elantra (D.C. K9826); near 7913 Mandan Road, a black Hyundai Elantra (Md. 2DD4090); near 9334 Edmonston Road, a 2012 BMW X5 (Md. 2EC6986); on June 11, near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a gray 2018 Nissan Rogue (Md. 8FM0895) left running with

the key in the ignition; and on June 13, near 9013 Breezewood Terrace, a white 2023 Nissan Altima (Md. 9GK2326).

Stolen Vehicle Located

On June 9 near 221 Lakeside Drive, a 2015 Infiniti Q50 was located by D.C. police.

Theft from Auto

On June 12, near 6305 Ivy Lane, property was stolen from a vehicle.

On June 13, near 121 Centerway, tags were stolen from a 1984 Volvo 245.

On June 14, near 6301 Golden Triangle Drive, wheels and tires were stolen.

On June 15, near 28 Crescent Road, a 2017 Subaru was vandalized and items were stolen.

Vandalism to Auto

On June 15, near Ora Glen Drive and Burkart Court, a vehicle window was broken; nothing was taken.

Crisis Hotline's Number is 988

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline dialing code is 988. Calls and text messages are confidential and free.

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Emerging Cicada

Periodical cicada Magicicada septendecim emerges from its nymphal skin at Lakeside North, May 26, maybe four years too late. Like many other 17-year cicadas in Greenbelt these days, it is probably a "straggler" that missed the 2021 emergence. That means it was underground 21 years.



PHOTO BY CALEB KRIESBERG



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Submit this form (or something equivalent) by **July 28** to

Bob Zugby

Outstanding Citizen Committee

94 Ridge Road, Greenbelt MD 20770

or OutstandingCitizenGB@gmail.com

Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Attach a statement (preferably printed or typed) explaining why this nominee deserves recognition as Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizen.

You can include a list of organizations or activities in which the nominee has participated, including length of time, specific accomplishments, their impact upon Greenbelt or people within the City, and personal qualities that make the nominee special. Note this award is for *unpaid* volunteer work only.

Any supporting printed material is useful, but not required.

Others' testimonials are also helpful.

You may be contacted for additional information. If you prefer, send this form now and complete the statement later. The form and any additional information must be received no later than the **July 28 deadline**.

Nominated by:

Name(s)

Signature(s)

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Sports

A Win for Greenbelt’s Barracudas At First Swim Meet of Summer

On Saturday, June 14 the Greenbelt Municipal Swim Team (GMST) faced West Laurel Swim Team in the first meet of the season. The rain held off for the morning and Greenbelt’s Barracu-

das beat the West Laurel Wahoos 298 points to 276. This week-end GMST will host the Prince George’s Council team for their only home meet of the season.

Greenbelt Soccer Alliance Wraps up Final Games

The Greenbelt Soccer Alliance wrapped up its final games on the first weekend of June at Driskell Community Park in Hyattsville. It was a great season with lots of skills learned and improved on, gamesmanship imparted and fun had by all. The last games were played in between bouts of rain,

showing the true commitment of the teams and their coaches. The league is entirely volunteer run and it’s a monumental undertaking. Special thanks to all the coaches and to Jonas Cadwallader, the commissioner, for a great season.



Greenbelt Soccer Alliance U12 Girls Rainbows team

- Photos by Tara Rule



Greenbelt Soccer Alliance U12 Girls Guardians team

Babe Ruth Juniors Drop Close One

by Ian Gleason

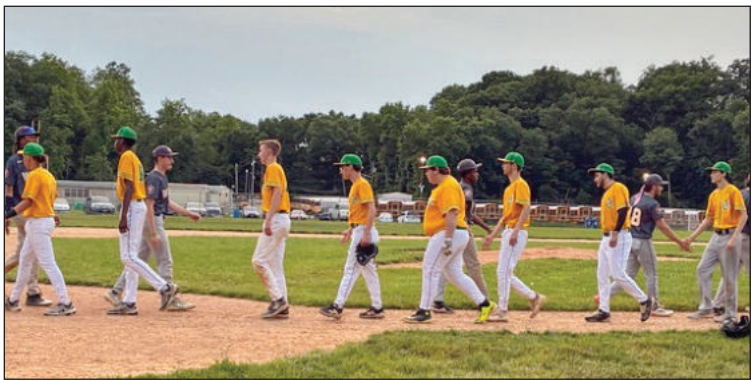


PHOTO BY CURRY ROSE HOSKEY

The Greenbelt Babe Ruth Seniors (18U) shake hands after their game vs. the Laurel Bolts at Laurel High School on June 6.

Last Thursday, June 12 the Greenbelt Babe Ruth Juniors (15U) had their first home game of the season at Braden Field against Grandslam, a team composed mostly of players from the Beltsville area. In the top of the first inning the leadoff batter for Grandslam reached on an error and proceeded to score. Greenbelt starting pitcher Elijah Miller worked out of trouble and Greenbelt responded with two runs in the bottom of the first inning. Miller had a strong pitching performance as both teams struggled offensively. The score would remain 2-1 until the fifth inning when Grandslam tied the game 2-2. Greenbelt had a chance to

go ahead late when Troy White hit a double into the left center gap, but Greenbelt failed to get him home. In the top of the seventh inning Grandslam scored three runs to push the score to 5-2. Greenbelt couldn’t muster any runs in the final half-inning and dropped their home opener. The Seniors (18U) played the nightcap after the first game, losing 9-3 to the DC Knights. Both teams return to Braden Field this Thursday, June 19 with games at 6 and 8:15 p.m. Next week there are games at Braden Field on Tuesday, June 24 at 8:15 p.m., Wednesday, June 25 at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday, June 26 at 6 p.m.



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Coming Soon 4-Level Greenbelt Townhome with garage. 3 br/3 1/2 baths. Large living room with cath. Ceilings, fireplace & raised deck. Rem. Kitchen.



Coming Soon Boxwood Village - 5 BR, 2 1/2 BA with 4 levels - 2,500 sq. ft. of living space! Large covered deck overlooks fenced backyard. Original owners!



Large Corner Lot 2-bedroom home remodeled throughout. Opened kitchen with modern fixtures. Mini-split HVAC. Oak hardwood flooring. Amazing inside!



Coming Soon Greenbelt 4-level townhome with garage. 3BR, 2 1/2 Baths.

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Greenbelt Protesters Say: No Kings!

by Lesley Kash

On Saturday, June 14 an unexpectedly large (but predictably peaceful and cheery) crowd, estimated at 500 to 700, filled the Municipal Building lawn, and then the Spellman Overpass, to capacity. The gathering was one of around 2,000 No Kings events nationwide that drew millions of protesters into the streets across the country.

Before the 3 p.m. start time, the Municipal Building was enveloped in a chanting, sign-waving crowd. The march stepped off around 3:15, heading up Southway, accompanied by the Honk! Situation band and shepherded by cheerful, alert Greenbelt Police. As the crowd flowed left onto Ridge, motorists waiting at the intersection enthusiastically honked horns and shouted support. Along the route, neighbors waved their own protest signs and enjoyed the spectacle from lawn chairs in their front yards.

The Spellman Overpass was decorated with American flags and protest banners big enough to read from the Baltimore-Washington Parkway below. And it was packed, with just enough room in the middle for safe ingress and egress and friendly crowd management by Greenbelt Police. Parkway traffic below slowed in both directions for two hours, with hundreds of drivers waving and honking their horns.

Many visitors from out of town, having been directed to Greenbelt by the No Kings organizers, took the opportunity to get acquainted with the town. One family asked for directions to the Cinema and restaurants and a fellow marcher responded, "Welcome to Greenbelt!"



Protesters hold up their signs so that drivers below can see them.



Molly the dog attends the No Kings protest with her own tiny placard.



Greenbelters Julia Raymond and her son Arthur Gerdes, 5, make their way to the bridge.



Caroline Timbers and her sons Kaio and Luca Timbers-Bomfim, aged 9 and 11, came from Washington, D.C., to attend the Greenbelt event.



As part of the Greenbelt Honk! Situation band, Amethyst Dwyer enlivens the crowd during the No Kings protest.



The crowd heads to the bridge during the No Kings protest in Greenbelt on June 14.



The view approaching the Spellman Overpass as the No Kings march reaches its destination



Flags and placards wave above the Spellman Overpass while drivers below honk in support.



Solidarity in support of democratic processes and due process is a major theme of the day.



Disparagement of ICE is a popular theme for signs.

Sign made by local artist Rachel Cross